

CMU*Profiles in Architecture***“F65” TRANSIT VILLAGE**

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

Situated adjacent to a new light rail station in an area of decaying industrial buildings, this project has already initiated the regeneration of the context. The building serves as a kind of “urban pioneer” in a harsh industrial environment. It is an experimental example of an increasingly relevant urban typology – residential mixed-use based around a public transport hub. It answers the pressing issues of traffic congestion and energy conservation. In short, it is the catalyst to create a new neighborhood.

The modern sculptural forms of the buildings reflect their role as an urban transit hub, and also something of their ancestry in the industrial area. In order to provide a recognizable landmark that anchors the new area, the design is dynamic and eye-catching. The buildings have an “edgy” urban quality that reflects some of the character of the industrial warehouse conversion of cities such as Portland and New York.

A palette of a variety of different materials was used to create a rich texture: light metal panels, profiled concrete masonry block, smooth white plaster, and to add warmth, a wood panel lining for the balconies. Concrete masonry block was selected for its aesthetic qualities of mass and solidity, to contrast with the light metal panels of the upper walls. Two CMU colors and profiles were used to create an additional layer of texture. In some areas a contrasting fluted block was used in a stack bond pattern to provide a more sensual surface. A custom dark gray with a heavy satin sealant creates a deep rich color with a surface luster. Due to the slightly reflective surface and the profile of the block, the depth of color is striking and varies in different lighting conditions. The CMU anchors the various buildings with a visually solid base. In some areas it is used

in a sequence of simple flat planes to create the feeling of screens or sliding panels – the unexpected fluted texture conceals the joints and creates the appearance of single monolithic panels with a highly articulated surface. The use of the block to create seismic shear walls, with light wood framing above, allowed large areas of storefront openings without the use of costly steel moment frames.

ARCHITECT:**Mark Dziewulski Architect**500 Third Street, Suite 210
San Francisco, CA 94107Mark Dziewulski, AIA
*Principal***STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:**

Miyamoto International

GENERAL CONTRACTOR:

Sunseri Associates, Inc.

MASONRY CONTRACTOR:

Frazier Masonry

BLOCK PRODUCER:

Basalite Concrete Products, LLC

OWNER:

65th Street Village, LLC



Photography: Keith Cronin



Profiles in Architecture



DMV SERVICE CENTER

NORTH LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

Located in North Las Vegas, this 23,600 square-foot facility offers the full range of DMV services to customers in this rapidly growing community. The \$6.5 million project occupies 14.25 acres of a 33 acre parcel acquired in a land transfer from the Bureau of Land Management.

The design process was structured to involve a re-examination of DMV Service Center operations, identifying the inherent customer service and functional building design challenges. Subsequently, the client and design team determined that the design solution needed to focus on “less architecture to serve complex operations.”

In this plan, the project is organized around a single waiting area with customer service counters on three sides, and to the north a glass facade opening out to a landscaped courtyard. In addition to the north facade the waiting area is naturally lit through a southern facing clerestory shielded by a deep overhang preventing the intrusion of direct sunlight. Signage, a particular challenge in this project, is organized above the plane of normal visual clutter, and modulated and scaled to increase legibility and customer wayfinding. Acoustically absorbent materials are utilized extensively throughout the large room to minimize noise and enhance aural perception.

Concrete masonry block was selected for this project because it is an economical material and “it is its own finish.” The architect also tried to use the CMU, which is primarily common faced due to the budget, in a more modern way by incorporating a range of color into the exterior.

ARCHITECTS:

Tate Snyder Kimsey Architects
709 Valle Verde Court
Henderson, NV 89014

J. Windom Kimsey, FAIA
Principal Architect

Steve Ranck, AIA
Project Manager

Kevin Kemmer
Project Designer

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:
Greg Gordon & Associates

GENERAL CONTRACTOR:
Pace Contracting Company

MASONRY CONTRACTOR:
Frazier Masonry

BLOCK PRODUCER:
Cind-R-Lite Block Company, Inc.

