

Design & Legacy

Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum
Renovation & Modernization
by DLR Group

 DLRGROUP

#MasonryMatters

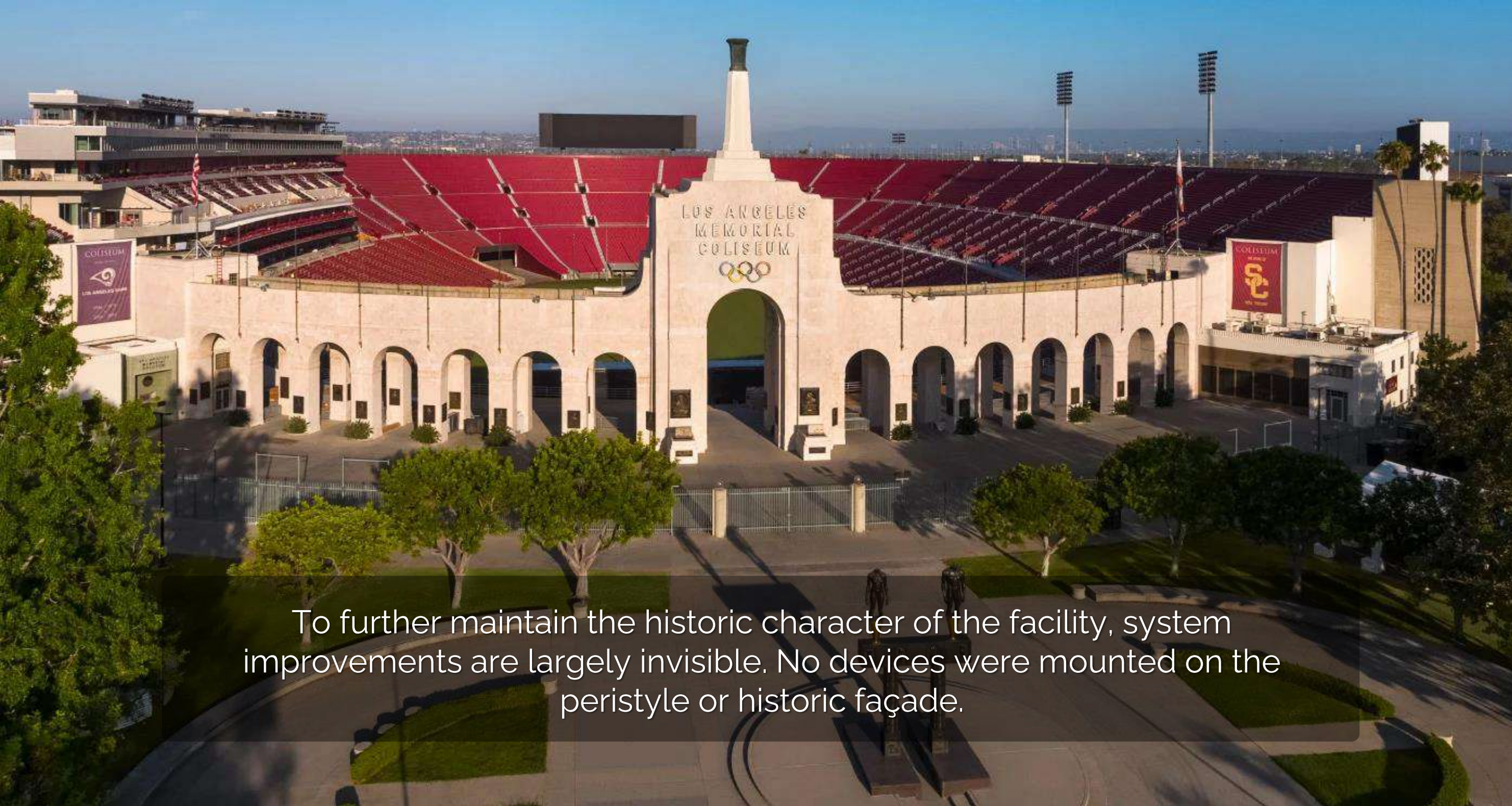
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Preserving an Icon for Future Victories

The Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum was built in 1923, and the USC Trojans played their inaugural game on October 6, 1923. Since then, it's also hosted two Olympics, two Super Bowls, a World Series, a Papal Mass, visits from three U.S. Presidents, and scores of additional sporting and social events.

