Profiles in Architecture

2006 Concrete Masonry Design Awards

Text includes excerpts from each architectural firm's description of the project and jury comments delivered by jury chairman, Linda McCracken-Hunt, AIA, and sustainable juror, Charles Eley, FAIA, PE.
Concrete Masonry Association of California and Nevada and its members are pleased to announce our banquet to celebrate and honor achievement in the design and use of concrete masonry products.

Join CMACN, its members, and friends in this celebration. Enjoy an evening of architectural review, great food, and fine music.

Sponsorships

Sponsorships are very important to making the CMACN Design Awards possible. Partner Sponsors have been invited from a select group of companies that supply materials to the producers of concrete masonry products, and those that are leaders in concrete masonry design.

2006 Partner Sponsors

- Brandow, Ekwueme, Hart
- California Portland Cement
- Cemex
- Masonry Institute of America
- Mitsubishi Cement Company
- TXI
Concrete Masonry Association of California and Nevada and its members are pleased to invite you to celebrate with us the winners of the 2006 CMACN Design Awards. Our thanks go to the American Institute of Architects California Council for their continued participation in this annual architectural design awards program. We thank AIACC for providing a nationally recognized, distinguished and thoughtfull jury to sit in judgment of the work of their peers designing innovative, sustainable, and safe buildings in California and Nevada.

Unique to the CMACN program are awards for sustainable design. Take a moment and review a collection of design criteria set forth by the California Collaborative for High Performance Schools on the following pages. Concrete masonry is the construction material of choice for durable, sustainable buildings.

The 2006 CMACN Design Awards entrants include a varied cross-section of projects including: Educational, Public/Civic, Commercial, and Residential. Concrete masonry is showcased in all of these designs for its durability, longevity, fire resistance, strength, beauty, energy efficiency, flexibility, noise attenuation, and economy. Buildings constructed of concrete masonry will withstand the test of time.

KURTIS K. SIGGARD
Executive Director, CMACN

In recognition of the importance of the preservation of our planet and the role of the building industry in this endeavor, Concrete Masonry Association of California and Nevada believes that good design and sustainable practices are inseparable. The Association further believes that the application of masonry products can serve in a major role in assisting projects to meet greater expectations for the performance of buildings in the environment. Therefore, each applicant for the CMACN Awards Program is expected to complete a statement of sustainable design strategies that significantly impacted the design of the project submitted for award consideration and the related use of masonry products. The awards jury will include individuals who are recognized experts in sustainable design practices and they will be empowered to select exemplary projects demonstrating sustainable practices from the entire range of submittals.

MARVIN J. MALECHA, FAIA
Dean, North Carolina State University College of Design
AIA/ACSA Topaz Laureate, ACSA Distinguished Professor
ELEMENTS OF A SUSTAINABLE BUILDING

Credit: Material collected from the Collaborative for High Performance Schools

1 Healthy, safe and secure. Good indoor air quality is essential. It requires minimizing pollutant sources and providing adequate ventilation and air filtration.

2 Thermal, visual, and acoustic comfort. Thermal comfort means that building occupants should not feel too cold or too hot as they work or learn. Visual comfort requires that quality lighting makes visual tasks, such as reading, following presentations, and working on the computer, easier. Lighting for each room should be “designed,” not simply specified. Daylight and electric lights are integrated and glare is minimized. Visual comfort also means providing a connection to the outdoors and visual stimulation through the use of windows at eye level to offer views. Acoustic comfort means that occupants can hear one another easily. Noisy ventilation systems are eliminated, and the design minimizes the amount of disruptive outdoor and indoor noise affecting the occupants.

3 Energy efficient. Energy-efficient buildings save money, while conserving non-renewable energy resources and reducing atmospheric emissions of pollutants and green-house gases. Heating, ventilating, and air-conditioning (HVAC) systems use high efficiency equipment; are “right sized” for the estimated demands of the facility; and include controls that optimize system performance. The building’s lighting system uses high efficiency products; optimizes the number of fixtures in each room; incorporates control devices that ensure peak system performance; and successfully integrates electric lighting and daylighting strategies. The walls, floors, roofs, and windows of the building are as energy efficient as cost effectively possible. The building shell is integrated and optimizes insulation levels, glazing, shading, thermal mass, air leakage, and light-colored exterior surfaces to minimize the use of the HVAC systems.
4 **Material efficient.** To the maximum extent possible, the design incorporates building materials that have been produced in a way that conserves raw materials. Such materials may be manufactured with a rapidly renewable resource or recycled content, are durable, or can be recycled or reused. In addition, the school has been designed and built in a manner that reduces waste and keeps useful materials out of the landfill.

