



Western Tanager

**Birds of
MONTEZUMA
and
TUZIGOOT**

Price 25¢

BIRDS OF MONTEZUMA CASTLE AND TUZIGOOT NATIONAL MONUMENTS

by Henry H. Collins Jr.

Illustrations by Roger Tory Peterson

Birds, like people, must eat. And, like people, they are most numerous where they find the best opportunities to secure a living. Insects, fruits and seeds are the principal foods of many birds. Insects thrive where there is water. So do fruit-laden bushes and seed-covered grasses. Hence, the gleaming eye of Montezuma Well, shining golden in the sun or silver under the moon, attracts birds from afar, as does the green oasis of Beaver Creek by Montezuma Castle with its plentiful trees and shrubs, and the Verde River at Tuzigoot. Within the boundaries of these national monuments, therefore, you will see many more birds than in the surrounding desert.

Birds, like people, want to be safe; and we can enjoy and study them best where they follow their normal lives free from disturbance by man. All wild-life is protected in our national parks and monuments. So here at Montezuma Castle and Tuzigoot you can watch animals and birds living under the laws of nature, not fleeing in terror from human weapons.

Bird-watching is a sport that adds zest to our experience of the out-of-doors. Anyone, young or old, may take it up. It is not hard to learn about birds. Old clothes, a bird guide and an alert eye are all the equipment needed. A pair of binoculars is useful, but not essential for the species described below.

When you see a bird ask yourself:

(a) What are its colors? Are they different for its head, wings, tail, etc? Does it have a crest, white rump or other distinctive marks?

(b) What is its shape? Does it look like any bird you already know? Is it long, short, slender, thickset or what?

(c) What do its notes sound like?

(d) What is it doing—is it diving, running, flying, soaring?

This booklet describes the more common birds you may see on these monuments and lists all that have been recorded here. The "field marks" given below are helpful for identification. But don't expect to identify every bird you see. Be cautious, too, and do not count any one you are not sure of. When you can easily recognize six species you will have made a good start at the sport of bird-watching, one of the most popular hobbies in America today.



Birds You Are Apt to See at Any Season

American Kestrel

(Sparrow Hawk)



From the rocks above Montezuma Castle a shrill *killy-killy-killy* resounds and a blue-and-russet Kestrel alights on a ledge next to his mate. Soon they fly off together over the open fields to catch an evening meal. Their diet of mice and grasshoppers makes them a valuable asset to the rancher.

On May 16, 1942, Superintendent Earl Jackson reported seeing one on the Monument "close to the road soaring over the bluff. He had something long and stringy in his talons, possibly a snake, about a foot of which was hanging down." These beneficial birds are often seen perched on fence or telegraph posts along our highways.

Field marks. 11". Our smallest hawk, long tail, long curved wings. Male, brilliant red-brown, blue and white, with two black "side-burns"; female, brown wings rather than blue, many fine bands on tail. Only small hawk with a reddish tail. Pumps its tail when alighting, often hovers in the air.

Gambel's Quail

Keep your ear tuned for the soft, musical notes of the Gambel's Quail, and watch along roadsides and trails for this handsome ground bird of underbrush and thicket. "In the balmy spring morning the first sound to greet your ears is the shrill *cha chaá, cha chaá,* of the cock quail from his perch on the blooming



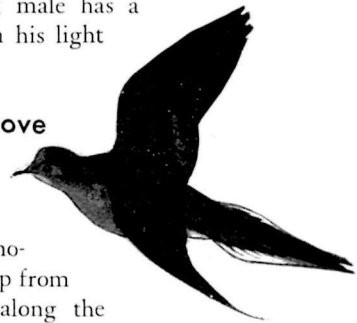
mesquite, and answering calls follow from up and down the valley. When the sun has risen higher you find the quail in pairs, hunting among the bushes for nesting-sites, talking in low, soft tones, the cock often bowing and strutting with important airs and crest low over his bill . . . (after breeding and) later in the season the families collect in large flocks, often of 50 or 100, and scatter in the daytime to feed in the open, returning at night with a roar of wings to roost in some dense thicket or bushy bottom-land, huddled together in a snug, feathery mass." (Vernon Bailey)

Life's hazards are many for this beautiful, defenseless bird, and the numbers Bailey saw at the turn of the century are seldom met with today. It lays 10 or 12 eggs in a clutch, well concealed under a dense tangle of shrubs. The visitor may sometimes see a whole family scamper across his path, the tiny chicks tagging along after the parents.

