

The old elephant house was located in part of the area of modern enclosure for rhinos, based on maps dating back to 1929. It included a shelter where animals could hide from the cold. It was designed in a way so that elephants could climb on its roof, which was to ensure the safety of the animals in the event of a flood.

After World War II it was rebuilt. After the opening of the modern elephant house, camels lived in the old paddock for a short time, and then it was adapted for rhinos, as it has been used to this day.

The first two elephants that came to the Warsaw ZOO were named Jaś and Kasia. Kasia, who came from India, quickly became the Varsovians favorite. In 1937, Jas and Kasia's daughter, Tuzinka, was born. It was the twelfth elephant to be born in captivity since ZOO were established, and the only one born in Poland to date, hence its name.

In 1940, a pig-fattening plant was set up in the area, that was operating only for several months, and soon after it was turned into allotment gardens, where vegetables were grown for the locals.

In the area of the (then elephants) enclosure, rifles and radios were buried, coming from airdrops from the West and bought from the Germans, which were dugged up by Jan Żabiński before the outbreak of the Warsaw Uprising. Also here, Rachela Auerbach hid some of the documents of Oneg Shabbat, the underground archive, founded by the historian Emanuel Ringelblum in the Warsaw Ghetto.