

# Honor Award:

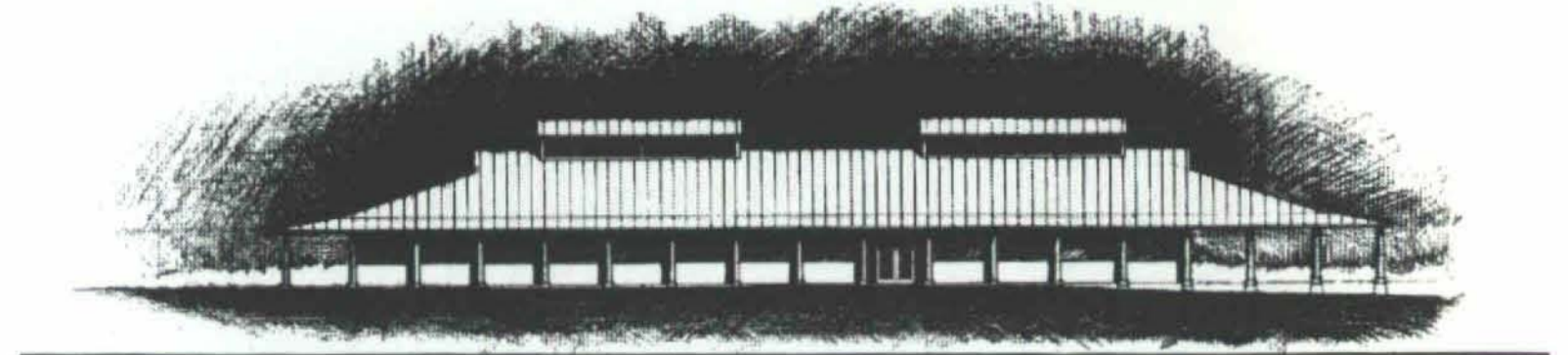
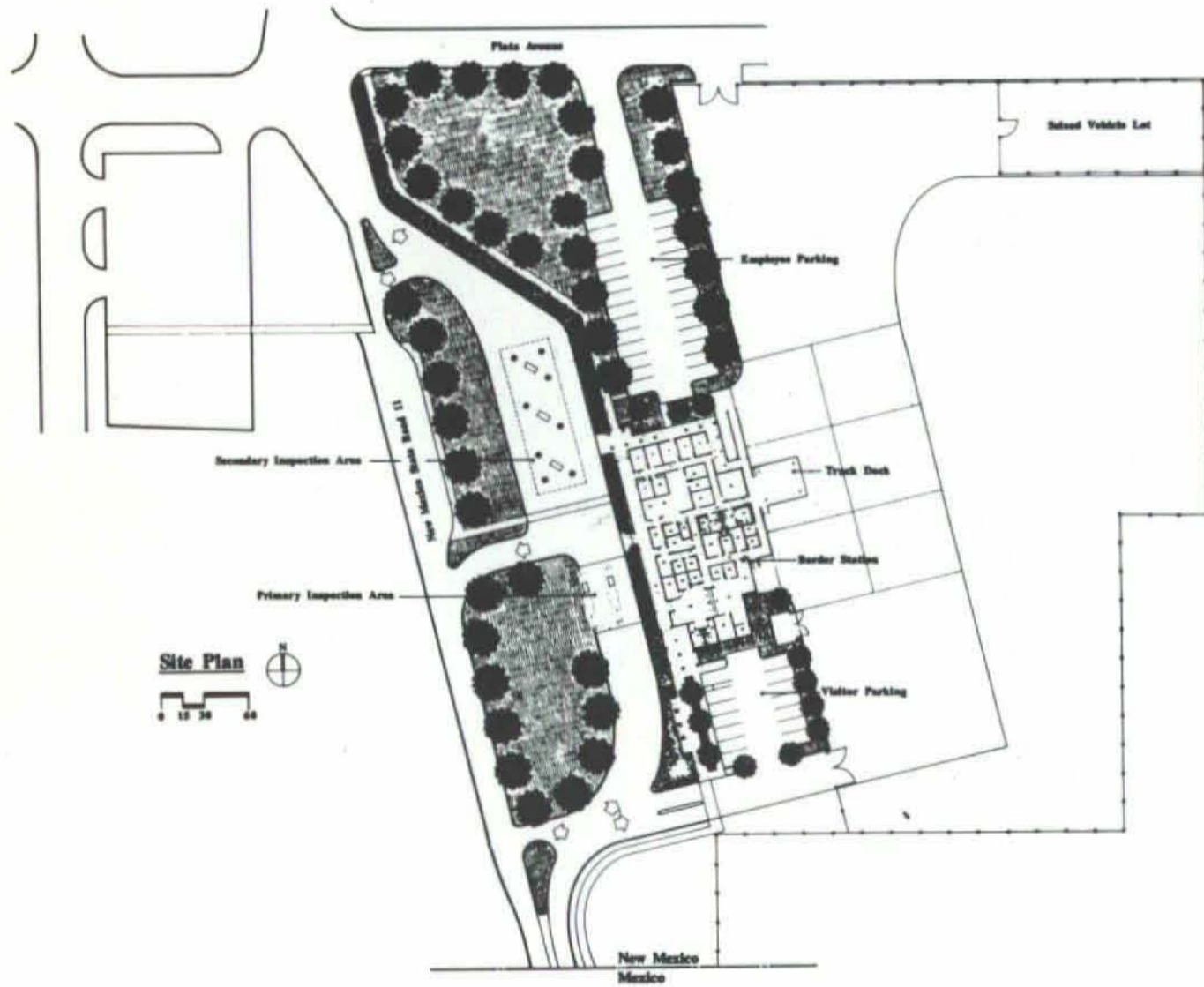
Holmes Sabatini Associates,  
Architects

