

C M U

Profiles in Architecture



JACOBS RESIDENCE NEWPORT BEACH, CALIFORNIA

The objective of this project was to provide the owner of this ocean front property with a renovated vacation home they visit four times a year, and rental income the rest of the year. The owner required materials suitable to the ocean environment with a construction budget of \$350,000.

The lot configuration is long and narrow, typical of this beachfront location. In order to create architectural interest, the massing needed to be vertical. The voids created within the vertical elements would become outdoor living spaces in forms of patios, balconies, entry statements and roof decks.

Three significant building materials suitable for ocean conditions were used. First, were concrete masonry units for their durability, affordability and aesthetic value. A smooth exterior plaster, an impervious material to combat deterioration, was used. Finally, wood windows provided the color contrast, geometric elements for this project and a 10-year warranty.

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AMERICAN CANYON COMMUNITY AQUATIC CENTER

AMERICAN CANYON, CALIFORNIA

Funded as one of 25 State Joint Use Facilities, the American Canyon Community and Aquatic Center provides a recreational facility for the community of American Canyon and students of the Napa Valley Unified School District. The School District entered into a joint use agreement with the newly formed City of American Canyon to locate the facility adjacent to a new middle school. The City overwhelmingly supported the opportunity to provide the community with a much-needed recreational facility and to create a civic center for this new city. As a bedroom community for the San Francisco Bay Area, American Canyon lacked community and civic spaces.

The new community and aquatic center was planned and designed with considerable community and school district participation. Several community "town meetings" attended by hundreds of citizens and facilitated by the architect brought clarity to the types of needed recreational spaces. The facility provides a gymnasium with a stage, locker rooms, and coaches spaces, a 25 yard six lane pool with a wading pool, changing facilities, showers and a concession stand.

Gestures to the aquatic center include the use of broad wave-like colored concrete bands on the ground plane. These "waves" are supported by varying colored turf as the bands make their way through the landscaping. Concrete block columns at the fences are capped in wave formed colored concrete cast stone. The use of varied colored concrete block is a gesture to bubbles in water, and provides an interesting exterior finish.

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SUSAN B. ANTHONY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DALY CITY, CALIFORNIA

The Susan B. Anthony Elementary School is situated on a portion of the upper level playground of an existing middle school. The relatively small parcel (approximately 3 acres) necessitated a two-story configuration for the 600 fifth and sixth graders who will utilize the school. The site layout, conceived to be independent of the adjacent campus, features an elliptical entry drive for bus and auto drop-off in front of a large open plaza for student gatherings.

This 44,000 S.F. facility was conceived to blend with the town homes of the surrounding neighborhoods and to fulfill the District's desire to build a modern version of an "old red brick schoolhouse". To this end the structure features dormer windows that break up the roofline and pale red concrete masonry wall construction. Concrete masonry was used for its appearance, durability, and long term reduction of maintenance costs. These are all considerations very important to neighborhood public schools. The classrooms are organized around a two level circulation core in groups of three that share multiple student activity alcoves off the corridor and are easily monitored from the classrooms.

ARCHITECT:

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VIEJA VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA

Updating a library designed in the early 1960's demanded creative thinking to increase space and incorporate educational technology. A steering committee made up of school board members, teachers, the librarian, a technology instructor and parents led to a design that established the library as unique on campus - an environment where scale, color and natural light combined to create a quiet warmth.

Reading nooks and a "creation station" equipped with video and computer equipment evolved directly from student ideas and parent participation. Two teachers suggested including a video production studio, allowing them to expand the ability to produce campus-wide broadcasts of student television programs.

The textured surfaces of concrete masonry units, both on the exterior and interior, helped evoke a quiet learning environment. Concrete masonry units used in the school's original building were no longer available, but similar-colored block was found to echo the surrounding campus structures. Another benefit of concrete masonry units was simplifying the structural shear system of the building.

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ST. MARY'S INTERFAITH DINING ROOM AND MEDICAL CLINIC STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA

The newly expanded St. Mary's Interfaith Dining Room facility was added to an existing site already offering a variety of medical, educational, and social services to the homeless and indigent population in downtown Stockton, California. The construction was designed to offer a new dining hall and kitchen, restroom building, and medical clinic on a site located under a major elevated freeway interchange soaring overhead.

The dining hall serves daily hot lunch meals to over 400 patrons. In response to this volume, the 9,340 S.F. dining hall/kitchen and the 560 S.F. public restroom building incorporate concrete masonry units at all locations vulnerable to the heavy public exposure; particularly at the queuing areas. The masonry units provide a durable, functional, and easily maintainable building material. The CMU is left exposed and painted on interior faces. In addition, the 8x8x16 scored units offer a design texture and sense of permanence relating to the adjacent building finishes. Concrete masonry units were the most cost-effective solution responding to all the program requirements.

