



Smithsonian Institution

Smithsonian Institution Archives

Proceedings of the Board of Regents Meeting held on January 28, 1980

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National Zoological Park

The National Zoo, established in 1890, is primarily involved in the care, breeding, and exhibition of live animals. It is also a center for research in zoology and the preservation of rare and endangered species. Research includes comparative medicine and pathology, animal behavior, ecology, nutrition, and reproductive physiology. The Zoo's Conservation Center, located at Front Royal, Virginia, was established in 1974 to enhance conservation methods for rare and endangered species of mammals and birds. Research is aimed principally on the need to sustain the gene pools of vanishing animals and to augment and convey knowledge about their biology and conservation. Over twenty long-range breeding programs are underway involving more than 200 animals representing several species.

LOCATION

Rock Creek Park
Washington, D.C.

Front Royal,
Virginia

SIZE

156 acres

3,100 acres

39.3 acres

ACQUISITION

DATE

1890 Purchase \$200,000

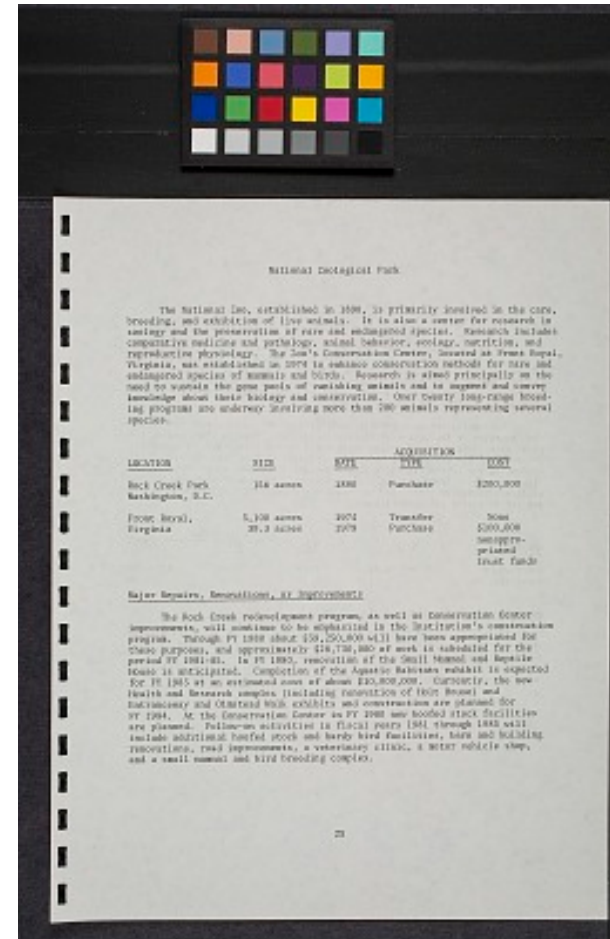
1974 Transfer None

1979 Purchase \$100,000 nonappropriated trust funds

Major Repairs, Renovations, or Improvements

The Rock Creek redevelopment program, as well as Conservation Center improvements, will continue to be emphasized in the Institution's construction program. Through FY 1980 about \$39,250,000 will have been appropriated for these purposes, and approximately \$28,730,000 of work is scheduled for the period FY 1981-85. In FY 1980, renovation of the Small Mammal and Reptile House is anticipated. Completion of the Aquatic Habitats exhibit is expected for FY 1983 at an estimated cost of about \$10,000,000. Currently, the new Health and Research complex (including renovation of Holt House) and Entranceway and Olmstead Walk exhibits and construction are planned for FY 1984. At the Conservation Center in FY 1980 new hoofed stock facilities are planned. Follow-on activities in fiscal years 1981 through 1985 will include additional hoofed stock and hardy bird facilities, barn and building renovations, road improvements, a veterinary clinic, a motor vehicle shop, and a small mammal and bird breeding complex.

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