

**CMU***Profiles in Architecture*

## ALEXANDER DAWSON SCHOOL AT RAINBOW MOUNTAIN (PHASE I)

IAS VEGAS, NEVADA

The Dawson School at Rainbow Mountain is located on 35 acres at the entrance to the Red Rock National Park. The campus setting clusters four buildings into a student friendly environment: the Lower School, the Middle School, the Shared Spaces Building and the Gymnasium.

Each building is inspired by natural forms and carefully scaled to nurture the students who will use the facilities. All the classrooms have soaring ceilings and large windows to the learning gardens, but each adjusted to the specific requirements to enrich the students as each one passes from Kindergarten through the eighth grade.

The landscape of the campus is used as outdoor educational areas. The site is divided into the four desert regions: the Great Basin region, the Chihuahuan region, the Mojave Desert region, and the Sonoran Desert region. Each area is planted to reflect the four main climatic regions of the Desert Southwest.

The use of masonry for Alexander Dawson was an easy, logical choice for both aesthetic and economic reasons.

One of the design requirements for the project was to marry the building to the surroundings. Mimicking the color stratifications of the surrounding mountain range was easily accomplished with the range of available split face and smooth face CMU's in colors of Buckskin, Mandarin, Orange and Buff.

Another aesthetic benefit of using masonry is that unlike drywall, masonry is integrally colored and therefore more forgiving to chips, scratches and dings, minimizing wear and tear and maintenance.

The use of masonry also resulted in economic advantages. The durability of the masonry has a direct and positive affect on the ongoing maintenance and operations of the school. In addition, the materials were produced locally, encouraging the local job market and meeting LEED-qualifying requirements. The use of masonry is especially budget-friendly when compared to the rising costs of steel.

**ARCHITECT:**  
KGA Architecture  
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Las Vegas, NV 89103-4119

James C. Lord II, AIA  
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Mark S. Danley, AIA  
*Project Architect*

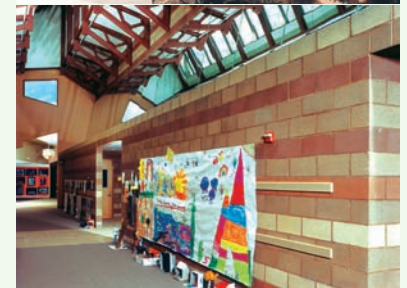
**STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:**  
Bennett & Jimenez

**GENERAL CONTRACTOR:**  
Korte Bellow & Associates

**MASONRY CONTRACTOR:**  
Apple Masonry

**BLOCK PRODUCER:**  
Rinker Materials

**OWNER:**  
Alexander Dawson Foundation





**CMU***Profiles in Architecture***INDOOR FITNESS FACILITY**

CAMP PENDLETON, CALIFORNIA

In this successful design-build project, the design team was given project requirements by the Marine Corps to design a 60,000 square-foot, state-of-the-art fitness center that complimented the existing architectural character of the Marine Base, and that would exemplify the Marine priority for fitness. It needed to be a facility that would attract and encourage Marines to use it, while working within the Marine Corps' budget. The project components included a cardio/weight training room, racquetball courts, locker rooms, aerobic rooms, two gymnasiums, classrooms, and offices.

The materials chosen had to be easy to maintain and durable to withstand Marine use. This was accomplished by using a combination of concrete masonry, metal roofing and glass. The interiors have exposed concrete masonry block walls and curved window walls for maximum light exposure and visual aesthetics. The exterior incorporates several types of textured and colored masonry to emphasize the curved walls and to break up larger walls. B-blast block in natural gray, split face block in sourdough, and precision block in natural gray were types and colors of CMU used in the design of this complex.

The two gymnasium areas are spanned by steel trusses and naturally lit by translucent panels. The result is a building with great character and curb appeal that has a Marine Corps sense of strength, yet is seamlessly integrated into the base.

