

**CMU***Profiles in Architecture*
**RANCHO SANTIAGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT  
DIGITAL MEDIA INCUBATOR OFFICE & FILM STUDIO**  
WALNUT, CALIFORNIA

Rancho Santiago Community College District was in need of a new facility for a film production studio, local college news broadcasting, and related classroom functions. The City of Santa Ana needed redevelopment uses along their Bristol Avenue corridor. Aligning these two needs together is this off-campus two-story facility.

Functionally, the selection of concrete masonry was driven by acoustical considerations, due to the filming studio and the news stage inside. Acoustically isolating the filming and sound stages from exterior noise, while keeping the studio noise from the adjacent offices, was an important part of our wall and floor material decisions. The first among our choices for the walls were concrete masonry units, as they were the most economical and flexible solution available.

Another large part of this facilities program was to include incubator support offices and infrastructure for graduating students who start their own digital editing or production businesses. These tenants are supported by the latest computer and internet technologies available. Individual offices and conference room facilities are located on the second floor with production studios on the first floor. In addition to the studios, rentable, fully equipped individual video and sound editing rooms are available on an as needed basis. Concrete masonry was critical in acoustically isolating these uses.

Aesthetically, the concrete masonry around the exterior consists of alternating courses of Trenwyth burnished and split face units. This helps produce a linear, modern look with simple materials that easily blend with the surrounding neighborhood. The burnished units were also used in the interior corridors to contrast against conventional painted walls, with open ceilings exposing the production studio

MEP and cabling infrastructure. Additionally, in the office area, custom art glass walls were used to highlight the tenant lounge and conference rooms. The final result is a facility that exhibits and functions with high technology.

**ARCHITECT:**

**Arquitectonica**  
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Laurinda Spear, FAIA  
*Partners-in-Charge of Design*

John Conley, AIA  
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Richard L. Gonser, AIA, CSI, CCCA  
*Project Manager*

**STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:**  
Nabih Youssef & Associates

**GENERAL CONTRACTOR:**  
Bernards Construction

**MASONRY CONTRACTOR:**  
J. B. McGilliard & Sons, Inc.

**BLOCK PRODUCER:**  
Trenwyth Industries, Inc.  
Angelus Block, Inc.

**OWNER:**  
Rancho Santiago Community College District



Photography: Paul Turang

**CMU***Profiles in Architecture***SANTA CLARITA COMMUNITY CENTER**

NEWHALL, CALIFORNIA

Located in the redevelopment area of Newhall within Santa Clarita, the Community Center has reinvigorated local community pride. The project design reflects the agrarian forms of the surrounding farm land, with a colorful palette. Vibrant colors were used inside and out, creating a fun, dynamic atmosphere in and around the building. The lively result is well loved by the adjacent residential neighborhood, and well used by the entire Santa Clarita Community. The site is immediately adjacent to a commuter park and ride facility for rail commuters to Los Angeles and the San Fernando Valley.

The building program discussions resulted from a community outreach program and focus upon specific youth activity uses desired by the community. The building encompasses a total of 18,500 square feet, and serves more than 2,500 people weekly. It includes the following activity centers; gymnasium space for basketball and boxing arena, boxing practice room, dance studio, catering kitchen, classroom, locker areas, teen hang out room, fitness room, equipment storage, meeting space, staff offices, outdoor play yard, outdoor lighted basketball court, and reception area.

The design uses the inherent efficiency and durability of CMU for the largest space in the building – the 94ft x 65ft gymnasium. This room can accommodate a large crowd for the popular basketball and boxing activities. The strength of the CMU allowed for the tall aspect of the gym, including large windows that provide the natural light requested by the community. CMU is used as the interior finish surface for the gym, as it is durable and able to withstand the rigors of sports activities. When set up as a boxing venue, the gym is bright and airy. Large operable openings at both ends of the gym and the louvered openings along the “barn” ridge keep the room fresh and avoids heat build up. In addition to the indoor gym space, a large covered outdoor stage at one end of the gym can accommodate presentations or serve as the seating area for the outdoor basketball court.

