

C M U*Profiles in Architecture*

LOWE'S HOME IMPROVEMENT CENTER

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CALIFORNIA

This project is a 140,000 square foot home improvement center with a 27,000 square foot garden center. Requirements of this project were that it be in the tradition of other Lowe's Home Improvement Centers, be durable and low maintenance, yet satisfy the Planning Commission requirement that it have an aesthetic quality to blend with the surrounding downtown shopping area known as "The Market Place."

Concrete masonry block units were chosen because of their durability, low maintenance and ease of construction. With the utilization of 12-inch concrete masonry block, the need of pilaster was eliminated. The primary block used is an integral color split-face block with three horizontal bands of different color precision block and a 3-foot 4-inch high base of center scored block, which also accents the columns around the garden center. The cornice band around the perimeter of the building is another integral color of split-face concrete masonry block. In addition, there are six 10-foot by 10-foot patterns of accent block strategically placed around the perimeter to break up the long horizontal expanses of block.

Among other elements of the building are the 143 skylights throughout the building for energy efficient natural light. The roof is a long-span panelized roof system over metal joists, with a durable single ply roofing membrane. The final outside touch is the front entrance canopy combination of EIFS and concrete masonry block with metal studs and a tile roof.

ARCHITECT:

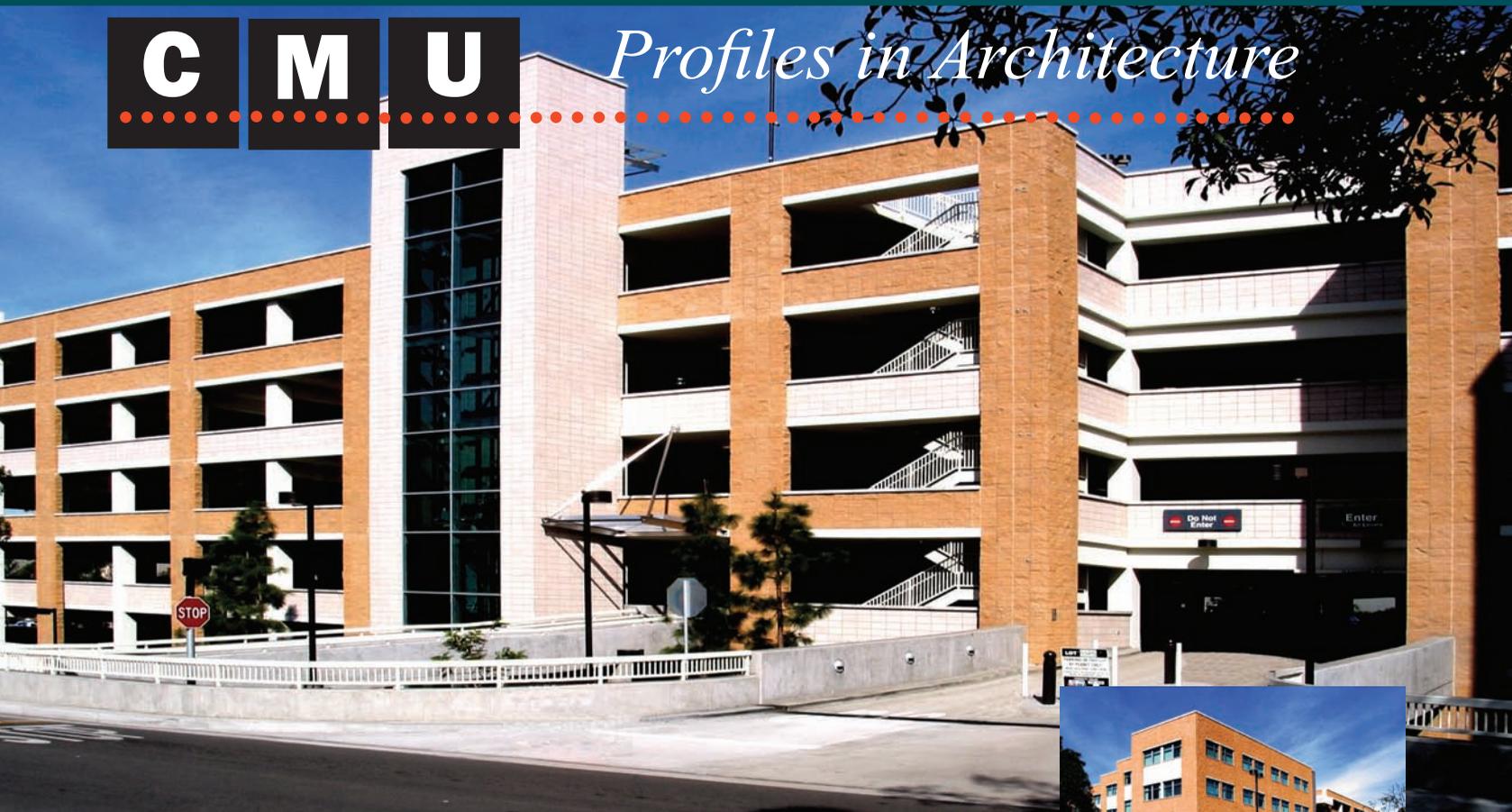
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Lowe's Home Improvement Warehouse, Inc.



