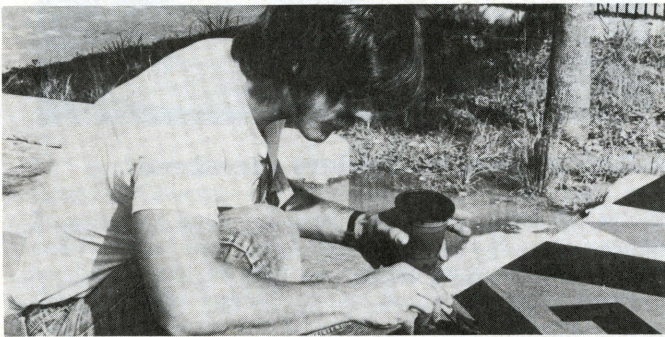


TOUCAN TALK

Grand Opening becomes reality



Construction worker puts on finishing touches for Asian contact opening.

December 12 marks the realization of many dreams and concentrated efforts as Metrozoo invites everyone to celebrate its official grand opening.

When Metrozoo opened to the public July 4, 1980, it was composed of only 30 acres and not many more animals. However, at its grand opening, the zoo will feature an additional 160 new, unexplored, untamed acres.

"The original 30 acres of the Preview Center had been very nice, but some things that you would expect to find in a zoo have not been here," said Jan Beckman administrator of the Society.

Starting December 12, however, more animals in their natural habitat will be present at the zoo.

"In addition to more acres and animals, the zoo will also entertain the public seven days a week instead of weekends and holidays. Only schools will be accommodated in terms of field trips, too," assured Mr. Beckman.

Metrozoo is a zo-geographic zoo which means that the zoo was layed out and built so each section resembles one of the earth's seven continents. Every detail including animals, rocks, sand and landscaping are grouped onto the appropriate continent.

The ZSF has been instrumental in the construction of Metrozoo. "It was the ZSF who went to bat and pushed the Commission for a new zoo," recalled Mr. Beckman. The request for a new zoo was incorporated into the Decade of Progress Bond issued in 1972 which allocated funds for specific, beneficial projects. Eventually, money for the zoo was secured and construction began.

"Now we are cooperatively developing the tours and education program with Dade County" said Beckman. "We are all working hard to make the Grand Opening really grand.

Members night shows sneak preview

Though the public had to wait its turn until grand opening December 12 to explore the newly finished 160 acres of Metrozoo, Society members and guests, as a special courtesy, were invited to attend a sneak preview November 28 from 4-8 p.m. The annual Society meeting was held jointly with this special event.

When the preview center closed to the public at 5:00 p.m. members toured the exotic lands of the Asian Jungle, Asian-Forest Plains, Eurasian Steppes, Europe and The African Jungle aboard Metrozoo's brand new land tram.

Highlighting the meeting was the installation of our new board members Roger Carlton, Howard Tendrich, and Larry Turner. Each was elected from the general Society membership.

To celebrate the induction of our new members, severel activities were planned. Hollies Follies, dance troupe, performed an exerpt from the zoologically themed dance, a Magic Musical Managerie, while a bird of prey show was featured in the ampitheater. A cash bar along with live music was stationed in the Zebrazaar area.

Juried festival set for February

"The fifth annual Arts Festival will be held at Metrozoo on Valentine's Day weekend, February 13-14," said enthusiastic Jan Beckman, administrator of the Zoological Society of Florida.

The festival, which is open to the public, will feature nationally acclaimed wildlife sculptor Johanna. In addition, the show, which had already received 25 requests for applications by the first week of November, is planning on accommodating approximately 200 artists on the Metrozoo grounds.

Because three distinct art shows are planned on consecutive weekends, the Metrozoo Festival is expected to attract many northern artists. The festivities in February begin with the Vizcaya show February 6-7 and the Metrozoo Festival and closing with the Coconut Grove Art Show from February 19-21.

Artists may exhibit their creations in this juried show in the categories of painting, sculpture, graphics, photography, ceramics, and crafts. The Metrozoo Festival will give a \$1,000 Best in Show Award. Also, in each category a gold, silver, and bronze prize will be awarded with corresponding values of \$300, \$250, and \$150. Two of the judges are, Barbara Gillman, owner of Barbara Gillman Gallery on Biscayne Blvd., and Carol Wien, a quilter, who has a degree in art form the University of Miami and is the author of the *Great American Log Cabin Quilt Book*. The committee is presently looking for a judge for photography.

