

Beyond Blocks and Bricks

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New Seminar: Building with Clay Brick Shapes

Why use clay brick shapes? Because designs are more interesting!

If a wall needs more impact, then watertables, soldier courses, arches, sills and caps are all quick solutions. Watertables, sills, and caps also move water away from walls and to the ground, decreasing the likelihood of water penetration and increasing durability.

Tired of 90° corners? Then use corner shapes which can be as acute as 30° or as open as 179°. Radial bricks turn sharp corners into smooth paths, changing boxes into smoother figures.

Remember that lipped brick easily disguise the horizontal movement joints which accommodate vertical movements.

Brick sculptures are a delightful, large scale, durable, and economical commitment to the surrounding community.

Building with Clay Brick Shapes also explores how clay brick shapes are manufactured and when a particular brick "Type" of brick should be specified.

An AIA CES approved, hour-long, 1 HSW LU seminar, "*Building with Clay Brick Shapes*," joins Ron's seven other HSW offerings:

Avoiding Water Penetration in Masonry Veneers (RJH001) Because a single wythe of any type of masonry will not keep all of the water out, all of the time, a system has been developed which does keep all of the water out, all of the time. This system is known as a drainage wall system—a combination of a veneer, an air space, through-wall flashings, and weepholes. “Avoiding Water Penetration” explains how to design a drainage wall system, including selecting a mortar joint profile and a mortar type, setting the width of the air space, sorting out flashing materials, placing weepholes properly, detailing through-wall flashings, and specifying the bricks used in the veneer.

Movement in Clay Masonry Veneers (RJH002) Although rarely seen in single family houses, movement joints are used to prevent cracking of masonry in other structures. Learn what causes movement, how much movement to expect, how to control movement, and where to place movement joints. Sealants, an integral part of a movement joint, are also discussed. Learn why a C.J. is not a M.J.

Detailing Masonry Veneers to Avoid Water Penetration and Cracks (RJH003) A combination of an abridged “Avoiding Water Penetration” and an abridged “Movement in Clay Masonry Veneers.” (1½ hours/1½ Learning Units)

Mortars for Masonry Veneers (RJH004) Masonry veneers have four parts; the design, the masonry units, the mortar, and workmanship. Mortars are usually the least understood. Learn about masonry cements and Portland cement/hydrated lime mortars. Understand the difference between a proportion specification and a property specification. Learn which mortar is used where.

Cleaning New Masonry (RJH005) Many good buildings have been damaged by bad cleaning. “Clean it with acid” is often not the right way. Using it “straight” is almost always wrong. Learn how to clean anything. Come to understand how chemicals help clean masonry. Explore the process of cleaning masonry, starting with learning how to avoid cleaning.

Masonry Veneers with Stud Back-up (RJH006) Masonry veneers anchored to wood stud and steel stud back-up systems are very popular in both residential and non-residential construction. While wood stud systems are almost intuitive and are very forgiving, steel stud systems require more care. Explore the basics of detailing any masonry veneer/stud back-up system. Learn about air spaces, the correct mortar type, selection of steel studs, fasteners, and ties. Consider the location of insulation and vapor retarders. Also, how wood stud systems differ.

Working with ASTM Standards (RJH007) Construction specifications are filled with references to ASTM standards and test methods. These specifications also use terms defined in ASTM lists of terminology. Learn, in this hour-long presentation, how ASTM fits into buildings codes and standards in the United States, see an overview of the ASTM document development process, become familiar with the ASTM standard format, become acquainted with some of the ASTM masonry standards, optimize a clay masonry product specification, and learn how to evaluate a test report.