



tower sites where nests are high off the ground and the birds are not easily observed. At least two Chicago cell tower nest locations were believed to have been abandoned in 2004 (A. Anderson, L. Munoz, personal communication) (Table 1).

The two active telephone pole nests at William W. Powers Conservation Area in Chicago were destroyed by electricians during the summer of 2004, but Monk Parakeets had already begun reconstructing both nests as of November 2004. Two telephone pole nests at Nichols Park in the Hyde Park area were also knocked down in 2004, but parakeets have begun to rebuild at least one of them (E. Marcisz, personal communication). In November 2004 I found one large stick nest on the ground near the Washington Park Armory (probably downed during a spell of bad weather). The most notorious of all of the Hyde Park area nests, a massive stick construction near 53rd Street and Lake Shore Drive, was also destroyed when the towering ash tree which supported it crashed to the ground in June of 2004 (Rybarczyk 2004).

### Former Sites

Within Cook County, Illinois, a number of Monk Parakeet nest sites have been destroyed, abandoned, or otherwise eliminated. In Chicago, nest sites in the Sauganash area, at Foster Avenue and the North Branch Chicago River, at Columbus Park, at McKinley Park, and at the 64th Street Beach are now all gone (A. Anderson, P. Clyne, personal communication). Former suburban Cook County nest sites include an Arlington Heights colony (A. Anderson, personal communication) and a nest-building attempt in Evanston (D. Darnell, personal communication).

Within DuPage County, Illinois, a large active tree nest was formerly present on Schmale Road in Carol Stream, but it has been gone for at least five years and was probably destroyed (R. Coons, personal communication). Another DuPage County

*Monk Parakeets at LaGrange Park, Cook County. Photos taken in 2004 by Abby Misen.*

nest site, a tree nest on Carlton Street in Wheaton, is also now gone (R. Coons, personal communication).

Within Lake County, Illinois, an active colony of up to two telephone pole nests existed in Zion from 1993 through at least 1996 (Kleen 1994, Kleen 1997). These nests were eventually knocked down by telephone company employees (E. Walters, personal communication). There are no known remaining Lake County, Illinois nesting sites (D.B. Johnson, personal communication).

### Indeterminate Sites

Within the city of Chicago, Monk Parakeet nest sites were reported at Winnemac Park and at Damen Avenue and Fullerton Parkway in 2003 (Kleen 2004). I have been unable to obtain updated information on these sites, but they very well may still be active. A colony of big nests located under el tracks near Englewood Academy on the south side of Chicago was very active a few years ago (J. Pollock, personal communication). I have had no recent reports from this area, and I personally was unable to find nests or birds during a trip to the area in November of 2004, but it is certainly possible that active nests still exist there. Monk Parakeet flocks have been reported in the Marquette Park area of Chicago (Sjostrom 2004). During a brief visit to the Marquette Park area in November of 2004 I found no nests, but I did see three flocks of Monk Parakeets (a total of 14 birds), strongly suggesting the presence of a nesting colony in the area.

I have been unable to obtain recent information on reported suburban Cook County nest sites at Berwyn (Sjostrom 2004), Des Plaines (A. Anderson, personal communication), and North Riverside (South 1999), nor have I been able to obtain recent information on the Bensenville (DuPage Co.) nest site (Sjostrom 2004). It is certainly possible that all of these colonies are still active.

