

Suizenji-Ezuko Lake Park Management Office



Architectural Outline

Lake Ezu is a natural lake fed by water flowing underground from Mt. Aso. Because the water temperature is constant throughout the year, the lake has a rare ecology in which northern and southern flora and fauna coexist. In designing this park management office, our priority was to create a building in harmony with nature. We integrated the circulation plan with the park path pattern so that people strolling on a path naturally approach the building. We gave the conference and orientation room a panoramic view of the park and designed the building so that inside and outside are spatially continuous. The roof is covered with greenery. It is as if the ground had been lifted into the air and the facility inserted in between. A plant called sedum was selected for the roof because it would have little effect on the valuable plantlife of Lake Ezu and because it is able to withstand periods of dry weather.



Architectural Data

Name	Suizenji-Ezuko Lake Park Management Office
Location	Hiroki-machi, Kumamoto City
Main function	office
Developer	Kumamoto Prefecture
Architects	Ushida Findlay partnership (Eisaku Ushida and Kathryn E. Findlay)
General contractors	Takeuchi Komuten
Building area	299.00 square meters
Total floor area	266.01 square meters
Extent	one aboveground floor
Structure	wooden construction
Construction period	February 1999 - September 1999
Total construction cost	145 million

Profile of architect



Eisaku Ushida

- 1954 Born in Tokyo
- 1976 Graduated from Department of Architecture, Faculty of Engineering, University of Tokyo
- 1976-83 Worked at Arata Isozaki and Associates
- 1984-86 Worked at Richard Rogers Partnership
- 1986 Established Ushida Findlay Architectural Design Office
- 1988 Reorganized into Ushida Findlay Partnership

Kathryn E. Findlay

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| 1953 | Born in Scotland |
| 1979 | Graduated from Architectural Association |
| 1980 | Master's course, Department of
Architecture, Faculty of Engineering,
University of Tokyo |
| 1980-82 | Ministry of Education scholarship; worked
at Arata Isozaki and Associates |
| 1986 | Established Ushida Findlay Architectural
Design Office |
| 1988 | Reorganized into Ushida Findlay
Partnership |

●Principal Works

ECHO CHAMBER; TRUSS WALL HOUSE; SOFT and
HAIRY HOUSE; Kaizankyo Company Villa; Billiard
House; etc.

●Awards

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| 1994 | Tokyo Journal Innovative Awards,
architecture category |
| 1996 | Architectural Institute of Japan
Commendation |

Photo : Kiyoharu Tomishige