Guests at the festival can enjoy entertainment provided by P.A.C.E. and the official dedication of the Condor sculpture by Dell Filardi, which was generously donated by the William N. Ruby's to the Society.

Toucan Chatter

by Jan Beckman

New Zoo Hours . . .

. . . go into effect December 12th when Metrozoo expands to 160-acres. Open seven days a week, admission gates will open at 10am, but close an hour earlier at 4pm, instead of 5pm. The park will close at 5:30pm.

An Education Coordinator . . .

. . . has been appointed to the staff by the Board of Governors. Ileen Seidler, who will be leaving her post as president of the Docent Council, has assumed the new position to develop the Society's far-reaching education program.

Many, Many Thanks . . .

. . . go to Ryder System and Baptist Hospital for their most generous donations of office furniture. The Society is still in need of electric typewriters and an electric calculator with tape. The zookeepers are looking for used power lawnmowers for paddock maintenance.

Desperately Needed . . .

. . . and at the top of our "Most Wanted List" are new or used electric golf carts for the Society's exclusive use around the zoo. Proper staff and volunteer transportation within our 160-acre park is a must. Next year, when an additional 100-acres opens, it will be an absolute! If any of our members have a contact with a country club or manufacturer, the Society would appreciate hearing.

A New Editor . . .

. . . for Toucan Talk has been appointed. Betsy Pierce, Adviser for Miami Killian Senior High's award winning publications takes on the Society's newsletter with this issue.

Special thanks go to Jeanne Naples, outgoing Editor, for her fine contribution. Jeanne is now devoting her expertise to the varied and most important projects of the Development Committee.

A New Group . . .

. . . has been formed within the Society. ZIP (Zoo Information Personnel) will take on the non-Docent, volunteer responsibilities which are growing rapidly with a rapidly growing zoo.

A special ZIP uniform and training program are being developed for a wide variety of volunteer opportunities within the Society and Metrozoo. If interested, please contact the Society office or inquire at the Toucan Perch.

Art Patrons . . .

. . . are being sought by Howard Tendrich, Art Festival Chairman and new Board Member, to fund the Festival's \$5,200 cash awards.

Sponsors are set in three categories: Grand Patron (\$1,000), Patron (\$500) and Sponsor (\$250). These people will receive very special attention for their contribution to the arts at the Festival. Contact the Society office for further information.

Society "T" shirts and patches available

Zoological Society T-shirts, patches, and decals are currently on sale. If purchased at the Toucan Perch, the Society information booth located at the front of the zoo, the shirts cost \$6.50, patches \$1.50, and decals \$1.00. However, if purchased through the mail, please add on additional charge of \$1.00 per shirt, \$.50 per patch, and \$.25 per decal per mailing and handling. Requests for orders may be sent to 12400 S.W. 152 Street, Miami, Florida. Please make checks payable to Zoological Society of Florida.



Johanna pleases Society members

Metrozoo was graced by the art creations of the nationally acclaimed sculptor, Johanna.

Johanna, whose works are based solely on wildlife, was invited by the Society to display her dramatically and unique masterpieces.

Though the occasion was a special treat in itself, a patron purchased a large piece of Johanna's work.

Durrell to Speak on Endangered Species

Make February 21, 1982, at 6:30 pm in the Metrozoo amphitheatre a date and time not to miss at the Metrozoo. Tropical Audubon and the Zoological Society have invited Gerald Durrell, the world renowned expert on endangered species, to present a program concerning his work at this time.