5 **Environmentally responsive.** The site is recognized as an essential element of the building’s features. To the extent possible, the site conserves existing natural areas and restores damaged ones; minimizes stormwater runoff and controls erosion; and incorporates products and techniques that do not introduce pollutants or degradation to the project site, or the site of extraction, harvest, or production.

6 **Water efficient.** Water scarcity is a major problem in much of California and Nevada. Sustainable buildings are designed to use water efficiently, saving money, while reducing the depletion of aquifers and river systems. The building uses as little off-site water as possible to meet its needs, controls and reduces water runoff from its site, and consumes fresh water as efficiently as possible.

7 **Commissioned.** The building operates the way it was designed to, and meets the needs of the owner and occupant. This happens through a formal commissioning process - a form of “systems check” for the facility. The process tests, verifies, and fine-tunes the performance of key building systems so that they perform at the highest levels of efficiency and comfort, and then trains the staff to properly operate and maintain the systems.

8 **Stimulating architecture.** Sustainable buildings should invoke a sense of pride and be considered a genuine asset for the community.
SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY RECREATION CENTER
ROHNERT PARK, CALIFORNIA

Sustainable Jury Comments: Energy efficiency is the foundation of good sustainable design and this building, which is located in a hot climate, is able to achieve good thermal comfort largely through natural ventilation and passive cooling strategies. Efficient evaporative cooling is used in the areas that require mechanical cooling. Daylighting is used effectively to increase the environmental quality of the space and to save electric energy. The use of masonry and other durable materials will reduce the need to replace materials over the life of the building.

Sustainability was a driving force in the design of the building and its systems; and this is the first building on the Sonoma Campus to use the LEED rating system as a guideline for design.

The two-story recreation center includes a large and small gymnasium, indoor track, game room, and wellness center to create a 52,000 square-foot building. Almost 70% of the building is naturally ventilated and cooled: the campus will “night flush” the building of all hot air at night, and use it to moderate the temperature of the building. Vents in the lobby skylight and under the built-in seat assure air movement and the natural ventilation of the lobby.

An indirect evaporative cooling system was used for the office, multi-purpose, and fitness rooms. An indirect destratification/ventilation system is used for the small gym. Along with proper orientation and an efficient exterior skin with thermal mass; this building is 51% more efficient than a typical Title 24 building. In addition to these performance standards, significant use of green materials was accomplished in the carpet, linoleum, solid surface transaction counters, recycled glass tile, and wood from certified forests.

All these sustainable decisions add up to a substantial amount of energy savings. Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG & E) project the energy savings will be 114kw; 339,000kWh; 19,446 therms per year. The project qualifies for the Silver rating from the United States Green Building Council (USGBC).

While stone was the preferred look and material, concrete masonry units proved to have many of the same aesthetic qualities while being a more economical and flexible building material. Oversize blocks were used at the base to scale up the building and bull nose blocks were used to separate the base from the upper block used in the walls. The parapet was offset, and originally had a cap block to top off the CMU walls. Oversize grey block was used on the tower, and running bond and stack bond were used for aesthetics. Colors were used to reflect the surrounding desert and ground face units were used to bring out the color of the aggregate giving it a natural stone-like finish.

ARCHITECT:
LPA, Inc.
5161 California Avenue, Suite 100
Irvine, CA 92617
Jim Wirick, AIA Wendy Rogers, AIA
Principal Design Principal
Brandon DeArakal, AIA
Project Manager

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:
Structural Design Group

GENERAL CONTRACTOR:
Wright Construction

MASONRY CONTRACTOR:
Gene Amato Masonry

BLOCK PRODUCER:
Calstone Company, Inc.

OWNER:
Sonoma State University
Sustainable Jury Comments: This Collaborative for High Performanc Schools (CHPS) campus balances sustainable measures in the areas of energy efficiency, water efficiency, and indoor environmental quality. Efficient building envelop design and mechanical equipment save energy, and pendant mounted interior lighting achieves energy efficiency, while providing excellent lighting quality and control.

The sustainable features of the school were always discussed as energy and cost savings strategies in an effort to make them irrefutable to the district. When “Savings by Design” and CHPS were introduced as an approach to the design solution, the district began to emphasize the advantages of the environmental features. At that point in the process, the sustainable aspects of the solution were looked upon as an educational tool for the district, as well as the community. All design decisions began to reflect a responsible, environmental attitude, while simultaneously providing lower operating and maintenance costs to the district.

