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**T**he architectural team from Sear-Brown faced several challenges during the design and construction of a new CVS Pharmacy Store in Chicago.

Located at the corner of Armitage Avenue and Sedgwick Street, in the middle of Chicago's Lincoln Park area, the new store would be surrounded by older mixed-use buildings, expensive mid-rise apartments, and a variety of interesting restaurants and bars. In addition to fitting within the overall fabric of the neighborhood, the final project design required the approval of the area alderman and neighborhood committees, which had a strong image protection policy.

Once approved, the project required that the existing property be extensively demolished. This meant completely replacing two of the exterior walls. The architect had originally chosen to install a thin brick veneer in front of existing

*(continued)*

## CVS PHARMACY STORE Chicago, IL



**OWNER:** CVS Pharmacy

**ARCHITECT:** Sear-Brown Architects  
Cheryl Phillips, Chicago, IL

**GENERAL CONTRACTOR:**  
Leopardo Companies, Inc.  
Glendale Heights, IL

**MASON CONTRACTOR:** Larmco

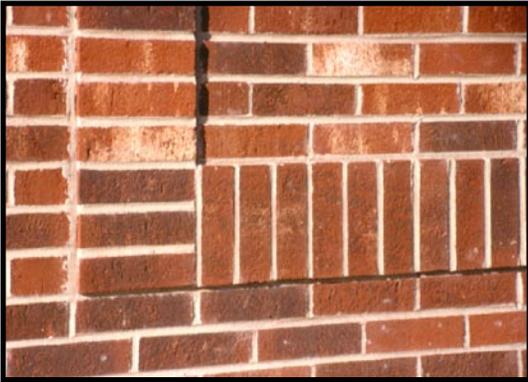
**LOCAL UNION:**  
International Union of Bricklayers and  
Allied Craftworkers Local #21, IL

**AREA:** 9,000 sq. ft.

**PROJECT COST:** \$1 million

columns to better match the brick of the new walls. At the contractor's suggestion, however, existing brick columns were painted to blend with the new exterior walls. The end result was a perfect blending of the old and the new, and owner CVS benefitted from significant cost savings.

Exterior work also included installing brick soldier course details and rowlock course sills to break any monotony in the building's facade.



*"The contractor's well-rounded knowledge in the field of masonry saved the client significant overall costs."*

## IMI PROFILE: FORMER MASONRY CAMPER

**WHO:** Cheryl Phillips  
Chicago, Illinois



**HISTORY:** Cheryl attended Masonry Camp in 2001, while interning in architecture at Sear-Brown. While at Sear-Brown, she was part of the design team for the new CVS Pharmacy Stores.

**CURRENTLY:** Cheryl is currently at Heard & Associates in Chicago, but in August of this year, she will begin working with the Department of Defense Naval Acquisition Division in Washington DC. While there, she'll complete a 3-year intern training program and fulfill her IDP requirements for the architectural licensing exam. She also plans to obtain a Masters in Construction.

**MASONRY CAMP EXPERIENCE:** While at Masonry Camp, Cheryl was part of a team that included journeymen, skilled apprentices and architects/designers. As the team worked to resolve issues regarding their project, Cheryl learned the value of communication - especially where masonry is involved. "Most contractors and skilled tradespeople have worked on various architectural sites and have seen different methods utilized. By listening, and utilizing that knowledge, the team can save time and reduce costs to the client." Cheryl has great respect for the experts at IMI and plans to stay in contact with them. "They are a wealth of valuable information that every young architect should take advantage of."

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