California State Library
California History Section

Research Guides
Tulare County History

Visit Us
California History Section
900 N Street Room 200
9:30-4 Monday-Friday
Formed in 1852, Tulare County boasted a population of 442,179 people as of 2010. In addition to having several historic preservation organizations, Tulare is also home to Colonel Allensworth State Historic Park, an African American community founded in 1908, several wildlife refuges, agricultural communities and more! If you are looking for exciting local history resources in the California History Section's rich collections, then check out what we have for this county!

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ENJOY YOUR RESEARCH!
Can’t come to the library just yet? No worries! There are a number of online resources you can explore related to Tulare County!

**Digitized Publications**

A few years ago we digitized some of our more fragile publications. You can now see documents related to Tulare County on Internet Archive!

URL: https://archive.org/

Type in Search Box: (Tulare) AND collection: (californiastatelibrary)

Select Option: “Search Full Text of Books”

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**Digitized Images**

We have scanned and digitized a portion of our extensive photograph collection, including images related to Tulare County. You can see them on Calisphere!

URL: https://calisphere.org/institution/51/items/

Type in Search Box: (“Tulare County”)
**California State Association of Counties**

Like Wikipedia but locally grown, this government website will provide basic information about Tulare County.

**URL:** http://www.counties.org/county-websites-profile-information

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**County Website**

Want to learn about what Tulare County residents have to say for themselves? Check out the county government’s website!

**URL:** http://tularecounty.ca.gov/county/
GENERAL RESEARCH TIPS

While many of our materials are online, even more are only in hard-copy. You can use the following resources to learn about our Tulare County resources.

Catalog

If you are looking for Tulare County materials, your best source is our [catalog](https://csl.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/discovery/search?vid=01CSL_INST:CSL&lang=en&sortby=rank).

You can do a general search on the catalog but also be sure to check out our specialized resources on page 8 of this research guide!

California Information File II

Sometimes the catalog doesn’t provide as much detail as you might like. This is why we created the California Information File II, successor to the analog California Information File I. In this resource, you can find indexing to individual articles, as well as Tulare County menus, deeds, pamphlets and more!

URL: [http://dbs.library.ca.gov/dbtext_html/QueryCalinfo.htm](http://dbs.library.ca.gov/dbtext_html/QueryCalinfo.htm)

Type in Search Box: 1. Tulare 2. Name of a city in Tulare County
City Directories

Looking for a person? How about the history of a location? You can trace this information and more via our city directories! See what we have by checking our specialized database.

URL: http://dbs.library.ca.gov/dbtext_html/QueryCityDir.htm

Type in Search Box:
1. Tulare
2. Name of a city in Tulare County

Telephone Books

Are you not finding what you need in our city directory collection? No worries, you might find it in our telephone book collection. See what we have by checking our phone book database.

URL: http://dbs.library.ca.gov/dbtext_html/QueryPhonebk.htm

Type in Search Box:
1. Tulare
2. Name of a city in Tulare County
Tulare County has a long and distinguished history! Check out our resources by type and by subject to learn more about this county’s complex past!

**Type**
- Maps
- Books
- County Histories
- Images
- Manuscripts

**Residents**
- Newspapers
- Periodicals
- Vitals
- Chinese Americans
- Japanese Americans
- Native Americans

**Subject**
- Agriculture
- Business
- Cooking
- Education
- Environment
- Fiction
- Geology
- Horse Racing
- Legislature
- Mining
- Politics
- Railroads
- Religion
- Water
- 1960’s
On-Site Research Resources

Our collection predates computers and so do some of our access points! If you are in the library, be sure to check the following analog files for leads on more resources.

California Information File

In the library? Check the California Information File before you do anything else! This file indexes over 130 years of California articles, books, and manuscript collections from all 58 counties.

Subject Headings: Counties: Tulare

Map File

Looking for a Tulare county map? Our map file is a great place to start. We have a wide variety of maps, including Sanborn fire insurance maps. Some of our maps cover settlement patterns and even natural history.

Subject Headings: Counties: Tulare

Photographic File

Sometimes a picture is worth a 1000 words and not all of our pictures are online. To check the rest of the collection search our picture file card catalog.

Subject Headings: Counties: Tulare
OTHER ON-SITE RESOURCES

Despite our best efforts, some of our resources defy complete description. We suggest that you ask a librarian about Tulare county information contained in the following resources.

Vertical Files

Our massive collection of vertical files covers a wide variety of topics including individual counties. You can check them for pamphlets, certificates and even posters related to organizations, individuals, and area histories.

Subject Headings: Check with librarians

Postcard Files

Separate from our photo collection, our postcard collection contains a number of images related to Tulare County. Most are not online.

Subject Headings: Check with librarians
Other Places to Look

Of course, the California History Section doesn’t have everything, so we suggest that in addition to looking at our collections, you contact the following organizations

Other California State Library Sections

Government Publications Section
Witkin Law Library
Sutro Library
General Information

URLs:
- http://www.library.ca.gov/government-publications/
- http://www.library.ca.gov/law/
- http://www.library.ca.gov/sutro/
- https://www.library.ca.gov/services

Other Organizations

California State Archives
California State Parks
Tulare County Clerk-Recorder
Tulare County Historical Society
Tulare County Library
Tulare County Museum

URLs:
- http://www.sos.ca.gov/archives/
- https://www.parks.ca.gov/
- http://tularecounty.ca.gov/clerkrecorder/
- 
- www.tularecountyhistoricalsociety.org/
- https://www.tularecountylibrary.org/
- http://tularecountymuseum.org/museum/