

**C M U***Profiles in Architecture***CLARK COUNTY REGIONAL JUSTICE CENTER**

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

The Regional Justice Center echoes the traditional courthouse by providing an elevated glazed entrance plaza, or civic square, that 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, which houses administrative areas and has a typical "office" floor-to-floor height, reflects a compatible building scale 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 60-foot high by 350-foot long space pays homage to the downtown grid system while bringing natural light deep into the building. The heart of the building - this canyon - is defined by a native sandstone wall inscribed with quotes of the universal concept of justice from various peoples and times.

Consistent with modern design principles, the Regional Justice Center is served by three separate horizontal and vertical circulation systems that link public, staff and inmate zones. The base of the courthouse is designed to accommodate a wide range of public services in a "mall" of justice. The canyon creates an interior street, revealing individual agencies behind storefronts. Public services with the highest volume demand are located on the entry level. The Marriage License Bureau has its own separate entrance off the southeast corner of the building, with a limousine drop-off and a small courtyard and treed canopy for photo opportunities - a phenomenon unique to Las Vegas.

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. Stainless steel parapet flashing tops the CMU walls. Oversize grey block was used on the tower. Running bond and stack bond were used for aesthetics. Colors were used to reflect the surrounding desert, while ground face units were used to bring out the color of the aggregate giving it a natural stone-like finish.

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

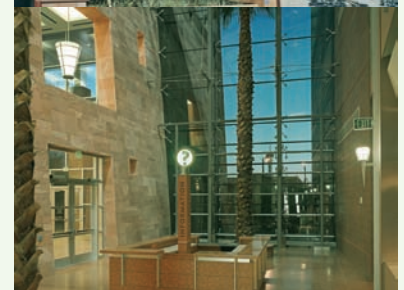
**STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:**  
LERA

**GENERAL CONTRACTOR:**  
AF Construction Company

**MASONRY CONTRACTOR:**  
AF Construction Company

**BLOCK PRODUCER:**  
Rinker Materials  
Trenwyth Industries, Inc.

**OWNER:**  
Clark County, Nevada



Photography: Tom Bonner

**C M U***Profiles in Architecture***GROVER GARDENS BUSINESS PARK**

GROVER BEACH, CALIFORNIA

Grover Gardens Business Park is an industrial complex located on the Central Coast of California, in Grover Beach. The project consists of two masonry buildings, which mirror each other around an oasis-like parking lot, which doubles as the shipping/receiving areas also partially screened by meandering masonry site walls. The buildings house a variety of small manufacturing businesses including exotic teas, vacuum equipment, home furnishings, and building products.

Masonry was the ideal choice of building material for this complex for a variety of reasons. The durability of the block withstands the constant moving of warehouse product by forklifts and small trucks. In designing this complex, it was important to create a beautiful space that was versatile and practical for changing tenant sizes. Each building has been designed to allow up to seven individual businesses, each equipped with a signature entry feature, roll-up door and high storage needs. Many combinations of masonry features can be used to accommodate a new tenant or growing existing business.

The design approach included a playful use of "designing buildings within a building," to reduce the impact of a single massive warehouse-like structure. This facility truly exemplifies masonry being used to its maximum potential in the creation of off-setting gable forms and volumes. The two types of masonry used also aid in controlling the mass of these buildings through a decorative wainscot, and use of the split-face units at the entry features. Deep, rich tones of the block have been accentuated by a burgundy wine metal roof and matching roll-up doors.

The architect worked directly with the supplier to create a custom split-faced block color of red and brown. This new color, in combination with a standard tan block, was not only beautiful, creating contrasting architectural features, but allowed for a cost effective exterior.

**ARCHITECT:**

**John F. Mack, Architects**  
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Grover Beach, CA 93433

John F. Mack  
*Principal*

**STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:**

Russ Feilzer and Associates Engineering

**GENERAL CONTRACTOR:**

S & S Homes of the Central Coast, Inc.

**MASONRY CONTRACTOR:**

Santa Maria Masonry

**BLOCK PRODUCER:**

Air Vol Block, Inc.

**OWNER:**

S & S Homes of the Central Coast, Inc.



Photography: Erik Geil, Air Vol Block, Inc.

**C M U***Profiles in Architecture***VISTA MURRIETA HIGH SCHOOL**

MURRIETA, CALIFORNIA

Vista Murrieta High School is the second comprehensive high school for Murrieta Valley Unified School District. The site's neighbors are protected environments and habitats. To the southeast lies an existing blue line stream, where there have been sightings of the endangered Quino Checkerspot Butterfly. The southwest corner of the property has protected coastal sage scrub. To the west there is an existing exit from Interstate 215. To the north and east are future residential neighborhoods.