Standard gray concrete masonry was used to provide a neutral color background for bright exterior colors and

material contrasts, while giving a feeling of permanence and substance for the building. The grounds of the building include “grasscrete” paved areas, which double as booth staging areas for the local farmers market.

Concrete masonry was crucial to the success of this building as it functions as both the external and internal finish material for much of the building, thereby saving construction costs, while providing style and durability.

The exterior material palette selected includes CMU, and corrugated and standing seam metal panels, all chosen for their durability, available varied color palettes, and low long term maintenance costs. The building’s steel structural elements are highlighted in primary yellow to show this important element of the building design.

**BUILDING DESIGN:**

**RRM Design Group**  
3765 South Higuera Street, Suite 102  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

RRM Design Group  
*Project Architect*

**STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:**  
Taylor & Syfan Consulting Engineers

**GENERAL CONTRACTOR:**  
S. J. Amoroso

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

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

**OWNER:**  
City of Clarita Parks and Recreation Department



Photography: Lawrence Anderson Photography



## Profiles in Architecture



### CAMDEN COMMUNITY CENTER

SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

The Camden Community Center is one of the first projects to be designed under the City of San Jose's emerging Green Building Program. Located within a residential and commercial business area, the Center consists of three buildings that include a Teen Center, Multi-Purpose Center, and Administration Center. Together the buildings comprise 20,100 square-feet of space that is used for community meetings, instruction, and city services such as nutrition and senior programs.

The three buildings that comprise the Camden Community Center are constructed of several materials with high quantities of recycled content, such as steel, ceramic tile, mulch, glass, and concrete containing fly ash. Concrete masonry and cement plaster were used as the main finish for the buildings for their sustainable and durable properties. Split-faced and smooth-faced concrete masonry units were used as a band around the buildings to provide an aesthetic that integrates well into the surrounding environment.

The new buildings are oriented with longer north and south elevations and clearstory glazing storefront windows and curtain walls were used in the main entry of each building to provide natural indirect daylighting. Over 85% of spaces are designed to maximize the use of daylighting to reduce the use of artificial lighting. The roof canopy of exposed steel structures accentuates the building space and provides shading.

The buildings are connected by a walkway of concrete masonry units. The same material was brought into the interior finishes of each of the buildings.

#### ARCHITECT:

**Steinberg Architects**  
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*Principal*

Jeff Berg, AIA  
Michael Cervantes, AIA  
Sabrina Phillips, AIA  
*Design Team*

**STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:**  
Ahearn, Knox & Hyde

**GENERAL CONTRACTORS:**  
Arntz Builders

**MASONRY CONTRACTORS:**  
Pacific Bay Masonry

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

#### OWNER:

City of San Jose, Department of Public Works



Photography: Mert Carpenter Photography



# Profiles in Architecture



## FRESNO FIRE STATION NO. 17

FRESNO, CALIFORNIA

RRM Design Group provided programming through construction administration for this 9,200 square-foot, three-bay, fire station. The fire station is sited on a 1.1 acre parcel in a residential neighborhood in Fresno, California. It is constructed completely of concrete masonry units.

The completed facility includes accommodations for up to ten firefighters, an apparatus room for up to six apparatus, a meeting room for community use and firefighter training, office space, study area, training room, lobby, kitchen and dining areas, sleeping rooms, men's and women's restrooms, workout room, and a storage room.

Careful selection of materials and a thorough analysis of the Fresno Fire Department's standard operating procedures helped to achieve the explicit goals of low-maintenance and long-term effectiveness.

