



Birds of Connecticut

Selections from the Exhibit in
Yale University's
Peabody Museum of Natural History



The Birds of Connecticut exhibit at Yale's Peabody Museum of Natural History opened in 1972. It is in effect a three-dimensional guide to the birds of our state, with more than three hundred species represented.

The mounted birds shown here demonstrate the knowledge, skill, and artistry of David H. Parsons, who was "arguably one of the best bird taxidermists in any natural history museum in the United States" and who "may have produced some of the best bird taxidermy on display anywhere." *

We are fortunate that Michael Anderson's models (and taxidermy mounts) fill gaps in the collection. In this book, asterisks identify his work.

The exhibit was curated by Charles Sibley, and Shirley Hartman directed its preparation and design.

I am deeply grateful to everyone involved in creating this unique, comprehensive, beautiful resource.

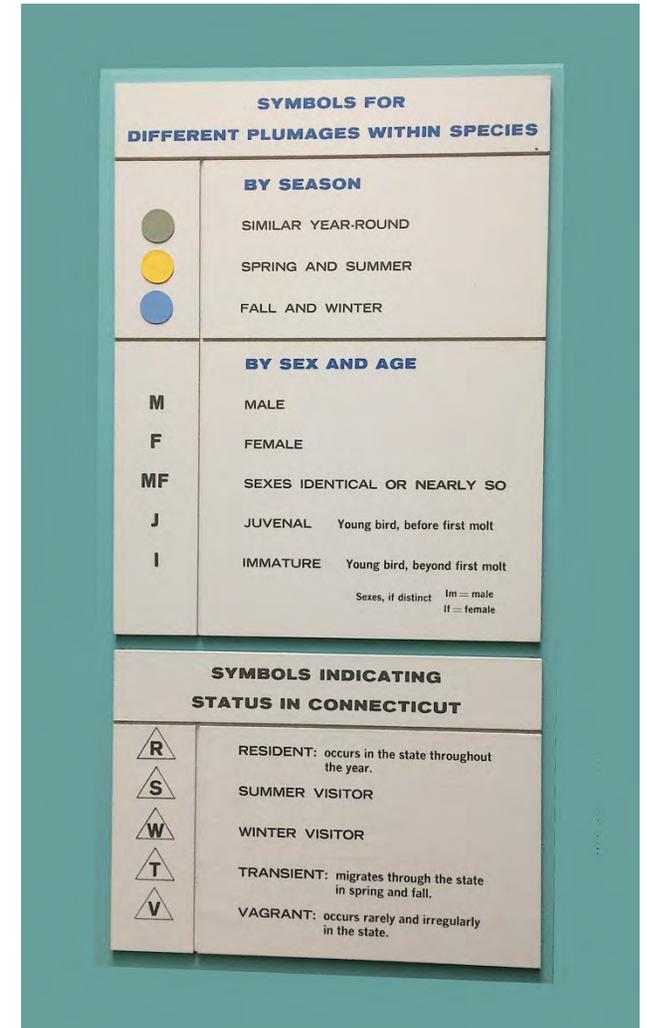
-- Florence McBride
January, 2020



American Robin

The Connecticut State Bird

* Michael Anderson, *Painting Actuality* Chapter 12, page 13



A Few notes about this book

- One of the many symbol keys in the Hall of Connecticut Birds is pictured here. The symbols convey a great deal of information efficiently and unobtrusively.
- The photos of the birds, shot with my handheld iPhone 5S, show some of Parsons' and Anderson's most striking work and representatives of most of Connecticut's bird families, as well as species that are personal favorites of mine. There are photos of Michael and David (used by permission) on pages 108-109, and a table of contents on page 110.
- In general, the order in which the birds are presented here reflects the organization of the exhibit.
- Some of the photos show legible identifications next to the birds. Titles have been added to identify the other species, with names updated as appropriate.

