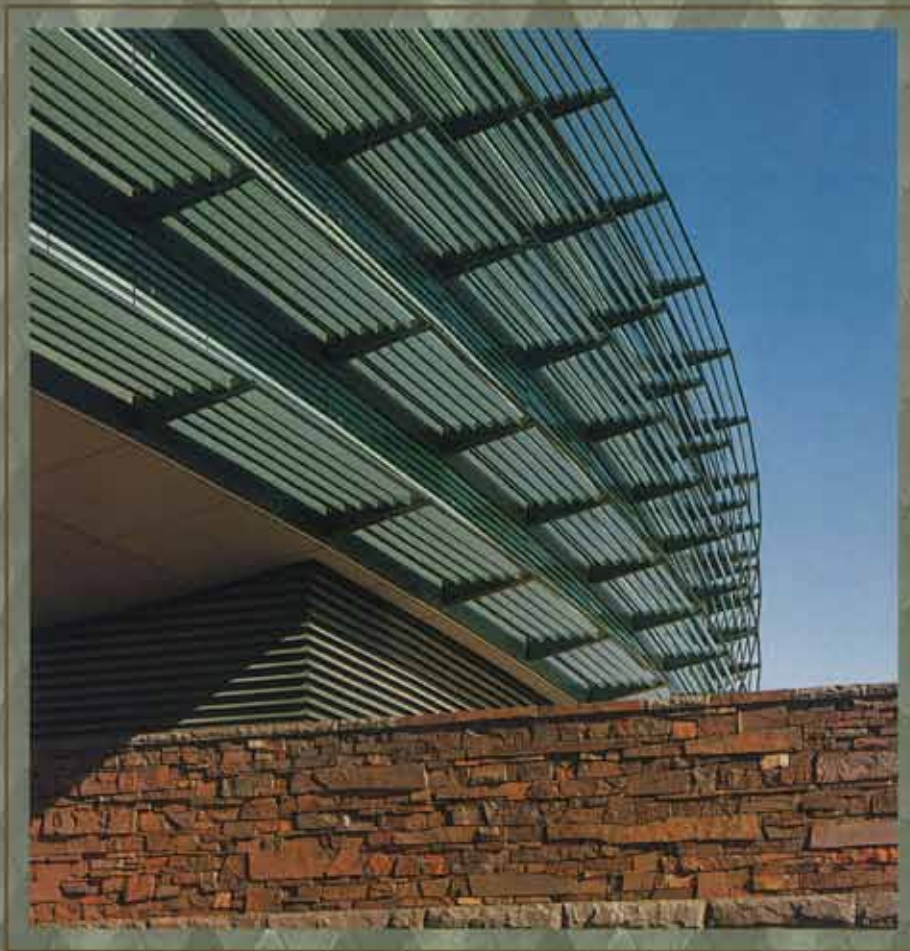


HHPA

HARDY HOLZMAN PFEIFFER ASSOCIATES



BUILDINGS AND PROJECTS 1993–1998

**FOREWORD BY MILDRED FRIEDMAN
INTRODUCTION BY GLENN M. ANDRES**

RIZZOLI
NEW YORK

SAN ANGELO MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS AND EDUCATION CENTER

San Angelo, Texas, 1999

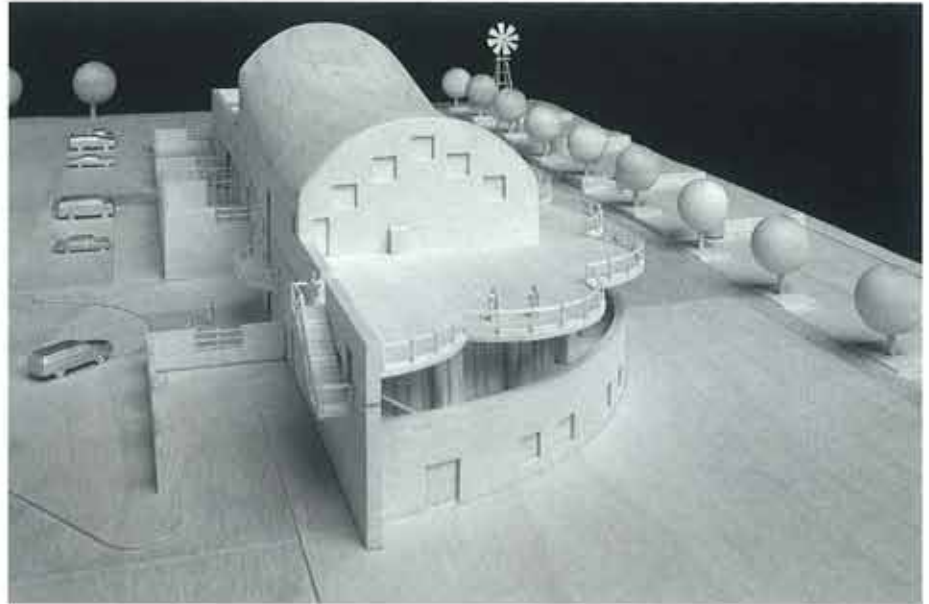
1. Model
2. Main level plan
3. West elevation
4. East façade under construction
5. South gallery
6. Upper lobby level