DLR Group led the design of a \$315-million renovation and modernization encompassing well over 1,000,000 total square feet to honor the tradition and heritage of the historic facility while reinventing the game-day experience for fans.



To further maintain the historic character of the facility, system improvements are largely invisible. No devices were mounted on the peristyle or historic façade.





LAMC's Numbers:

\$350 Million

Renovation & Modernization

+1,000,000

Square Feet

+800,000

Hours of Labor

470

Concrete Truckloads

1,740

Tons of Rebar

+150,000

Concrete Blocks (CMU)

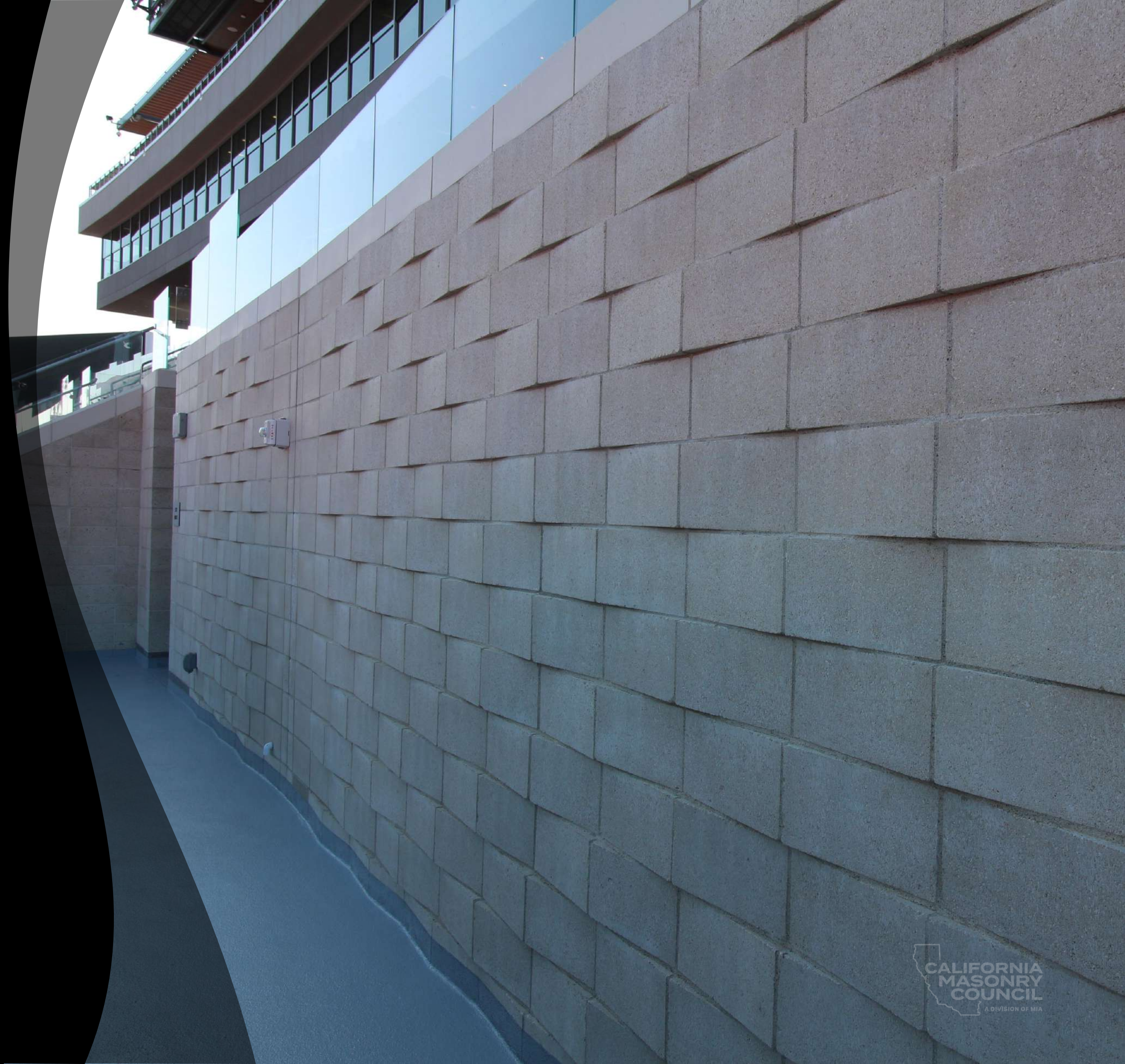
"The stadium has seen changes over the years to accommodate updated uses and seismic strengthening; however, the basic design configuration, including its complex geometric footprint, curved peristyle, and primary concrete structure have remained the same since 1923. The coliseum is a State Historical Landmark and was designated as a National Historic Landmark when listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1984."

