explore

Your journey through Tulare’s past begins with a short introductory video. Then, a trained docent will guide you through the museum and share stories about some of the extraordinary people who have made Tulare their home. Next, you’ll visit our Heritage Room art gallery where rotating exhibits showcase the talents of local artists. Finally, browse our Gift Shop for unique jewelry, décor items and hard-to-find historical books.

learn

The Tulare Historical Museum is an educational resource to visitors of all ages. All third-grade classes in the Tulare City School District tour the museum annually. Middle school and high school students display their talents in our annual Student Art Show. The museum’s archives room houses thousands of photographs, documents and reference books. Research opportunities are available by appointment.

volunteer

Help us make history! Volunteers are the lifeblood of the Tulare Historical Museum. Choose how you would like to help: lead tours, help in our beautiful Gift Shop or assist in our business office. We will find a task that is right for you!

join

Help us bring the past into the future by joining the Tulare City Historical Society. Members receive our quarterly newsletter, Then&Now, plus invitations to receptions and special events. You’ll also enjoy a 10 percent discount in our Gift Shop.
The Museum

In 1980 a group of Tulare residents with a passion for local history formed the Tulare City Historical Society. Their mission was to build a museum that would tell the story of Tulare from its beginning to modern times.

The Tulare Historical Museum opened in 1985 on the site of Tulare’s first real public school house. The beautifully crafted exhibits showcase Tulare’s past, beginning with the Yokuts Indians, the area’s first inhabitants. See their tools, their game pieces and their beautifully woven baskets and cradle boards.

As your tour unfolds you’ll meet Tulare’s pioneer families and see fully furnished rooms from their homes and businesses. You’ll meet Tulare’s heroes, including Olympic champions Bob Mathias and Sim Inness; military leaders Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt Jr. and General Maurice Preston; and renowned aviators Tex Rankin and Bryan Allen.

The museum’s Military History Wing is home to the Manuel Toledo Military Collection and contains uniforms, photographs and artifacts from our nation’s military conflicts beginning with the American Revolutionary War.

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 248
Tulare, CA 93275
Phone: 559-686-2074 Fax: 559-686-9295
www.tularehistoricalmuseum.org

Hours of Operation
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday through Saturday
Admission: Adults - $5
Seniors 55+ and AAA members - $3
Students - $2
Tulare City Historical Society Members – Free

Cover photo courtesy of Gainsborough Studios