

ORIGEN MUSEUM

OVERVIEW: The Origen Museum comprises multiple galleries featuring 63 permanent exhibits, an indoor theater, a travelling exhibit space, and a fine art display area. As the interpretive focal point for history at the Preserve, the Origen Museum conveys the natural and cultural history of the site and its common designation as the “birthplace of Las Vegas.” The building is Platinum LEED certified by the U.S. Green Building Council.

ARCHITECT: Tate Snyder Kimsey Architects (Las Vegas, NV)

EXHIBIT DESIGN: West Office Exhibition Design (Oakland, CA)

The Nassal Company (Orlando, FL)

Playground Media (Los Angeles, CA)

KEY AREAS:

Origen Rotunda – The entry and primary gathering place for the Origen Museum where visitors can obtain information to enhance their experience. The galleries and theater radiate off this central space which contains unique seating, an artistic representation of the original springs and sculptures honoring the organizations and individuals whose generous contributions made it possible to bring this oasis in the desert to life.

Big Springs Theater – With seating for 156 people, the panoramic-style, state-of-the art theater features an eight-minute movie to introduce visitors to the Springs Preserve entitled “Miracle in the Mojave.” The theater also presents educational, entertaining short films as well as full-length feature movies for special events.

Big Springs Gallery – The revolving gallery space presents a new exhibit approximately every three months of artistic works from local artist(s) or with themes relating to Las Vegas, the Southwest, history, culture, conservation and preservation.

Natural Mojave Gallery – Interactive and stationary exhibits explore the geological and biological history of the Mojave Desert and the springs, including a flash flood experience.

The Living Collections - Live animal exhibits feature Mojave natives who've adapted to arid desert conditions including a grey fox, sidewinder, Gila monsters, desert cottontails, lizards and more.

People of the Springs – The focus of this gallery is the cultural history of the Springs Preserve and water's pivotal role in the development of Las Vegas. Visitors explore recreated native dwellings, a historic railroad car, and a re-enactment of the first land auction, a Hoover Dam exhibit and many others.

New Frontier Gallery – This expansive space is a venue for traveling, limited engagement interactive, edutainment exhibits for kids of all ages. A new exhibit is presented in this space approximately every three months.