

January 2019 Edition

Concrete Masonry Association of California and Nevada

CMU Profiles in Architecture

Why Masonry?

www.whymasonry.org

**Announcing
2019 CMACN/AIACA Concrete Masonry
Design Awards Competition
“Call for Entries”**

Eligibility and requests for entry materials available at:
www.cmacn.org

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2017 Grand Award, Education Design
Sage Creek High School
RNT Architects, Inc.
Kevin Walsh Photography

Preparatory Institute School for Academic Excellence, Charles I. West Hall Elementary School Las Vegas, Nevada



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MASONRY CONTRACTOR:

Cedco Inc.

BLOCK PRODUCER:

Superlite (an Oldcastle Company)
Trenwyth Industries, Inc.

OWNER:

Clark County School District

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Smiljana Savicic,
Simpson Coulter STUDIO



ARCHITECT'S COMMENTARY: The Preparatory Institute, School for Academic Excellence at Charles I. West Hall Elementary School is the most recent expansion of the Institute's Pre-Kindergarten through 12th grade pilot program in the Clark County School District, Las Vegas, Nevada. The program was moved into an existing middle school campus in 2007, rapidly gaining community interest and a need for increased capacity of additional students.

The 2016 addition of a Pre-Kindergarten program escalated the need to expand the campus and provide a separate, yet connected, space catered to the needs of the younger students. The new 54,500 square-foot elementary school addition is a standalone structure connected to the existing campus through an extension of the campus' exterior covered walkways and courtyards. A separate playground and parking/drop-off area wrap around the east and north sides, providing an independent school entry while maintaining a central bus drop-off area serving the entire campus.

WHY MASONRY? Careful consideration was taken to blend the new addition into the existing campus' concrete masonry unit (CMU) exterior, while utilizing more contemporary material systems and allowing it to have a warm and inviting feel for the younger students. The concrete masonry units and textures selected compliment the existing school, which is primarily constructed of split face CMU with accents of fluted and glass block. The new elementary school addition picked up on this by integrating rhythms of single-score common face and single-score split face CMU with custom integral color match to the existing CMU.

The primary building structure is steel framed with concrete masonry unit structural walls at the mechanical and electrical support spaces. The exterior is a combination of a masonry veneer rain-screen system and exterior finish insulation system (EFIS) over metal stud framing. Concrete masonry unit finishes are provided at the lower portions of the exterior to provide the most durable finish for low maintenance and a quality that will endure through the next generations to come.



San Francisco State Mashouf Wellness Center

San Francisco, California



ARCHITECT:
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MASONRY CONTRACTOR:
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BLOCK PRODUCER:
Basalite Concrete Products, LLC

OWNER:
San Francisco State University

©PHOTOGRAPHY:
Jeremy Bittermann Photography

ARCHITECT'S COMMENTARY: The Mashouf Wellness Center (MWC) at San Francisco State University is a new center of student life and an iconic campus gateway. Located on a prominent intersection at the edge of campus, the facility includes a mix of social, recreational and competition spaces: a two-court gym, large multi-purpose activities court (MAC), pools for both competitive and recreational swimming, spa, cardio/fitness areas, running track, lounge and meeting rooms.

The massing and design are crisp, modern, and fluid, reflecting both the forward-leaning ethos of the campus and the dynamic activity within. The MAC reaches into the heart of campus and presents the building's public face to its community. Its large entry plaza also serves as a pre-function area for important campus events, such as graduations or performances. The natatorium engages passersby on its well-traversed intersection with a large expanse of glazing – a gateway beacon showcasing life within, which also glows at night. The two-court gym captures views of a nearby park and a stunning eucalyptus grove, while the play-fields serve as an active and green welcome mat.

The project supports a holistic take on student success that values physical, emotional, social and psychological wellbeing as integral to academic achievement. Recognizing the reciprocal relationship between notions of wellness and sustainability, the MWC is targeting LEED® Platinum, and models sustainability in a building type that has historically consumed large amounts of energy and water.

WHY MASONRY? Concrete masonry units (CMUs) were selected as an affordable alternative to stone that were able to deliver on the goals for the MWC relative to aesthetics, durability, and pedestrian experience. Ground face 4-inch high CMUs were selected to create the desired proportion, touch and feel for the project that typical 8-inch by 16-inch units could not achieve.



