



IOS IORC <iorcommittee@gmail.com>

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## Historical record of BAIRD'S SPARROW 23 May 1989, Jackson Park, Chicago

1 message

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**Paul Clyne** <[redacted]>  
Reply-To: Paul Clyne <[redacted]>  
To: Douglas Stotz <[redacted]>  
Cc: Walter Marcisz <[redacted]>

Wed, Aug 3, 2016 at 2:43 PM

Dear Records Committee members,

I recently uploaded details to eBird on a BAIRD'S SPARROW record from 23 May 1989 which, as far as I'm aware, never underwent IORC review. I've attached a pdf of John M. Wallace's documentation, as well as a letter that he wrote to Dale Pontius the same day (with mostly the same details). The photocopies that I have are faint, hence the poor quality of the pdf.

I transcribed most of the descriptive notes contained in the letter and uploaded them to the Jackson Park Data eBird account. Here's a link to that checklist:

<http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist/S30925453>

Some additional background information:

I never met Mr. Wallace. I believe that he was on a temporary visiting appointment from England at the University of Chicago.

In 1989, Harriet Rylaarsdam was submitting the Jackson Park seasonal summaries to Illinois Birds and Birding, and Eric Walters was the editor of the spring notes. Rylaarsdam included the record, and evidently a copy of the documentation, in her spring 1989 summary. If my memory serves me well, Harriet was upset with Eric's treatment of this record. I gather that he decided that the bird was misidentified (I think Harriet told me that Eric decided that the bird was a Le Conte's Sparrow), and the report was simply excluded from the spring summary with no comment.

As yet another single-observer sight record of Baird's Sparrow, IORC's vote is a foregone conclusion, but I think that the quality of the documentation is high enough that it merits review.

Walter Marcisz communicated with me about the record in his capacity as eBird reviewer, and I've copied him here.

Best of birding,

Paul Clyne

[redacted]



**BairdsSparrow19890523.pdf**  
151K