

Congeries

The second volume in a series of three publications documenting the investigative excursions of Professor William Starling and his research team. This volume contains selected items and ideas collected during their research expedition in February, 2012.

Congeries

being the second volume of investigations, observations and musings collected on the

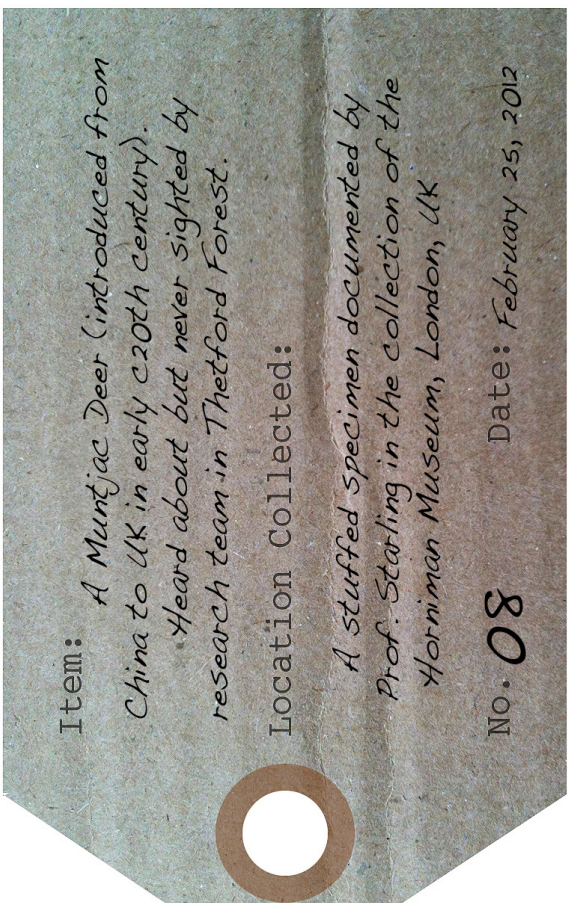
Thetford • London • Oxford

expedition led by

Professor William Starling of DodoLab

accompanied by

Leila Armstrong, Lisa Hirner, Andrew Hunter, Giles Lane, Josie Mills & Hazem Tagiuri



