

St. Martinville, St Martin Co., Louisiana

April 3, 1983

Temp last night 40°F, some this A.M. Will go to low 70's today. no rain and clear skies. Rel. humid. 85 per cent. Left camp on the Teche at 9:15 AM at 927.5 and plan to visit Lafayette. There are both common and boat-tailed grackles in the city area. Also observed 4 mockingbirds in camp area, measured one live oak at camp at 60' circumference at outer edge of roots. This was probably an abnormal condition. 932.4 12 cattle egrets, 4 egrets just inside of Park City limits. 3 cattle egrets 3/10 mi N. of city limits. Mockingbird. Grackles uncommon and since we left have seen 5 boat-tailed grackles and 7 common grackles, bluejay, mockingbird, will keep complete census from Park to N. 2 robins, second opossum road kill, 4 cattle egrets, mockingbird, purple martin, striped skunk rd. kill, bluejay. Now at Beauvoir Bridge. Now W. opossum rd. kill, striped skunk road kill, 2 crow, opossum road kill, and 18 cattle egrets. Opossum road kill. Vermilion Bayou and Lafayette Parish at 946.5. End of census at the Lafayette Parish line. In Lafayette visited and St. John's Cathedral (L'Eglise St. Jean du Vermilion), service in session. The second largest oak tree ^{in Louisiana} on grounds measured diameter 8 1/2', circum. 27 ft, 125' high, 210 feet wide (from one side over crown to other side. My spread measurements of tree was 135'. One limb weighed 72 tons. ^(one in my ft. Martinville was 115' spread) Church was built in 1821 and replaced by present one in 1918. Photo 830403-1 of azaleas and part of church. Photo 830403-2 of front of church showing lower 1/2 and central part. ^{Live oak second oldest in N. Am in church courtyard 70 830403-3} In Lafayette, drainage ditches are V shaped and completely lined. Made trip to Acadiana nature trail N E part of city on Alexandria street. Could have been deciduous bottomlands in Lawrence, Lousus. Returned to Lafayette and in area of moss & willow streets observed several old houses. Lafayette does not qualify for old homes. On 167 at Maurice at 993.4 begin census. Loggerhead shrike, common grackle. Fields & rural homes. Striped skunk and 2 opossum road kills. First ice field to right. Opossum rd. kill, more flooded ice fields, opossum rd. kill.

