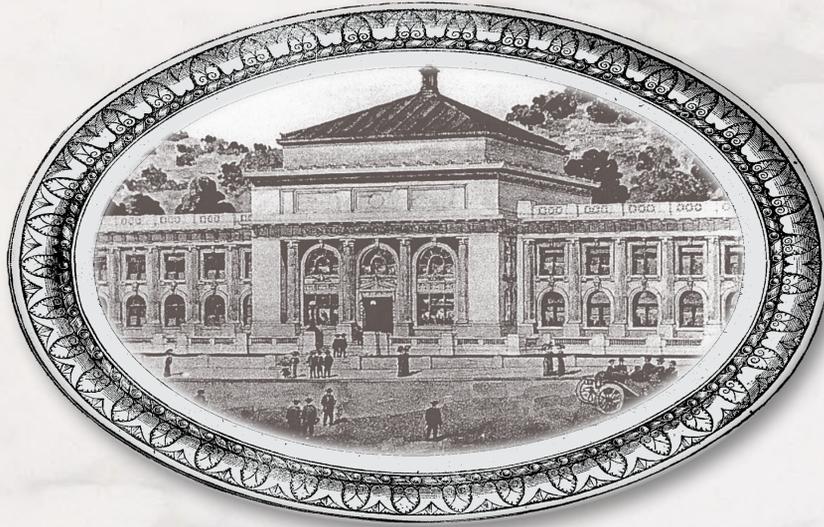


A Century of Grandest Views

For more than a century this former county courthouse that today is San Buenaventura City Hall has remained Ventura's most photographed building – becoming what the Daily Democrat newspaper predicted in 1910 would be a splendid “new seat of government at the top of the hill commanding the grandest view.”



Circa 1911: The architect's illustration shows his concept of the building.
Photo courtesy of the City of Ventura Archives



Circa 2008: The building survives near demolition to be restored as City Hall. The five-story City Hall North (505 Poli Street) built in the 1950s, is shown behind City Hall.
Photo by Schaf Photo and Design Studio



Circa 1940: The new annex completes the complex's long and impressive façade.
Photo courtesy of the Museum of Ventura County



Circa 1913: The nearly completed structure comes into clear focus.
Photo courtesy of Glenda Jackson and Jeff Maulhardt



Circa 2012: Ventura City Hall celebrates its 100th year looking as beautiful as ever and ready to serve our residents for years to come.
Photo by Aue Valencia

“Ventura County has determined to build for all time . . . one of the most imposing structures in California”

– Los Angeles Times
1911