

# Profiles in Design™

ARCHITECTURAL SOLUTIONS COURTESY OF COUNTY MATERIALS CORP. • SIDE TWO



## PROJECT PROFILE

### Northeast Regional Headquarters for the Wisconsin DNR

Village of Howard, Wisconsin

The Northeast Regional Headquarters for the Department of Natural Resources was designed to be understated to appease easily ruffled taxpayers. But it's made a splash in a whole different way.

The three-story office building near Green Bay, Wis., is on track to earn a Silver rating from the Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design™ (LEED) Green Building Rating System, which offers voluntary but stringent guidelines for environmentally conscious construction. Projects can earn "certified," "silver," "gold" or "platinum" status.

The project used nearly 50,000 pieces of *County Stone® Old World Tumbled* masonry units, with marbled *Sussex™* colors, which form a random ashlar pattern covering the exterior of the 34,560-square-foot facility. The overall project includes a 15,500-square-foot detached service building, but only the main building will be considered for certification. In holding to such tight environmental guidelines, the structure became the first state-owned, state-operated office building in Wisconsin to adhere to LEED standards.

"We were able to achieve energy savings of 55 to 57 percent over code," said Ian Griffiths of Berners-Schober Associates Inc. in Green Bay.

## PRODUCT PROFILE

### County Stone® Old World Tumbled



For designers looking to add the rugged appearance of stone to a commercial or multi-family project, **County Stone®** concrete masonry units make this an easy and economical choice.

Since their introduction, **County Stone® Old World Tumbled** units have afforded designers a highly durable concrete veneer with the aesthetics of hand-cut stone. The tumbling technique takes the edge off the units, "aging" the product for

a natural, weathered appearance without sacrificing any of its durability. The Old World style creates a highly textured exterior and adds timeless beauty to traditional or contemporary designs.

County Stone®, which is also available in a Splitrock face style, comes in six standard and six new *Sussex™* colors. The *Sussex™* color line produces blocks with integral color variations and marbling within each unit.

The Splitrock facing style offers three sizes, while Old World Tumbled is available in five sizes. Since both Splitrock and Old World Tumbled sizes can be used in ashlar or random patterns, the product is shipped with each size or color on a separate pallet.

The designated pattern must be assembled on site. Depending on the chosen pattern and project size, some splitting and color blending may be required on the job site by the contractor/mason.

**COUNTY**  
*Stone*  
MASONRY UNITS

For more information, or for a complete County Materials CMU product guide, call us at 1-800-289-2569. Or log onto [www.countymaterials.com](http://www.countymaterials.com).

## A Solid Company at a Glance

- Founded in 1946 in Marathon, Wisconsin as a producer of concrete block.
- Acquired Tews LaFarge of Milwaukee in 2001; acquired Wisconsin Brick and Block in 2001; merged WBBC & County Concrete in 2003; acquired manufacturing assets of Best Block Company in 2003; acquired Quality Concrete Company in 2004; acquired the assets of Elston Block Company of Chicago in 2004. Rebranded all companies into County Materials.
- Serving Wisconsin, eastern Minnesota and Illinois including the Chicago market, with state-of-the-art manufacturing plants, *Homescape Studios* and sales stores.

- > Premier Glazed® masonry
- > Premier Prestige Series® masonry
- > Ultra® Burnished masonry
- > Decorative architectural masonry
- > Heritage Collection® Designer Concrete Brick
- > Tumbled masonry units
- > Sound absorbing & thermal block
- > Clay brick and stone veneers



Proud to be American based & American made

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## PROJECT PROFILE

### Smith Crossing senior living community

Orland Park, Illinois



## Old World Tumbled brings the country to the city

When designing the \$32 million Smith Crossing senior living community in Orland Park, Ill., John Cronin wanted a natural stone look without the prohibitive cost.

The designer, with AG Architecture in Wauwatosa, found that balance with nearly 100,000 units of County Stone® Old World Tumbled concrete masonry block.

"The city wanted all brick, but if you go to Orland Park, all you see are brick buildings," Cronin said. "That gets real institutional-looking. I wanted more of a country estate look with brick and stone."



The designer wanted a random splitface look that he could arrange in an ashlar pattern, he said. This provided a visual contrast as three veneer elements combined to comprise the face of the structure. An earth tone red-brown brick encircles most of the bottom floor of the three-story structure. Encasing the protruding porches and balconies of each unit, as well as the main entrance portico, are the County Stone® Old World Tumbled units.

As part of his quest for a random, natural appearance, Cronin employed a "cottage blend" of Birch, Milk Chocolate and Locust colors (70, 15 and 15 percent) for an overall light hue with darker units sprinkled throughout.

It all adds up to the look for which Cronin was striving.

"From a distance, maybe 20 feet, you don't know it's not natural stone," he said. "It gives you that look at a fraction of the cost, and it's easy to lay up in patterns. Cronin pointed to County Stone® Old World Tumbled masonry as an easy option when subdivisions dictate an alternative to traditional splitface block.



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