

Kumamoto Municipal Shinchi Public Housing Complex – Block D



Architectural Outline

Flourishing plants and various measures taken by occupants to make their units more pleasant gave the public housing project that used to stand here on terraced land a distinctive atmosphere. The space possessed an openness and energy that suggested the vernacular architecture of the warm Southeast Asian region. The forms and colors of the newly-built housing evoke that space. Stairs in conventional public housing projects are usually gloomy, cluttered spaces. By contrast, the stairs here have been pushed out of the building proper and opened to the outdoors. They have been given different forms and colors to make them easier to distinguish. The stairs also allow people to look at the view on the north side as they go to their respective units.



Architectural Data

Name	Kumamoto Municipal Housing Estate, Shinchi Public Housing Complex Block D
Location	1924, 1953 Shimizu-machi-shinchi, Kumamoto City
Main function	housing
Developer	Kumamoto City
Architects	Hiroshi Nishioka Architectural Workshop
General contractors	joint venture of Tsurugi, Takeuchi and Sanko; joint venture of Sunhome, Sanko Home; Kuko Kensetsu
Site area	29,117 square meters
Building area	5,037 square meters
Total floor area	13,615 square meters
Extent	three aboveground floors; partly four floors
Structure	reinforced concrete construction
Construction period	January 1993 - June 1995
Total construction cost	3,616 million



Hiroshi Nishioka

- 1945 Born in Gumma Prefecture
- 1970 Graduated from Department of Architecture,
College of Engineering, Kanto Gakuin
University
- 1970~84 Worked at Arata Isozaki & Associates
- 1992 Part-time lecturer, Kyushu University,
Kyushu Sangyo University
- 1994~96 Head, Fukuoka Branch, Kyushu Chapter,
Japan Institute of Architects
- 1996~99 Head, Kyushu Chapter, Japan Institute of
Architects
- 2001 Professor, Nishinippon Institute of
Technology

●Principal Works

Seaside Momochi Courthouse (SD Review /Asakura
Award)

●Awards

First Prize, Obiyama 'A' Public Housing Complex
Competition First Prize, Toyonokuni Wooden House
Award (7th)(Goto House) Grand Prize, Fukuoka
Residential Culture Award (6th) (Sada House) First
Prize, Sendai Modern Literature Center Competition

Photo : Shoichi Ishimaru