## United States Port of Entry Columbus, New Mexico

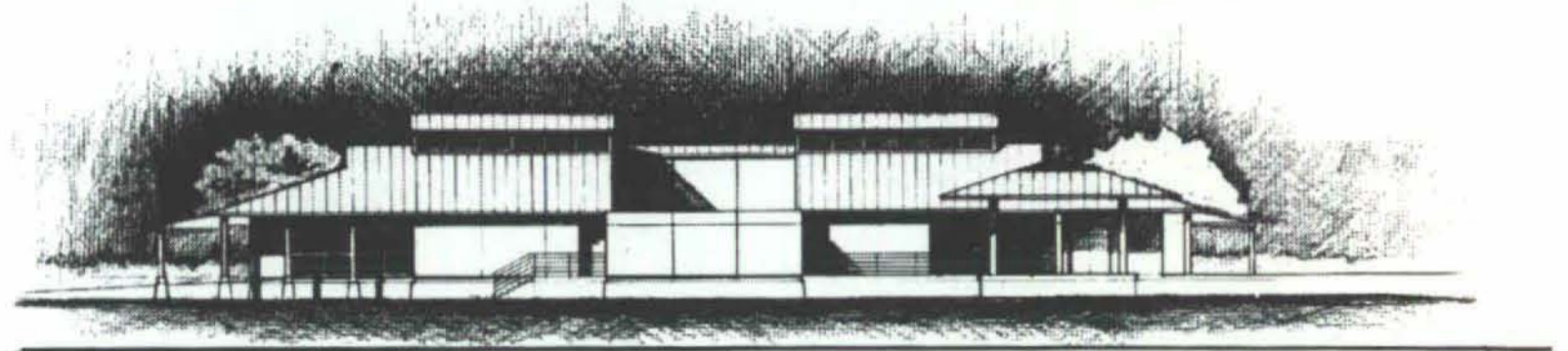
This facility, located on the U.S./Mexico border, replaced a small, outdated facility which was built over 50 years ago and was in need of expansion and major repairs.

