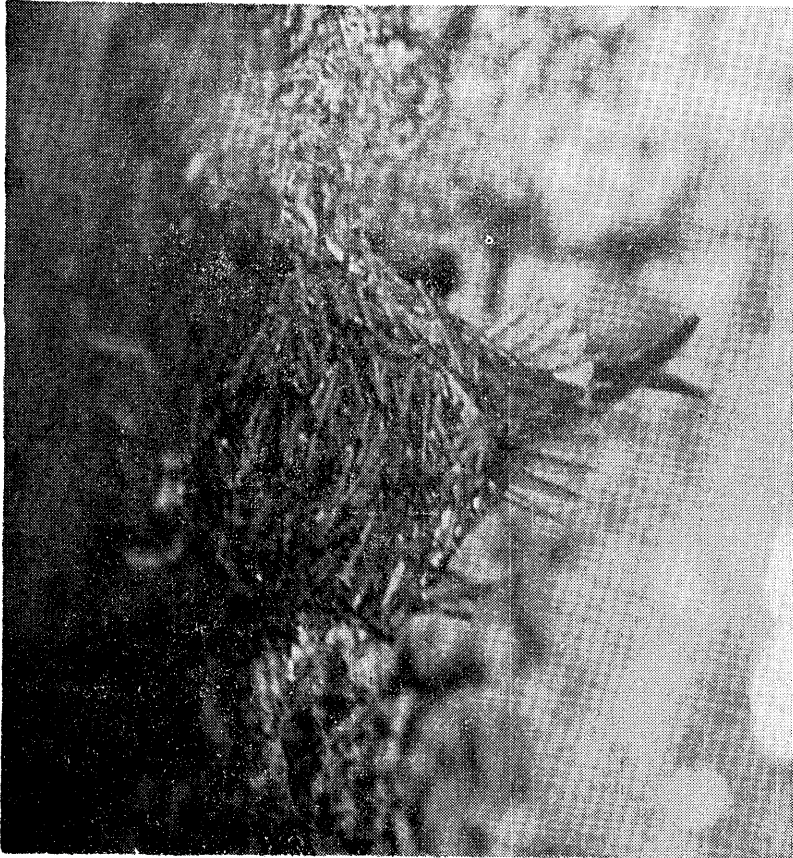


FIELD NOTES

Chimney Swift Nest In A Hollow Tree Stump: It is generally "known" that before chimneys were constructed for their convenience, Chimney Swifts used hollow trees for their nest sites. Actual records in the literature of recent use of such sites are surprisingly few.

During the summers of 1961, 1962, and 1963 I observed an incubating Chimney Swift in such a location in the Adirondacks. A few rods north of Sargent Pond in Hamilton County is the shell of an ancient white pine. At a point sixty feet high the top has been broken off leaving a perfect "chimney". The tree itself is fully three feet in diameter at breast height. By camera range-finder, the nest was measured to be thirty feet above the ground.



Comparison of the accompanying picture with one taken a year earlier, in 1962, shows the nest to be in identically the same place. That picture, taken with a shorter lens-lacks detail to determine whether the '63 nest was the same nest or a replacement.

In the vicinity there are several other similar large pine trunks which are open at the top. These are no doubt used by the other swifts that are seen in the area, but the absence of good peek holes at the base of these trees has prevented confirmation. These large pines were unquestionably over-mature, or even dead, when the area was logged for pine almost a century ago. Paul M. Kelsey, Senior Wildlife Biologist, N. Y. S. Conservation Dept.