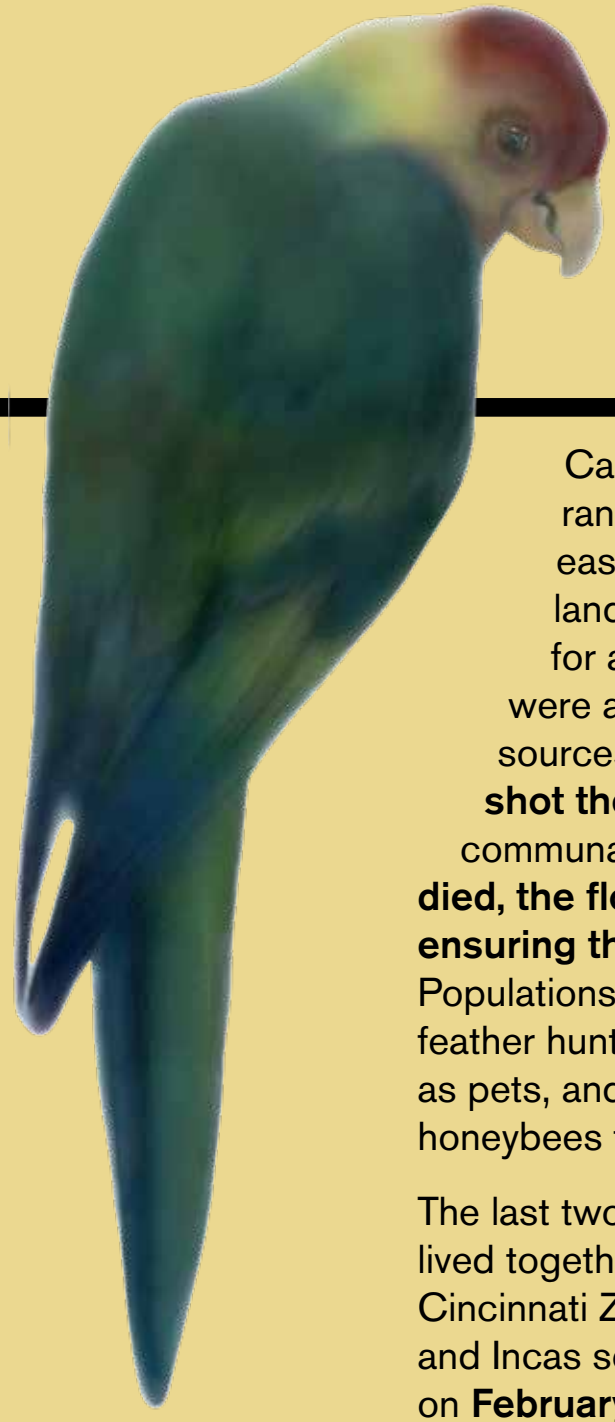

CAROLINA PARAKEET

Carolina parakeets formerly ranged over much of the eastern United States. As the landscape was transformed for agriculture, the birds were attracted to the new food sources. In response, **farmers shot them in great numbers**. As a communal species, **when one bird died, the flock flew to its side, thus ensuring the demise of many more.** Populations were further diminished by feather hunters, trappers who sold them as pets, and competition from European honeybees for roosting sites.

The last two known Carolina parakeets lived together for thirty-two years in the Cincinnati Zoo. Lady Jane died in 1917 and Incas soon after, on **February 21, 1918**.