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DIXON FIRE STATION HEADQUARTERS

DIXON, CALIFORNIA

Dixon is a city along the I-80 corridor that has experienced dramatic growth over the past five years. Expanding infrastructure to meet the changing geography and demographics became the prime impetus for the new headquarters fire station.

The site for this project is situated in an area of Dixon which is changing from agricultural to industrial/commercial uses. The building houses a large fire service program. The public is also encouraged to use this facility for safety programs and large public meetings.

A concrete block base serves to anchor the building to the ground plane and also provides a durable protective "wrapper" where the building is susceptible to wear and tear by vehicles, equipment and pedestrian traffic. Alternating block colors of white and tan are used to contrast between recessed walls and supporting pilasters and columns which flush out with the roof edges. Bands of rusticated gray block visually lace the building base elements together and form a cornice line at roof eves and gables. The same patterning is applied to the tower to combine the composition of buildings together.

The result is a building that combined the town's agrarian roots with their current values of civic pride and cost-effective use of tax dollars.

Architect:

RMW Architecture & Design
1718 3rd Street, Suite 101
Sacramento, CA 95814

Stephen D. Guest, AIA
Principal/Designer

Client:

City of Dixon

Ric Dorris
Fire Chief

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HASTINGS VILLAGE
EAST PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

Hastings Village is a 300,000 s.f. retail development in a Power Center configuration. It is being developed in two phases of which the first phase is complete. The second phase is scheduled to open in the third quarter of 1999.

Hastings Village is located in East Pasadena in an underutilized light industrial area, bordered on one side by an older residential block and some mixed use office commercial uses on two other sides. It occupies a whole city block of about 20 acres.

The City had great expectations of the project revitalizing this part of the commercial corridor along Foothill Boulevard by creating a high quality retail destination. The developer had the financial perimeters of the construction determined by the lease structure that would call for a more standard, rather than high end, type of construction. This created a dilemma for the architect to resolve.

After several presentations to the Design Review Board of the City of Pasadena, the successful scheme satisfying the demands for high quality design and finishes by the City and the demand of economy by the developer was based on an architectural concrete block structure.

Developer:

The Arba Group
6380 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1106
Los Angeles, Ca 90048

Ira Smedra
Partner In Charge

Architect:

Perkowitz & Ruth Architects, Inc.

Sy Perkowitz
Principal In Charge

Peter Paszterko
Project Architect

Kevin Emanuel
Production

Ken Gunther
Contract Administration

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NORTH AREA TRANSFER STATION
CALIFORNIA

The challenge of this project was to merge this new transfer station with the existing transfer station site using recycled materials and to utilize natural daylight within the Administration Building.

One of the primary requirements of this building was to utilize industrial strength, low maintenance materials. The materials selected were a combination of concrete masonry units , pre-formed metal wall and roof panels, suspended linear metal ceilings, and exposed stained concrete floors. The exterior CMU is split face in two colors to mimic departmental color themes. The interior face of the exterior CMU was ground smooth to a stone like appearance and exposed as the interior finish. The cores of the exterior CMU were lined with a pre-formed insulation liner to meet energy envelope requirements. Interior partitions were ceramic-faced concrete block, with courses of accent color. The interior floor was a reinforced concrete slab on grade with exposed control joints. The slab was stained and sealed in two colors to reinforce the departmental color theme and to delineate circulation zones in the building. The interior suspended linear metal ceilings echo the form of the exterior barrel vaulted roof.

Another requirement was to reduce electrical demand through natural lighting. This was accomplished in the open administrative office area by designing a flared linear light well at the apex of the barrel vault. Skylights mounted at the roof, flood natural light down through the light well into the open office below.

The projects benefit the users by its good working environment with clear and well defined functional working relations that reduced electrical costs to the community and promoted the use of recycled materials.

