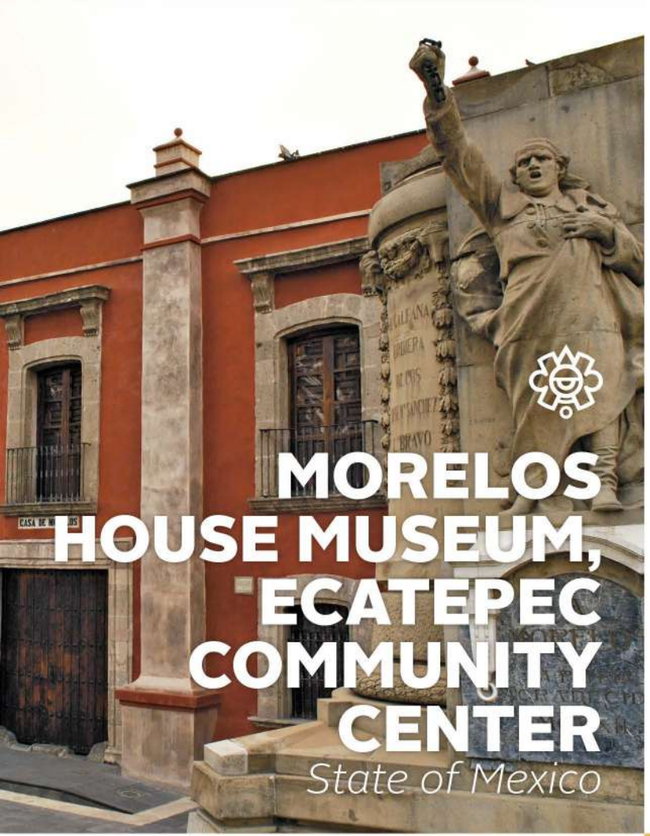


MORELOS HOUSE MUSEUM, ECATEPEC COMMUNITY CENTER

State of Mexico

/ HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

The Ecatepec Community Center is, a History Museum known as Morelos House, because it was the last place where the hero of Mexican Independence, the "Servant of the Nation" (José María Teclo Morelos y Pavón), was held prior to his execution on December 22, 1815.

The first viceroy received on this spot was don Antonio de Bucareli y Ursúa in 1771. Other viceroys who celebrated the change in power on this site were Martín de Mayorga (1779), Matías de Gálvez y Callardo (1784), and Bernardo de Gálvez (1785).

In the eighteenth century, when hydraulic infrastructure works were carried out near Ecatepec, the entity that monopolized trade in New Spain known as the Consulado de Mexico had the building constructed, which at that time was known as the Royal Drainage House.

Later it was called the Royal House or the House of the Viceroys, because some of the viceroys performed the ceremony marking the transition of power there, when they turned over the government from the exiting viceroy to the entering viceroy. After that, the entourage went to the Villa de Guadalupe, where ecclesiastical authorities awaited them to celebrate the viceroy's new authority.

Outside the building there is a monument dedicated to José María Teclo Morelos y Pavón that Porfirio Díaz had built in conjunction with the celebration of the Independence Centennial of 1910. However, its inauguration had to be postponed when the Mexican Revolution broke out. It was finally inaugurated on December 22, 1912, by president Francisco I. Madero.

On February 2, 1933, it was declared a Historic Monument, and later it went on to be part of the heritage under the jurisdiction of the National Institute of Anthropology and History (INAH). At the start of the 1990s, it was conceived as a Community Center, when its main purpose shifted to be a cultural hub for the community.



/ HOW TO GET THERE

Antigua Carretera México-Pachuca no number, colonia San Juan Acalhuacan, Ecatepec, State of Mexico.
1. Take the Continuación Vía Morelos between Avenida Revolución (30-30) and Primero de Mayo, or you can take the México-Pirámides highway.
2. Take the Mexibus at Indios Verdes in the direction of Las Américas (direct), and get off at the Casa de Morelos station.
3. At the Ciudad Azteca subway station, take Line 1 of the Mexibus to the Primero de Mayo station, transfer to Line 2 of the Mexibus and get off at the Casa de Morelos station.
4. From the subway, Rosario and Cuatro Caminos stations, take public transport that goes to "La Quebrada" and from there, Line 2 of the Mexibus, toward "Las Américas" and get off at the Casa de Morelos station.

/ Admission

Free-of-charge to Mexican citizens and foreign residents.

/ SERVICES

Library, auditorium, parking lot, restrooms, temporary exhibitions, cultural events, educational services, guided tours, summer courses, and workshops.