The school's "front door" faces the main road that connects to the interstate. The core of the campus is located on the northeastern portion of the site at the intersection of the two new roads and across from the residential areas. The playfields are on the western portion of the site. They provide a buffer between the natural protected environment and future development.

The plan of the 265,000 square foot school is extremely organized. Public buildings line the street frontage and include the double gymnasium, administration, library, cafeteria, and a 550 seat performing arts theater. The classroom wings form the remaining three sides of the central quadrangle. These buildings were constructed with a combination of 8" and 12" precision and split-face concrete masonry block in two different colors. The varying colors and textures allowed us to benefit from using a structural component that also serves as the finish product. The block provides the District with clean, low maintenance, durable, abuse resistant facilities that are well anchored into the neighboring environment and the pride of the students and staff.

**ARCHITECT:**

**WLC Architects, Inc.**  
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George M. Wiens  
*Principal*

Lisa Cox  
*Project Architect*

**STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:**

K. B. Leung and Associates, Inc.

**CONSTRUCTION MANAGER:**

Edge Development, Inc.

**MASONRY CONTRACTOR:**

Winegardner Masonry, Inc.

**BLOCK PRODUCER:**

ORCO Block Company, Inc.

**OWNER:**

Murrieta Valley Unified School District



**CMU***Profiles in Architecture***BETTY ANSFORD COMMUNITY CENTER**

HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA

In 1997 City leaders called boldly for a major addition to the Memorial Park Recreation Center to meet the recreational and sports needs of the community. Built during the nostalgic days of the Beach Boys, the existing 50,000 square foot center provided programs for senior and community center functions, but lacked a gymnasium, and the workout and physical fitness facilities desired by a more active and sports-minded public. Community workshops were conducted with surrounding residents to identify best development options. After four years of design and construction, a 24,500 square foot, full-service gymnasium and sports center resulted, which was made possible by masonry building strategies selected for timely delivery and optimum cost benefits.

During design, the project was seen as an opportunity to strengthen and enhance the existing center, while creating a powerful and positive alternative for Hawthorne youth and their families. Sited at the easterly edge of the existing facility, the new center playfully suggests NBA quality with a basketball hoop inspired main entry gallery, which connects the facility to the rest of the complex with a three-point arc.

Vaulted masonry walls and curved roof forms reference the clamshell roof forms of the neighboring community building. A strong commitment to energy efficiency, environmental quality, permanence, and the desire for a distinguished architecture inspired the use of contextual masonry forms and features.

The central gallery "hall of fame" connects the new gymnasium, racquetball courts, dance and fitness areas, and multi-purpose areas to the existing center

by the creation of a new plaza designed for community gatherings and celebration.

A combination of split-face and precision concrete block masonry units was selected to establish a strong and inviting design image consisting of contrasting textures, colors, and banding, to soften the overall building mass, and to visually connect the project to masonry elements found within the existing facility. Interior smooth surfaces for all masonry units were specified to provide an economical response to the City's maintenance and operations preferences.

