

The
Tubac
Historical
Society
P.O. Box 3261
Tubac, AZ 85646-3261

Join Today!



The Tubac Historical Society

50 Bridge Road, Suite B1
P.O. Box 3261
Tubac, AZ 85646-3261
520-398-2020

The Tubac Historical Society

Why Join THS?

Tubac is over 250 years old and is the first European settlement in Arizona. Why not become part of Tubac and its historic past and present? We are looking for individuals who are excited about preserving and celebrating Tubac's history, culture and unique qualities. If you feel as we do, don't delay in joining us today!

THS Mission

- To bring together those people interested in the history of the Southwest, and especially the history of the Tubac area.
- To discover and collect material which may help to establish or illustrate the history of the area.
- To provide for the preservation of such material and to make it accessible to those who wish to examine or study it.
- To undertake the preservation of historic buildings, sites and markers.

Events

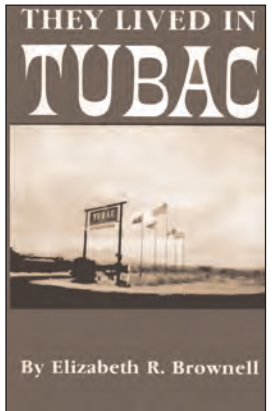
Each month from October to May we highlight historic events and people. The Festival of the Arts is in February, our annual picnic is in April, and Anza Days is in October. In addition to our monthly meetings, we have field trips, lectures and other exciting historic events.



Elizabeth R. Brownell Research Library

The Tubac Historical Society Library is named for Elizabeth R. Brownell who wrote *They Lived in Tubac*. The library was established in 1974 when the Kenyon Guest Ranch located in Tubac donated approximately 300 books, maps and photographs to the Society. Operated and maintained by an all-volunteer staff, the Library's collections include:

- Over 3,000 volumes on Arizona and Southwestern history, biography, geology, geography, politics, philosophy, religion, nature, fiction, children's literature, sociology and economics.
- Books by local authors.
- Tapes and transcriptions of oral histories and interviews.
- Periodicals, pamphlets and clippings.
- Historical and current maps for the area.
- Rare books and documents.
- Speeches and presentations by amateur and professional historians recorded on tape.
- Genealogical references and records.



**Hours are 1:00–4:00 PM
Thursday through Sunday
October through April**

Tubac's Flags

At the entrance to Tubac there are five flags, each representing one of the five governing bodies that have at one time laid claim to Tubac.



They are Spain, Mexico, the Confederacy, the United States of America and the State of Arizona. The five flag array at the village entrance was donated and dedicated to the village by the Tubac Historical Society on November 11, 1980.

Tubac's 5 Cultures

Hohokam: (300 B.C.)

Tohono O'odham, (Pima): (400 A.D)

Spanish: Missionaries begin trading with the Pima as early as 1645, eventually leading to the establishment of the Presidio of San Ignacio de Tubac in 1752.

Mexican: Mexico gained independence from Spain in 1821 bringing Tubac under the flag of Mexico.

American: In 1853, with the Gadsden Purchase, Tubac becomes part of the United States.

Tubac Firsts

1752 First European settlement in Arizona.

1789 First Spanish land grant issued to Toribio de Otero.

1859 First printing press and publication of the first newspaper in Arizona, *The Monthly Arizonian*.

1885 One of the first schools in Arizona.

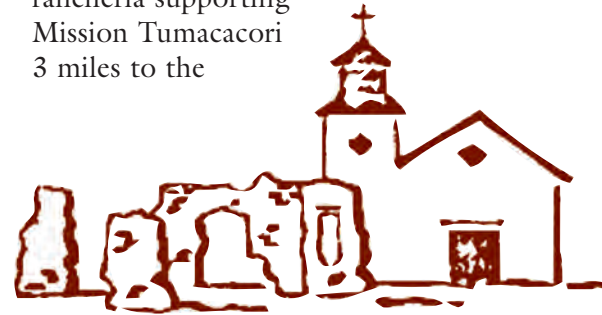
What A History!

The word Tubac comes from the Pima Indian language and is not easily defined. There are several Pima words that the name Tubac could come from. **Tuba** can mean "low" or "long;" the remaining "c" simply is an indicator that **tuba** is a descriptive word. Another possibility is to divide the word into two syllables as is commonly done today: **tu-bac**. The syllable **tu** means "black" and **bac** can indicate either a "cavity," "depression," or "pond." This gave way to the tradition of **Tubac** meaning "dark water." Another possibility is that the name comes from the Pima word

tubaki which means cloud. We have then at least three possible meanings for the word **Tubac**: "low place," "black or dark pond" and "cloud." The first is the most likely to reflect the original meaning since most Pima Indian placenames indicate the size and shape of geographical features, thus, describing the low lands along the Santa Cruz River.

As for the correct pronunciation, you can take your pick of two. In Spanish it is pronounced **too-bahk** and the last syllable receives the emphasis. If you prefer an English pronunciation, say **too-back** and stress the first syllable.

Tubac has had a long history as a pre-historic Hohokam village which was later occupied by the Pima (Tohono O'odham) and sporadically by the Apaches; a Spanish rancheria supporting Mission Tumacacori 3 miles to the



south; a major Spanish Presidio which gave rise to Tubac, the first European settlement in Arizona; following the Mexican War of Independence, a small Mexican village in the state of Sonora, Mexico; a remote Mexican military post until the Gadsden Purchase; an American mining town with a population of over 1,000, making it the largest town in the territory; a hotbed for southern sympathizers, and a few months later, a Union Civil War Camp; a small agriculture and ranching community during the territorial period; and currently a thriving artists' colony.

CAMgraphics@verizon.net

Tubac Historical Society Membership Application

Date: _____

Name: _____

Local Address: _____

Local Phone: _____

Out of State Address: _____

Out of State Phone: _____

Please check months you are in Tubac:

All year Jan. Feb. Mar.

Apr. May Jun. Jul. Aug.

Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.

New Member Renewal

Type of Membership	Amount
<input type="checkbox"/> Gold (benefactor)	\$250+
<input type="checkbox"/> Silver (patron)	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Copper (sustaining)	\$50
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$35
<input type="checkbox"/> Single	\$25

(Dues cover a one-year period from January to December.)

Mail to:

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Tubac Down But Not Out 7 Times

1751 Tubac is destroyed during the Pima Revolt.

1761 Tubac Presidio guards abandon Tubac when they see ghosts. Tubac became the only ghost town due to "ghosts."

1777 Col. Hugo O'Connor moves the Tubac garrison to Tucson in 1776. Tubac is abandoned for 7 years.

1840 Now a small Mexican village, Tubac is attacked by Apaches and wiped out.

1849 Mexico, at war with the United States, withdraws troops from Tubac. Apaches attack again and massacre the inhabitants.

1854 The Gadsden Purchase causes Mexican soldiers and civilians to

withdraw from Tubac and return to Mexico.

1862 During the Civil War, Apaches and Sonorans lay siege to Tubac for 3 days. The surviving citizens flee to Tucson.