

CASE STUDY

Anchor Wall Systems Fills Prescription for Grounds of New Medical Facility

A new medical center in the southeastern Iowa town of West Burlington is home to a trio of Anchor Wall Systems retaining walls. Surrounded by cornfields and blue skies, the 102-acre campus features a state-of-the-art community hospital and medical office building. Steve Levitt, director of development at Great River



Anchor Diamond Pro™ blocks in white and pewter shades were combined in an eye-pleasing banded arrangement.

Medical Center, oversaw the expansive building project. "We had outgrown our former facilities in nearby Burlington, Iowa," he explains. "With the new location, we had the opportunity to stretch out and create an attractive, functional environment for health workers, patients and their families."

Finding a Fit with Segmental Retaining Walls

Initially, a concrete wall solution was considered, says Levitt. "When we considered what Anchor Wall Systems offered, we immediately liked the economics and the enhanced appearance that you get with the block versus a poured concrete wall. It also helped that



Curved walls provide a subtle contrast to the building's sharper angles.

the distributor was very service minded." Rhino Materials, an Anchor Wall Systems licensed manufacturer located in Des Moines, Iowa, responded to the call for bids and ultimately supplied the Anchor Wall Systems Diamond Pro™ block for the project.

"The walls add an aesthetic appeal for a healing environment."

Levitt also took into consideration the area's resources. "This is a relatively small community. We wanted to use a local workforce to build the community hospital." The hospital and office buildings project, designed in pre-cast concrete, tapped the area's concrete workers. By choosing Anchor Wall Systems, Levitt was able to put local landscape contractors to work simultaneously with building construction, so as not to detract from the overall construction schedule.

Walls for a Multitude of Purposes

The first of three Anchor Wall Systems retaining walls encases a 14-acre lake on the premises. "This particular wall has two purposes," Levitt explains. "It creates a nice edge around the lake and it also discourages visiting flocks of geese from coming up on the lawn area."

Another area benefiting from a retaining wall is the hospital's docking facilities. An 18-foot (5.5 meter) Anchor Wall Systems retaining wall provided an economical solution for soil retainage. Blocks in a shade of brown were selected to blend with the brick used in the building's docking area.

Last but not least, an attractive Anchor Wall Systems retaining wall surrounds an outdoor dining area and courtyard outside the medical office building. Anchor Diamond Pro™ blocks in white and pewter shades were combined in a banded arrangement to complement the pre-cast concrete exterior of the building. The walls abut




Blocks in a shade of brown were selected to blend with the brick used in the building's docking area.



Shrubs planted in tiered walls help to dress up the building's exterior.

a waterfall. The result is a relaxing outdoor enclave for the building's employees and visitors.

A Solution that Feels Good

Many of the installed walls on the Great River Medical Center property are curved, softening the landscape with a subtle contrast to the building's sharper angles. Notes Levitt, "The nice thing about the Anchor Wall Systems product is that they can be used to build walls in a variety of shapes and angles without any cost penalty. The walls add an aesthetic appeal for a healing environment." And that, we're told, is just what the area's doctors - and patients - ordered. 



ANCHOR WALL SYSTEMS™