

Table 3: Current living Common Hippopotamus population in Australasian region

Stb #	Sex	Local ID	Name	Age	Location	% known	F	MK	Offspring
1025	M	750020	Albert	46	ADELAIDE	100	0	0.1567	15
1029	F	750021	Susie	43	ADELAIDE	100	0	0.1642	15
1037	F	760005	Suzie	41	DUBBO	100	0	0.2090	9
1042	F	MH0175	Faith	36	AUCKLAND	100	0	0.1549	14
1048	M	840004	Harold	33	WERRIBEE	100	0.1250	0.2425	21
1066	M	850026	Happy2	25	DUBBO	100	0.1250	0.2052	4
1067	F	890046	Rumbin†	25	DUBBO	100	0.1250	0.1754	4
1144	F	HA0001	Morsey	24	CAIRNSWSR	100	0.2500	0.1194	3
1076	m	MH0188	Fudge	23	AUCKLAND	100	0.2500	0.1446	0
1091	F	900222	Primrose	21	WERRIBEE	87.5	0	0.1727	4
1092	F	900248	Brindabella	21	WERRIBEE	100	0.1875	0.2183	2
1103	M	960041	Mana	15	DUBBO	100	0.3125	0.2211	0
1107	F	990147	Nile	12	DUBBO	100	0.3125	0.2211	0
1179	F	HA0003	Cuddles	10	CAIRNSWSR	100	0.2813	0.1432	0
1178	F	A30001	Tulip	8	WERRIBEE	93.8	0.3214	0.2229	0
1183	M	HA0004	Tippi	8	CAIRNSWSR	100	0.2813	0.1432	1
1180	,F	A80025	Lotus	3	WERRIBEE	93.8	0.3214	0.2229	0

† Rumbin was euthanized on the 4th October 2011.

Cincinnati Zoo – 8 June 2011

RICHARD J. REYNOLDS

I would like to describe what was my all time zoo experience. It occurred on June 8, 2011 at Cincinnati Zoo.

On that date, Ken Kawata, his wife Jean, and I had the happening of a lifetime at Cincinnati zoo. Early that morning Mike Dulaney, its Curator of Mammals, kindly took us to the inside enclosures (off exhibit area) of the two Sumatran rhinos (male Ipuh and his female offspring, Suci). There we had the thrill of petting the two rhinos and feeding apple slices to the female. They are weighed each day and register between 1,400 and 1,500 lbs each. The male is losing his eyesight and now rarely goes outside.



Photo taken by Richard Reynolds in 1989 in Cincinnati zoo

There was a time when I never thought I'd ever see a living Sumatran rhino let alone touch and feed one. Ken and I reflected out loud on the amazement of the experience. After all, in the entire world there is only one other Sumatran in a zoo-like environment - - a male named Harapan at White Oak Plantation on the St Mary's River near Yulee in northwestern FL (It's actually on the GA - FL border.) He too was sired by the Cincinnati male, Ipuh. Alas, Emi, the breeding female, died in Cincinnati in 2009. Sumatran rhinos may be seen in quasi-captivity in special reserves in Sumatra (Way Kambas) and Sabah/Borneo (Tabin) but not in zoos in SE Asia or anywhere else as far as I know.

The Cincinnati zoo rightly garnered high praise for breeding these critically endangered animals. When the first calf, male Andalas, was born in 2001, it marked the first breeding success the species in a zoo since 1889 when a captive bred calf was born in the Alipore zoo in Calcutta. In 2007 Andalas was sent to the Way Kambas sanctuary in Sumatra. There he bred a female, but the calf was either stillborn or miscarried early this year, as best I recall. But, many of you already know all this. It seems to me that Sumatrans are in desperate need of the emerging techniques for artificial insemination in rhinos. According to Kees Rookmaaker's Rhino Resource Center (August 2011 newsletter) there are now only 216 Sumatrans left in the wild. I do not know how that exact number was determined. Be that as it may, Sumatrans are in deadly peril.

I should add that the Sumatrans I have seen in Cincinnati have not been covered with thick hair as is sometimes seen, notably Subur who lived in Copenhagen zoo from 1959 to 1972 (I've only seen photos of her). That having been said, the Cincinnati animals do have noticeable amounts of hair along the belly and around the legs and ears. Perhaps the density of the hair is a seasonal thing in a temperate climate.

Sumatrans seem to develop eye problems when exposed to bright sunlight for prolonged times - no doubt owing to their native habitat in the deep forests (jungles) of Malaya, Sumatra, and Borneo - and perhaps also in Burma should there be any of them left in that cloistered land (I use the old names for these places). So, at huge expense (over a million bucks if I recall correctly), Cincinnati installed protective awnings over the whole of the outside rhino enclosure. Supported by huge, discreetly located columns, they are tastefully done and the awnings are high up so as not to interfere with the public's view.

