

The Observer's Challenge Objects

Submitted by Larry McHenry, Pittsburgh, PA, USA. <http://stellar-journeys.org>

January 2025: **NGC 1491** – emission nebula - Perseus; $\text{mag}_v=11.3$; RA: 04h 03m 15.9s Dec: $+51^\circ 18' 54''$

The "Fossil Footprint nebula", NGC1491, is located in the constellation of Perseus "the Hero". NGC1491 is located about 9,800 light years distant.

William Herschel discovered NGC1491 (H1 258) on the night of December 28th, 1790 using his 20 ft reflector at his home in Slough, near Windsor castle. Herschel described the nebula as "*Very bright, irregular form, resolvable with a brighter middle,*"

EAA Observation:

09/23/2022, from the Black Forest Star Party at Cherry Springs State Park in Pennsylvania.

Using an 8" SCT optical tube @ f6.3 on a GEM mount, with a CMOS color camera and narrowband filter, 180 second subs, guided exposure, live-stacked for 30 minutes.



A bright wedge-shaped nebula with a +11 mag star located just off center from core. Pretty field.