178 The San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts (SAMFA) was founded in 1981, and formally opened to the public four years later in a restored building at Fort Concho. Not a decade had passed before the museum gained prominence on the national art scene and became host of the Annual National Ceramic Competition, the premier event of its kind in America. Having outgrown its facilities, HHPA was commissioned to design a new museum at the heart of a burgeoning historic, cultural, and economic redevelopment zone.

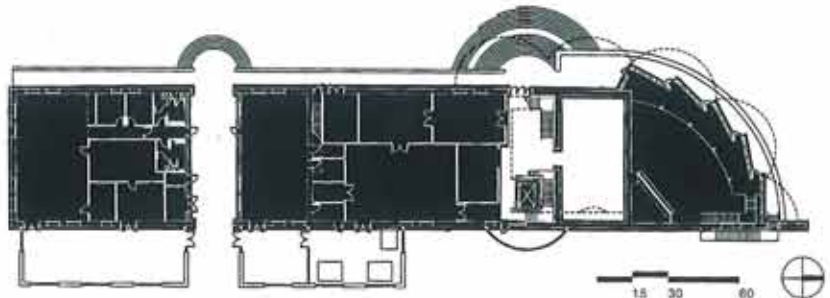
SAMFA programs extend beyond conventional museum boundaries. The institution serves as a center of culture, education, and entertainment, providing its community with broad access to art exhibitions and educational opportunities. Joining its efforts is Angelo State University, whose art department will conduct regular studio art classes at the museum.

The building's design comprises distinct architectural elements, each oriented to take advantage of its pivotal location. Its long, rectangular plan runs parallel to the city's new Paseo de Santa Angela, a landscaped walkway that connects Fort Concho, a preserved Texas frontier military fort, to the historic downtown across the North Concho River. SAMFA connects directly to River Walk, a several-mile area of continuous pathways and parkland, and it is adjacent to River Stage, an outdoor performance venue. The building's east façade is scaled to respond to the vehicular views from a large thoroughfare, the west elevation engages the character of the developing paseo, while the north end is shaped to look out to the river and the downtown area beyond.

In its elongated shape, materials, color, and texture, the new museum resembles the limestone buildings at Fort Concho. West Texas limestone, quarried nearby, sheathes the mass of the building. Rough-back limestone with weathered and deep pock-marks is used on portions of the building to create shadows and give definition and depth. Blocks of varying color saturation and texture are positioned in striped arrangements. A spavined, copper-clad roof distinguishes the building



