

LEGACY

It holds importance in terms of safeguarding the state's records, going back to when it held the collection of the former Yucatán Museum, the first public museum on the peninsula.

It currently houses an important repository of about 20,000 pieces, made up of collections from Mayan culture.

STELLAR PIECE

One archaeological piece that has been admired over the years is known as the "Tabi Stela." It portrays a scene in which two hunters are carrying a deer they have caught. There is a band of hieroglyphics on the top, which translates as "This is their deer, their prey. These are their glyphs."



It comes from the Tabi Hacienda, located in the municipality of Oxcutzcab, and dates back to the Late Classic Maya period.



Address
Paseo de Montejo #485 x 43, Centro Histórico, Mérida, Yucatán.

Information
It has ample space for people with motor disabilities to tour the facilities, as well as a wheelchair.
Tel. 99 9923 055, Ext. 17.

Opening Hours
Tuesday to Sunday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Last entry at 4:30 p.m.

Museo Palacio Cantón
Museo Palacio Cantón
@mpalaciocanton

CULTURA
SECRETARÍA DE CULTURA
INAH

THE MUSEUM TODAY

The museum is a place that is constantly evolving and always open and deliberate about everything it does, as proven by its history over the past six decades. It is currently a forum for dissemination and interaction that encourages dialogue, debate, and reflection, opening its doors to all who seek to marvel at Mexico's heritage.





ARCHITECTURE

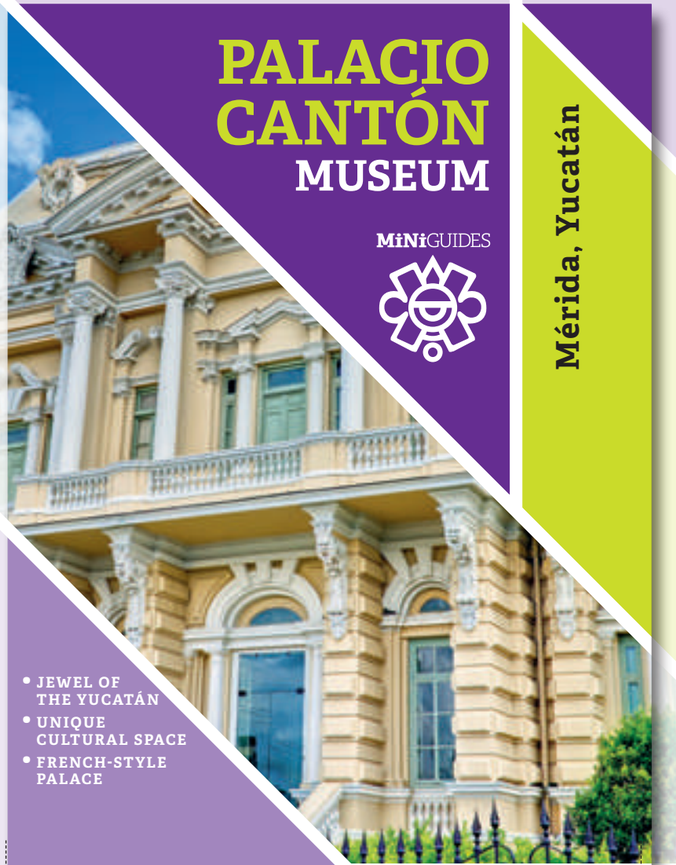
Its "Francophile" or "neo-French" architectural style sought to emulate the magnificence of the elaborate palaces in Europe. The details, both inside and outside, were rendered by sculptor and artist Michele Giacomino.

It didn't just stand out for its eclectic architecture, which incorporated a large number of ornamental elements in different styles, but it also included modern conveniences that didn't exist in the city at the time.

PALACIO CANTÓN MUSEUM

MiNiGUIDES

Mérida, Yucatán



- JEWEL OF THE YUCATÁN
- UNIQUE CULTURAL SPACE
- FRENCH-STYLE PALACE

BRIEF HISTORY

In 1904, construction of the palace began on the recently built "Paseo de Montejo" avenue, by order of Yucatán General Francisco Cantón Rosado. Italian architect Enrico Deserti was in charge of the design, completing it in 1911. The palace was occupied by General Cantón and his family until 1932, when the state government acquired the property. It was first converted into the Yucatán School of Fine Arts and later into the "Hidalgo" Upper Elementary School.

After housing different cultural institutions, it ceased to be a private building and became part of the Yucatán people's collective heritage, where national and foreign visitors can get to know other places and times by visiting each of its galleries.

YOUR MUSEUM MINI GUIDE

An open space for reflection

This majestic building houses a large collection of Mayan archaeological pieces, a collection including various temporary exhibitions that travel throughout Mexico and abroad, which is also shared with state and municipal museums.

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Galleries

Throughout its cultural life, the museum has displayed a large number of exhibitions of national and international collections in its galleries, garnering its current recognition as a landmark for the state's cultural endeavors.