Field marks. 11". A plump, blue-and-tan, somewhat chicken-like bird, with conspicuous plume drooping forward over its head; male has a black patch on his light underparts.

Mourning Dove

This is apt to be the first bird most visitors notice as it flies up from the roadside along the entrance drives. It occurs all over both monuments in many kinds of habitat. In late April one





SCRUB JAY

Montezuma ranger reported, "On fence patrol I saw at least 15 pairs, mostly just making love on the ground or in trees."

Since the extermination of the Passenger Pigeon by man's ruthless persecution, the Mourning Dove is the only common member of its family in most of the United States. It is protected over much of its range, especially in the north and east, but in the south and southwest it is still considered a game bird, and large numbers are killed every fall (except, of course, in the national parks and monuments and other refuges).

Field marks. 12". Purple-brown; long plain wings, long pointed tail with white spots on the edges; wings make a whirring sound in flight. Voice, a gentle, mournful *coó, coo, coó*.

Red-shafted Flicker

From the dead limbs and inviting trunks of the large Arizona sycamores along Beaver Creek comes the spring-time mating call of the Red-shafted Flicker. Its exultant *yuk, yuk, yuk* is a poor cure for spring fever.

The bowing and scraping antics of a pair of courting flickers is one of the amusing sights of the bird world. When they are mated, the couple locate a suitable homesite in the trunk or branches of a tree and excavate a deep cavity to shelter their eggs. In the spring you may discover such a nesting hole. If you do, sit near it and watch the parents commute back and forth to the nest with food for their young. When the comical fledglings come out of the nest, you will enjoy the lessons the parents give them in learning to fly.

Field marks. 14". A large brown woodpecker, with black crescent bib, black spots on light breast and reddish underwings. In flight, note its white rump and regular up-and-down flight. Often seen on the ground.

Gila Woodpecker

The rolling *churr* of the Gila (Heel-a) Woodpecker is one of the most familiar Montezuma sounds and it is heard particularly from the large trees along Beaver Creek. Like all woodpeckers, the Gila has a bounding flight, and braces himself with his stiff, pointed tail feathers as he climbs up the trunk of an insect-

laden tree. His sharp, sturdy bill readily penetrates the wood, and his tongue is barbed to grip the wood-borers, beetles and slugs he spears there.

Field marks. 9". Black and white "zebra" back; head and underparts brown; male with a scarlet crown patch. In flight shows white wing patches.

Scrub Jay

This scrappy individual raids feeding stations with a ready eye for tasty new foods. Most other birds forsake the trays when this raucous jay approaches, and let him gorge before they will return. Montezuma rangers enjoy watching this blustering rowdy, and jot down frequent notes about him: "Will get away with a half slice of bread at a time. . . . Very bold, almost goes into the trailer house to visit. . . . One found the lid blown off the garbage can and was really having a feast."

Field marks. 12". No crest; above, blue with a brownish back; below, gray with a white throat and darker chest band. Voice, a harsh *kwesh, kwesh, kwesh*.

Canyon Wren

Their friendly, bubbling nature and nervous habits help identify the active little wrens. The merry songs of the "Jenny Wren" of English gardens and



of the House Wren of eastern suburbs have endeared them to millions. But the wild, ringing melody of the Canyon Wren is reserved for those who penetrate to his palisaded retreats in the West. Here this beautiful song, cascading down the scale in a cadence that echoes from cliff to cliff, is as much a part of the wilderness as the precipices above and the creek below.

Field marks. 5½". Dark reddish-brown above and on belly, white



BULLOCK'S ORIOLE





Rock
Wren

throat and breast. Often cocks tail above back; frequents rocks and crevices.

Rock Wren

Look for this bird at the foot of the cliffs between the parking area and the Castle. Notice how it bobs up and down on a rock. Listen for its unusual call, a peculiar, dry unbird-like trill. This species nests among rocks and has the curious habit of paving the entrance to its nest with little stones!

