



London zoo



ПОДГОТОВИЛИ:
ученицы МОУ СОШ № 59 5 «б» класса
Абрашева Стелла
Никитина Анастасия
Колоярцева Жанна

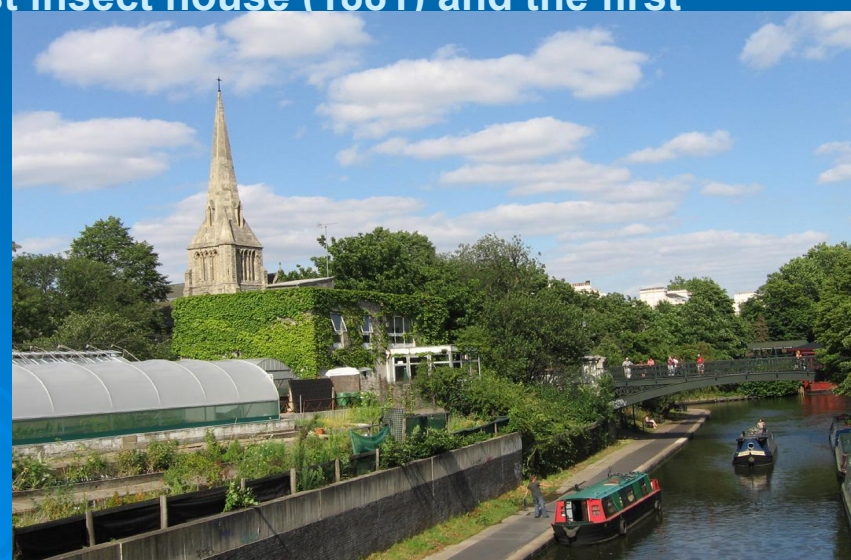
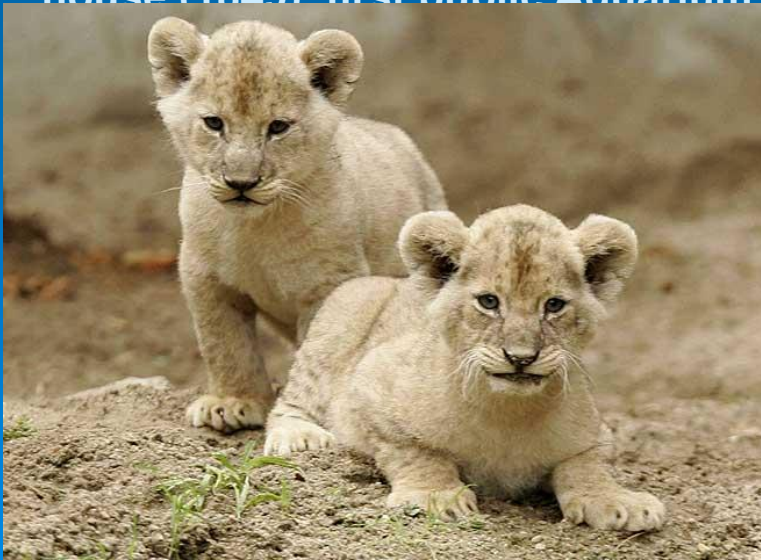


scientific zoo. It was opened in London on [April 27](#) London Zoo is the world's oldest scientific zoo. It was opened in London on April 27, [1828](#) London Zoo is the world's oldest scientific zoo. It was opened in London on April 27, 1828, and was originally intended to be used as a collection for [scientific study](#). It was eventually made open the public in 1847.

Today it houses a collection of 755 [species](#) Today it houses a collection of 755 species of [animals](#) Today it houses a collection of 755 species of animals, with 15104 individuals, making it one of the largest collections in the [United Kingdom](#). It is managed under the aegis of the [Zoological Society of London](#) It is managed under the aegis of the Zoological Society of London (ZSL), established in 1826, and is situated at the northern edge of [Regent's Park](#) It is managed under the aegis of the Zoological Society of London (ZSL), established in 1826, and is situated at the northern edge of Regent's Park (the [Regent's Canal](#) runs through it).

The Society also has a more spacious site at in [Bedfordshire](#) to which the larger animals such as elephants and rhinos have been moved.