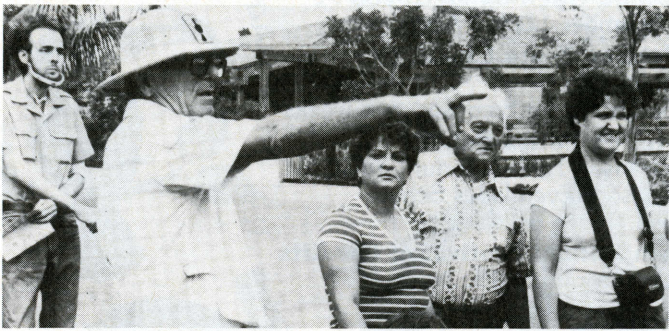
He has established a Zoo, which is supported by "The Wildlife Preservation Trust International, Inc." on the Channel Island of Jersey off the coast of France for the protection and preservation of endangered animals. Durrell has written more than a dozen witty and entertaining books about his travels and work. Some of the well known titles are: *A Bevy of Beasts; Birds, Beasts and Relatives; My Family and Other Animals; A Zoo in My Luggage;* and *A Stationary Ark*, which is about his establishment of the Zoo on Jersey Island.

Tickets will be \$4.00 for adults and \$1.50 for children under 12 at the gate. However, you can obtain discount tickets at a price of \$3.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children under 12 prior to the event by sending your check made out to the Zoological Society with a stamped self-addressed envelope to:

Zoological Society of Florida
12400 S.W. 152 Street
Miami, Florida 33177

Discount tickets will only be available through February 7, 1982.

Docents promote two new tours



Docent Harry Stuber points out to his captive audience a new exhibit.

The feeling of excitement permeates the air. Everyone has been going about their tasks with an intensity that is a certain indication that the grand opening is very close at hand. Our Docents have looked forward to this day and have been busy preparing two new walking tours that will be available to zoo goers on weekends and on certain weekdays. Check with the Society's information booth for the exact time of Docent Tours.

New Docent Classes are being scheduled for February, 1982. These classes will be held 2 mornings a week for 8 weeks. We are looking for Docent volunteers that would be available to give tours and handle other educational activities during the week. If you have time and would like to join the new classes, please call the Society office.

The Docents have kept pace with the growth of our new zoo by doing a bit of growing on their own. The group started in 1981 with 41 very dedicated volunteers. As 1981 draws to a close we expect our numbers to well exceed 85 Docents who are ready to make your visit to Metrozoo fun and informative.



Birmingham becomes outstanding volunteer

A visit sponsored by American Hospital sparked clinical dietician Barbara Birmingham's interest in the Metrozoo. Barbara, whose only prior experience with the Society was as a volunteer for the Arabian Horse Show last year, "fell in love" with the zoo when she took some of her friend's children to see it. She hasn't missed a weekend of volunteer work for the Society since.

Soon after that visit Barbara became a docent. When giving tours, she prefers the special ones provided to groups as opposed to regular tours. Her favorite area of volunteerism is membership and information. Her goal as a Society volunteer is to see the portable Society registration booth used to its full capacity. The booth, which was designed for the 1981 Dade County Youth Fair by Jan Beckman, can be folded up to fit in the Society's station wagon and taken around town. It has already appeared at the Channel 10 studios, Dinner Key Auditorium, and the Cutler Ridge Mall. The main feature of the booth is a slide show publicizing the Zoo and inviting watchers to visit the preview center. "Once there, a person is bound to become hooked on the zoo and join the Society," said Barbara.



L. to R. Paul O'Leary, Leticia Sanchez, Kerri Jackson, Lysa Solomon, Tom Carroll and Elsa Malvear, in front, are dressed for Halloween and giving goodies to Goblins at Metrozoo.

Toucan team starts new season

Circle January 9 on your calendar. That's the first session of the next Toucan Team. The Toucan Team is open to teen-agers in grades 9 through 12 who have a real love for animals and the zoo. These teenagers spend eight consecutive Saturdays at Metrozoo, 9 A.M. to 3:30 P.M., involved in many interesting zoo related studies and activities. For more information and registration forms please call the Society office.

The Service Team has been quite active this summer. Many of the Toucan Team members from the summer session have joined our creative Service Team and are busy gearing up for the new puppet shows in our brand spanking new puppet theater. Our photographers, Darla Tchakarian, Tom Carroll, and Mike Marinelli have been snapping away at the progress being made at Metrozoo and are helping in the preparation of many new slide programs that are being developed by our educational department.

Field trip preparations are in high gear as the Service Team looks forward to Lion Country Safari in November and the lower Keys in January. It's easy to recognize our energetic teens as they work about the zoo in their white pith helmets and Z. S. F. "T" shirts. Join our new Toucan Team and become a part of this fun group.

