

FIELD NOTES

Follow-up Oneida Lake Purple Martin Census: Between July 7 and 26, 1966, Purple Martins were censused along the south shore of Oneida Lake from Brewerton to Sylvan Beach. At this time, in most of the occupied houses young were being fed in the nest, making occupancy easy to determine. Mrs. Dorothy W. Ackley, Dr. David Peakall with his summer ornithology class, and I conducted the census, following the method used in the 1963 census (*Kingbird* 14(2):81, May 1964).

That first census was done with the idea of making comparable censuses in later years. In view of the known Martin storm deaths in the spring of 1966 (*Kingbird* 16(3):169, July 1966) we felt it important to do a census that same summer. Only the south shore, rather than the entire lake, was covered in 1966. The figures below are for only this area in both years.

Year	No. hses checked	0% occupied		40% occupied			100% occupied			Est. total prs.
		No. hses	No. holes	No. hses	No. holes	Est. no. prs.	No. hses	No. holes	Est. no. prs.	
1963	102	11	110	22	330	131	69	1173	1060	1191
1966	104	56	746	22	486	160	26	386	380	540

The estimated total number of pairs of Martins in 1966 is less than half that of 1963, in almost exactly the same number of houses, with approximately the same number of holes. Moreover, in 1963 about 70% of the houses were "100%" occupied, whereas in 1966 only 25% of the houses were "100%" occupied and over half were unoccupied.

The 1963 data seemed to show that the larger the house, the more likely it was to be 100% occupied. (Unoccupied houses averaged 10 holes per house, 40% ones 15 holes, and 100% ones 17 holes.) The 1966 data fail to bear out this apparent relationship. Perhaps in 1963 it was only a coincidence; on the other hand, maybe there is a real correlation between number of holes and percent of occupancy in a normal year, but in 1966 simply not enough Martins survived the May storm-kill, or arrived subsequently, to fill the large houses. If it is true on Oneida Lake that the same individuals return year after year to the same houses, it would be unlikely for latecomers to fill in other large houses in preference to their traditional homes.

In at least seven instances in 1966 House Sparrows were noted sharing houses with Martins, compared to only once in 1963. This may be due to censusing earlier in the season, when House Sparrows are still present, but may also be due to more apartments being undefended by Martins after the storm-kill, and therefore available to House Sparrows.

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Note on the Northern Limit of Louisiana Waterthrush: I was interested to read of a Louisiana Waterthrush far north in New York State (*Kingbird* 16: 25-26, Jan. 1966). The vicinity of latitude 44° N appears to be a rather constant northern limit. The species was found breeding near Lake Champlain at Port Henry, N.Y., 40 miles farther north than Boonville, in 1941 (*Auk* 59:315, Apr. 1942); I found a nest and eggs at the Port Henry location, June 13, 1947. The species was observed at Passaconaway, N.H., right on the 44th parallel, June 7, 1964 and at Newbury, Vt., about 7 miles north of this parallel, May 11, 1951 (*Audubon Field Notes* 19:529, Oct. 1965). It ranges still farther north in Minnesota (Red Wing, approximate latitude 44° 30' N-Chapman, *Warblers of North America*, 1907).

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