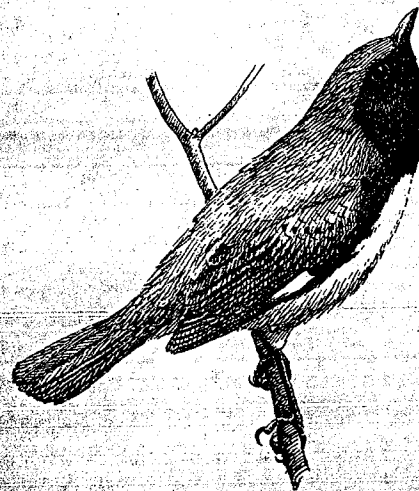


ACADIA NATIONAL PARK
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NATIVE BIRDS
OF
MOUNT DESERT
ISLAND



by JAMES BOND
CURATOR OF BIRDS
THE ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES
OF PHILADELPHIA

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NATIVE BIRDS
OF MT. DESERT ISLAND AND
ACADIA NATIONAL PARK

By
JAMES BOND

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PREFACE

There are two reasons for the publication of this booklet. The first is to indicate the habitats of all of the birds that breed or have bred on Mt. Desert during the past fifty years to serve as a basis for comparison with future studies, for apart from nest records of the Red-breasted Merganser on Trumpet Island the information herein has been acquired later than 1920. Secondly, it is hoped that it will serve as a useful guide from June until August. The reader not well acquainted with the avifauna of eastern North America is advised to carry with him Roger Peterson's "Field Guide to the Birds", which contains colored illustration of the species found here, and descriptions of their voices and characteristic field marks.

Approximately 130 species of birds nest regularly on Mt. Desert and nearby islands, nearly half of the number reported as having occurred here. These include an interesting mixture of predominantly Canadian birds of coniferous forest and also a southern element. Those in the latter category have increased in recent years, partly due to the new environment afforded by the burnt-over area (about 17,000 acres) that resulted from the disastrous forest fire of 1947, partly to the northern expansion in the ranges of a number of species. Generally speaking, because of environmental conditions, southwestern Mt. Desert is richest in northern forms, the northeastern part of the island in southern birds. It is possible during June, when all of the small land birds are in song, to encounter at least 70 species in a day, and during the entire summer season one should find over 100, including a number of transient shore birds and other waterfowl.

Favorable localities for birds on Mt. Desert are the "burnt lands" between Aunt Betty's Pond and Witch Hole Pond, the vicinity of Sieur de Monts Spring, the Emery District, and near Ship Harbor. The last mentioned is particularly rich in wood warblers, although less so than the ornithologically renowned Bangor Bog (about four miles north of Bangor), the most exciting place for land birds that I know of in eastern Maine, and easily reached by car via Stillwater Avenue that passes through both the bog and the surrounding swamps.

When visiting Ship Harbor one should enter the sphagnum bog .4 of a mile east of the parking space. Walking in the bog

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NATIVE BIRDS OF MT. DESERT ISLAND

Loons

*COMMON LOON. Loons are primarily birds of the far north, and Mt. Desert is near the southern limit of their breeding range. The majority of those seen during the summer are non-breeding individuals and frequent for the most part coastal waters off the western side of the island. They are particularly numerous off Pretty Marsh Harbor and Indian Point, and their eerie "laughter" and mournful howling (ooahoo or ooaháo) is often heard here both during the day and night. A few pairs breed on the freshwater lakes. The only "nest" (with one egg) that has so far been recorded was on the "Southern Neck" of Long Pond, but young have been seen elsewhere.

Grebes

*PIED-BILLED GREBE. This little grebe is rare and seldom seen in summer on Mt. Desert. A nest with 7 eggs was found at Seal Cove Pond in late May, and a parent with a brood of young was observed on Aunt Betty's Pond in early summer. During migration this species is often seen on various lakes and along the coast near shore, but is much rarer as a transient than the Horned Grebe.

Storm Petrels

*LEACH'S PETREL. There is a colony of these little sea birds on Little Duck Island. Here they nest in pungent-smelling burrows beneath the spruce trees, and are seldom seen unless extracted therefrom. When not engaged in incubation, they spend their time far out at sea. They visit the islands at night to escape the ravages of the gulls, but when there is bright moonlight are preyed upon by these birds.

Cormorants

*DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT. Cormorants, or "Shags" as they are called locally, are among the most abundant sea birds in the vicinity of Mt. Desert, but they have only recently (since about 1920) established breeding colonies here. One of these is on Bald Rock near Bar Harbor, another on the Green Islands also known as "The Scrags", a third on Ship Island. Cormorants are often seen perched on buoys or on rocks exposed at low tide. Most of the fish that they capture (sculpins, cunners and eels) have no commercial value.

is easy and relatively dry. In addition to the Palm Warbler and Lincoln's Sparrow, found nowhere else on Mt. Desert during the breeding season, beautiful orchids, including *Arethusa* and *Calopogon*, grow there profusely. The spruce woods that extend from the west side of Ship Harbor to the Bass Harbor lighthouse road are also ornithologically productive, particularly in the early hours of the morning.

The most interesting island near Mt. Desert for sea birds is Little Duck, which is inhabited by Leach's Petrels, Eider Ducks, Herring and Black-backed Gulls, and Black Guillemots. This island should be visited on a calm or moderately calm day in late June or early July.

In the following annotated list an asterisk indicates that one or more nests have been reported from Mt. Desert or from nearby islands south to the Duck Islands and the Green Islands (locally known as "The Scrags"), a land area of approximately 120 square miles. Any supplementary data relating to native birds should be given as soon as possible to the Park Naturalist at his office in Bar Harbor, Maine. One should bear in mind that the presence during the nesting season of individuals of such unusual species as a Mockingbird or Mourning Warbler or even of a pair of Pine or Evening Grosbeaks, does not necessarily imply that these birds are nesting here, nor is the carrying of food or building material always positive evidence of breeding. The status of most of the summer residents is well known, but our knowledge of a few, particularly among the ducks, hawks and owls, is far from adequate.

Herons and Bitterns

***GREAT BLUE HERON.** The best place to look for this heron is near the Trenton bridge at Mt. Desert Narrows. Several may be seen there at low tide. Elsewhere these herons are often flushed from various ponds and coastal coves. During the past 30 years nesting colonies have been reported from Long Porcupine, Bartlett's Island and, recently, from Ironbound Island.

GREEN HERON. This little heron appears to be confined to the northern part of Mt. Desert, mainly between Fresh Meadow and Duck Brook. One or more are often flushed by canoeists on Northeast Creek during the summer months, and it has been observed on many occasions at Hamilton Pond.

***BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON.** This heron has become scarce on Mt. Desert in recent years: formerly it was rather common. Its characteristic *quock* could often be heard after dark at Northeast Harbor during the summer, and one or two individuals regularly frequented Bass Harbor Marsh. In 1923 and in 1949 there was a small breeding colony on Little Duck Island. Another was on Long Porcupine in association with a Great Blue heronry.

***AMERICAN BITTERN.** Bush-covered swamps, freshwater marshes, and margins of ponds are where one usually encounters bitterns, but they are seldom seen in summer unless their haunts are invaded. During migration in spring and early fall they are more in evidence. Unlike most herons these birds do not colonize, and their nests are situated on the ground.

Ducks

The Hooded Merganser is a not uncommon summer resident on the lakes and streams of inland Maine, as is the Common Goldeneye. I have seen a female of the latter with her brood of downy young at Graham Lake near Ellsworth. Semiferal Canada Geese and Mallards have nested on Mt. Desert.

A number of non-breeding scoters or "coots" (all three species) summer about the island, mainly in Blue Hill Bay. They appear in good condition, but are perhaps barren individuals for their breeding ranges lie far to the north. Other northern sea ducks, such as the Oldsquaw, are occasionally seen in summer.

***BLACK DUCK.** This is the common wild duck of Mt. Desert, often flushed from freshwater ponds, salt marshes and secluded coastal coves. The nests are situated in swamps and

about the borders of ponds, but are sometimes a considerable distance from water. In the fall large flocks of these ducks congregate on the "Jordan River" adjacent to Mt. Desert.

GREEN-WINGED TEAL. In recent years this teal has been seen frequently at various parts of the island, including Bass Harbor Marsh, Northeast Creek, and the Duck Pond near Western Mountain. In late June, 1964, a female with her brood of young was flushed from the little stream that is the outlet of Sieur de Monts Spring.

BLUE-WINGED TEAL. There have been numerous records of this teal on Mt. Desert in spring, summer and fall, for the most part from various ponds and streams in the northeastern part of the island. During the summer of 1966 a brood of nine young was observed on many occasions at Hamilton Pond near Salisbury Cove.

WOOD DUCK. This beautiful duck has increased on Mt. Desert during the past 50 years, and now occurs on many of the ponds and streams as well as on beaver flowages. Broods of young have been seen on several ponds, but no nest has as yet been recorded from the island, although boxes have been erected for the use of this species. The usual site is in a cavity of a tree.

RING-NECKED DUCK. Prior to 1940 this duck had never been reported from Mt. Desert, but has since been a summer resident here, at least until 1960. The Ring-neck is a freshwater species and should be looked for on the more secluded ponds, such as Hodgdon's, Aunt Betty's and the Breakneck Ponds on all of which broods of young have been seen. The nests are situated close to open water.

***COMMON EIDER.** Many Eiders may be observed at sea south and southwest of Mt. Desert in summer, although the species is more abundant as a winter resident. Early in the century they were rare hereabouts during the breeding season. These large sea ducks nest on small, uninhabited islands, such as Little Duck, Trumpet and Ship, their down-covered eggs well concealed under raspberry bushes or in grass.

COMMON MERGANSER. If a merganser is seen during the summer on a freshwater lake or pond of Mt. Desert it is probably this species. Females with their broods have been observed on Long Pond and Bubble Pond in July, but there are few records for the island during this time of the year.

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*RED-BREASTED MERGANSER. Thirty or more years ago this duck was often encountered off the coast of Mt. Desert, but it has since become scarce in summer. Around the turn of the century several pairs habitually nested on Trumpet Island, and a female with her brood was recently reported at Northeast Harbor. The species has not been found on any of the fresh water lakes during the breeding season.

Hawks and Eagles

As is the case with ducks and owls, our knowledge of the hawks of Mt. Desert is limited. In addition to those known to breed here, the Cooper's Hawk and Red-shouldered Hawk may be rare summer residents. Both have been reported from the island.

*GOSHAWK. This large and fierce *Accipiter* summers in relatively small numbers on Mt. Desert. After its eggs are hatched it betrays its presence by squealing or cackling loudly as a warning to anyone approaching its nest or young, and sometimes will attack an intruder viciously if he does not retire. These hawks inhabit dense woodland with considerable deciduous growth, and occur on both sides of the island. They prey to some extent on Ruffed Grouse, and also capture smaller birds and various mammals including rabbits and red squirrels.

SHARP-SHINNED HAWK. The Sharp-shin is a small *Accipiter*, the female much larger than the male. It has seldom been seen during summer, particularly in late years, but is occasionally common during migration in early fall. This and the related Cooper's Hawk behave in similar fashion to the Goshawk, but are less fierce in the vicinity of their nests. Both prey on small birds.

*RED-TAILED HAWK. I have observed this large *Buteo* most frequently soaring over open country near Bar Harbor, the Emery District and the burnt lands. A nest was found in 1961 in woodland north of Mt. Cadillac, and a pair nested about 25 years ago on Little Brown Mountain.

*BROAD-WINGED HAWK. This small *Buteo* is by far the commonest hawk on Mt. Desert, and is often seen by the roadsides when motoring through the island. It is primarily a bird of woodlands, seldom encountered in open country except during migration. Its nest is usually situated in a hardwood tree at no great elevation above the ground.

*BALD EAGLE. Owing to pollution of rivers and streams, Maine has become the last stronghold of this magnificent bird in New England. In spite of the fact that apparently few young have been raised successfully in recent years on and near Mt. Desert, eagles are in my experience as frequently seen on the island as during the first half of the century. They may be found near any expanse of water, fresh or salt, and occur among the outer islands, and exposed sea ledges. Their food consists mostly of fish that they discover dead along the coast or about the borders of lakes or ponds, but sometimes acquired by robbing Ospreys of their prey.

*MARSH HAWK. A few pairs of these harriers summer on the island, but it is seldom that one encounters this species here. Perhaps the best localities are at the southern end of Seal Cove Pond and in the swamp between Ship Harbor and Sea Wall. A nest (on the ground) with 3 eggs of the Marsh Hawk was discovered on Mt. Desert in early June, 1941.

Ospreys

*OSPREY. Although not the commonest, this is the most frequently seen of the birds of prey of Mt. Desert. Ospreys search for fish over both fresh and salt water, hovering in the air for several seconds before plunging on their prey. Most of the nests are in trees, but precipitous rocks close to the sea have been chosen. Like eagles, they return to their old nests year after year.

Falcons

*PEREGRINE FALCON. Probably never more than two pairs of these falcons have inhabited Mt. Desert. I know of only two former aeries, one on the steep slope of Champlain Mountain near Bar Harbor, the other on Eagle Cliffs of St. Sauveur Mountain bordering Somes Sound. The flight of this fine falcon is exceedingly rapid. I once saw one at Pretty Marsh that was harassing an eagle, effectively driving the much larger bird from the island. During the past decade the Peregrine has apparently been extirpated as a breeding bird of Mt. Desert although an occasional individual is still seen on migration, sometimes out at sea.