Field marks. 6". Pale grayish above, entire underparts whitish with fine streaks on the breast; tail has light corner tips and a black band near the end.

Birds You Are Apt to See in Spring and Summer

Turkey Vulture

Look up into the sky and you will almost certainly see a Turkey Vulture soaring effortlessly in the clear air. But don't look too early in the morning. It takes the Buzzard, as he is often called, about an hour after sunrise to get organized for his day's work.

As the sun rises over the eastern rimrock he spreads his wings to catch its rays from his night's perch on some dead tree in the valley. After a while he may jump clumsily down to a rocky cliffside to continue his sun-



White-
winged
Dove

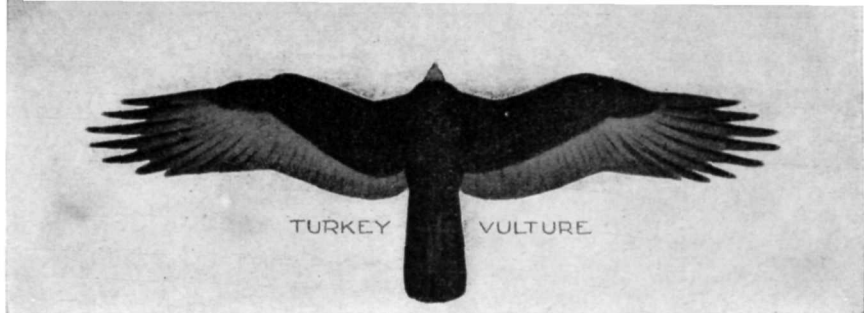
Cardinal

The brilliant, jaunty Cardinal is common near the buildings and along the path to the Castle and the nature trail. Visitors from the north and east may want to try attracting Cardinals around their homes in winter by setting up feeding stations with sunflower seeds. A scarlet Cardinal against the snow can vie with the red and green of holly to make any winter landscape memorable.

Field marks. 8". Male, only all-red bird on the monuments with a crest; black on face; female, yellowish-brown tinged with red; bill red. Song, a loud whistled *what cheer, cheer, cheer*.

bath for another half hour. Meanwhile the sun is warming the valley and setting in upward motion ascending "thermals" of warm air. Slowly the vulture lumbers into position and with a few heavy wing beats launches into flight. In a moment he is borne upward on motionless six-foot wings to ascend high into the sky, where he will continue for another day his life-long search for dead animals on the ground below. Vultures are most beneficial to mankind as they clean up the countryside of all dead flesh.

Field marks. 30". A large, black,



hawk-like bird, with a naked red head (looks black at a distance). From below the "open-fingered" wings, held at an angle when soaring, show a two-toned pattern, black before, silver behind. Bill whitish.

Cliff Swallow

Those upside-down mud gourds under the projecting ledges above the Castle are the homes of the Cliff Swallow. The average building time, usually in April or May, is a week, and the incubation of the 4 or 5 brown-spotted white eggs requires from 12 to 14 days. Soon after nesting cares are over these swallows start their southward migration, often as early as July or August. One day they are here; the next they are gone—off on a flight that will take them as far as Brazil or Argentina—until the revolving seasons bring them back once more as heralds of another spring.

Field marks. 6". Only swallow with buffy rump in flight; when perched, it shows a light forehead, dark throat and squarish tail. Voice, a husky chittering. A graceful, swooping flier. (Picture on p. 3.)

Summer Tanager

(Cooper's Tanager)

No bird is more symbolic of the

South and sunshine than this beautiful, rose-red "Summer Redbird". Its song is a dreamy reminder of the Robin's ringing carol. Its plumage suggests a denizen of a tropical jungle, whence, indeed, its ancestors came.

Its favorite haunts in Montezuma are the big trees along the creek. The visitor who sees a male feeding in the green outer foliage, with his brilliant plumage gleaming in the morning sun, will not soon forget that jewel-box memory.

Field marks. 7". Male, only all-red bird without a crest on the monuments. Female, olive with deep yellow underparts; best told by her association with the male. Immature males, plumage of mixed red and green patches.

White-winged Dove

Although common on the monuments, this bird is not as abundant as the Mourning Dove and it is not found here in winter. Voice, a distinctive "who cooks for you?" (Peterson). (Picture on p. 4.)