Word Scramble

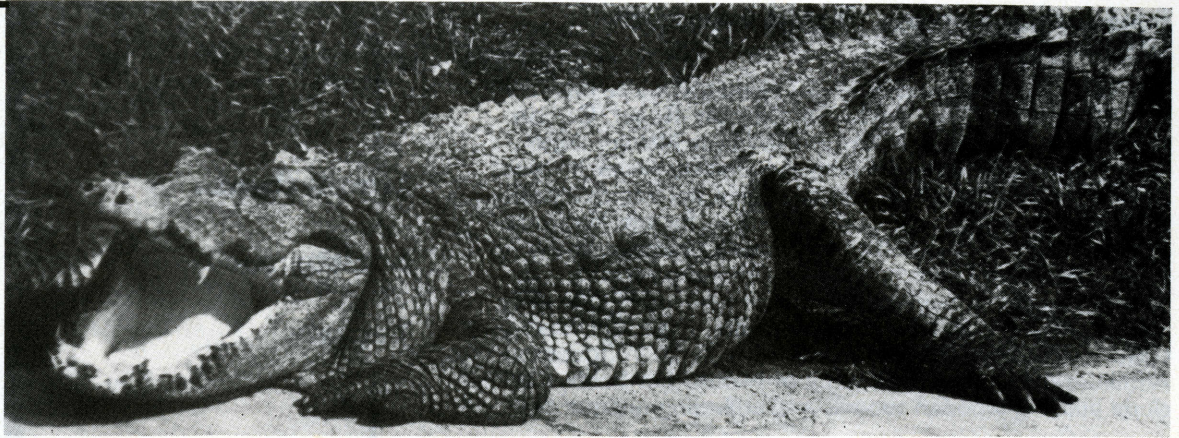
Un-scramble the words below and put the proper letters in the appropriate spaces in the Solution to find the newest "fun" place in Miami.

nhaeelp	— — — — —	2
rugtangoan	— — — — —	4
nogokar	— — — — —	7
razerbaza	— — — — —	6
ocogiaozl ycesti	— — — — — — — — — — —	5 — — — — — 8 — — — — — 3
senteam	— — — — —	1

Solution:

Answers on back page.

**Zoo
breeds
crocodiles**



Over the past four years, our supporters have become aware of our success in the breeding of crocodiles and of our intentions to develop a breeding program for a number of crocodilian species. However, most of you may not be aware of the second group of animals that we are incorporating into our Species Specialization Program.

Before I describe our second program, though, I would like to explain exactly what we at Metrozoo have established as our goal and how our Species Specialization Program is involved.

Leaving the educational, recreational, and cultural fulfillment aspects of Metrozoo aside, our professional purposes are propagation, preservation, research and display of the world's wildlife. Each of these areas is so intricately connected in the design and makeup of animal facilities and husbandry, that no one area can change without affecting the rest.

Our goal is to maintain the species integrity of our specimens through management techniques designed to decrease inbreeding coefficients and to increase the health and quality of each animal. Although we have the capability of maintaining large numbers of each species we exhibit, it is our intent to keep our specimen numbers low in order to control the quality of stock produced. We do not believe in breeding just for the sake of breeding, the end results of which would be over-crowding, uncontrolled inbreeding and, in some species, because of low market value or over-populating by other zoological parks, euthanization of excess males and possibly females.

The key term here is species integrity. Over the past decade, a growing awareness in the zoological community of the results of inbreeding has placed a high priority on genetic control of our charges. No longer can we allow stagnating gene pools to continue. The proper use of founder stock and the design of long term management plans to increase gene pool variability have taken precedence over the old-style management where zoos acted individually and not as part of a national effort.

With all of this in mind, we asked ourselves what it was that Metrozoo could contribute to the world, to other zoos, and to our community. We took a long look at our planned facilities, at what other zoos are doing, and at our climatic conditions. Most importantly, we looked into what animals are being affected most by man — what animals are unable to cope with changing environments, whether due to encroachment of man's cities, agriculture or, as in many cases,

Emu promotes ERA

The female emu is sometimes called the world's most "emancipated" bird. Not only does she do the courting, by enlarging air sacs in her neck, but she seeks a fresh mate each season, and of course the male sits on the nest and incubates her eggs.

just to the presence of man even in a physically unchanged environment, and what animals are becoming extinct because of indiscriminate hunting, poaching, pollutants and the like.

