

BIRD-NEST RECORDS OF THE STATION AREA,  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN BIOLOGICAL  
STATION

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## Bird-Nest Records of the Station Area

This paper consists of a list of nests found in the station area during the summer of 1945. The area as such is poorly defined, but it consists for the most part of the inhabited region of the University of Michigan Biological Station and its immediate environs. The date of discovery of the nest will be given and any pertinent data will be noted.

### 1. Spotted Sandpiper--

(a) June 16. Nest with four eggs found by Levi Bur. Located about 10 paces from the water's edge below the Martin houses in the center of camp. Nest deserted.

(b) June 27. Nest with four eggs found by Theodora Nelson. Located on beach at Old Camp Site not far from last faculty cabin. Eggs hatched July 6.

(c) July 1. Nest with four eggs found by Theodora Nelson. Located very near water's edge below the dunes between Old Camp Site and Pine Point. Nest deserted later.

(d) July 1. Nest with three eggs. Found by Theodora Nelson. Located on broad grassy strip south of Pine Point. A fourth egg was laid July 3. Eggs hatched July 24.

### 2. Nighthawk--

(a) July 1. Nest with two eggs found by Norman St. Aubin. Located near southernmost road leading from ball diamond.

(b) July 17. Nest with one egg found by Charles Blair. Located south of Pellston Road about one-fourth mile from intersection with Station drive. This nest was visited

for five consecutive days by the writer with the hope of finding a second egg. The one egg hatched.

3. Belted Kingfisher--

(a) July 3. Nest found in bank by lake between Old Camp Site and Pine Point.

4. Northern Flicker--

(a) June 27. Nest with 6 naked young found in bird house on beach by first faculty cabin. This house was numbered one. On July 6 the juvenal plumage was almost complete and two days later the young had left the nest.

(b) July 6. Adults carrying food to young in nest were observed. Nest located east of Stockards' cabin in hollow stump.

5. Eastern Kingbird--

(a) June 28. Nest found in Oak tree on south side of aquarium shelter.

(b) July 1. Nest found by Peggy Muirhead in oak tree north of Dr. Thomas' cabin.

(c) July 17--Nest found in red maple on south side of Pelston road west of place where wires cross over.

(d) July 17--Nest found in red maple on north side of Pelston road east of point where wires cross over.

(e) July 20--Nest found in white oak on beach near health service office.

(f) July 6--Nest found at Sedge Point. The nest was located on a dead up-turned tree which was parallel to the surface of the water. The nest was located actually out over the water.

6. Crested flycatcher--

(a) July 2. Nest found in old bird house at corner of East State and C Streets. Reported on in life history paper by Miss Beigley.

(B) July 11. Nest in old bird house on pole by ecology reserved area east of faculty row.

7. Phoebe--

(a) June 20. Nest located under shelter of Chatterbox with four eggs. Insspite of frequent disturbances the nest was not deserted and three of the eggs hatched.

(b) July 3. Nest located on the west door of the sawmill.

8. Least Flycatcher--

(a) June 28. Nest located 25 feet high in a maple west of the ecology reserved area east of faculty row.

(b) June 30. Nest located 15 feet high in a maple clump between Pettengill cabin and the cabin east of it, down by the shore.

(c) June 26. Nest located 30 feet high in an aspen near the second faculty garage.

(d) June 26. Nest located on a dead tree stump between the student parking place and the dump. It was placed about 10 feet from the ground.

(e) June 26. Nest located about 30 feet above ground in the fork of a large birch between the last faculty cabin and the student parking lot.

(f) July 21. Nest located in birch east of student cabin, Number 6, C Street.

(g) July 17. Nest located in a birch tree by cabin 17 on East State Street.

(h) July 23. Nest about 30 feet above the ground in a birch by the walk leading up to Stockard's cabin.

(i) July 11. Nest located in a birch tree on the road to the car shelter across from Pettengills' cabin. On July 26 the young were still in the nest.

(j) June 26. Nest located in the fork of an extended branch of a red maple tree about 12 feet from the ground. The tree stood by the car shelter across from Cabin 36.

(k) July 17. Nest located in the crotch of a birch which stood south of the lumber pile by the sawmill.

(l) July 10. Nest found with young. It was located 30 feet above the ground in a birch which stood 100 yards southwest of the sawmill off the old road.

9. Peewee--

(a) July 11. Nest located about 25 yards south of Cabin 10, Upper Drive West, in the fork of an extended branch of a birch tree about 25 feet above the ground.

(b) June 28. Nest located about 200 yards from the sawmill on the old road out of camp in an aspen about 30 feet above the ground. Eggs were in the nest at the time that it was found. The nest was destroyed July 15, and the young which were three days old disappeared.

(c) June 26. Nest located in a birch 50 feet north of the road from the sawmill east of the last faculty cabin. It contained three eggs and was destroyed July 1.

(d) July 6. Nest located near the first fire lane and the old road out of camp 17 feet from the ground at the end of a branch in an oak. Three eggs were laid. On July 10th one egg blew out of the nest and two were destroyed.

(e) July 18. Nest located about 25 yards ~~east of fire lane~~ on road to North Fishtail Bay. One egg was in it which was destroyed on July 20th.

10. Tree Swallow--

(a) June 27. Nest located in bird house #3. Six birds in natal down. On July 6 the juvenal plumage was practically complete.

(b) June 27. Nest located in bird house # 5. Four young birds with well-developed juvenal plumage. On July 6 these birds had left the nest.

(c) June 27. Nest located in bird house #9. Five young birds with juvenal plumage starting to show. On July 6 these young birds flew from my hand.