An efficient central plant was introduced to heat and cool the new campus, and classrooms were no longer immediately conceived with fixed windows and direct lighting. Research began to prove the benefits of natural ventilation and indirect lighting. Common areas and circulation spaces were flooded with natural daylight through the use of light monitors, clerestories and protected openings. The aesthetics of the design began to incorporate devices, which would showcase the environmental nature of the solution such as light wells, clerestories, “green” screens, sustainable materials, and indigenous landscape.

The school was planned holistically, responding to and incorporating LEED requirements. After a single year in operation, Cesar Chavez Elementary School has performed over 33% better than the Title 24 Requirements and utilizes over 100,000 gallons less water per year than a school of similar size. In addition this school has received honors from both Southern California Edison and The Coalition for High Performance Schools.
GREEN MEADOWS RECREATION CENTER GYMNASIUM
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Sustainable Jury Comments: This building uses sustainable materials including sustainably harvested wood, fly-ash concrete and masonry, locally manufactured materials, and recycled steel. Daylighting and attention to indoor air quality contribute to a better indoor environment.

The Green Meadows Recreation Center Gymnasium, located in a south Los Angeles neighborhood park, utilizes concrete masonry as its defining material, producing its distinctive structure and appearance in a building that also meets the functional, sustainability and maintenance requirements of the client, the Los Angeles Recreation and Parks Department. The project’s tight budget required the need for resourcefulness on the part of the design team, to take advantage of every design opportunity that the selection of materials, notably the concrete masonry block, provided. The building provides a full court gymnasium with bleacher seating, bathrooms, storage, kitchen, classroom and office space.

Entry is through a new tree-shaded courtyard. The building’s enclosing folded masonry wall dampens interior sound reverberation and strengthens the 8-inch block wall sufficiently to avoid adding the usual structural piers. There is a cost saving and the added value of unexpected form. The pattern produced by the concrete block also anticipates the neighborhood graffiti problem, accommodating the standardized rectangular paint-over fixes and resulting, over time, in a pattern of painted rectangles that will blend with the original block pattern.

The building’s skylight-punctured shed roof utilizes a long-spanning deck and also contributes to the structural efficiency of the building and maximizes natural light, with the row of north-facing clerestory windows. The gym is passively cooled with operable louvers and is designed for LEED-certified equivalence.

ARCHITECT:
Koning Eizenberg Architecture
1454 25th Street, 2nd Floor
Santa Monica, CA 90404
Hank Koning, FAIA
Principal
Julie Eizenberg, AIA
Principal

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:
Miyamoto International

GENERAL CONTRACTOR:
Tobo Construction

MASONRY CONTRACTOR:
CR Construction

BLOCK PRODUCER:
Angelus Block Company, Inc.

OWNER:
City of Los Angeles, Recreation and Parks Department
PATRIOT HIGH SCHOOL
RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA

**Sustainable Jury Comments:** Tall ceilings, daylight, and operable windows bringing in fresh air are features of this high performance school. An efficient central plant is used in lieu of packaged equipment to minimize maintenance cost and to increase energy efficiency. Windows are interlocked with the HVAC system to disable heating and cooling to rooms when the windows are open.

The new high school for Jurupa High School District is located a few miles west of downtown Riverside. A portion of the site has been set aside as a nature preserve, with many mature eucalyptus, pepper and palm trees.

The district has chosen to focus on the classroom as a true “learning laboratory,” resulting in many of the classrooms being larger than the State standard of 960 square feet. The size of the standard classroom is being increased to 1,150 square feet. The district stressed the importance of natural lighting in all of the learning laboratories. The integration of computer technology is also another priority for the classrooms. Flexibility should be inherent to the high school, allowing for alternative educational philosophies to be easily integrated.

The Patriot High School campus utilized concrete masonry unit materials at a number of locations. The entire campus has been finished with a masonry wainscot, that in addition to providing a durable exterior wall finish that can stand up to high school facility abuse, also provides a visually attractive concrete masonry base to each of the buildings.

The Physical Education complex at Patriot High School was selected to be constructed completely of masonry for a number of reasons. Masonry offered the best solution as a type of building construction as it offers superior resistance to abuse, it is an integral structural system that is also the finished product, and for this project was the most cost effective solution for this particular building.

