

- LACK, D. 1968. Ecological adaptations for breeding in birds. London, Methuen.
- RICKLEFS, R. E. 1968. Patterns of growth in birds. *Ibis* 110: 419-451.
- RIDLEY, M. W., AND LORD R. C. PERCY. 1958. The exploitation of sea birds in Seychelles. Colonial Research Studies No. 25. London, H.M.S.O.
- ROBERTSON, W. B., JR. 1964. The terns of the Dry Tortugas. *Bull. Florida State Mus.* 8: 1-95.
- UCHIDA, R. 1966. The skipjack tuna fishery in Hawaii. Pp. 149-150 in *Proceedings, Governor's Conference on Central Pacific Fishery Resources* (T. A. Manar, Ed.). Honolulu, State of Hawaii.
- WATSON, J. B. 1908. The behavior of Noddy and Sooty Terns. *Pap. Tortugas Lab. Carnegie Inst. Washington* 2: 187-255.

WILLIAM Y. BROWN, 23 Hudson Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138. Accepted 18 Dec. 74.

**First breeding record of Bewick's Wren in New York State.**—On 7 July 1974 the junior author found a Bewick's Wren's (*Thryomanes bewickii*) nest near Mohonk Lake, Ulster County, in southeastern New York. The nest was 6 feet above ground on a rafter under the slab roof of a small rustic lookout (Fig. 1) at the top of a 200-foot, south-facing sheer conglomerate escarpment of the Shawangunk Mountains at an elevation of 1490 feet. The dominant vegetation in the immediate vicinity was chestnut oak, red oak, pitch pine, mountain laurel, and low bush blueberry.

The nestlings (probably three) were difficult to observe but seemed to be 2-4 days old at first sighting. The songs and alarm notes of the adults were heard and later compared with recordings. Diagnostic plumage markings and actions, especially the characteristic white-tipped tail and the sideways flipping of it, were noted. As the parents approached the nest with food, they alighted momentarily on either the seat back or a roof post of the lookout. Male and female were seen simultaneously. The young left the nest on 17 July and the family group was observed regularly from 22 July (2 adults, 3 juveniles) to 11 August (1 adult, 2 juveniles).

The adults foraged for the nestlings mainly in the more open forest to the east of and below the escarpment, while the family gathered food during the fledgling period in the dense undergrowth on the mountain. Both adults fed the young; only insects and larvae were known to be taken. Interspecific strife was infrequent and restricted to Rufous-sided Towhees (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*), another ground-feeder. Neither House Wrens (*Troglodytes aedon*) nor Carolina Wrens (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) were seen or heard in the immediate vicinity, though both species nest nearby at Mohonk.

The nest was removed and found to be roughly triangular in shape (determined by the available space) with sides 13, 14, and 17 cm and height 7 cm. The inner cup was slightly oval, 6 by 7 cm and 3.5 cm deep. The understructure (5 cm high) consisted of twigs and woody plant stems crisscrossed in a loose jumble. It filled the cavity space and supported a cup woven of old grass and oak inflorescences with a thin, soft lining of various kinds of hair woven through small bits of old leaves, feathers, vine tendrils, and pieces of finely divided clear plastic. The nest is now in the collection of The Mohonk Trust.

Bewick's Wren is a western and southern species known to breed as far northeast as central Pennsylvania (Todd 1940, *Birds of western Pennsylvania*, Pittsburgh, Univ. Pittsburgh Press, pp. 417-420; Bent 1948, *U.S. Natl. Mus. Bull.* 195: 180) and once

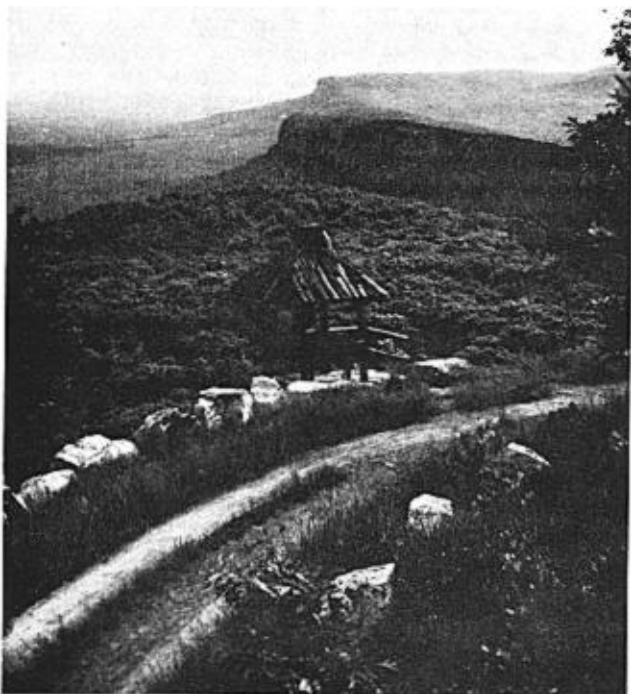


Fig. 1. Site of Bewick's Wren nest, Shawangunk Mountains, Ulster County, New York. Summerhouse, called Odell Outlook, 1490 feet above sea level. View looks southwest along Shawangunk ridge. Nest was above right-hand roof post.

at Point Pelee, Ontario (Godfrey 1966, Natl. Mus. Canada Bull. 203: 288). The New York nest record is approximately 180 miles northeast of any previously known breeding record. According to Bull (1974, *Birds of New York State*, New York, Doubleday) only two confirmed records of the species exist for New York: a 1930 specimen from Long Island and a 1954 color photograph from Seneca County, although there are a number of sight reports.

The identification was verified by the following: Fred N. Hough, Alice Jones, Davis Finch, Helen Manson, Robert Smart, and Virginia Smiley. Thanks are given to John Bull, who critically read the manuscript. This note is a byproduct of the baseline research activities of The Mohonk Trust.—DANIEL SMILEY and JAMES STAPLETON, *The Mohonk Trust, Mohonk Lake, New Paltz, New York 12561*. Accepted 23 Dec. 74.

**The chemical composition of the ovary, oviduct, and follicles of the Starling.**—Five adult female Starlings (*Sturnus vulgaris*) were collected between 0710 and 0815 on 23 April 1973 from nest boxes in the vicinity of Kennett Square, southeastern Pennsylvania. Each of the females had laid one or two eggs at the time of collection. Ovaries and oviducts were dissected from the birds; large follicles in the ovaries and oviducal eggs were treated separately. The components were dried