CMU *Profiles in Architecture*

VALLEY CENTER HIGH SCHOOL
VALLEY CENTER, CALIFORNIA

Valley Center High School is a $26 million dollar project that houses 1200 9-12 grade students within the 150,000 sq. ft. facility located on 52 acres of rolling hills. Cloaked in masonry of colors indigenous to the area, the school boasts 32 academic classrooms, 22 science and technology labs, administration and student services, black box experimental theater, gymnasium, varsity football and baseball stadiums, complete agriculture and ag-mechanic facilities, and a high tech library/ research center. 21st century technology will equip the school with a campus-wide computer network providing full data, information and multi-media capabilities.

During the planning stages of the Valley Center High School project, many factors were considered before choosing concrete masonry units. They provide the necessary durability while being easy to maintain. Concrete masonry units also express a permanence that was suitable for a school and at the same time was appropriate and sensitive to local environmental context.

Six years of planning, research and funding efforts were required in order to bring this facility to the children of Valley Center.

Architect:

NTD Architects
4719 Viewridge Ave., Suite 200
San Diego, CA 92123

Jon Alan Baker, AIA
President NTD Architects

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GONZO FINANCIAL BUILDING
RENO, NEVADA

This "Italian" design is for a family insurance business with space for a son in the financial business. The project was about family, tradition, heritage, and rites of passage. The design draws from traditional Italian architecture (the colonnades, arches, clerestory windows, etc.)
The father wanted a traditional, conservative and stately building while the sons wanted a more modern approach.

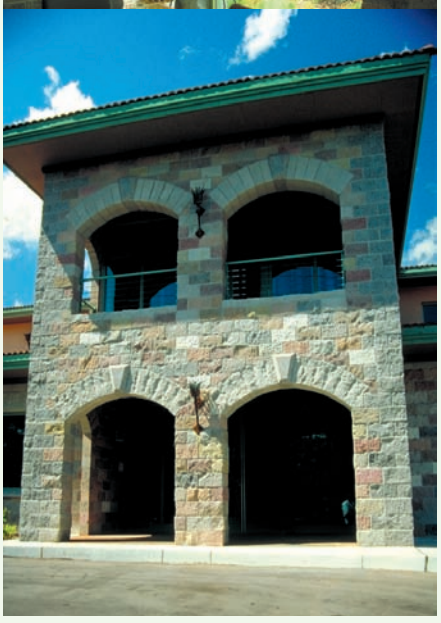
Budget restrictions limited the use of stone but allowed for the use of concrete masonry units. The challenge was to make concrete masonry units replicate stone. A creative solution solved this problem. Split faced units were beaten to make them look rougher, to make shadows and break the edges. This gave the concrete masonry units a stone "appearance".

The details throughout the building reflect a strong family heritage which successfully combined the old world with the new.

Architectural Firm:

Cathexes
1000 Plumas Street
Reno, Nevada

Don Clark
Principal



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THOMAS LASORDA JR. FIELD HOUSE
(YORBA LINDA GYMNASIUM) YORBA LINDA, CALIFORNIA

The City of Yorba Linda developed the project to be jointly used by the local school district who wanted to use the facilities for sports, assemblies and band performances. This requirement was addressed with sound absorbing material on the vertical wall surfaces and a metal decking surface which trapped and absorbed sound waves. Operable curtains provide a variable backdrop for performances and separation for simultaneous sporting events.

The predominant structural material is concrete masonry which was developed to provide a high degree of surface relief. Colonnades and strong roof forms work together to scale down the structure to compliment the adjacent residential neighborhood and create the "field house" quality.

Solid grouted reinforced 12" masonry walls create clean interior and exterior surfaces with no columns or pilaster interrupting court surfaces and creating hazardous situations.

The interior and exterior of the block has been sandblasted exposing the rich rock matrix. When sealed, the surfaces are virtually maintenance free and provide the impact resistance and security especially suited for this type of facility.

The project resulted in a field house that provides space for two full sized basketball courts (one championship court), three volleyball courts, a multi-purpose room and bleacher seating for 1,000 spectators.

Architect:

John Bates Associates, Inc.
22952 Mill Creek Drive
Laguna hills, CA 92653

John T. Bates, AIA
Principal in charge/Designer

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Although masonry has been with us for thousands of years, modern reinforced concrete block masonry-with performance which extends far beyond that of lightweight walls-offers benefits which make it a superior material for most types of construction.

Among them are color and texture. Concrete block masonry products' integral color and texture, and their wide range of surface treatments, make them ideal finish materials. Easy maintenance is another. Maintenance-free concrete block masonry walls retain their beauty and appearance for the life of the building. Finally, there's weatherability. Concrete block masonry materials are extremely durable and resistant to sun, wind and rain. They also offer greater infiltration control than many alternative wall construction techniques.

And remember to visit our website to see the library of projects which have been featured in CMU Profiles in Architecture publications.

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Lemon Grove, CA 91946

VALLEY BLOCK COMPANY
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Indio, CA 92202

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.

The members of CMACN appreciate the financial support given by the California Cement Promotion Council towards the cost of producing the CMU Profiles in Architecture.

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