I had not been to the Cincinnati zoo since 1997 so it was an eye opener for me. In May 1997 my wife Delia and I entered from the eastern side (off Dury Ave.) where there was large parking lot on the zoo's side of the street. It is no longer there. The zoo's main entrance has been moved to the southern side. Where we parked 14 years ago is now a cheetah run which we did not visit. In fact we did not see everything, and there is a lot to see in this zoo. The temperature was in the mid-90s F (30s C) on the day of our visit and very humid. That wore us out. Ken and I are both septuagenarians - Ken three years behind me. Hard to admit but the years are catching up.

The new entrance is on Vine St. There is a huge parking lot across the street from it. It is on much lower ground than the zoo. This zoo, like many in America, is located on hilly terrain. The spaces in the new parking lot are covered by huge awnings supported by pillars. These are not ordinary awnings. No, they are solar panels and provide some 20% of the energy used by the zoo, while providing shade for the parked automobiles, a blessing on a hot day. The July-August 2011 issue of *International Zoo News* [58-4 pp. 271-272] carried a story about the system.

Access to the zoo from this parking lot is via a bridge over Vine St. Escalators and stairs take one up to the walkway level. A new entry village is located at the end of the walkway, comprised of attractive gift shops, food courts, et al.

The Sumatran rhinos are in a row of enclosures in what is now called "Wildlife Canyon." It is located near the new Vine St entrance and features rare hoofed mammals. In addition to the rhinos, we saw red river hogs, Sichuan takins,

Przewalski horse, Bactrian camel, and an emu. The last named occupies an enclosure that showed zebra duikers when Delia and I were there in 1995 and 1997. There were no Bornean bearded pigs on this visit. Delia and I saw them there in '95. What aggressive animals they were, leaping at us as we went past their indoor enclosure under the guidance of Steve Romo.

On the northern side of the zoo is the newish "Manatee Springs." It is the best exhibit I have seen for those mammals. They (3 examples from Florida) are shown in an indoor aquarium through an expansive, thick acrylic window of the sort now popular in aquaria. They were in crystal clear water and were disporting themselves to full advantage for the audience.

Siegfried and Roy's white lions of Timbavati are next to the manatee exhibit. This hilly enclosure housed white tiger(s) when I was there in 1997. As is more or less well known, Siegfried Fischbacher and Roy Horn, both natives of Germany, are illusionists and animal trainers who became world famous for their performances at Las Vegas' Mirage Hotel. Theirs was the most popular show ever in Vegas. It was produced and promoted by Feld Entertainment, which also owns and produces the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus.

Siegfried and Roy used white tigers, snow leopard and white lions in their acts. They first obtained white lions in 1995 from Johannesburg zoo. By 1996 their group of white lions had grown to seven. Here is one of them (Roy Horn at the left) --



Photo courtesy of Wikipedia

Alas, in 2003 Roy was attacked and severely injured by a white tiger named Montecore. It happened on stage and put an end to the show at the Mirage.

Around 1998 (I believe that's when) Siegfried and Roy sent some white lions to the Cincinnati zoo. Zoo purists deplore the likes of white lions, white tigers, and albino alligators, but to the great unwashed – meaning most zoo visitors – they are big hits. Never having seen a white lion, I wanted to take a look. The two lions I saw were a light brown in color, not the alabaster white expected.

Disappointed, I felt like those who, in 1884, had paid to see Barnum's sacred white elephant, Toung Taloung, when the circus came to town. He was the genuine article from King Thibaw Min of Burma [He was deposed when the British took over Burma in 1885.] The King provided documents authenticating Toung Taloung's bona fides. Barnum spent a fortune to obtain him. From Burma, T. Taloung went first to London where he was shown in its zoo before being shipped to Barnum in America. But, the public saw only a rather ordinary looking elephant, perhaps a slightly lighter color and with patches of discolored skin, but certainly not the "polar bear white" suggested in Barnum's advertising. Toung Taloung was Barnum's biggest flop; he did not suffer many of them.

Cincinnati has several nocturnal exhibits. One of them, the former feline building, is now given over to the nighttime. We could make out the two aardwolves, aardvark, sand cat, clouded leopard and potto but strained in vain to see the Pallas cats and others.

This house once housed more felines than I have ever seen in one place. In 1997 I counted 18 taxa and 14 in 1989, including marbled cat and Persian leopards on that visit. And those totals did not include felines to be seen elsewhere in the zoo such as king and regular spotted cheetahs, African lions, Bengal and Indo-Chinese tigers, and margay cat.

The common spotted leopard from Africa or South Asia was once a staple of zoo collections. No more! Some ten or more years ago Marvin Jones told me that snow leopards outnumbered them. That would have seemed preposterous in 1947, just to pick a year when that adjective would apply. I last saw the common ones at the Baltimore zoo in 2005. I believe they were Africans (*panthera p. pardus*). It was like seeing old friends. Simplistic in design, their exhibit had a nice grassy lawn with some climbing places and a house into which they could be put at night. The whole was surrounded by a metal fence and covered with mesh. One could go right up to the fence with the leopards just a few feet a way on the lawn. There was no immersion frou-frou designed to make it difficult to see the animals. Clin Keeling! – where are you when I need you.

