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**DESCRIPTION:** Blackburn Pavilion at London Zoo is a Victorian inspired redevelopment of a red brick and sandstone building that has been a bird house since 1927. The Pavilion includes 19th century lobby and aviaries, a walk-through tropical forest area, and a cloud forest-type atrium for hummingbirds and sunbirds. The renovation of the building included the restoration of the original entrance area and inner iron roof. Interpretation highlights the birds and the 180 year history of scientific exploration associated with ZSL - especially John Gould. Visitors enter a lobby with Victorian chequer-patterned floor and large wall painting of a Victorian family. There are gold-framed silhouettes of birds on the walls. The main hall has seven floor-to-ceiling aviaries featuring Toco toucans, Congo peafowl and others. Behind this is a tropical forest walk-through with waterfall, pools, visitor boardwalk and catch-up/release aviaries. A final circular atrium with six catch-up/release aviaries features sunbirds and *Amazilia* hummingbirds. Outside, there are eight lightweight aviaries and an iconic clock. This landmark feature has an 'all singing, all-dancing' display of moving bird models and statuettes of a Victorian couple that is activated every 30 minutes.

**PLANTS:** Outdoors: Areas with structural shrubs and ground-covering species provide screening, permanent structure, shelter, as well as low level perching for birds. The density of perennials in drifts is varied so that birds can walk-through some parts. Trees are planted within mass planted areas, and set within open spaces with gravel or sand. Trees provide height, add to spatial definition, reduce the impact of the building at the back of outdoor aviaries, and provide higher level perches. Formal tree planting in front of the main entrance consists of four evergreen *Magnolias*. Areas of sand or gravel provide circulation spaces for birds. They incorporate a few widely spaced perennials and grasses. As pools need to be cleaned out periodically, the aquatic planting is kept in removable containers.

Indoors: Planted areas consist of a mix of small trees and palm species, tropical herbaceous and shrubby understorey, and groundcover layers with ferns and climbers. Lower plants are planted in large drifts of single species, larger plants are generally single specimens or small groups of three. Raised cavity walls are planted with *Aechmea*, *Billbergia*, *Tillandsia*, *Pellaea*, *Philodendron*, *Scindapsus* and *Zebrina*. Beach areas are sand, gravel, or shingle, with areas of rounded cobbles and small boulders. Some marginal planting is adjacent to the water's edge and incorporated into the artificial rockwork. Planting within smaller (non-

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mixing) aviaries aims at merging with the tropical appearance of the main walk-through aviary, while being tailored to the needs of specific bird species. In the hummingbird aviaries, specialist flowering plants suit the hummingbirds, particularly red and orange flowering nectar producing plants. The tiled function space had formal planting of Lady palms in large Victorian-style terracotta pots.

**FEATURES DEDICATED TO ANIMALS:** Special features include appropriate feeders for humming-birds and sunbirds.

**FEATURES DEDICATED TO KEEPERS:** Catch-up and release pens in walk-through spaces allow for the holding of breeding pairs, the introduction of receptive birds to each other for mating, or isolating birds when needed.

**FEATURES DEDICATED TO VISITORS:** Seating is offered in the lobby. The clock became a popular landmark at the zoo.

**INTERPRETATION:** The Main Hall displays are silhouettes (including an animated one of a Victorian birdwatcher), eggs and feathers in Victorian-style cabinets, a touchscreen showing John Gould hummingbird monograph illustrations, graphics about Darwin (a member of ZSL) and Gould. John Gould was employed as the ZSL taxidermist and later exhibited mounted hummingbirds at London's Great Exhibition in 1851. He compiled three volumes of hummingbird monographs with 300 plates. The first live hummingbird to be displayed in Europe was at London Zoo in 1905. The walk-through offers Victorian-style binoculars and viewing machines with graphics inside, bird labels, graphics about the history of scientific exploration associated with ZSL, and stories about conservation breeding at the zoo (e.g. of Bali starling and Socorro dove). The Cloud forest exhibit displays graphics about hummingbirds and sunbirds.

**MANAGEMENT:** The species list includes the 8 outside enclosures (1-8), 7 foyer enclosures (9-15), the main walk-through with 3 catch-up release enclosures (16-16a-c), second walk-through area and exhibit/release and catch-up enclosures (17-17a-f). The catch-up and release enclosures are designed to be as versatile as possible; they may be used for holding breeding pairs or becoming part of the walk-through flight as some have removable doors.

**CONSERVATION:** ZSL participates in the breeding programs of Socorro dove and Bali starling. A hummingbird breeding programme is planned.