Of all the groups we looked at, it became obvious that we could best serve the needs of two specific types of animals.

The first group is without a doubt in the twilight of its existence. Within the next ten years, it is quite possible that a number of species of crocodiles will become extinct. Crocodiles can neither change their life style to cope with a changed environment, nor can they move to other areas that have not already been affected by man. Crocodiles are being killed out of fear and superstition; for meat and for their most valuable possession, their hide.

The second group of animals Metrozoo will specialize in will be cranes and storks. A number of these birds are in very serious trouble, and although not all of the species are on the endangered list right now, it is only a matter of time before they will be. Land drainage, water-borne pollutants, diversion of natural water courses, and other environmental impacts have depleted the amount of suitable breeding grounds for these birds, who are very sensitive to their environment. At the turn of the century, man's destruction of these birds for their feathers placed some species in such a depleted state that their recovery, although looking brighter, is still questionable.

Of all the birds in zoological parks, the cranes and storks are the least worked with because of their need for large enclosures and their intolerance to stress from public contact and viewing. Those zoos that are capable of offering the birds the appropriate facilities have had limited success. The need for more detailed husbandry techniques is obvious, as is true in the case of crocodiles as well.

Metrozoo will devote itself to these two groups of animals in hopes of answering the questions that will lead to their future success for propagation in other zoological parks.

Off-display breeding compounds have been built and will continue to be constructed for both groups of animals. These areas will remain off limits to personnel other than those involved in their management in order to offer the animals the optimum environment for breeding. Representative specimens will be on display throughout the zoo to give the public a chance to see the end results of our programs, the offspring.

It is our hope, and that of other zoological parks, that the animals produced by these Species Specialization Programs will be released into the wild whenever possible, but we know that that is not always the case. It is therefore our goal that the breeding programs we develop here at Metrozoo will be dispersed to other zoos around the world, so that they may benefit from our mistakes and our successes, as we in turn will benefit from theirs.

This is the first of a series of articles by Metrozoo's General Curator, Bill Zeigler.

Society announces Board members

The Board of Governors has gained a valuable member in Off-Street Parking Authority Director Roger Carlton. Carlton, who moved to Miami in 1957 from Malden, Massachusetts, became involved with the Society when he was Assistant Dade County Manager. While holding this post, he was asked to find methods of finance for the Metrozoo and has been a loyal and active Society member in the 4 years since. As a board member, his primary concern is the financing of the animal hospital. A University of Florida man with a Master's degree from Georgia State University, Calton is currently working towards his Ph.D. in Education Administration at the University of Miami. His hobbies include building wooden models and collecting antique cars.

Larry Turner, Society Budget and Finance Committee member, has been elected to the Board of Governors. Turner, who has lived in Miami for over 28 years, is currently assisting Bob Harris with the financial planning for the Society. His main goal is to see the administrative and educational branches of the Society have offices on the zoo grounds. The possibility of creating mobil educational units for travel to Dade County schools is another of his major interests. Turner graduated from Notre Dame and received his Juris Doctor degree from the University of Virginia. Now Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of the American Cancer Society, he enjoys running and tennis in his spare time.

Broker and realtor Howard Tendrich was elected to the Board of Governors in the recent election. Tendrich, who is President of both Tendrich Realty, Inc., and the Suniland and Kendall branches of Heritage House Men's Furnishings, has been involved with the Society for three years. Visits to Crandon Zoo and subsequent interest started a productive relationship between Tendrich and the Society. A native Miamian who received his B.B.A. from the University of Miami in 1952, he is looking forward to working on any problems that may be presented to the Board. In addition to his job and various community responsibilities, Tendrich enjoys playing tennis in his spare time. Tendrich has been Chairman of several Society events including the Arts Festival.

A special thanks from the Board and Membership to outgoing Board Members: Justin E. Beals, Dr. Paul B. Lamborn, and Edmonson S. Couric, Jr. for their dedicated service to the Society.

Ramar arrives, prepares to mate

Ramar, the 350 lb. gorilla who as psychotherapist Terry Maple said . . . "has not learned what being a gorilla is really all about," arrived at Metrozoo November 3 courtesy of Zoological Society.

