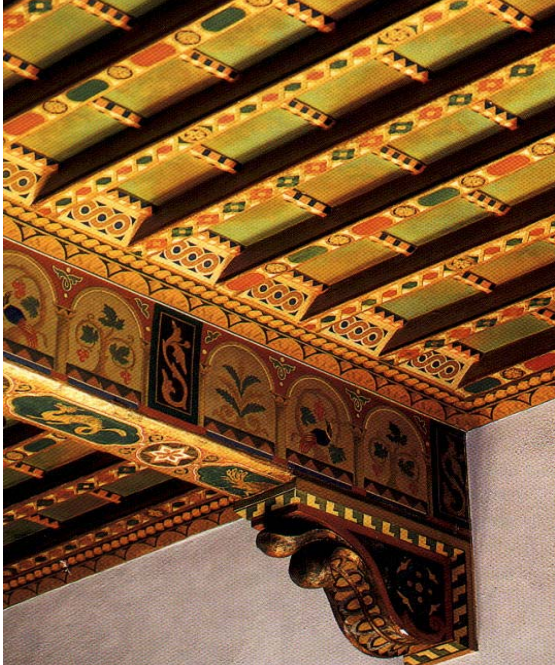


Giovanni Battista Smeraldi

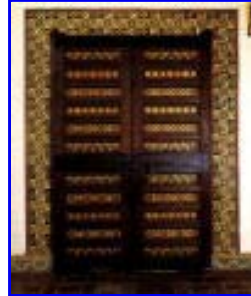
Historic Santa Barbara Courthouse

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John Smeraldi (as he was known) specialized in Italian Renaissance revival painting and design, painted the ceiling of the Mural Room, the two original courtrooms and many other ceilings in the courthouse. He was born in Palermo, Italy and immigrated to the United States 1889. He is credited with painting the Blue Room in the White House.



Ceiling in an original courtroom



Outer Doors to Mural Room



Mural Room Lobby Detail

The repetitive patterns were applied to the beams by traditional painting techniques of cartooning. Cartooning is the method of lightly drawing the pattern on the surface, then applying the dutch-metal to that pattern.



Upper Wall: Hall of Records




Column: Hall of Records



Ceiling: Anacapa Arch



Blue Room: The White House



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