Field marks. 12". Similar to the Mourning Dove but heavier, with white wing patches and a rounded tail.



Birds You Are Apt to See in Winter

Junco

The commonest winter birds here are the three species of Juncos, which often occur in mixed flocks. They are "Snowbirds" to people who have not been brought up on Latin names. Their coming rings in the winter season; their departure is a sure sign of spring.

Field marks. 6". Every Junco has white underparts and white outer tail feathers. To separate the various species observe the following: If its upperparts, sides and breast are *entirely gray*, it is a **Slate-colored Junco**. If it has a rusty back, *rusty sides* and black (or gray) head and breast, it is an **Oregon Junco**. If it has a red back, *gray sides* and gray upperparts, it is a **Gray-headed Junco**. For all these Juncos: song, a pleasant trill; call, rapid twittering notes. They are usually seen in flocks on the ground, often near buildings.

American Coot

Perhaps the most common waterfowl on Montezuma Well is the Coot. Notice how the white of his peculiar bill runs up over his "nose" to his forehead, and how in swimming he pumps his head back and forth like a driver rocking back and forth in his seat in order to help make the car go.

Field marks. 13-16". Only gray duck-like bird with white bill and undertail; appears black at a distance.

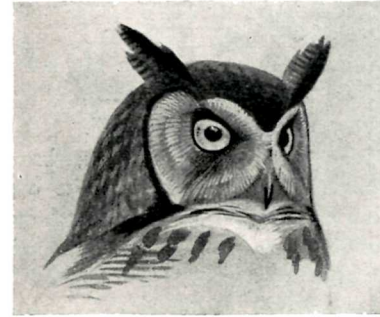


White-crowned Sparrow

Another winter species is this strikingly handsome sparrow, which is found in summer only in the far North or near timberline on the higher mountains.

Field marks. 6". Adult, crown white, puffy; breast pearly-gray; one white and two black stripes on side of head; young similar, but with brown and buff stripes on head and brownish tinge on breast.

Thumbnail Sketches of Other Birds You May See



Killdeer

Permanent Residents

Horned Owl. 18-25". Only large owl in this area with ear tufts; look for it in the sycamores by the pond at Montezuma Castle.

Killdeer. 11". A plover of fields and meadows; brown above, reddish tail, two black bands on white breast; cries loudly *kill-dée, kill-dée, kill-dée*; seen walking or running on open ground or flying about noisily overhead.



Black Phoebe. 6". An all-black fly-catcher with white belly; darts out from perch after insects; usually found near water.

WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW



OREGON JUNCO

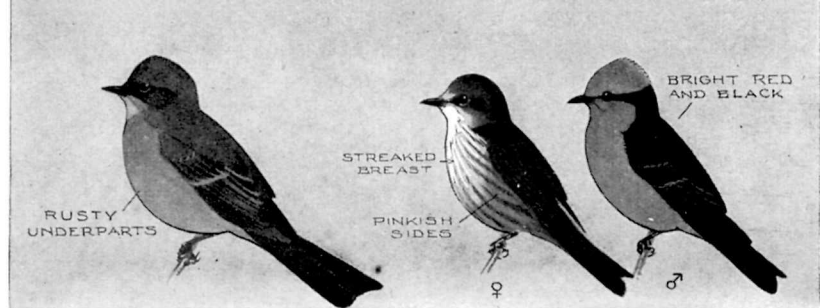
Mallard

This is the common wild duck of the West, the ancestor of many of our domestic strains. Mallards are one of the most abundant of wild ducks and consequently one of the most hunted. At Montezuma, they are often seen on the Well and in the Castle area along Beaver Creek. But here, of course, they are protected.

Field marks. 20-28". Male, iridescent green head, white ring around neck and ruddy breast; female, mottled brown, with a whitish tail. In flight, silver linings under the wings.

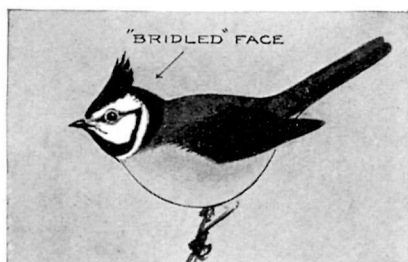


R. T. Peterson



Say's Phoebe. 7". Somewhat similar to last but with rusty underparts.

