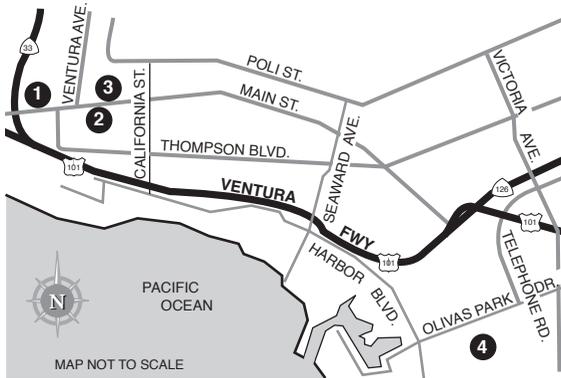
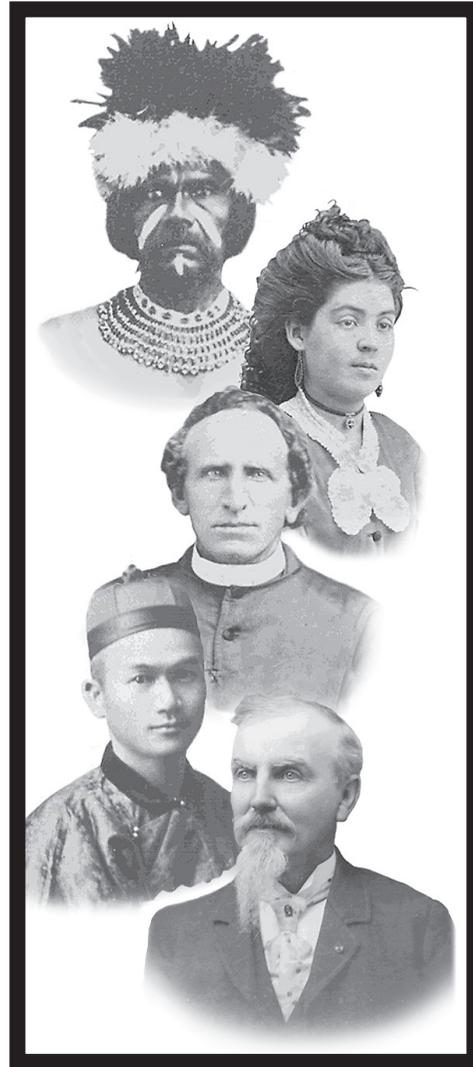


OTHER HISTORIC SITES IN SAN BUENAVENTURA



- 1** *Ortega Adobe Historic Residence.* A fine example of a working class adobe. Built in 1857. The Ortega Chili Co. began here in the 1890s. 215 W. Main St. Open daily 10 a.m.–3 p.m. 658-4726. www.cityofventura.net/historic
- 2** *Museum of Ventura County.* The history of Ventura County is depicted in dioramas and exhibits. Gift shop and library. 100 E. Main St. Open Tuesday–Sunday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. 653-0323. www.venturamuseum.org
- 3** *Mission San Buenaventura.* This large stone and adobe church was completed in 1809. Museum is located in the adjacent gift shop. 211 E. Main St. Mission open daily 7 a.m.–4 p.m. Museum open daily 10 a.m.–4 p.m. 643-4318. www.sanbuenaventuramission.org
- 4** *Olivas Adobe Historical Residence.* Built by Don Raymundo Olivas as the main house of Rancho San Miguel. The two-story adobe hacienda was built in 1849. Visitor center 4200 Olivas Park Dr. Grounds open daily 10 a.m.–3 p.m. House open Sat. & Sun. with docent led tours, 11 a.m.–4 p.m. 658-4728. www.cityofventura.net/olivasadobe

City of Ventura
Department of Parks, Recreation
& Community Partnerships
Office of Cultural Affairs