"American Kestrel", occurs in open country on Mt. Desert. It is often seen in the Emery District and on the burnt lands. A nest was found in early July in a cavity in the roof of an old barn on Beech Hill.

Grouse

The Spruce Grouse was a former resident on Mt. Desert, the last acceptable record in August, 1899. On the adjacent mainland a few still occur in dense swampy woods near streams (e.g. Kilkenny Stream). This handsome bird is much tamer and more sluggish than a Ruffed Grouse and its flight is less rapid.

*RUFFED GROUSE. Forty years ago the Ruffed Grouse or "Partridge" was abundant on Mt. Desert, but has become rather scarce owing to the increase in the number of deer which eat much of the food relished by these birds, and of raccoons and foxes which doubtless take heavy toll of the eggs and young. This grouse is primarily a woodland bird, but is occasionally flushed from exposed ledges on mountain tops.

Pheasants

RING-NECKED PHEASANT. Every year pheasants are liberated on Mt. Desert Island in September prior to the shooting season, but few survive the winters due in large part to the prevalence of foxes and other predators. These birds thrive on Great Duck Island, where a hen and her brood of downy young were encountered in June. There they feed largely on cranberries that grow abundantly on the open, swampy parts of that island.

Rails

The Virginia Rail is the only member of its family known to breed on Mt. Desert, but the Sora may do so occasionally. An adult and immature of the latter seen at Hamilton Pond on August 18 may have been either native birds or early transients. Up to now there has been no report of the loud, descending whinny that is characteristic of the Sora.

VIRGINIA RAIL. On Mt. Desert this rail inhabits the swampy areas north of Seal Cove, where broods of downy young have been seen until late in July. Doubtless this rail is present in summer in other freshwater swamps, but it is easily overlooked for it is highly secretive and, unlike the Sora, rarely vocal. A nest was found on Grand Manan in early June.

*KILLDEER. Unlike the Spotted Sandpiper, the Killdeer is a rare summer resident on Mt. Desert whence it has been recorded only from the northeastern part of the island. It occurs in meadows of the Emery District, and on numerous occasions has been seen on the stony beach at Hull's Cove. About half a mile from the latter locality a "nest" with 3 eggs was found on flat, bare ground in May, 1964.

Transient plovers apt to be seen at Mt. Desert in summer are the Semipalmated and Black-bellied Plovers and the Ruddy Turnstone.

Woodcock and Sandpipers

*AMERICAN WOODCOCK. This attractive little game bird is widespread in summer on Mt. Desert, but is most abundant in late October and early November when "flights" arrive from Nova Scotia and the north. Woodcock are usually flushed from wet ground in rather open swampy woodland or alder swales. One may see them near their coverts at dusk, flitting like bats to their feeding grounds. They breed mostly in early spring, but eggs have been found on Mt. Desert in June.

*SPOTTED SANDPIPER. Although many species of sandpipers occur at or near Mt. Desert during migrations, some of which are present here as early as midsummer, the Spotted Sandpiper is the only one that breeds on the island. It is frequently seen on the sea coast and about the borders of ponds or lakes. The "nests" are near water, on a beach, in a meadow or by the roadside.

Transient species of this family often seen in summer include the Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, Dowitcher, Sanderling, and Least, Semipalmated and Pectoral Sandpipers.

Gulls and Terns

In addition to members of this family that breed on islets in the vicinity of Mt. Desert, Arctic Terns occur here in summer but usually far out at sea. They may be seen at Mt. Desert Rock, but neither this species nor any other bird nests on this remote islet. There are important colonies on Machias Seal Island and on Matinicus Rock. The little Bonaparte's Gull, the adults black headed in summer, is occasionally encountered off shore: it is native to northwestern North America.

***GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL.** Wherever gulls congregate we are apt to find this handsome species. Though the Black-back has long been present along the coast of Maine in summer, 40 or more years ago it did not breed here. Now colonies are established on several of the smaller islands, notably Little Duck, Ship Island, and the Green Islands or "Scrags". These gulls have had a detrimental effect on the populations of a number of the smaller sea birds, in particular the petrels.

***HERRING GULL.** This is the most abundant sea bird in the vicinity of Mt. Desert. Found mainly on salt water, Herring Gulls frequent the lakes and large ponds for bathing. They nest on a number of small islands, the largest colony on Little Duck.

***COMMON TERN.** In former years there were a number of colonies of these terns on islets in Blue Hill Bay, including Ship and Trumpet, but since the phenomenal increase of Black-backed Gulls they have moved closer to the mainland. The only sizable colony that I know of at present near Mt. Desert is on tiny Rumell's Hub, north of Goose Cove Rock. If one enters the road to Dodge Point and bears left he will reach a point directly opposite this islet and be able to watch the swarm of raucous terns nearby.

Auks

Although only one member of this family is resident in our area, two others (the Razor-billed Auk and Atlantic Puffin) breed on Machias Seal Island and on Matinicus Rock, islets far out to sea that are well worth visiting by the ornithologically minded.

***BLACK GUILLEMOT.** This small northern sea bird, known locally as "Sea Pigeon", is common in the vicinity of Mt. Desert particularly among the outer islands. There are apparently colonies on Long Porcupine and Ironbound, but by far the most important off the coast of Maine is at Little Duck. Guillemots lay their usual clutches of two eggs in deep clefts in the rocks. At Mt. Desert one or more are often seen off Wonderland Point. It is extremely unusual to see a Black Guillemot on fresh water.

Pigeons and Doves

The semi-feral domestic pigeon or "Rock Dove" occurs in many of the towns and villages of Maine, including Bar Harbor and Southwest Harbor.

***MOURNING DOVE.** Although frequently encountered in late summer and early fall, few of these doves breed on Mt. Desert and their cooing is seldom heard here. They are usually seen in rather open places about the borders of fields or near habitations, and are often flushed from the roadsides. Nests found near Salisbury Cove in June were in small spruces or firs, from 6 to 12 feet above the ground.

Cuckoos

The Yellow-billed Cuckoo has been reported from Mt. Desert during the breeding season by a number of bird-watchers, but I have never seen or heard this species here at that time of the year. It is sometimes not uncommon in late summer.

***BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO.** This cuckoo occurs in alder thickets and scrubby country throughout the island, and is particularly numerous in the vicinity of Sieur de Monts Spring. A nest was discovered in a viburnum shrub on the slope of Cadillac Mountain in early June.

