



**New Zealand
Concrete Masonry
Association Inc.**

NZCMA PROJECT PROFILE #4

Masterton Town Hall upgrade

MASTERTON

The refurbishment of this grand building and its surroundings in the centre of the Wairarapa's main town makes prominent use of concrete pavers to create an approach and congregation area that imply ceremony and civic pride.

The traditional Māori pattern which has been incorporated into the town square is called Poutama, and symbolises the pursuit of excellence. This is an attitude reflected in the choice of construction materials.

The concrete paving selection is a combination of two opposing colours from the manufacturer's range. The paving was jointed using a special compound, which represents an evolution in flowable grouting materials.

The outcome has been the welcome transformation of a civic area previously in decline.

The incorporation of other enhancements such as new seating and lighting has seen the now contemporary and vibrant space embraced by locals and visitors alike, whether their pursuits are community, shopping or recreationally focussed.

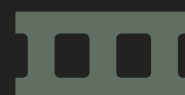
It is anticipated that the durability and timeless elegance offered through the thoughtful use of concrete pavers will ensure that further revitalisation will not be required for many decades to come.

PROJECT PRINCIPALS

Designer: David Borman

Contractor: Infinite Landscapes

Paving Supplier: Horizon International



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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

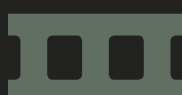
THE NEW ZEALAND CONCRETE MASONRY MANUAL

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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P. (04) 499 8820
F. (04) 499 7760
E. enquiries@nzcma.org.nz
W. www.nzcma.org.nz

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