

Birds: Verifying Documentation of an Extraordinary Sight Record.

1. Pine Grosbeak

2. Three

3. Glendale Cemetary-50th St. & University Ave. Des Moines.

4. Jan. 24, 1978

5. 3 P.M. to 4 P.M. (approx.)

6. 7 in. to 8 in. (Male: reddish head, breast and rump, prominent wing bars;

Female: Olive gray with white wing bars and clear breast.

Young male: gray, reddish cap, white wing bars.

Grosbeak beak on all three birds.

7. Female made faint call when sepersted from others.

8. Feeding in large Ash tree when first seen; moved; female returned to original tree and called. Adult male returned but young male did not while we watched.

9. Cemetary with numerous assorted evergreen trees and various other trees.

10. Evening Grosbeak eliminated by coloration.

Purple Finch eliminated by size and coloration.

11. 100 feet to 40 feet-estimated.

13. Fairly bright, sun in back of observer when all three birds were together

12. 7x35 binoculars

14. I have seen Pine Grosbeakes in several areas: Colorado, Wisconsin and on Jan. 4, 1970 a single male bird, in the same cemetary feeding in an ash tree within 100 yds. of where these were observed. Woody Brown and Pully Mooney also saw the 1/4/70 bird.

15. Ruth Binsfeld, Pully Mooney, Woody Brown and Mary Brown.

16. Yes

17. None. (note I have covered the cemetary about ten times since this observation and have been unable to find the Pine Gros beakes again.)

18. Did not consider additional investigation required.

19. Three Weeks-did not realize that this species would require "verifying documentation" until the December Iowa Bird Life arrived to-day.

R. D. Mooney , 3814 Carpenter Ave. Des Moines, Ia. 50311

R. D. Mooney Feb. 13, 1978