**ARCHITECT:**  
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Larry Wolff, AIA  
*Principal*

**STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:**  
 K. B. Leung and Associates, Inc.

**GENERAL CONTRACTOR:**  
 Old Hickory

**MASONRY CONTRACTOR:**  
 Bledsoe Masonry

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

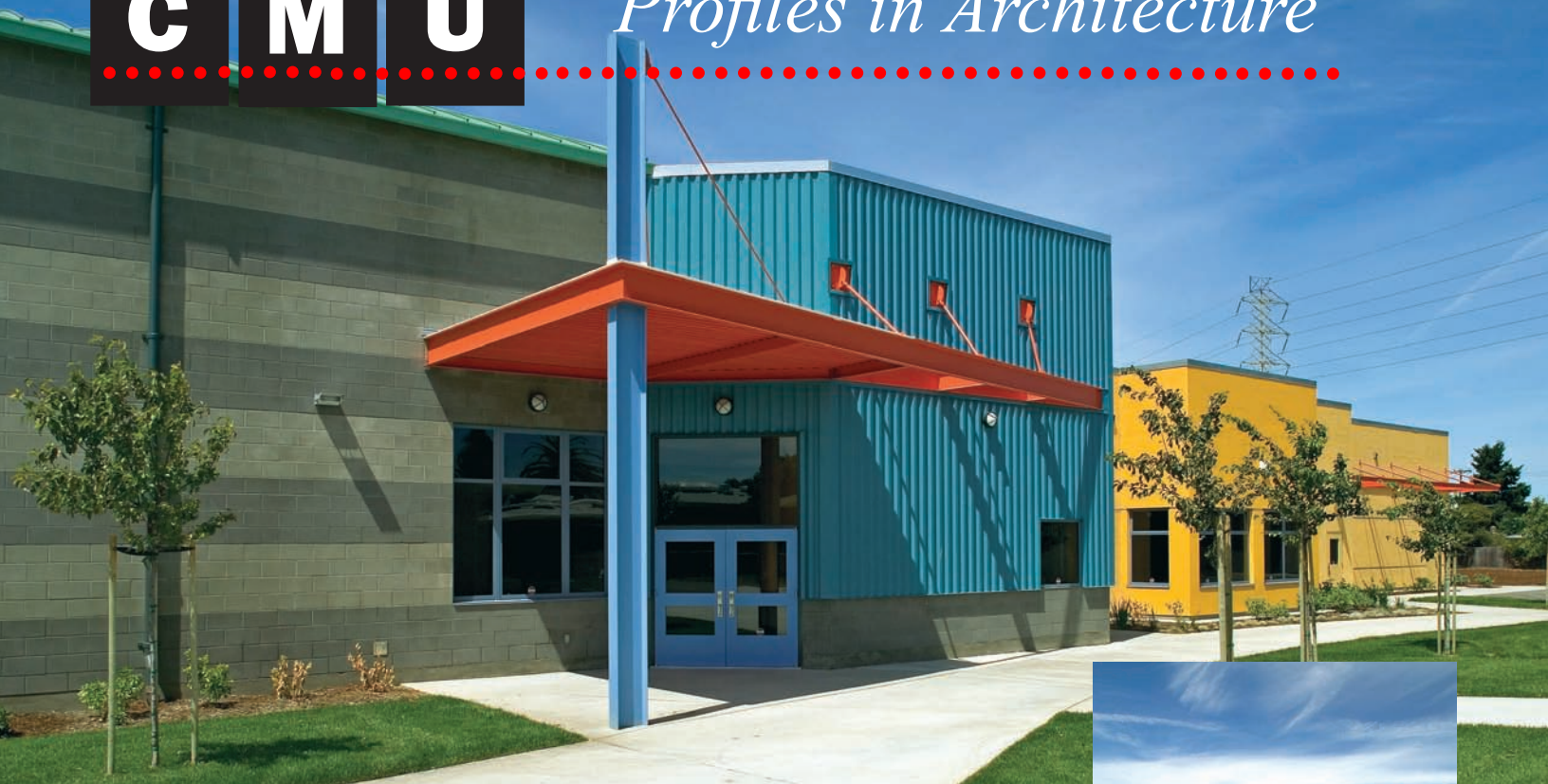
**OWNER:**  
 City of Hawthorne



Photography: Fred Daly, Daly Architectural Photography

**C M U**

# Profiles in Architecture



## COSTANO GYMNASIUM & CLASSROOM BUILDING

EAST PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

The new Costano Gymnasium Classroom building provides recreational needs for the youth in East Palo Alto, expanded learning classrooms, and a state-of-the-art computer center. The new building now adds a striking image to University Avenue, with its contrasting concrete masonry block and colorful exterior corrugated walls and roof.

The selection of precision 8" x 8" x 16" concrete masonry units for the gym's exterior walls was based on durability, budget, and low maintenance. The Architects wanted a building that would create a more inviting appeal by integrating layers of dark charcoal block with the more common grey concrete masonry units. The layered contrasting blocks in effect create a scaling transition from the tall gymnasium to the lower building mass for the classroom areas.

The gymnasium's barrel steel roof and trusses are supported on concrete masonry columns, which are expressed on the interior walls. The gymnasium, the first in this school district, not only serves as a multi-purpose assembly space for school activities and graduations, but also for the greater community functions, including performing arts. The gymnasium has a regulation sized basketball court with an accessible stage, community kitchen and servery. The bright orange canopy entry and lobby adjoin the gym and the academic wing to the five new instructional classrooms and computer center.

**ARCHITECT:**  
**Barcelon & Jang Architecture**  
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Wayne Barcelon, AIA  
*Principal*

Darlene Jang, AIA  
*Principal*

**STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:**  
 Kam Yan Associates Structural Engineering

**GENERAL CONTRACTOR:**  
 Turner Construction Company

**MASONRY CONTRACTOR:**  
 Milo Masonry

**BLOCK PRODUCER:**  
 Calstone Company, Inc.

**OWNER:**  
 Ravenswood City School District



Photography: Michael H. Ikeda Photography

**C M U***Profiles in Architecture***ARNOLD AND MABEL BECKMAN CENTER FOR CONSERVATION RESEARCH**

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

For over a quarter century, the San Diego Zoo's Department of Conservation and Research for Endangered Species (CRES) has celebrated significant breakthroughs in conservation and science. Such efforts have had worldwide implications in preventing the extinction of wildlife, thus establishing CRES as a leader in research and wildlife conservation. Helping to further endangered species research is the recent completion of the new Arnold and Mabel Beckman Center for Conservation Research, a \$22-million, 50,000 square foot, state-of-the-art facility at the San Diego Zoo's Wild Animal Park.

