

42-17-136
accepted JF 12/1/75

1041 Field St.
Lakewood, Colo. 80215

Nov. 4, 1974

MEMORANDUM

To: Jack Reddall, Chairman CFO Records Committee
From: John R. Cooper
Subject: Observations of Carolina Wren in Lakewood

See 1-11, 1974 Lakewood, Jefferson County

Joyce and my observations of the Carolina Wren reported in "The Lark Bunting" vol. 10 no. 1 were not ~~previously~~ written up before now. Your file should contain the write-up of our December 1972 sightings which were confirmed by Jim Lane, Steve Larsen, Thompson Marsh and other observers over a period of 5 days. In view of this fact and the fact that the species is not on your recent list of birds for which write-ups are requested, I figured a detailed write up was unnecessary.

Joyce and I became very familiar with the Carolina Wren while living in Arlington, Virginia in 1950 to 1952. We have seen the bird so many times in Lakewood since that it does not seem as rare in Colorado to us as it does to many Colorado birders. Thus I think a brief resumé of our Lakewood sightings would be a more valuable addition to your records than just another detailed write-up. My records show that we have seen the bird within a block of 1041 Field St, Lakewood on 4 separate years as follows:

1964 -- A beautifully plumaged Carolina Wren was seen by Van Remsen and myself on June 3. Probably the same bird, which was carefully studied, was seen June 4, 5 and at wider intervals through Aug. 23. No indications of nesting were found and never was more than one individual seen at a time. Van and I had virtually no contact with other local birders at the time. I did have a copy of "The Birds of Denver and Mountain Parks" by Niedrach and Rockwell and so knew this was an unusual record possibly of considerable ornithological significance. Van and I talked about informing the Denver Museum of Natural History about it but decided against it for fear they would come out and collect our bird!

1965 -- A single Carolina Wren was seen and heard June 6 and 7.

42-72-10 1972 -- A single Carolina Wren was seen December 11 and remained at least 5 days. A DFO rare bird alert was put out and the bird was seen by many local birders (one or more write-ups should be in your file). Harold Holt reported a Carolina Wren in the same general vicinity in early 1973 by I do not have the date or other details

accepted JR.
1/21/75

42-74-136 1974 -- A single Carolina Wren in ratty plumage came to our feeder 7:30 AM MDT September 1. Its back was toward us but we could see its wren bill, red-brown upper parts and white superciliary line. It was large for a wren, being almost as large as the House Finches and House Sparrows on the feeder. The wren soon flew to the top of a neighbor's apple tree and gave its loud "tea-kettle, tea-kettle" call. The bird was heard again and briefly glimpsed September 6 and 11.

John R. Leeper