**ARCHITECT:**

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Roderick F. Wright, Architect  
*Principal*

**STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:**  
SMR-SD

**GENERAL CONTRACTOR:**  
Harper Construction Company

**MASONRY CONTRACTOR:**  
K. D. Masonry

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

**OWNER:**  
Marine Corps Base at Camp Pendleton



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## LOVONYA DE JEAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA

The West Contra Costa Unified School District's new Lovonya de Jean Middle School represents the desire of the people of Richmond to place the finest middle school in the state at the heart of their urban neighborhood. Their goal was to build an extremely durable facility with a sense of place and community pride, which would last one hundred years. Concrete masonry units were the natural choice for construction, because of the high quality, flexibility, and permanence.

Grey block of various textures and scoring patterns articulate the structures. The CMU are coated in warm colors with an elastomeric to appear inviting to the neighborhood and provide moisture protection in this rainy climate. Multiple colors of glazed CMU's provide accents at key entrances and throughout the project. The block is exposed at the interior of the large public spaces for durability and to tie the interior and exterior together. CMU's provide a human scale to a large campus and integrate successfully with the glass and steel imagery.

The campus is designed around a central quad area with ample student gathering spaces, seating, clear circulation, and landscaping. The Administration/Media Center Building is located at the main entrance to facilitate access and control. At the east side of the quad, two-story classroom buildings are designed to maximize limited site area. The large Physical Education/Multi-Use/Performing Arts Building locates all of the shared functions in one area anchoring the west side of the campus quad, while providing easy after-hours access to the public from Harry Ells Way.

**ARCHITECT:**  
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*Principal in Charge*

Kevin A. MacQuarrie, AIA  
*Principal and Project Architect*

Sharon Medina      Omar Eslava  
*Project Manager      Construction Administration*

**ASSOCIATE ARCHITECT:**  
**DES Architects & Engineers**  
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**STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:**  
 Johnson & Nielsen Associates

**GENERAL CONTRACTOR:**  
 Lathrop Construction Associates, Inc.

**MASONRY CONTRACTOR:**  
 Bratton Masonry

**BLOCK PRODUCER:**  
 Basalite Concrete Products, LLC.

**OWNER:**  
 West Contra Costa Unified School District



Photography: Steve Whittaker



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## POINT LOMA HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE AND CLASSROOM BUILDING

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

The design of the two-story classroom building organizes a program of ten classrooms, two science labs, offices and support spaces into a clear and compact scheme within a structural, concrete masonry envelope. The inherent qualities of concrete masonry provide a versatile solution that satisfies the aesthetic and functional objectives of the design: durability, low maintenance, textures and colors, sound insulation, and fire resistance. The lightness of the exposed steel and metal awnings and handrails, and the curved metal roofing, provide a balanced contrast against the mass of the concrete masonry.

The use of concrete masonry helps to articulate the prominence of the two major building volumes that house the classroom spaces, while also imparting a sense of scale by its individual components. Two different textures and colors of CMU are used to further accentuate the reading of the two “classroom blocks”.

Recessed building planes at the entryways and window spandrels are expressed in the facade with the use of a single-scored, maroon-colored, glazed concrete masonry units, which provide a distinct contrast with the adjacent, neutral toned concrete masonry used for the classroom “blocks”. The maroon color for the glazed CMU was selected to integrate one of the school colors into the building facade.

At the east and west elevations, vertical window “bays” were created using concrete masonry wing walls to define the zones of the window openings. To enhance the vertical reading of these window bays, single-scored CMU were used above and below the window openings located between these wing walls.

**ARCHITECT:**  
Zagrodnik + Thomas Architects, LLP  
2927 Meade Avenue  
San Diego, CA 92116

Scott Thomas, AIA  
Ruth Fajarit-Davis, AIA  
Julie Chiu, Associate AIA  
*Design Team*

**STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:**  
Curry Price Court

**GENERAL CONTRACTOR:**  
Solttek Pacific

**MASONRY CONTRACTOR:**  
Modern Masonry

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

**OWNER:**  
San Diego Unified School District







## Profiles in Architecture



### QUARRY ROAD WAREHOUSE SAN CARLOS, CALIFORNIA

“A simple, but elegant warehouse” was the design goal of the client – simple to keep the costs down, elegant to be a good neighbor and to be a more attractive building in a depressed leasing market.