/ PHOTOGRAPHY

For the use of any device to make videos, visitors must pay the stipulated fee. Non-professional photography, without the use of tripods, is free of charge and must be done without flash.

/ HOURS

Museum: Tuesday to Sunday from 9 am to 5 pm.
Library: Tuesday to Saturday from 9 am to 5 pm.

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/ MAIN ATTRACTION

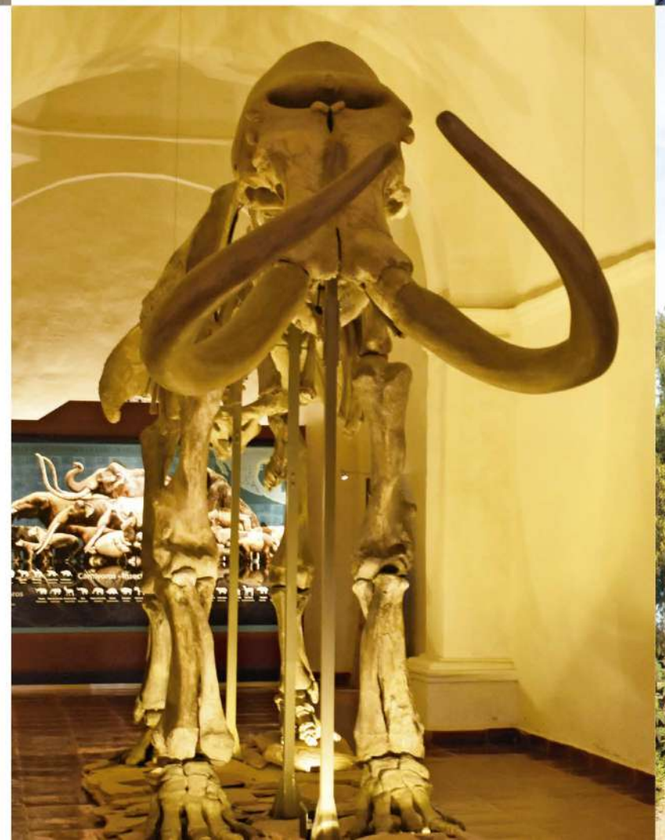
Columbian mammoth skeleton
(*Mammuthus columbi*)

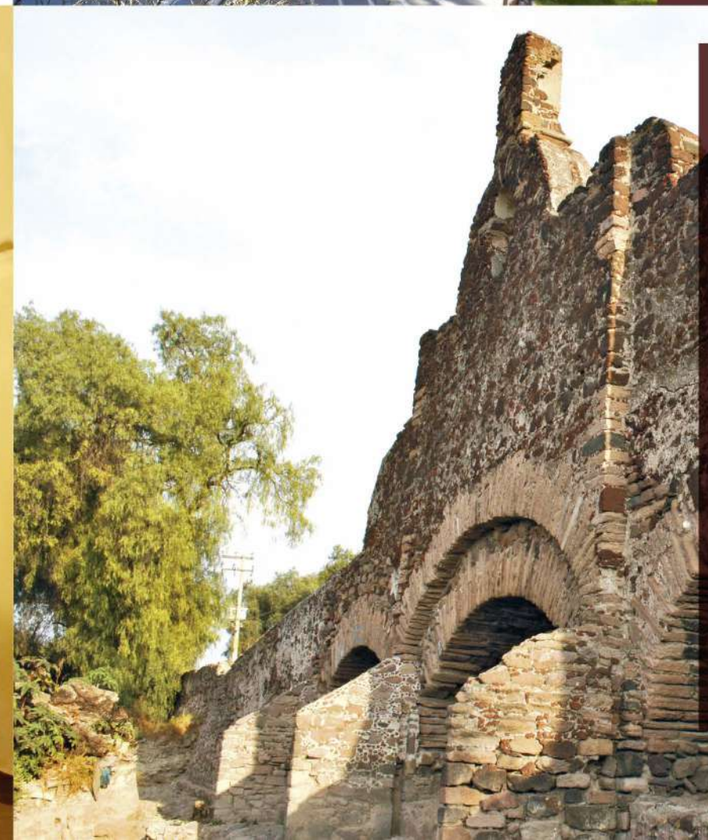
The specimen on display in this historic space was found in the vicinity of the neighborhood known as Ejidos de San Cristóbal, Ecatepec, in April 1995, on the lot belonging to don Porfirio Díaz Hernández. During the excavation, the decision was made that the remains would be moved to Morelos House for their restoration and exhibition.

The mammoth is approximately 12,000 years old. It weighs about 4 tons and measures more than 6 m long, 1.80 m wide, and almost 4 m tall.

Where to see it?