As well as being the first scientific zoo, London Zoo also opened the first Reptile house (1849) first public Aquarium (1853), first insect house (1881) and the first



The History of Zoo

Zoological Society of London Zoological Society of London was established by Sir Stamford Raffles Zoological Society of London was established by Sir Stamford Raffles in 1826, who obtained the land for the Zoo and saw the plans before he died of apoplexy Zoological Society of London was established by Sir Stamford Raffles in 1826, who obtained the land for the Zoo and saw the plans before he died of apoplexy later that year. After his death the third Zoological Society of London was established by Sir Stamford Raffles in 1826, who obtained the land for the Zoo and saw the plans before he died of apoplexy later that year. After his death the third Marquis of Lansdowne Zoological Society of London was established by Sir Stamford Raffles in 1826, who obtained the land for the Zoo and saw the plans before he died of apoplexy later that year. After his death the third Marquis of Lansdowne took over the project and supervised the building of the first animal houses. The Zoo opened in April 1828 to fellows of the Society, providing access to species such as Arabian oryx Zoological Society of London was established by Sir Stamford Raffles in 1826, who obtained the land for the Zoo and saw the plans before he died of apoplexy later that year. After his death the third Marquis of Lansdowne took over the project and supervised the building of the first animal houses. The Zoo opened in April 1828 to fellows of the Society, providing access to species such as Arabian oryx, greater kudu Zoological Society of London was established by Sir Stamford Raffles in 1826, who obtained the land for the Zoo and saw the plans before he died of

At the beginning of the 1990s the Zoo had almost 7,000 animals; the nearest any other collection came to in Britain was [Chester Zoo](#)At the beginning of the 1990s the Zoo had almost 7,000 animals; the nearest any other collection came to in Britain was Chester Zoo, with just under 3,500 animals. Many of the species in London Zoo could not be seen anywhere else in the country, such as the [wombat](#)At the beginning of the 1990s the Zoo had almost 7,000 animals; the nearest any other collection came to in Britain was Chester Zoo, with just under 3,500 animals. Many of the species in London Zoo could not be seen anywhere else in the country, such as the wombat, [Tasmanian devil](#)At the beginning of the 1990s the Zoo had almost 7,000 animals; the nearest any other collection came to in Britain was Chester Zoo, with just under 3,500 animals. Many of the species in London Zoo could not be seen anywhere else in the country, such as the wombat, Tasmanian devil or [long-nosed potoroo](#).

Although this vast collection was part of the Zoo's appeal, it may also have been one of the main causes of its financial problems. This contributed to the Zoo being faced with a range of attitude to animals kept in the Zoo also suffered from a dwindling visitor base and that London Zoo would close in the 1970s. However, donations allowed the Zoo to continue and take on the huge task of restoring animal behavior to more suitable for



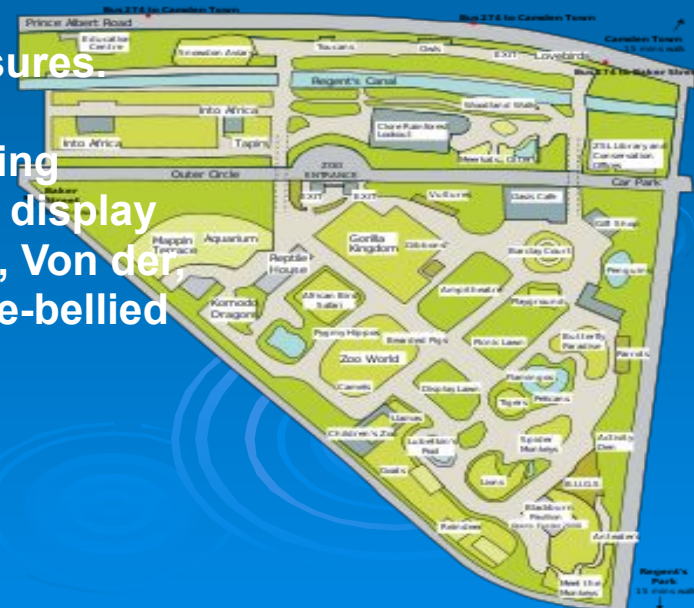
Areas and attractions

The Zoo is currently undergoing a renovation project aimed at replacing cages with enclosures which recreate animals' natural environments, giving a better lifestyle to the animals, and a more realistic experience to visitors.

