This Technology Center is comprised of two primary structures housing fourteen technological disciplines and a smaller construction support facility. The building plans are organized by internal and external streets, which provide circulation, socialization and visual access to the various activities of each discipline. These streets are intended to encourage student and faculty awareness of the multitude of disciplines present, creating a “Center for Technology” in lieu of isolated labs, shops and instructional spaces.

Concrete masonry units and other building materials were chosen in response to the existing campus palette: earth-toned, split-faced CMU; the red brick color of older structures and the ribbed metal siding used primarily in facia panels and screens throughout the campus. The materials were used in a manner intended to convey the technology orientation of the occupants.

The result is a facility, which supports instruction in technology, is integrated with the campus fabric and provides a recognizable and exciting “place” for the Technology Department.
Catholicism traditionally emphasizes symbolism. This project is one that embodies symbologies throughout the 1,000 seat structure. The entry canopy is outstretched, taking on the form of angelic wings to warmly greet the congregation. Upon entering, the narthex is a space flooded with natural light. The unique fenestration creates an interesting play of shadow throughout various hours of the day. Along the walls are niches that break up the length of the walls while providing a space for statuettes highlighted with natural light from the fenestration.

To keep the look consistent with a cathedral, a special white faced concrete block was selected to evoke a strong sense of permanence while maintaining the light color important to the contemporary nature of the design.

As you can see, the overall effect is an architectural means in which to stir the emotions within the hearts of all those who enter.

**Architect:**

**Dyson Karby Siegrist & Janzen Architects**

764 P St., Suite B
Fresno, CA 93721

Arthur Dyson, AIA
*Design Architect*

Michael Karby, AIA/MCRP
*Project Architect*
This 100 acre project site presented a unique opportunity for the development of a 855,000 s.f. building area consisting of 26 movie screens, entertainment plaza with restaurants, a food court and retail tenants. It’s high visibility, freeway access and large size required a quality response to the specific project conditions, tenant requirements, and the needs of the patron. The result is a safe, attractive environment and striking visual imagery which people return to again and again.

The pedestrian environment was a top priority. The inclusion of a major movie theater and related entertainment uses allowed for the opportunity to create an environment that is entertaining and comfortable for the visiting patron. The plaza area is oriented away from the street and highway in order to create a sheltered refuse. To further enclose the outdoor space and create synergy between the restaurants and other tenants, the buildings have been clustered to form a large central courtyard with three pedestrian avenues providing access. This creates a strong visual connection between the entertainment center and the balance of the project.

Dramatic angular elements at major tenant entries and other focal points were designed in composition with smooth curving shells and graceful arching metal accents. Integral colored masonry, in varying shades and textures is applied in rhythmic patterns across the project, creating a pleasing background to the strong building entry forms and arcades. Concrete masonry units also provided textures and colors reminiscent of beach and sand. Landscape trees and planters are located to work in close harmony with the building architectural features.

Project design was considered from the macro scale of building massing and positioning of focal elements, down to the micro scale of wall finish textures, colors, and relationship to the pedestrians. This approach allowed for a very cohesive theme throughout the center, while creating variety and interest.

LONG BEACH TOWN CENTER
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

Architect:
Perkowitz + Ruth Architects, Inc.
111 West Ocean Boulevard, 21st Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802
Brian Wolfe
Principle
Yong Heng
Project Architect
Rodel Villanueva
Design Architect
Keith Mericle
Construction Administration
SUNLAND-TUJUNGA BRANCH LIBRARY  
SUNLAND, CALIFORNIA

The Sunland-Tujunga Branch Library, with a cost sensitive budget, required the design to specifically meet its functional and aesthetic requirements. The design addressed specific site issues, as well as being environmentally conscious of its natural surroundings. The preservation of a historical oak tree required that the new library be situated away from the drip line to allow for its survival. The existing Sunland-Tujunga Wash was also a vital element in the design because the community regarded it as a valuable recreation area and ecological reserve. Therefore, the Wash was used as a metaphor in the design of the project and was expressed through the landscape and hardscape while the spirit of the oak tree served as an anchor for the design. This allowed for the creation of a library that also has a multi-purpose room, kitchen and support areas to be used after hours by the community.

Concrete masonry units successfully provided an architectural aesthetic that responded to budget restrictions. This material was used at the major reading spaces of the building, the interior entrance space, and at various locations on the site. Without concrete masonry units, it would have been very difficult to provide a cohesive design and landmark building.

Architect:
WWCOT  
(Widom Wein Cohen O’Leary Terasawa)  
Architecture, Planning, Interior Design & Forensics  
3130 Wilshire Blvd., 6th Floor  
Santa Monica, CA 90403

Adrian Cohen, AIA  
Principle In Charge

Andrea Cohen Gehring, AIA  
Project Designer

Vasile Carnabatu  
Project Manager

Lynnette Tedder, ASID  
Interior Designer
This is just a reminder that internal planning for the 2000 CMU Design Awards will begin this summer. The process of selecting a jury and preliminary design invitations and announcements will be under way late in 1999. So mark your calendars for the year 2000!

Concrete Masonry Association of California and Nevada (CMACN), a nonprofit professional organization established in October 1977, is committed to strengthening the masonry industry in California and Nevada by providing:

- Technical information on concrete masonry for design professionals.
- Protect and advance the interests of the concrete masonry industry.
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- Coordinate members’ efforts in solving common challenges within the masonry industry.

Funding for the production and publication of the CMU Profiles in Architecture is provided by:

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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

JULY 1999

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