



South Wing of the Kimbell Art Museum, Fort Worth, Texas, 2011 by Carol Highsmith

## North Texas Modern Weekend

### DOCOMOMO TRAVEL TOUR

**October 24-26**

In collaboration with Docomomo US/North Texas and the Paul Rudolph Institute

North Texas, once a frontier of cattle drives and railroads, transformed into a major cultural and economic hub in the 20th century. Fueled by oil wealth, aviation, and postwar growth, Fort Worth and Dallas embraced bold architectural visions that define their skylines today. This three-day weekend tour explores the region's 20th-century architectural legacy, beginning in Fort Worth. Highlights include visits to the Cultural District's renowned museums: the Amon Carter Museum of American Art by Philip Johnson; the serene, concrete-and-glass Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth by Tadao Ando; and Louis Kahn's celebrated Kimbell Art Museum, widely regarded as one of the world's finest museum designs.

On the final day, the tour heads east to Dallas to explore the city's key modernist landmarks. The day begins at Temple Emanu-El, a striking 1957 synagogue that unites modern design and spiritual symbolism. Guests will then visit NorthPark Center, a mid-century retail icon by E.G. Hamilton that integrates modern architecture with world-class art. The afternoon includes a walk through the Dallas Arts District, featuring works by Renzo Piano, I.M. Pei, and Edward Larrabee Barnes. The tour concludes at Pei's iconic, Brutalist Dallas City Hall, its dramatic cantilevered form serving as a powerful civic statement and a testament to North Texas's enduring architectural vision.



## SCHEDULE

---

*Please note: North Texas Modern Weekend begins in Fort Worth at 4pm on Friday and ends at 4pm on Sunday. Please consider travel plans and flights carefully as to not miss a segment of the tour. The bus will drop travelers at the main Dallas Fort Worth Airport (DFW) at approximately 4:30pm on Sunday and continue back to Fort Worth for anyone staying an additional day.*

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24

Guests gather at the Ashton Hotel for a welcome meet-and-greet before embarking on a rare, once-in-a-lifetime tour of the Bass Residence, designed by renowned architect Paul Rudolph. Located in the Fort Worth suburbs, this expansive residence – Rudolph’s largest private home – stands as a monumental example of his bold and visionary style. Kelvin Dickinson, president of the Paul Rudolph Institute, joins the group for the tour, offering unique insights into the home’s design and significance. Transportation is provided.

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25

For our full day in Fort Worth, guests are treated to a morning walking tour through downtown that reveals a legacy in concrete, glass, and landscaped design. We begin in Sundance Square, the heart of the city, where revitalized Art Deco facades stand alongside sleek modernist office towers. From there, the tour heads south to the Fort Worth Water Gardens, a dramatic urban park designed in 1974 by renowned architect Philip Johnson. This immersive space features cascading water terraces and sunken pools, emphasizing form, sound, and motion as architectural elements. Nearby, Heritage Plaza offers another sensory landscape – a Brutalist tribute to the city’s history – designed by landscape architect Lawrence Halprin. It combines native stonework and native vegetation with stark, monumental design, anchoring Fort Worth’s commitment to both preservation and progress.

In the afternoon, we visit the Cultural District, home to three architectural icons of modern and contemporary design. (Cont.)

Photos: Bass Residence, 1970, by Paul Rudolph; Sundance Square, 2018, by Shiva Shenoy via Wikimedia; Fort Worth Water Gardens, 2016, by Michael Barera via Wikimedia; Heritage Park Plaza, 2016, by Dror Baldin via TCLF





### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25 (CONT.)

First is the Amon Carter Museum of American Art, with its sweeping portico and hilltop views, a 1961 building designed by Philip Johnson in his early modernist style, later expanded but still rooted in restraint and classical balance. Just steps away stands the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, a luminous building by Japanese architect Tadao Ando completed in 2002. With its serene reflecting pools and minimalist concrete planes, the museum embodies harmony and quiet contemplation. Finally, the tour concludes at the Kimbell Art Museum, a 1972 masterpiece by Louis Kahn, whose vaulted cycloid ceilings and masterful use of natural light make it one of the most celebrated museum designs in the world. Together, these institutions form a compact, walkable hub where architecture and landscape speak as eloquently as the art they house.



### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26

On Sunday, spend a full day exploring the rich Modernist heritage of Dallas. The day begins with an exterior visit to the Kalita Humphreys Theater, dramatically perched above Turtle Creek. It is one of the few public buildings ever designed by Frank Lloyd Wright and the recent focus of a major preservation effort. From there, experience the evolving landscape of Dallas residential design with planned tours of several architecturally significant homes, from classic International Style to bold contemporary reinterpretations. We continue on to the Dallas Arts District, home to landmark buildings by global architects, and concludes at I.M. Pei's iconic Dallas City Hall. Completed in 1978, the building's massive inverted pyramid form and soaring plaza represent a striking example of Brutalist civic architecture and serve as a fitting finale to the weekend's exploration of 20th-century design in North Texas.



