

San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts

Hardy Holzman Pfeiffer Associates



a city landmark. Developed in partnership with the local state university and independent school district, the 26,000-square-foot (2340-square-meter) facility includes indoor and outdoor galleries, educational studios, and a public meeting space. The museum is designed to expand gracefully with the growth of its collections and programs, and has proven to be easy to maintain and operate with a small staff.



Opposite: Outdoor art studios are defined by red block walls

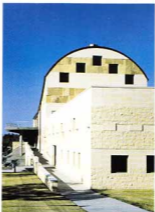
Top: Rendering of project during the design process

Middle Left: Kilo yard within red clay brick wall and "dog-trot"

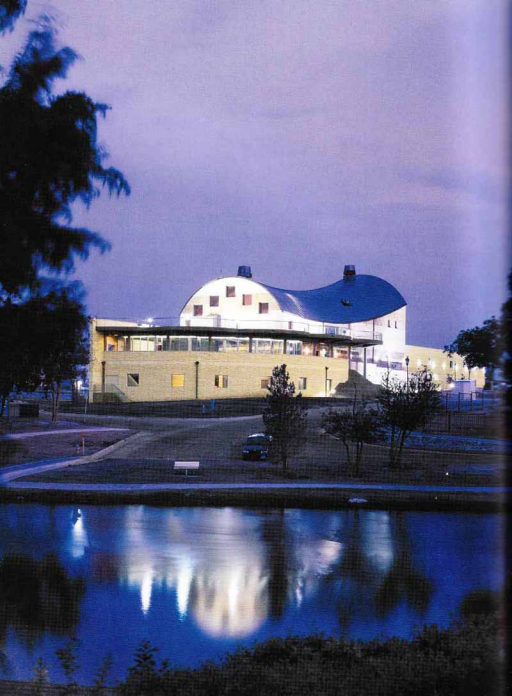
Middle Right: Variety of stone textures on museum building

Bottom left: Ramp on west side leads to main entry

Bottom right: Education building at left with museum in background



Since its founding in 1981, the San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts (SAMFA) has extended its reach beyond traditional museum boundaries to provide cultural enrichment and educational opportunities to this city of 93,000. Having outgrown its home at Fort Concho, a national landmark that once quartered the Buffalo Soldiers, the museum elected to construct a new facility. The result, designed by Hardy Holzman Pfeiffer Associates, is a visible symbol for the community, a major contributor to the cultural and economic vitality of the region, and an attractive and welcoming architectural magnet for residents and tourists alike. The museum site is at the heart of a burgeoning redevelopment zone, connecting directly to several miles of continuous pathways and parkland, and adjacent to an outdoor performance venue. The east façade is scaled to respond to vehicular views from a large thoroughfare; the west façade engages the character of the developing Paseo; and the north looks out to the river and downtown beyond. Acknowledging its civic importance, the building embodies a strong sense of place and pays homage to West Texas' venerable history. In its elongated shape, locally quarried limestone and other indigenous materials, the new museum resembles the buildings at the historic fort. A spavined, copper-clad roof, which has been called a saddleback and a Conestoga wagon, distinguishes the building from a distance, transforming it into





Opposite - View from the northwest, across the water

Top: Natural light fills the large gallery on the second level

Middle left: Balcony overlooking gallery space

Middle right: Double-height lobby with stair

Bottom left: Refined detailing in galleries

Bottom middle: Glazed, zigzag wall of community room overlooking the North Concho river

Bottom right: Large open spaces connect three levels of lobby space

Photographer: Craig Blackmon