In 2005 the “African Bird Safari” and “Meet The Monkeys” walkthroughs opened and in 2006 “Into Africa” and “Butterfly Paradise” exhibits opened, while in Easter 2007 the Duke of Edinburgh officially opened the new “Gorilla Kingdom” and “Clare Rainforest Lookout” a walkthrough rainforest replacing the small mammals building. During Easter 2008 the Bird House reopened as a tropical rainforest called the “Blackburn Pavilion”. Other plans include the redevelopment of the Children’s Zoo in September 2008 and the Lion Terraces. The African Bird Safari opened in Easter

In Easter 2005 as a redevelopment of the Stork and Ostrich House, replacing three out- of- date enclosures.

It is built around a walk-through design 51 metres (170 ft) long and 10 metres (33 ft) high, incorporating a bridge over a stream and high trees. Species on display Abdim s stork, superb starlings, Madagascar teals, Von der Decken s hornbills, lilas – breasted roller and blue-bellied roller.





There has been an aquarium at the Zoo since 1853 and was the first aquarium to be established in the world. The word 'aquarium' also originates at London Zoo, beforehand the term for a fish enclosure was 'Aquatic Vivarium'. The current aquarium was built in 1921 beneath the Mappin Terraces as the public demand to see the fish increased. In April 1924 King George V There has been an aquarium at the Zoo since 1853 and was the first aquarium to be established in the world. The word 'aquarium' also originates at London Zoo, beforehand the term for a fish enclosure was 'Aquatic Vivarium'. The current aquarium was built in 1921 beneath the Mappin Terraces as the public demand to see the fish increased. In April 1924 King George V with his wife Queen Mary opened the aquarium.

The exhibit is separated into three halls, each home to different types of fish. The first hall contains species involved in various conservation projects, such as captive-breeding programs and other initiatives. These include species such as rudd The exhibit is separated into three halls, each home to different types of fish. The first hall contains species involved in various conservation projects, such as captive-breeding programs and other initiatives. These include species such as rudd, European eels The exhibit is separated into three home to different types of fish. The first hall contains species various conservation projects, such as captive-breeding programs initiatives. These include species such as rudd, European eel fans The exhibit separated into three halls, each home to different fish. The first hall contains species involved in various conservation such as captive-breeding programs and other initiatives. These such as rudd, European eels, pink sea fans, spiny starfish and

The second hall is a coral reef The second hall is a coral reef habi





The Blackburn Pavilion opened to the public on 21 March 2008 as a revamp of the old Bird House. The Victorian building was originally built in 1883 as a Reptile House using funds raised from the sale of Jumbo the elephant to Barnum's Circus. The exhibit is named after the Blackburn family, who provided support to the Zoo during the early 1990s when the Zoo was faced with closure.

Recreating both rainforest and cloud forest environments the pavilion holds more than 50 different species of bird including toucans, starlings, kookaburras, lovebirds, and hummingbirds (the only place in the UK to hold them). The exhibit also contains several species in danger of extinction, or are already extinct in the wild, such as the socorro dove.

Outside the Pavilion is a remarkable clock, installed as part of the refurbishment, which gives an bird-themed display every half hour during the day.



The Butterfly Paradise exhibit, launched in May 2006, holds butterfly and moth species from several major regions, including Africa, Southeast Asia, and Central and South America. The species of both fauna and flora have been selected to complement each, with the plants having to provide nectar and breeding areas for the animals.

Species on display include clipper butterfly, great eggfly butterfly, zebra longwing butterfly.

Like much of the Zoo the projects, such as specific climate change issues breeding room allowing

The Ambika Paul Children and the Paddock which



on conservation protection initiatives and there is a pupae of new butterflies.

ons, the Pet Care Centre ence aimed at children.



The Pet Care Centre offers advice on keeping and caring for your [pets](#)The Pet Care Centre offers advice on keeping and caring for your pets and [animals](#)The Pet Care Centre offers advice on keeping and caring for your pets and animals on display include species of [rabbits](#)The Pet Care Centre offers advice on keeping and caring for your pets and animals on display include species of rabbits, [guinea pigs](#)The Pet Care Centre offers advice on keeping and caring for your pets and animals on display include species of rabbits, guinea pigs, [mice](#)The Pet Care Centre offers advice on keeping and caring for your pets and animals on display include species of rabbits, guinea pigs, mice, [rats](#)The Pet Care Centre offers advice on keeping and caring for your pets and animals on display include species of rabbits, guinea pigs, mice, rats, [stick insects](#)The Pet Care Centre offers advice on keeping and caring for your pets and animals on display include species of rabbits, guinea pigs, mice, rats, stick insects, [chinchillas](#)The Pet Care Centre offers advice on keeping and caring for your pets and animals on display include species of rabbits, guinea pigs, mice, rats, stick insects, chinchillas, [degus](#)The Pet Care Centre offers advice on keeping and caring for your pets and animals on display include species of rabbits, guinea pigs, mice, rats, stick insects, chinchillas, degus and [snails](#)The Pet Care Centre offers advice on keeping and caring for your pets and animals on display include species of rabbits, guinea pigs, mice, rats, stick insects, chinchillas, degus and snails. The paddock includes [sheep](#)The Pet Care Centre offers advice on keeping and caring for your pets and animals on display