ALBINGER ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM

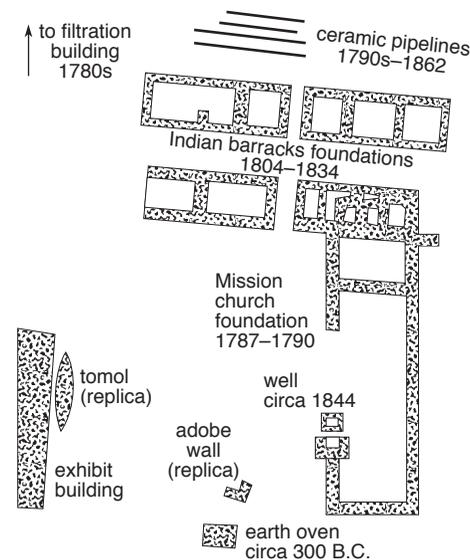
113 East Main Street • Ventura, California

3,500 YEARS OF HISTORY ON ONE CITY BLOCK

THE SOIL OF the Albinger Archaeological Museum has revealed much about the people who have called this place home. Archaeologists and historians have painstakingly pieced together artifacts, photographs and written records to tell the stories of everyday people dating back 3,500 years.

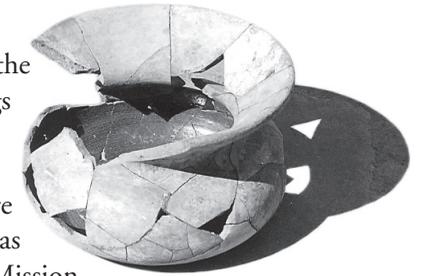
In the museum building you will find many of the artifacts discovered at this site such as milling stones, shell beads, arrowheads, bone whistles, crucifixes, medallions, bottles, buttons and pottery. Outside are a number of archaeological features including the foundations of the “lost mission church,” an ancient earth oven and the oldest standing structure in Ventura County—the mission water filtration building.

As a visitor you too can become part of the continuing story which began so long ago as you explore the exhibits and pause for a moment to appreciate your place in history.



DISCOVERY & EXCAVATION

In 1973 the buildings which stood at this location were demolished as part of the Mission Plaza Urban Redevelopment Project. Archaeological testing suggested the existence of rich cultural remains beneath the soil. The Redevelopment Agency of the City of San Buenaventura authorized intensive archaeological investigations and during the summers of 1974 and 1975 archaeological excavations uncovered more than 30,000 artifacts. Each artifact was carefully cleaned, numbered, catalogued and studied. In order to protect and preserve this part of the City’s heritage, the property was withdrawn from the redevelopment project. In 1975 it was placed on the National Register of Historic Places as the Ventura Mission Historic District. In January 1980 the City of San Buenaventura opened the Albinger Archaeological Museum for your enjoyment.



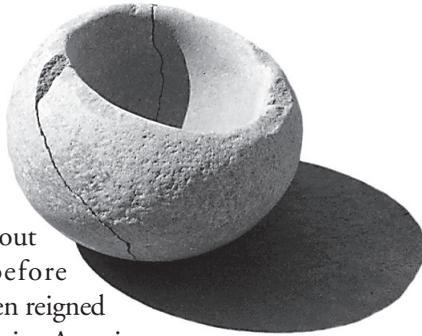
In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, this brochure is available in alternate formats by calling 658-4726.

THE CHANGING FACES OF MAIN STREET

PREHISTORIC NATIVE AMERICANS

1600 B.C.–
100 B.C.

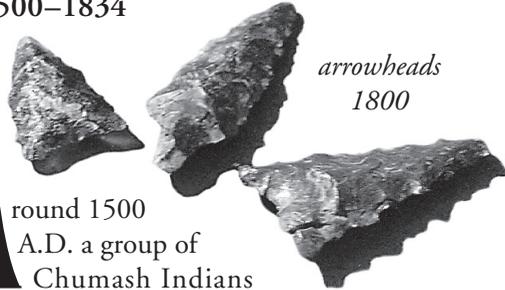
More than 3,500 years ago (about 200 years before Tutankhamen reigned in Egypt), native Americans lived in what is now Ventura. Evidence of their presence was found in the burned stone remains of earth ovens, milling stones and stone bowls. They came here seasonally and barely altered the site over a period of 1,500 years.



THE CHUMASH

1500–1834

Around 1500 A.D. a group of Chumash Indians built a village here called *Mitz-kanakan* (“place of the jaw”). They enjoyed a high quality of life, creating exceptional baskets, paintings and *tomols* (ocean-going plank canoes). Archaeologists discovered shell beads, pieces of baskets, projectile points, bone whistles and many other Chumash artifacts on the site.