As part of the recovery of regional identity, it houses a mammoth diorama that reproduces Pleistocene vegetation and the interaction between people and the fauna of that era. The gallery explains and illustrates the process of the evolution of hominids and pachyderms, and displays some of the most recent discovers on evolution.





/ COLLECTION

The museum has an exhibition on the "Servant of the Nation," José María Morelos y Pavón. It features a graphic survey of social life in viceregal times and objects that illustrate the work of the supreme military commander of the forces that fought for Independence. The building also preserves the cell where Morelos was held prisoner before his execution by firing squad.

With the renovation of the building, it was possible to present a panorama of the ideological and social background that fueled the ideals of Independence, and particularly the mentality of the hero of Mexican Independence. It also offers information on the impact and importance of texts by José María Morelos on Mexican legislation and the configuration of its institutions.
In a separate space, pieces of pre-Hispanic origin, such as Chicomecoatl (the Great Maize Goddess), are presented in a separate gallery.

Also under its care are the remains of a mammoth, a highly important piece because it is the most complete skeleton found in the zone to date.

/SPACES

The central patio has a round tank—in the nineteenth century a well stored water for the site and neighboring houses—that limits the stable in the west. Today it displays two Berlin-type carriages, which belonged to the General Inspector's Office of Artistic and Historic Monuments.

The permanent exhibition on Morelos is on the ground floor of the main building. During viceregal times in New Spain the upper floor was occupied by the reception rooms and resting places for viceregal authorities; today it offers temporary exhibitions.

In the back garden you can find the Chapel of San Juan Acalhuacan, the former barrio of San Cristóbal Ecatepec. The exact date of its construction is unknown, but evidence suggests it is an eighteenth-century monument. Today it serves as a concert hall.

/ HIGHLIGHTS

400 BC Maintenance work in this historic building revealed evidence of continuous human occupation, since roughly 400 BC to the present.

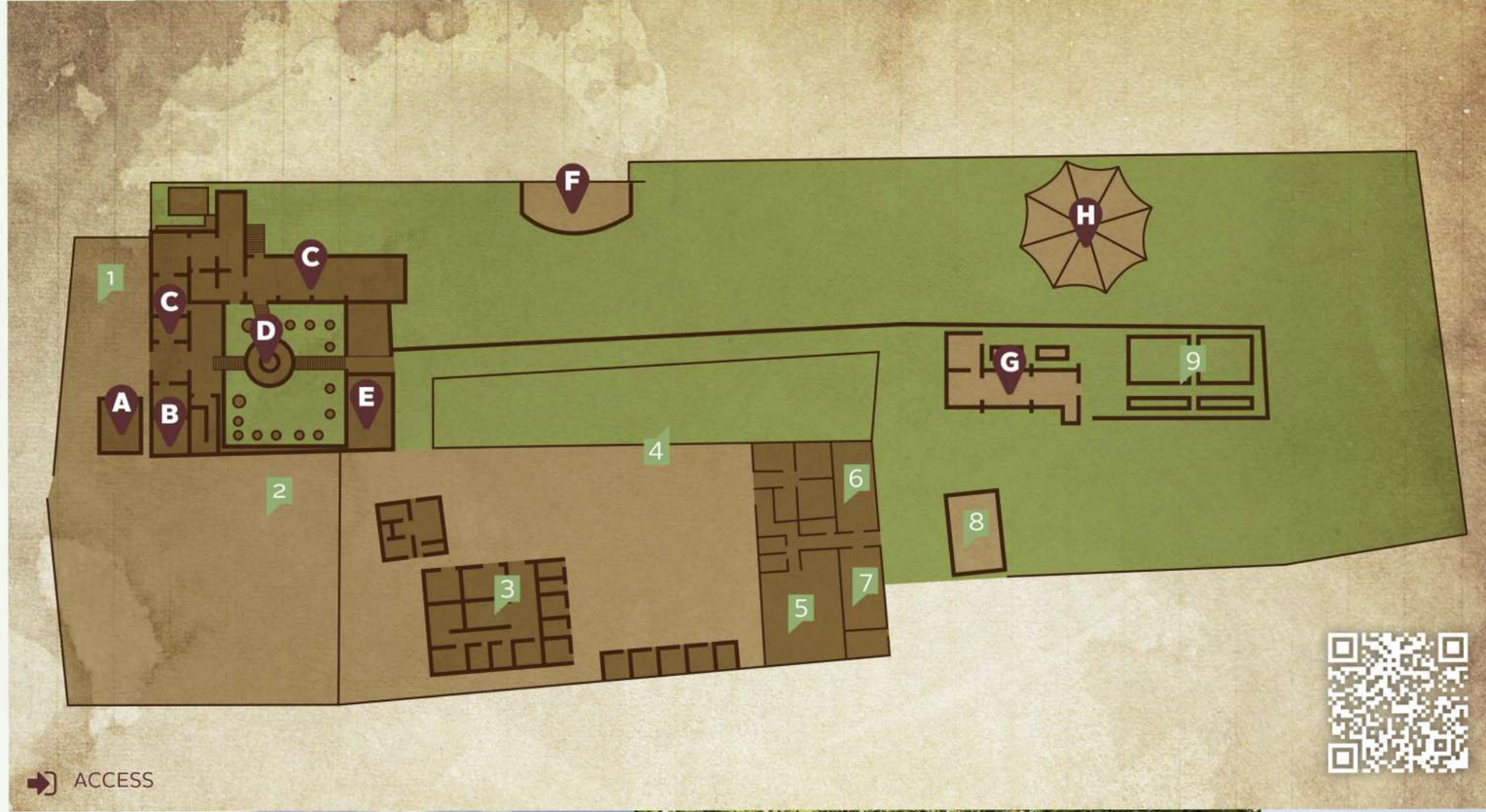
300 – 600 AC When the Chapel of San Juan was restored, a Teotihuacan residential unit was discovered, dating to about AD 300–600.

