

Orangutan Exhibit Enhancements

The Columbus Zoo and Aquarium

Presented by: Mike Zedekar



2004 The New Orangutan Exhibit Opened

- "Australia and the Islands of Southeast Asia"
- Theme: Rehabilitation / Rescue Center





Orangutan Yard

- Large Area
- Tall Structures
- Exhibit Natural Behaviors
- Orangutans Loved the Tall Structures





Behavioral Challenges

- Stayed on Top of the Tower
- Out of Public View Most of the Day
- Needed More Activity / Enrichment
- Wanted to Encourage
 More Natural Behaviors





Yard Challenges

- Orangutans Did Not Use Entire Yard
- Damage to Yard and Structures







Team Created to Develop Design Enhancements

- Primate Keepers
- Animal Management Staff
- Maintenance Personnel
- Planning & Design Department
- Outside Sources from Other Organizations



2011: Zoo Restructured this Exhibit

- Create a More Enriching Atmosphere for Orangutans & Visitors
- Added Zip Line Cable Course
- Included Sturdy Removable Enrichment Devices
- Redesigned Indoor Holding Spaces
- Installed Air Purification & Conditioning System



Top of North Tower Views

Looking South





Looking Down at Transfer Chute



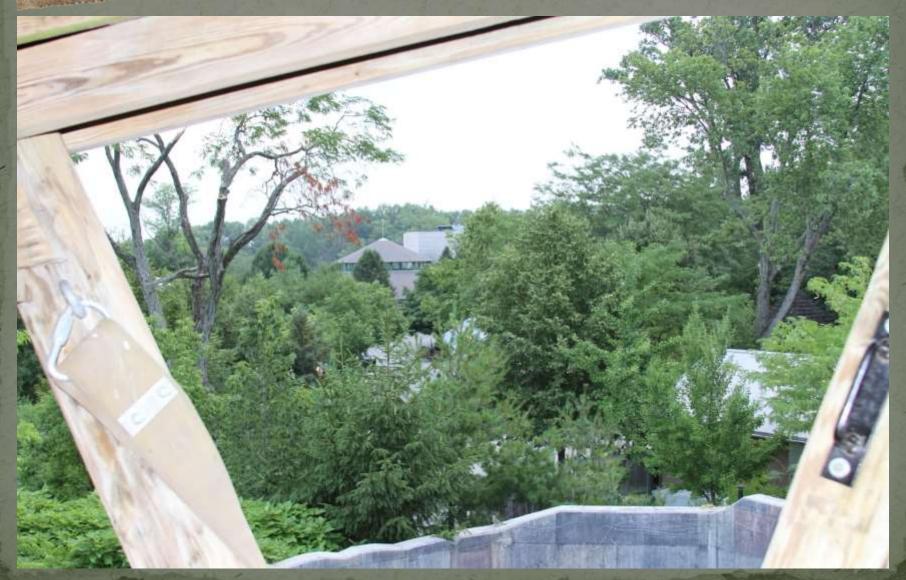
Top of North Tower View



Over Looking Neighbor's Yard

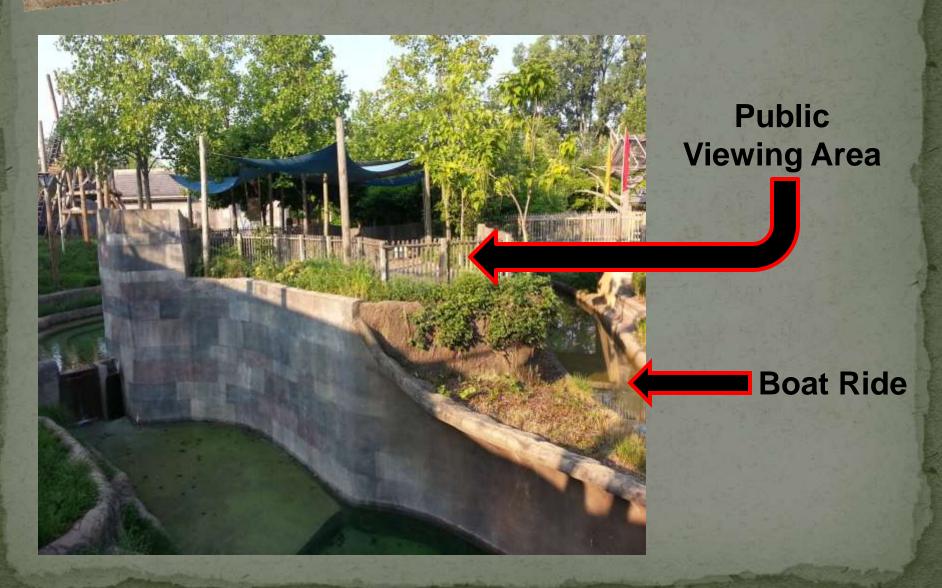


View to the Carousel





View from Base of North Tower





North Tower Yard from Public View



Transfer Chute Door



Looking to South Yard





Smear Board



- Removable
- Multiple Locations
- Easy to Clean
- Recycled Plastic
- Contents Optional



Inspector Arrives





Keeper Installing Smear Board



Enrichment Accomplished!

