

Kumamoto prefecture Ryujabira Public Housing Complex



Architectural Outline

Two types of apartment buildings have been used to make effective use of an irregularly-shaped site. The site is in the form of two triangles, one large and one small. There is a stepped building type that is staggered in plan and has broad terraces. The other type is all pilotis on the first floor; this creates visual continuity between the street and the inner part of the housing project, thus integrating the project with its environment.

Buildings of these two types are arranged to form a courtyard. All units are approached by way of this courtyard. Spaces flow into each other, from the stairway and corridor to the terrace, concrete-floored space (doma) and living/dining room of each unit. Being able to sense each other's presence is expected to contribute to a greater awareness of community among the occupants.



Architectural Data

Name	Ryujabira Public Housing Complex
Location	3-1 Obiyama, Kumamoto City
Main function	housing
Developer	Kumamoto Prefecture
Architects	Kenchiku Design Studio, Tokyo (Makoto Motokura)
General contractors	Nakamitsu-gumi and Mizukami Construction
Site area	8,498 square meters
Building area	2,495 square meters
Total floor area	6,511 square meters
Extent	three and five aboveground floors
Structure	reinforced concrete construction
Construction period	October 1991 - February 1994
Total construction cost	1,257 million



Makoto Motokura

- 1946 Born in Tokyo
- 1969 Graduated from Department of Architecture, Faculty of Fine Arts, Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music
- 1971 Completed master's course, Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music; entered Maki and Associates
- 1980 Principal, Kenchiku Design Studio
- 1998 Professor, Department of Environmental Design, Tohoku University of Art and Design

●Principal Works

Hillside Terrace Annex; Ikegami Apartments; NOE Building; Bell Colline Minami-Osawa; Gulliver A Building, B Building; FH-Hoya 11; Fukuoka University A Building; Asahi-machi Eco-Museum Core Center; Soyu-kan; Torimiyama Housing Project, Fukushima Prefecture

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