Architect:

Stafford King Wiese
622 20th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Pat Derickson

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WATERFRONT OPERATION BUILDING FOR MOBILE EXPLOSIVE ORDINANCE UNIT 3 NAVAL AMPHIBIOUS BASE

CORONADO, CALIFORNIA

This project is surrounded by 1940's industrial style Navy maintenance building and quonset huts. The program identified the need for a compatible industrial type warehouse with offices even though it stands on the edge of the San Diego Harbor with a military and public presence. The harbor and city skyline views required greater attention to form and detail.

The Base Exterior Architectural Plan strictly limited colors, thus, emphasis was placed on the surface and detail. Masonry contrasting precision and split-face block are aligned with window mullions and other features to create complexity and pattern in the exterior facade. The effect of sunlight, shading and shadows creates a constantly changing exterior. The large glass areas mirror the bay and sky-blues, creating color on the face in spite of the limited color palette.

The offices are strategically located at the second level to enjoy the 270 degree panoramic view of the harbor. Public areas such as stairs, the atrium entrance, and corridors have large windows which break down the warehouse nature of the facility and provide spectacular views.

The building respects the importance of its waterfront location while creating a higher appearance standard and neighborhood design character. It also gives the group of dedicated and enthusiastic Seal Teams a place that instills pride and introduces them to architectural excellence.

Architects:

Delawie Wilkes Rodrigues Barker & Bretton Architects
3827 Presidio Drive
San Diego, CA 92110

James Barker, AIA
Project Principal

Michael B. Wilkes, FAIA
Project Designer

Alan Mcree, AIA
Project Manager

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DATE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
FONTANA, CALIFORNIA

Security and a community gathering place were top priorities in the program of the school. A small site also made for some unique design opportunities. In addition to typical classrooms the school houses Preschool, Daycare, Severely Handicapped and Healthy Start that includes medical and dental facilities.

Pedestrian entry to the school is between the circular library and elliptical multipurpose room directing the visitor to the administrative offices. Continuing on to the main quad area, students descend a brick "Stamp" which doubles as an assembly area.

A security tower for the school district police was designed into the facility. The mass of the concrete roof serves as a heat sink that conserves energy by delaying the time that it takes the heat to penetrate the roof.

Concrete masonry was the perfect material for the school. With the building program and the site conditions, the neighborhood environment and a need for a low maintenance facility. The combination of reinforced concrete masonry and cast-in-place concrete solved all the architect's problems and addressed all of the owner's needs.

Architects:

Ralph Allen & Partners
520 N. Main St., Suite 200
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Ralph Allen, FAIA
Project Designer

Tom Nusbickel, AIA
Project Architect

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CITY OF OAKLAND 911 OFFICE FACILITIES
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

This project required working very closely with The City of Oakland. Everyone involved walked through many alternative ideas, including the dispatcher team, who were very supportive and enthusiastic. The concept design combined the old world tradition of H.H. Richardson with modern technology using sunscreens, glass walls and energy efficiency to service humanity in a unique way.

911 receives frantic calls so the project required a sense of security and durability. So the exterior is all masonry with a beautiful oasis-like glass courtyard, creating a sense of calm.

Concrete masonry was chosen for its strength. The project utilized split face and smooth concrete masonry units much like H.H. Richard style of the 1800's. The same tradition of split face block with stone and a smooth brownstone trim was used. Special base block was also designed giving a simple shadowline effect.

This project was simple yet complex. Concrete masonry creates security and permanence while the courtyard provides a visual release and sense of calm. Sunscreens also provided energy efficiency. The end result was a fully functioning timeless building that serves an important function in society.