Photos: Facade of the Amon Carter Museum of American Art, 2019, by Daniel Orr via Wikimedia; Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, 2003, by Andreas Praefcke via Wikimedia; The Kalita Humphreys Theater, via Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation; Dallas City Hall, 2014, by Carol Highsmith via Wikimedia

**ROBERT MECKFESSEL, FAIA**

Robert Meckfessel, FAIA, is an activist architect with more than 30 years of experience in the planning and design of institutional, residential, and commercial projects throughout North America and Asia. Many of these projects have been recognized for innovation and excellence in urban design, architecture, and preservation from professional and industry organizations, including AIA Dallas, Texas Society of Architects, Preservation Texas, and Preservation Dallas. He serves or has served in a leadership role of many organizations involved with the quality and public awareness of the built environment, including Docomomo US, the Trinity Park Conservancy, the Trinity Commons Foundation, Texas Society of Architects, and AIA Dallas.



**GREGORY S. IBÁÑEZ FAIA**

With over 45 years of experience in architecture, Greg has produced a significant body of work that led to his elevation to the AIA College of Fellows in 2012. In 2006 he was awarded the Charles R. Adams Award for Design Excellence by the Fort Worth Chapter of the American Institute of Architects in recognition of his career accomplishments. He was previously Chair of the Fort Worth Public Art Commission. He is currently an adjunct professor at the University of Texas at Arlington School of Architecture and he previously taught at Texas Tech University. Greg was a Contributing Editor for Texas Architect magazine and has been a guest speaker for the Dallas Architecture Forum, The Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, and the Texas Society of Architects convention.



**KELVIN DICKINSON**

Kelvin Dickinson Jr. graduated from the College of Design, Architecture, Art & Planning at the University of Cincinnati in 1996 and has been a lifelong fan of Mr. Rudolph's work. He joined the Paul Rudolph Foundation in 2006 and became Co-Director from 2009-2010. After working overseas, he joined The Paul Rudolph Institute for Modern Architecture in 2017.



## REGISTRATION

---

### PROGRAM RATE\*

Weekend Tour (Fri–Sun)

**MEMBERS:** \$995\* per person

**NON-MEMBERS:** \$1295\* per person

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Oct. 2, 2025

\* Includes: \$500 non-refundable deposit; a comprehensive educational land program; entrance to all locations and sites, as detailed; transport between the preferred hotel and daily sites; one lunch and one reception. Guests are responsible for airfare, accommodations, drinks and meals unless specified, and transportation to/from airport unless otherwise provided.

### HOTEL

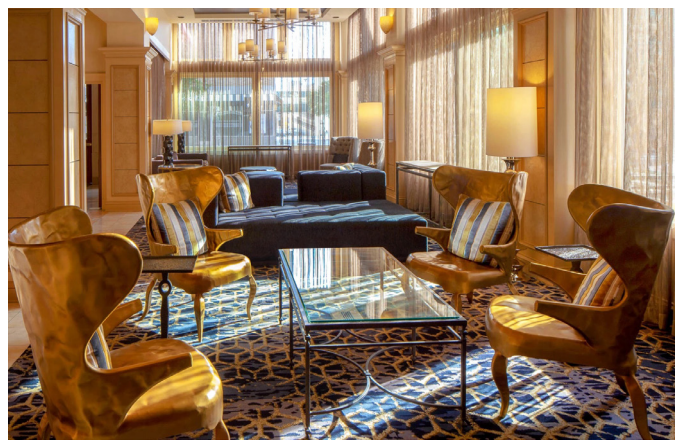
Docomomo US recommends that guests book accommodations at the Ashton Hotel, a boutique property housed in a beautifully restored 1915 building in the heart of downtown Fort Worth. Guests are of course welcome to choose from the wide range of hotels in Fort Worth, however, the Ashton offers a convenient home base for the weekend's events, and all tours depart from and return to this hotel.

Ashton Hotel: \$212 plus tax | [BOOK HERE](#)

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

---

North Texas Modern Weekend is presented in collaboration with Docomomo US/North Texas and the Paul Rudolph Institute. Schedules and program details are provided in good faith based on available information. Changes to the itinerary, accommodations, or arrangements may occur at Docomomo US's discretion, with or without notice. Docomomo US reserves the right to cancel this event at any time if it cannot be held safely, for any reason. In this case, Docomomo US would refund participants the cost of their registration but is not be responsible for any other costs incurred as a result of its decision to cancel the event. Registrants may cancel through Oct. 1, 2025, for a refund, less the \$500 deposit. Cancellations after Oct. 2, 2025, will not be refunded. Email [info@docomomo-us.org](mailto:info@docomomo-us.org) to cancel your registration. Attendees may purchase travel insurance, which may reimburse certain costs in the event that the event is canceled or you are unable to participate. Docomomo US does not recommend a specific insurer or insurance product, and will not provide guidance.



### ABOUT DOCOMOMO TRAVEL TOURS

---

Docomomo Travel Tours offer a unique travel experience in a small group setting, with access to modern homes and buildings off the beaten path or not ordinarily open to the public. Contact us at [info@docomomo-us.org](mailto:info@docomomo-us.org) for more information on tours.