If the common spotted leopard is now rare in zoos, the black or melanistic version has all but disappeared, at least in the USA. There was once a time when black leopards were prized exhibits in zoos - - almost like they were a different species. Despite the fact that they are the same animal as the normal spotted one, they have proved much more difficult to train for the arena. That is the testimony of such notable trainers as Alfred Court (France); Dickie Chipperfield, Jim Clubb, and Bailey Fossett (UK), Gerd Siemonite and Hanno Colden (Germany), and Willie Storey (USA).

In 2009 Jim Clubb wrote me of his experiences with them as follows –

Both Dickie Chipperfield and Gerd Siemonite agreed with me that the black leopard was far more difficult and dangerous to train than the spotted one. The black ones are naturally not very well camouflaged in the wild and this is my theory for them being more dangerous. The males are even more dangerous than the females. Bailey Fossett (Sir Robert Fossett's Circus), who as you know trained a mixed group of small cats; also felt the black ones were far more unpredictable and dangerous. Even when they are fully trained they change for no reason at all. I had it happen to me on various occasions. Even animals that you could pick up and carry would sometimes change their character to the point where you could never touch them again, sometimes never work them again. Gerd Siemonite theorized they were shortsighted, which I think is very plausible.

The change of the environment can upset these animals so easily. When they get nervous they either freeze or lie on the floor or attack you just like if they've just been taken from the jungle. Often they do both. I have been able to pick up a completely wild animal and carry it when it has been in this state of mind. As soon I put it down, if I hadn't been quick it would have had me. I have had about 25 through my hands over the years. The two males we have at present [2009] are probably the best we've ever had. The best female I had was from David Tetzlaaf, an excellent and superb leopard trainer, equal to any of us. Dickie Chipperfield's worst accident was with black leopards and so was mine."

Perhaps there is a more scientific explanation for the behavior of an animal that, seemingly, should not be so different from its normal colored conspecific. Whatever, the last black leopards I saw in a zoo were in the Bronx on 21 March 1997. There were two of them in the Tropical Asia House. Jim Doherty, a swell fellow and head of the zoo's mammal department (since retired), showed them to me. He told me that the Federal government had seized them as an illegal animal shipment, and they wound up at the Bronx zoo. But, enough of black leopards.

I do not know what became of nocturnal house at the Cincinnati zoo that I visited previously – perhaps it is now something else. It was a smaller building but I saw some notable rarities there in 1989 and 1997, to wit – brush tailed bettong, banded linsang, Coquerel's fat tailed, dwarf, and lesser mouse lemurs, slow loris, Philippine tarsier, and three striped night monkey or *douroucouli* (*A. trivirgatus*).

In the Tropical African House we found more nocturnal exhibits. We really strained trying to see the aye-aye but to no avail. That's another animal I once thought I'd never see. In fact around 1960 the species was said by some to be extinct. Then came the Duke Univ. Primate Center in Durham, NC (also Durrell's Jersey Zoo in UK and Vincennes zoo in Paris). All of them obtained aye-eyes. Though not plenteous in number, they have become rather familiar captive animals over the ensuing years with pretty good breeding results. When I visited the Duke Center September 19, 1990 staff member Steve Bevington took me into their spacious, tall, darkened aviary-like cage. There were three of them. One

came down to check me out, giving off a “chuff-chuff” grunt as it approached while nervously drumming that long skeletal-like finger. Edgar Allen Poe could not fantasize a more bizarre-looking animal. In fact, one of the Duke specimens I saw was named for him – “Poe.”



Not to be missed, *Daubentonia madagascariensis*, by Tom Junek

A cursory check was made of the reptile house. Opened in 1875, Ken said that it is the oldest zoo animal exhibit building still in operation in America. The vivaria are arranged in a circle around a center pool which held Chinese alligators on this visit.

We went into the old aviary building which now memorializes the passenger pigeon and Carolina parakeet. “Martha,” the last living passenger pigeon on earth, died at the zoo in 1914, and “Incas,” the last Carolina parakeet, died there in 1918 – all of which is well known to the zoo historians among you.

Next door is the World of Insects. Without a doubt it had the biggest and cleverest display of leaf cutting ants I’ve ever seen. The “garden” whereat the leaves are deposited to grow fungus is on the opposite side of the building from where the ants cut the leaves. They are in a constant procession, by the thousands I suppose, back and forth through a twisting and turning acrylic tube between the two sites. The tube goes up and over the entrance door.

We walked all the way around the Hagenbeck-styled former African veldt (built in 1935). It is characterized by barless enclosures with the centerpiece being a faux rock covered off-exhibit barn. But, only a few of its occupants were on exhibit in the paddocks when we circled them. Repair and maintenance work was under way, and equipment was prowling the paddocks on the western side. We did see two fine Grevy zebras and the male black rhino – but no bongos, okapis or

Indian rhinos. I do not think it still exhibits the giant elands that I saw there in 1997. Mike Dulaney would have taken us inside the barn, but he had to go into meetings as soon as he finished showing us the Sumatran rhinos. Keeper Steve Romo took my wife and me inside in 1995.