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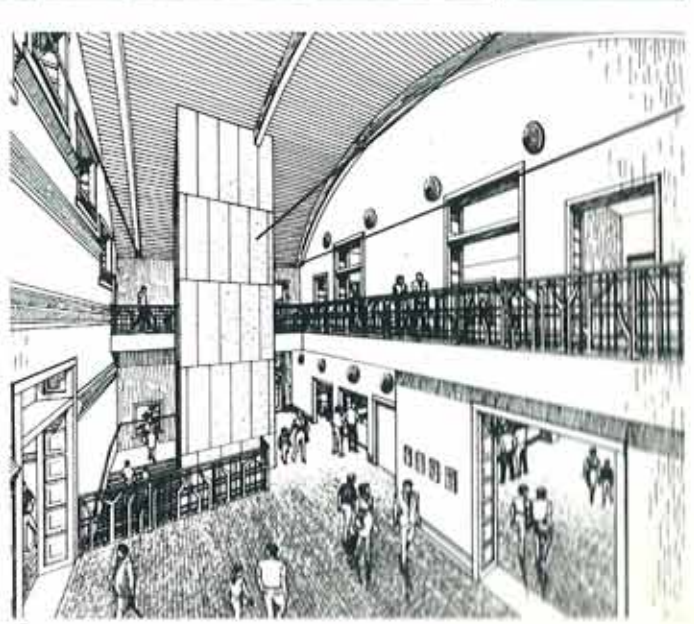
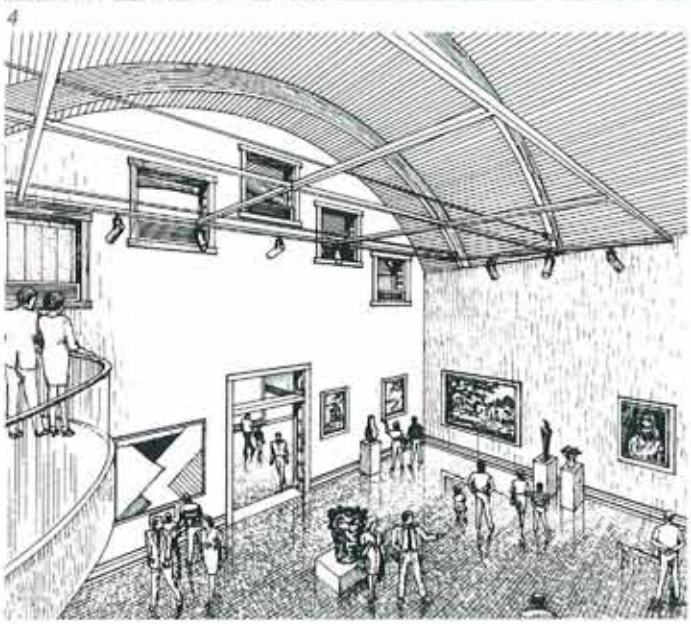
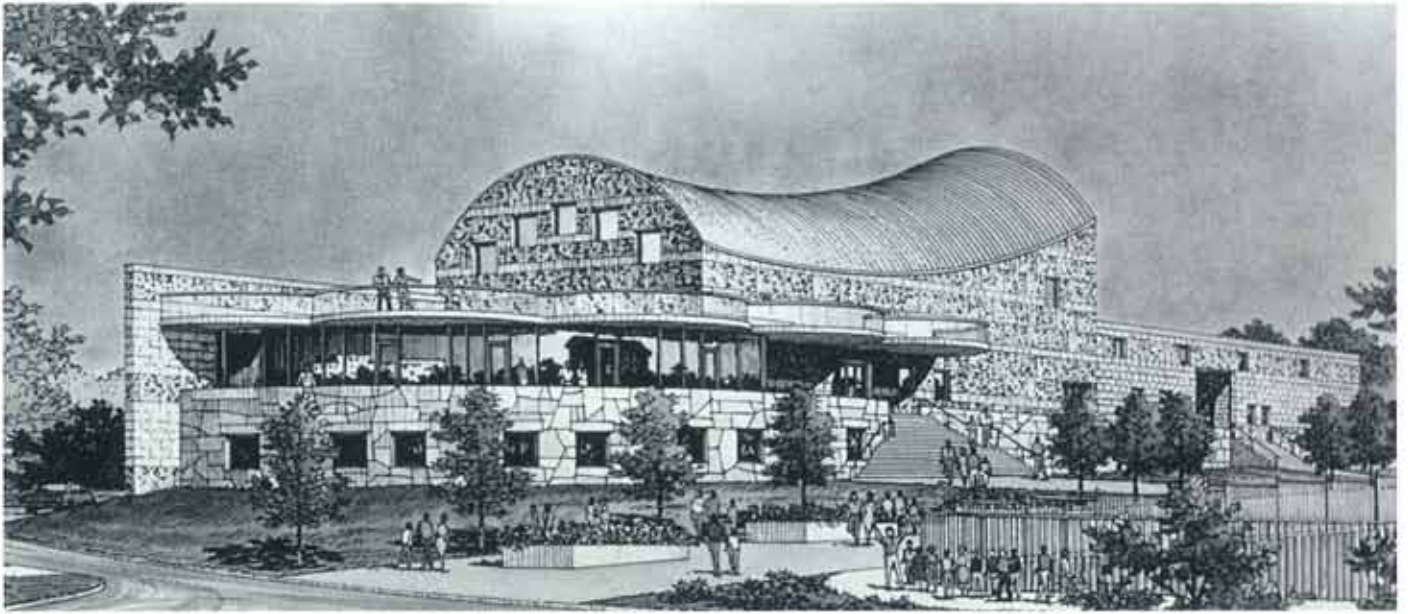
from a distance, allowing it to become another of the city's landmarks. Generous, scalloped-shape balconies and a rooftop sculpture garden provide respite and views of the downtown skyline.

The main and upper levels of the museum house flexible galleries of varying sizes. One also functions as an open collections-storage area; another includes a promenade and observation platform. The education center occupies the south wing of the ground floor and can be used by ASU faculty and students twenty-four hours a day without compromising museum security. An outdoor education garden and firing kiln take advantage of San Angelo's climate.

An important component of the program is the museum's 300-seat meeting room,

which doubles as a performance space and which can also accommodate 180 people banquet-style. Superb river views beyond its curved window wall make it ideal for a variety of events, including SAMFA's lecture, chamber music, and film club series. An adjacent caterer's kitchen is equipped with an electric dumbwaiter capable of delivering refreshments to the rooftop garden. Supporting these activities are a gift shop, library, and multilevel lobby.

SAMFA is designed to expand gracefully with the growth of its collections and programs. Acknowledging its civic importance, the building embodies a strong sense of place and pays homage to San Angelo's and west Texas's venerable history.



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