FIRE STATION No. 126
LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT
SANTA CLARITA, CALIFORNIA

Located in the Civic Center of Santa Clarita, California, Fire Station 126 provides not only the fire service for this city, but also serves as the North Operations Bureau for the Los Angeles County Fire Department. Designed as a main headquarters, it includes accommodations for a battalion chief, ten firefighters and paramedics, as well as a deputy chief and staff. Architectural elements are coordinated to provide the scale and stature of a true civic building. A mix of colored burnished concrete masonry anchors the building walls, colored plaster provides an accent and the terra cotta tile roof relates to the community theme.

Station offices and other active areas are separated from quiet dormitory areas by the drive through apparatus room. This room has an exposed steel structure, mechanical ducts, diesel exhaust system and suspended light fixtures, with electric bi-fold doors at each end. Large windows and skylights provide ample daylight for all building areas. In the dormitory, sleeping cubicles and single bathrooms assure privacy.

Color is a recurring theme in the city of Santa Clarita, for commercial, residential and civic buildings as well. Throughout the Fire Station 126 project, color is used as a link to the surrounding community with a 25% mix of burnished concrete masonry, in tones of red, gray, yellow and green, assembled in a random pattern established between the mason and architect. Masonry was exposed wherever possible: exterior wall base, structural columns and walls, entry tower and interior bearing walls, expressing architectural continuity inside and out. In this important civic project, colored concrete masonry block has been used in a unique way to provide a permanent, distinctive character within the Civic Center context.

ARCHITECT:
William Loyd Jones, Architect
Venice, CA 90291
William Loyd Jones
Principal

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:
Harold Epstein & Associates
Structural Engineer

OWNER:
Los Angeles County Fire Department
FAIRFIELD MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION CENTER
FAIRFIELD, CALIFORNIA

Located off of busy Interstate 80 on a five-acre site, this multimodal transportation center on a largely undeveloped tract of land outside downtown Fairfield serves as a transfer hub for local, inter-city and commuter buses as well as a park-and-ride facility for carpools and vanpools. The center includes a 400-stall mixed-use parking structure containing a telecommuting center, an 11,000 square-foot office building for transit agencies and retail, and ten covered bus bays.

Concrete masonry block was used at the office building and at the parking structure in a combination of split face and precision block in a warm base with accent colors. The design’s extensive use of concrete masonry block appeals to the economic reality of public construction, while expressing a forward looking design aesthetic that blends elements of industrial with organic. The transit office building and the parking structure in particular, is remarkable for taking full advantage of the strength, durability and sculptural possibilities of concrete masonry block. The unmatched ability of concrete masonry units to resist wear and tear advances the goal of providing a long-lasting facility with a significant role that will increase in importance as the region continues to experience rapid growth.

ARCHITECT:
Gordon H. Chong & Partners
130 Sutter Street, Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94104

Pauline Souza, AIA
Associate Partner

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:
Walker Parking Consultants
Structural Engineers

OWNER:
City of Fairfield
Department of Public Works
WILSON PARK SPORTS CENTER
TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA

The Sports Center is anchored to the surrounding park and sports fields with a large entry plaza used for ceremonial events and large-scale outdoor celebrations. The 23,000 square foot facility is comprised of a gymnasium, multi-purpose room, meeting room, staff office, Farmer’s Market office, restrooms, and storage facilities.

The building derives its form as a transitional element defining the entry to Wilson Park. The angular placement of entry, offices and multi-purpose room are placed not only to reinforce entry to the park, but also to create ease of entry to the building as well as provide visual control within as well as outside.

The blue metal roofs were an implied connection to the nearby coast. They act as “sails” providing light into the lobby and as clerestories diffusing light into the gymnasium. The tower element further accentuates these roof lines and creates a beacon across the park.

Concrete masonry block construction was selected for its durability and low maintenance. Its mass provides a passive means of controlling heat gain or loss. Two colors of sandblasted cmu were used in the structure. Field block was typically 8 x 8 x 16 inches or 12 x 8 x 16 inches with contrasting colored 8-inch lintel block, two inches less in depth than the adjacent wall surface to create a reveal. Tooled joints separate the color changes and a cap block was used to create a sloped termination for the projected concrete masonry block surfaces.

Energy efficiency and sustainability were hallmarks in the design goals for the Sports Center. 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 four rows of high clerestory windows incorporated into 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 gain.

Complimenting this lighting system is the use of a natural system of ventilation. The building is oriented to capture the 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.

ARCHITECT:
John Bates Associates, Inc.
22952 Mill Creek Drive
Laguna Hills, CA 92653
John T. Bates, AIA
Principal
Art Velasco
Project Manager

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:
Bole & Wilson Engineers

OWNER:
City of Torrance
CLARK CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS
ARROYO GRANDE, CALIFORNIA

The Clark Center is a regional Performing Arts Center located in San Luis Obispo County, California, providing a venue for professional touring shows in addition to production spaces for community use and a very active high school arts program. Concrete masonry block units are key design components for appropriate architectural character, cost effective structure and acoustics. JVSA Architects, specializing in Performing Arts facilities, was responsible for every aspect of the design, including theatre technology and acoustics.

