

For Dick Veit

RAF 259-9747

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- ④ Smith's Longspur: Oct. 12, 1968,
Salisbury Beach at what is now
the campgrounds with a flock of
± 50 Laplands. Studied it for
about an hour; had it in the
sepe (30x) on the wires; perfect
clear, warm, windless fall day.
Apparently a ♂ in basic plumage.
I cited the following in notes:
- Striking white patch at bend of
wing (lesser coverts) set off by
dark band below (median coverts)
 - Warm, clear, caramel buff under-
parts with fine (Lincoln's sparrow-like)
streaks on upperbreast and sides.
 - Extensive white of outer rectrices
noted in flight and in comp. with
Laplands.
 - Overall very clean, "warm" appearance
in comp. with Laplands.
 - Could not distinguish call

- over -

I did not make notes on the spot
or do a drawing, nor did I know
the species from life at the time.
I remember I recognized it at once
— don't know whether that's good
or bad in this context! I've
subsequently seen lots of them and
have never had second thoughts
about the record.

Chris Leach

→ Aug. 22, 1983

submitted & post facto