

Case Study – ABVI Rochester, NY



Signage incorporating materials to complement the office addition.

Aesthetic Concept

The Vision Rehabilitation Center is the final piece of ABVI/Goodwill's Centennial Campus Plan and houses many aspects of ABVI programs which serve the blind and visually impaired in Rochester region. The new 30,000sf addition to ABVI's Headquarters has been designed to relate to the oldest portions of the complex which date back the late 1800's, and more recent ABVI renovations while still creating an identity and presence of its own. Materials and detailing evoke aspects of the rest of the block-long campus, but the overall composition makes a strong new statement as the new public entry point for the complex.

The dramatic curving entry piece responds to the surrounding street grid and announces the new center of activity for the ABVI campus. First envisioned to be stone veneer or precast concrete, the entry feature has been executed cost effectively in decorative CMU with no reduction of esthetic quality. Four different types of decorative block have been woven into a composition that is respectful of the historic urban context, but is undisputedly modern.

Decroface units, made from standard block molds and processed to expose the natural beauty of the aggregates, were used as the field in the entry façade.

Spec Brik units were incorporated in lieu of a traditional clay brick unit. Doing so enabled the installation to proceed without the concern of differential movement between a clay and concrete unit in the veneer. Darker Spec Brik units are used as accents in the white Ground face, DecroFace and Split Rib Façade, giving the appearance of a clay brick unit. The office addition veneer is entirely made up of Spec Brik units as opposed to clay brick.



The design of various finishes and sizes of concrete masonry units on a radius gives the façade a monumental scale.

The use of Spec Brik enabled the contractor and designer to have a clay brick appearance while enjoying the economy of larger units.



Spec Brick in Running Bond at the Office Addition.

Oversize units of White based Ground Face allowed to a larger scale at the window spandrels and sills. Split Rib units are used as column capitals.

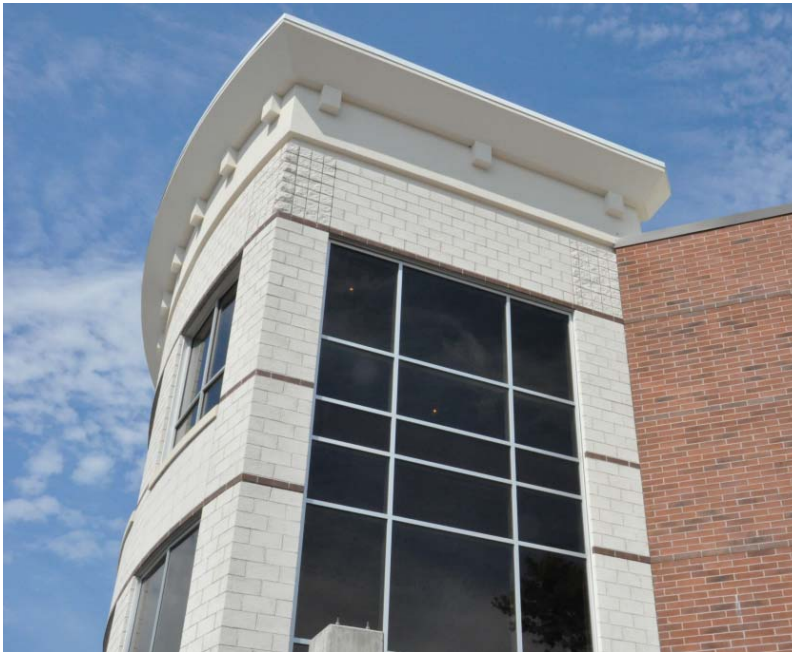
Quality of the Installation

Close attention to detail by the Contractor, FJ Marianacci, is apparent throughout the addition. Tolerances are maintained on bond on the Spec-Brik units, as well as control joint layout. Coursing is even and consistent. Great care has been taken in layout of the façade radial wall, as well as bond to enable a smooth transition between concrete masonry units of different textures. Proper installation of flashing and drip edges ensure that they do not detract from the overall appearance of the veneer.

The mortar joints show a remarkable color consistency, and as the photos show, the contractor focused on the finished product when performing final cleaning.



The use of Spec Brik Concrete Masonry Units eliminates Slip Plane Concerns while allowing for a "brick" accent.



Custom corners were fabricated to accommodate the transition from radial to flat walls.

Concrete Masonry Units for this project were manufactured by Barnes & Cone, Inc. in Syracuse, NY. Additional information for this project can be found at www.BarnesAndCone.com or by calling (315) 437-0305.



Entry and transition to Spec Brik



Owner:
ABVI of Rochester NY

Architect:
Bergman Associates

Engineer:
Bergman Associates

General Contractor:
Frank J. Marianacci Construction Company, Inc.



Barnes & Cone
ARCHITECTURAL MASONRY