Typical Owls

Less is known about the owls of Mt. Desert than any other family of birds. In addition to those listed, the Long-eared Owl has been reported heard on a few occasions, but there has been no daylight sight record during the past 40 years. There are no summering records of either the Boreal Owl or Short-eared Owl, species known to nest or to have nested on Grand Manan.

***GREAT HORNED OWL.** This large owl is rare on Mt. Desert. I have neither seen nor heard one here, although I have encountered it near Kilkenny Stream on the adjacent mainland. There are several records from the island.

***BARRED OWL.** The dark-eyed Barred Owl is occasionally encountered on woodland trails and mountain slopes. Its characteristic two-phrased hooting (*hu-hu-huhu*, *hu-hu-huaw*) may be heard at night, and sometimes even during the day. A nest was found in the cavity of a tree on the slope of Cadillac Mountain, another south of Western Mountain.

***SAW-WHET OWL.** The little Saw-whet is rare on Mt. Desert, where it is more often heard than seen. It has been most frequently found in spruce woods on the western side of the island. A nest was discovered in the cavity of a tree stub at Little Oak Hill near the old Seal Cove road, another near the Bass Harbor Lighthouse road.

Goatsuckers

*WHIP-POOR-WILL. Although abundant in many parts of the mainland of eastern Maine, few Whip-poor-wills summer on Mt. Desert except on the burnt land. They may be heard at night during the breeding season in the scrubby growth between McFarland Mountain and Aunt Betty Pond, and near the new Eagle Lake road. A "nest" with two eggs was discovered in June.

*COMMON NIGHTHAWK. Nighthawks are often seen in early summer on the burnt land, where they lay their eggs on the bare ledges and other open spots. There are several nesting records from the island, including one from the southern ridge of Cadillac Mountain.

Swifts

*CHIMNEY SWIFT. Swifts are frequently seen at Bar Harbor, and about other villages or settlements. Sometimes they course over open fields in company with swallows. They usually nest in chimneys.

Hummingbirds

*RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD. Gardens are the best places to look for hummingbirds, which appear to be most prevalent in the vicinity of Bar Harbor and Northeast Harbor. Many people put vials that contain syrup on their porches or outside their windows to attract these little birds, offering an opportunity to observe them at close range.

Kingfishers

*BELTED KINGFISHER. This is one of the more conspicuous birds of Mt. Desert, often seen along the coast and about the borders of lakes and ponds, its loud rattling voice betraying its presence. The usual nesting site is in the side of a sand pit, sometimes at a considerable distance from water. On only one occasion have I found a kingfisher's burrow in the side of a bank by the sea.

Woodpeckers

There are five species of this family that are known to breed on Mt. Desert. In addition, the three-toed woodpeckers may do so occasionally, particularly on lands that have rather recently been burnt over. A pair of Black-backed Three-toed Woodpeckers, the more numerous of the two in eastern Maine, was observed

on Flying Squadron Mountain in early July, 1932, and a pair of Northern Three-toed Woodpeckers was reported seen on Beech Hill during the second summer after a forest fire.

*YELLOW-SHAFTED FLICKER. Flickers are among the familiar birds of Mt. Desert. Most in evidence along the roadsides and in meadows during migration in late summer and early fall, they also breed commonly on the island. The white rump is a conspicuous field mark.

*PILEATED WOODPECKER. By far the largest of Maine woodpeckers, the Pileated is rare on Mt. Desert where it is encountered most frequently on the western side of the island. In spite of its rarity at least five nests have been found here. On two successive years a pair occupied a birch stub, but different cavities, near the road to Fernald Point.

*YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER. Although numerous during migration in spring and fall, this woodpecker is rather rare as a summer resident on Mt. Desert, where one may hear its characteristic irregular drumming from late May through June. It inhabits woodland or copses with considerable deciduous growth. Several nests have been found in recent years.

*HAIRY and *DOWNY WOODPECKERS. These two woodpeckers look much alike apart from size, the Hairy being much the larger. Both are common residents of the island. The subdued pecking one hears so frequently in the woods is usually caused by one or the other.

Tyrant Flycatchers

*EASTERN KINGBIRD. Kingbirds are more numerous as transients than as summer residents on Mt. Desert. A few occur every year in more open parts of the island. I have lately encountered this flycatcher most frequently during the breeding season in the Emery District south of Salisbury Cove, and at beaver ponds on the burnt lands. The nest is sometimes placed at a low elevation over water on streams or flowages, but usually well out on a branch of a tree.

GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER. This is one of the birds that has evidently extended its range to Mt. Desert in recent years, probably as a result of the great forest fire of 1947, for the burnt lands are its favored habitat. Its loud screeching is

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often heard there in late spring. Individuals carrying nesting material have been seen near Salisbury Cove and Sieur de Monts Spring, but a nest has not yet been found on the island. This is usually in a cavity of a tree.

*EASTERN PHOEBE. Phoebe are found about bridge barns or other man-made structures. They also frequent beaver flowages, such as that between Halfmoon Pond and Witch Hole Pond, where they nest among the roots of upturned trees.

*YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER. Of the three flycatchers of the genus *Empidonax* that inhabit Mt. Desert (the Yellow-bellied, Traill's and Least), this species is most seldom seen. It is a bird of swampy woodland and in such environment is not uncommon. It may be encountered along the fire road between the southern end of Long Pond and Seal Cove Pond and along the Hio fire road between Seawall and Bass Harbor Marsh. A nest was discovered in a mossy hummock on the border of the bog near Ship Harbor.

*TRAILL'S FLYCATCHER. This is a common flycatcher in shrubbery in rather open country. It occurs on the borders of woodland but not in the forest, and is much more often heard than seen. Nests have been found in bushes, chiefly alders and meadowsweet.

*LEAST FLYCATCHER. The "Chebec" is a bird of deciduous copses and woodland. It occurs on the outskirts of Bar Harbor and in or near other villages of the island, and there is usually a pair at Sieur de Monts Spring. The nests are in trees and the eggs immaculate white.

*WOOD PEWEE. Copses and, to a lesser extent, open deciduous woodland are inhabited by the Wood Pewee. One may see this flycatcher near Sieur de Monts Spring where nests have been found saddled on limbs of maples bordering the trails. The Phoebe also occurs there.

*OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER. The loud "hic-three-beers" or the oft-repeated alarm notes (*pit-pit-pit*) call attention to this pewee-like flycatcher which is widespread on Mt. Desert in summer. It is a bird primarily of spruce growth and is numerous in the Ship Harbor area as well as near Bar, Seal and Northeast Harbors. It often perches at the very top of a tall tree, and builds its nest high up on the horizontal branch of a conifer.

