

look of the facility. That year the decrepit old concession building, which had been condemned by the City Health Department, was replaced with a new concession building. Unfortunately this new structure was subsequently the site of a fire and it, in turn, was replaced by the Carousel Coffee Shop in 1967. Also in 1962, a new incinerator, emergency paddocks and new sun shelters were installed. In 1963, new carnivore cages and an indoor/outdoor mammal house were built and sewer and water services were upgraded. The 500 car east parking lot was begun in that year, its look designed to be softened by tree and shrub plantings. By this



Skating on the Assiniboine Park Duck Pond, 1968. WPRD.

time, the Winnipeg zoo had worked its way into the worldwide network of zoos and was trading animals with other zoos in Canada, the United States, Germany and Switzerland. In 1965, the new east entrance was constructed and landscaped. In 1966 there were further improvements to the sewer and water system, a staff house was built complete with communications system and work was started on enclosures for tragopans, racoons, snow leopards and hardy hoof stock. These enclosures, along with a new bear pit were completed in 1967, thus completing the rebuilding of every enclosure in the zoo. The result was an attractive zoo in which the animals were well displayed and easy to watch, and families had the facilities to spend several hours at the zoo in comfort. The most important beneficiaries of this refit were the animals themselves. With improved enclosures and sanitation, the mortality rate of mammals, for example, declined from more than 12 percent in 1960 to less than four percent in 1965.⁴ Plans for an important new attraction, a Tropical House, were finalized in 1970 and its construction begun in 1971. As the Metro era drew to a close in 1970, the zoo got a new director, Clive G. Roots, who replaced the departing Gunter Voss.

There was no lack of activity in the rest of Assiniboine Park either. In 1963, the pace picked up with the construction of a new ser-

vice building, a new picnic shelter near the formal gardens and an extension to the perimeter road. A new coffee shop was built adjacent to the conservatory in 1964 and a patio added in 1966. In 1964 a 50 car parking



Interior of the Assiniboine Park Conservatory, c. 1930. WPRD.