



The Katharine Ordway
Natural History Study Area

Box 216
Inver Grove Heights, Minn. 55075
(612) 455-6204

ORDWAY BULLETIN
No. 126

MACALESTER
COLLEGE

located at 9550 Inver Grove Trail (Dakota County Road 77), Inver Grove Heights, Minn.

LOCATION at ORDWAY.

When one visits Ordway he is located at "445-0930". That is a succinct statement of the location of Ordway according to geographic coordinates. This position cannot be confused with any other location in the Northern Hemisphere.

Greenwich, a present-day section of London, is a unique spot on the face of our planet for through this spot runs the earth's principal meridian, "the Greenwich Meridian", which is the imaginary north-south line from which all east-west locations are calculated. It is also the line from which the twenty-four time zones of the world are measured, Greenwich Standard Time being the reference time for the beginning of each day. It is great sport for visitors to the Royal Observatory in Greenwich to be photographed while standing astride the reference line which is painted on the pavement there, thus being half in "today" and half in "tomorrow" as well as half in the "west" and half in the "east".

If one travelled westward along the Equator ninety-three degrees and a little more (precisely $93^{\circ}2'$) he would come to a north-south line on which Ordway would be located. By travelling directly north from the Equator for $44^{\circ}47'$ along that line he would come to our property here alongside the Mississippi River in Dakota County (Range 22, Township 27). A degree ($^{\circ}$) of latitude is just a tad more than 69 miles and a minute ($'$) is one-sixtieth of that.

In reporting various data concerning birds and their migratory and nesting patterns it is worthwhile to know the geographic locator points at which each specimen is captured. The geographic reference points for Ordway are "445-0930", rounding off the more accurate figures, $44^{\circ}47'$ and $93^{\circ}2'$. There's nothing like knowing your place in this world.

R J CHRISTMAN

January 21, 1985.