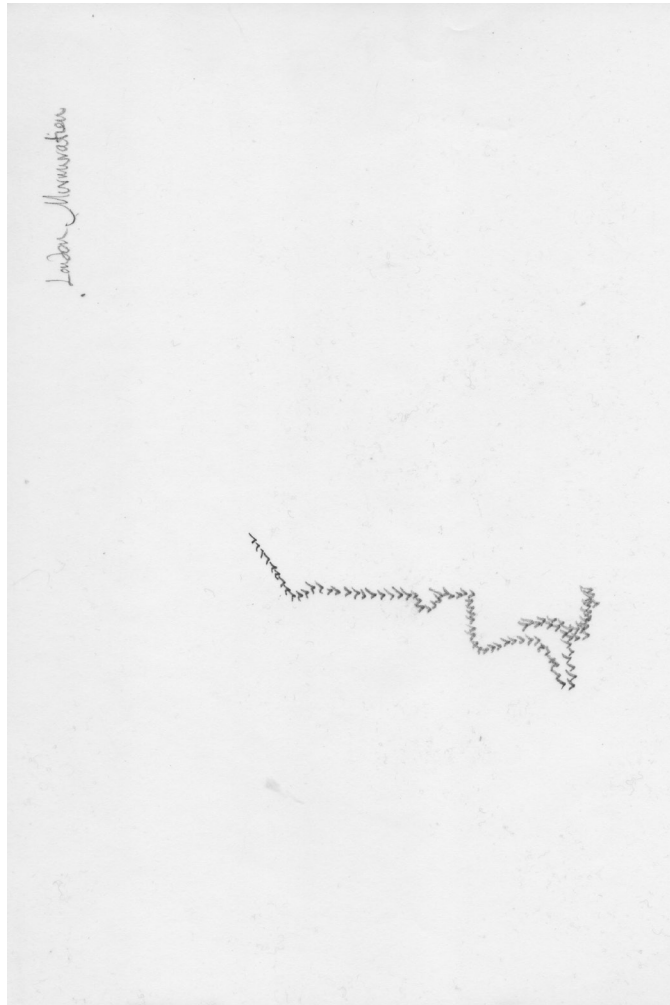
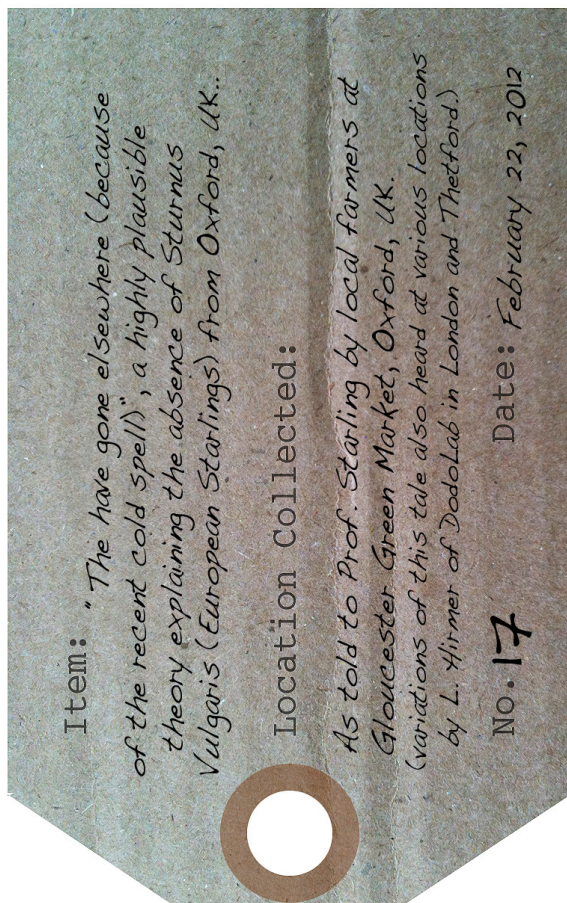
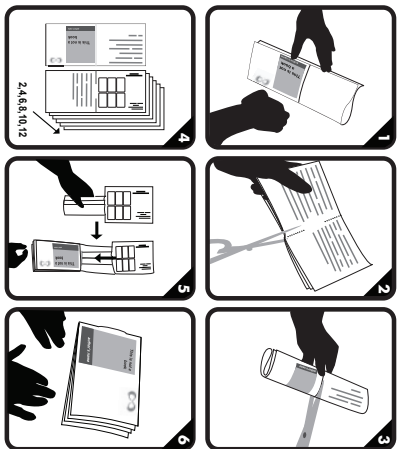