Gorilla Kingdom is a flagship 6,000-square-metre Gorilla Kingdom is a flagship 6,000-square-metre (65,000 sq ft) Gorilla Kingdom is a flagship 6,000-square-metre (65,000 sq ft) exhibit which opened in Easter 2007. It is a 5.3-million pound development that took 18 months to build, was launched by Duke of Edinburgh Gorilla Kingdom is a flagship 6,000-square-metre (65,000 sq ft) exhibit which opened in Easter 2007. It is a 5.3-million pound development that took 18 months to build, was launched by Duke of Edinburgh on 29 March Gorilla Kingdom is a flagship 6,000-square-metre (65,000 sq ft) exhibit which opened in Easter 2007. It is a 5.3-million pound development that took 18 months to build, was launched by Duke of Edinburgh on 29 March and opened to the public on 30 March Gorilla Kingdom is a flagship 6,000-square-metre (65,000 sq ft) exhibit which opened in Easter 2007. It is a 5.3-million pound development that took 18 months to build, was launched by Duke of Edinburgh on 29 March and opened to the public on 30 March 2007.

It replaces old monkey It replaces old monkey enclosures with a giant moated island and indoor gym that is home to a group of western lowland gorillas It replaces old monkey enclosures with a giant moated island and indoor gym that is home to a group of western lowland gorillas. There are currently four gorillas in the enclosure: E, Zaire, a 32-year-old female, Effie, a 14-year-old female, and a male brought in from Chessington It replaces old monkey enclosures with a giant moated island and indoor gym that is home to a group of western lowland gorillas. There are currently four gorillas in the enclosure: E, Zaire, a 32-year-old male; Zaire, a 32-year-old female, Effie, a 14-year-old female, and a male brought in from Chessington monkeys.



The exhibit is also home to monkeys home to monkeys



Into Africa opened on [1 April](#) 2006, and features a high level viewing platform to bring the public face-to-face with the giraffes. Zebras were reintroduced to the Zoo after an 8-year absence, joining the [Rothschild giraffe](#) in the main enclosure.

After a survey found that 95% of visitors preferred enclosures without bars the decision was made to use glass windows instead, to bring the public closer to the animals and gain a more intimate experience.

[African hunting dogs](#) African hunting dogs can be observed through periscopes and observation pods while other species include [warthog](#) African hunting dogs can be observed through periscopes and observation pods while other species include warthog, [okapi](#) African hunting dogs can be observed through periscopes and observation pods while other species include warthog, okapi and [red river hogs](#).

The Komodo Dragon enclosure, opened on [12 July](#) 2004 by [Sir David Attenborough](#), mimics a dry river bed with a curving 20-metre (66 ft) glass wall. There is one adult dragon, Raja, and two babies. The [Komodo dragons](#) were introduced as part of the European Conservation Breeding Program.

When the Mappin Terraces opened in 1913, it was the first time that members of the public could see animals in an [arctic](#) When the Mappin Terraces opened in 1913,



When visitors visit the aquarium they do not realize that they are in fact walking underneath the artificial mountains and the reservoirs that hold the water for the aquarium.