ARCHITECT:**Gensler**

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MASONRY CONTRACTOR:

CEDCO, Inc.

BLOCK PRODUCER:

CEMEX

OWNER:

Clark County School District

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Charlie Simmons, Gensler -
top and bottom photos
Ryan Gobuty, Associate, Gensler
(©Gensler | Ryan Gobuty) -
middle two photos

CCSD 22 Room Elementary School Addition Prototype - Hal Smith Elementary School Las Vegas, Nevada



ARCHITECT'S COMMENTARY: This prototype design for two-story, 22 classroom additions is helping the Clark County School District meet a pressing need on elementary school campuses. In order to support the District's rapidly growing student population and to provide permanent classrooms for students currently located in temporary facilities, a 34,000 square-foot prototype building was designed with a compact footprint to fit on existing elementary school sites.

The design primarily accommodates standard classroom spaces, but also focuses on the spaces in between with "out of classroom" learning opportunities for the teachers and students. Creative interior wall murals, referred to as "Ambient Learning Graphics", help infuse learning elements into the building's interior finishes and design. Bold, bright colors that correspond to each individual school's identity are incorporated throughout each new facility. The exteriors have punches of color at entries leading students into the facility. Those same colors are brought into halls and classrooms to provide a sense of energy and fun in the learning environment.

WHY MASONRY?

The Design Team evaluated and analyzed several exterior envelope options, and chose an exterior load bearing concrete masonry unit (CMU) wall system with integral color as the most appropriate building envelope to meet the District's needs. The building design and exterior envelope system are versatile enough to be built on various tight existing school sites. The building's CMU exterior is both low maintenance and durable, bearing in mind the District's strict budget constraints. The team pushed the boundaries of the CMU material in the design to limit additional applied elements on the building exterior. The base level is comprised of a field of 8" thick honed block interlaced with a calculated patterning of custom 9" thick block. The undulating upper volumes are created by a combination of cantilevering 12" thick block and 16" block ledgers supporting a 4" thick veneer above.

Scripps Ranch High School Modernization and New School Building

San Diego, California



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MASONRY CONTRACTOR:
Vic Ross's Masonry, Inc.

BLOCK PRODUCER:
RCP Block & Brick, Inc.

OWNER:
San Diego Unified School District
©PHOTOGRAPHY:
Bill Robinson Photography



ARCHITECT'S COMMENTARY: Scripps Ranch High School, opened in 1993, is a 32-acre campus for grades 9-12 with a total capacity of 2,400 students. San Diego Unified School District wanted to build a new two story, twelve-classroom building to replace portable classrooms on the campus. The approximately 10,000 square-foot classroom building was completed in October of 2018. It is designed to reflect the character of the existing Scripps Ranch High School campus and buildings. The building layout is a simple double loaded exterior corridor providing access to the classrooms. The building layout provides visibility into the building and a visual connection to the main campus across Treena Street. The building is also designed to provide classroom orientation that allows natural ventilation by means of operable north-facing windows, a narrow building width to optimize daylighting and ventilation, and covered exterior walkways to provide shading for classroom windows.

WHY MASONRY? To match the architecture of the main campus, the classroom portion of the building is steel frame construction with an exterior plaster finish. Load bearing concrete masonry units (CMUs) are used for the core support facility housing restrooms, elevator, and utility spaces. CMU is durable and low maintenance, suiting itself to the rigors of high school student use. It also provides high thermal mass to temper this part of the building which is not air conditioned. Visually, the concrete masonry units also provide a texture and color balance to the plaster finish of the rest of the building, identifying the core support functions within.



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MASONRY CONTRACTOR:

Enrique A. Cruz Masonry, Inc.

BLOCK PRODUCER:

Angelus Block Company, Inc.

OWNER:

Primestor Development, Inc.

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Cathy Kelly, CK Architectural
Photography

Azalea Shopping Center Plaza

Southgate, California



Architect's Commentary: The Azalea Shopping Center Plaza was completed in 2014, and includes an 18-acre retail center. This project was completed in a public-private partnership between Primestor and the County of Los Angeles consisting of 220,000 square-feet of retail space and 18,000 square-feet of office space, creating a vibrant, one-of-a-kind-center. Plaza space, lush landscaping and site amenities make this a center for community and regional commercial activity in Walnut Park.

