

Huntington Lake Museum: Huntington Lake is located in the Sierra National Forest in California and one of the premier recreational locations in the Central Sierra Nevada. Around the lake are resorts, camps, campgrounds, picnic areas, fishing areas, marinas and other opportunities for the visitor to enjoy recreation in a high Sierran setting. The history of Huntington Lake goes back to the first inhabitants, the Native Americans. The lake itself is a reservoir built for hydropower by Southern California Edison. Around the lake are hundreds of recreation residences, private homes on Forest Service land.

When the Forest Service intended to remove the rundown Billy Creek Guard Station, built in 1928 as an early Ranger Station to administer the many permits and projects in the Huntington Lake area, the Huntington Lake Association, which started in 1923 as a home-owners organization, requested adoption of the buildings and thus created the Huntington Lake Big Creek Historical Conservancy.

The Conservancy restored the Billy Creek Guard Station as the Billy Creek Museum, which opened to the public in 2001. The museum is open to educate the general public on the natural, native American and socioeconomic history and hydroelectric contributions of the Huntington Lake and Big Creek communities; to restore, maintain and protect natural resources through education, provide public interpretive facilities along with maintaining other historically significant buildings and sites; and to preserve the traditions of the Huntington Lake and Big Creek Hydroelectric System.

The museum is open during the summer season. Check ahead for hours of operation.

Link to: <http://www.huntingtonhistorical.org/museum.htm>

How to get there: From Highway 168 at Shaver Lake, take the highway to Huntington Lake and follow Huntington Lake road around the north shore of the lake to the museum next to the Billy Creek Campground.