

Elephant

The new exhibit encompasses a 3-acre expansion of the existing elephant exhibit and includes new holding buildings for five cows and two bull elephants. Designed so that the animals can be rotated from one habitat to the other or into the management paddock, the new exhibit is very flexible and will improve keeper safety and the management of the elephants.

The holding building includes a public viewing window where visitors can see keepers working with the animals in a protected contact manner. The viewing shelter was

designed to accommodate special events and is located adjacent to a small amphitheater that looks out over a large swimming pool for the elephants. Integrated into the habitats are shade structures, mounds of sand, puzzle feeders, and other enrichment elements that can be accessed by keepers throughout the day by rotating the elephants from one habitat to the other.

The new expansion area was sensitively designed around existing mature live oak trees and other exhibits in this area of the zoo.

Expansion

**Elephant Expansion
Houston Zoo
Houston, Texas
2006
\$ 8.5 Million**

Houston Zoo, Houston, TX

