



Fig. 1. Lesser Black-backed Gull, Huntington Beach State Park, S.C., 24 August 1985. (Photo by C. Marsh)

12 days earlier. The bird was slightly larger than a Ring-billed Gull, but noticeably smaller than a nearby adult Herring Gull (*L. argentatus*). Its small head size relative to its body made its profile more similar to a Ring-billed Gull's than a Herring Gull's. The black-tipped bill, mottled nape, uniformly dark gray mantle, and orangish-yellow legs indicated the bird was in subadult 3-year-old plumage. Its dark gray, rather than black, mantle further suggests that this bird was the British subspecies, *L. f. graellsii*, rather than *L. f. fuscus*, the Scandinavian subspecies (Bruun, Birds of Europe, p. 144).

Lesser Black-backed Gulls have been reported in South Carolina on at least three previous occasions (Chat 44:42, Chat 44:78, Chat 46:89), but this is the first documented sighting. Two of the photographs I took of this bird, along with a duplicate of Milson's photograph, are now on file at the Charleston Museum (ChM 1986.42.1 and 1986.42.2). With the deposition of these photographs at the Charleston Museum, the Lesser Black-backed Gull has now been placed on the official South Carolina State List.

A Specimen of the White Phase of *Ardea herodias* from South Carolina

T. GRAHAM
McClellanville, S.C.

P. MANIGAULT
P.O. Box 853
Charleston, S.C. 29402

W. POST
The Charleston Museum
Charleston, S.C. 29403

A white-phase individual of the Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*) was collected by Post on 22 February 1986 on Minim Creek, Rochelle Plantation, Georgetown County, S.C. This individual was first seen by Graham on 18 February 1986. It stayed in the same locality until it was shot. The bird, a female (ChM 1986.38), was emaciated and weighed

1700 g; ovaries were 10 x 15 mm. The specimen includes color photographs of the fresh soft-parts.

Another documented record of this form was obtained by F. Spivey, on 20 September 1984, when he photographed an individual at Huntington Beach State Park (four Kodachrome slides on file at Charleston Museum; ChM 86.37.1 through 86.37.4). This bird was first seen on 7 August 1984 at the same locality by F. Cobey.

We know of three detailed published records for this population in South Carolina. The first record, documented by a photograph, was on 29 May 1943, near Yemassee, S.C. (Auk 61:150). The second was a detailed note of a bird seen on 17 September 1961 at Hilton Head Island (Chat 25:87-88). The third, a bird seen on upper Lake Marion in extreme southern Sumter County on 29 September 1973 (Chat 39:17), is the only inland occurrence known from the state.

The white phase of the Great Blue Heron breeds in the Florida Keys and the northern Caribbean. Robertson (in Rare and Endangered Biota of Florida, Vol. 2, Birds, H.W. Kale II, editor, 1978) discusses the taxonomic problems surrounding this localized population of *A. herodias*. In brief, it was at one time classified as a separate species (*Ardea occidentalis*), but is now only a color phase (*occidentalis* group of *A. herodias*; A.O.U. Check-list, 1983).

We greatly appreciate the efforts of S. Miller, curator of natural sciences at Clemson University, who prepared the specimen.

Colonial Nesting of Cedar Waxwings in Forsyth County, N.C.: First Record in the Carolinas

RAMONA R. SNAVELY
115 Plymouth Avenue
Winston-Salem, N.C. 27104

ROBERT H. WITHERINGTON
757 Yorkshire Road
Winston-Salem, N.C. 27106

On 20 June 1985, a small flock of Cedar Waxwings (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) was discovered at Tanglewood Park in western Forsyth County, N.C., by Charles Frost, Barbara Page, Ramona Snavely, and Bob Witherington. Chance observation revealed an adult carrying insects. After intensive searching in the immediate area, eight nesting sites were located within a .18-ha (.46-acre) plot.

The colonial nesting area was on a high knoll consisting primarily of pine and oak trees. This knoll is the highest elevation in the Park complex (elevation 260.1 m; 855 feet) and is bordered on three sides by a public golf course. The fourth side is adjacent to parking lots and access roads.

The presence of eight different nesting sites in seven trees within the colony made it difficult to monitor all of the nests simultaneously. Consequently, efforts were concentrated on one nest. This nest was relatively easy to observe and seemed to be in the center of activity. The observations made were representative of all the broods found. Five different broods were located: 2 broods of 5; 1 brood of 3; and 2 broods of 2 each. All five broods fledged within a 48-hour period. The fate of the remaining three broods was not possible to determine because of their inaccessible heights in the trees.