

was confirmed by A. A. Dean and N. R. Brown. Squires (1952) refers to its common occurrence in the Bay of Fundy in the fall and winter. It was the first inland record in New Brunswick: its presence at Fredericton could not be attributed to any weather disturbances at the time.

Sabine's Gull *Xema sabini*. A. A. Dean, O. Washburn, and I saw a gull which we identified as an immature Sabine's at Fredericton on October 22, 1966. We kept the bird under almost continuous observation for over three hours, for most of which time it was at rest on the water. In flight the striking wing pattern was most apparent. The bird was in very close company with a Bonaparte's Gull the whole time. Side by side on the water the two birds appeared identical in size. All the details of plumage depicted in Snyder's (1957) illustration were noted. There had been strong winds from the northwest for several days before its arrival. Squires (1952) refers to the casual status of this gull in New Brunswick, citing one specimen taken and two sight records between 1878 and about 1926, all in or near the Grand Manan archipelago.

The diversity of gull species records in Fredericton is chiefly attributed to two factors. First a local naturalists' organization was formed in 1959. Channels for the rapid communication of information concerning sightings were soon developed. The stretch of river on which most of the gull observations were made was for several years probably the most continuously and intensively covered of any area of like size in the province. Second, nearly all the gulls reported were seen in the vicinity of a sewer outlet.

#### REFERENCES

- PALMER, R. S. 1949. Maine Birds. Bulletin of the Museum of Comparative Zoology. 102.
- PETTINGILL, O. S. 1939. The bird life of the Grand Manan archipelago. Proceedings of the Nova Scotian Institute of Science. Volume 19, Part 4.
- SNYDER, L. L. 1957. Arctic birds of Canada. University of Toronto Press, Toronto.
- SQUIRES, W. A. 1952. The birds of New Brunswick. New Brunswick Museum Monographic Series No. 4.
- SQUIRES, W. A. 1965. Nature News (New Brunswick Museum) 15(3).
- A. PEARCE
- Canadian Wildlife Service  
P. O. Box 486  
Fredericton, N.B.  
Accepted November 26, 1968
- ### Range Extensions of *Listera auriculata* Wiegand in Ontario and Quebec
- AMONG ORCHIDS native to Canada the genus *Listera* is represented by a few species of which *L. cordata* (L.) R.Br. is widespread and not infrequent, though scarcely common. The other species tend to be northern and western, (except for *L. australis*, a southern plant) and are best described as rare and local. *Listera auriculata* has been recorded previously in eastern Canada only from a few locations north of Lake Superior, in the Clay Belt, the Mingan Islands in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and farther east, north and west. It was therefore of considerable interest when routine field work for the Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club survey of native orchids turned up two new sites for this species in Southern Ontario and Quebec. The locations are:
1. *Gatineau Park, Quebec* (near Ottawa, Ont.) Lat. 45°31'N, Long. 75°53'W
- This rugged area of Precambrian rock is maintained as a natural park, and except for few roads and ski trails is mainly wild and little disturbed in recent decades. *Listera auriculata* was found growing in moist soil a few feet from a brook which certainly floods the plants during spring run-off. The site is forested with mixed cover which includes hemlock and



black birch. There were only three plants of the orchid, two in full bloom on 25 June, 1968, and one seedling.

A single flower has been preserved in alcohol in the National Herbarium of Canada, Ottawa (CAN), and photographs of the largest plant have been deposited in that herbarium and that of the Research Branch, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa (DAO).

2. *Barry's Bay, Ontario*, Lat. 45°28'N, Long. 77°32'W

This is another part of the Canadian Shield with large areas covered by glacial sands and gravels. *Listera auriculata* occurs in the latter. The site is in a dense cedar wood with some admixture of hemlock and alders, and is very wet. The forest floor is covered with *Sphagnum* and has a small, much-divided permanent stream flowing through it. The orchids grow in the wet moss and are scattered over a small area never far from the water. Fifteen plants were counted, all in flower on 7 July, 1968.

A voucher specimen has been deposited in the National Herbarium of Canada, Ottawa (CAN).

H. N. MACKENZIE

E. W. GREENWOOD

Ottawa, Ontario

Accepted November 10, 1968

## Greenland Wheatears Observed at Esker, Labrador, May 20 - June 2, 1967

FOR SOME time Arthur Sorensen and I had been planning a trip to Labrador. Our original plan was to leave Plattsburgh, N.Y., early in the spring before the flies became bad. On May 30 in a snow storm we boarded the Quebec North Shore and Labrador train at Sept-Isles for Esker. Arthur's sister

Helen completed the party. Our plan had been to canoe from Lake Astray to Churchill Falls, but when we arrived at Sept-Isles, we learned that the interior lakes were still icebound. A road had been built from Esker to the Falls so Esker became our destination by chance. Our canoe trip became a hike.

The gazetteer gives the following description of Esker: Esker: interior Labrador, a station of Q., N.S., and L. Railway. 53°45' N.

When we arrived at Esker, we found that we did not have the proper papers authorizing us to use the road, so we decided to hike to Lake Menihék and establish a camp from which we could make observations on birds and other life.

One of the first birds observed was a new one to us all, a Greenland Wheatear, *Oenanthe oenanthe*. It perched about 12 feet from the ground in a black spruce and appeared to watch us intently. The perch apparently was a favorite, and we came to expect to find it there. It seemed to be as interested in us as we were in it.

As we explored the area around our camp we saw 3 others and as the days went by we knew that we would find each in its perch. Unfortunately we could not remain long enough to learn if they planned to nest in their areas.

The first wheatear that we saw seemed to take an intense interest in us and vied with a Myrtle Warbler, *Dendroica coronata*, for attention from us. The moment we arrived in camp first the one and then the other came, the second coming a little closer than the first, which then came closer. This action kept up until they were 6 to 10 feet from us. It must have been as interesting an experience for them as it was for us.

NICHOLAS N. SMITH

Plattsburg, New York

Accepted April 26, 1968





MacKenzie, H. N. and Greenwood, Edward Warren. 1969. "Range Extensions of *Listera auriculata* Wiegand in Ontario and Quebec." *The Canadian field-naturalist* 83(1), 55–56. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.364071>.

**View This Item Online:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/89179>

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.364071>

**Permalink:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/364071>

#### **Holding Institution**

Harvard University, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Ernst Mayr Library

#### **Sponsored by**

Harvard University, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Ernst Mayr Library

#### **Copyright & Reuse**

Copyright Status: In copyright. Digitized with the permission of the rights holder.

Rights Holder: Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club

License: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/>

Rights: <https://biodiversitylibrary.org/permissions>

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.