**ARCHITECT:**  
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RRM Design Group  
*Project Architect*

**STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:**  
C. M. Hanif Engineering

**GENERAL CONTRACTOR:**  
L. C. Nelson and Son

**MASONRY CONTRACTOR:**  
Best Masonry

**BLOCK PRODUCER:**  
Blocklite

**OWNER:**  
City of Fresno, California



Photography: Michael Urbanek Photography

**CMU***Profiles in Architecture***COMCAST CUSTOMER SERVICE LOBBY**

DAVIS, CALIFORNIA

Working with the facility expansion team at Comcast Cable, ImageWorks Architecture created the first in a series of progressive, architectural-style, cable stores. The architecture is in concert with the new branding campaign that Comcast began in 2004. This new retail store will serve the Comcast customers of the Davis community, and will be home to the 21<sup>st</sup> century digital cable transmission equipment serving this community.

Creative use of concrete masonry was a winner with Comcast and the City of Davis. The low-maintenance nature of concrete masonry made it a natural choice to meet the needs of this project. The concrete masonry industry has expanded its product choice during the past 20 years. With the variety of concrete masonry color, texture, and sizes available, our designers were able to create a striking design for this customer service facility. To create interest and appeal along the freeway frontage, queues were taken from the graphics in concrete masonry freeway sound walls. Varying colors and textures were incorporated into the walls to create trees, earth, and sky.

Comcast's commitment to sustainability and green building design was reinforced through the selection of the building and landscape materials. The use of concrete masonry, plaster, and metal roofing, provides a sustainable, low-maintenance exterior. In addition, the landscape design minimizes water consumption, while protecting the hardscape with shade.

Comcast and the design and construction team achieved a key project goal of developing a style and theme that promote and reinforce the high-tech, high-touch,

Comcast brand. Comcast continues its commitment to serving the customer and the community through quality architecture and cutting-edge technology.

**ARCHITECT:**  
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Gary M. Underhill, AIA  
*Partner/Principal Architect*

**STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:**  
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**GENERAL CONTRACTOR:**  
 MarketOne Builders

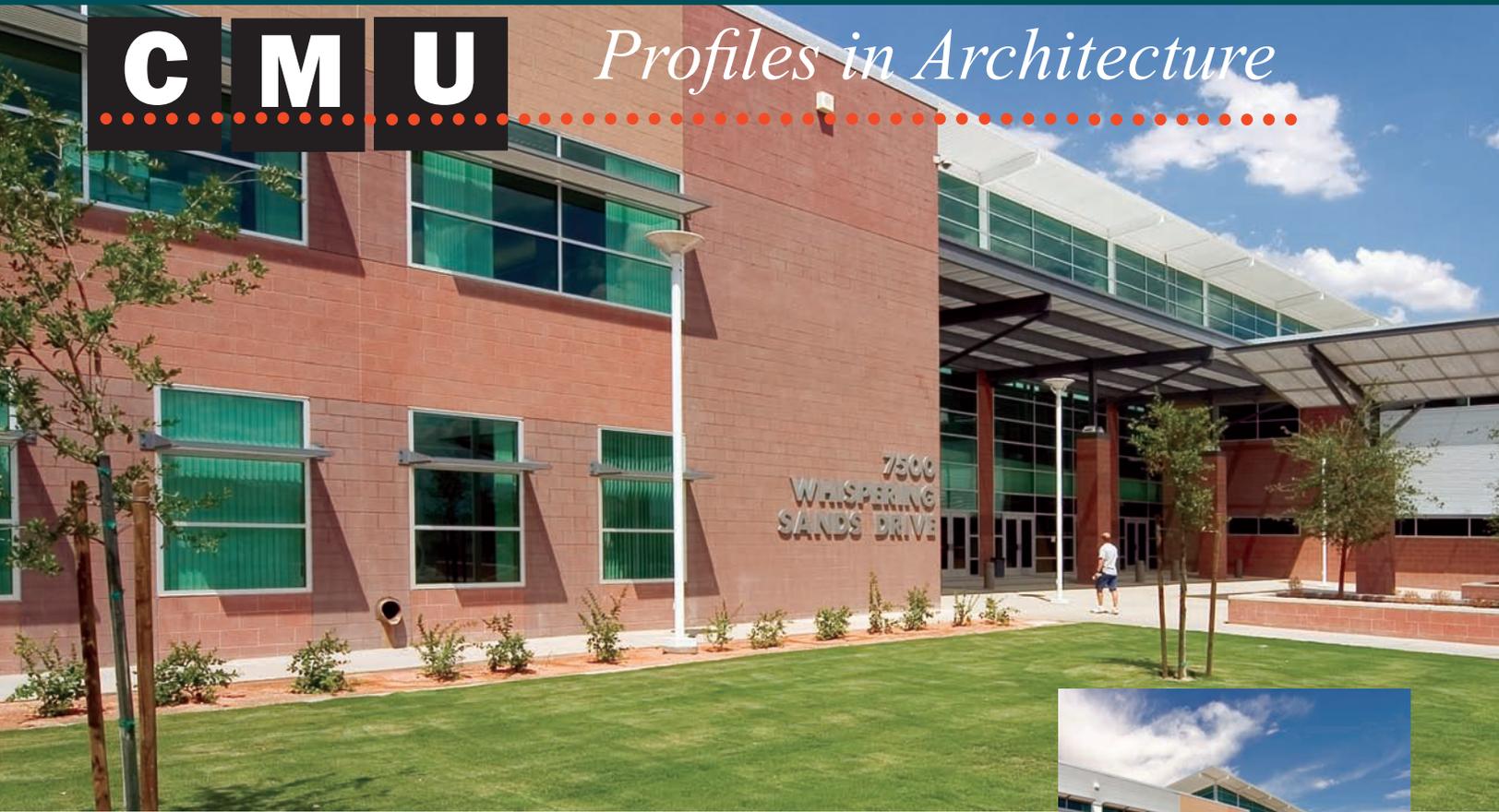
**MASONRY CONTRACTOR:**  
 Toensend & Schmidt

