

# Kumamoto Prefecture Shin – Toroku Public Housing Complex



## Architectural Outline

The use of a large truss frame and hollow floor panels made it possible to create bright, open, functional spaces with no beams intruding in the housing units. The corridors on the north side were detached from the building proper, facilitating ventilation and daylighting on that side. The north side of the building, which faces the street, was perceived as an important part of the townscape. A dynamic structure was therefore used to give it a distinctive form. Pleasant pedestrian spaces with unobstructed views were created at ground level. Existing cherry trees were saved, and a public sidewalk, a pilotis area underneath the building and void spaces were created. All this came about because the architects perceived an urban-development type public housing project to be not only an opportunity to provide quality housing but an investment that can help create new urban relationships.



## Architectural Data

Name	Shintoroku Public Housing Complex
Location	3-854-1 Toroku, Kumamoto City
Main function	housing
Developer	Kumamoto Prefecture
Architects	Unites Architects & Planners (Akira Komiyama)
General contractors	(apartment building) joint venture of Shimizu Corporation and Koshin Construction (assembly hall) Uryu Komuten
Site area	5,022 square meters
Building area	1,285 square meters
Total floor area	7,302 square meters
Extent	11 aboveground floors
Structure	steel-framed reinforced concrete construction
Construction period	July 1991 - March 1993
Total construction cost	1,404 million



**Akira Komiyama**

- 1943 Born in Tokyo
- 1967 Graduated from the Faculty of Science and Technology, Waseda University (majored in Architecture)
- 1972-74 Studied in Ecole Nationale Superieure des Beaux-Arts , Paris,
- 1974 Completed Master degree of City Planning in University of Paris

**●Principal Works**

- 1984 LP house 2 received Young Architect of the year From Japan Architects Association
- 1985 New Opera House Competition in Paris (Awarded Honorary Mention)
- 1986 West Gate of Tsukuba Science EXPO
- 1986 Head Quarter Building of Yokohama EXPO
- 1973 Nishiki Housing Complex
- 1974 Ueda City Information Technology Center
- 1975 Azumino Plaza Hotel
- 1976 Shintoroku Social Housing Complex ,Kumamoto
- 1998 Hotel de Hiei

**●Awards**

- 1986 JIA Awards for the Best Young Architects of the Year

---

Photo : Yasuhiko Kiyoshima