The core of the building is formed entirely with concrete masonry block, including the 65-foot high stagehouse containing its extensive theatrical rigging loads. Concrete masonry block is also carried around the full perimeter of the building, and split-face concrete masonry block is exposed in the 650-seat main theatre for sound diffusion as part of what has proven to be very successful acoustical design.

In addition to the main theatre with full fly tower and orchestra pit, the 32,000 square-foot building also includes a large lobby with mezzanine, 150-seat studio theatre, extra large public restrooms, full technical production spaces, dressing rooms, and a special Donors Meeting Room. Inside and outside 8-inch and 12-inch concrete masonry block units are used with a random pattern based on percentages of different color tones in “field” and “accent” blocks, including areas of horizontal banding.

The same concrete masonry block is also used in the plaza planters and the main signage wall.

ARCHITECT:
JVSA Architects
711 W. 17th Street, Suite A-8
Costa Mesa, CA 92627
John von Szeliski, Ph.D., AIA
Principal in Charge

JVSA/Performing Arts
Theatre Consultant

JVSA/Performing Arts
Acoustical Consultant

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:
Dames and Moore/URS
Structural Engineer

OWNER:
Lucia Mar Unified School District
In designing two new buildings for Mater Dei High School in Santa Ana, California, The Austin Company’s designers sought to reflect Mater Dei’s principle of maintaining a “heightened sense of spirituality” in the campus’ built environment. The new Borchard Library and Academic Services Complex and LeVecke Student Activities Center incorporate concrete masonry block as a featured material, tying with the school’s heritage facilities and school colors. Concrete masonry block was used on column plinths, stairways, garden walls, planter boxes, as well as interiors of the Multipurpose Room and Library. A local block manufacturer donated the concrete masonry block units, which included both split face and standard blocks. The CMUs provided not only an aesthetic design response, but also acoustical and security buffers from the nearby major city streets.

The Academic Complex features a curved garden wall visible through the library windows, displaying the school name on the prominent street corner. This garden area creates a quiet separation and allows natural light into the space. Concrete masonry pilasters rise to the second floor level leading the eye skyward. The LeVecke Center supports a multipurpose room formed by concrete masonry block bearing walls. The exterior dining canopy slopes up, capturing the presence of the nearby chapel and giving the plaza an open feeling, despite its limited area.

Overall, concrete masonry block provides a strong architectural foundation, reflective of the educational and spiritual ideals of the school.

ARCHITECT AND STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:

The Austin Company
6410 Oak Canyon
Irvine, CA 92618

John R. Harrington
Vice President & General Manager

Kenric B. Stone
Vice President & Manager of Operations

Raj K. Gopalan
Senior Vice President & Manager of Engineering

Steven D. Lovell
Project Manager

Tom L. Parco, A.I.A.
Chief Architect

Gregory S. Clamp, A.I.A.
Director of Design

Daniel K. Brooking
Designer/Project Architect

OWNER:
The Roman Catholic Diocese of Orange
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Concrete Masonry’s Contribution

Keynote Speakers: Christopher M. Huckabee, AIA - CEO, Huckabee, Inc.
Stephen Castellanos, FAIA, The State Architect
Panama Bartholomy, Sustainability Coordinator,
Division of The State Architect

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Included in the $95.00 registration is a continental breakfast, lunch, binder, which includes speaker notes and brochures, and CES HSW credits.

Seminar Locations and Times

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Los Angeles
Tuesday November 11, 2003 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
The New Otani Hotel
120 S. Los Angeles Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 629-1200

Ontario
Wednesday November 12, 2003 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Doubletree Hotel, Ontario Airport
222 N. Vinyard Avenue
Ontario, CA 91764
(909) 937-0900

Costa Mesa
Thursday November 13, 2003 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Hilton Costa Mesa
3050 Bristol Street
Costa Mesa, CA 92626
(714) 540-7000

San Diego
Friday November 14, 2003 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Holiday Inn, Mission Valley Stadium
3805 Murphy Canyon Road
San Diego, CA 92123
(858) 278-9300

December

Sacramento
Tuesday December 2, 2003 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Red Lion Hotel
1401 Arden Way
Sacramento, CA 95815
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San Jose
Wednesday December 3, 2003 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Hilton San Jose & Towers
300 Almaden Blvd.
San Jose, CA 95110
(408) 947-4450

Fresno
Thursday December 4, 2003 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Ramada Inn
324 E. Shaw Avenue
Fresno, CA 93710
(559) 224-4040

San Luis Obispo
Friday December 5, 2003 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
California Polytechnic State University
San Luis Obispo
San Luis Obispo, CA 93407
Seminar Location TBA

Who Should Attend
Those who should attend are architects, specifiers, city and county building professionals and local constituents.

CES Credits
Four Health Safety and Welfare (HSW) learning credits can be earned for attendance of this course in its entirety.

About the Speakers
Christopher M. Huckabee, AIA - CEO, Huckabee, Inc. is a national speaker on the topics of mold, masonry, sustainability and high performance school design. Mr. Huckabee has been published in every major school design magazine and has recently completed a book on high performance design that will publish in late 2003. He is a member of the Sustainable Buildings Industry Council and a founding member of the High Performance Schools Council.

Stephen Castellanos, FAIA, The State Architect
Panama Bartholomy, Sustainability Coordinator, Division of the State Architect

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- Technical information on concrete masonry for design professionals.
- Protect and advance the interests of the concrete masonry industry.
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