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

**OWNER:**  
 Comcast Cable



Photography: Gary M. Underhill, AIA

**CMU***Profiles in Architecture***ARBOR VIEW HIGH SCHOOL**

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

In order to keep pace with Southern Nevada's rapid population growth, the Clark County School District utilizes prototype designs for their new schools. This delivery method enables CCSD to consistently meet budget and schedule requirements. Since the completion of the first CCSD prototype high schools in 1991, curriculum changes and new standards for daylighting and energy efficiency resulted in a number of design adaptations, all of which were incorporated into this new prototype design. Arbor View High School, the first facility based on this new design, opened in August 2005. Since that time, two additional schools have been completed, and another is in the construction documents phase.

This 2700-student high school is organized around a two-story interior mall, which admits daylight to the internal classrooms, and also provides for secure student circulation. The design breaks down the perceived scale of the large comprehensive high school by creating four separate learning communities within the building. Each independent house serves as a "school within a school" with its own administration, student services, and mix of classroom types. Students in all four houses share occupational, science, art, and technology classrooms, as well as the gymnasium, cafeteria and theater.

Located at the main entry, a dramatic interior plaza serves as the hub of student activity for this closed campus. The large multipurpose space at the heart of the school is equipped with wireless web capabilities. This area of the school acts as a thermal buffer between the classroom blocks and helps dampen temperature swings in the adjacent spaces. An innovative mechanical system allows the mall to be treated as a semi-conditioned space, cooled with reclaimed air that would normally be exhausted outdoors from the classrooms. At night, when temperatures fall below 80 degrees, the mechanical system draws in 100% fresh air to pre-cool the mall. Thermal mass in the concrete masonry walls and stained concrete floors helps combat temperature increases throughout the day.

To further reduce energy costs, classrooms with exterior windows are equipped with daylight sensors. Occupancy sensors in each classroom turn the lights off when a space is not occupied, and the entire interior lighting system is automatically turned off when the building alarm is set. To reduce water consumption, artificial turf is used for athletic fields, and the campus is landscaped with hardscape elements and indigenous desert plants.

