

FURTHER EVIDENCE FOR A HISTORIC POPULATION OF PEREGRINE FALCONS IN SOUTHERN SASKATCHEWAN

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I recently reported evidence for an extension of the historic breeding range of the Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) into southern Saskatchewan and Manitoba.¹ I have since discovered three additional historic nest records for this species from Saskatchewan which further support this range extension.

Having completed a search of the 20 largest bird egg collections in North America,² I have found that, in addition to the previously reported 1916 nest record of J. E. Bowman in the collection of the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology, collections of the Field Museum of Natural History (Chicago), Carnegie Museum (Pittsburg), and American Museum of Natural History (New York) contain three more historic Peregrine nest records all collected by J. E. Bowman near Battle Creek, Saskatchewan. Apparently, Bowman also made collected trips to Battle Creek in 1914 and 1917 where he collected three sets of Peregrine eggs. Each nest contained four darkly colored eggs typical of Peregrines. One nest was found on 3 May 1914 on the shelf of a 25 m cutbank 5 m from the top. The other two nests were found on 19 May 1917 on the ledges of 10 m cutbanks 3 and 5 m from the top.

None of Bowman's records include specific information on nest locations, so he may have collected eggs at the same nest site all three years. Because

he collected two egg sets on the same day in 1917, however, I think one can safely conclude that there were at least two active eyries in southern Saskatchewan at that time.

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¹BECHARD, M. J. 1981. Historic nest records of the Peregrine Falcon in southern Saskatchewan and southern Manitoba. *Blue Jay* 39:182-183.

²KIFF, L. F. 1979. Bird egg collections in North America. *Auk* 96:746-755.



Prairie Falcon

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