

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF
AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD

1. Species Lark Bunting 2. Number 1
3. Location Fremont Co. Near Pinky's Glen Co. Park
4. Date: 5-04-82 5. Time Bird Seen: 10:00 AM 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):
A bird that is all black except for the large white wing patches. This bird was flying; so I had a perfect view of its back pattern - black with two large white wing patches.
7. Description of voice, if heard: Did not hear
8. Description of behavior:
9. Habitat - general: Prairie
specific: Grasslands
10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8. Explain:
The male bobolink has white patches and is black, but the patches are not on the wings
11. Distance (how measured)? The bird flew across the road right in front of my car - about 15'
12. Optical equipment: None
13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you): The sun was in back of me
14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species: I have seen many in Nebraska, where I was born, also in Mo. Ark, So. Dak, Kansas, Wyo., Colo, Texas, N. Mex & Ariz.
15. Other observers: None
16. Did the others agree with your identification?
17. Other observers who independently identified this bird: None
18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:
Birds of the Americas, Field Guide to the Birds by Peterson, Audubon Illustrated Handbook of Am. Birds - Riley.
19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description?
- Signature: Ruth Phipps Address: 310 University
- Date: 5-5-82 City, State: Shenandoah, Iowa