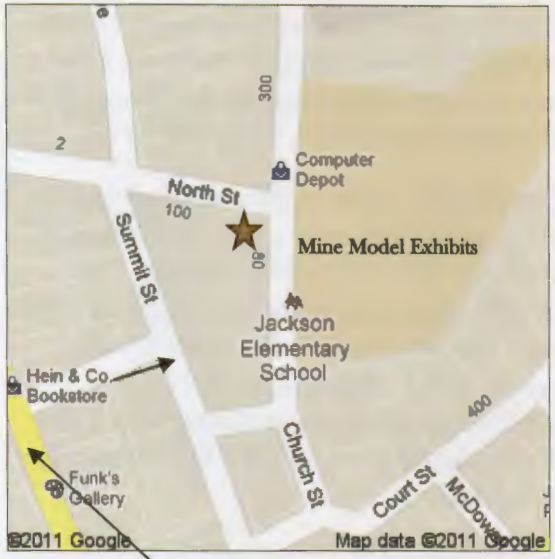
Directions to the
Kennedy and North Star Mine Model Exhibits
225 Church Street, Jackson




Main St., Jackson

**From Main Street, Jackson:**

1. Drive NE on California St.
2. Turn left onto Summit St.
3. Turn right onto North St.
4. Turn right onto Church St.
5. Turn right into parking lot

**SITES OF RELATED INTEREST**

**Kennedy Gold Mine**
On Hwys. 49/88, North of downtown Jackson. Watch for the sign over the entrance. Open March - September, Saturdays, Sundays & Holidays from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. Call 209-223-9542 for more details.

**Kennedy Tailing Wheels City Park**
North of Jackson, aprx. 1 mile on Jackson Gate Road. Main St. in downtown Jackson becomes Jackson Gate Rd. Free. Open dawn to dusk.

KENNEDY MILLING & MINING CO.
MINING IN MINIATURE
TOURS & GROUP INFORMATION
Call
209-257-1485

**OPEN**
SATURDAYS
10:30 am - 1:00 pm

**TOURS**
11 am & NOON

**ADMISSION**
$2/ADULT
$1/CHILDREN UNDER 10

**GROUP TOURS**
**BY APPOINTMENT**
209-257-1485

AMADOR COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY EST. 1948

**Amador County Historical Society**
**1 Main Street, PO Box 761**
**Jackson, CA 95642**
**209-257-1485**

# KENNEDY AND NORTH STAR MINE MODEL EXHIBITS

Take a trip back in time to the 1920's and watch replicas of equipment of the Kennedy and North Star Mines in operation through the magic of large scale working models. The three models demonstrate the functions of a headframe hoisting equipment, the stamp mill and the famous Kennedy Mine Tailing Wheels.

**Kennedy & North Star Mine Model Exhibits**
**225 Church Street, Jackson, CA**
**209-257-1485**

**OPEN SATURDAYS 10:30 am - 1:00 pm**
**TOURS 11 am and NOON**

**ADMISSION $2/ADULT$ $1/CHILDREN UNDER 10**

The Amador County Museum's *Kennedy and North Star Mine Model Exhibits* include three operating models of mining structures.

The three models were crafted by the late Robert Post and sold to the county for in 1972 for $4,500. Mr. Post's father was master mechanic Eldridge Post, who was a member of a crew who built the Kennedy Wheels, circa 1913-1914.

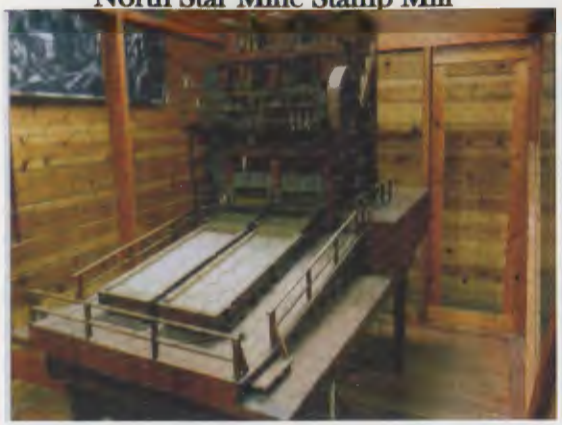
## Kennedy Mine Headframe

The first and tallest exhibit is a working model of the Kennedy Mine headframe.

A headframe is a structure built above an under- ground mine shaft. The headframe supported a hoist which lowered and raised skips. Skips took the men and supplies in and out of the mine. Skips also brought up the ore mined from underground.

The Kennedy Mine headframe was one of the tallest in the world, until the 1928 surface fire burned all of the mine structures except the mine office and the stamp mill. The headframe was rebuilt and is 125 feet high. The mine was the deepest mine in North America with a shaft that went down into the earth 5,912

## North Star Mine Stamp Mill



The second, and loudest model, in the exhibit is the stamp mill of the North Star Mine, which was between Sutter Creek and Amador City. A stamp mill is a large machine that crushes chunks of gold-bearing ore.

Large chunks of ore were taken from the mine to the mill and were dumped onto a "grizzly." A "grizzly" was a metal grate with holes about 2 inches apart. The smallest pieces of ore would fall through the grate into the ore chute. Pieces too big to fall through moved across the grate of the "grizzly" into the crusher. After being crushed to less than 2 inches, they would also fall into the ore chute and ended up at the stamp mill.

The stamp mill dropped a set of heavy steel stamps onto the ore pieces, pounding them until they were like fine sand. The fine pieces were taken for processing to extract the gold. A single stamp could crush 1.5 tons of ore. Stamp mills ran 24 hours a day, except for when repairs were made.

The Kennedy Mine had a 100-stamp mill, one of the largest in the Mother Lode.

## Kennedy Mine Tailing Wheel #2

The third working model in the exhibit is the Kennedy Mine Tailing Wheel #2.

"Tailings" are the waste material left over after the gold separation process at the stamp mill. The tailing wheels operated 24 hours a day, except for periodic times needed for repairs and maintenance, from 1914 until 1942.

Mining wastes began to fill waterways and inhibited navigation and increased flooding of farm lands. To reduce this problem, the Kennedy mine selected a site for storing their waste. The site is called an impoundment basin, or pond. To move its waste to the impoundment site, the mine built wheels that lifted the liquefied waste over hills into Indian Gulch basin.

The four wheels were connected to each other by long flumes. The tailings were mixed with water and sent down each flume starting at wheel #1, then to wheel #2, flowing to wheel #3, and finally to the last wheel, #4. At wheel #4, they were carried by one last flume that went up and over the hill and into the impoundment basin behind a concrete dam 455 feet wide and 43.8 feet high.