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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE OFFICE AND PARKING STRUCTURE

IRVINE, CALIFORNIA

University of California Irvine requested through their modified design-build process, a multi-purpose Academic and Administrative Building attached to an adjacent parking structure. The office structure was to contain offices, a 24-hour study lab, and classrooms serving their MBA program.

The unique aspect of this office structure is its requirement for a self-supporting concrete block exterior skin. The primary technical hurdle that had to be overcome was the UBC Zone 4 seismic requirement. This was accomplished with a freestanding steel frame building that provided lateral brace attachment points for the exterior skin at each floor. Large window openings with small vertical support legs required placing a full 4-story high, steel pipe column inside the vertical end of the concrete masonry blocks. A variety of finishes and integral colored concrete masonry blocks were used providing the building design with architectural interest. Smooth-face concrete masonry block was used in the recessed areas using a contrasting color from the two colors of split face concrete masonry block used for the primary building walls.

The parking facility consists of seven levels, 1,819 spaces on 554,500 square feet in conjunction with the 45,000 square-foot office building. This facility was designed for a challenging curved site located on an existing parking lot. Grade changes between two roads resulted in a unique design that included tucking a corner of the facility into the hillside, while creating multilevel entrance and exit points that not only increased efficiency in vehicle flow, but reduced queuing along these important roadways.

To integrate the facility into the surrounding area, painted shear walls were used to break up the visual appearance of the parking facility, while split-face concrete masonry spandrels and column cladding was utilized in three colors to group elements and reduce the visual height of the building. The use of concrete masonry block on the parking facility aided in blending the appearance of the office building and the parking facility by creating a visual synergy between the two buildings.

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EHDD
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Regents of the University of California, Irvine

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ORANGE COAST COLLEGE ART CENTER

COSTA MESA, CALIFORNIA

Home to both traditional fine arts and commercial arts, the Orange Coast College Art Center provides a cohesive arts facility that reconciles a unique site location and exemplifies cost effective design in a straightforward approach to functional requirements. Located in Costa Mesa on the Orange Coast Community College campus, the building resides among an eclectic mix of modern styles of architecture, organized in a campus master plan by Richard Neutra.

Until the Center was constructed, various components of the art department were scattered across campus. The need and intent was to pull all divisions together into one 65,000 square-foot building, provide public gallery space, and at the same time have the building express some distinction between the art disciplines. The building scheme reconciles the 45-degree orientation of the campus with the orthogonal system of the city beyond, and consists of three compositionally and materially distinct elements that address the functional and identity needs of the Arts Department.

The entry pavilion of the structure is a dramatic two-story volume with a steel and glass facade that presents an open face onto the quadrangle, inviting students inside. Aligned with the campus grid, the adjacent areas contain faculty offices and support spaces.

The three-story main block of the building is constructed of cast-in-place concrete with corrugated metal siding and ribbon clerestory window infill, and consists of classrooms and studio labs, bisected through its full height by a clerestory sky-lit space. This central atrium connects all three stories visually and encourages interaction among the multiple art disciplines.

The third element – most affiliated with traditional arts – is a masonry and steel industrial compound. This element, which houses heavier industrial uses, is separate from the main building both in construction and material vocabulary and is characterized by light colored, sandblasted concrete masonry block walls, steel framing, outdoor work yards and north-facing monitors that rhythmically bring light into inner studio spaces. The masonry block was selected as an important representation of the programmatic elements within the space, a maximization of the design presence of the 65,000 square-foot building, and for its inherent properties of durability and cost effectiveness.

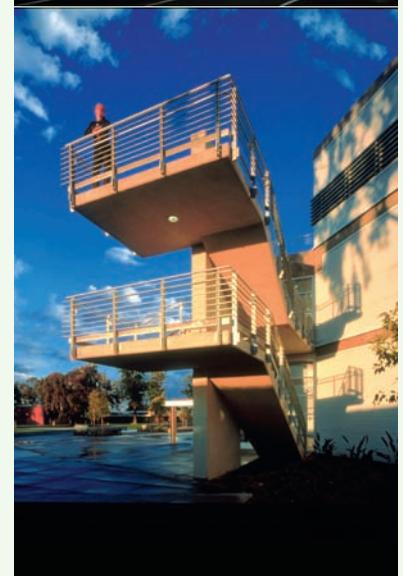
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Coast Community College District





Profiles in Architecture

LOWE'S HOME
IMPROVEMENT CENTER
CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA



UNIVERSITY OF
CALIFORNIA, IRVINE
OFFICE AND PARKING
STRUCTURE
IRVINE, CA



ORANGE COAST COLLEGE
ART CENTER
COSTA MESA, CA



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