

**C M U***Profiles in Architecture*

## LA MIRADA GYMNASIUM

### LA MIRADA, CALIFORNIA

The City of La Mirada has committed to enhance its recreational opportunities with the development of a 20,125 square-foot gymnasium and multi-purpose facility. Two full-sized basketball cross courts, three volleyball courts and a center N.C.A.A. Regulation basketball court are included.

Concrete masonry construction was selected for its durability and low maintenance. Its mass provides a passive means of controlling heat gain or loss. In addition, all primary spaces are naturally lighted with no artificial lighting required during daylight hours. This is accomplished with the extensive use of glass block and skylights incorporated in the gymnasium ceiling. The balanced direction of lighting precludes glare. The glass block, with its reflective coating, low heat transmission, and high insulation value, provides the optimum of light with low heat gains.

Complementing this lighting system is the use of a natural system of ventilation. The building is oriented to capture prevailing westerly breezes, which are introduced into and through the building with a system of active louvers, which can be opened or closed and combined with the exhaust ventilation to control the amount of moving air circulating through the building. No auxiliary air cooling is required in the gymnasium, and even on 100+ degree "Santa Ana" days, the temperature in the facility will be in the low 80's.

A key design consideration was that 12 inch reinforced concrete masonry units could be used as a smooth wall surface in the gymnasium without the addition of structural pilasters, which were viewed negatively as an aesthetic and potential hazard issue.

Contrasting colors of precision masonry block were used for field and accent colors at the top of wall surfaces and lintels for openings. All masonry was sandblasted prior to sealing to expose the aggregate and provide a textured appearance throughout the building, including both interior and exterior walls. The location of these accents was carefully considered to insure a uniform appearance on both the inside and outside of the primary spaces.

#### ARCHITECT:

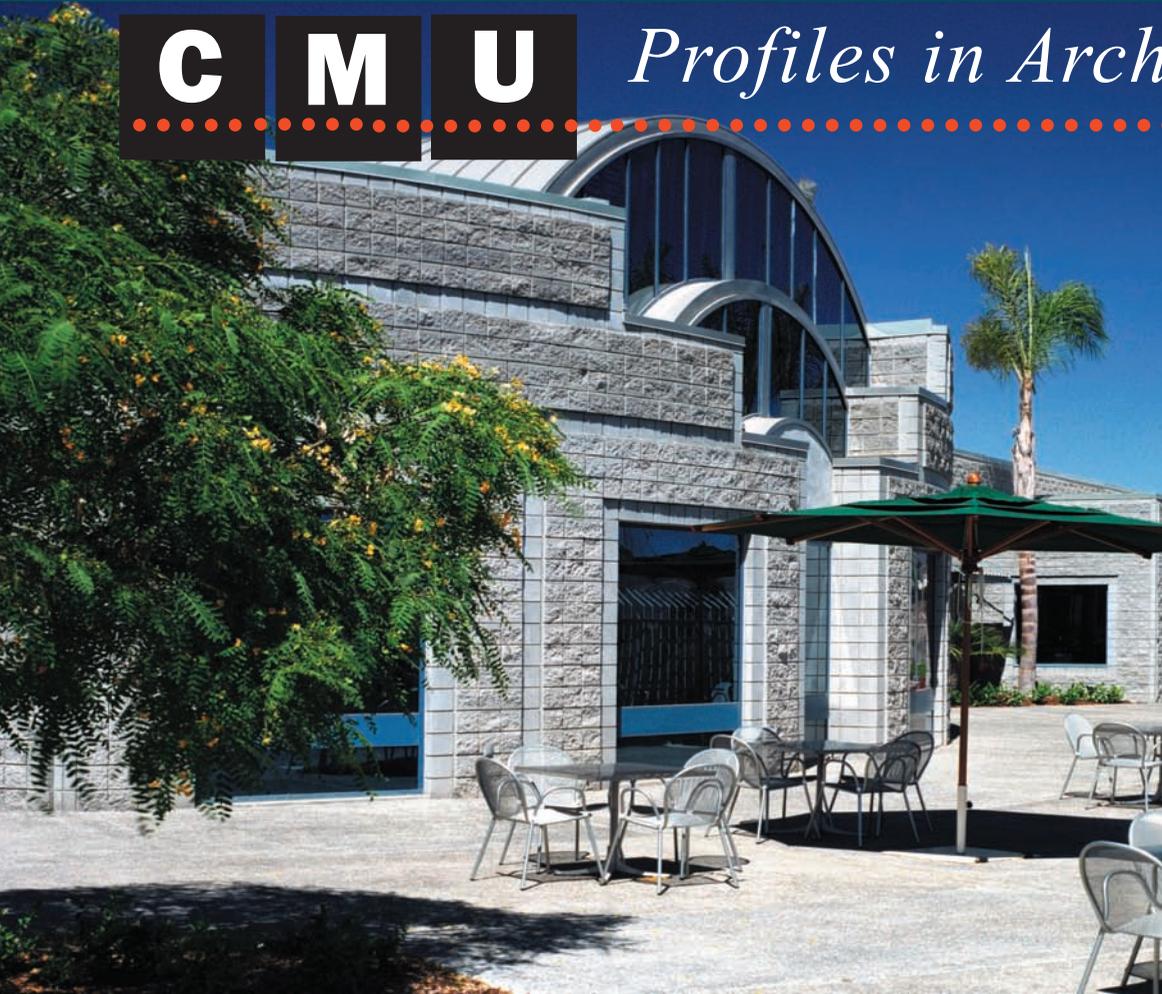
**John Bates Associates, Inc.**  
22952 Mill Creek Drive  
Laguna Hills, CA 92653-9308