Cincinnati has two female Indian rhinos. (I will continue calling them by that name despite the now preferred “greater one horned rhino,” if for no other reason than that two words are more economical than four.) Both females have been artificially inseminated. Both calves were full term. However, one was stillborn and the other survived only a few hours or days, if I recall correctly. But this does show that AI can be made to work in Indians.

Speaking of antelopes, US zoos no longer keep the many taxa they once did. I have never visited San Diego’s Wild Animal Park which may have housed the most anywhere in USA. Antelopes were a favorite of Jim Dolan. The most antelope species I have ever seen in one place was at Tampa’s Busch Gardens in 1966, 33 taxa.

The decade of the 1960s was a golden one for importing exotic animals to USA. That was before the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) or the USA’s Endangered Species Act, both of which went into effect in 1973. Most assuredly it was before the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) gained control of zoo collections via its taxon advisory groups and species survival plans.

High numbers of antelope species continued to be shown at Busch Gardens when I was there in 1975 and 1983, with roan antelopes having being added to the mix. For many years from the late 1930s to the early 1940s, only Brookfield, among American zoos, showed a roan. It was a single animal (Baker’s roan from the Sudan) that as best I can tell arrived in 1937 and was there until about 1943. There were none at Brookfield when I first visited there in 1960, meaning no roans in the USA at that time. The first post-War roan in USA arrived at Oklahoma City zoo on December 27, 1962. I saw my first examples at Denver zoo in 1973.

The next largest number of antelope species that I have seen was San Antonio in 1995 where I counted 17 taxa. San Antonio Director McCusker told me later that I should have looked him up in advance because he could have shown me many more antelope species that he had off exhibit.

In summary, antelopes just do not seem to be as featured as they once were. Maybe there’s a mentality of “seen one, seen ‘em all.” Even the Barnum & Bailey Circus had 10 taxa in its traveling menagerie in England in 1899. That’s more than Zoo Atlanta (for example) has shown altogether over its history.

Cincinnati’s great apes were not easily seen on the day of our visit. It was quite hot, and they were taking advantage of the shade afforded by the ample foliage and plantings in their enclosures. We did see a few gorillas in their special exhibit next to the passenger pigeon memorial. In Jungle Trails on the northern side of the zoo were some bonobos and orangutans though I cannot recall seeing a single one of the latter. We noted two species of colobus, Angolans (in the Jungle Trails exhibit) and some larger and more beautiful examples of the *colobus guereza*. They were in an outdoor cage near the gorillas. Jungle Trails did not seem as rich with rarities as when Delia and I were there in 1995. On that visit, we saw

shoebill stork and some proboscis monkeys, the latter on loan from the Bronx.

Also missing this time were the douc langurs I had noted in 1989 and 1990, or at least I did not see them. They had been in what was described as the old ape house, near the bears.

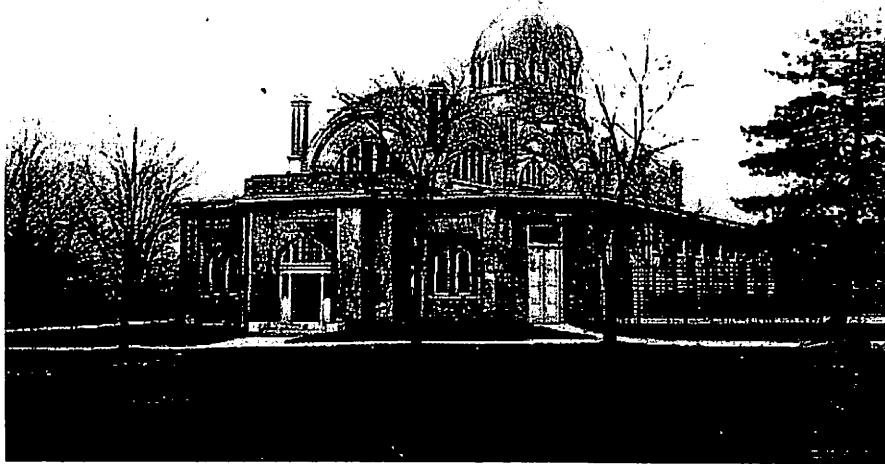
Exiting the Jungle Trails exhibit took us past the bears where we saw polar, spectacled, and American blacks. We were now really feeling the effect of the heat and the hike. Heading in the direction of the former main entrance we took lunch in the Zoo Café and sat for a while to rest in blessed air conditioned comfort.

A brief look through the nearby bird house showed both penguins (King and African to name two) and puffin (horned). Birds are not my forte, though I can tell the difference between a curassow and a cassowary. Incidentally, the bird house did have a northern helmeted curassow.

Across from the bird house was the sea lion exhibit. We did not check it out. I would have if it still showed the walruses of before. They had two fine adults when I was there in 1989 and 1990. They had been replaced by three young ones when Delia and I went there in 1997. Now there are none. Walruses continue to be rather difficult to sustain in captivity. The only successful breeding of them in USA, as far I know, were at Marineland of the Pacific, Palos Verdes, CA (1975 birth – the first in USA) and SeaWorld San Diego (to which the Marineland animals were later moved) and more recently the NY Aquarium, Coney Island.

