



FORT GUADALUPE MUSEUM

Puebla

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

In 2012, as part of the commemorations marking the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Cinco de Mayo (May 5th) and of the death of Ignacio Zaragoza (Espíritu Santo, Texas 1829–Puebla, 1862), the National Institute of Anthropology and History (INAH) reopened Fort Guadalupe. Likewise, in order to commemorate the victory of the forces of the Ejército de Oriente's victory led by General Zaragoza, a Site Gallery has been added to the museum to explain the historical evolution of the building from the sixteenth century when it was known as Acueyametepec Hill to its consolidation as a museum.

The Battle of Puebla, fought on May 5, 1862, is one of the most significant historical events in the defense of Mexican sovereignty and integrity. When the clock ticked 11:45 in the morning, the first shot rang out from Fort Guadalupe at the French contingents and at about 5:40 in the afternoon, the "best army in the world" had been defeated. As so it was that from 5:30 to 7:00 at night, General Porfirio Díaz left them at the Amozoc Checkpoint unable to regroup and attack. As a consequence, General Ignacio Zaragoza sent out these words from his side of the trenches:

"... we have fought against the best army in the world, the French army has been beaten with gallantry, its commanding general has conducted himself clumsily in the attack, the military of the supreme government has been covered in glory."
Gen. Ignacio Zaragoza



HOW TO GET THERE

Address: Av. Ejércitos de Oriente S/N Centro Cívico Cinco de Mayo | Los Fuertes, C.P. 72270, Puebla, Puebla.

From downtown in the city of Puebla go left on Boulevard Héroes del 5 de Mayo and turn right on Calle 2 Norte. Take Avenida Ejército de Oriente to the Zona de los Fuertes (Fort Zone). Once there, go to the upper part of the zone to find the Museum.

On the Mexico-Puebla highway, take the Calzada Ignacio Zaragoza and go straight. At the rotunda of the mausoleum to Zaragoza take Avenida Ejército de Oriente and go up the upper part to reach the Museum.

TEXTS

Miguel Díaz Sánchez
Lic. Guadalupe Tlapa Pérez

DESIGN

César Enríquez

SERVICES

Information booth, restrooms, wheelchair accessibility, parking, guided tours, Wi-Fi.

ADMISSION

\$55.00 Mexican pesos. According to the Federal Fees Act, admission is free for students, teachers, and seniors with a valid ID; children under 13 and people with a disability.

Sundays: Free admission for Mexican citizens and foreign residents.

PRODUCTION

Head of Promotion of the National Dissemination Office, INAH

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 a flash.

HOURS

Tuesday to Sunday from 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

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PHOTOGRAPHY

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CULTURA
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MAIN ATTRACTION

Oil on canvas of General Porfirio Díaz, Henri Nahpe, 1854

At the age of 33, Porfirio Díaz, general in charge of the Battalion of Oaxaca, triumphantly participated in the Battle of Puebla in 1862 under the command of General Ignacio Zaragoza. This painting shows him with a 1.20 cm gold necklace and plaque that he was awarded for the victory in the battle waged on April 2, 1867, when he made his triumphal entry into the city of Puebla as the French army was withdrawing during the Second Intervention.

Where to see it

This painting can be seen in the permanent exhibition in the Site Gallery in the Fort Guadalupe Museum.



COLLECTIONS

The museum has a collection of objects and artworks—acquired in 2012, as part of the celebrations commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Cinco de Mayo—that are a clear contribution to the state's patrimonial richness. The wide range of pieces are displayed in groups based on their technique, date, and historical subject matter. Among the highlights are handwritten and typed manuscripts, periodicals, and decrees, along with an extensive array of medals, prints, portraits, objects, and newspapers from the time of the French Intervention.

It is worth mentioning that some of these pieces belonged to leaders from the sierra who fought in the war, while others are from venerable private collections on long-term loan to the Colegio de Puebla and the National Institute of Anthropology and History (INAH) as part of the permanent exhibition.



MAJOR DATES



In the sixteenth century the spot was known as Acueyametepec; "hill of frogs and agaves." Then a hermitage dedicated to Saint Christopher, a Tlaxcaltec martyr, was built here and later remodeled into a hospital and church.

1674

In 1674 the Bethlehemite order built the chapel dedicated to the Our Lady of Bethlehem.

1756

In 1756 the building was partially destroyed by a strong storm.

1773

In 1773 the Chapel was restored and a basilica-plan church dedicated to Our Lady of Guadalupe was constructed.



In the nineteenth century the space was transformed into a fortification.

1862

In 1862 it was outfitted as a fort before the imminent arrival of foreign troops.



On May 5, 1862, fighting against the invading French troops was waged here.



In 1976 it was placed under the jurisdiction of INAH. In 2012 it was consolidated as a Museum and opened to the public on September 8 that same year.



ESSENTIALS:

- A** Site Gallery
- B** Ground floor: Temporary exhibitions area
- C** Upper floor: Mezzanine (Multiple use space)
- D** Ludic area
- E** Walled in tunnel

- 1 Reception area
- 2 Atrium
- 3 Engine room
- 4 Chapel annex
- 5 Lookout
- 6 Moat
- 7 Bastion 1 (model)
- 8 Bastion 2
- 9 Sculpture area

➔ ACCESS



A hundred and fifty years after the Battle of Puebla, the Fort Guadalupe Museum is a space that aims to bring visitors closer to this monument's uses through time, to the historical event that took place here on May 5, 1862, and to the history of the Mexican army in the nineteenth century. Similarly, this structure is emblematic of the monumental architectural patrimony of the city of Puebla and is an extremely important icon for the Mexican people.

