

NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

Winter Wren breeding on Long Island: On 19 June 1976, the author, with Thomas W. Burke, Diane Deagan, Robert O. Paxton, Barbara Spencer and Guy A. Tudor found evidence that a pair of Winter Wrens (*Troglodytes troglodytes*) was breeding at Connetquot River State Park, near the town of Islip, Suffolk County. Upon our arrival at the park's fish hatchery we immediately heard a singing Winter Wren in adjacent swampy deciduous forest. Later, about 60 yards distant, we startled a group of three Winter Wrens from a thick tangle of vegetation surrounding the base of a fallen tree. Two of these birds were obviously recently fledged; they showed prominent gape marks, had tails noticeably shorter than that of the accompanying adult, and constantly begged food from the third, unmarked, silent bird. On 26 June, Paxton again noted the male singing in this area.

John Bull (1974, *Birds of New York State*, p. 413) notes that Winter Wrens occupy two distinct nesting habitats in New York State—montane evergreen forest and lowland bogs and swamps. The species has previously been reported breeding as far southeast as Westchester Co., where it is rare and local. There is no evidence that the species has attempted to breed on Long Island before.

Interestingly, other northern species breed or have bred at Connetquot River State Park within this Winter Wren's territory. Brown Creepers (*Certhia familiaris*) are common, and Canada Warblers (*Wilsonia canadensis*) nested here in 1971 (*The Kingbird*, 21: 246, 1971).

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Yellow-nosed Albatross at Croton Point, Westchester County: The center of Hurricane "Belle" struck central Long Island about midnight August 9 and, continuing straight inland, passed about 50 miles east of the Hudson River Valley in the early morning hours.

The authors spent the morning of the 10th birding the bay, fields and marshes of Croton Point, noting only greater than normal numbers of Common Terns and Laughing Gulls. At noon we stationed ourselves on the southern tip of the point, a 30 foot high bluff extending southwest into the Hudson River. The rain had stopped and the wind was 25 mph from the northwest.

At about 1 p.m. we saw a Royal Tern flying south along the river, a second county record. (The first, unpublished, was of two birds at Rye, July 20, 1975, seen by Paul Lehman, Jim Coe and Berna Weissman.)

At 1:40 an adult Yellow-nosed Albatross (*Diomedea chlororhynchos*) sud-