Swallows

Five species of swallows are summer residents on Mt. Desert. Many years ago the Purple Martin is said to have nested in Bar Harbor, but the nearest colony in late years has been at Franklin Road on the nearby mainland east of Ellsworth. A pair in search of a nesting site appeared in June, 1964, at a motel near Salisbury Cove.

*TREE SWALLOW. This is one of the common swallows of Mt. Desert, nesting for the most part in bird houses erected for its use. Occasionally a mail box will be chosen, or an old woodpecker's hole especially if over water.

*BANK SWALLOW. Colonies of these swallows on Mt. Desert are at sand pits near the Southwest Harbor dump, and north of Somesville. There is also a colony on nearby Ship Island. The burrows are excavated in steep banks.

*ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW. This southern swallow has been steadily spreading northward and now appears regularly on the island. Individuals have been netted and banded in Somesville in May; and in June, 1964, a pair was found nesting in an old kingfisher burrow in a sand pit between that village and Town Hill in company with several pairs of Bank Swallows.

*BARN SWALLOW. Open farming country is favored by Barn Swallows. They nest in barns, sheds and other man-made structures to which they have access, and nests have been found in Anemone Cave near Bar Harbor and on a sea cliff at Great Duck Island.

*CLIFF SWALLOW. This is an abundant swallow on the island, nesting in colonies under the eaves of buildings. The bulky nests are constructed outwardly of mud or clay, and differ from those of the Barn Swallow by their bottle-shaped instead of cup-shaped appearance.

Crows and Jays

GRAY JAY. At present the Gray or Canada Jay occurs in summer in the swampy coniferous woodland near Bass Harbor Marsh, where adults accompanied by one to three young have been seen in June and July from 1963 to 1966. From fall until spring the species may be more widespread, but is at all times rare on Mt. Desert. Nesting takes place in winter or early in the spring, often when the ground is covered with snow.

***BLUE JAY.** Twenty or more years ago Blue Jays were seldom seen hereabouts, but since have become common both on Mt. Desert and on Swan's Island. They occur in woodlands as well as in more open country, including the burnt lands. Nests found in May at Salisbury Cove were in thickets of spruce and fir at moderate elevations above the ground.

***COMMON RAVEN.** The raucous cries of Ravens are often heard on Mt. Desert and the smaller islands nearby. For the most part they occur near the coast and on the higher mountain slopes, but are found virtually everywhere. The usual nesting site is on the side of a cliff, but a tree may also be chosen.

***COMMON CROW.** Crows are ubiquitous, but in spite of their abundance few nests have been found here. These are well hidden in conifers, and usually contain young by late May.

Titmice

***BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE.** The familiar Black-capped Chickadee occurs in the woodlands of Mt. Desert throughout the year. It comes readily to feeding stations and often nests in bird box erected for its use. Most nests are in cavities in trees or stubs at low or moderate elevations above the ground.

BOREAL CHICKADEE. This northern species is one of the rarer birds of Mt. Desert, but is more numerous on some of the islands nearby (e.g. Placentia). It inhabits spruce woods and the borders of sphagnum bogs, and is encountered occasionally in the vicinity of Ship Harbor where a brood of young was seen at Wonderland Point. On Grand Manan, to the east of Mt. Desert, the Boreal Chickadee is common. The usual nesting site is in a hole excavated in a dead tree trunk, but one that I saw on Grand Manan was in the decayed top of a fence post on the border of a meadow.

Nuthatches

***RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH.** This is an abundant bird on Mt. Desert, and during midsummer may be encountered more frequently in woodland than any other species. Its voice reminds one of a tiny tin trumpet. Nuthatches nest in holes of trees, the entrances to the cavities smeared with pitch. A nesting box is sometimes used for this purpose.

Creepers

***BROWN CREEPER.** The mouse-like little creeper easily escapes notice, for it is usually quiet. However, it is by no means uncommon in wooded areas. The nests are built behind slabs of loose bark on trees or stubs, and several have been found on the island that were on the sides of camps.

Wrens

***HOUSE WREN.** During the past 30 years House Wrens have appeared on Mt. Desert as summer residents, but there are probably never more than half a dozen pairs on the island. This wren is most frequently encountered in or near Bar Harbor, and occasionally one is heard singing on the burnt lands. There are no records from the western side of the island. A nesting box in Bar Harbor was occupied by this species in June, 1938.

***WINTER WREN.** Tangled wet woodlands are favored by this little wren, particularly on the western side of the island. In this environment we may hear its rollicking song among the mossy stumps and undergrowth. On two successive years a pair built a nest under a camp at Pretty Marsh, refurbishing what was left of the old nest on the second occasion.

SHORT-BILLED MARSH WREN. This wren is an occasional summer resident on Mt. Desert, where it inhabits lush wet meadows. In 1938 several occupied such a field in the Emery District. Subsequently others were seen in suitable environment near Seal Cove and Sieur de Monts Spring, but there have been very few records since 1940. In all instances the birds were discovered by hearing their oft-repeated, chattering songs. Although it is probable that this species has nested here, we have as yet no evidence of this. Nests have been found near Ellsworth.

Mockingbirds and Thrashers

Mockingbirds have been reported a number of times from Mt. Desert, but I believe all have been vagrants from the south. The species has extended its range northward in recent years and has been found nesting in Nova Scotia and even in Newfoundland. During some 40 seasons on the island I have seen but one, a bedraggled individual that spent several weeks at the Goose Cove cemetery. Males in song have been recorded from northeastern Mt. Desert during the breeding season.

***CATBIRD.** This is one of the birds that has increased as summer resident on Mt. Desert since the great fire, for it has become abundant on the burnt lands. Elsewhere, catbirds are often seen in shrubbery on the borders of woodlands, in gardens and about settlements in all parts of the island.

***BROWN THRASHER.** Prior to the great fire Brown Thrashers were rarely seen on Mt. Desert. At the present time the burnt lands offer suitable habitat, and they occur about the villages on the northeastern part of the island. Nests have been found in June, one in a brush pile, the others in shrubbery only a few inches above the ground.

Thrushes

***ROBIN.** If not the commonest, Robins are unquestionably the most ubiquitous of Mt. Desert birds. They are as much at home along the streets of Bar Harbor as they are in spruce woodland. They occur on the borders of the sphagnum bog near Ship Harbor, and there are many on the burnt lands. On the side of the center of villages almost every house or camp has one or more pairs of Robins nearby.

***WOOD THRUSH.** This southern thrush has steadily increased on Mt. Desert and is now well established as a summer resident in the northeastern part of the island. Prior to 1940 only one had been reported. Perhaps the best locality for the Wood Thrush is in the vicinity of Sieur de Monts Spring, where several pairs now occur during the breeding season. Nests found there were situated in birch saplings from five to twelve feet above the ground.