Concrete masonry was selected for this project because of its durability and aesthetic value. A wide range of finishes and a broad color palette are utilized in a modern way on both the exterior and interior walls. Use of concrete masonry in high-traffic areas has helped make the school building easy to maintain and resistant to vandalism.

**ARCHITECT:**

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*Principal*

J. Windom Kimsey, FAIA  
*Principal*

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Greg Gordon & Associates

**GENERAL CONTRACTOR:**  
CORE Construction

**MASONRY CONTRACTOR:**  
Marnell Masonry

**BLOCK PRODUCER:**  
Cind-R-Lite Block Company, Inc.

**OWNER:**  
Clark County School District



Photography: Ken Ozawa

**CMU***Profiles in Architecture***UCSD ORIGINAL STUDENT CENTER EXPANSION PHASE I**

LA JOLLA, CALIFORNIA

The site is located within the once prominent Original Student Center, between contrasting historic structures on the UCSD campus. To the north is Mandeville Auditorium, designed by noted modernist architect Quincy Jones. It is an extremely rational, very disciplined concrete and redwood structure. To the south is the Original Student Center, a very informal collection of two-story wood framed bungalows that has been adopted by the counter culture as their home. Our goal was to respect both of these worlds, and to design a structure that communicated with both extremes.

The natural setting also factors heavily in making the Original Student Center a unique and personal space for its users. Several key existing elements were incorporated into the design concept, including a moderate coastal climate, extensive eucalyptus groves, an adjacent plaza and a large elevated mound of earth affectionately known to the student body as the "Hump". The project enhances each organizations relationship to the outdoors and expands the park-like setting that gives the center its identity.

Ground face concrete masonry units, along with galvanized steel, painted stucco, and redwood slats, make up the project's material composition. On the ground floor, concrete masonry helps to anchor the lighter redwood slat construction above. It also eases the transition between the austere arts center plaza and the woodsy, softer, student center and grove. Intimate outdoor rooms designed in collaboration with renowned artist, Robert Irwin, flank the east and west sides of the east building. Architectural CMU enclose these spaces, providing a buffer between users and the surrounding bustle of campus. Perforations in the CMU pattern prevent inhabitants from feeling cut off by giving glimpses into the outside world. Turf

block, patterned with grass and crushed granite infill, is used in conjunction with concrete masonry in these spaces. Sliding panels with colorful images printed on translucent adhesive film offer shade and inform visitors about the inhabitants of the building and their spirit.

The projects ultimate success is inherent in its philosophy to keep one foot in the rational world and one foot in the natural world.

**ARCHITECTS:**

**Public**  
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James Gates  
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**STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:**  
Envision Engineering

