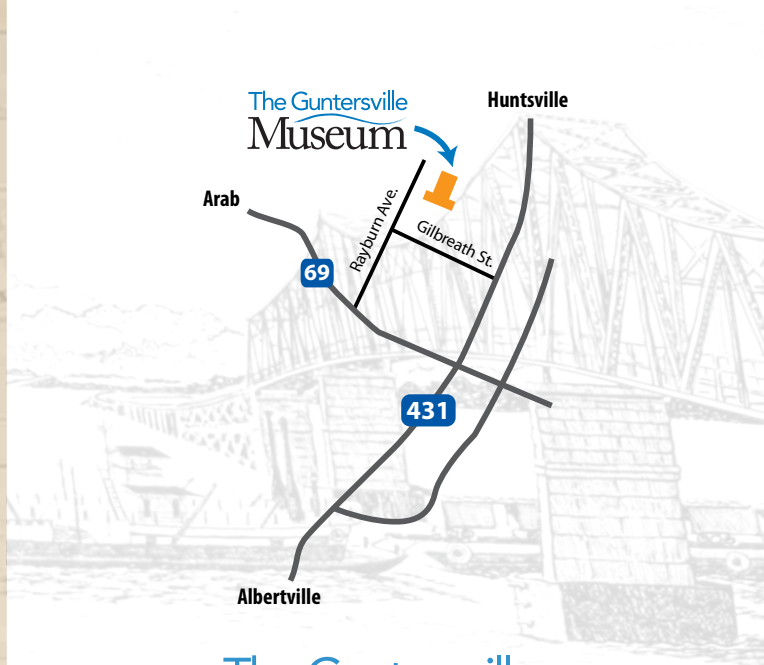


Welcome

Not Many Armories Were Built Of Native Stone. So It's Only Natural We Turned Ours Into A Museum.

The Guntersville Museum turned a city landmark into the cornerstone of the city's cultural district. The structure was built in 1936 prior to World War II as an armory for Company E, 167th Infantry Division. Built under the Works Progress Act (WPA), the building was constructed of local rough limestone. With its distinctive castellated (castle-like) architecture, the museum sits on a tree-covered hilltop adjacent to the Guntersville Public Library and overlooking the Whole Backstage Theatre.



The Guntersville Museum

PO Box 626 • 1215 Rayburn Avenue
Guntersville, Alabama 35976
Phone: (256) 571-7597
www.guntersvillemuseum.org
email: guntersvillemuseum@guntersvilleal.org

Museum Hours:

Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Closed Mondays

Admission Free

**For more information contact
Julie Patton, Museum Director.**

CITY OF
Guntersville
ALABAMA

guntersvilleal.org



Sweet Home
Alabama
www.alabama.travel

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The Guntersville Museum



**A Unique Historical Setting
For Permanent Collections
And Visiting Exhibits.**



*68,000 acres of water.
10,000 years of history.
Hundreds of objects and exhibits.
And one great way to explore
Guntersville.*

Welcome to the Guntersville Museum.
Located at the southernmost point
of the Tennessee River, Lake
Guntersville provides a
unique vantage point
on the history and
culture of the region.
As a living repository,
the museum offers
visitors a chance
to explore
everything
from Native
American
artifacts to
interesting
local personalities.

The Making Of The Lake

Archival photos and maps provide a captivating view of Guntersville before the lake was formed. An interactive exhibit takes you through our region's history of the Tennessee River from Native American habitation, to early steamboat travel, and to the construction of the dam that created almost a thousand miles of shoreline. The combination of engineering prowess and socio-economic benefits to the region make for fascinating history about the body of water that created Alabama's Lake City.



Walk all 652 miles of the Tennessee River in a few minutes! A colorful floor mural depicts the twists and turns of the river from end to end.



This One Is For The Birds

The museum features a local treasure that fascinated generations of residents who attended the old City Elementary "Rock School." Native birds collected and mounted in the 1920s by Bessie Rayburn Samuel were displayed in the school's lobby. Bessie taught herself taxidermy, and her handiwork, now at the museum, served as a resource for the state's first book on ornithology.

A View Into The Past

An impressive Native American exhibit – the Percy Barnard Collection – is augmented by other regionally-amassed artifacts dating to the Paleo-Indian era. The first inhabitants of the area left a rich history, and the museum's collection provides an interesting view into that past.



Local Art, National Acclaim

The museum is home to a permanent collection of work by nationally-acclaimed artist Frank Nelson. His beautiful watercolors are often on display in the museum lobby and in the Katherine and Buck Woodall Gallery. The gallery also hosts national traveling exhibitions and frequently spotlights local and regional artists.



Famous Sons And Daughters

The museum includes a tribute to John Gunter, the city's namesake. Gunter was the first known white settler to this area in the late 1700s. He married Catherine, the daughter of a Cherokee chieftain. John's famous great-grandson was Will Rogers, who has become an adopted son of the lake city, and the museum honors this American legend.