A focal point of the modernization is the design and construction of a new suite and press tower on the south side of the stadium that added multiple suites, loge boxes, club seats, press box, and a new concourse. This new suite tower was inserted seamlessly into the existing stadium bowl.

The Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum is one of four historic athletic stadiums designated as National Historic Landmarks by the National Park Service.

The design retains the coliseum's official landmark status while also being sensitive to the place the coliseum plays in the culture of Los Angeles and the United States.

The modernized Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum retains the historic coliseum look, texture, and impression, and a key design intent was to faithfully restore the iconic peristyle's former majestic presence.



Modernization

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The \$315 million renovation updated the facility while restoring its iconic historic elements. It re-opened to professional and collegiate football in August 2019.

Preservation; Enhancing History and Experience

The design maintains the historical integrity of the coliseum by preserving its most recognizable feature – the east end zone peristyle, in addition to the entire perimeter enclosure and shape of the seating bowl.

A new seven-story tower is embedded seamlessly into the upper half of the south seating bowl and features premium event viewing for patrons, open concourse views to the field, extensive press facilities, and social and event spaces for use 365 days per year.

Additional improvements throughout the facility include upgraded game entertainment systems for fan enjoyment including new scoreboards; an improved sound system; and enhanced cellular service and Wi-Fi coverage of the entire stadium and site.