***HERMIT THRUSH.** The beautiful song of the Hermit Thrush is familiar to all on the island who are bird conscious. This species is more frequently found in mixed deciduous-coniferous woodland than in the dense spruce woods favored by Swainson's Thrush, and is numerous on the burnt lands. The song period lasts well into August, although the Hermit is not often heard as late as this. The nests with their immaculate bright blue eggs are situated on the ground, sometimes out of earshot of a singing male. They have been found from late May until early September.

***SWAINSON'S THRUSH.** The Swainson's, or "Olive-backed Thrush" as it used to be called, is one of the common birds of Mt. Desert, where it frequents dense coniferous woodland. One

cannot fail to hear its song that spirals out of the spruces. This does not vary like the songs of the Hermit Thrush and Wood Thrush, but possesses a richness that is most pleasing. The song period lasts through July, but peters out during the last days of that month. Swainson's Thrush is an arboreal nester, although an occasional nest is situated near the ground. Unlike other thrushes of the island its eggs are spotted.

***VEERY.** Forty or more years ago Veeries could be found readily in swampy ground in the eastern half of the island, but in late years this species has become scarce, and now may be outnumbered by the Wood Thrush. However, several pairs still frequent the Sieur de Monts Spring area. A nest found there in 1966 was situated on a stump within a foot of the ground on the border of a grassy clearing.

***EASTERN BLUEBIRD.** Formerly this beautiful bird was often seen about farms and along the roadsides, but has lately become exceedingly scarce on the island. In 1939 a pair occupied a nesting box in a garden at Bar Harbor, and about twelve years ago a nest with young was found in a dead stub in an extensive clearing at Pretty Marsh.

Kinglets

***GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET.** These tiny birds are easily overlooked for they frequent deep spruce woods and their singing, unlike that of the Ruby-crown, is very weak. Several of the globular, mossy nests have been found here, attached to the branches of spruce trees at moderate and high elevations above the ground.

***RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET.** Forty years ago far more Golden-crowned than Ruby-crowned Kinglets inhabited the spruce woods of Mt. Desert in summer, but the latter is apparently the commoner of the two at the present time during this season. The loud warbling of the Ruby-crown, quite unlike the weak voice of its relative, may be heard anywhere on the island where there are extensive growths of conifers. Four nests have been found in recent years, situated well out on spruce branches from 8 to 40 feet above the ground.

Waxwings

***CEDAR WAXWING.** Waxwings are abundant and conspicuous summer residents of the more open areas on Mt. Desert.

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They are among the few birds of the island that often associate in flocks. Their nests are situated at various elevations in trees, and are frequently near houses or camps.

Starlings

*STARLING. The abundance of this introduced European species may in part be responsible for the rarity of Bluebirds on Mt. Desert, for Starlings are apt to drive the latter from their nesting holes. They occur in open country throughout the island.

Vireos

*SOLITARY VIREO. This is the vireo of coniferous woodlands. It is readily distinguished from the Red-eye by having two white wing-bars and a conspicuous white eye-ring. Like all vireos it builds a pendent nest. In the case of the Solitary Vireo this is usually situated at moderate elevations in evergreens, often in cedars. The song is heard throughout the summer, and even in early autumn.

*RED-EYED VIREO. Woodlands with much deciduous growth, burnt lands, copses and villages are localities frequented by the Red-eyed Vireo, one of the commonest birds of the island. Like the previous species the Red-eye may be heard singing until late in summer.

Wood Warblers

I have observed 21 species of this family on Mt. Desert (including nearby islands) during the breeding season. Three others that have been reported from here in late spring and early summer, the Pine Warbler, Prairie Warbler and Mourning Warbler, may be occasional summer residents. The Pine Warbler nests not uncommonly in pine woodlands in southern Maine, the Mourning Warbler in bushy clearings in the northern part of the State.

*BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER. Woodland and mountain slopes with considerable deciduous growth, burnt lands and other extensive clearings are inhabited by this "creeping" warbler. Two nests discovered near Southwest Harbor were on the ground in overgrown clearings, one of these concealed under an old cedar stump.

TENNESSEE WARBLER. Perhaps the best locality for the Tennessee Warbler on Mt. Desert is among the larch or "hackmatack" thickets bordering Marshall Brook a short distance above its mouth where it enters Bass Harbor Marsh. It is also apt to be

found in forest clearings near Ship Harbor where a female was observed carrying food. At Schoodic Point on the nearby mainland ten singing males were once reported in mid July.

*NASHVILLE WARBLER. Clearings bordered by clusters of gray birch are favored by this warbler, one of the shyest of its family. Its characteristic song is often heard on sunny mountain slopes as well as in low country. The only nest recorded from Mt. Desert was well hidden among bunchberries bordering the "Wonderland" road near Ship Harbor.

*PARULA WARBLER. The Parula is the smallest of our warblers, and unlike others of this family the female is noticeably smaller than the male. It occurs wherever the grey-green, moss-like lichen *Usnea* festoons the trees. In this the bird builds its nest, and appears to be remarkably successful in rearing its young. Nests found on Mt. Desert were situated from 4 to 50 feet above the ground, usually in evergreens.

*YELLOW WARBLER. Unlike other warblers this brightly colored species is chiefly a bird of small towns and villages in Maine. It also inhabits alder thickets and roadside shrubbery and has been found nesting near Ship Harbor. Yellow Warblers often nest close to houses, a lilac bush or thicket of meadowsweet offering suitable sites.

*MAGNOLIA WARBLER. This beautiful warbler is widespread in the woods of Mt. Desert, where its sprightly singing is heard in June and July. Magnolia Warblers choose areas where there are thickets of young spruce and fir in which the flimsy nests are built. These are usually below 4 feet above the ground, but at times as high as 12 feet.

*CAPE MAY WARBLER. Occasionally the Cape May is a fairly common summer resident on Mt. Desert, but it is usually very rare or absent. During the past 40 years the late "thirties" was the best period for these warblers. They should be looked for in stands of tall spruce not far from the sea. In 1936 a nest with 6 eggs was found at the top of a red spruce west of Ship Harbor. This was the first nest record of this species from the United States, and is still the southernmost.

*MYRTLE WARBLER. The Myrtle is a hardy warbler, reaching us earlier in spring and departing later in fall than any other species of the family. In May its sleighbell-like jingle is

heard before other warblers have reached the island. Myrtle Warblers occur in lowland woods as well as on mountains and on the burnt lands. Their feather-lined nests have been found in spruce, fir, cedar and larch, from 3 to 40 feet above the ground. One on the border of Long Pond contained eggs as early as May 23.

***BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER.** Rather dry woodland with an admixture of coniferous and deciduous growth is the habitat of this warbler, which is apt to occur in scattered "colonies." Look for it near the trails along the lower slopes of Beech Mountain. Here several nests have been found, all situated in clumps of little spruces within two feet of the ground. These are comparatively bulky and are constructed largely of strips of bark.

***BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER.** This is one of the commonest summer residents of the island, and is certainly the most abundant in the spruce woods. A familiar song here is a drawling *zee-zee-didi-ze*, a lovely, soothing sound on warm early summer days. Nests have been found in evergreens from 2 to 30 feet above the ground.

***BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER.** The beautiful Blackburnian Warbler appears to have increased as a summer resident on Mt. Desert. It is a bird of high spruce and hemlock where its wiry song will be heard by those with unimpaired hearing. Nests found on the island have been from 30 to 50 feet above the ground near the ends of spruce limbs, not close to the trunk as are those of the Cape May.

***CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER.** Scrub-covered clearings, alder swales, roadside thickets and, in particular, the burnt lands are favored by this warbler, a bird that has increased on Mt. Desert since the great fire. It has been found nesting among alders and in *Spiraea*.

***BAY-BREASTED WARBLER.** Dense spruce woods, as those bordering the Bass Harbor Lighthouse road, at the northern end of Long Pond, and on the lower slopes of Asticou Hill near Northeast Harbor, are localities inhabited by this warbler. In such environment one may hear the lisping, nondescript song of the Bay-breast. Many of the relatively bulky nests have been found on Mt. Desert. These were situated between 15 and 40 feet above the ground well out on branches of spruces and firs.

***BLACKPOLL WARBLER.** A few Blackpolls nest regularly on the Duck Islands, and they have been reported from Isle-au-Haut, Great Cranberry Island, and on one occasion at Ship Harbor in July. They do not occur elsewhere in summer in the vicinity of Mt. Desert, except perhaps on some other small wooded islands such as outer Long Island. A nest discovered on Little Duck was located in a white spruce 33 feet above the ground, an unusually high elevation for this species.

***PALM WARBLER.** The sphagnum bog near Ship Harbor, known as the "Big Heath", is the only locality on the island where this warbler breeds. Here a few pairs occur every year, and several nests have been found embedded in the sphagnum and reindeer moss. As the season progresses the Palm Warbler is occasionally seen in swampy areas a short distance from the true bog.

***OVENBIRD.** Largely deciduous woodland in the lowlands is the habitat of Ovenbirds. The domed nests, situated on the ground, have been found on both sides of the island, but not as yet in the Ship Harbor area.

NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH. Of the 21 warblers that I regard as summer residents the Northern Waterthrush is perhaps the least apt to be seen here during the breeding season, and it is possible that it does not nest on Mt. Desert. The species is not uncommon during migration in spring and late summer. The best localities for waterthrushes are beaver flowages and alder swamps near fresh water. On the mainland they occur regularly on the borders of Branch Lake, and one cannot fail to hear in early June their loud and attractive song in the dense swamps that surround the Bangor Bog.

***YELLOWTHROAT.** This is one of the most common and widespread warblers of the island, frequenting thickets, swampy places and the burnt lands. The songs of Yellowthroats hereabouts are loud and often five-syllabled. The nests are built in shrubbery or weeds close to the ground.

***WILSON'S WARBLER.** The Ship Harbor area is one of the few localities on the island inhabited by the Wilson's Warbler. Elsewhere it has been found in alder swales and on burnt lands. Singing males may be heard either at the head of Ship Harbor or among the larch on the swampy ground within a mile north-

east of that point. At the latter location a nest was discovered at the base of an alder near the main road. On the nearby mainland there has for many years been a small colony bordering the highway 1.5 miles east of the junction of routes 1 and 3 at Ellsworth.

***CANADA WARBLER.** This pretty warbler, with the black "necklace" across its yellow breast, inhabits mosquito-infested swamps and fern-carpeted woodlands, environments also favored by the Yellow-bellied Flycatcher. The only nest that has been reported from Mt. Desert was situated several inches above the ground in a thick clump of little firs beside the path to "The Bowl". Both the Canada and Wilson's Warbler are common in the swamps that surround the Bangor Bog.

***AMERICAN REDSTART.** This is the most abundant warbler on Mt. Desert and is virtually ubiquitous, but is found for the most part in deciduous growth. Nests are usually at moderate elevations above the ground, but occasionally as low as three feet. A birch is often selected for this purpose.

Weaver Finches

***HOUSE SPARROW.** Few House Sparrows occur on Mt. Desert, but they are numerous in Bar Harbor. Elsewhere, individuals may be seen at Southwest Harbor and Somesville and near the docks at Bass Harbor.

Meadowlarks, Blackbirds and Orioles

The Rusty Blackbird may occasionally summer on Mt. Desert, where it is often seen in spring and early fall. In Hancock County it occurs sparingly during the breeding season along the upper reaches of the Narraguagus River.

***BOBOLINK.** The best locality for Bobolinks on the island is the Emery District. Elsewhere they should be sought wherever there are open meadows. The nests are well hidden in the grass and are difficult to find.

***EASTERN MEADOWLARK.** Few Meadowlarks summer on Mt. Desert Island. Most of these are in the Emery District where there are extensive open fields. Elsewhere they may be encountered near Bar Harbor, and on Town Hill. Nests have been found in northeastern Mt. Desert.

***RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD.** Freshwater swamps and bushy borders of lakes or ponds are where we find Redwings. They nest in shrubs and cat-tails in the wetter places, but wander far afield when foraging for food.

***BALTIMORE ORIOLE.** Probably not more than half a dozen pairs of these beautiful birds ever summer on Mt. Desert, where they occur for the most part in villages on the north-eastern side of the island. A pair is often present among the elms at Hull's Cove, and its nest has been found there and in Southwest Harbor. On the mainland Baltimore Orioles breed regularly in Ellsworth.

***COMMON GRACKLE.** During the past 20 years grackles have shown a decided increase in numbers on Mt. Desert and are now common in summer. They may be seen at Bar Harbor, Somesville, Southwest Harbor and Bass Harbor, and about ponds and beaver flowages. The nests are usually situated in evergreens, but some are in shrubbery bordering ponds at or near water level, and several have been found in boxes erected for the use of Wood Ducks.

***BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD.** With the exception of the Red-winged Blackbird this is the commonest of its family on Mt. Desert. Cowbirds should be looked for on open fields or lawns, and are frequently observed close to farm buildings. Occasionally they are found deep in the woods. Warblers and vireos are often victimized by this parasitic species.

Tanagers

SCARLET TANAGER. Few Scarlet Tanagers are present on Mt. Desert during the breeding season. They inhabit mainly deciduous woodland and the burnt lands. In June, 1963, a pair nested near Sieur de Monts Spring. Early in July the female was observed with food in her bill, but the nest was not discovered.