Concrete masonry units (CMU’s) were the obvious starting point for a building material for this 16,240 square foot structure sited on a 22,288 square foot lot that would also require fifteen parking spaces. There was not sufficient volume or correct site conditions for concrete tilt-up. The client wanted something more durable than wood or steel frame. Pre-packaged metal buildings were not considered for aesthetic reasons.

After much deliberation, it was decided that the structure would be constructed of stacked bond split-faced concrete masonry block, and we offered some help structurally by introducing “columns” between the warehouse units. This also identified the individual units and broke up the long, flat elevation.

The facade was given further definition by creating a base, a body, and a capital. This was achieved by introducing belt-courses of thicker, and different colored CMU’s. The feeling of depth was increased by recessing the windows and extending their sills.

Attention was paid to the placement of windows and doors to achieve proportionality and a sense of rhythm. Accent colors were used for window frames, doors, and awnings.

The Quarry Warehouse is a building that has an honest use of materials with no false building elements. The raw material speaks elegantly without the need for non-functional decoration. Concrete masonry was the material that made this possible.

**ARCHITECT:**  
Kirk Miller Affiliates  
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L. Kirk Miller, FAIA, CDS  
*Principal*

**STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:**  
A. S. Associates, Inc. Engineers and Planners

**CIVIL ENGINEER:**  
Robert Lyon Associates, Consulting Engineers

**GENERAL CONTRACTOR:**  
Consolidated Pacific Construction

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

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

**OWNER:**  
RBD, LLC.





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

## TARGET

COSTA MESA, CALIFORNIA

Perkowitz+Ruth Architects designed the Target in Costa Mesa, CA to accentuate its functionality, while maintaining budget requirements. Lines with juxtaposing arches define the entrances of the structure, while the simplicity of the design maintains the building's voluminous aesthetic. Concrete masonry units of complimentary subdued colors were placed in random patterns to give definition to the massive planes. Bands of light colored masonry units wrap around the building to provide a strong identity with an earth tone colored wainscot to relate to a pedestrian scale.

Concrete masonry units are commonly used as a structural element and covered with stucco. Perkowitz+Ruth Architects' design team incorporated color variations of the raw material as a part of the façade design. This utilization of the material provided cost effective solution and remained aesthetically appropriate for a large format retail project.

**ARCHITECT OF RECORD:**  
**Target Corporation**  
**Architecture and Engineering**  
 1000 Nicollet Mall  
 Minneapolis, MN 55403

**DESIGN ARCHITECT:**  
**Perkowitz + Ruth Architects**  
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**Steve Ruth, AIA**  
*Executive Vice President*

**STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:**  
 Silver and Associates

**GENERAL CONTRACTOR:**  
 Whiting-Turner Contracting

**MASONRY CONTRACTOR:**  
 Southern County Masonry

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

**OWNER:**  
 Target Corporation





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Deadline for Submittal Binder Requests is March 31, 2005

Please send \_\_\_\_\_ entry binder(s). For each project entry I have enclosed a \$100 non-refundable fee by payment indicated below:



My check in the amount of \$100.00 per binder payable to CMACN is enclosed.

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Contact Person (*if different from entrant*) \_\_\_\_\_



Architectural Firm Name \_\_\_\_\_

Firm Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Telephone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail or Fax Request for Entry Materials to:**

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6060 Sunrise Vista Drive, Suite 1990  
Citrus Heights, CA 95610  
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Fax: (916) 722-1819  
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## 2005 CMACN/AIACC Concrete Masonry Design Awards Call for Entries

Please mark your calendar for our "Call-For-Entry" brochure to be received by mail in early January 2005. You do not have to be a member of AIA to be included in this prestigious competition. Requests for submittal binders will also be downloadable from our web site in January at [www.cmacn.org](http://www.cmacn.org) or can be obtained by calling the CMACN office at (916) 722-1700 or by e-mail at [info@cmacn.org](mailto:info@cmacn.org).

Cost: \$100

### Tentative Schedule:

Last date to request submittal binders:  
March 31, 2005

Last date for receipt of completed submittal binders:  
April 30, 2005

Concrete Masonry Design Awards Banquet:  
October 2005

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- 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:**

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