On our last lap we headed for the famous and historic 1906 elephant house. Along the way we passed (but did not investigate) a new to me giraffe exhibit.

16723. *Herbivora Building, Cincinnati Zoological Gardens.*
Largest and Most Complete Concrete Animal Building in the World.
Length 150 ft., Width 75 ft., Height 75 ft.



The 1906 elephant house now houses only Asian elephants (1.3). The breeding male Sabu has a yard that occupies the entire north side of the elephant house. This is a fine male. In a conversation with Director Ed Maruska during our 1997

visit, he told me that he had gotten Sabu in 1991 from Perak Malaya though his friend Mohammed Khan, a noted Malaysian wildlife official. Sabu has sired two calves. The first was born in Cincinnati in 1998, but it died of the dreadful herpes virus. A second calf was born in 2006 in Dickerson Park Zoo, Springfield, MO and was still there at last account.



The other side of the building is home to three female Asians with a much bigger outdoor enclosure. Ken, Jean, and I tried to go inside the historic old building but the doors were locked.

On my visits to the zoo in 1989, '90, '95, and '97 the elephant house was home to a wide variety of large mammals. Such was once common for elephant or pachyderm houses in USA. On one or more of those visits I saw in the elephant house – Indian rhino, giraffes, okapis, Malayan tapir, common hippo, and African elephant.

Today there are no hippos of either species in Cincinnati. Such is a trend in American zoos.

I can recall a time when a zoo was marked as a major one by the exhibition of the “big four” – elephant, hippo, rhino, and giraffe. The last of them to arrive alive in America was the hippo (1860). The others predated it by many years – Asian elephant (1796), Indian rhino (1830), and giraffe (1837 or 1838 – the literature differs as to which of those years saw the first one, but it was one or the other).

In 1989 and '90 the yard where Sabu now exercises was shared by both an African elephant and a common hippo, like so –

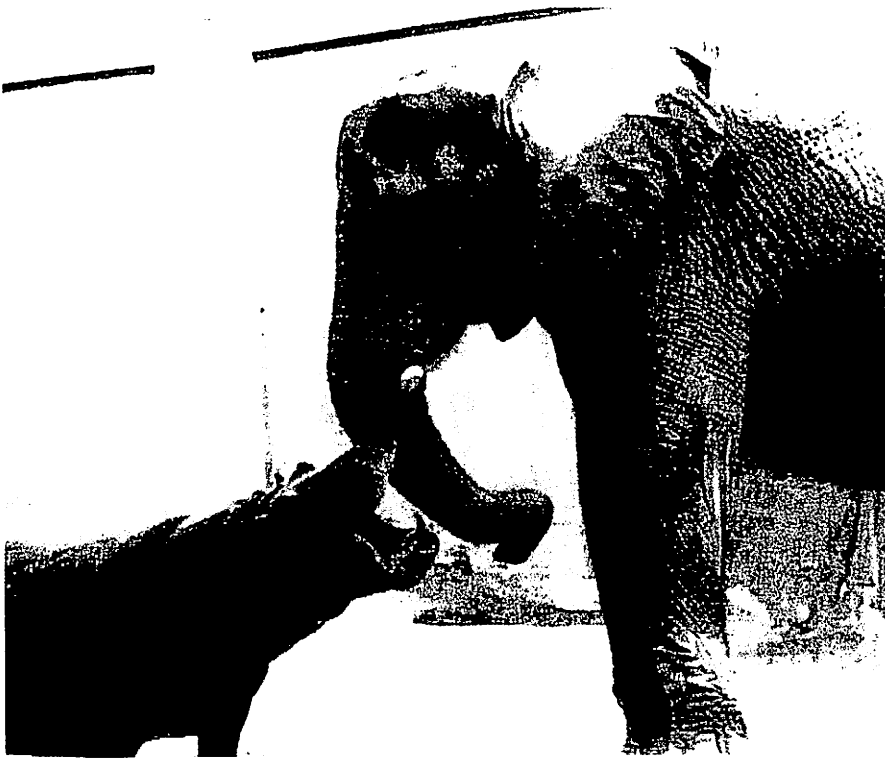


Photo from the Richard Reynolds collection

With a farewell to the old elephant house we headed for the parking lot and the car under the solar panel awning. We were hot and tired but stimulated by a great zoo day, indeed.

