

# Regenstein Center for African Apes

When Lincoln Park Zoo decided to replace their highly regarded Great Ape Facility with a new \$25 million state-of-the-art facility, PJA was asked to join forces with local Chicago architects Lohan Caprile Goetsch to help the zoo realize their dream.

The new facility is comprised of separate outside facilities, three of



four on view to the general public. Because of site constraints, one outdoor exhibit uses moats for containment while the other two utilize woven stainless steel cable mesh. Indoors, the guest is invited to view the Great Apes in three separate dayrooms; each dayroom connects to the outside exhibit through two large, sliding glass walls.

At the direction of L.P.Z., PJA designed these indoor dayrooms and exterior exhibits with



as many natural looking elements as possible, promoting vertical as well as horizontal travel throughout the space.

A number of animal-activated devices are scattered throughout the area to provide the apes with the opportunity for random scatter feeding, forced-air cooling and heating, and intermittent sprays from shower heads. Guests, if situated in the correct location, will also be recipients of effects controlled by the apes.

The result is an 85,000 sq. ft. complex, probably the most technologically advanced facility housing Gorillas and Chimps to date.

**Regenstein Center  
for African Apes  
Lincoln Park Zoo  
Chicago, Illinois  
Opened July 2004  
\$ 25 Million**

Lincoln Park Zoo, Chicago, IL