

a hood.' We could not distinguish complete crown or back details because of its height above us, but could clearly see face and chin areas in entirety. The warbler was silent and virtually motionless during this interval. Then it flew directly back to the foliage from whence it came, and we were able to confirm all the above details in passage. After comparing notes and consulting the two field guides, we concluded that we had without doubt seen an adult male Bachman's Warbler."

Some of the information in this note was taken from my unpublished manuscript "Bachman's Warbler and Its South Carolina Habitat." This was completed in April 1976 and is on file with the Charleston Museum. Accompanying it are the letters and documents quoted above. I thank Julian R. Harrison for telling me of John Lamey's observation and giving me his address.

[Assoc. Dept. Ed.—The individuals responsible for the Bachman's Warbler sightings described above are known as reliable and experienced observers. One of them, Beckett, has had extensive field experience with the species. In this editor's opinion, the details provided are convincing; however, independent verification of the sightings by other competent observers is lacking in all three instances. Therefore, the three records of Bachman's Warbler reported in this note must be treated with the caution due all sight records of rare birds. Publication of reports on additional sightings of the species in the I'On Swamp area is highly desirable.]

A New Look at the Type Locality of the Bachman's Warbler

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18 November 1976

In his description of Bachman's Warbler (*Vermivora bachmanii*), Audubon (1834) said of John Bachman's discovery, "The first obtained was found by him a few miles from Charleston, in South Carolina, in July 1833 while I was rambling over the crags of Labrador." This is the source for the type locality given in the AOU Check-list (1957). A letter from Bachman to Audubon dated 27 March 1833 and published by Ruthven Deane (1929), however, pinpoints the type locality and proves Audubon in error as to the date.

In that letter Bachman wrote of the bird he had just taken, "I was coming from Maj. Lees & near Parker's ferry heard a soft & pleasant note that was new to me." He shot the bird, but it lodged in the moss in the tree, and he continued toward Charleston. "Three miles further" he heard the song again and secured the bird. Mills' Atlas (1825) shows the name of the swamp there as Cawcaw Swamp, but the USGS Cottageville 15' quadrangle labels it Cardin Bridge Swamp, with Cawcaw Swamp contiguous and about a mile to the south. This places the type locality about 30 miles W of Charleston.

Parker's ferry of Bachman's day was located some 7 miles upstream from the point where US 17 crosses the Edisto River at Jacksonboro, and is not the same place as the Parker's Ferry on US 17, just east of Jacksonboro, S.C. The road Bachman used no longer crosses the river, but county road 317 follows the old route for much of its length in the area, and forms the boundary between Dorchester and Charleston counties. Thus, it is impossible to say in which of these two counties the type male was taken.

After discussing the discovery of the type female, Audubon (1834) wrote, "Shortly after, several were seen in the same neighbourhood. . . ." That Audubon meant the neighborhood of Parker's ferry is shown by Bachman's letter (Deane 1929). He also collected the types of Swainson's Warbler (*Limnothlypis swainsonii*) in the same vicinity (Audubon 1834) in the spring of 1832. Because the Edisto River at Parker's ferry marks

the border between Charleston and Colleton counties as well as that between Dorchester and Colleton counties, the female could have been collected in any of the three. It is certain, however, that Bachman collected it before writing Audubon on 27 March 1833 because Bachman had had the female skin in his possession for some time prior to that date. It is almost certain that the female was taken in July as Audubon (1834) stated, but in 1832 rather than 1833.

Another point of confusion arises because Bachman wrote that "the Bird was shot by Jostle the third," and in a footnote Deane (1929), misleadingly explained, "Dr. Bachman's familiar names for Audubon and his two sons 'Old Jostle, Jostle the second and Jostle the third.'" Neither of Audubon's sons was in South Carolina at the time, and the context of the letter leaves no doubt that Bachman, himself, was the collector.

Arthur T. Wayne (1907) found Bachman's Warbler breeding in I'On Swamp about 20 miles NE of Charleston, and incorrectly assumed that place to be the type locality. Though he collected other birds in Cawcaw Swamp, he failed to encounter any Bachman's Warblers there. Nevertheless, it may have persisted in the area. E.A. Williams and several companions saw a singing male in Cawcaw Swamp from 16 March through 3 April 1955 (Chamberlain 1958).

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[Mayrant's Backwater appears in the literature with at least four different spellings. Mr. Shuler has chosen the one that appears to be most widely accepted. A large-scale map of Francis Marion National Forest and its immediate surroundings can be obtained by writing the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service—Southern Region, 1801 Assembly Street, Columbia, S.C. 29201. I'On Swamp Road, Clayfield Road, and other points of interest to birders in search of Bachman's Warblers are clearly designated.—Ed.]