A single course of concrete masonry block backed by wood studs forms the shell of the building. Concrete masonry block was selected for its low maintenance, durability and flexibility. Using these materials, the facility acquires the thermal protection characteristics of concrete masonry block with the flexibility of interior finishes and space utilization offered by the studs. This combination provides the best of both worlds by supporting the project’s energy efficiency goals, while maintaining the flexibility of space so crucial to the school planners.

ARCHITECT:
Flewelling & Moody Architects
141 S. Lake Avenue, Second Floor
Pasadena, CA 91101
Scott F. Gaudineer, AIA
President
Ara Zenobians, AIA
Principal-In-Charge

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:
Johnson & Nielson Associates

OWNER:
Wiseburn School District
THEATRE AT BOSTON COURT  
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

The Theatre at Boston Court was constructed at the request of the owner, Clark Branson, who has been active in the arts throughout his career and wished to provide a venue to allow for the exploration and celebration of new and classical works of drama and music for the cultural enrichment of not just Pasadena, but for all of Southern California.

This one-story, 12,000 square-foot performing arts building consists of a 99-seat equity waiver theatre and a 66-seat recital hall, which is convertible with moving platforms to a flat floor rehearsal hall. The structure has a state of the art tension grid for flexible lighting positions and a surround technical gallery and traps in a strong thrust state that allow actors to enter and exit from below. The structure and mechanical equipment is left exposed throughout the building for both acoustical and aesthetic reasons.

The building was designed to celebrate the joy of performance and uses concrete masonry block throughout the exterior as both the bearing wall and finish. Six-inch one color block was used to match the surrounding buildings and to emphasize the drama of the geometric forms.

Concrete masonry block forms the major structure bearing walls on the interior as well. The concrete masonry block is left exposed on the interior, where it serves the duel function of supporting the building and by providing the necessary acoustical isolation between the two venues, as well as the neighboring property to the south. The unusual corbel design on the north wall of the theatre prevents the parallel walls from creating overlapping sound waves and sound distortion. The concave catenary curve of the roof for both the theatre and rehearsal hall disburse the sound waves. The lobby uses masonry piers between large glazed openings so the nighttime events of the theatre are easily visible from the street.

ARCHITECT:  
5567 Reseda Blvd., Suite 209  
Reseda, CA 91356

John Fisher, AIA  
Principal & Designer Architect

Matt Fischer  
Theatre Consultant

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:  
Joseph Li and Associates  
Structural Engineer

OWNER:  
Clark Branson
LAND ROVER ROCKLIN
ROCKLIN, CALIFORNIA

The design of this 12,500 square-foot facility was conceived to complement the brand image and character of Land Rover products. Set amid mature California oak trees, the center showcases the four-wheel drive expertise of Land Rover with the use of durable building materials, rustic landscaping and site materials. The facility, which is located just east of Sacramento, was designed for high freeway visibility on one side and sensitivity to the surrounding neighborhood on the other, while adhering to corporate design standards. The Concrete masonry block used in the design of the service area is visible to the Reno/Sacramento/San Francisco corridor.

Concrete masonry block units were used to build the 24-foot high walls for the spacious and well-lit garage and parts department, which is used to service the large vehicles. The bold texture afforded by the split-face units was integrated into the design and improved upon the company’s national corporate design standards. Concrete masonry block was chosen for its durability, the speed and ease of construction, and the material’s inherent beauty.

The exterior design features 8-inch standard split-face units in three integral colors - charcoal, gray and red-brown - laid in a unique horizontal pattern. The exterior has been treated with a clear waterproof sealer. The interior of the concrete masonry block wall in the vehicle service area has been simply painted to provide an easily maintained and cleanable surface. Large windows and clear glass overhead, along with glass roll up doors provide natural light for this state-of-the-art computerized service area. The result is the transformation of an often overlooked part of the building into an asset of utility and beauty.

ARCHITECT:
Murakami/Nelson
100 Filbert Street
Oakland, CA 94607

Michael Murakami, AIA
Principal

Kevin Chang
Job Captain/Designer

Steve Beizer
Land Rover Centre Facility Coordinator

Steven S. Hower, PE
Construction Manager

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:
GKO and Associates
Structural Engineer

OWNER:
Rick Niello, The Niello Company
This private residence was designed as a celebration of concrete masonry block. Utilizing concrete masonry block’s inherent properties of texture, color, insulation and permanence, this project captures all these qualities, while providing a beautiful contrast to the smooth, white plaster used inside and out.

Atop a hill with a 360-degree view, the site and personal program dictated the building plan. With a constant breeze coming from the adjacent lake, the breezeway directs this naturally occurring cooling to the large courtyard created as an outdoor extension of living. The exterior foyer welcomes visitors with a direct view over the masonry fountain to the blue lake beyond, after arriving to the home through the arid terrain.

This family oriented design embraces family life focusing on the interplay of the great room, kitchen, game room, outdoor room, and pool. Even the bathroom has indoor/outdoor play with its bath water flowing from a concrete masonry block waterfall.

The masonry coursing changes from 6-inch high slump block to 4-inch high slump block to give further illusion of height. Masonry arches are achieved with precision block, colored to match the slump block, yet used to create texture contrast.

Stained concrete floors and natural concrete countertops throughout finish the feeling of permanence, while maintaining a warm and comfortable family home.

ARCHITECT:

Silva Studios
3666 Argonne Street
San Diego, CA 92117
www.silvastudios.com

Mark A. Silva, AIA
Principal

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:

Joshua Moody
Cannon Associates
Structural Engineers

OWNER:

Josette Blue
This new 11,000 square-foot facility was designed for a rapidly growing produce brokerage firm. The original layout was for 6,000 square feet of office space and 5,000 square feet for rental with the opportunity to grow into the rental space as required. As this building is located in an office/warehouse business park, it took on an “industrial tech” look and feel. The interior layout is organized around the open office sales staff area, which is the heart of the business. The interior scheme is best described as “Japanese Minimalism” with natural wood accents, grided patterns and a subtle monochromatic color scheme.

During preliminary value engineering it was determined due to the building size concrete masonry block exterior walls would be the most cost effective solution to the building envelope. The building is comprised of slab on grade foundation with a combination of smooth and split-face concrete masonry block exterior walls and a panelized roof system. The type of concrete masonry block used for the exterior was chosen to tie into the surrounding industrial neighborhood, while also providing a durable yet very aesthetically pleasing feel. The simple box shape of the building is made more interesting by the introduction of glass block and corrugated sheet metal elements into the building.
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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.

• Develop new and existing markets for concrete masonry products.

• Coordinate members’ efforts in solving common challenges within the masonry industry.

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

Paul D. Bambauer
Executive Director

The Concrete Masonry Association of California and Nevada announces the appointment of Paul Bambauer as the new Executive Director of the Association. Paul joins CMACN with 20 years in the cement and concrete products industry working in financial accounting, administration, sales and marketing. Most recently, Paul has been consulting in the strategic market development areas for various concrete wall systems, and prior to consulting, was Western Region Vice President of Sales for Southdown Cement, covering the California, Arizona and Nevada markets. As Southdown’s representative on various market development boards and committees within the National Concrete Masonry Association, Portland Cement Association and local product promotion groups, Paul held leadership positions in most areas of product promotion and has a broad range of experience. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the University Of Arizona in Tucson in 1977.

CMACN believes Paul’s promotional and administrative skills will provide new opportunity and direction for CMACN marketing activities.

Paul may be contacted at paul@cmacn.org or (714) 504-4497.

Visit our Web Site at www.cmacn.org

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