Meet The Monkeys is a 1,500-square-metre (16,000 sq ft) enclosure which was opened on 21 March Meet The Monkeys is a 1,500-square-metre (16,000 sq ft) enclosure which was opened on 21 March 2005 Meet The Monkeys is a 1,500-square-metre (16,000 sq ft) enclosure which was opened on 21 March 2005 by Noel Fielding Meet The Monkeys is a 1,500-square-metre (16,000 sq ft) enclosure which was opened on 21 March 2005 by Noel Fielding and Julian Barratt Meet The Monkeys is a 1,500-square-metre (16,000 sq ft) enclosure which was opened on 21 March 2005 by Noel Fielding and Julian Barratt, of The Mighty Boosh Meet The Monkeys is a 1,500-square-metre (16,000 sq ft) enclosure which was opened on 21 March 2005 by Noel Fielding and Julian Barratt, of The Mighty Boosh. The exhibit is open, with no roof, and no boundaries between the public and animals. Designed to recreate the Bolivian Meet The Monkeys is a 1,500-square-metre (16,000 sq ft) enclosure which was opened on 21 March 2005 by Noel Fielding and Julian Barratt, of The Mighty Boosh. The exhibit is open, with no roof, and no boundaries between the public and animals. Designed to recreate the Bolivian Rainforest Meet The Monkeys is a 1,500-square-metre (16,000 sq ft) enclosure which was opened on 21 March 2005 by Noel Fielding and Julian Barratt, of The Mighty Boosh. The exhibit is open, with no roof, and no boundaries between the public and animals. Designed to recreate the Bolivian Rainforest, it holds black-capped squirrel monkeys which are part of the European Conservation Breeding Program.

The Zoos outer boundary had to be increased to accommodate the new enclosure, encroaching into Becontree Park to the south east.





Since apes left the building the device has not been used for several years.

In 2002 a pair of Aye Ayes In 2002 a pair of Aye Ayes moved into the inside area from Jersey Zoo In 2002 a pair of Aye Ayes moved into the inside area from Jersey Zoo on breeding loan and since the outside area has been used to hold a male group of Ring-tailed lemurs.

The Snowdon Aviary was designed by Antony Armstrong-Jones, 1st Earl of Snowdon The Snowdon Aviary was designed by Antony Armstrong-Jones, 1st Earl of Snowdon, Cedric Price The Snowdon Aviary was designed by Antony Armstrong-Jones, 1st Earl of Snowdon, Cedric Price and Frank Newby The Snowdon Aviary was designed by Antony Armstrong-Jones, 1st Earl of Snowdon, Cedric Price and Frank Newby, and built in 1964. Over the years a variety of birds have been kept in the aviary from birds of prey The Snowdon Aviary was designed by Antony Armstrong-Jones, 1st Earl of Snowdon, Cedric Price and Frank Newby, and built in 1964. Over the years a variety of birds have been kept in the aviary from birds of prey to waterfowl The Snowdon Aviary was designed by Antony Armstrong-Jones, 1st Earl of Snowdon, Cedric Price and Frank Newby, and built in 1964. Over the years a variety of birds have been kept in the aviary from birds of prey to waterfowl. The current birds in the aviary include green peafowl The Snowdon Aviary was designed by Antony Armstrong-Jones, 1st Earl of Snowdon, Cedric Price and Frank Newby, and built in 1964. Over the years a variety of birds have been kept in the aviary from birds of prey to waterfowl. The current birds in the aviary include green peafowl, sacred ibis The Snowdon Aviary was designed by Antony Armstrong-Jones, 1st Earl of Snowdon, Cedric Price and Frank Newby, and built in 1964. Over the years a variety of birds have been kept in the aviary from birds of prey to waterfowl. The current birds in the aviary include green peafowl, sacred ibis, little egret The Snowdon Aviary was designed by Antony





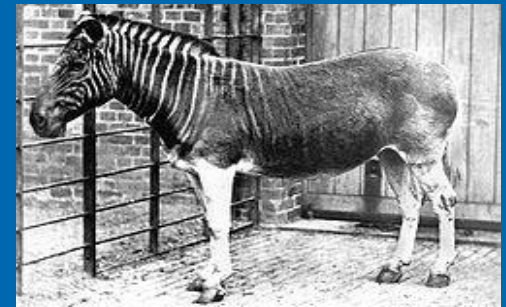
There are many other animals that are not part of a specific exhibit, these include; [gibbons](#) There are many other animals that are not part of a specific exhibit, these include; gibbons, [vultures](#) There are many other animals that are not part of a specific exhibit, these include; gibbons, vultures, [tigers](#) There are many other animals that are not part of a specific exhibit, these include; gibbons, vultures, tigers, [lions](#) There are many other animals that are not part of a specific exhibit, these include; gibbons, vultures, tigers, lions, [servals](#) There are many other animals that are not part of a specific exhibit, these include; gibbons, vultures, tigers, lions, servals, [parrots](#) There are many other animals that are not part of a specific exhibit, these include; gibbons, vultures, tigers, lions, servals, parrots, [spider monkeys](#) There are many other animals that are not part of a specific exhibit, these include: gibbons, vultures, tigers, lions, servals, parrots, spider monkeys, [meerkats](#) There are many other animals that are not part of a specific exhibit, these include; gibbons, vultures, tigers, lions, servals, parrots, spider monkeys, [otters](#) There are many other animals that are not part of a specific exhibit, these include; gibbons, vultures, tigers, lions, servals, parrots, spider monkeys, [guinea pigs](#) There are many other animals that are not part of a specific exhibit, these include; gibbons, vultures, tigers, lions, servals, parrots, spider monkeys, [meerkats](#) There are many other animals that are not part of a specific exhibit, these include; gibbons, vultures, tigers, lions, servals, parrots, spider monkeys, [otters](#), lemurs, aye-eyes and [tapirs](#)