John T. Bates  
*Principal*

Art Velasco  
*Project Manager*

**OWNER:**  
City of La Mirada



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## CHULA VISTA PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT CHULA VISTA, CALIFORNIA

When the Chula Vista Public Works Department relocated to a 16-acre site formerly occupied by San Diego Gas and Electric, RNL Design's services included providing Chula Vista with a new corporate yard by remodeling and adding to existing structures, as well as constructing new facilities and parking.

This \$21 million multi-phase project consists of a complete remodel of the existing Administration Building and an addition for various City departments. The Shops Building included an addition to and remodel of another existing building. The City's Warehouse Facility was housed in a remodeled existing structure.

Due to the specialty purpose of this project, which includes Code-defined hazardous use locations, it was determined that concrete masonry as a material was needed to meet the dual needs of life-safety and long-term rugged durability. In the case of the Chula Vista project, the added benefit of matching the previous campus aesthetics melded perfectly with the designer's palette.

To respectfully expand the existing Administration Building to match the wall detail constructed 14 years earlier, the 9 1/4 inch thick specialty split-faced concrete masonry block was manufactured

from original custom molds and utilized to contrast and trim both 8" x 8" and 8" x 16" field designs. Additionally, this material was utilized for accent details on the Shops Building and the Vehicle Maintenance Buildings, where details were expanded to meet the requirements of 12-inch thick structural concrete masonry block walls, while matching the set design theme with a cost-effective blend of similar, but standard units.

### ARCHITECT:

**RNL Design**  
800 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 400  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Patrick M. McKelvey, AIA  
*Principal*

### OWNER:

City of Chula Vista  
Department of Public Works

Mr. Dave Byers

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## HIGUERA CENTER

### SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA

Higuera Center, a new multi-tenant office building, is a two-story, 42,000 square foot structure designed for maximum flexibility to accommodate various professional office uses. Since the building was designed prior to any leasing, two entry lobbies were included with a connecting corridor to allow as many options as possible for future tenant layouts.

This prominent corner site required a building that was attractive and functional on all sides. Exterior materials were chosen for both their aesthetic qualities and ease of maintenance. Ground face concrete masonry block was used extensively along with exterior plaster, concrete columns and metal roofing. The ground face concrete masonry block was used both as full-size masonry units on the lower level and as veneer at the second floor level. The concrete masonry block provided not only an attractive appearance, but also solved the structural problems associated with providing the extensive windows at the lower level.

Close coordination between the architects and concrete masonry block producer was critical in selection of the block type and research and testing for the best waterproofing system. The final result has proven both cost efficient and functional.

#### ARCHITECT:

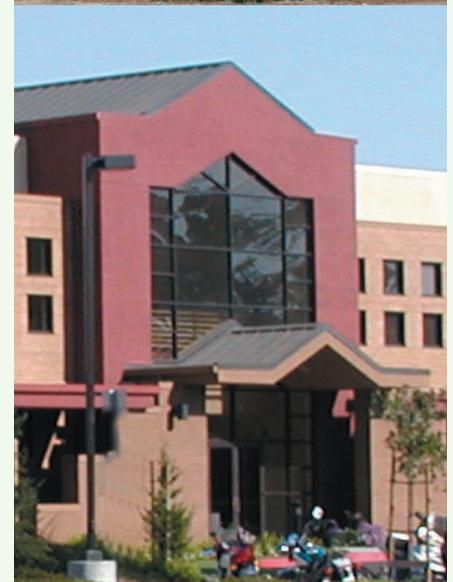
**Steven D. Pults, AIA & Associates**  
3450 Broad Street, Suite 106  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Steven D. Pults, AIA  
*Design Architect*

