



Tropical House



Henry Vilas Zoo, Madison, WI

PJA, in conjunction with Durrant Architects, were asked to design an exhibit for year-round use. The South American Tropical House lets Madison, Wisconsin, zoo-goers experience the tropical rain-forest twelve months a year.

In addition to housing a significant collection of birds, fish, and small mammals, this free-flight aviary is an Interactive Learning Center set in the forest. Insects, fungi, and other species are incorporated in to a living horticultural environment. An integrated interpretive program focuses on biodiversity with "The Fragile Web". Keeper areas blend seamlessly with themed "research" huts where visitors discover connections between the places they live in and rain forest ecosystems. Outdoor exhibits include river otters and capybara occupying a series of cascading pools fed by a waterfall and white-water stream.

**South American Tropical House
Henry Vilas Zoo
Madison, Wisconsin
1999 to 2001
\$ 4 Million**

architects | landscape architects, p.s.