OWNER:
State of Nevada



Photography: Tom Bonner



Profiles in Architecture



SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY - STEPHEN SCHOTT STADIUM

SANTA CLARA, CALIFORNIA

As soon as Santa Clara University's new 1,500 seat Stephen Schott Stadium opened for its first game on April 30, 2005, it was clear to players and fans alike that they were enjoying an intimate sports experience that few college stadiums in the country could match. The material of choice for the project was concrete masonry units (CMU), due to its array of colors, finish options, durability, and cost effectiveness.

For the players, the heart, which is the 5,000 square-foot CMU clubhouse, is complete with an 800 square-foot dugout, locker rooms, offices, training rooms, laundry facility, team meeting rooms, and nearby Bronco Hitting Center. Use of the earth retaining capacity of the concrete masonry units allowed us to reduce the height of the building through excavation, and maximize views for fans.

For the fans, we have the 470 theater-style reserved seats, and 990 bleacher seats, which are artfully blended into one cohesive unit through the use of concrete masonry screens and retaining walls to produce incomparable views of the action. The gracious entry plaza and two-story CMU VIP Suite Building offer the fans all the amenities, including a 600 square-foot press suite, 700 square-foot VIP suite, concessions, and family restrooms. The use of three different masonry finishes and three different colors allowed us the flexibility to design a facility in Bronco Colors that has the excitement of the ball game built right in.

BUILDING DESIGN:
Devcon Construction, Inc.
 690 Gibraltar Drive
 Milpitas, CA 95035

Brent Downing
Design Architect

Jonathan Harvey
Project Manager

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:
 Nishkian Menninger, Inc.

GENERAL CONTRACTOR:
 Devcon Construction, Inc.

MASONRY CONTRACTOR:
 Milo Masonry, Inc.

BLOCK PRODUCER:
 Calstone Company, Inc.

OWNER:
 Santa Clara University



Photography: Brent Downing, Devcon Construction, Inc.

CMU*Profiles in Architecture***CLOVIS POLICE AND FIRE FACILITY**

CLOVIS, CALIFORNIA

The City of Clovis recently completed one of the final pieces of their Civic Center campus in February 2003, with a new 70,000 square foot Police and Fire Facility. The building was purposefully designed to blend in with the red brick and pre-cast concrete architecture of the existing Civic Center, which is nestled in a residential neighborhood. The major program components include a Type I Jail, Emergency Operations and Training Center, 911/Dispatch, and Police and Fire Administrative Offices.

The new building is an essential services public safety facility, and therefore, had to meet stringent seismic guidelines. The natural choice for building materials were brick and concrete masonry units. Reinforced brick units were used on the exterior of the building to resist seismic forces. Brick units were also used on the exterior of the main building envelope to blend in with the surrounding neighborhood. All the main corridors, lobby and walls surrounding each department have exposed brick units, which add to the warmth and character of the building's interior.

The Type I Jail is entirely composed of concrete masonry units coated with an epoxy, which provides a durable and secure detention facility. Security site walls were constructed of both brick and concrete masonry units to match in color.

Use of the brick and concrete masonry units offers structural integrity, architectural expression, durability, and functionality to this building that will serve the City of Clovis for many years to come.

ARCHITECT:

WLC Architects, Inc.
10470 Foothill Blvd., Virginia Dare Tower
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730

Larry Wolff, AIA
Principal

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:

K. B. Leung, and Associates, Inc.

GENERAL CONTRACTOR:

KH Construction

MASONRY CONTRACTOR:

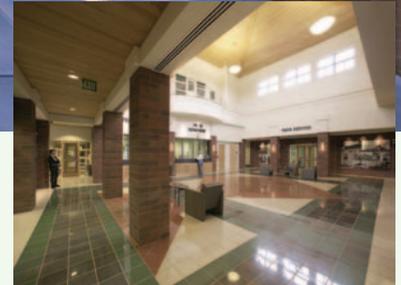
Gerry Smith Masonry, Inc.