Frances Gibbs  
*Project Architect*

#### OWNERS:

David Weyrich  
Dan Lloyd



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## FRANK AND DOROTHY GRISANTI GYMNASIUM SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA

The recently constructed Frank and Dorothy Grisanti Gymnasium is a 24,000 square-foot K-12 indoor sports facility that was designed for both physical education classes and intramural activities. The structure features a double cross-court gym that accommodates both exhibition basketball and exhibition volleyball. In addition, the building has an 800-seat retractable bleacher system, multiple locker room and shower facilities, a training room, athletic department offices and a 4,000 square-foot second story community room. The gymnasium is one part of the new Crossroads School state-of-the-art sports center. The other facilities include a new aquatics center, which incorporates wave-reduction technology and a soccer field, which features artificial turf.

The gymnasium portion of the building was constructed with an "off-the-shelf" prefabricated metal building system. As it was to be situated adjacent to the new soccer field, there was a concern that the metal siding may sustain damage from errant soccer balls.

The solution to this problem was to incorporate a nine-foot high concrete masonry unit "abuse" wall at the base of the prefabricated metal building. The exposed concrete masonry units became a part of the building design vocabulary and were also included in the two-story conventionally built portion of the gymnasium, as the perimeter

enclosure of the adjacent aquatic center and at the base of the 30-foot high decorative chain-link fencing which surrounds the soccer field.

Adding the exposed concrete masonry units to the building provided a design opportunity. Yellow and green, precision-face concrete masonry units were constructed in a pattern to complement the alternating vertical bands of the prefabricated metal paneling. In addition, the patterning, coloring and surface texture of the concrete masonry units created an interesting juxtaposition with the other exterior materials, which included an exterior polymer modified plaster system, glass curtain walls, exposed structural steel posts and decorative metalwork.

### ARCHITECT:

**Pica & Sullivan Architects, Ltd.**  
1036 South Alfred Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90035

V. Joseph Pica,  
*Principal*

Steven H. Klausner  
*Project Architect*

### OWNER:

Crossroads School for Arts and Sciences



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## **KAISER PERMANENTE HARBOR/MACARTHUR MEDICAL OFFICE BUILDING**

### **SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA**

The Kaiser Permanente Harbor MacArthur Medical Office Building, located in Santa Ana, California, is a new 80,000 square foot facility built to expand Kaiser Permanente's medical services to their rapidly growing membership. The building, designed by Taylor & Associates Architects, in Newport Beach, California, was planned and constructed in three phases. Phases one and two were completed in late 2001, and are currently open and servicing patients. Phase three is the final phase of the project and is currently under construction and scheduled for an accelerated completion date in January 2003.

The first two phases consist of a two-story, 48,000 square foot building. The facility accommodates room for family practice, orthopedics, occupational medicine, obstetrics/gynecology, neurology, physical therapy, pharmacy and an imaging center, which features state of the art MRIs, CT scans, ultrasound, radiology, fluoroscopy and mammography services. Ancillary spaces also include an expansive open lobby, centralized reception area, administrative offices, staff lounge, conference rooms, member services and various other support functions. The third phase is a three-story, 32,000 square foot facility, which will provide additional family practice services, acute care services, lab and blood draw, and vision services, which includes an optical dispensing department. The building was designed with a contemporary

facade that pays homage to early craftsman-style architecture, which was prevalent in California more than a century ago. The building's large form is broken into smaller, more human-scale forms, by juxtaposing its major masses and creating varied roof heights. The exterior is clad in simple materials such as concrete masonry veneer and plaster to emulate the craftsman lines of textured bases and upper walls. Colors are warm tones of gray, cream, rust and brown.

The basic structure was steel framing with concrete masonry veneer over metal studs, creating the feel of a solid, durable building with aesthetic appeal and low maintenance. Masonry was selected for this project as a means of providing the desired architectural details, features, colors and textures. More than a dozen variations of masonry were utilized, including precision and split-face units in two colors and various sizes.

#### **ARCHITECT:**

**Taylor & Associates Architects**  
2220 North University Drive  
Newport Beach, CA 92660-3319

Michael McLane, AIA  
*Principal*

**OWNER:**  
Kaiser Permanente





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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](mailto:info@cmacn.org)  
Web Site: [www.cmacn.org](http://www.cmacn.org)

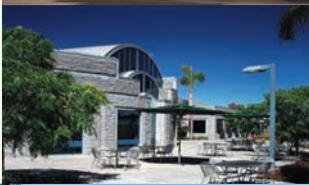
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