ARCHITECT:

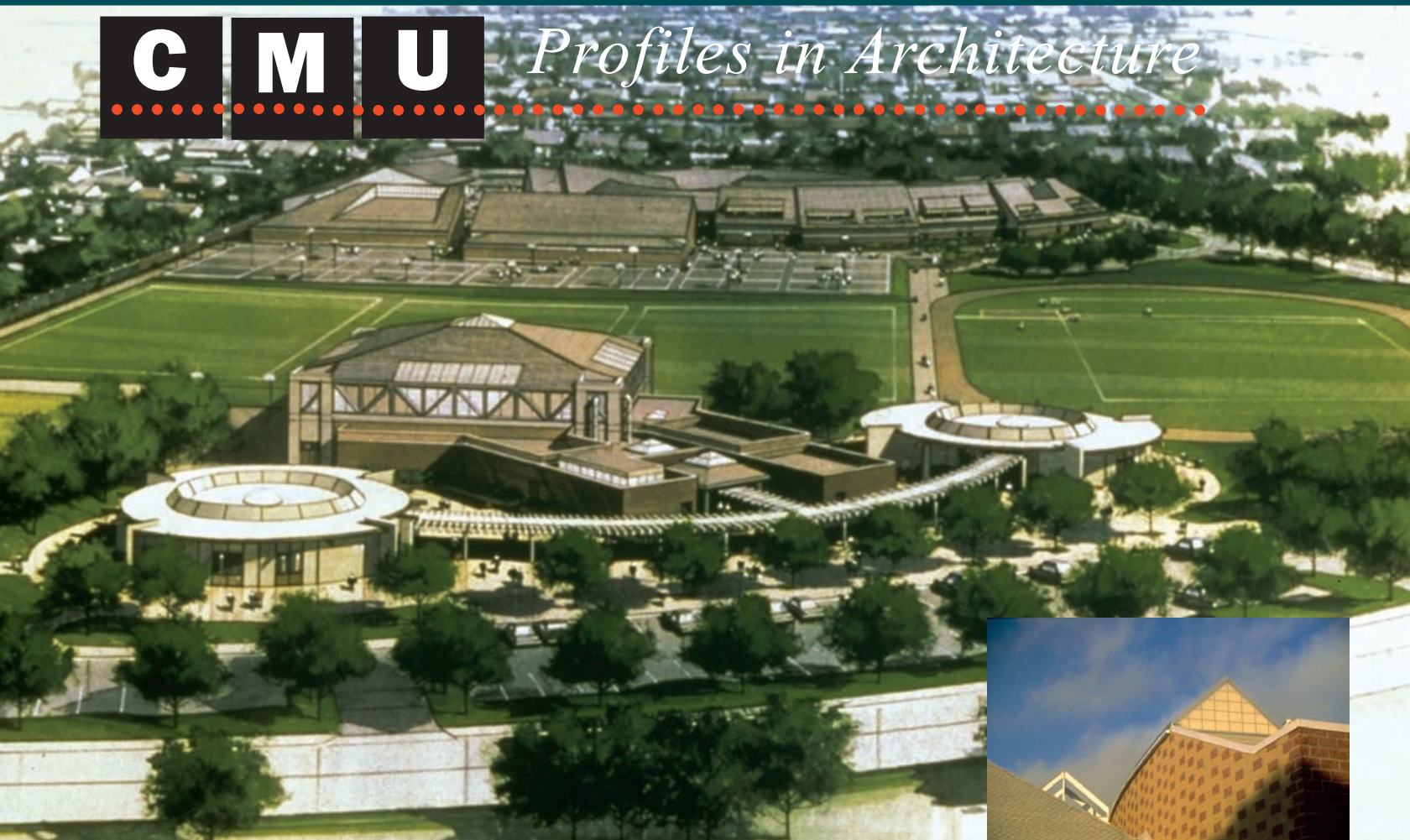
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WELLS MIDDLE SCHOOL NEW MATH & SCIENCE BUILDING DUBLIN, CALIFORNIA

The program was to add a 40,000 S.F. Math/Science Building and a 17,000 S.F. High School/City Joint-Use Gymnasium on an existing site shared by a middle school and a special program high school.

Due to the restricted site, the Math/Science Building needed to accommodate its program in a two-story building that was visually sympathetic to the existing single story campus and the predominantly single story houses in the neighborhood. This was accomplished by matching the eave and corner heights of the adjacent existing classroom buildings and disguising the second story under a large roof form. Dormer windows were used to bring in light to the second floor classrooms as well as break up the large roof mass.

Concrete masonry units were used for their color, textured and patterned appearance, durability and long term reduction of masonry costs.

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SAINT JOHN'S CARDIOVASCULAR RESEARCH & EDUCATION CENTER TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA

A flexible use cardiovascular research center was needed to satisfy the needs of various private research users as well as universal affiliations. It needed to be functional and economical to build, low in maintenance, yet maintaining maximum security. The building was to be a three-story complex containing research and procedure rooms on the first floor, research laboratories on the second floor and administrative offices and amphitheater on the third floor.

The primary material for this 31,088 S.F. facility was split-face scored concrete block. This material satisfied the requirements of functionality, economy, low maintenance and security. To add to the aesthetics of the building, surface mounted bands of alternating reflective glass and blue aluminum banding were added.

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