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Well – known residents



Throughout its history the Zoo has had many well-known residents. These may have been scientifically important individuals or simply beloved by the public. The Zoo was home to the only living quagga before the species became extinct in the wild due to hunting in southern Africa. Another now extinct species the Zoo held was a number of thylacines, or marsupial wolves.

The first hippopotamus since the Roman Empire, and the first in England since prehistoric times, arrived at London Zoo in May 1850 as a gift from the Ottoman Viceroy of Egypt in exchange for some greyhounds and deerhounds. The hippo was named Obaysch and led to a doubling of the Zoo's visitors that year.

In 1865, Jumbo, the largest elephant known at the time, was transferred to the Zoo from Jardin des Plantes in Paris. His name, possibly from Jambo, swahili for hello, became an epithet for



Guy Guy, a western lowland gorilla Guy, a western lowland gorilla, arrived at the Zoo on Guy Fawkes Night Guy, a western lowland gorilla, arrived at the Zoo on Guy Fawkes Night (hence the name) 1947 from Paris Zoo, and lived at the Zoo until his death in 1978. Over his 32-year life he became one of the Zoos best-loved residents. After years of trying to find a mate, in 1969 five-year-old Lomie arrived from Chessington Zoo Guy, a western lowland gorilla, arrived at the Zoo on Guy Fawkes Night (hence the name) 1947 from Paris Zoo, and lived at the Zoo until his death in 1978. Over his 32-year life he became one of the Zoos best-loved residents. After years of trying to find a mate, in 1969 five-year-old Lomie arrived from Chessington Zoo. They were kept separated for a year to adjust to each other, until they were finally united. Although they got on well together they never produced any offspring. In 1982 Guy was commemorated by a bronze statue, sculptured by William Timyn, in the Zoos Barclay Court.

On 27 November On 27 November 1949 On 27 November 1949 Brumas became the first polar bear On 27 November 1949 Brumas became the first polar bear to be successfully bred at the Zoo, and immediately became a major attraction with the public. This led to a rise in attendance to over 3 million in 1950 – a figure that was corrected at the time, leading the public to believe the bear was a male. Eighteen years later, on 1 December On 27 November 1949 Brumas became the first polar bear to be successfully bred at the Zoo, and immediately became a major attraction with the public. This led to a rise in attendance to over 3 million in 1950 – a figure that was corrected at the time, leading the public to believe the bear was a male. Eighteen years





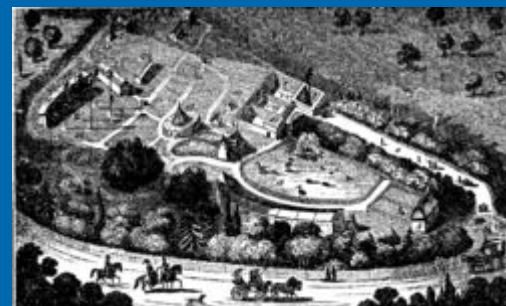
The Zoo's first giant panda The Zoo's first giant panda, Chi Chi, arrived in 1958. Although originally destined for an American zoo, Washington The Zoo's first giant panda, Chi Chi, arrived in 1958. Although originally destined for an American zoo, Washington had ceased all trade with communist The Zoo's first giant panda, Chi Chi, arrived in 1958. Although originally destined for an American zoo, Washington had ceased all trade with communist China The Zoo's first giant panda, Chi Chi, arrived in 1958. Although originally destined for an American zoo, Washington had ceased all trade with communist China and so Chi Chi was refused entry to the United States. In the interests of conservation, ZSL had stated they would not encourage the collection of wild pandas. However, when it was pointed out that Chi Chi had already been collected her purchase was approved, and she immediately becomes the star attraction at London Zoo. As the only giant panda in the west she was the inspiration of Peter Scott The Zoo's first giant panda, Chi Chi, arrived in 1958. Although originally destined for an American zoo, Washington had ceased all trade with communist China and so Chi Chi was refused entry to the United States. In the inter