Bridled Titmouse. 5". Pert gray bird with crest and black "bridle" on face, white below; found in scrub thorn thickets.



Bewick's Wren. (pron. Buick's) 5". Dark brown above, all light below; line over eye and tips of outer tail feathers, white. (Picture on p. 11.)

Mockingbird. 11". More slender than Robin, long tail; gray, lighter below, with white patches on wings and tail that show particularly in flight; beautiful, varied song.

Crissal Thrasher. 12". Brown above, plain breast, rusty undertail, curved

Vermilion Flycatcher

beak; pleasant varied song heard even at midday and through much of year; likes scrub thorn thickets.

House Sparrow. 6". An old friend; found around buildings at the Well.

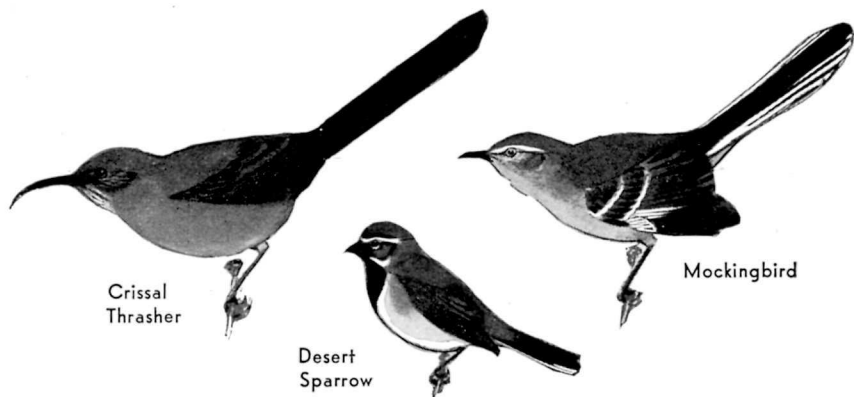
Western Meadowlark. 9". Yellow breast with black crescent; brown above; short tail, shows white outer feathers in flight; beautiful song, sputtering alarm note; found in fields around the Well.

House Finch. 5½". Male, red breast, forehead, rump; female, striped, sparrow-like, gray-brown above; often seen in flocks and near buildings. (Colored picture on p. 10.)

Abert's Towhee. 9". Brown, black patch around bill; scratches on ground in thickets.

Summer Residents

Black-chinned Hummingbird. 3¾". Iridescent green above, male with white collar below black throat, female, all white below; commonest hummingbird on the monuments.





Western Kingbird. 9". Gray above, yellow belly, tail black, narrow white edge on outer tail feathers; flies out from perch after insects.

Cassin's Kingbird. 9". Similar to last, but no white on tail.

Vermilion Flycatcher. 6". Male, bright vermilion, with blackish upperparts and tail; female, much plainer, brown above, white below with pinkish tinge; flies out from perch after insects. (p. 8)

Phainopepla (Fain-oh-PEP-la). 7". Slender, crested; male black, showing white on wings in flight; female gray, without wing patches. (Picture, p. 11.)

Yellow Warbler. 5". Only all-yellow bird on these monuments.

Hooded Oriole. 7". Male, similar to next but with hood around head and neck orange.

Bullock's Oriole. 8". Male, orange and black, with orange side of face, black crown and conspicuous white on wings. (Colored picture on p. 3.)

Desert Sparrow. 5". Only local sparrow with a black throat and white lines on face. (Picture on p. 8.)

Winter Residents

American Robin. 10". This one you already know.

Western Bluebird. 7". Male blue, breast and back chestnut; female much paler.



Migrants (spring and late summer and fall)

Violet-green Swallow. 5½". Shining white sides of face, sides of rump and underparts; violet and green above; graceful flight, spends much time in air.

Western Tanager. 7". Male, yellow body, red face, black back, wings and tail; female, dull greenish above, yellowish below, white wing bars. (See cover.)

This strikingly-plumaged bird nests at higher altitudes and further north. Like the Summer Tanager it belongs to a tropical family noted for its brilliant colors. At some national monuments it becomes quite tame and will take food from the picnic tables.

