

Nesting of the Chimney Swift in Colorado.—The only published record of the occurrence of the Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*) in Colorado is an account by Thompson G. Marsh (1931. *Auk*, 48:427–428) who observed one individual over the duck pond in Denver's City Park on May 16, 1930. For the last five years the species has appeared each spring at the town of Boulder, which lies at the base of the foothills of the Rockies and which is about as far west as the swifts could be expected to penetrate the high plains of central Colorado. They remained to breed during the summers of 1956 and 1957.

On May 11, 1953, a familiar twittering over the downtown section of Boulder led me to glance upward and I observed four Chimney Swifts above the buildings. The birds were also observed later in the day by Gordon Alexander and by Douglas Alexander. A late spring cold front came through the region the same evening, bringing freezing temperatures and low clouds which inactivated all airborne insects for several days. The swifts were not seen again that year and it is possible that they perished.

The following year, three swifts appeared in Boulder again on May 14, but did not remain. In 1955, two birds were seen over Boulder on May 22, but did not remain, and as in the previous year were not seen again for the rest of the summer.

On June 1, 1956, Douglas Alexander and I saw two swifts joined by a third which was emerging from a chimney of a building in downtown Boulder. As we watched they made repeated passes over the chimney but did not enter it again. A vigil of several days at this location proved fruitless and it was thought at first that the birds had left the region. However, on June 8, three birds were seen circling a building at the south edge of the University campus and four were seen in this vicinity on several subsequent dates in June. On July 6 I devoted the entire day to observing the circling, feeding, and flight directions of the swifts. The nest of one pair was located the following day in the south chimney of the Chi Omega sorority house at the edge of the University campus. I spent several hours on July 8 in the company of L. M. Baylor watching the swifts enter and leave the chimney, and later in the week I observed a young swift exercising its wings while clinging to the top of the chimney.

On July 13, six birds were observed flying around Old Main in the center of the campus and on the 14th, by climbing to the top of the building, I found a second nest in one of the many chimneys. It was approximately three feet below the top of the chimney and contained four nearly-fledged young. During the last week in July, 10 swifts were seen circling the campus every day. Six of them appeared to have a much more diaphanous plumage than the other four, permitting the light to pass through more readily.

In the summer of 1957, five swifts appeared in Boulder again during the last week in May and on June 2 a pair reoccupied the Chi Omega nesting site. During the rest of June as many as six were seen at different times over various parts of Boulder but no effort was made to locate the other nesting sites.—OWEN A. KNORR, *Department of Biology, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, November 22, 1957.*