**ARCHITECT:** Perkins+Will
617 W. 7th Street, Suite 1200
Los Angeles, CA 90017
Robert Lavey, AIA
Principal

**STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:**
TMAD Taylor & Gaines

**GENERAL CONTRACTOR:**
Tilden-Coil Constructors, Inc.

**MASONRY CONTRACTOR:**
Kretschmar & Smith, Inc.

**BLOCK PRODUCER:**
ORCO Block Company, Inc.

**OWNER:**
Jurupa Unified School District
Jury Comments: The plan is simple and well thought out. The volumes are nicely articulated; the masonry textures are a pleasing contrast to the glass and wood accents. The variety of masonry units accentuate and define the volumes. The lantern effect of the climbing wall tower is particularly striking and a good contrast to the solid masonry elsewhere. The “living room” feels like it could be a great place to meet and see friends. The gymnasium has wonderful natural light permeating the space and a variety of concrete masonry textures that add unique charm to an otherwise simple space.

The University had two major design goals: one was to create a gathering space for the students and the second was to demonstrate the campus' commitment to sustainability.

Originally opened in 1961, the campus is a series of non-descript concrete buildings. The new Recreation Center introduces a new aesthetic that better represents the region of Central Sonoma County. Through the use of concrete masonry, the building is composed of burnished and split face CMU complemented by Alaskan yellow cedar, stone, slate, glass and silver standing seam metal roof.

The facility is composed of a 5,500 square-foot single court gymnasium, an 11,000 square-foot two-court gymnasium with divider curtain, two multipurpose studios, fitness areas, fitness testing and wellness area, locker rooms, common areas, and office support spaces.

The Recreation Center is organized about the campus' “living room.” This two-story lobby houses the climbing/bouldering wall and serves as a lantern to the University and community at large as it defines the entry space and opens directly on the central quad. The lobby features the exposed glu-lam beams and wood tongue and groove ceiling, natural slate floor and wood sheathed pavilion at the check-in desk. It is meant to be an extension of the courtyard with operable doors and a seat wall that welcomes all students to engage in a holistic approach to their education.

These spaces are supported by a reinforced concrete foundation; steel frame structure with load bearing CMU walls with concrete and metal deck floor and roof, and lightweight trusses at the roof.

ARCHITECT:
LPA, Inc.
5161 California Avenue, Suite 100
Irvine, CA 92617
Jim Wirick, AIA
Principal
Wendy Rogers, AIA
Design Principal
Brandon DeArakal, AIA
Project Manager

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:
Structural Design Group

GENERAL CONTRACTOR:
Wright Construction

MASONRY CONTRACTOR:
Gene Amato Masonry

BLOCK PRODUCER:
Calstone Company, Inc.

OWNER:
Sonoma State University
Cesar Chavez Elementary School
Long Beach, California

Jury Comments: The school is sited adjacent to a park with its buildings clustered on a tight site. The building facades adjacent to the urban streets are tight, crisp, and fairly common. The space within and between the buildings has a lively, sweeping, collegiality to it, which becomes the heart of the complex. The detailing is sharp and energized, and the concrete masonry connects to the ground with other appropriate materials above. The use of natural light brightens up the utilitarian spaces within.

The salient aspects of the project program included the integration of the joint use components with the community redevelopment agency, the Long Beach Aquarium of the Pacific, and Long Beach Memorial Hospital.

The community aspects of the building program shaped the basic design decisions concerning site layout, access, orientation, security and internal adjacencies. Layered with the districts desire to create a sustainable solution, the facility in a sense became shaped by performance and function.

The program for Cesar Chavez Elementary School required the different integration of community use as well as district use. Clear and simple security systems to protect both entities determined site design strategies very early in the design phase of the project. In addition, the integration of existing park area for daytime school use offered specific constraints on the building configuration. Sustainability became an integral component not only to the final solution, but to the design process as well as energy and cost saving strategies as well as indoor environmental qualities determined HVAC systems, building orientation, openings, and landscape and material selections.

Burnished, concrete masonry formed an aesthetic as well as functional base for the school and was specifically chosen for durability and planning flexibility. By constructing the school from concrete masonry, columns were eliminated within the classrooms providing more usable learning environments.

The school required a sensitive and effective solution to bring together the desires of the district, the community, and the local neighborhood.

Architect:
LPA, Inc.
5161 California Avenue, Suite 100
Irvine, CA 92617

Richard D’Amato, AIA
Principal

Structural Engineer:
Culp & Tanner

General Contractor:
FTR International

Masonry Contractor:
FTR International

Block Producer:
Angelus Block Company, Inc.

Owner:
Long Beach Unified School District
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FULLERTON PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
FULLERTON, CALIFORNIA

Jury Comments: This animated addition to an existing building ties three venues together linked by a welcoming lobby. The celebratory entrance feature articulates and strengthens the campus plan. The concrete masonry is a good juxtaposition with the glass forms. The articulated masonry both inside and out is very coherent. The roof forms are quite unique and eye catching.