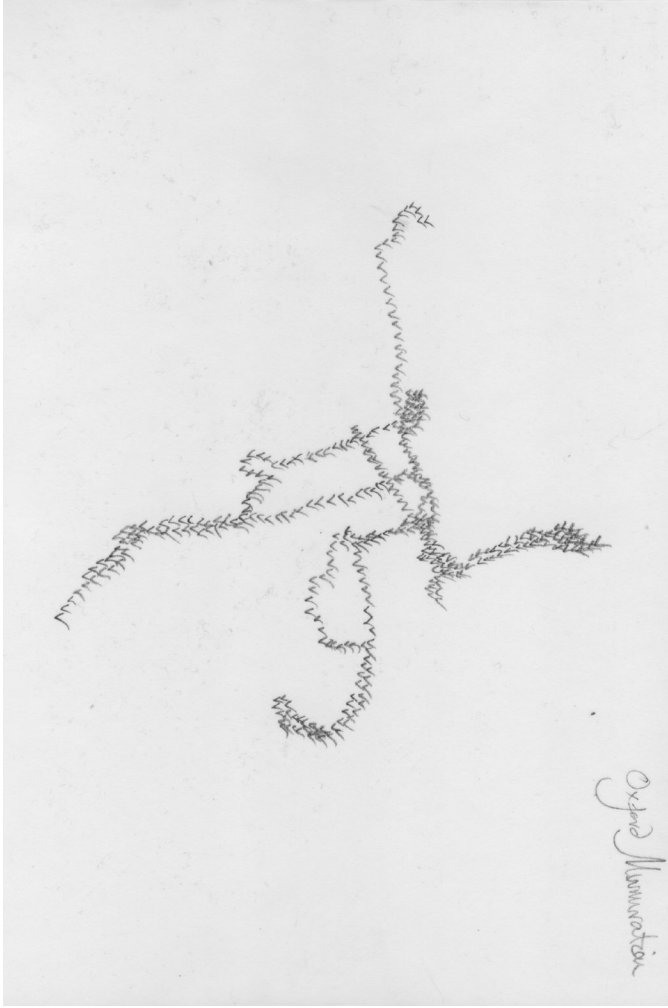
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dodolab
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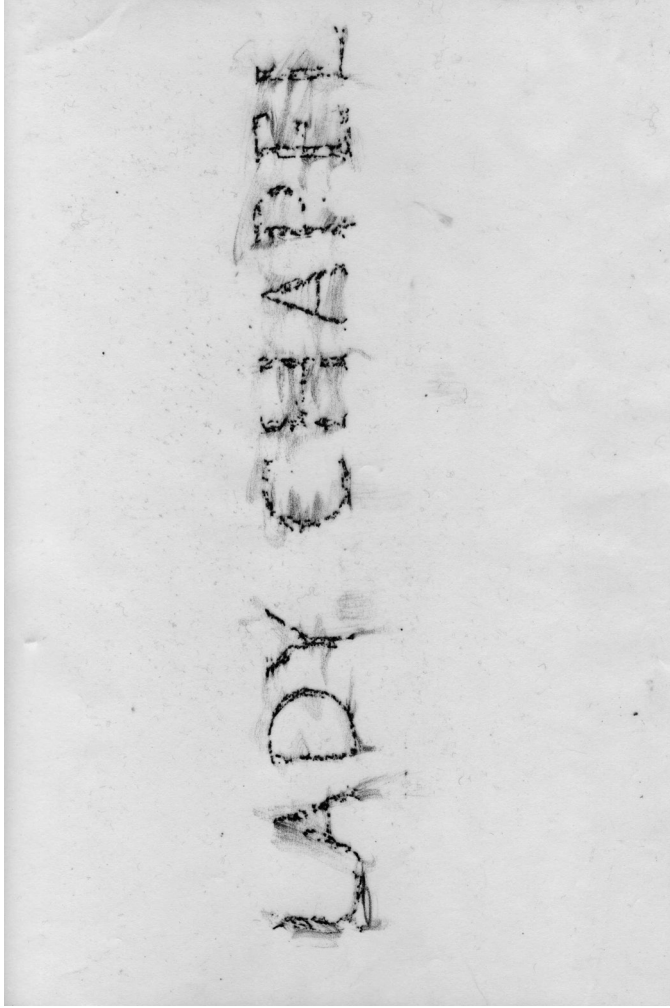


Item: "All of the bugs they eat have been killed by the many more cars and cabs around Trafalgar Square", a rather odd theory for the disappearance of the once great murmurations of *Sturnus Vulgaris* (European Starling) from central London.

Location Collected:

As told to L. Firmer of DodoLab by a gentleman (of Scottish origins), St. James's Park, London, UK.

No. 16 Date: February 20, 2012



Item: Author's photo from "In Breckland wilds" (W.G. Clarke, 1937), a book acquired for Prof. Starling in advance of visit to the United Kingdom and used as guide to Thetford area by research team.

Location Collected:

Acquired from a private rare book dealer in Rockland St. Peter, Norfolk, UK, by H. Hunter of Dodolab.

No. 01 Date: December 9, 2010

Item: "They were eaten by cats", an unusual theory concerning the disappearance of *Sturnus Vulgaris* (European Starlings).

Location Collected:

As told to Prof. Starling by citizens of the town of Thetford while strolling on the High Street, Thetford, Norfolk, UK.

No. 15 Date: February 16, 2012



Item: Relief rubbing from stonework on ruins of the Thetford Priory.

Location Collected: Acquired by H. Tagiuri of Probusciis while visiting ruins with Prof. Starling research team, Thetford, Norfolk, UK.

No. 02 Date: February 16, 2012

Item: An assortment of extinct species, stuffed, mounted and preserved (often only in skeletal form)

Location Collected: Documented by research team at various fine museums (including Horniman, Oxford Mus. of Nat. Hist., Norwich Castle...)

No. 14 Date: February 16-25, 2012





Item:

Warren's Lodge ruins, Rabbit warrens (Neolithic earthworks?).

Location Collected:

Documented by Prof. Starling research team, Brandon Road, Warren Wood, Thetford, Norfolk, UK.

