

My last Chimney Swift at Jackson Park was a lone bird on 8 November. There were reports from three sites in northeastern Illinois on 9 November and from one site on 10 November but none thereafter. It is unclear why 10 November – as opposed to 11 October or 31 October or 2 November – ended up being the last date of occurrence, although perhaps wind direction was a key factor. Northeast winds always foretell low numbers of small land birds along the Chicago lakefront. Prior to 9 November, the only date since 10 October showing significant northeasterly winds was 27 October, on which date Chimney Swifts (3) were reported only well inland, in Du Page County. None of the few IBET posts from 27 October mention swifts elsewhere in the area; I have no data from Jackson Park on that date.

Table 1 summarizes the IBET posts of Chimney Swift sightings in Illinois from 25 October through their departure date in 2006. I've included a few Jackson Park data that were not posted to IBET.

Elsewhere in Illinois, Chimney Swifts were found later than average this fall, but less remarkably so than in the northeastern part of the state, with the exception of a single at Springfield (Sangamon Co) on 7 November (Rhetta L. Jack). Other representative late dates include 20 October (a few) at Galesburg (Knox Co) (D. James Mountjoy); 21 October (up to 20) at Urbana (Champaign Co) (*vide* Steven D. Bailey); 22 October (3), Lake Decatur (Macon Co) (Travis A. Mahan); and 26 October (1), St. Clair County (Keith A. McMullen).

Chimney Swifts staged a parallel late departure along the Indiana lakefront the fall of 2006, including 287 eastbound along Lake Michigan on 17 October; 39 at four sites on 21 October; 5 in Highland on 30 October; 3 at Gary on 4 November; and one in Highland on 9 November. The previous late date for the Indiana lakefront area is 15 October 1990 (Kenneth J. Brock, pers.



comm.). Chimney Swifts also lingered late in Wisconsin, through 26 October in southern Milwaukee County (R. C. Domagalski, pers. comm.).

Widmann (1928) discusses the unusual presence of big numbers of Chimney Swifts in November of 1925 at St. Louis, Missouri, and adjacent parts of Illinois, with additional information from Lawrenceville (Lawrence Co) and Quincy (Adams Co). Widmann includes St. Louis records of eight swifts on 6 November, an unspecified number on 7 November, and a single on 8 November. In addition, he quotes an article in the *St. Louis Times* of 14 November involving the removal of more than 500 dead "swallows" (=swifts) from a chimney at Edwardsville (Madison Co);

TABLE 2: Illinois Chimney Swift departure dates, 1974-2005

YEAR	NORTH	CENTRAL	SOUTH	JACKSON PARK	ILLINOIS
1974	14 Oct	20 Oct	23Nov		23 Nov
1975	7 Oct	15 Oct	15 Oct		15 Oct
1976	18 Oct	18 Oct	14 Oct		18 Oct
1977	14 Oct	17 Oct	10 Oct		17 Oct
1978	13 Oct	22 Oct	16 Oct		22 Oct
1979	29 Oct	20 Oct	11 Oct	15 Oct	29 Oct
1980	12 Oct	11 Oct	15 Oct	7 Oct	15 Oct
1981	19 Oct	17 Oct	14 Oct	15 Oct	19 Oct
1982	13 Oct	18 Oct	15 Oct	13 Oct	18 Oct
1983	16 Oct	24 Oct	25 Oct	10 Oct	25 Oct
1984	15 Oct	18 Oct	27 Oct	12 Oct	27 Oct
1985	16 Oct	14 Oct	27 Oct	14 Oct	27 Oct
1986	27 Oct	17 Oct	25 Oct	18 Oct	27 Oct
1987	25 Oct	17 Oct	19 Oct	25 Oct	25 Oct
1988	30 Oct			30 Oct	30 Oct
1989	11 Oct	17 Oct	24 Oct	8 Oct	24 Oct
1990	21 Oct	15 Oct	17 Oct	13 Oct	21 Oct
1991	2 Nov			22 Oct	2 Nov
1992	14 Oct	18 Oct	10 Oct	12 Oct	18 Oct
1993	11 Oct	7 Oct	7 Oct	10 Oct	11 Oct
1994	12 Oct	19 Oct	9 Oct	17 Oct	19 Oct
1995	23 Oct	14 Oct		12 Oct	23 Oct
1996	15 Oct	17 Oct		12 Oct	17 Oct
1997		15 Oct	16 Oct	11 Oct	16 Oct
1998		18 Oct	18 Oct	11 Oct	18 Oct
1999	16 Oct		16 Oct	11 Oct	16 Oct
2000	14 Oct	15 Oct	19 Oct	3 Oct	19 Oct
2001	25 Oct	24 Oct	22 Oct	25 Oct	25 Oct
2002	10 Nov		15 Oct	18 Oct	10 Nov
2003	16 Oct	13 Oct		11 Oct	16 Oct
2004	8 Oct	16 Oct	24 Oct	6 Oct	24 Oct
2005	19 Oct		14 Oct	14 Oct	19 Oct
MEAN	17 Oct	16 Oct	17 Oct	13 Oct	21 Oct