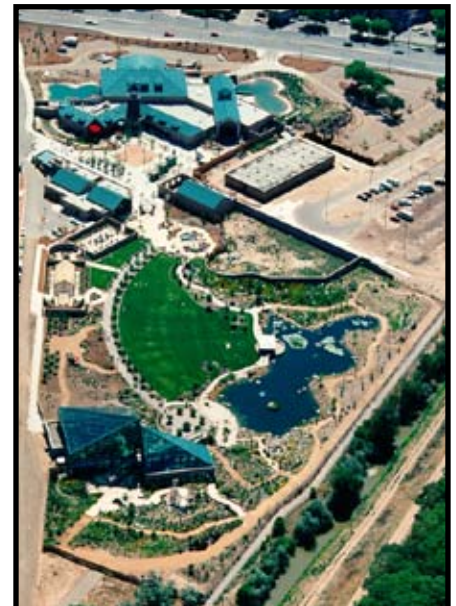


## Albuquerque Biological Park and Aquarium

FOCUSED ON BUILDING a wonderful resource for Albuquerque's children and grandchildren, Bradbury Stamm, nine architects and numerous subcontractors displayed an unusual sense of ownership for this high-profile, two-year, public project. The 28-acre park included an aquarium, restaurant, utility building, education building, office building and glass greenhouse. All structures were built of steel-reinforced concrete masonry units with stucco exteriors and standing-seam custom metal roofs. For the Aquarium tanks, Bradbury Stamm used its own forces to form and pour concrete walls using a harder, denser concrete formula that can withstand heavy water pressure. A Swiss crystalline compound applied to the surface made the concrete waterproof. As a result, this was the only set of tanks in the world that didn't leak when they were first filled with water. The largest plate of curved acrylic glass in North America – 40 feet by 10 feet by 8 inches – was installed in the shark tank. In addition, the insides of the shark tank were coated with a special epoxy paint that gave the walls a glass-smooth finish, so that when the sharks rubbed up against them, they would not injure themselves. The humid air required that all exposed features be made of corrosion-proof materials. Since fish were stocked before the construction was completed, crews had to take extra precautions to keep dust and other particles from the tank water. Besides the construction of all buildings, Bradbury Stamm built the pond and installed all heavy landscaping in the Botanic Garden, including sidewalks, brick-paved walkways, trees, sod, lighting, and three walled gardens.

### Contact:

**Van H. Gilbert  
Architects  
505247-9955**



<b>Location</b> .....	Albuquerque, New Mexico
<b>Owner</b> .....	City of Albuquerque
<b>Architects</b>	
Aquarium .....	Van H. Gilbert Architect
Botanic Gardens .....	Campbell Okuma Perkins Associates, Inc.
<b>Contractor</b> .....	Bradbury Stamm
<b>Cost Aquarium</b> .....	\$15.8 million (\$25.5M*)
<b>Botanic Gardens</b> .....	\$2.2 million
<b>Area Aquarium</b> .....	70,400 square feet
<b>Completion</b> .....	November 1996

*\*Adjusted for Turner Cost Index*