Ramar was flown from Philadelphia Zoological Garden to Metrozoo in an attempt to help him mature emotionally, socially, and yes, even sexually.

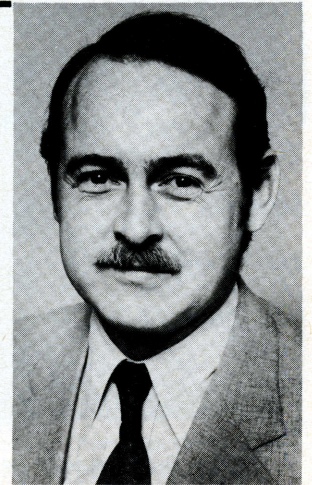
Zoo officials and Maple agree that Ramar's new home is strikingly similar to his native Africa. In his dwelling are many comforts of home including a shallow pool, rock quarry, parching climate, and vast open areas.

Once Ramar has adusted to his surroundings and his anxieties seem to have vanished, ravishing female gorillas will be unleashed into his meager domain. Zoo experts hope that this along with other therapy will stir up the beast in this tender hearted fella.

Lowell thanks

Society, zoo

backers



The great Day is upon us! After laboring long years, the Zoological Society will finally see its fondest dream fulfilled — the New Metrozoo will open its first main section December 12. Society members can be justifiably proud of this accomplishment, for these reasons:

- The Society widely campaigned for the Decade of Progress Bond Issue in 1972 with which the Metrozoo is being built.
- Society Board of Governors' members were instrumental in identifying and obtaining the Richmond Naval Air Station site from the Federal Government for the Zoo.
- The master plan for the zoo was developed by T. A. Strawser, who was hired and paid by the Society, with the able assistance of Dr. Gordon Hubbell.
- When the New Zoo ran into financial difficulties and was in danger of being scrapped, Society officials rallied County officials and obtained the necessary additional funding.

Thus, it is with a great sense of pride and joy that we greet the Grand Opening of Metrozoo — a hearty well done and thanks to you our loyal members, the dedicated County employees who build the Zoo, and the Board of County Commissioners who had the vision to support it.

It is my pleasure to personally recognize and thank just a few of the key people who have materially helped our effort while I have been active in the Society. They are as follows:

- Dan Brennan has fought tirelessly for the Zoo and convinced many skeptics of the value of the concept when he was Executive Director of the Society.
- Roger Carlton was a constant source of support and drove the project forward when he was Assistant County Manager.
- Bill Bird, Director of parks and recreation, has given Metrozoo the resources and personal direction essential to success.
- Henry Hillman was responsible for overseeing the entire construction project.
- Bob Yokel, director of Metrozoo, has done an excellent job of managing the transition from Crandon Park and run Metrozoo. He has put up with all of our problems and changes with good grace and a wry sense of humor.
- Our Board of Governors have given so generously of their time and expertise in guiding the Society through a difficult period of growth. Special thanks are due to out-going members, Ed Beals, Ed Cornmic and Dr. Paul Lomborn.

Now we celebrate! We have a Sneak Preview for all Society members scheduled for Saturday, November 28th. Then December 5 and 6 there is a Grand Opening Gala at the brand-new Brickell Point Holiday Inn to benefit the Society.

Finally, December 12, Metrozoo will open its doors to the public. Please join us!

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Calendar of Events

Grand Opening Metrozoo

December 12 160 Acres

Toucan Team Class

Starts Jan. 9

Saturdays for 8 consecutive weeks

Holly's Follies Benefit

Swenson Hall Coconut Grove

Ransom-Everglades School

Jan. 16

5th Annual Festival of the Arts

Metrozoo Feb. 13, 14

Docent Class (days)

Date in February to be announced.

ANIMAL ANSWERS

elephant
 orang-u-tan
 kangaro

Zebrazaar
 Zoological Society
 Manatees

Solution: Metro Zoo



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(NO RENEWALS PLEASE)

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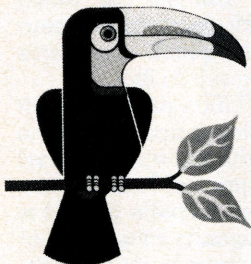
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