

Middlewestern Prairie Region  
(Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio)

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD.

1. Species Hermit Thrush 2. Number: 1
3. Location near Moingona, Boone County
4. Date: February 9, 1980 5. Time Bird seen: 12 noon to
6. Description of size, shape and color-pattern (describe in great detail all parts of the plumage, and beak and feet coloration, in addition, to the diagnostic characteristics, but include only what actually was seen in the field): The bird was robin size, head and back were brown, throat and breast were white, breast distinctly spotted to mid-point, light white eye ring, top of tail was chest-nut colored
7. Description of voice, if heard: none
8. Description of behavior: never more than five feet off the ground; was eating berries from a vine that had entwined a small tree
9. Habitat - general: near a stream partially free of ice  
specific: in a small tree at the most 15 feet tall that had climbing vines around the tree
10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8, Explain:
11. Distance (how measured)? 20 feet (estimate) 12. Optical equipment: 8x40 Bushnell binoculars
13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you): partly cloudy with sun at our back (sun out at time of sighting)
14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species: bird seen every spring and fall at migration
15. Other observers: Linda Zaletel, Linda Erickson, Carol Sweeney
16. Did the others agree with your identification? yes
17. Other observers who independently identified this bird: no
18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description: Robbins, Chandler et al. Birds of North America: A Guide to Field Identification. 1966.
19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description?  
5 days Hank Zaletel Address: 667 Pammel Ct.
- Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: February 14, 1980 City, State: Ames, Iowa 50010