In archaeological salvage work during the construction of the toll road known as the Circuito Mexiquense, a Mexica residential unit was uncovered on the fringes of the property occupied by this historic precinct.

The geographic location of Morelos House and its position at the southern end of the natural corridor formed by the borders of Lake Texcoco and Lake Zumpango made this site an essential place of passage since ancient times.

During pre-Hispanic times and as a result of the hydraulic control developed by the Mexicas to avoid flooding of their capital Mexico-Tenochtitlan, a dike was built to separate fresh and brackish waters in Lake Texcoco and to reduce the likelihood of flooding in the Mexica city.

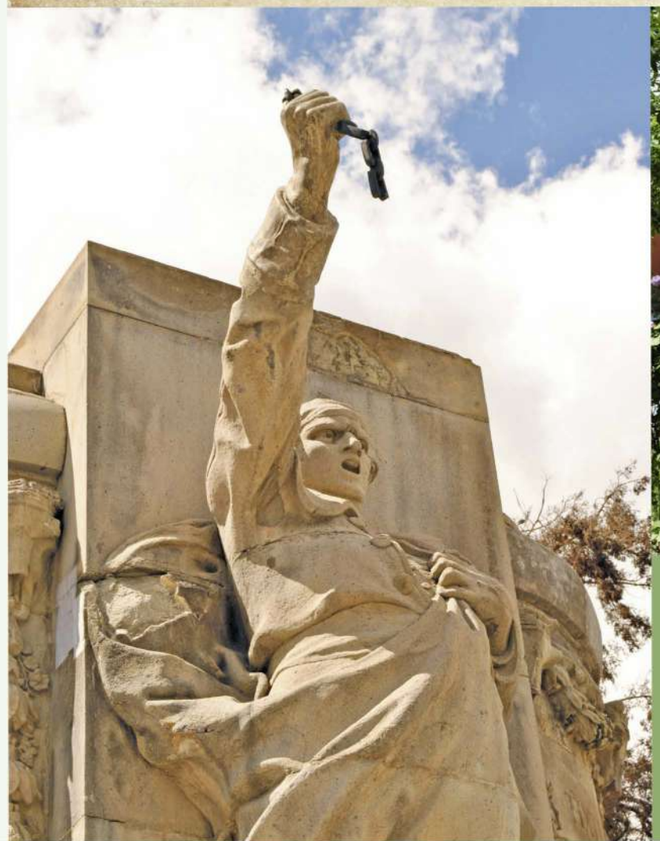
4 km This precinct was a vital part of the causeway-dike that went from the Royal Drainage House to the barrio known as Venta de Carpio, spanning close to 4 kilometers.



ESSENTIALS

- A *Morelos Monument*
- B *Cell of J. M. Morelos*
- C *Exhibition galleries*
- D *Artesian well*
- E *Stable*
- F *Mortuary mask (EXEDRA)*
- G *Chapel of San Juan Acalhuacan*
- H *Velarium (awning)*

1 Sun dial
2 Parking
3 Offices
4 Gardens
5 Educational Services
6 Auditorium
7 Library
8 Esplanade
9 Gardens





/ Supreme military commander José María Morelos y Pavón, after a judgment issued by ecclesiastical, military, and civil orders, was executed by firing squad on December 22, 1815, in the House of the Viceroys in San Cristóbal Ecatepec, today known as Morelos House.

