

# Sakitsu Hilltop Park



## Architectural Outline

The hilltop park was laid out in the shape of a fish to remind visitors that this is a fishing village. The design made as much use as possible of the existing topography and flora. A wooden belfry in the shape of a cross symbolizes the fact that Kawaura-machi is the birthplace of Christianity in Japan. Benches for about 130 persons are arranged facing a circular stage centered on the cross. The facility can be used for many different purposes such as a place of rest, outdoor worship, weddings, meetings and concerts. It is hoped that this landmark will last for generations to come. The enormous cross of natural cypress will in time become one with nature, and bells will continue to resound at regular intervals over the town.



## Architectural Data

Name	Sakitsu Hilltop Park
Location	295 Murakami, Sakitsu, Kawaura-machi, Amakusa-gun
Main function	park
Developer	Kawaura Town
Architects	U-META Design. Inc. (Masanori Umeda) and Space Design
General contractors	(hilltop plaza) Daisho Construction; (pedestrian path) Daiho Kensetsu, Kitano Construction; (pocket park) Takeshita-gumi; (toilet) Koyama Kensetsu
Site area	652 square meters (hilltop plaza)
Building area	41 square meters (arbor, toilet)
Total floor area	41 square meters (arbor, toilet)
Height of belfry	15.48 meters
Stairs	505 steps
Structure	steel-frame construction (belfry)
Finish	cypress panels (belfry)
Construction period	October 1991 - March 1993
Total construction cost	392 million

## Profile of architect



### Masanori Umeda

- 1941 Born in Kanagawa Prefecture
- 1962 Graduated from Kuwasawa Design School
- 1967 Entered A & PG Castiglione Studio
- 1970 Design consultant, Olivetti
- 1981 Participated in MEMPHIS

1986      Established U-META Design, Inc.

●**Principal Works**

MEMPHIS furniture "tawaraya"; "Flower" chair series for EDRA; interior design for Tomato Bank

●**Awards**

1968      Braun Prize

1990      Japan Interior Designers Association Award; Grand Prize, G-Mark public space category

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