**GENERAL CONTRACTOR:**  
Straub Construction

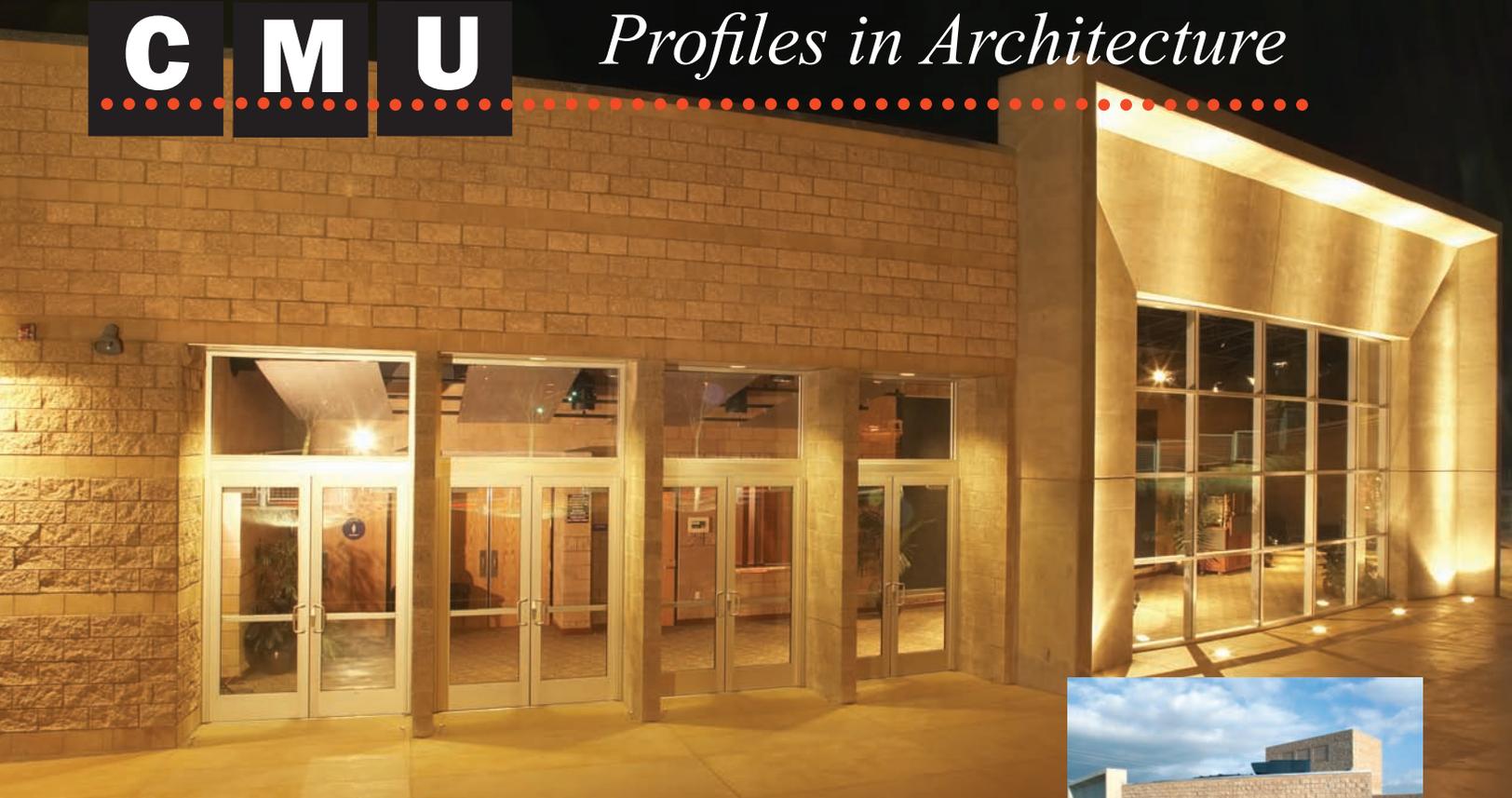
**MASONRY CONTRACTOR:**  
Vic Ross's Masonry

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

**OWNER:**  
University of California, San Diego



*Photography: Public*

**C M U***Profiles in Architecture***THE MAXINE THEATER**

VALLEY CENTER, CALIFORNIA

The Maxine Theater is a 580-seat, 18,000 square-foot performing arts center on the Valley Center High School campus. A joint-use project between the Valley Center Pauma Unified School District and the County of San Diego, this facility includes two multi-purpose lecture rooms, a scene shop, black-box experimental theater, orchestra pit, and a full fly loft equipped with state-of-the-art electronic rigging and theatrical systems. Planned to be used by students and equity shows alike, The Maxine Theater is maintained and operated by the school district, and enjoyed by the entire community.

A design-build project, the facility's architecture had to meet three main criteria: functionality, durability, and aesthetics. Concrete masonry was chosen as the structural system, as well as interior and exterior finish, because it met all three of these criteria. The excellent acoustic properties of the concrete masonry walls provide an acoustically superior house requiring very little sound attenuation. Eliminating the need for costly interior and exterior finishes, the use of concrete masonry allowed the school district to spend its limited budget on upgraded theatrical equipment. Most importantly, the concrete masonry construction provided an extremely durable facility for many future generations' use.