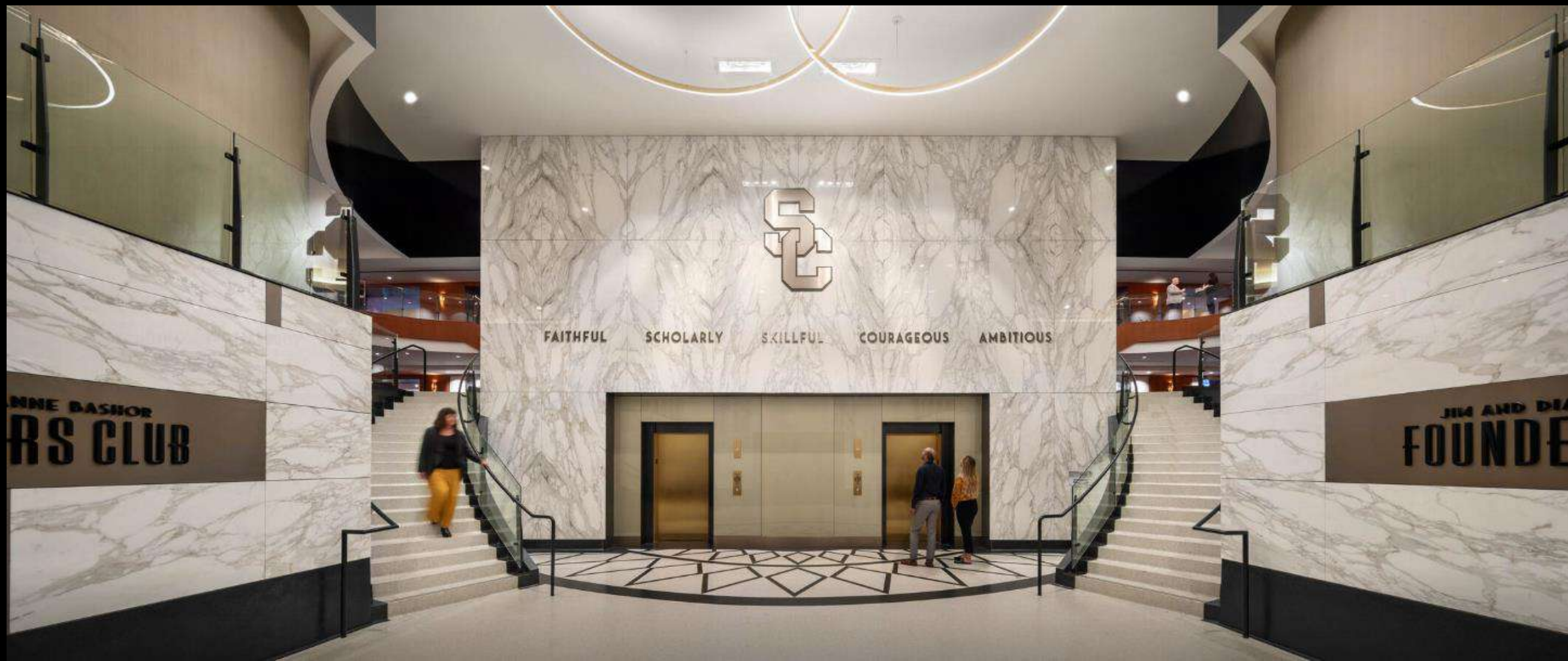


To upgrade fan comfort, areas of the seating bowl have been renovated to provide more leg room, wider chairs, additional aisles for easier access and handrails in all aisles for safety. Every seat in the stadium now has a new armchair.