BLOCK PRODUCER:

Blocklite

OWNER:

City of Clovis, California



*Photography: Fred Daley, Daley Architectural Photography
David Willis, Blocklite (Pictures 4-5)*

CMU*Profiles in Architecture***THE ROSE CENTER**

WESTMINSTER, CALIFORNIA

The Rose Center in Westminister, California, provides a shining cultural and performing arts center to showcase the talents of this diverse, multi-cultural community. Opening amid the sound of bagpipes and the beat of Vietnamese drums at a dedication ceremony in July of 2006, the city's cultural center was a dream nearly two decades in the making.

Designed by Los Angeles Architectural firm CO Architects, the 33,840 square-foot Rose Center includes a mid-size, 419-seat theater (with back-of-house facilities), a 500-seat banquet hall with kitchen, and a series of foyers that function as gallery spaces. Other features include a courtyard, and covered outdoor areas providing additional seating capacity. The Rose Center is located in the Westminister Civic Complex, adjacent to City Hall.

The Rose Center's exterior massing gives form and expression to its three principle functions of theater, banquet hall and foyer spaces. A dramatic vertical foyer separates the banquet facility and theater, and a central foyer allows patrons to enter the theater from three locations. Designed as one large space, the banquet hall can be subdivided into two or three spaces to accommodate different sized groups.

Construction took two years and was completed in June of 2006. The exterior walls are 8"x16" burnished concrete masonry units in Canyon Black. CO Architects selected burnished CMU's for their beauty, as well as their cost-effectiveness. The masonry units are fine textured steam cured, hollow load bearing, normal weight, grouted solid, and laid in a patterned running bond. The black grout is a tooled 3/8" joint with vertical control joints at 30 feet on center. The masonry units are installed in curved and flat wall elevations, creating an exterior sculptural appearance for the entire building. The masonry units are exposed on

the exterior and building interiors with varying wall height set against a patterned glass curtain wall entry.

The community was more than ready for its newest star. The theater was booked every weekend through the end of the year. The banquet hall, with its bamboo terrace patio, has proven popular for events such as wedding parties and high school reunions.

ARCHITECTS:
CO Architects
 5055 Wilshire Blvd., 9th Floor
 Los Angeles, CA 90036

L. Paul Zajfen, AIA, RIBA
Design Principal

Michael Cranfill David Lin
 Michael Fernandez William Pelkus
 Stefanie Haering Fabian Kremkus
Project Team

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:
 John A. Martin & Associates

GENERAL CONTRACTORS:
 C. W. Driver

MASONRY CONTRACTORS:
 Industrial Masonry Incorporated

BLOCK PRODUCER:
 Trenwyth Industries, an Oldcastle Company

OWNER:
 City of Westminister, California



Photography: fotoworks

CMU*Profiles in Architecture***COUNTRYWIDE HOME LOANS**

LANCASTER, CALIFORNIA

Countrywide Home Loans, a nationwide mortgage lender, was looking to construct a corporate facility in two phases to house over 2,000 employees. A trapezoidal shaped site in the Lancaster Industrial Park was selected for the new facility. Concrete Masonry Units (CMU's) were the main building material, because of its ease of construction, simplistic, but stylish form, texture, and colors. Allowing for multiple finishes and textures, the method of construction was uniform and consistent throughout with the use of CMU's.

Phase I was developed as a single-story 101,395 square-foot building. Structurally, the building was based on a grid pattern. At each grid line pilasters were placed at the exterior face of the building to break up the overall length and width of the building. The pilasters support a continuous wood framed, stucco finished canopy overhang, with a standing seam metal cap that blocks out direct solar radiation. At the main entry points, pilasters support a canopy, which shields the entry from the weather elements. Countrywide's logo and name are highlighted with a tiled background.

In addition to the canopy, Low-E glass was used at the storefronts, and furring with R-13 insulation was installed on the inside face of the CMU exterior walls to minimize heat loss and heat gain, since this area is a hot, arid desert climate.

The exterior walls in between the pilasters were constructed with split face CMU's. The coarse texture of these walls contrasts with the uniform textured pilasters constructed with scored face CMU's, and the smooth stucco finished canopy overhang.