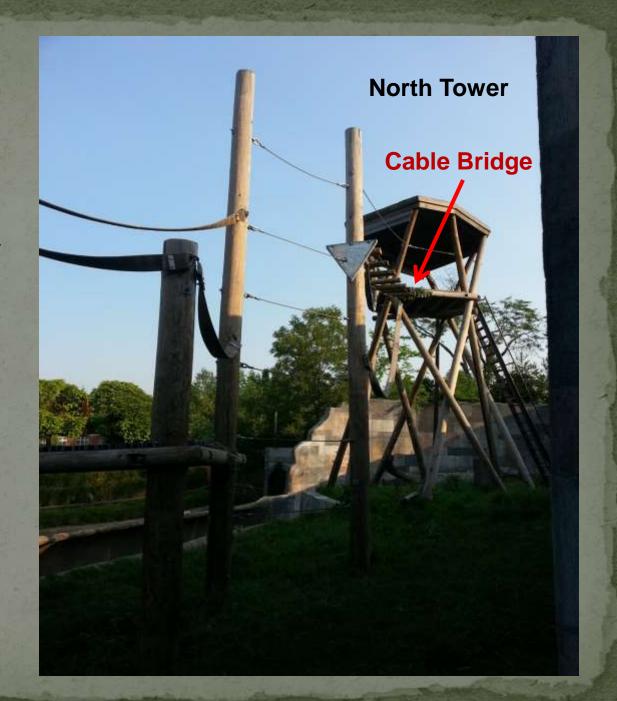








Structures from Tower to Tower





Cable Bridge from North Tower







Using Removable Fire Hose





























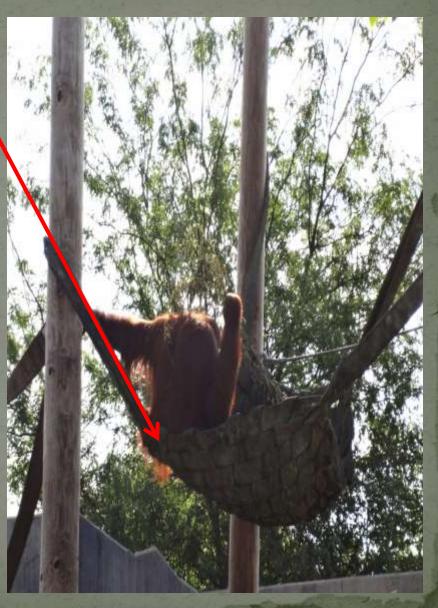




North Yard Enhancements

Hammock







North/South Yard Enhancements





Which Path Would You Take?





South Yard Enhancements





Enhancements Leading to South Tower





Location of Future Swing

Eye Bolts for Swings & Hammock





New Experimental Enrichment Feeder





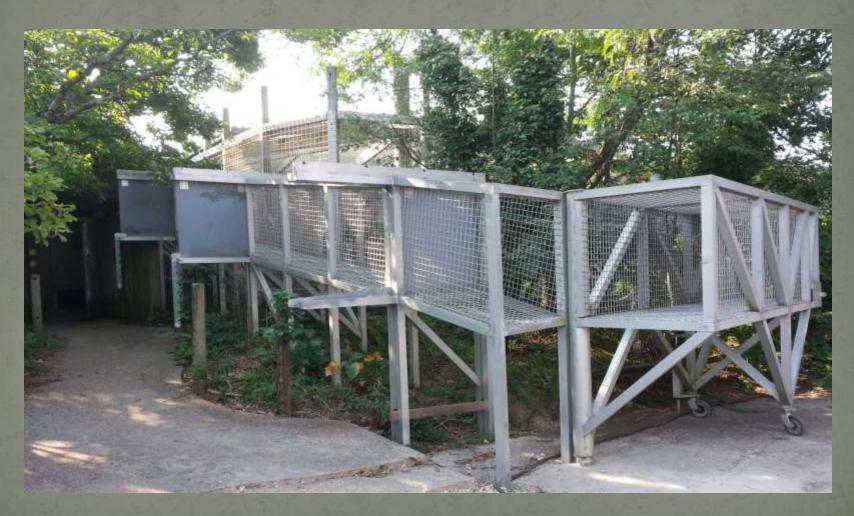
Future Herb & Spice Gardens







Transfer Chute to Indoor Holding Area





Old Wooden Playroom Structures





Anchor Holes in Flooring





Metal Structures Installed



- Promotes Animal Health
- Encourages Arboreal Behavior
- Easier to Sterilize
- Dries Faster
- Better Air Circulation

Recycled Materials Used



Fire Hoses & Hand Holds







Air Conditioning Unit





Indoor Air Purification Unit







Enrichment Feeder





Back





Enrichment Feeder



Top Loading









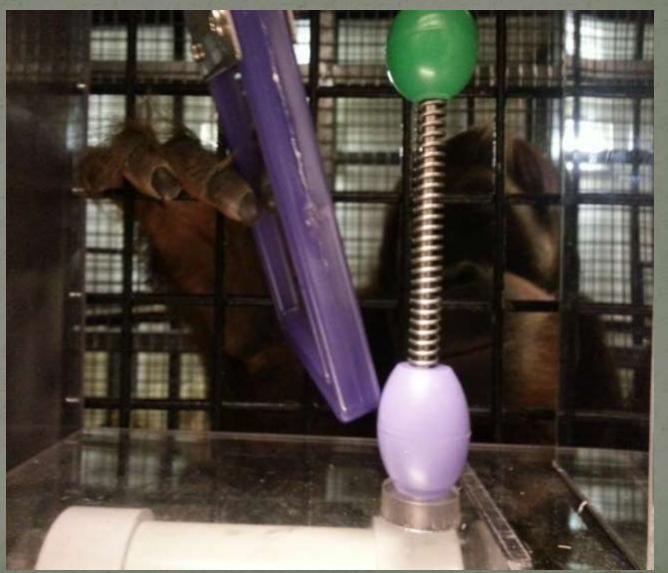
Otto Enrichment Device







Otto Enrichment Feeder





Otto Enrichment Device





Happy ??? Tara in New Playroom





Special Thanks:

- Gary & Maureen Casale
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 - Katherine Taylor (Intern)
- Grahm Jones (Media Department)



The End