



WHY USE MASONRY FOR DORMITORIES?

International Masonry Institute

The James Brice House
42 East Street
Annapolis, MD 21401
phone 410.280.1305
fax 301.261.2855
toll free 800.803.0295
www.imiweb.org

Masonry Hotline

800.IMI.0988 (800.464.0988)
masonryquestions@imiweb.org

Training Hotline

800.JOBS.IMI (800.562.7464)
training@imiweb.org

Masonry buildings dominate college campuses across the country, from neo-Gothic chapels to Georgian libraries to modern residence halls. When you consider the demands on a dormitory building, it's easy to see why masonry meets them all.

Structural Options

Dormitory configurations lend themselves perfectly to load-bearing masonry solutions.

Toughness and Durability

An ever-changing population of energetic short-term residents can be hard on a building. Masonry materials like brick, concrete block, tile and terrazzo can take plenty of punishment without damage, and require minimal maintenance to stay looking good.

Fire safety

When you're sheltering hundreds of young lives, there is no compromise on fire protection. Noncombustible masonry, in a broad range of fire-rated systems, functions as a reliable, passive component in balanced fire-safe design.

Sound control

Student schedules and habits are notoriously variable. Suppose they're studying for a midterm in Room 203, but partying next door in 205—is conflict inevitable? It's easier to keep everybody happy with effective sound control. Masonry's mass and some simple acoustical detailing can prevent unwanted sounds from invading private spaces.

Sustainable Design

Environmental concerns are an essential part of the design process for every new building. Masonry materials are abundant, locally produced and capable of lasting for centuries. Masonry's thermal mass can be used to advantage in energy-efficient buildings.

Esthetic Versatility

Whether the goal is to blend in seamlessly with traditional campus architecture or to stand out with a cutting-edge design statement, masonry can make it happen. It offers an unlimited palette of colors, textures and moods to work with, and its hand-crafted quality naturally conveys human scale in residential settings.

Local Labor, Local Materials

There's no better way to demonstrate community support and generate community spirit than to use masonry materials produced and installed by local businesses.

For so many reasons, masonry is the right choice.