

SQUARE-TAILED KITE NEAR ADELAIDE

— On September 11, 1975, a large raptor was observed at Clapham (a southern Adelaide suburb) soaring above a flock of pigeons. This was identified as a Square-tailed Kite *Lophocittia isura*. Field notes were taken as follows: "Wings: 'V'-ed in flight, pale underneath, with white, distinct 'eyes' on base of primaries. Primaries, black, as were tips of secondaries. Leading edge of wing not straight when seen from below (i.e. wrist bent backwards). Wing-tips were fingered. Tail: long, straight, narrow and square-ended." The bird was observed at a height estimated at 300-500 metres, as it *glided* across to a position well above the Belair water tower.

Condon's *Handlist* lists a specimen taken at Blackwood (approx. 3 km from Belair) in 1913. My observations when compared to the diagram in Slater's *Field Guide* (p. 52), indicate a bird which, while similar in pattern to the diagram, was considerably paler underneath. — A. F. LEES.

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