California State University, Fullerton (CSUF) is one of the most prestigious theater and music arts campuses in the country. In 2000 Pfeiffer Partners was retained to design a new performing arts facility to enhance its current programs through multi venue theaters.

Pfeiffer Partner’s design for the new Performing Arts Center creates a new signature building within the heart of the CSUF campus. Developed within the southwest corner of the campus, the facility will create a new energy and life for this part of the campus through the use of iconic roof forms and a rich, transparent glass curtain wall.

Architectural concrete, zinc, oversized concrete masonry blocks and plaster finishes create a rich palette of material on the exterior, making a bold statement at the edge of the campus. The building creates a new “front door” to the campus, supported by a new parking garage to the South. A new plaza in front of the building creates a new “Arts Walk” unifying the existing Performing Arts and visual Arts Buildings.

Major program features include:

• An 800-seat concert hall with variable acoustics designed for a range of recital and orchestral music programs.
• An intimate 250-seat thrust stage theater for varied dramatic performances.
• A 150-seat black box theater with flexible seating for a variety of experimental productions.
• An inviting multi-level public lobby, unifying the entrances of each venue creating a new campus place.
• A dance performance space and two practice dance studios designed for various types of dance from modern to tap.
• A rehearsal hall supporting CSUF’s musical theater program.
• Full scene and costume shops.

ARCHITECT:
Pfeiffer Partners, Inc.
811 W. 7th Street, 7th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017

William Murray, AIA
Principal in Charge

Norman Pfeiffer, FAIA
Principal

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:
Nabih Youssef & Associates

GENERAL CONTRACTOR:
Hensel Phelps Construction Company

MASONRY CONTRACTOR:
Masonry Concepts, Inc.

BLOCK PRODUCERS:
Angelus Block Company, Inc.
Trenwthy Industries, Inc.

OWNER:
California State University, Fullerton
Harvey Mudd College, Hoch Shanahan Dining Commons
Claremont, California

Jury Comments: The concrete masonry very successfully links the dining commons to the historic campus context. Once through the loggia, the glass and views focus inside and outside, creating an open, light and airy, welcoming space.

The building has been designed to fit comfortably with the vocabulary of materials on the campus of Harvey Mudd College. The campus, designed by Edward Durell Stone in the 1960’s and 70’s, employs a 12 x 12 x 8 beige concrete block adorned with applied square cast dentils on fascias and columns. This vocabulary has been repeated in the design of the Dining Commons.

Masonry provides warm natural colors, durability and particularly substantial environment for this center of student life and activity. The building’s wall elements open at the corners to let in light and provide views down the main campus mall opening the building’s transparency to the outdoors.

The plan features a variety of student dining environments. An atrium dining room in the center with a high ceiling and skylights is surrounded by a concourse for student circulation to other more secluded dining areas, servery and services. Masonry piers with lighting fixtures frame outdoor spaces for dining and relaxation.

This facility provides dining seating for 420 students together with five private dining rooms for meetings and conference dining settings. The servery is an open “Mediterranean market” atmosphere to showcase display cooking for custom service and variety of many stations.

Architects:
NTDISTICHLER Architecture
2025 Financial Way, Suite 106
Glendora, CA 91741
Anthony O’Keefe, AIA
Principal
Charles Howard, RA
Project Designer

Structural Engineer:
KNA Consulting Engineers, Inc.

General Contractor:
Millie & Severson, Incorporated

Masonry Contractor:
Nuway, Inc.

Block Producer:
Air Vol Block, Inc.
ORCO Block Company, Inc.

Owner:
Harvey Mudd College

Photography: Anthony O’Keefe, NTDISTICHLER Architecture
ORTHOPAEDIC HOSPITAL MEDICAL MAGNET HIGH SCHOOL
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Jury Comments: The defensible site planning effort on this project was admirable. The future growth plans show great promise and forethought on a very tight urban site. The project appropriately flanks the street edges with the durable concrete masonry materials, which are well thought out. The focal point in the courtyard is the chain linked, vined, sunshaded lunch shelter that softens the courtyard and sets a good rhythm to the future buildings and courtyards to follow.

The design intent is to create an intriguing, vandal-proof school that carves its own quiet environment from the city. The foil of the green-wall along Grand Avenue cloisters the outdoor courtyard from traffic and gives the streetscape a lush planted façade. The campus and courtyard are open to the Orthopaedic Hospital site to the west promoting and visually reinforcing the common mission of the larger Orthopaedic Hospital/LAUSD campus.

