

[TOUR THIS]

NEW SITES to See This Summer

Texas Treasures

For five decades, J.P. and Mary Jon Bryan meticulously collected pieces of history—accumulating some 70,000 items, the world’s largest private collection pertaining to the history of Texas and the American Southwest. The collection finally becomes available for the public to view this summer, when the long-awaited **Bryan Museum** opens in Galveston.

The Bryans and their team have been restoring the 1902 former Galveston Orphans Home to house the exhibits—a fitting home that was for decades a safe haven for thousands of children and is



now protecting treasured pieces of Texas history. Items date back to the pre-Columbian period through the Mexican Revolution. Treasures include an ornate saddle used by Mexican President Porfirio Díaz, a sword used to aid in the capture of

Santa Anna, and a large quantity of Stephen F. Austin’s personal papers.

At press time, the Bryan Museum planned to open on June 19. Admission is \$4–\$10. (409) 632-7685; thebryanmuseum.com.

—Barbara and Jim Twardowski



Desert Style

Fans of the open-concept and no-fuss styling of midcentury modern design have long flocked to California’s Palm Springs area to get their architecture fix. That’s what makes the city such a good home for the new **Architecture and Design Center**, an arm of the Palm Springs Art Museum.

Opened last fall, the center offers exhibitions on topics ranging from architecture to landscaping and even fashion. The scope goes beyond the midcentury style—despite the center’s home in the attractive Santa Fe Federal Savings and Loan, built in 1961. Renovations included removing the carpeting to reveal the original terrazzo floor and setting up the gift shop in the original bank vault.

The center is open Wednesday–Sunday. Admission is \$5. Closed all of August. (760) 322-4800; psmuseum.org. The center runs architecture tours via a van (\$150 per person). The small-group format allows for touring private homes as well as iconic public buildings. Reservations for the tours are required. (760) 904-0904; themoderntour.com. —Kendra Strey

FROM TOP: COURTESY BRYAN MUSEUM; COURTESY PALM SPRINGS ART MUSEUM