Integral color block with white pumice was selected for both the split-face field and precision bands. Polished ground-face block highlights the entrances and detail elements. Two-sided block was used, allowing the beauty of the precision and split-face banding pattern to appear, reversed, on the interior. Overall, the masonry provides a warm, rich texture to both the interior and exterior of the facility.

**ARCHITECT:**

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**GENERAL CONTRACTOR:**

Lusardi Construction Company

**MASONRY CONTRACTOR:**

New Dimension Masonry

**BLOCK PRODUCER:**

ORCO Block Company, Inc.

**OWNER:**

Valley Center - Pauma Unified School District



Photography: Tom Henderson Studio



## Profiles in Architecture



### TEMPLETON BUSINESS PARK - POKRAJAC CONSTRUCTION OFFICE BUILDING

PASO ROBLES, CALIFORNIA

The project is located in Templeton, California, on a rural, commercially zoned, 1.21-acre site. This is a two-story building with 8,252 square feet of office space, and 3,145 square feet of maintenance shop area. The building was designed to allow for future expansion. The second phase will allow for an additional 9,000 square feet of lease space to the building. For phase one, the building was designed for use as an office and contractor's maintenance shop and storage yard for Pokrajac Construction. Mr. Pokrajac requested that his building showcase all the different types of construction that his company specialize in; metal, concrete, and masonry.

The building's agrarian style and form are a direct response to its rural location and its high visibility from the surrounding area. The use of concrete masonry helped give the building a rural quality, but at the same time adds a level of refinement that no other material could provide. The concrete masonry also conveys a sense of permanence and authority that sets the building apart from other buildings in the area. We initially looked at using cultured stone instead of concrete masonry. We felt that concrete masonry was a much better choice, because concrete masonry gave us the look and durability we wanted at a more affordable price.

This building incorporates several passive solar techniques to help lower energy costs while maintaining comfortable interior temperatures year round. One technique was to place the building in an east to west orientation with concrete masonry end walls. This technique addresses the problem of heat gain and heat loss that most buildings handle with energy consuming mechanical systems.

The combination of metal roofing, metal siding, and concrete masonry as exterior finishes for this building were used to achieve a certain esthetics and durability. They also expressed the request of showcasing Pokrajac Construction's expertise in metal, concrete and masonry.

**ARCHITECT:**  
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*Principal in Charge*

Kim Hatch  
*Design Associate*

**STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:**  
 The Devaney Company

**GENERAL CONTRACTOR:**  
 Pokrajac Construction

**MASONRY CONTRACTOR:**  
 Curt J. Bailey Masonry

**BLOCK PRODUCER:**  
 Air Vol Block, Inc.

**OWNER:**  
 Nick Pokrajac



Photography: Ken Chen,  
 Erik Geil, Air Vol Block Inc.



## Profiles in Architecture



### SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE BUILDING

LANCASTER, CALIFORNIA

The new Social Security Administration building sits on a rather narrow and deep property in the city of Lancaster. The design program required two distinct and separate parking areas for public and staff. Due to this criteria, the building occupies the center stage of the site.

The building was designed and constructed to house Social Security Administration Offices. Program requirements and flow dictated the shape of the building. The materials chosen for construction give it a sense of permanence.

A variety of materials were considered before the selection of concrete masonry units for the approximately 15,000 square-foot facility. Concrete masonry units were chosen for their longevity, warm natural palette to select from, and integral color, which makes them practically maintenance free. An earth tone 8"x8"x16" split face concrete masonry unit was selected as the main element for the perimeter load bearing walls. A band of two courses of scored split face concrete masonry units located at the top runs continuous around the building. Concrete masonry veneer wraps around the main stucco portico at the entrance of the building to tie it all together.