ORMES - Grebes



Horned Grebe -- *Podiceps auritus*

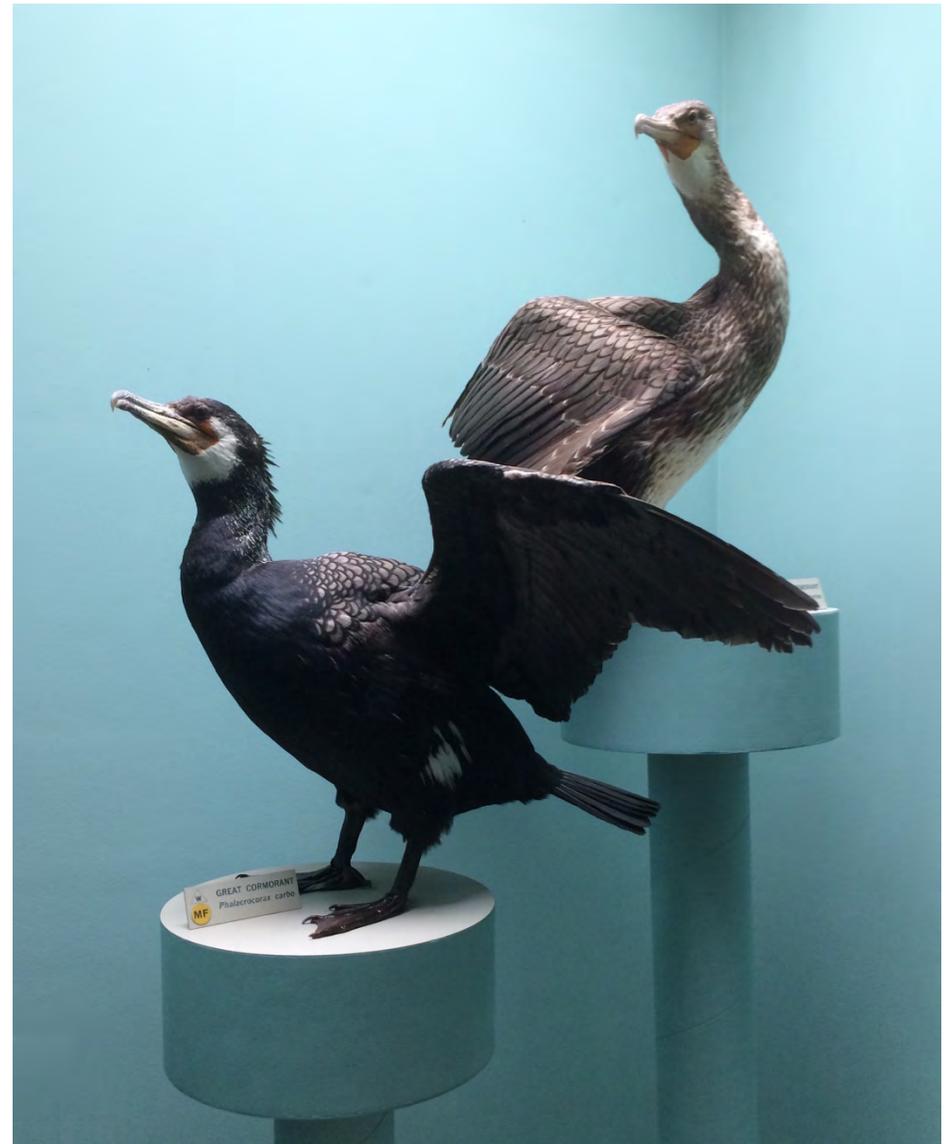
Adults -- Left: Fall/Winter

Right: Spring/Summer



Double-crested Cormorant

Phalacrocorax auritus



Great Cormorant

Phalacrocorax carbo

HERONS AND BITTERNS
Ardeidae





Northern Pintail

Anas acuta



WOOD DUCK

Aix sponsa



 OSPREY
Pandion haliaetus



Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*



Golden Eagle

Aquila chrysaetos



GRAY PHASE

GROUSE
Tetraonidae



RUFFED GROUSE
Bonasa umbellus

MF

MF

RED PHASE



KILLDEER
Charadrius vociferus



SPOTTED SANDPIPER

Actitis macularia



R GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL
Larus marinus
SPRING AND SUMMER ADULT

