



Celebrate
Greensboro

Art. Culture. Entertainment.

The Greensboro Historical Museum

BY LANCE ELKO

If a city could speak

O Henry wrote in 1908, “What would a city say if it could speak?” Twenty-six years after the writer posed this question, an answer was given. The Greensboro Historical Museum was born.

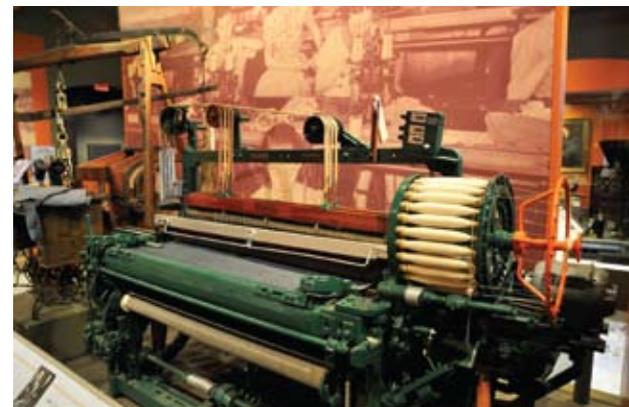
of note include an ornate shell necklace crafted by Native Americans, a rifle fired during the Revolutionary War Battle of Guilford Courthouse, a loom from the time that Greensboro was called the world’s denim capital, and seats from the Woolworth’s lunch counter, site of the famed sit-in that sparked change across the South.

Voices of a City is the latest in the museum’s outstanding exhibits. In light of the Civil War Sesquicentennial, visitors will be fascinated by the one-of-a-kind presentation at Through Collectors’ Eyes: Treasures of the



From left: local invention Vicks VapoRub and studying a Civil War exhibit

Greensboro is a proud city. Proud of its heritage and of its place in the America of today. There is no better way to understand the soul of the town than to visit the museum. And there are connections you’ll make here — to your own history and that of our nation. The newest exhibit, Voices of a City: Greensboro, North Carolina, debuted a year ago and has delighted visitors. With artifacts, video, audio, and high-tech interactive stations in an 8,000-square-foot space, the exhibit leads the viewer through a series of galleries spanning 300 years of local history. Features



Clockwise from top: Revolutionary War reenactors, pottery for sale and denim loom

Civil War. This exhibit showcases 120 rare Confederate longarms, the finest surviving examples from armories of seven southern states.

The exhibit America’s First Lady: Dolley Madison honors one of the nation’s most influential women of her time. Born in what is now Greensboro and later the wife of James Madison, she is remembered for her bravery when the British invaded the nation’s capital in 1814. Many of her personal possessions are on display.

Welcome to the Gate City is an interactive exhibit focused on Greensboro in the early 1900s. Must-sees include a vintage hotel and moving-picture theater, a telephone exchange, and the Richardson & Fariss Drugstore, whose owner invented Vicks VapoRub.

Running through September 18, the

traveling exhibit Down Home: Jewish Life in North Carolina brings to life the important cultural influence of a people who have been a part of our state since Colonial times. Sit down at a virtual Seder dinner, hear a peddler inviting customers to his cart, and marvel at beautifully crafted Judaica.

The perfect way to finish a visit is to step into the Museum Shop. The gifts here make wonderful souvenirs of your trip to Greensboro. Many of the distinctive pieces available are made in North Carolina — pottery from the famed Seagrove community, handmade jewelry, books, and much more.



GO HERE: The Greensboro Historical Museum, a City of Greensboro facility, is open Tuesday–Saturday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. and on Sunday from 2 p.m.–5 p.m. Admission and parking are free. For more information, visit GreensboroHistory.org.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE GREENSBORO HISTORICAL MUSEUM