The architecture reflects the international scope of the research of CRES and draws on the Southeast Asian theme of the site's context, as is found in the surrounding developments at the Wild Animal Park. The building mass was arranged around a central courtyard, which provides increased natural light into the laboratory and office areas, and also provides a central gathering space readily adjacent to each research division, creating opportunities for casual interaction and exchange of ideas.

Masonry use in this building was key to its ability to meet various project objectives including:

- Creating a visual tie to the adjacent buildings, thus furthering the feel of a campus setting
- Using sustainable materials with high recycled content and local manufacturing.
- Using materials of high thermal mass that have a cooling effect in this desert-like environment creating a feeling of permanence through use of durable long lasting materials.

The project team has registered the project with the U.S. Green Building Council and is pursuing LEED Silver Certification. A few of the LEED objectives included are:

- Renewable and sustainable materials such as locally produced concrete masonry block, eucalyptus

woods and farm-grown bamboo were selected for both their thermatic and renewable benefits.

- Recycled materials used in carpeting, structural steel and concrete masonry block.
- 90% of the water generated by the construction process was recycled for irrigation use.
- Waste products were sent to recycling facilities.
- Indoor air quality was improved through the use of minimal "off-gassing" materials.
- Water-saving fixtures reduce water usage by 20%.
- Photovoltaic panels provide 30 kilowatts of electrical power, enough to run all the lights in the building.
- Solar orientation in both siting and fenestration were carefully studied, with deep eaves and solar shading devices integrated into the exterior design.

**ARCHITECT:**  
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Jim Ferguson, AIA  
*Principal*

**STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:**  
 Arcon Engineers

**GENERAL CONTRACTOR:**  
 Turner Construction Company

**MASONRY CONTRACTOR:**  
 JB Masonry, Inc.

**BLOCK PRODUCER:**  
 RCP Block & Brick, Inc.

**OWNER:**  
 San Diego Zoological Society



Photography: Frank Domain, Domain Photography

**CMU***Profiles in Architecture***VILLAGE BAKERY**

DAVIS, CALIFORNIA

Our client is a baker of artisanal breads for groceries and restaurants in the Sacramento to San Francisco corridor. His previous facility was cramped, hot and windowless. He purchased a lot with the intention of building a new, state-of-the-art bakery: economical to build and maintain, efficiently organized, a light-filled and enjoyable work environment.

We also wanted the bakery to help “build a street” in a rapidly developing light industrial area near downtown Davis, California. The mass of the main structure is balanced by a smaller secondary structure and garden wall that hugs the sidewalk. The office, situated at the front corner of the secondary structure, is designed to convert to a bakery cafe with terrace seating as the neighborhood develops.

The simple forms of the building express functional relationships. The production (baking and mixing) structure is a concrete block wedge extruded east-west. The wedge form – low at south, high at north – is an ideal shape to take advantage of southerly night breezes for convective cooling and high north windows for daylighting.

Concrete masonry block is the primary building material – simple and economical, expressed with elegance. The main bakery structure is built of standard block, exposed on both sides: sealed on the exterior, epoxy-painted on the interior. Front garden and terrace walls are ground-face block. Interior floors are sealed concrete. The secondary structure is wood frame covered with stucco at support spaces and glazed blue brick veneer at the entry office.

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Davis, CA 95616Scott Neeley  
*Principal***STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:**

Point 2 Structural Engineers

**GENERAL CONTRACTOR:**

KW Construction

**MASONRY CONTRACTOR:**

Sierra West Masonry, Inc.

**BLOCK PRODUCER:**

Basalite Concrete Products, LLC

**OWNER:**

Aziz Fattahi



Photography: Scott Neeley; Scott Neeley &amp; Associates Architects



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## CMACN Announces

### New Executive Director

Kurtis K. Siggard has been selected as the new Executive Director of CMACN and will begin work on April 3, 2006.

Please access more details at:

[www.cmacn.org](http://www.cmacn.org).



### 2006 CMACN/AIACC CONCRETE MASONRY DESIGN AWARDS

Please mark your calendar for our 2006 CMACN/AIACC Concrete Masonry Design Awards Banquet October 20, 2006, at the Ritz-Carlton Marina del Rey, Marina del Rey, California.

Please don't forget the last date for receipt of completed submittal binders is May 1, 2006.

Winners will be announced the week of May 27th, 2006.



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- 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.

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