Spring and summer adult



First winter immature



△ S COMMON TERN
MF *Sterna hirundo*



Snowy Owl

Bubo scandiacus

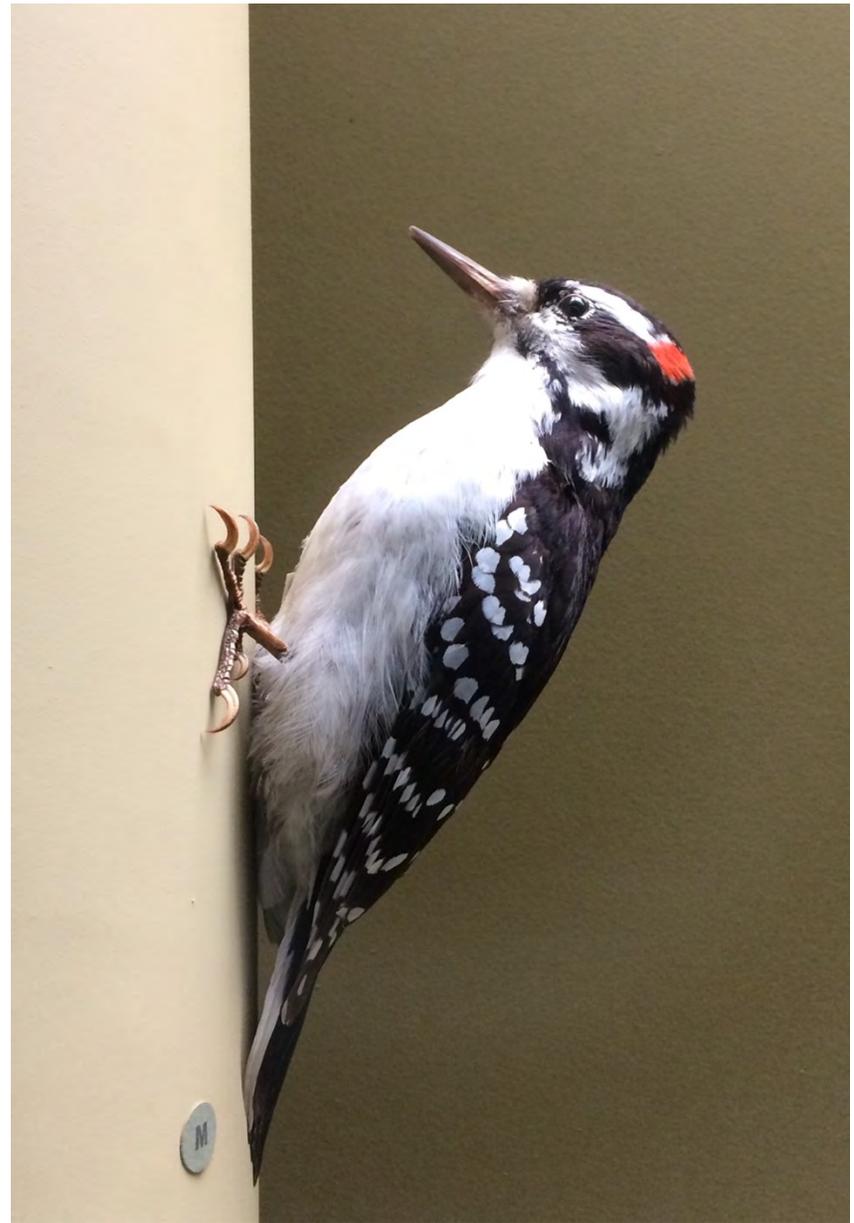


Belted Kingfisher

Megascops alcyon



female



male

Hairy Woodpecker

Dryobates villosus

MF



ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW

Stelgidopteryx ruficollis





American Crow

Corvus brachyrhynchos



BLUE JAY

Cyanocitta cristata





WOOD THRUSH