**ARCHITECT:**  
**Vanir Development Company, Inc.**  
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 San Bernardino, CA 92402

Louis Arias, AIA  
 Vice President  
*Design Architect*

**STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:**  
 Wei Pei Structural Engineers, Inc.

**GENERAL CONTRACTOR:**  
 Vanir Construction Company, Inc.

**MASONRY CONTRACTOR:**  
 Nibbelink Masonry Construction Corporation

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

**OWNER:**  
 SSA Office, Inc.



Photography: Mitch Rubin, Desert Block Company, Inc.



# Profiles in Architecture



## CENTENNIAL COSTCO

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

Costco Wholesale has been a valued client of MulvannyG2 Architecture for more than 20 years. In that time, Costco has expanded to become one of the most globally admired retailers in the world. MulvannyG2 has helped Costco in their expansion by consistently providing high quality service delivered on one of the industry's most aggressive schedules. Costco has used MulvannyG2's services world-wide to develop more than 500 new warehouse locations, remodel existing locations, design corporate headquarters, develop and maintain prototypes, and roll-out new retail concepts.

Costco Wholesale's newest Las Vegas area location is a 150,000 square-foot membership warehouse and gas station that caters to local business and club members, selling high quality merchandise at the best price, with an emphasis on delivered value. The building's structure and roof were furnished by Butler Manufacturing and installed by Span Construction. The exterior walls are concrete masonry. The project features over 200 skylights for energy efficient operations, and to improve the overall quality of the shopping experience. The site work included extensive landscaping. The project faced several challenges, including high winds, extreme heat (concrete was poured at night due to daytime temperatures), and permit challenges. The greater project team was able to work together to overcome these challenges and meet Costco's schedule and budget requirements.

The construction team, led by Lydig Construction, Inc., completed the job successfully in spite of the harsh summer construction season and fast-track construction schedule. The building's exterior facades consist of concrete masonry with EIFS accents, which the project

mason, H&H Contracting Corp., completed on schedule in 40 calendar days. The total area of the exterior walls is 54,000 square-feet. The mason did an outstanding job with respect to meeting the fast-track demands, and did so without jeopardizing the quality on the project or job-site safety.

The project was built on schedule in 110 days.

**ARCHITECT:**  
**MulvannyG2 Architecture**  
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Matthew Goelzer, AIA  
*Senior Associate*

**STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:**  
 Engineers Northwest, Inc.

**GENERAL CONTRACTOR:**  
 Lydig Construction, Inc.

**MASONRY CONTRACTOR:**  
 H & H Contracting Corp.

**BLOCK PRODUCER:**  
 Rinker Materials

**OWNER:**  
 Costco Wholesale



Photography: Britt Pierson Photography



# Profiles in Architecture

**Concrete Masonry Association of California and Nevada**

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## **CMACN/AIACC CONCRETE MASONRY DESIGN AWARDS**

Please contact the CMACN office with any questions. We can be reached at (916) 722-1700, or at [info@cmacn.org](mailto:info@cmacn.org). Our web site address is [www.cmacn.org](http://www.cmacn.org).

Last date for receipt of completed submittal binders: April 30, 2007

Jury Deliberations: June 8, 2007

Concrete Masonry Design Awards Banquet:  
Friday, September 28, 2007  
Villagio Inn & Spa  
Yountville (Napa Valley), California

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Concrete Masonry Units are dimensionally and aesthetically pleasing for ANY of your existing or future designs. CMU's can be integrally pigmented and textured to meet a wide range of client and project demands. CMU's are design flexible, versatile, noncombustible, durable, economical and locally available.

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Las Vegas, NV 8911

**Promotional grant provided by:**

**CALIFORNIA NEVADA CEMENT ASSOCIATION**  
(714) 694-0800  
Yorba Linda, CA 92887

*Concrete Masonry Association of California and Nevada (CMACN) a nonprofit professional organization established in 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.

**For further information contact us at:**

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