Phase II was developed as a two-story 101,395 square-foot building. Again, the same grid pattern was used, as well as the pilaster layout, which supports the canopy overhang. In between the first and second floor windows, a smaller canopy with a standing seam metal roof was constructed, which tied the one-story building with the two-story building, to block out solar radiation at the first floor window areas.

BUILDING DESIGN:
Antelope Valley Engineering, Inc.
 129 West Pondera Street
 Lancaster, CA 93534

John W. Svalbe
Project Manager

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:
 Antelope Valley Engineering, Inc.

GENERAL CONTRACTOR:
 Hanes & Associates

MASONRY CONTRACTOR:
 Nibelink Masonry Construction Corporation

BLOCK PRODUCER:
 Desert Block Company, Inc.

OWNER:
 Countrywide Home Loans



Photography: Mitch Ruben, Desert Block Company, Inc.



Profiles in Architecture



ALLAN HANCOCK COLLEGE LIBRARY/ACADEMIC RESOURCE CENTER

SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA

A new 23,000 square-foot addition to an existing library building provides Allan Hancock College with a 102-station open computer lab, tutorial center, art gallery, media services, and faculty offices.

The split-face concrete masonry block brings a human scale to the two-story building, which is located on a narrow site and alongside major pedestrian access routes. Angled walls constructed of concrete masonry block were utilized to break up the linearity of the building. In addition, the block was selected for its structural properties, allowing for long spans of glazing between the block elements. The interiors benefit greatly from the natural lighting.

Inside, the angled concrete masonry block elements provide niches off of a large open computer lab and are used for tutorial break out sessions. The split face masonry helps with the acoustics, and also brings a welcome natural texture into a high tech environment.

The main entry is identified with a clock tower of concrete masonry; this material continues inside to the entry lobby linking the interior with the exterior vocabulary. Color stained concrete floors harmonize with the concrete masonry, providing a well integrated and durable interior.

The warm color of the concrete masonry was selected to tie naturally to the landscape of this Central Californian campus, and was also the starting point for a rich palette that enhances and blends with the existing buildings.

ARCHITECT:
Kruger Bensen Ziemer Architects, Inc.
 30 West Arrellaga Street
 Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Steven E. Dowty, AIA
Principal in Charge

Donald H. Bensen, AIA
Design Architect

Dawn Sophia Ziemer, Assoc. AIA
Interior Designer

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:
 Kanda and Tso Associates

GENERAL CONTRACTOR:
 Fedcon

MASONRY CONTRACTOR:
 Santa Maria Masonry

BLOCK PRODUCER:
 Air Vol Block, Inc.

OWNER:
 Allan Hancock College



Photography: Ken Chen



Profiles in Architecture



GEORGE L. STEVENS SENIOR CENTER

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

The George L. Stevens Senior Center is located in San Diego, California, and is owned by the City of San Diego's Parks and Recreation Department. The project site is located within the existing Martin Luther King, Jr. Park. The facility consists of one single-story building of approximately 11,000 square-feet, with the following primary areas: lobby, multi-purpose, exercise, meeting, classrooms, library, commercial kitchen, offices, restrooms and storage/break room. The facility serves senior citizens in the Southeast section of San Diego, and caters to their social and recreational needs, including providing classes and exercise programs.

The existing park facility served the large senior population with facilities that could not accommodate all the functions that the seniors needed. The new facility was designed to accommodate a variety of functions, serving as a primary meeting spot for the group. A daily lunch program is the mainstay of the group, and can be accommodated in the large, commercial style kitchen immediately adjacent to the multi-purpose room. The multi-purpose room includes a stage for performances, meetings and other public functions, as well as the ability to seat several hundred people for meals and a variety of other functions.

Concrete masonry was the ideal choice for the primary building material for the facility for a variety of reasons. The durability of the block is a prime consideration for what will be a heavily used facility. The City, with their limited maintenance budget, was very concerned about utilizing products that would withstand the heavy daily usage of the facility. The facility achieves significant energy savings through the implementation of energy efficiency and renewable energy measures, and has been recognized with a LEED Gold certification as a result of comprehensive energy and resourced-efficient design.

