Profile: Charlotte & Dick Levin Jewish Community Center  
Durham, NC

The Jewish community of Durham, NC, set out to build a new community center with the goal of enhancing and preserving the traditions of their faith community, coupled with a green initiative to do their part in preserving the environment. Targeting silver LEED® certification, the new 35,695 sq. ft. facility accompanies the Judea Reform Congregation and Lerner Jewish Community Day School, serving as both a fitness center and a community gathering venue. The center includes a full-sized gym, two outdoor pools, a fitness area, rooms for art and music, a daycare facility, and a kosher cafe. With programs for both the elderly and the youth, the center is a hub for Jewish cultural and social events for the entire community.

The large masonry surfaces of both the interior and exterior of this modern design were animated by a subtle variegated pattern of Adams Polished Face concrete masonry units in three complementary hues. The pattern was achieved with 8’x24” panels mixed in a staggered coursing, offset in a one-third running bond relation. “The success of this installation is a reflection of a cooperative effort between the architect, the contractor, the mason, and the supplier,” says Fred Pugsley, lead architect, who notes that the process included multiple samples and full-sized sample installations to insure the proper result.

Design Firm: Gurlitz Architectural Group - Durham, NC  
Lead Architect: Fred Pugsley  
General Contractor: Whiting-Turner - Raleigh, NC  
Mason Contractor: Mattachione Construction, Inc. - Apex, NC
Featured Product
Adams Polished Face CMU

Adams Polished Face units are made differently than conventional ground face, utilizing a 10-head wet grind process that starts with an 80-grit diamond and works its way to a 3500-grit polishing wheel, giving the final finish a high luster and revealing the beauty of the aggregate. Adams Polished Face CMUs can include recycled content to help achieve LEED® credits.

Continuing Education Opportunities

Belgard® Hardscapes Traveling Road Show
Meet the Belgard Commercial experts and receive multiple Continuing Education credits from several industry associations, including the American Institute of Architects (AIA), Green Building Certification Institute (GBCI) and others. Presentations include design techniques and information on a variety of topics including sustainable site pavement systems, retaining walls, the hardscape industry, green construction with concrete masonry, and more. To request additional information via email, click on the appropriate scheduled date below.

May 17 - Indianapolis, IN
May 24 - Dallas, TX
July 13 - Orlando, FL

For more information, visit our Traveling Road Show blog.

Lunch & Learn: Designing with Innovative Architectural Blocks (OSKA01 - 1 CEU)
Topics will include:
  • The range of available architectural masonry units. Attribute variations include size, texture, finish, color, and sound absorption.
  • Enhancing the decorative appearance of both exterior and interior applications.
  • Combinations for achieving variation of texture, pattern, and color within the same project.
  • Environmental friendliness of masonry construction.
  • LEED® considerations.

For scheduling information, contact John Cicciarelli at (602) 513-6692 or John.Cicciarelli@Oldcastleapg.com.

Online Course: Excellence in Single-Wythe Concrete Masonry (AEC113)
This online course offered by AEC Daily provides an overview of the proper design of single-wythe concrete masonry walls and qualifies for 1 CEU from a number of industry associations.

Click here to enroll in the online course.

AIA Event
May 18 · Washington, D.C.

Please RSVP by May 17:
Email: Octavia.anderson@oldcastle.com
Phone: 678.209.1456

Oldcastle Architectural is the leading North American manufacturer of concrete masonry, lawn, garden and paving products and is a regional leader in clay brick.