

White

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Varied Thrush (female) How many? one

Location? Fairmount Cemetery, Scott County, Iowa - 3845 Hobson St.

Type of habitat? Edge of residential area

When? date(s): Dec. 3, 1983 time: 9:05 AM to 9:25 AM

Who? your name and address: Gerald White 1505 East 5th. St. Muscatine, IA 52761

others with you: Bill & Kathy LaFrinz 3845 Hobson St. Davenport, IA

others before or after you: _____

Describe the bird(s) including only what you observed. Include size, shape, details of all parts (bill, eye, head, neck, back, wing, tail, throat, breast, belly, under tail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

I saw the side view of a thrush like bird that was standing on the ground. It was a little larger than a Northern Cardinal that was near-by but I would say smaller than a Robin.

The back was a brownish-gray; the wings had orange wing-bars and orange spots on the primaries. There was an orange eyebrow and a dark straight bill.

When the bird turned to face me, I noted a bright orange upper breast and neck, a gray band (aprox. 3/8" wide) across the breast. The lower breast was about the color of orange on a Robin breast.

The bird was foraging in the leaves, tossing them aside with it's bill.

I then went to the house of Bill & Kathy La Frinz where we watched the bird forage around the perimeter of the yard and noted all of the above features and habits. (there was a bird feeding station in the yard)

Similar species and how eliminated:

Robin- which has no eyebrow or breast band

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? No

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:

Light overcast ; 25 ft. (paced); Bushnell 8X30 Roof prism

Previous experience with species and similar ones: Life bird for all three

References and persons consulted before writing description:

Field guide "Birds of North America"

How long before field notes made? On location this form completed? 10 hrs.

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