

room in the American Museum). The difference is even more apparent when specimens of the two species are viewed side by side. Second is size, specimens showing that *minutus* is definitely the smaller of the two species; my impression at Robert Moses State Park was of a fairly large tern. Third, Atlantic populations of *minutus* exhibit a white cap that ends abruptly at the blackish nape, providing a distinct demarcation line, whereas in *stolidus* the pale crown blends gradually into the brown of the nape; I feel sure I would have seen such a line of demarcation had it been present.

In conclusion, I remain convinced that the bird I saw was *Anous stolidus* rather than *Anous minutus*.

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The above sighting constitutes the first report of the Noddy Tern for New York State; in the absence of a specimen or photograph, the record must be referred to the Hypothetical List. —Eds.

Brown Boobies at Riis Park, Queens County: At 5:15 p.m. on 29 September 1977 the authors were standing north of the Mall at Jacob Riis Park in Queens County, enjoying the tail end of a large migration of hawks. The weather was clear, with light winds from the northwest, producing a flight of several thousand accipiters and falcons along the barrier beach that day.

At this time two large, gannet-like birds were perceived flying close together toward us from the direction of the ocean. The birds flew with continuous, deep strokes of the wings, one bird slightly in front of the other. They passed over us at an altitude of 50 or 60 feet, continued on toward the base of the Marine Park Bridge, and then turned back toward the ocean and disappeared from view. The underparts of the birds were patterned like those of an oystercatcher—the dark head and neck sharply separated from the white breast and abdomen by a line across the breast from the leading edge of one wing to that of the other. The tapered tail was dark. The wing linings were white, edged with black, the trailing edge broader than the leading. The long, tapering bills were yellowish. The upperparts were not seen clearly, but the upper surface of the wing appeared dark brown.

All these points leave no doubt in our minds that these birds were Brown Boobies (*Sula leucogaster*), even though neither of us has had previous experience with the species. Both of us are familiar with Gannets (*Morus bassanus*), including subadults.

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