The design of the 90,000 square-foot 4 ½ acre, senior medical magnet high school completes a full city block with its neighbor and partner, Orthopaedic Hospital, and is the first new Los Angeles public high school built in 35 years. The school is designed around an “outdoor room” created by the siting of the two primary buildings and a “green” ivy wall. A planned 2nd phase includes a third building punctuated by another courtyard sited to the south on the “land-banked” surface parking area.

The use of subtly patterned, burnished block, exposed both in the exterior and interior of the school, affords a legible academic mission and a sense of permanence, importance and quality, which the students and community respond to with care and pride. In addition to the image the CMU structures convey, they provide a durable, low-maintenance facility that is integrated with the neighboring hospital campus. The horizontally banded block pattern created through various course heights and coloration visually link the two institutions. The predominantly CMU buildings are a model of energy efficiency and economical sheer wall construction. The exposed block offers a wonderfully rich material palette and a means of orientation within the school.

ARCHITECT: R.L. Binder, FAIA, Architecture & Planning
7726 81st Street
Playa del Rey, CA 90293
Rebecca L. Binder, FAIA
Principal
Kim A. Walsh, AIA
Principal

DESIGN TEAM:
Chilin Huang
Kevin Shibata
Timothy Young

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:
Brandow & Johnston Associates

GENERAL CONTRACTOR:
Hensel Phelps Construction

MASONRY CONTRACTOR:
Masonry Concepts, Inc.

BLOCK PRODUCER:
Angelus Block Company, Inc.

OWNER:
Los Angeles Unified School District
**Intercollegiate Athletic Facility**  
**University of California Santa Barbara**  
**Santa Barbara, California**

**Jury Comments:** The concrete masonry provides a strong base and contrast to the fluted glass façade elements, which expertly brings filtered natural light to the interiors. The overall project is a crisp, cool, modern facility that is nicely detailed. The back façade facing the running track is clear and organized. The Z-shaped roof is memorable, but it is not clear whether or not it relates at all to the campus overall.

The new intercollegiate building on the campus of UCSB consolidates the programmatic and symbolic presence of the Athletic Department into one building. Comprised of offices for both administrative staff and coaches, student life space, and weight and therapeutic training facilities, the new 44,000 square-foot ICA facility is situated adjacent to a future pedestrian thoroughfare, connecting the north and south halves of the campus and creating a symbolic gateway between athletic and academic facilities. An alley of palm trees visually strengthens the connection between the ICA and the existing Robertson Gym, creating a processional entry to the athletic fields and facilities beyond.

Organized around a sequence of courtyards and patios in response to Santa Barbara’s regional vernacular and climate, the building acknowledges its adjacency to the Robertson Gym (through scale, color, and materials), while offering a new and dynamic interpretation of the existing architectural lines of the existing gym’s horizontal roof, creating a relationship between old and new that is both respectful and competitive.

Under the sculptural roof, the glazed entrance lobby of the ICA allows visibility between front and back, suggesting a continuity that is not only visual, but also circulatory. Furthering the dialogue between inside and outside, the curving wall of a student assembly space penetrates the glazed front façade and continues into the building, beckoning entry and providing scale to the generous lobby within.

Student life functions, including computer lab, study area, and assembly space are accessible from the ground floor along with the coaches’ offices. The second floor contains offices for both coaches and administration. Weight and therapeutic training facilities are accessed via a second entry located across from lockers in the existing gym. The two buildings are synergistic both in urbanism and in function, as student athletes will use both buildings in concert and enliven the department’s gateway during the course of daily activities.

**Architect:**  
**Cannon Design**  
1901 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 175  
Los Angeles, CA 90067  
Mehrdad Yazdani  
Principal

**Structural Engineer:**  
John A. Martin & Associates

**General Contractor:**  
Viola Constructors

**Masonry Contractor:**  
Gold Coast Masonry, Inc.

**Block Producer:**  
Air Vol Block, Inc.

**Owner:**  
University of California, Santa Barbara

Photography: Farshid Assassi, Assassi Productions

CLARK COUNTY REGIONAL JUSTICE CENTER
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

Jury Comments: The building program is complex, which highlights the multifaceted facility. The design is skillfully articulated and highly animated in response to the building's functions. The building's scale is in character with the cityscape, while keeping the massing lower along the street facade for a friendlier pedestrian scale. The "canyon" works well for the sense of arrival and orientation for visitors. The various textures, tones, and details of the concrete masonry units are expertly thought out and well done.