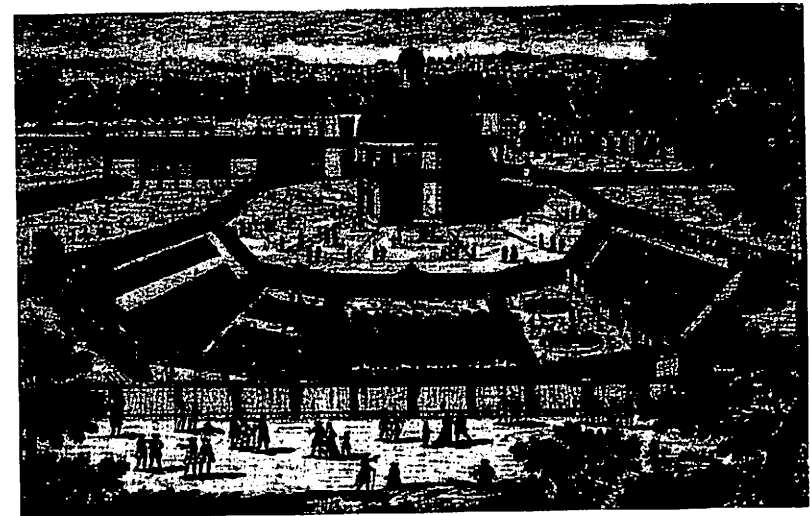
Richard Reynolds,
Atlanta, GA -----

Paper begun June 2011, completed November 1, 2011

MAKING A PILGRIMAGE TO PARIS **KEN KAWATA**

The tight control by the reigning warlords was slowly easing, as Japan was being reborn as a modern nation in the late nineteenth century. In January 1867 the feudal government sent 56 boxes of insect specimens to Paris for the World Exposition, escorted by a group of delegates. In this group was Yoshio Tanaka, later to be known as the father of museums of Japan. He visited the Jardin des Plantes which included the Menagerie. One can easily imagine how Tanaka, in his twenties, was lost in wonder at the sight of this famed institution on that spring day in Paris. In March 1882 the first zoo in Japan, modeled after the Menagerie as a part of the national museum, was opened in Ueno Park, Tokyo (Kawata, 2001). In 1951 Tadamichi Koga, Ueno Zoo director, paid a visit to the Menagerie (Koga, 1952). Then in 1963 Tokio Sasaki, Kyoto Zoo director, made a poignant pilgrimage to the Menagerie; in his account he described how he traced the footsteps of Tanaka (Sasaki and Sasaki, 1977). As a Koga protégé, I felt it was time for me to pay a humbling tribute to these men, and on 7 October 2011 my wife and I were on our way to the Menagerie.

From our hotel in the nearby Latin Quarter, narrow, meandering and often confusing streets lead to a brief stretch of the Rue de Lacedpede (more on him later) which terminates at the western edge of the Jardin des Plantes (the botanical garden), home to the Menagerie. The garden's outer boundaries border on streets named after luminary scientists of the day: Rue Cuvier to the north and Rue Buffon to the south, while Quai Saint-Bernard, paralleling the flow of the Seine, forms the east end of the garden.



Picture of the ménagerie circa 1810 provided by Jonas Livet

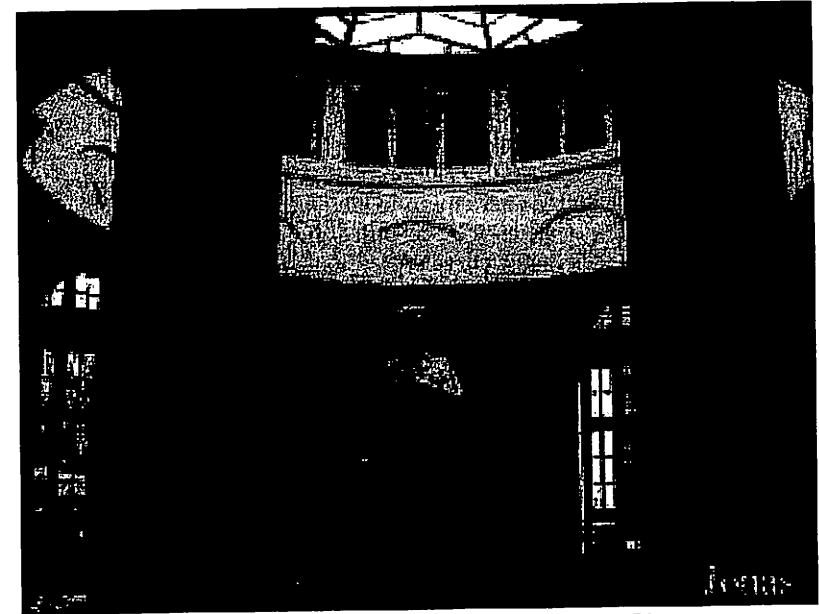
Once inside, the statue of Buffon greets the visitors in the pleasant garden. The campus of the Jardin des Plantes constitutes a cluster of institutions for anatomy, physiology, paleontology, and botany as well as the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle (natural history museum) and the Menagerie. Standing in the Menagerie, it is hard to be indifferent to history. In the seventeenth century Louis XIV established the royal menagerie at Versailles. After the Revolution, on 3 November 1793 the Paris police department ordered that animals be 'confiscated right away to the Jardin des Plantes', which started the transportation of animals. Thus began the Menagerie and its fascinating history, with the likes of Frederic and Georges Cuvier, through the turbulent period in France (e.g. Burkhardt, 2001). It is said that a trip between Versailles and Paris required a five-hour carriage ride in those days. The estate of Versailles, a huge complex of the palace and its gardens, epitomizes the rulers' confidence, power, wealth and flair. (Upon our visit on the previous day a guard pointed in the direction of the former menagerie site. In my mind, however, an image of a zoo did not seem to sit suitably or comfortably in this grandiose panorama.)