Bird Quiz

(Applies only to birds discussed above in the general text. If after one reading you can answer 6 correctly your rating is GOOD; if 10, EXCELLENT; if 15, perhaps you should become an ornithologist. Answers on page 12.)

1. What species is the ancestor of many of our domestic ducks?
2. How does the Kestrel help the rancher?
3. Name a bird that is especially attracted to a feeding tray by sunflower seeds?
4. How is the Turkey Vulture beneficial to man?



HOUSE FINCH

5. What caused the extermination of the Passenger Pigeon?
6. Which two of these wrens are you likely to see at Montezuma—House, Canyon, Jenny, Rock?

7. What bird has a forward-hanging plume?
8. What bird "was really having a feast" after the lid blew off the garbage can?
9. Is Gambel's Quail as common now as it was about 1900?
10. Name a bird that has barbs on its tongue?
11. The ancestors of the Summer Tanager came from—high mountains?—tropical jungles?—northern Alberta?
12. What is a popular name for the Junco?
13. What bird asks "who cooks for you?"
14. What is another name for the Buzzard?
15. Name a bird that has amusing antics when courting?
16. Which bird paves the entrance to its nest with little stones?
17. How long does the Cliff Swallow usually take to build its nest?
18. Name a species that winters in Brazil?
19. Name a group of birds that have a typical up-and-down flight?
20. Where does the White-crowned Sparrow breed?

Suggestions for Visitors

For more information on bird identification—buy *A Field Guide to Western Birds* by Roger Tory Peterson, Houghton Mifflin Co., the best guide available, on sale in the museum.

For more information on our national parks and monuments, and what you can do to help guard and maintain them—write the National

Parks Association, 1214 16th St. N.W., Washington, D.C.

If you see an unusual bird—write down all possible details: size, shape, color (head, back, wings, tail, wing-bars, white on tail or rump, etc.), habits, habitat, manner of flight, voice, etc.—then report with your notes to a Ranger as soon as possible.

Our magnificent bird life is one of the glories of America. Montezuma Castle and Tuzigoot National Monuments are permanent refuges where birds and all other wildlife are forever secured from persecution by man. Shooting or killing wildlife, cutting trees or picking flowers is absolutely prohibited. The monuments are the property of the American people. That means they belong to you, to your children and to your fellow-citizens. Enjoy the beauty of nature here in its unspoiled splendor. Keep it unspoiled for the next visitor, the next summer and the next generation.

This booklet is published under the auspices of the SOUTHWESTERN MONUMENTS ASSOCIATION. This is a non-profit distributing organization, established in cooperation with the National Park Service of the Department of the Interior, pledged to aid in the preservation and interpretation of Southwestern features of outstanding national interest. The Association lists for sale many interesting and authentic publications and color slides on Southwestern subjects. These make fine gifts for birthdays and special occasions, and many prove of value to children in their school work and hobbies. For the complete sales catalog of publications and color slides on Southwestern Indians, geology, ruins, plants, animals, history, etc., ask the Ranger, or write the Association at Box 2011 J, Santa Fe, New Mexico.



Bewick's
Wren

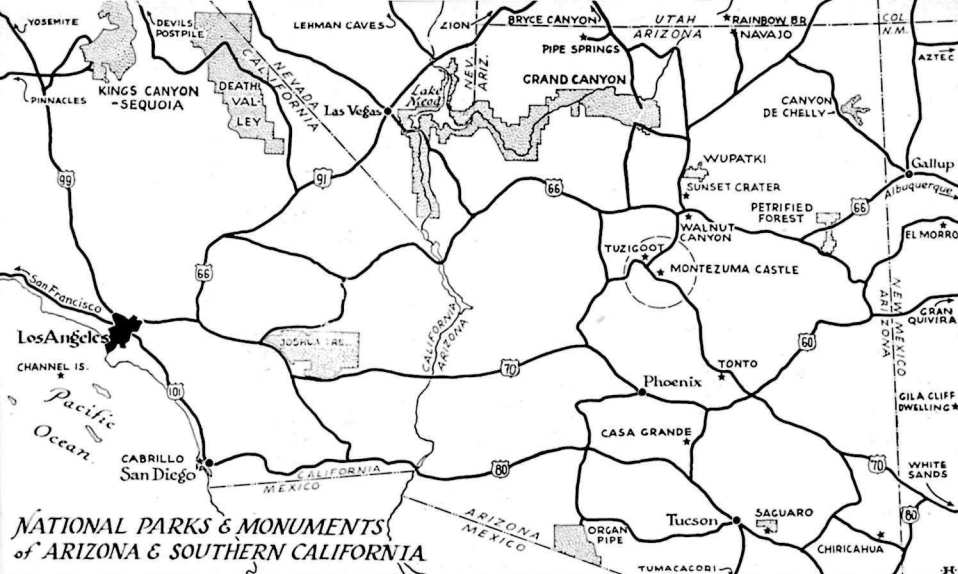
Localities in the Monument of Interest to Birdwatchers