The building envelope improvements in this LEED recognition allow this project to be 28% better than

California's 2001 Title 24 Energy Efficiency Standards. The building is provided with PV array that will provide at least 16% of the building's expected annual regulated energy costs. The building accomplishes such high levels of energy efficiency through several different aspects of its design. The overall building envelope is about 45% better than required by the Title 24 energy code. The concrete masonry walls and roof of the building are insulated well above requirements, and highly energy-efficient dual-paned, low-e windows are installed throughout the building. In the multipurpose room, large clerestory translucent glazing assemblies have been installed, adding natural daylight to this large area.

ARCHITECT:

Jeff Katz Architecture
7290 Navajo Road, Suite 106
San Diego, CA 92119

Jeff Katz, AIA
Principal

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:
Simon Wong Engineering

GENERAL CONTRACTOR:
TB Penick & Sons

MASONRY CONTRACTOR:
Williams Faber Masonry

BLOCK PRODUCER:
RCP Block & Brick, Inc.

OWNER:
City of San Diego Park and Recreations Department



Photography: Pablo Mason, Pablo Mason Photography



Profiles in Architecture



CHILD & FAMILY CENTER

SANTA CLARITA, CALIFORNIA

The Child and Family Center is a non-profit agency providing counseling and support to troubled children and their families. A new facility was required to bring together offices all located in various rented buildings in the community.

The design objectives of this project were to reflect the strength and compassion of their work in the image of the architecture. A concrete masonry building provided this image, while allowing the construction economy necessary to meet a prudent budget.

Simple, economic use of concrete masonry provides interest through contrast of material textures, and colors. Split faced block forms the building facade base, while precision block defines the upper walls. Openings for doors and windows are strong and clean, and are framed in contrasting split faced verses precision faced concrete masonry block.

ARCHITECT:
Combs + Miguel Architecture, Inc.
27314 Tourney Road
Santa Clarita, CA 91355

James R. Combs
Principal

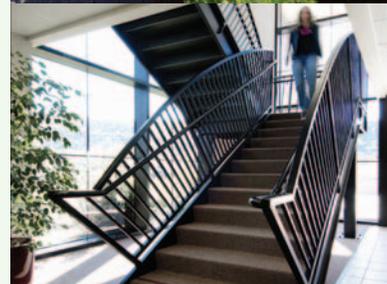
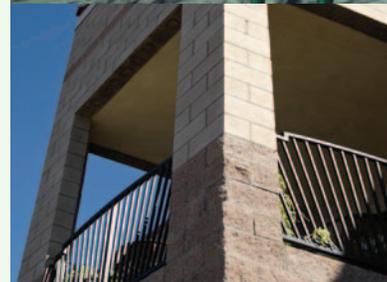
STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:
Wiss, Janey, Eistner Associates, Inc.

GENERAL CONTRACTOR:
Intertex General Contractors

MASONRY CONTRACTOR:
Nibbelink Masonry

BLOCK PRODUCER:
Angelus Block Company, Inc.

OWNER:
Child & Family Center



Photography: Ted Dayton, Ted Dayton Photography

CMU*Profiles in Architecture***VICTORIA FERTITTA MIDDLE SCHOOL**

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

Fertitta Middle School is one of approximately 40 prototypical schools built to date in the Las Vegas area, and is tailored to address the exploding growth for Southern Nevada's Clark County School District. This school is designed around an extensive academic curriculum and activities program for 1,750 pupils. The School is divided into six separate buildings arranged to provide a closed campus environment, and features indoor/outdoor courtyards that connect academic pods, administration offices, the library, physical education facilities, arts facilities, and commons areas.

Aesthetically, the efficient and durable masonry walls, echoing the rough stratified rock walls of the Las Vegas Valley, are metaphorically "broken through" to emphasize the entries as "bright gates to learning into the school, and conversely, student portals back to the community." A combination of textured and single score masonry is used effectively to create horizontal banding, and with other architectural elements at feature areas, to identify the campus entrances. Common concrete masonry units were used at the stem walls to provide a continuous aesthetic base and to accommodate the varying grade.