In the spirit of the traditional courthouse the Regional Justice Center has an elevated glazed entrance plaza, which projects a strong identity to the street. The design is organized to maximize the use of natural light in public and office spaces, while maintaining the complex security and zoning requirements of a modern courthouse. The five-story base of the complex, houses administrative areas, and reflects a scale that is compatible to the existing downtown fabric of Las Vegas. Courtrooms and judges' chambers are located in the 19-story tower, where the public, private and secure circulation areas are stacked in their appropriate zones.

The offices and courts within the Regional Justice Center are connected by a three-story glass atrium that links the building’s north and south lobbies. The space pays homage to the downtown grid system, while bringing natural light deep into the building. The canyon wall, composed of sandstone and inscribed with quotes on the concept of justice, is the heart of the building. The canyon also creates an interior street, revealing the individual agencies in a "mall" of justice.

Concrete masonry units were used to achieve the strength and beauty of stone without the cost. Oversize blocks were used at the base to scale up the building, while bull nose blocks were used to separate the base from the upper walls. A combination of stack and running bond were used to add visual interest. Colors from the surrounding desert were incorporated along with ground face units, which bring out the color of the aggregate to enhance the stone-like appearance.

ARCHITECT:
Tate Snyder Kimsey Architects
709 Valle Verde Court
Henderson, NV 89014
J. Windom Kimsey, FAIA
Principal

COURTS PLANNING CONSULTANT:
HDR Architecture
1711 Preston Road, Suite 300
Dallas, TX 75248
Rob West, RA
Director of Courts Design

Mike Brenchley, AIA
Senior Vice President

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:
LERA
Bennett & Jimenez

GENERAL CONTRACTOR:
AF Construction Company, Inc.

MASONRY CONTRACTOR:
AF Construction Company, Inc.

BLOCK PRODUCER:
Rinker Materials
Tremenwyth Industries, Inc.

OWNER:
Clark County, Nevada
San Luis Obispo Airport Station No. 21
San Luis Obispo, California

Jury Comments: Reflecting the form of an airplane wing, this rescue facility has an aerodynamic quality that blends in well with the airport context. The mix of concrete masonry units is well handled and detailed. The use of concrete masonry as the primary exterior and interior material is a beautiful and appropriate finish. The steel and glass elements articulate the entry and accent the views to the runways.

San Luis Obispo Regional (SLO) Airport ARFF Station No. 21 encompasses the replacement for the old airport Fire Station that fell victim to seismic challenges, and airport expansion. From the inception of the project, the Architect established project design goals of; minimizing emergency service response time, improving the quality of life for the Fire Department personnel located at the airport, and setting a progressive new “airfoil” design theme for other airport structures to follow. These goals were applied to every facet of the design, from aircraft noise attenuation, evacuation of diesel exhaust fumes, environmental filtration systems, the building’s orientation, natural light, natural ventilation, and the selection of sustainable energy saving materials.

The new SLO Station No. 21 includes three large apparatus bays for crash-rescue, structural, and EMS missions. Other features are: living, kitchen and dining areas, private dormitories for airport fire fighters, infectious disease control room, turnout room, physical fitness/exercise area, workshop/SCBA storage, equipped with emergency power, radio, and dispatch and data systems.

Important design contextual elements are the rolling California hills, aircraft forms, industrial aviation environment, and a busy existing passenger terminal. The Architect’s design theme provided an airport emergency service building that would enhance the aviation environment and be a progressive feature building for San Luis Obispo Regional Airport.

Concrete masonry was chosen for use throughout the majority of the project for complete exterior and interior use. Smooth and split-face integral color concrete masonry was used to sustain longevity for maintenance, thermal mass, and in particular, to provide sound attenuation from the busy and noisy jet aircraft airport environment. The considerable amount of integral color interior concrete masonry is lightly sandblasted with accentuated deep joints. The LEED AP Architect felt it was essential to use sustainable materials with low maintenance as feature architectural elements in the visionary “airfoil influenced design” of SLO Airport Station No. 21.

Architects:
LEA - Architects, LLC
1730 E. Northern Avenue, Suite 110
Phoenix, AZ 85020

Lawrence Enyart, FAIA, LEED AP
Architect, LEA Principal

Lance Enyart
LEA Project Manager

Structural Engineer:
TLCP Structural Engineers

General Contractor:
Leon Construction

Masonry Contractor:
Curt J. Bailey Masonry

Block Producer:
Air Vol Block, Inc.

Owner:
County of San Luis Obispo, Dept. of General Services
CDF / San Luis Obispo County Fire Department
The building has been designed to fit comfortably with the vocabulary of materials in San Dimas. Masonry, employing both brick and concrete block, is a dominant theme in the City’s center area. Next-door is a County Fire Station to which the new facility strongly relates in its choice of brick block, and concrete roof tiles.

