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University of North Carolina Asheville Journal of Undergraduate Research Asheville, North Carolina Fall 2025

> Author Info (12pt font)

Alice and Jumbo: Intersecting Stories at the London

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Zoological Gardens

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Title Page Header (10 pt font)

> 1" Margins All Around

Abstract

Jumbo is remembered as the most famous elephant in British and American history as the first male African elephant at the London Zoological Gardens and later on tour as part of P. T. Barnum's travelling show. Even after his death, Jumbo was often accompanied by an elephant whose story is nearly eclipsed by his own, his female counterpart, Alice. The story of Jumbo and Alice has attracted a boom of scholarship in recent decades, possibly as a result of the movement to remove elephants from zoos and circuses, but even their histories are necessarily incomplete to us. An examination of archival records on Alice from the London Zoological Society, the P. T. Barnum archives from Tufts University, and recent biological and behavioral research on wild African elephants reveals how Alice and Jumbo's story is layered with meanings, each of them dependent on who is telling the story—on who is acting as the witness. As we learn more about elephant behavior in the wild, the dissonance between history and memory increases and provides a clearer view of why elephants were in London in the first place.

250-300 Word Abstract (12pt font)

Single-Spaced Text Throughout (12 pt font)

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Into the Gardens

Jumbo was, by far, the most famous elephant in British and American history as the first male African elephant at the London Zoological Gardens and later on tour as part of

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photos of Jumbo are common, as he is easily the photographed individual animal and even outnumbered those that include Alice by a rate of more than two to one. Perhaps an indicator of his relative importance in the public eye, there was only a single photograph of Alice unaccompanied by Jumbo.³²

Running Head & Page Number (10 pt font)



Figure 1. Alice carrying a garden visitor on the paths of the London Zoological Society. Photographed by Frederick York (1870)

Photos, Figures, Tables, and Graphs should be centered on the page

Include a descriptive caption so it can be interpreted without the text (11pt font with bolded Figure number)

As the pair grew, Londoners' attraction to them grew as well. When both the elephants were big enough, they were equipped with benches upon their backs to ferry zoo visitors around the grounds. According to an article from 1877, interacting with the elephants was the highlight of the zoo visitors' experience; "There was great competition for a ride upon their backs, and especially for the privilege of offering Jumbo food, which the good animal always pleased his votaries by accepting." On clear days, the natural scientists, for whom the zoo was initially created, faced hordes of bun-wielding children rushing down the Victorian paths to see the elephants. Riding the elephants brought the London public physically close to them, but feeding Jumbo and Alice required the animals to trust the person proffering the treat. Combined, the rides and the intimacy of feeding the elephants impacted how the public viewed these

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After the body of your paper (before your References Section), include an Acknowledgements section to thank the people, organization, and funding sources that made your research possible.

^{32 &}quot;Animals in the gardens of the Zoological Society, London, photographed from life / by F. 'ork." ZSL Library Catalogue Card, library.zsl.org.

York," ZSL Library Catalogue Card, library.zsl.org.

33 "The Zoological Gardens," *The Times* (December 27, 1877).