No. *03*

Date: *February 16, 2012*

Item: *A peculiar story of the witnessing of a murmuration of starlings taking the form of a dolphin that split into two flocks, the second of which formed a shark which set about to "devour" the dolphin and, in so doing, returned all to a single murmuration.*

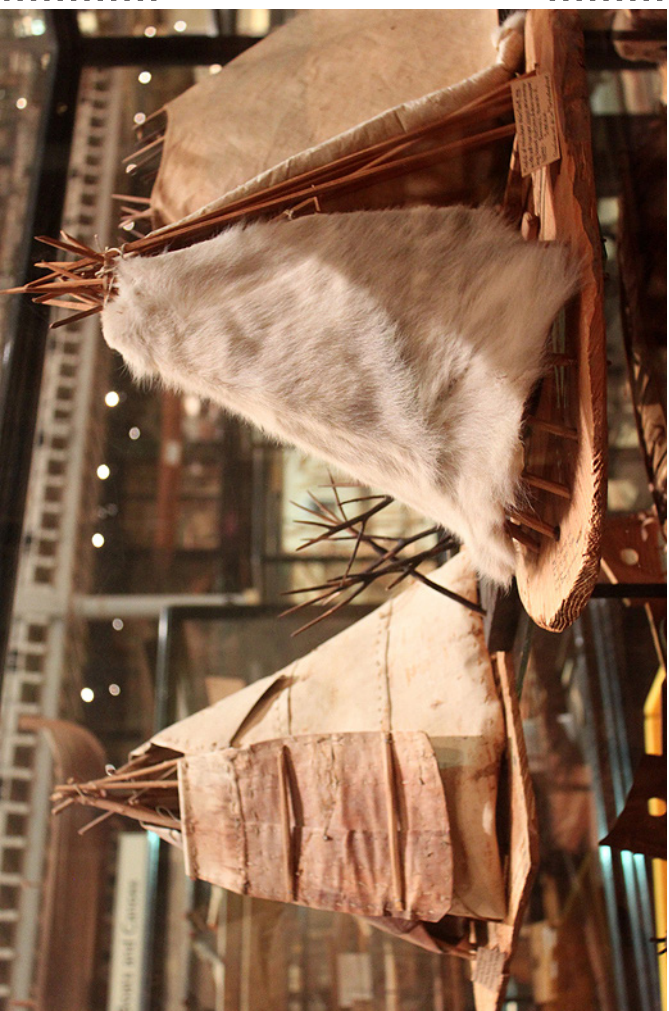
Location Collected:

As told to Prof. Starling by a curious young woman (a cyclist of Spanish origins) while the professor was strolling around the duck pond in St. James' Park, London, UK

No. **13**

Date: *February 20, 2012*





Item: *A selection of museums of the United Kingdom, with particular emphasis on display techniques and methodologies of interpretation, preservation and curation.*

Location Collected:
Acquired by J. Mills and L. Armstrong of Lethbridge, Alberta, CANADA, in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Cambridge, Oxford, London, Norwich...

No. **12** Date: February, 2012



Item: **GHOST RABBIT**
(as rendered by L. Milner)

Location Collected:
Near Warren's Lodge ruins, Brandon Road, Warren Wood, Thetford, Norfolk, UK.

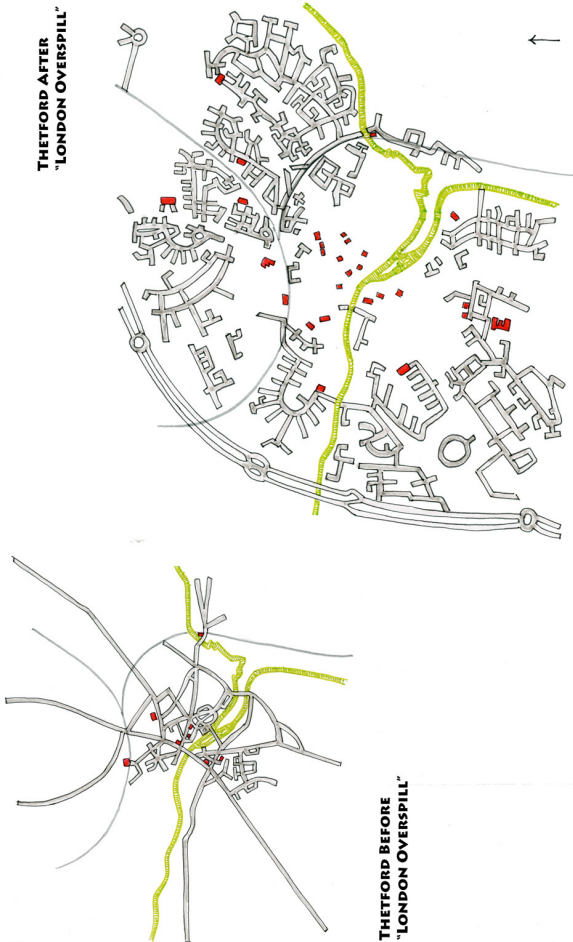
No. **04** Date: February 16, 2012

Item: "London's Natural History",
a book by R.S.R. Fitter, New Naturalists
Series No.3 (1945).
(which contains details of the once
great starling murmurations in London)