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Architecture at the Zoo



Since its earliest days, the zoo has prided itself on appointing leading architects Since its earliest days, the zoo has prided itself on appointing leading architects to design its buildings, today it holds two Grade I, and eight Grade II listed structures.

The initial grounds were laid out in 1828 by Decimus Burton The initial grounds were laid out in 1828 by Decimus Burton, the Zoos first official architect from 1826 to 1841, made famous for his work on the Coliseum Theatre The initial grounds were laid out in 1828 by Decimus Burton, the Zoos first official architect from 1826 to 1841, made famous for his work on the Coliseum Theatre and Marble Arch. Burton's work began with the Clock Tower in 1828 above what was then the llama house, which today is the first aid kiosk.

In 1830 the East Tunnel, which linked the north and south parts of the zoo together for the first time, was completed, which also acted as a bomb shelter during World War II. Burton concluded his work in 1837 with the Giraffe House, which, due to its functional design, still remains in use as the Zoos giraffe enclosure in the Into Africa exhibit.

After Burton, Sir Peter Chalmers Mitchell After Burton, Sir Peter Chalmers Mitchell and John James Joass were appointed to design the Mappin Terraces. Completed in 1914, the Mappin Terraces imitates a mountain landscape to provide a naturalistic habitat for bears and other mountain wildlife.

In 1933 the Round House, designed by Berthold Lubetkin In 1933 the Round House, designed by Berthold Lubetkin's Tecton Architectural Group In 1933 the Round House, designed by Berthold Lubetkin's Tecton Architectural Group to house gorillas, was one of the first modernist style buildings to be built in Britain. The following year the Penguin Pool, also designed by Tecton, was opened; both are now grade I listed.

Filming at the Zoo



Many films Many films and television programs Many films and television programs have made use of London Zoo as a film set. In 2000, the Burmese python Many films and television programs have made use of London Zoo as a film set. In 2000, the Burmese python scene from the 2001 film Many films and television programs have made use of London Zoo as a film set. In 2000, the Burmese python scene from the 2001 film Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone Many films and television programs have made use of London Zoo as a film set. In 2000, the Burmese python scene from the 2001 film Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone was filmed at the Zoo's Reptile House. In the film the inhabitant of the tank is a Burmese python, however in reality it is home to a black mamba Many films and television programs have made use of London Zoo as a film set. In 2000, the Burmese python scene from the 2001 film Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone was filmed at the Zoo's Reptile House. In the film the inhabitant of the tank is a Burmese python, however in reality it is home to a black mamba. A plaque beside the enclosure commemorates the event.

A couple of scenes were filmed here for the ITVA couple of scenes were filmed here for the ITV series Primeval A couple of scenes were filmed here for the ITV series Primeval. The first was a confrontation between Helen Cutter A couple of scenes were filmed here for the ITV series Primeval. The first was a confrontation between Helen Cutter and Claudia Brown A couple of scenes were



In the Exploitin episode of the [fifth series](#) of [Absolutely Fabulous](#), Edina and Patsy steal Saffy's new-born infant for a [Jean-Paul Gaultier](#) fashion shoot at the Zoo.

In the final scene from the [1987 film](#) [Withnail and I](#) a sad Withnail is shown standing in the pouring rain next to the former wolf enclosure, declaiming the speech [What a piece of work is a man](#) from [Hamlet](#).

Part of the [1985 film](#) [Turtle Diary](#), based on the novel by [Russell Hoban](#) and starring [Ben Kingsley](#) and [Glenda Jackson](#), was also filmed here; the film follows a plan to help two of the turtles escape from the Zoo.

The [music video](#) for the [Talk Talk](#) song 'It's my life' was filmed at London Zoo in 1984. The video was used as a statement against the banality of [lip-syncing](#) and includes mostly footage from [nature documentaries](#) with shots of [lead singer](#)

