



New Zealand
Concrete Masonry
Association Inc.

NZCMA PROJECT PROFILE #1

Remuera House

AUCKLAND

PROJECT PRINCIPALS

Architect: Xsite Architects Ltd

Consultant: Thorn Dwyer Structures

Contractor: PSL Construction

Masonry Supplier: Firth Industries (NZCMA Member)

Structural Mason: West Auckland Brick & Block

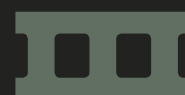
Concrete masonry helped fulfil the design parameters for this striking home that caters for a significant collection of modern New Zealand art and provides an uplifting environment for the retired owners.

The house is arranged on a north facing site around living spaces that create protected east and west courtyards and a north deck that connects to the front lawn. The main living space stretches across the site, allowing every opportunity to be open to the outdoors, although still protected from seasonal wind patterns.

The use of a double skin 200 series and 100 series block cladding for the two storey high walls, laid in an artfully random manner and then covered with a plaster system, serve as a structural display board for artworks as well as heat sinks.

The passive solar design principles are executed by the mass of the concrete masonry walls and the concrete floor slab, as well as extensive insulation, external solar blinds and automatic purging windows

The result is a stunning architecturally designed property, framed by robust and versatile concrete masonry that allows internal and external views to be maximised.



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CONCRETE MASONRY - RECOMMENDED USE

Concrete masonry construction (or blockwork) is a permanent hollow formwork which is filled with concrete (blockfill) and allows for the integration of reinforcing steel, a feature essential for earthquake resistant structures for industrial, commercial, and residential buildings.

REQUIREMENTS OF NZCMA

The Association requires its masonry manufacturer members to produce concrete masonry blocks, including veneer types, to meet the Australian/New Zealand manufacturing Standard AS/NZS 4455.1.2008, Part 1 Masonry Units.

ADVANTAGES OF CONCRETE MASONRY

Concrete masonry is a solid, predictable, and reliable material that provides permanence, and high fire and acoustic resistance. Masonry walls can also be positioned and designed to achieve great weather protection and thermal efficiencies.



Image: Patrick Reynolds

THE NEW ZEALAND CONCRETE MASONRY MANUAL

The New Zealand Concrete Masonry Manual, which was created in the late 1970s as a guide to the design and construction of concrete masonry, has been updated and is available in sections for free download as required from the NZCMA website – www.nzcma.org.nz

NZCMA MEMBER COMPANIES

For advice and concrete block availability, NZCMA Members can be contacted at the following links:

COMPANY	LOCATION	CONTACT
Bowers Brothers Concrete Limited	Various in Upper North Island	www.bowersbrothers.co.nz
Firth Industries	Various	www.firth.co.nz
Mitchell Concrete Limited	Taranaki	www.mitchellconcrete.co.nz
The Block Shop New Zealand Limited	Various in North Island	www.blockshop.co.nz
Viblock Limited	Christchurch and Alexandra	www.viblock.co.nz



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