Owner:

City of Oakland
250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 4344
Oakland, CA 94612-2033

Diego Garcia
Al Bunyi
Lt. Cy Vierra
Hampton Hancock

Design Architect:

EKONA Architecture & Planning
121 Second Street, Studio Suite 333
San Francisco, CA 94105

Christ J. Kmages, AIA, Principal *Project Designer*
Cheryl Lentini, RA, *Project Architect*
Peter Hourihan, *Project Coordinator*
Tim L. Craig, AIA, *Project Planner*

Architect of Record:

IDG Architects
1730 Franklin Street, #300
Oakland, CA 94612

Jim H. Ishimaru, *Principal*
Fred King, *Project Architect*

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PROFESSIONAL FINISHING FACILITY
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

An expanding spray painting company required a column free space to house new equipment capable of handling material of greater length. Additionally, drive-through truck access from the street and the existing building, maximum use of natural light, use of natural ventilation and the capability to install a one ton overhead crane for materials handling were required.

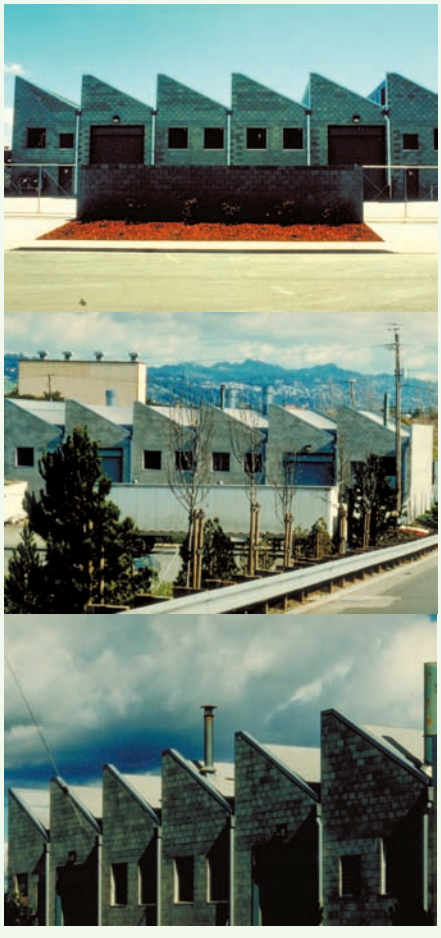
The initial research focused on a metal building. However, after visiting several facilities and observing the company's current operations, the need for a more durable structure became a major consideration. The inherent qualities of CMU construction provided for a more durable structure and lower maintenance and repair costs, increased security and strength.

An archetypal saw-tooth shape was an ideal form to express the building's character and provide the maximum amount of natural light. With the saw-tooth clerestory windows facing to the north along five rows, diffused natural light is provided. In addition, louvers interspersed between the windows satisfy the code requirement for openable exterior openings. Lower louvers on the east and west walls allow additional airflow, creating a stack effect. Maximum uses of natural lighting and full use of passive natural ventilation are energy efficient features of this building.

Architectural Firm:

Baker Vilar Architects
461 Second Street, Suite C127
San Francisco, CA 94107

Jose Vilar, AIA
Project Architect & Design



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Although masonry has been with us for thousands of years, modern reinforced concrete block masonry-with performance which extends far beyond that of lightweight walls-offers benefits which make it a superior material for most types of construction.

Among them are color and texture. Concrete block masonry products' integral color and texture, and their wide range of surface treatments, make them ideal finish materials. Easy maintenance is another. Maintenance-free concrete block masonry walls retain their beauty and appearance for the life of the building. Finally, there's weatherability. Concrete block masonry materials are extremely durable and resistant to sun, wind and rain. They also offer greater infiltration control than many alternative wall construction techniques.

And remember to visit our website to see the library of projects which have been featured in CMU Profiles in Architecture publications.

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Active members are an individual, partnership or corporation which is actively engaged in the manufacture and sales of concrete masonry units

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Gardena, CA 90248
Montebello, CA 90640
Orange, CA 92668
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MCNEAR BRICK & BLOCK
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Lemon Grove, CA 91946

VALLEY BLOCK COMPANY
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Indio, CA 92202

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

The members of CMACN appreciate the financial support given by the California Cement Promotion Council towards the cost of producing the CMU Profiles in Architecture.

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