Multicolored ceramic plate

Temporary exhibition.
Multiple ceramic depictions became distilled into a geometric composition resembling a flower with four petals and a center (quincunx). This plate bears that symbol, which is linked to the fertility of the Earth, represented by a female figure in the center.



Temporary Exhibitions

The museum currently houses temporary exhibitions, which generally run for approximately six months. Many exhibitions are managed at national level by INAH through CNME. There are also exhibitions from different collaborators such as researchers, independent artists, and the state government.



Frog figurine

Provenance: Chichén Itzá. Temporary exhibition.
This small frog, which is made of gold and inlaid with turquoise eyes, surely had a special symbolism due to the close relationship between amphibians, aquatic deities, and the underworld. Frogs and toads announced the arrival of the rains with their croaking, which meant the regeneration of the land.

Marble Staircase

Connecting the house's two main floors, this is one of Palacio Cantón Museum's most iconic spaces. Its "vaulted" architectural technique was very modern for its time, and it includes a huge mask sculpted from the same material.

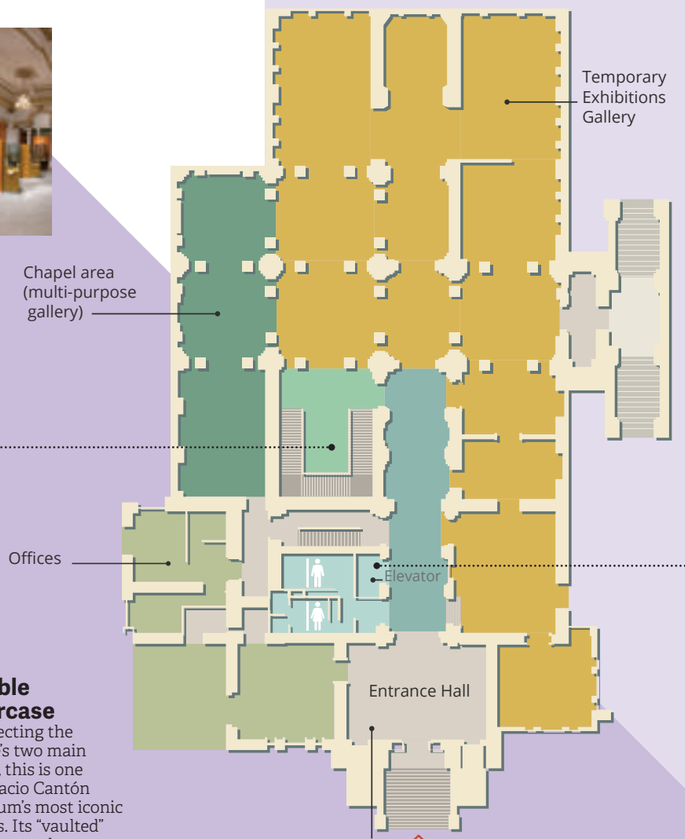


Facade

On the main facade (overlooking Calle 43) you can observe various architectural features: columns, pillars, cornices, moldings, heraldic motifs, garrets, dressed stone, sculptures, and balconies.



FIRST FLOOR



Deer Effigy Ceramic Vessel

900-1250.
Provenance: Uxmal.
Temporary exhibition.
As well as providing protein for people's diet, deer played an important role in the creation of myths that explained the movement of the stars.





Elevator

This was the first to be installed in a residence on the peninsula. Manufactured in Germany and shipped to Puerto Progreso, it is currently used to move very heavy exhibits or pieces. Although it is not open to the public for reasons of safety, you can get up close to admire its unique details.

SECOND FLOOR

Important for preservation

Palacio Cantón holds importance in terms of safeguarding the state's records, going back to when it held the collection of the former Yucatán Museum, the first public museum on the peninsula.

Heritage

Its heritage and responsibility since 1959 give the building its definitive vocation as a space of "museum quality," now following guidelines issued by the National Institute of Anthropology and History for the 162 venues within its museum network.





NOT TO BE MISSED

Another very important piece from the collection is the anthropomorphic censer of the "Mayapán Scribe God," possibly used as an idol during religious ceremonies. This is a cylindrical container on whose rim a plate was placed to burn copal resin and other offerings. These effigy censers have been dated to 1250/1300 to 1460 AD, which corresponds to the Postclassic period.

AN EXCEPTIONAL PALACE

1904
Construction was begun by architect Manuel G. Cantón Ramos, the owner's nephew.





1911-1932
In 1911, the work was concluded by Italian architect Enrico Deserti. From then until 1932, the house was owned by the Cantón Rosado family.

1932-1937
The Yucatán state government acquired it and converted it into the Yucatán School of Fine Arts.

1937-1948
It housed the "Hidalgo" Upper Elementary School.

1950-1959
The building was home to the state governors.

1959-1978
It was the headquarters of the former Yucatán Archaeology Museum; the "Crescencio Carrillo y Ancona" Library; the Academy of Mayan Language; the Yucatán Institute of Anthropology and History; and finally, the University of Yucatán's School of Anthropological Sciences.

1980 TO DATE
It was transformed into the "Palacio Cantón" Yucatán Regional Museum of Anthropology.