The interior open courtyard consists of planter and seating areas defined by low masonry walls. Exposed masonry was also used extensively in several of the larger interior spaces such as the gymnasium, locker rooms, and the commons. The Fertitta Middle School featured one of several masonry color palettes developed for the prototype schools. Concrete masonry block was chosen to realize the project goals of cost effectiveness, durability, flexibility, and ease of construction.

ARCHITECT:
Welles Pugsley Architects, LLP
 2480 East Tompkins Avenue, Suite 222
 Las Vegas, NV 89121

David G. Pugsley, AIA
Principal

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:
 Mendenhall Smith Structural Engineers

GENERAL CONTRACTOR:
 Sletten Construction

MASONRY CONTRACTOR:
 Ramco Masonry

BLOCK PRODUCER:
 Rinker Materials

OWNER:
 Victoria Fertitta Middle School



Photography: Mike Basham
 Richard Rossi, Rinker Materials (Picture 2)

C M U*Profiles in Architecture***AIRC WELDING FACILITY**

WALNUT, CALIFORNIA

Providing facilities for the Air Conditioning and Welding Program, the 26,500 square foot Airc Welding Building sits on a 1.7 acre site, selected to form a secondary entrance to the campus. The task was to create a pleasing entrance through facilities that housed mechanical and fabrication equipment, classrooms, offices, interior storage and exterior storage, as well as work yards protected from the elements and screened from the public view. The architect designed a structure that would require low maintenance and yet absorb abuse, since the materials in these classes are basically metallic and sheet material. The material selected was pre-finished concrete masonry units. The smooth concrete caps and the concrete block with shot blast finish alternate colors, creating interest and harmony with the existing brick buildings on campus. The exterior block finishes are carried through to all interiors.

The "shed" design honors the agricultural heritage of the campus, sloping down and facing the street, thereby reducing the scale and impact at the street corner. On the campus side the exposed mechanical exhaust duct and equipment symbolize the welding and air conditioning shop programs taught within. The roof is a standing seam metal roof.

All finishes were kept natural wherever possible, use of daylight was maintained. Exhausting of contaminated air was mandatory and excessive; therefore, they were used as design elements penetrating the walls and roof areas. All classrooms are equipped with the latest technological equipment for instruction and provided with accessibility stations.

ARCHITECT:
Grillias Pirc Rosier Alves
 15707 Rockfield Blvd.
 Irvine, CA 92618

Tony Alves
Principal

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:
 KNA Consulting Engineers, Inc.

GENERAL CONTRACTOR:
 Le Mar Construction

MASONRY CONTRACTOR:
 Kretschmar & Smith

BLOCK PRODUCER:
 ORCO Block Company, Inc.

OWNER:
 Mt. San Antonio College



Photography: Tony Alves, Grillias Pirc Rosier Alves



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6060 Sunrise Vista Drive, Suite 1990

Citrus Heights, CA 95610-7004

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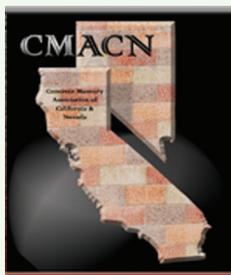
Last date to request submittal binders: March 31, 2007

Last date for receipt of completed submittal binders: April 30, 2007

Concrete Masonry Design Awards Banquet: Friday, September 28, 2007

Corrections to the October 2006 issue:

On the Thiriot Elementary School Project Page the Principal of Friedmutter Group should have been listed as Brad Friedmutter, AIA, Founder and CEO. We would also like to add the Design Architect, DLR Group, to the list of credits.



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- Technical information on concrete masonry for design professionals.
- Protect and advance the interests of the concrete masonry industry.
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For further information contact us at:

Concrete Masonry Association of California and Nevada
6060 Sunrise Vista Drive, Suite 1990
Citrus Heights, CA 95610-7004

Tel: (916) 722-1700
Fax: (916) 722-1819
Email: info@cmacn.org
Web Site: www.cmacn.org