Guest Concourse

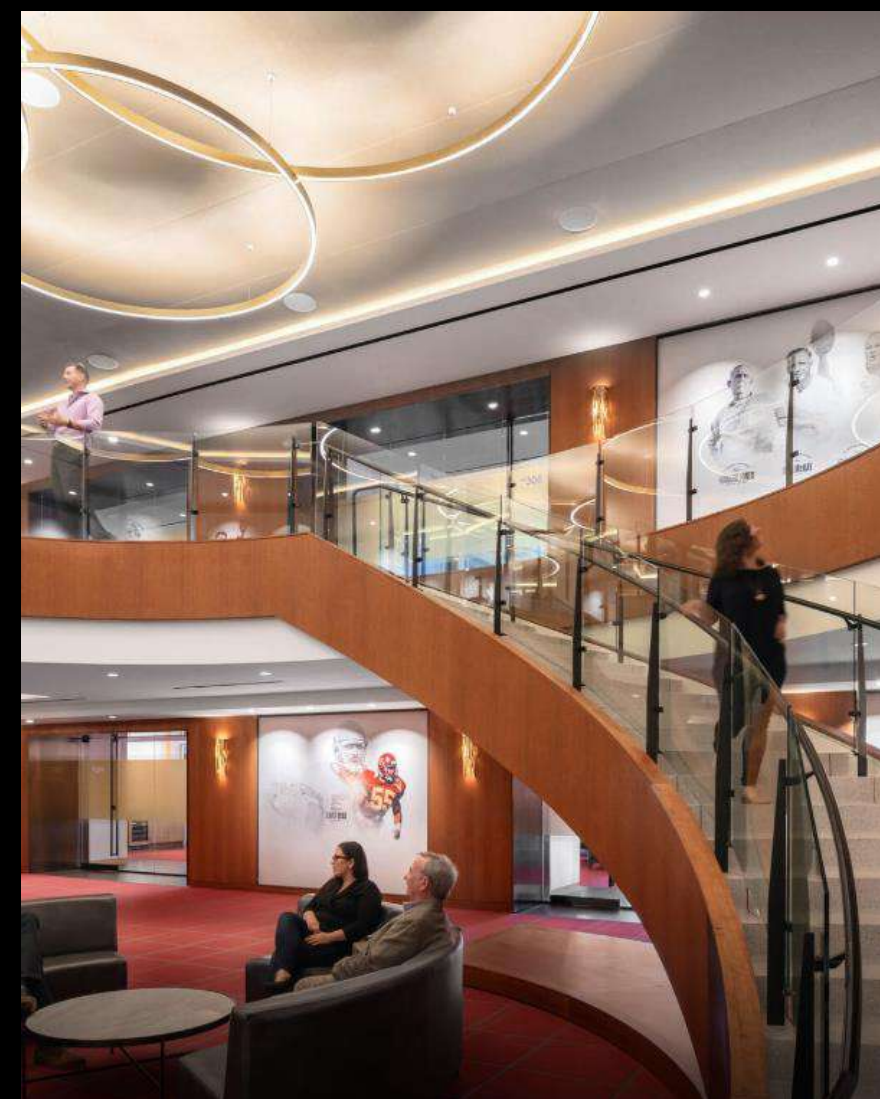
Enhanced seating options include the Trojan Athletic Fund seating which replaced every seat in the stadium bowl and installed handrails throughout; adding aisles and repairing steps to enhance safety.



The design intervention widened seats and increased leg room in many sections; upgraded entry concourses, installed new field and stadium lighting, improved audio and video with two new large screens on the east end of the stadium; updated Wi-Fi throughout the venue; and updated electrical, and mechanical and plumbing systems. A new concourse provides up-scale food offerings.

Founders Club

The design concept centered around a confluence of the historic character and USC brand with an influence of Hollywood Regency-era vocabulary from 1923, the year the coliseum was built. Carrera marble walls, gold and bronze accents, warm wood tones with distinct graining, and a subtle touch of the USC cardinal and gold accents create a sense of pageantry as visitors move through spaces.



Concrete Masonry Construction

Being part of the construction team with AECOM / Hathaway Dinwiddie, and DLR Group for the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum Renovation works was an honor and a challenge for the team at Frank S. Smith Masonry. The relevance of the building, it's heritage as National Historic Landmark that has been part of our culture since 1923, required the use of resilient materials as CMU for this iconic building to stand for another 100 years.

"More than 800,000 hours of labor went into the whole project. During the renovation, 46,000 cubic yards of dirt was exported, 470 truckloads of concrete was poured, 1,740 tons of rebar and 2,131 tons of structural steel was installed, and 4,618 gallons of paint was applied."

On the Concrete Masonry side, there were over 150,000 Angelus CMUs used in this project; the finest example being the renovated main concourse that features Angelus Block Glacier White Burnished accents.

The Masonry Renovation works required a highly experienced contractor, and top-quality workmanship to deliver exceptional quality for an exceptional project.

FSSM worked at this job site for 16 Months, with a talented crew of 12 block layers, and support from the team at FSSM Office.

We are grateful for being part of this job and look forward to visiting the Memorial Coliseum for many more years.

Kevin Smith & Brian Smith

Frank S. Smith Masonry



OTIS BOOTH PRESS BOX

Credits

Architect:
DLR Group

Client:
University of Southern California

General Contractor:
AECOM / Hathaway Dinwiddie

Masonry Contractor:
Frank S. Smith Masonry

Block Producer:
Angelus Block

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Our organization promotes masonry as an essential design and building material while uniting our trade with the AEC community (architecture, engineering, and construction).

CMC is a non-profit organization.



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