The budget, limited by recent escalation in costs, lead the design team to utilize a combination of split-face and precision concrete masonry units, and brick block. The building is designed to be a front door to the community, while providing an emergency operation center and a secure environment for the law enforcement personnel who serve within. Masonry provided the durability, security and warmth to bring these objectives together.

Atop the masonry walls and piers are wood trusses employing exposed bolted connections to support the rustic warm look of the building. The smallest details were considered from washers on timber connections in the shape of stars, to the carpet wainscot on corridor walls to provide years of scar free protection of the interior from the scuffling of law enforcement personnel bristling with equipment, radios, and gun belts.
Jury Comments: The site is absolutely spectacular! The house has a strong presence on the site, particularly from its main west façade. We imagine a dramatic view toward the ocean from the site. The form and massing of the house are striking and the composition of glass walls and solid walls is well done. The shadow casters could have been a little bolder. But overall the house feels bright, warm, and very dramatic. The xeriscape landscaping fits in well with the site and the house.

Essentially two cubes linked by a staircase, this house’s simplicity counters the complexity and wildness of the rugged hills that surround it. The house’s extruded modernist composition is a reaction to many conditions of the project: the site’s linear topography; a desire for massive window openings to take in spectacular views of mountains immediately outside and the ocean in the distance; the need for fire resistance (no overhangs, tile exterior); a requirement for xeriscape and client/architect preference.

Malibu 3 uses concrete masonry block as a major design element. The driveway from the winding canyon road to the house is protected by a long concrete masonry retaining wall. The wall is brought to life by inserting cap blocks randomly along its length. The cap blocks extend from the face of the wall to add interesting dynamics to an otherwise merely functional and mundane structural necessity.

The second use of CMU is the back wall of the house itself. Because the house is built into the side of a hill in a canyon, the back of the first level of the house is a 10-foot CMU wall. The cap block protrusions, as in the driveway, carry through to this wall.

The structure humbly pays homage to a proud lineage of modern homes: the Eames house, Albert Frey’s desert home, Neutra’s Lovell house and other local and internationally recognized projects inspiring for their elegant simplicity.

The home’s interior is a mixture of cool and warm. The main floor, with its common spaces, has a floor of concrete pavers.
Concrete Masonry Units (CMU) are dimensionally and aesthetically right for ANY of your existing or future designs. CMU’s can be integrally pigmented and textured to meet a wide range of client and project demands. CMU’s are design flexible, versatile, noncombustible, durable, economical and locally available.

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

- AIR VOL BLOCK, INC.
  (805) 543-1314
  San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

- ANGELUS BLOCK COMPANY, INC.
  (818) 767-8576
  Fontana, CA 92335

- BASALITE CONCRETE PRODUCTS, LLC.
  (707) 678-1901
  Dixon, CA 95620

- BASELITE CONCRETE PRODUCTS, LLC.
  (707) 678-1901
  Dixon, CA 95620

- BLOCKLITE
  (559) 896-0753
  Selma, CA 93662

- CALSTONE CO., INC.
  (408) 984-3800
  Galt, CA 95632

- CALIFORNIA NEVADA CEMENT PROMOTION COUNCIL
  (714) 694-0800
  Yorba Linda, CA 92887

- CEMEX
  (510) 234-3615
  Richmond, CA 94804

- CIND-R-LITE BLOCK COMPANY
  (702) 651-1550
  North Las Vegas Area
  (702) 365-6955
  South Las Vegas Area

- DESERT BLOCK COMPANY, INC.
  (661) 824-2624
  Mojave, CA 93501

- OLDCASTLE APG WEST, INC.
  (702) 352-3500
  Fontana, CA 92337

- ORCO BLOCK COMPANY, INC.
  (800) 473-6726
  Banning, CA 92220
  Indio, CA 92203
  Oceanside, CA 92056
  Riverside, CA 92509
  Romoland, CA 92585
  Stanton, CA 90680

- RCP BLOCK & BRICK, INC.
  (619) 460-7250
  Lemon Grove, CA 91946
  San Diego, CA 92154

- RINKER MATERIALS
  (619) 460-7250
  Lemon Grove, CA 91946
  San Diego, CA 92154

For further information contact us at:
Concrete Masonry Association of California and Nevada
6060 Sunrise Vista Drive, Suite 190
Citrus Heights, CA 95610-7004
Tel: (916) 722-1700
Fax: (916) 722-1819
Email: info@cmacn.org
Web Site: www.cmacn.org