Montezuma Castle Area

1. Path from museum to Castle, and nature trail.
2. Sides of road to picnic area, and picnic area itself.
3. Pond south of nature trail (cross Beaver Creek near nature trail and go down east side of creek; no trail).
4. Upstream from picnic area along west side of Beaver Creek (follow woods road and trails upstream; return same way or, if you continue until creek turns to west

PHAINOPEPLA





and goes along cliff, work your way up cliff to entrance road and return along this road to headquarters).

- Uplands above and back of Montezuma Castle (go up via sides of wash that lies immediately to west of where picnic area road joins entrance road).

Montezuma Well Area

- Walk around rim of Well. Scan water, vegetation along its edge,

and surrounding cliffs.

- Trail from rim of Well down to level of water.
- Route downstream outside Well along creek, through trees, meadows and fields bordering creek, and past neighboring buildings.

Tuzigoot Area

- Around museum and along trail to and through ruins.
- Pond along road from Clarkdale; also Verde River and its banks.

Answers to Bird Quiz

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Mallard | 8. Scrub Jay | 15. Red-shafted Flicker |
| 2. Eats rodents and insects | 9. No | 16. Rock Wren |
| 3. Cardinal | 10. Gila Woodpecker | 17. One week |
| 4. Eats dead animals | 11. Tropical jungles | 18. Cliff Swallow |
| 5. Persecution by man | 12. Snowbird | 19. Woodpeckers |
| 6. Canyon; Rock | 13. White-winged Dove | 20. Far North or high mts. |
| 7. Gambel's Quail | 14. Turkey Vulture | |

Key to Check List

a—abundant; c—common; m—migrant; p—permanent resident; r—rare; s—summer resident; u—uncommon; w—winter resident; *—Montezuma Well only. A specific date indicates only reported occurrence. Winter residents begin to arrive in September and leave from March to May. Summer residents begin to arrive in February and leave from August to November. Migrants occur from February to May, and August to November. Species are listed in evolutionary order as recognized by the American Ornithologists Union; subspecies are omitted.

Check List of the Birds

Reported from Montezuma Castle and Montezuma Well

(Not all have been recorded from the Well. This list should also be inclusive for Tuzigoot but few specific records for this latter area are available.)