The early days of the Menagerie were often characterized by the works of prominent scholars: even limiting the scope to one division of zoology, herpetology, the accomplishments were remarkable (Murphy, 2009). For a long time it was the most important animal collection in Europe along with the London Zoo (Strehlow, 2001). As late as 1951 it had a wide variety of animals, including both African and Asian elephants behind thick metal bars (Koga, 1952). Kirchshofer (1968) also listed a rich assemblage of species including then-rare Chinese leopard, kiang, onager, goral, Palawan peacock pheasant, monkey-eating eagle, harpy eagle, and Goliath beetle in addition to the basic stock of popular zoo animals. The zoo world has changed, however, in more recent decades. Today the Menagerie's five hectares contain facilities that have been modified in accordance with the current exhibit and husbandry principles. As in many other European zoos, old-style exhibit units in serial arrangements, both indoor and outdoor, have been combined into fewer numbers by removing dividing barriers, to accommodate fewer numbers of species. To cite an example, in the monkey house there were 33 species in the early 1970s. The number has now been reduced to six. At the predator house, metal bars are gradually being replaced with glass partitions for less obstructive viewing; concrete floors were broken up, replaced with softer substrates, and shrubs and trees have been brought in.

Unlike the American counterparts, wide moats that separate animals from the public are absent; also missing are imitation rocks in gunite, the spray-cement construction process, that are inseparable from American zoos. Instead the Menagerie has a classic, compact style with a charm only the Old World institutions with a long tradition can bring about. The bear pits, originally for three species and dating back to 1820, is still in use, renovated to exhibit red panda and binturong. The pheasantry from 1827, said to be Europe's oldest, appears to be in good condition. At Ueno Zoo in 1959, I noted a square-shaped crocodylian exhibit surrounded by recurved bars, presumably modeled after the Menagerie's reptile exhibit. Apparently as a result of recent renovations, I did not find the crocodylian exhibit, so familiar in old photographs, in this 1870 reptile house. A structure which seems to retain a touch of the old style is a large aviary,

built in 1888 (now a walk-through exhibit), which currently houses a variety of waders, waterfowl and gallinaceous birds such as sacred ibis, whistling duck and crowned guinea fowl.

Architecturally, what catches a visitor's eye immediately is La Rotonde (the roundhouse), designed to imitate the famous rosette-shaped medal of the Légion d'Honneur.



Interior photo of the Rotonde supplied by Jonas Livet

Completed in 1912, the building exhibited iconic large mammals such as elephant, Nile hippopotamus and giraffe over the decades. They have, however, left the Menagerie and the rotonde now stands vacant. Also gone are some other 'ABC animals' such as lion, tiger and bear (according to some, the red panda may belong to Ursidae, but to call it a bear is a bit of a stretch); yet, with the Parc Zoologique de Paris at Vincennes (opened in 1934) currently closed (expected to reopen in 2014), the Menagerie represents *the* zoo for Parisians. Its collection, however, remains quite formidable even in the eye of an experienced zoo hand. It presents balanced and wide-ranging, representative animal groups. The vivarium offers selected examples of invertebrates from tarantula and orb weaver (*Nephila*) to stick insects. In the herpetological section is a cast of species which includes the familiar poison-dart frogs (several species), radiated tortoise, Nile crocodile, rhinoceros iguana, Dumeril's ground boa, carpet python and Gaboon viper. In terms of the avian world, an assemblage of species (roughly 80 in all) is seen throughout the grounds including ratites (ostrich, emu, cassowary and greater rhea), psittacines such as hyacinth and military macaws, raptors from Egyptian vulture to spot-billed eagle owl (*Bubo nipalensis*), and gallinaceous birds such as greater argus pheasant, satyr tragopan and great curassow.

It is the mammal collection (consisting of c. 50 species), however, that characterizes this institution. To the east of the rotonde stands the monkey house with white-crowned mangabey and black mangabey in addition to the likes of De Brazza guenon and orang-utan. The 1937 predator house has medium-sized felids such as clouded leopard, snow leopard and North China leopard. Despite the relatively small area it occupies, the Menagerie has a tradition of exhibiting and propagating ungulates. These range from gaur to pudu in size, and from Przewalski horse to the domesticated Poitou donkey in variety. The Negros Island warty pig (*Sus cebifrons negrinus*) was a special treat in addition to Sichuan takin, anoa, Rocky Mountain goat and vicuna. Not to be forgotten, the emphasis of the collection is on the Tribe Caprini, represented by such taxa as bharal (blue sheep, *Pseudois nayaur*), West Caucasian tur (*Capra caucasica caucasica*) and Turkmenian markhor (*Capra falconeri heptneri*), Chinese goral (*Nemorhaedus caudatus arnouxiianus*) and Transcaspien urial (*Ovis orientalis arkal*).