The new Port of Entry provides for all administrative functions of the General Services Administration, the U.S. Customs Service, the U.S. Border Patrol, the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Specifically included in the building are administrative offices, a conference/training room and a lunch room for POE personnel, public waiting and interview areas, violator holding areas for male and female violators as well as a secure seizure room and security vault, and ancillary facility support spaces. Other facilities include two vehicle inspection lanes, six secondary inspection spaces, and a truck dock capable of parking four trucks for cargo examination and processing. These exterior inspection areas are covered by canopies for protection against the natural elements.

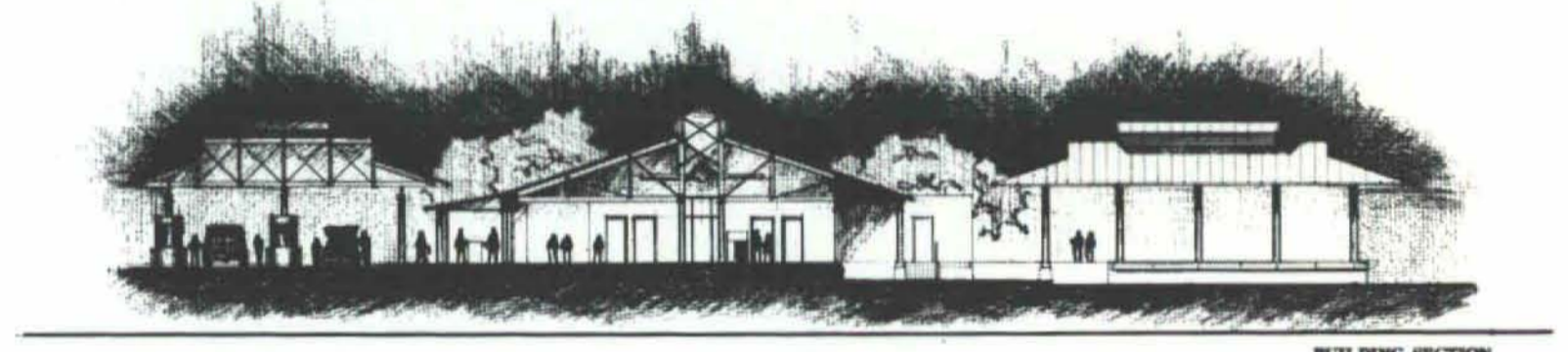
A primary concern was to provide a facility that not only spoke to the great and positive image of our country, but to signify friendliness to those crossing the border and sensitivity to its environmental and historic surroundings. The design, therefore, appears to take its image from the historic and traditional form of the turn-of-the-century railroad iconography. It was, after all, only when the railroad was introduced to southwest New Mexico, that "modern" materials such as tin, iron and steel became available. These materials, in turn, provided for the ability to slope roofs and to rapidly shed water from the occasional but hard-driving thunderstorms that occur during the hot summer months. Today, one finds mostly slightly sloped, corrugated metal roofs on barns, houses, corrals and other buildings in this area, all of which seem perfectly natural now to the environment. Thus, the design of this facility is shaped by the low slung, broad overhanging metal roofs, each of which are ventilated to the exterior at the eaves. In addition, raised roof areas function as ventilators for hot air and gases over the vehicle canopies and function as daylight inducing clerestories for the interior of the occupied building.



WEST ELEVATION



EAST ELEVATION



BUILDING SECTION



SOUTH ELEVATION



- Completion Date:** December 1988
- Client:** U.S. General Services Administration  
Fort Worth, Texas
- General Contractor:** Tatsch Construction, Inc.  
Silver City, New Mexico
- Structural Engineer:** Krause Engineering, Inc.
- Mechanical/Electrical Engineers:** Coupland/Moran Engineers, Inc.
- Landscape Architect:** Campbell/Okuma/Perkins,  
Associates, Inc.
- Photography:** Syntax Photography/Kirk Gittings