Location Collected:

Acquired by A. Hunter for Prof.
Starling from Black Cat Books, Lennoxville,
Quebec, CANADA.

No. II Date: January 26, 2012



Item:
Aboriginal Artifacts from Western Canada

Location Collected:
*Documented by J. Mills of Prof. Starling
research team, Pitt Rivers Museum,
Oxford, UK.*

No. 05 Date: February 23, 2012



Item:
*Thetford London Overspill/New Town
expansion interpretive map.*

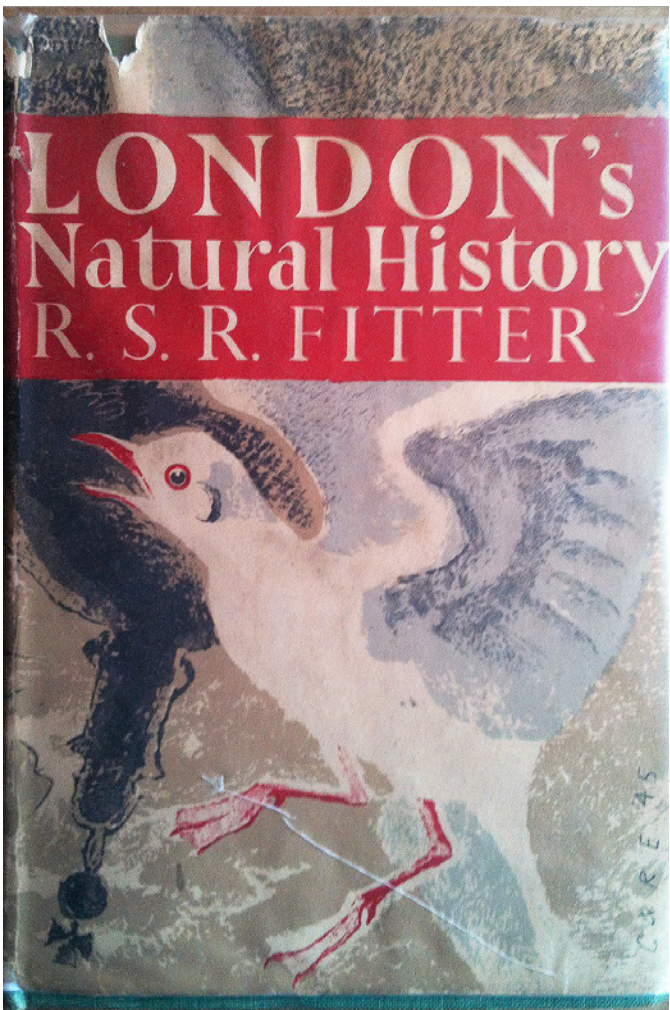
Location Collected:
*Documented by L. Armstrong of Prof.
Starling research team, Ancient House
Museum, Thetford, Norfolk, UK.*

No. *06* Date: *February 16, 2012*

Item: "London Gardens of the Past",
a book by Helen G. Nussey, published by
John Lane* (1937).
(*not a known relation of Giles Lane of
Proboscis and Prof. Starling research team)

Location Collected:
*Acquired by Prof. Starling from
a rare book and print stall in Gloucester
Green Market, Oxford, UK.*

No. *10* Date: *February 22, 2012*





Item: 18th century hand-coloured etching of Porcupine of Hudson's Bay, British North America (now Canada).
 *Prof. Starling noted that the artist had clearly not seen such an animal in person.

Location Collected:
 Acquired by Prof. Starling (along with an illustration of a Great Auk) from a rare book and print dealer, High Street, Oxford, UK.

No. 09 Date: February 22, 2012

Item:
 Tools of observation - citizens engaged in indescreeet efforts to record Prof. Starling and research team at work.

Location Collected:
 Documented by L. Ylmer of Prof. Starling research team, London and Oxford, UK.

No. 07 Date: February 20&22, 2012