Grosbeaks, Finches, Sparrows, and Buntings

Approximately 18 species of this family nest on Mt. Desert, and one or two others may do so occasionally. The Pine Grosbeak has been recorded in summer, and on September 7, 1911, an adult male, female and 3 young were reported seen on the island. The Vesper Sparrow is evidently only a transient, but occurs regularly as a summer resident on the extensive blueberry fields in the vicinity of Georges Pond near Franklin.

***ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK.** This beautiful bird is most apt to be seen on the eastern side of the island where it frequents deciduous copses and the borders of woodland. The vicinity of Sieur de Monts Spring is one of the best localities for the species. A nest was found there in early June in a beech sapling about ten feet above the ground.

INDIGO BUNTING. This is one of the birds that has increased as a summer resident on Mt. Desert where it inhabits the burnt lands, including the outskirts of Bar Harbor. Its nest, which is situated in a shrub, has been found near Ellsworth, but not as yet on any of the islands.

EVENING GROSBEAK. This large and strikingly colored finch has since 1957 become established as a summer resident along the Union River at Ellsworth. It first appeared during summer on Mt. Desert in 1961, and has since been present here during this season, occurring chiefly in the vicinity of habitations where it is usually seen picking up grit by the roadside. Fledglings have been reported at Ellsworth, but we have no evidence of nesting on the island.

***PURPLE FINCH.** Purple Finches are abundant on Mt. Desert, and their pleasant warbling is sure to be heard in June and July. They are widespread in distribution, but favor spruce woods. They are often seen near houses and readily come to feeding stations. Nests have been found in spruce trees from 20 to 50 feet above the ground.

PINE SISKIN. Siskins may not summer here every year, but during some seasons they are common. Favorable localities include Asticou, Southwest Harbor and the vicinity of Ship Harbor. They have been reported feeding young and carrying nesting material, but a nest has not been discovered on the island.

***AMERICAN GOLDFINCH.** This canary-like finch is common on Mt. Desert, where it frequents villages and fairly open country. Goldfinches are attracted to feeders, but less so it would seem than Pine Siskins and Purple Finches. The nests are situated in shrubbery or trees.

RED CROSSBILL. From 1920 to 1940 this crossbill was extremely rare in summer on Mt. Desert, but since 1945 it has become familiar to bird-watchers. Occasionally it is abundant, and fledglings have been seen here as early as April. Although both

crossbills may be present on the island, usually one or the other predominates. A good Red Crossbill year is a poor one for White-wings and vice-versa.

WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL. During some summers this species is extraordinarily abundant on Mt. Desert and on the smaller wooded islands. Crossbills frequent spruce woods, but the White-winged is less apt to be seen in the villages. Adults feeding young have been observed, but a nest has not been recorded from the island. They often breed in winter when the ground is covered with snow.

***RUFIOUS-SIDED TOWHEE.** This is another of the southern birds that has been extending its range northward. It is now a regular and rather common summer resident on the burnt lands. The only nest so far recorded was concealed under a small spruce on the rocky slope of "Paradise Hill" near Hull's Cove.

***SAVANNAH SPARROW.** Although not limited to boreal regions during the breeding season, one associates this sparrow with bleak and wind-swept northern shores as on the Gaspé Peninsula and Magdalen Islands. It inhabits meadows, open bogs and salt marshes, and is present on most of the smaller islands.

***SHARP-TAILED SPARROW.** The only locality on Mt. Desert where Sharp-tailed Sparrows are known to occur in summer is Bass Harbor Marsh. They frequent wetter terrain than the Savannah Sparrows that also breed there. Usually they flush close to one's feet and fly but a short distance. The song of these "Acadian" Sharp-tails is a wheezy *cheee-suk*. Nests with 4 or 5 eggs have been found here, well concealed in the marsh grass.

***SLATE-COLORED JUNCO.** Every bird-watcher on Mt. Desert knows the Junco. Primarily it is a bird of clearings and roadsides, and nests in gardens, at the sides of woodland trails and in upturned tree stumps. In 1962 a pair refurbished the thrice-used nest of a White-throated Sparrow at Pretty Marsh.

***CHIPPING SPARROW.** This familiar little sparrow is seldom found far from habitations. It occurs in gardens, particularly on the eastern side of the island, as well as on the borders of fields in farming country. Nests are usually in vines or in shrubbery near houses, but one near Salisbury Cove was situated well out on a spruce limb about 30 feet above the ground.

FIELD SPARROW. Like the Towhee this is one of the southern species that has become established as a summer resident on Mt. Desert since the great fire, although there has been no evidence of its nesting as yet. The Field Sparrow is often encountered between McFarland Mountain and Aunt Betty Pond. Here we should listen for its plaintive trill, quite unlike the song of any other species.

***WHITE-THROATED SPARROW.** No bird voice is more characteristic of Mt. Desert than the clear piping of the White-throat. We hear it in the lowlands as well as on the mountain tops, wherever there are clearings or other brush-covered open spaces. In 1958, 1959 and 1961 a pair nested in a dense little spruce about 18 inches above the ground and a few yards from a Pretty Marsh camp. After the first year the birds utilized what was left of the old nest. The usual site is on the ground.

***LINCOLN'S SPARROW.** The extensive sphagnum bog near Ship Harbor known as the "Big Heath" is the only locality on the island where Lincoln's Sparrows are found in summer. In early June the loud, bubbling song may be heard there, but at most two or three singing males will be encountered. Although adults feeding fledglings have on several occasions been observed, not until June 23, 1966, was a nest (with four eggs) found on the side of a sphagnum hummock near the center and in an open part of this bog.

***SWAMP SPARROW.** Freshwater swamps and bushy borders of lakes and ponds are where one finds this sparrow. There are many such places on Mt. Desert. The nest resembles that of the Song Sparrow but is situated in a wetter location.

***SONG SPARROW.** An abundant and familiar bird of villages and settlements, the Song Sparrow also occurs on the borders of woodlands and ponds and on all of the small islands. Occasionally it is encountered in a comparatively open area in the heart of the forest.

Addenda (June - July, 1967). Ring-necked Duck (various ponds); Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker (Black Woods and near Bubble Pond in early July); House Wren (Somesville). Nests: Killdeer (Hull's Cove); Great Crested Flycatcher (in dead tree stub near Sieur de Monts Spring); Bank Swallow (colony at Hull's Cove); Wood Thrush (in cherry, maple and oak); Scarlet Tanager (about 30 feet up on hemlock branch near Sieur de Monts Spring); Lincoln's Sparrow (Big Heath). Fledgling Evening Grosbeak fed by adult female at Somesville in September, 1967.