During the visit we stepped into the office of Dr Michel Saint Jalme, the Director of the Menagerie, enjoyed conversation for a moment and he kindly offered us publications and other materials. Located near his office is a veterinary laboratory which dates back to 1843. Originally this laboratory was not part of the zoo, we were told, but we were fascinated by a marble necropsy table which is still in use today. ('We eat lunch on it,' a senior staff member quipped jokingly.) As the sesquicentennial of Tanaka's visit to Paris approaches, I wondered if the Japanese delegate ever found this solid marble table. If he had, it must have impressed the young man to the point of leaving him speechless.

The Menagerie was "the first truly public collection," "a royal menagerie appropriated by the people for the people. Truly an important change in zoo history!" (Murphy, 2009) Gippoliti noted that the opening of the Menagerie "is usually considered the official birth of modern zoological gardens." (2010) According to the official publication the opening of the Menagerie took place in November 1794 (Bomsel *et al.*, 2001). Around this period, epoch-making accounts on zoos were published by Count de Lacepede, the French naturalist who was associated with the Menagerie. In one of his seminal papers published in 1801, he laid out the principles of the modern zoo in stunningly precise language (Kawata, 1991). These events support the general belief that the modern zoo has been around for two centuries. Lacepede was, as Murphy and Iliff put it, a Renaissance zoo man who deserves recognition, yet his publications are virtually unknown today (2004) and also times have changed. It is now fashionable for the current generation to hold the term "menagerie", along with "cage" and "stamp collection", in contempt. For example: "Zoo exhibitory has transcended the 'stamp collection' menageries of the past. Through creative exhibit design, zoos now strive to educate visitors about biology, ecology, and the grave threats to our planet's biodiversity. (Thompson, K. V., 1996)" Such triumphant attitudinal prism, typically representative of the generational chauvinism of the New Age zoo, lacks width and depth and historical perspective (e.g. Kawata, 2011). The politically correct pundits might as well be reminded that this famed institution is still officially called The Menagerie.

Acknowledgments

Thanks go to Harry Schram of Antwerp for introducing me to Dr Jean-Luc Berthier, Scientific Director of Living Collections of the National Museum of Natural History (Ménagerie, Parc Zoologique de Paris, Réserve de la Haute Touche), and for the hospitality of the staff. In particular Dr Berthier spent hours giving us a tour, and critically reviewed the manuscript. Last but not least, thanks go to Jonas Livet for the photos.

References

- Bomsel, M., Berthier, J., Peron, S., and Goix, E.** (2001): *La Ménagerie du Jardin des Plantes de Paris*. Editions du Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris. (In French.)
- Burkhardt, R.W. Jr.** (2001): A Man and his Menagerie. *Natural History* (February), pp. 62—68.
- Gippoliti, S.** (2010): *la giungla di Villa Borghese*. Edizioni Belvedere, Lanina, Italy. (In Italian with English summary.)
- Kawata, K.** (1991): Hediger Who? A Plea for Historical Perspective. *International Zoo News* 38 (4), 5—10.
- Kawata, K.** (2001): Zoological Gardens of Japan. In *Zoo and Aquarium History: Ancient Animal Collections to Zoological Gardens* (ed. V.N. Kislring), pp. 295—329. CRC Press, Boca Raton, Florida.
- Kawata, K.** (2011): Romancing the Celluloid Nature: a Review of American Zoo Exhibits, Part I. *Der Zoologische Garten* 80: 239—253.
- Kirchshofer, R.,** (Ed.) (1968): *The World of Zoos*. Viking Press, New York.
- Koga, T.** (1952): Visiting Zoos of the World, Part 5. *Animals and Zoos* 24: 4—5. (In Japanese.)
- Murphy, J. B.** (2009): History of Early French Herpetology. Part I: The Reptile Menagerie of the Museum of Natural History in Paris. *Herpetological Review* 40 (3): 263—273.
- Murphy, J. B., and Iliff, G.** (2004): Count de Lacépède: Renaissance Zoo Man. *Herpetological Review* 35 (3): 220—223.
- Sasaki, T. and Sasaki, T.** (ed.) (1977): *History of Zoos II: World Edition*. Nishida-shoten, Tokyo. (In Japanese.)
- Strehlow, H.** (2001): Zoological Gardens of Western Europe. In *Zoo and Aquarium History: Ancient Animal Collections to Zoological Gardens* (ed. V.N. Kislring), pp. 75—116. CRC Press, Boca Raton, Florida.
- Thompson, K.V.** (1996): Introduction to Part Three. In *Wild Mammals in Captivity: Principles and Techniques* (eds. D.G. Kleiman, M.E. Allen, K.V. Thompson and S. Lumpkin), pp. 159—160. University of Chicago Press, Chicago.

Ken Kawata, 23 Arielle Lane, Staten Island, NY 10314, U.S.A.
E-mail: Buteo007@aol.com