Grebe, Pied-billed mu	Hummingbird, Rufous mr	Shrike, Loggerhead pu
Heron, Great Blue pc	Kingfisher, Belted pu	Starling 5-26-49*
" Green sc	Flicker, Red-shafted pc	Vireo, Bell's sc
" Black-crowned Nt su	Woodpecker, Gila pc	" Gray 8-2/8-16*
Ibis, Wood su	" Lewis's r*	" Solitary sc
Goose, Canada wu	Sapsucker, Yellow-bel'd wu	" Warbling mu
" White-fronted mr*	" Williamson's 11-6-38	Warbler, Lucy's su
Mallard wc	Woodpecker, Ladderbk'd pu	" Yellow sc
Baldpate wc	Kingbird, Western sc	" Audubon's ma
Pintail wu	" Cassin's su	" Black-thr'd Gray mu
Teal, Green-winged mr	Flycatcher, Ash-throated sc	" Macgillivray's mu
" Cinnamon mu	Phoebe, Black pc	Yellowthroat, Common mu
Shoveller wc*	" Say's pc	Chat, Yellow-breasted su
Redhead wr	Flycatcher, Western mu	Warbler, Black-capped mu
Duck, Ring-necked wu	Pewee, Western Wood su	Sparrow, House pc*
Canvas-back wu	Flycatcher, Vermilion sc	Meadowlark, Western pc*
Scaup, Lesser wr	Lark, Horned wu	Blackbird, Yellow-headed r
Buffle-head wu	Swallow, Violet-green mc	" Red-winged wr
Duck, Ruddy wu*	" Bank sr*	Oriole, Hooded sc
Merganser, American pu	" Rough-winged su	" Scott's 4-15-49*
Vulture, Turkey sc	" Cliff sc	" Bullock's sc
" Black 10-4-47*	Martin, Purple su*	Blackbird, Brewer's mu
Hawk, Sharp-shinned u	Jay, Steller's wr	Cowbird, Brown-headed su
" Cooper's pu	" Scrub pc	Tanager, Western mc
" Red-tailed pc	Raven, Common pu	" Summer sc
" Swainson's r	Crow, American u	Cardinal pc
" Rough-legged wr	Jay, Pinyon 5-27-49*	Grosbeak, Black-headed mu
" Marsh mr	Titmouse, Plain 8-4-16*	" Blue sr
Eagle, Golden r	" Bridled pc	Bunting, Lazuli 8-1/9-16*
Osprey mr	Verdin pu	Grosbeak, Evening r
Kestrel, Am. (Sp. Hk.) pc	Bushtit pu	Finch, House pa
Quail, Gambel's pc	Nuthatch, White-brst'd u*	Siskin, Pine wu
Pheasant, Ring-necked r	Creeper, Brown wu	Goldfinch, American wu
Rail, Virginia r*	Wren, House su	" Lesser pu
Sora wu*	" Bewick's pc	Towhee, Green-tailed mu
Coot, American wc	" Cactus 5-18-47*	" Spotted wu
Killdeer pc	" Canyon pc	" Abert's pc
Plover, Black-bel'd 10-4-47*	" Rock pc	Sparrow, Vesper c*
Snipe, Wilson's mr	Mockingbird pc	" Lark mu
Dove, Mourning pa	Thrasher, Crissal pc	" Rufous-crowned mu
" White-winged sc	" Sage 10-2-48*	" Desert, sc
Cuckoo, Yellow-billed su	Robin, American wu	" Sage mu
Road-runner pu	Thrush, Hermit wu	Junco, Slate-colored wc
Owl, Screech pu	Bluebird, Western wc	" Oregon wc
" Horned pc	" Mountain, wu*	" Gray-headed wc
" Saw-whet r	Solitaire, Townsend's wu	Sparrow, Am. Tree wu
Poor-will su	Gnatcatcher, Blue-gray su	" Chipping u
Nighthawk, Lesser su	Kinglet, Ruby-crowned wu	" Brewer's su
Swift, White-throated mu	Waxwing, Cedar wu	" White-crowned wc
Hummingbird, Blk-chin'd sc	Phainopepla sc	" Song wu

Dear

Montezuma Castle (really an ancient apartment house) stands like a cameo high in a cliff cavity. Its five stories and 22 rooms are 90 percent intact. Smoke black from 300 years of Indian fires still darkens the rooms.

The Ranger says the farmers who built it may have been the target of warlike Indians in search of food. As we looked at the Castle, we realized this was one of the great mysteries of American archeology, because sometime before 1400 A.D. its inhabitants vanished. Where they went or why, no one knows for sure. Enemies? Epidemics? Worn-out soil?—the centuries hide the answer.

Spectacular Montezuma Well, seven miles away, is also part of the Monument. The Ranger says this tremendous natural well, sunk in a great rock basin 80 feet below the rim, is 470 feet in diameter and flows more than one and a half million gallons a day. Tuzigoot National Monument, 27 miles north, is a prehistoric fortified town of the same period as the Castle.

Montezuma Castle and Well and the Tuzigoot area are a paradise for birds. Almost 150 different species have been identified; and even the casual visitor sees many of them. So we are sending you as a souvenir the story of their fascinating bird-life. The map on page 12 will show you where we are. We wish you were here with us visiting these beautiful, mysterious ruins.

With best wishes



FROM

Montezuma Castle National Monument
Camp Verde, Arizona

TO

Place
2¢ Stamp
Here