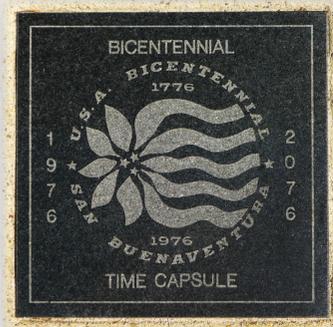


City Hall Centennial Time Capsule

Capturing Time

There's one on the moon, one at Disneyland and, as of July 2013, Ventura City Hall has three – time capsules – all designed to backup a lifetime of memories to share with future generations when these dormant museums are opened in 2066, 2076 and 2113.

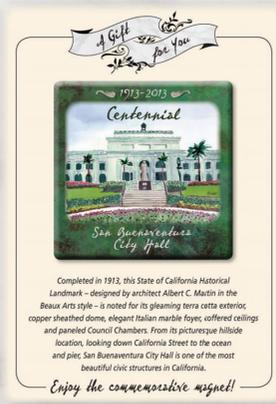
For the most recent City Hall Centennial Time Capsule, residents provided ideas and items to place in the vault – an airtight 14" steel cube – before sealing it at a July 25, 2013 "open house" celebration to mark the building's 100th birthday. It joins the existing U.S. Bicentennial (1776-1976) and the City of San Buenaventura "incorporation day" Centennial (1866-1966) time capsules buried in the pavement by the landmark building's front steps.



A Box Just For Wishes

Time capsules typically contain items that represent slices of everyday life, take snapshots of "today's" culture, document important issues and offer personal memories, messages and other memorabilia that write "the present" into history and connect it with the future.

To make the new time capsule of interest to future generations, Ventura residents, educators and leaders donated personal items such as letters, biographies, photographs and postcards as well as oral histories collected by Ventura College students; favorite toys, books, restaurant menus, fashion magazines and "valentines to our city" collected during Leadership Ventura's 2013 "I Love Ventura" project; and unique, handmade and one-of-a-kind items and souvenirs such as this city hall centennial throw rug, magnet and July 4th children's parade button.



2013 Centennial Souvenirs

Ventura's Other Vaults

Among the almost 200 items in the other two time capsules are publications (local newspapers, "Playboy," Sears catalog and "Mad" magazine), memorabilia (bicentennial photos, postcards and Jimi Hendrix poster) and ephemera (false eyelashes, bikini panties, McDonald's wrapper, and Coors beer can).

Capsules Famous and Lost

Did George Washington follow Masonic rituals and place memorabilia inside the U.S. Capitol's cornerstone? This question won't be answered until the location of the cornerstone is discovered. Modern time capsules were inspired by Thornwell Jacobs' Crypt of Civilization (1936) to be opened in 8113 at Atlanta's Oglethorpe University, home of the International Time Capsule Society that aims to maintain a global database of the world's estimated 15,000 existing time capsules.



George Edward Pendray designed the first officially named "time capsule" for the 1939 New York World's Fair.



Officials install the world's first time capsule at the 1939 World's Fair.