Introduction

This work is not intended as a textbook or a detailed monograph covering every aspect of Passenger Pigeon research and every known piece of information about the species. Anyone requiring this might profitably consult the works by William Mershon (1907), Arlie Schorger (1955), or Joel Greenberg (2014). The present book is simply a celebration (perhaps an inappropriate term in the circumstances), in both words and pictures, of the former existence of the Passenger Pigeon, produced around the time of the 100th anniversary of the death of the last known individual. It is hoped that it will serve as an intriguing memorial to a species that was once so important to the ecology of North America, and will help to bring awareness to just how fragile the natural world can be.