(d) June 27. Nest located in bird house # 12. Five eggs were found in the nest. On July 6 it was observed that all of the eggs had hatched. The young were still naked.

(e) June 27. Nest located in bird house # 14. Four young in beginning juvenal plumage were found. On July 6 two of these birds left my hand.

(f) June 28. Nest located in bird house # 25. Four young birds in juvenal plumage. By July 7 these birds had left the nest.

(g) June 28. Nest located in bird house # 27. Four young birds in juvenal plumage. By July 7 these birds had left the nest.

(h) July 6. Nest located in Bird house # 22. Five young birds in juvenal plumage.

(i) August 15. Nest located in bird house # 7. One egg.

(j) August 15. Nest located in bird house # 13. Two eggs found in nest. The eggs were cold to the touch.

(k) August 15. Nest located in bird house # 26. Two warm eggs found in nest.

#### Purple Martin--

Three martin houses are located on the beach between Blissville and the Health Service Unit. All three of these houses were occupied by colonies of martins. It was impossible to estimate the population of these colonies.

#### 12. House Wren--

(a) June 24. Nest located in bird house # 29. Adults were seen carrying food to the nest. Nest empty June 28.

(b) June 24. Nest located in bird house # 30. Adults were seen carrying food to the nest. Nest empty June 28.

#### 13. Robin--

(a) June 20. Nest located on top of fire extinguisher attached to cabin 18 East State Street. Adults were carrying food.

(b) June 28. Nest located on horizontal trunk of birch tree which had slipped into the gravel pit. Bird was incubating three eggs.

(c) June 28. Nest located in trellis for grape vines above the door to Upper Newcombe Laboratory. Three young in juvenal plumage.

(d) July 17. Nest located in a birch tree on the south side of the Pelston road near the point where the wires cross over.

(e) June 26. Nest located above the west door of the sawmill. It contained four naked young.

(f) June 28. Nest located in an aspen at the southeast corner of the second garage.

(g) June 30. Nest located on southern side of club house above the door.

(h) August 2. Nest located in birch tree in front of cabin number 9 East State Street.

14. Hermit Thrush--

(a) July 3. Nest located in aspens west of the road to Grapevine point.

15. Bluebird--

(a) July 26. Nest located in box # 23. Four young birds in juvenal plumage were found in the nest.

16. Cedar Waxwing--

(a) June 26. Nest located about 25 feet above the ground in a red maple which stands west of the sawmill by the lumber pile.

(b) June 27. Nest located in an oak tree near cabin # 10 West Upper Drive.

(c) July 2. Nest located in a red maple tree at the corner of <sup>East</sup> State Street and B Street.

(d) July 3. Nest located in the second oak west of the hospital on the beach.

(e) July 6. Nest located at the junction of the road to Pine Point and the fire lane, in a clump of oaks on the northeast corner.

(f) July 10. Nest located in a birch tree just to the east of the dean's office on East State Street.

(g) July 11. Nest located in sugar maple tree near cabin #6 West Upper Drive.

(h) July 14. Nest located in red maple tree on the west side of the walk in front of the club house.

(i) July 15. Nest located in a red maple tree near cabin #14 on West State Street in Blissville.

(j) July 17. Nest located in an elm tree about 20 yards west of the boathouse near Lower Drive.

(k) July 20. Nest located in an elder bush east of the library. *(Were all these nests empty?)* T.N.

17. Starling--

(a) June 27. Nest located in bird house # 8 on the shore. Two cold eggs were found in the nest. These were later removed.

18. Red-eyed Vireo--

(a) July 6. Nest located on road to Pine point in a dead birch tree.

(b) July 3. Nest located in an aspen near cabin # 6, Upper Drive West.

19. Black-throated Blue Warbler--

(a) July 9. Nest located in fork of Pteris Aquilina at the side of the road to Grapevine Point. The day the nest was found there were no eggs in it. One egg was laid on each of the three succeeding days.

20. Ovenbird--

(a) July 11. Nest located on the ground beyond the second fire lane near the road to Pine Point.

21. American Redstart--

(a) July 17. Nest located in a birch which grew in the shade of a large oak about 25 yards west of the boathouse.

(b) July 1. Nest located in an aspen tree south of Upper Drive West.

22. Baltimore Oriole--

(a) June 26. Nest located in an aspen tree near cabin #24 East State Street.

(b) June 22. Nest located in birch tree between the dean's cabin and office.

23. Scarlet Tanager--

(a) July 2. Nest located at Pine Point.

24. Indigo Bunting--

These six nests were reported by Malcomb Lowther and the exact locations of them may be ascertained from his paper on the Indigo Bunting.

(a) June 28. Nest found with three young.

(b) July 1. Nest found with three eggs.

(c) July 1. Nest found with three eggs.

(d) July 11. Nest found with one young bunting and one young cowbird.

(e) July 17. Nest found with three bunting young.

(f) July 19. Nest found with two bunting eggs and two cowbird eggs.

25. Goldfinch--

- (a) July 23. Nest located in a maple tree by the aquarium.
- (b) July 24. Nest located in a maple tree on the north side of State Street across from Nichol's laboratory.

26. Vesper Sparrow--

- (a) July 11. Nest found by Malcolm Lowther in the middle of a road east of camp.

27. Chipping Sparrow--

- (a) June 28. Nest located in a white pine tree south of the sawmill.
- (b) July 5. Nest located in a white pine tree on the west side of the road out of camp. There were four young.

SUMMARY

Nests of 27 species of birds were found during the summer in what is loosely known as the "Station Area". It seems important to me that for the sake of the records this area should be better defined. A map is included to show the location of the new bird houses which were numbered consecutively. A total of 93 nests were reported.