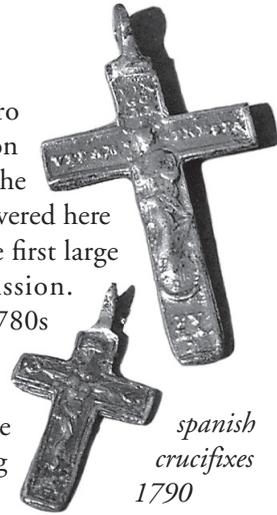


arrowheads
1800

THE SPANISH

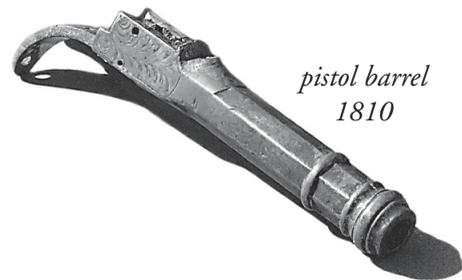
1782–1822

In 1782 Fray Junipero Serra founded Mission San Buenaventura. The largest foundation discovered here is all that remains of the first large church built at the mission. Records from the late 1780s reveal that due to faulty construction the church was abandoned before completion. The existing mission church was built in 1805–1809. Four small building foundations—dating from about 1806—are believed to have been barracks for Indians.



spanish crucifixes
1790

Just north of the museum in Eastwood Park stands the brick water filtration building constructed in the 1780s. Linked to a seven mile aqueduct, it provided water for the mission community. It is now the oldest standing structure in Ventura County. Artifacts from the Spanish period include pottery, glass beads and crucifixes.

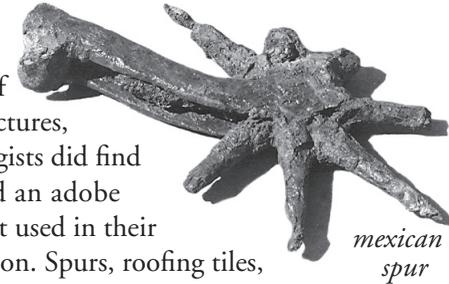


pistol barrel
1810

THE MEXICANS

1822–1847

Mexico gained independence from Spain in 1821 and in the 1830s the mission lands were given away as land grants. In the late 1800s adobe buildings were built along Main St. Although nothing remains of these structures, archaeologists did find a well and an adobe borrow pit used in their construction. Spurs, roofing tiles, *metates* (corn grinding stones), pottery and cattle bones are some of the numerous artifacts found from the Mexican period.



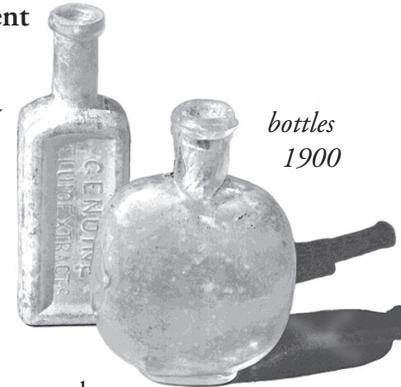
mexican spur

THE AMERICANS

1847– present

On January 6, 1847, troops led by John C. Fremont raised the American flag near this site.

In the 1860s a general store and Ventura’s first drug store were established here. In the 1870s a large saloon was operated by Angel Escandon, who later served as one of Ventura’s first mayors. Numerous bottles, glasses, buttons and other items from the stores and saloon were found during excavation. In these early years, the water filtration building was used as Ventura’s first jail.



bottles
1900

THE CHINESE

1905–1920s

Numerous Chinese came to California fleeing their war-torn homeland. Always hoping to return to China, they adopted very few American customs and tended to live in separate communities. Ventura’s “Chinatown” began in 1866 on Figueroa Street across from the mission.

By 1905 it had moved west to the museum site where it remained until the 1920s. The Chinese operated a laundry, general store and boarding house here. Artifacts recovered include coins, opium pipes, soy sauce jars, medicine bottles and china.



chinese plate
1900s

The Albinger Archeological Museum is open on a periodic basis. For further information call 805.658.4726 or visit www.cityofventura.net/historic