Hylocichla mustelina





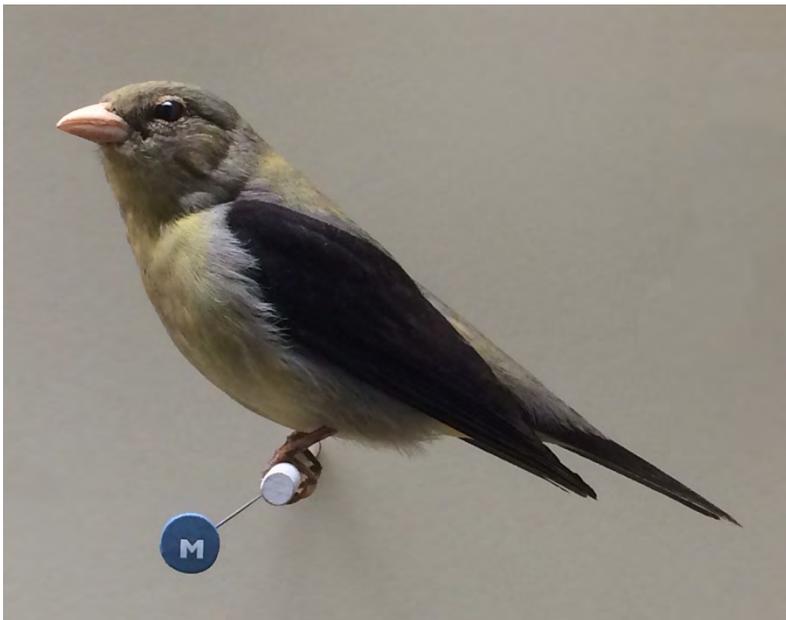
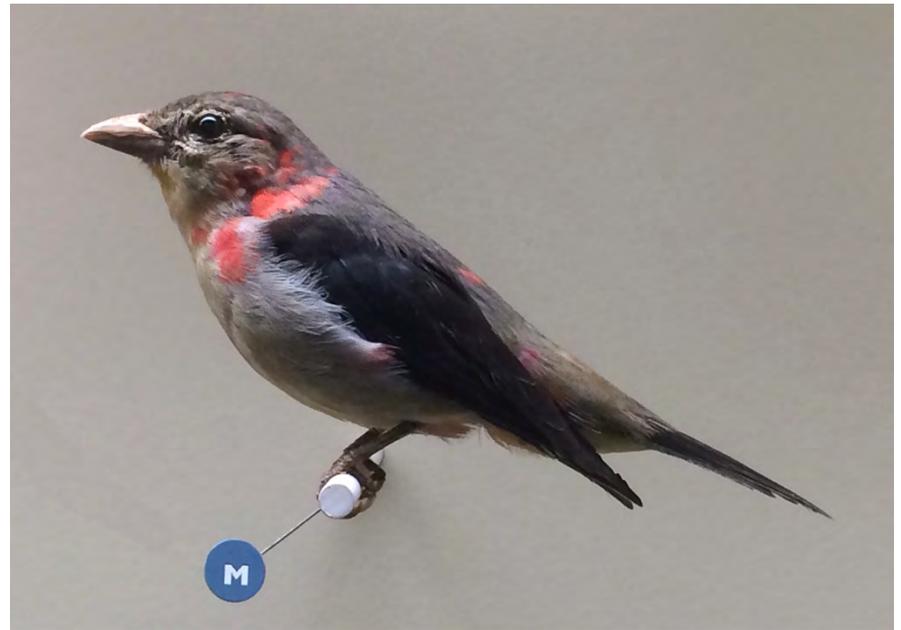


 **COMMON YELLOWTHROAT**
Geothlypis trichas



BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER

Dendroica fusca



Scarlet Tanager

Piranga olivacea



Song Sparrow
Melospiza melodia



Swamp Sparrow
Melospiza georgiana



R

CARDINAL

Richmondena cardinalis



Dave Parsons

from the Parsons family archives