Azalea pushes the envelope as it displays an architectural language that cannot be found anywhere else in Southern California. The design is true to its geometric forms and materials, and executed in the spirit of the client's vision to create a destination that speaks to the ideals and aspirations of the evolving young population of South Gate. It also has the largest installation of living walls on the West Coast at 900 square-feet, and re-purposed barn wood siding as an added aesthetic.

WHY MASONRY? The structure of the buildings is all integral color 8" and 12" precision block. The façades of the in-line majors are primarily split-face integral color block. The plaza building façades utilize alternating bands of 8" black split face concrete masonry units (CMUs) with 4" white precision CMUs. This creates an interesting horizontal banding, and has proved to be an aesthetic success as well as a practical success – it was very cost effective as there was no need for additional finish materials. Sustainability is addressed throughout the project with the goal of achieving LEED® Silver certification from the US Green Building Council.

La Jolla Shores Lifeguard Station

La Jolla, California



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MASONRY CONTRACTOR:
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BLOCK PRODUCER:
ORCO Block & Hardscape

OWNER:
City of San Diego

©PHOTOGRAPHY:
Jeff Durkin,
Breadtruck Films and
Photography - top-left small inset
Stephen Simpson Inc.
Photography



ARCHITECT'S COMMENTARY: Key design requirements of the new lifeguard station were to minimize view impacts to the beach from the surrounding community and to maximize public safety. To accomplish this, the design transforms the building into a simple scheme of parallel concrete masonry unit (CMU) walls that define volumes and orients views to the beach. Perpendicular translucent façades facing the community and beach present a welcoming and accessible character.

WHY MASONRY? To mimic the geological strata formations found in the nearby coastal bluffs, the walls combine five types of concrete masonry units to create random horizontal strands of colors, textures and art glass tiles. The results are feature walls that provide public art and establish a unique landmark along the existing boardwalk.

The project meets the City of San Diego Green Building requirements. The CMU station walls work in conjunction with clerestory and operable windows and calculated roof overhangs to allow the building to naturally ventilate. They are also designed to support daylight strategies to reduce energy needs and act as thermal mass that are strategically oriented to keep the building warm during the winter and cool during the summer.

To compliment the station's CMU walls, and still minimize view impacts, a thin singular concrete tower arm with stairs supports a floating-cantilever deck above the pedestrian boardwalk. The observation tower extends over the beach without impacting it, giving the lifeguards a 260 degree aerial view of the shoreline. Due to the unique cantilever design, the mass and weight of the lower concrete masonry walls are sufficient to help stabilize and balance the structural design of the tower. Together the arm and CMU walls create a north-south boardwalk portal that is a vibrant and unique beach community icon for public safety.





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CMACN/AIACC CONCRETE MASONRY DESIGN AWARDS “CALL FOR ENTRIES”

The 2019 CMACN/AIACC Concrete Masonry Design Awards competition “Call for Entries/ Request for Forms” is now available at www.cmacn.org.

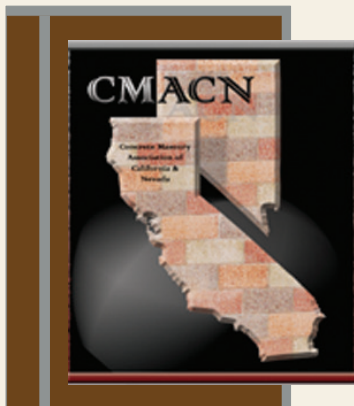
Last day to request entry materials:
Friday, March 29, 2019

Last day to ship completed materials:
Friday, April 26, 2019

Jury Deliberations:
Friday, June 21, 2019

Design Awards Banquet:
Friday, September 20, 2019
Huntington Beach, California

The 2017 award winning projects can be viewed at www.cmacn.org.



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*Concrete Masonry Association of
California and Nevada (CMACN)
a nonprofit professional trade
association established in 1977,
is committed to strengthening the
masonry industry in California and
Nevada by:*

- Providing technical information on concrete masonry for design professionals.
- Protecting and advancing the interests of the concrete masonry industry.
- Developing new and existing markets for concrete masonry products.
- Coordinating Members' efforts in solving common challenges within the masonry industry.

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NOTE: Some Photos may have been altered to fit the page format.