

Ubuyama Greenhouse Spa



Architectural Outline

The idea was to make use of natural sources of energy such as the heat from a hot spring, cold water from a source, solar energy, cool air and vegetables and to create an enormous greenhouse 100 meters long that blends in with the rural landscape. The configuration of the site was used to create a dynamic, dramatic entrance space. The greenhouse is located on a slightly higher part of the site, and the entrance is approached by passing underneath the greenhouse. A straight mall, the so-called "Road of Wind", runs down the middle of the greenhouse. An area dedicated to gardening, a hot spring, a restaurant, a workshop and a sales corner for special products are arranged on either side of this mall. In hot weather in summer, a curtain of cool water drawn from a source is released from the roof. The aim was not only to create the "Road of Wind" but to exercise environmental control by means of such ecological measures.



Architectural Data

Name	Ubuyama Greenhouse Spa
Location	68-1 Tajiri, Ubuyama-mura, Aso-gun
Main function	public spa and resthouse
Developer	Ubuyama Village
Architects	WORKSHOP (Akio Yachida, Michio Kinoshita, Koh Kitayama)
General contractors	Sato Construction and Daisen
Site area	11,523 square meters
Building area	1,722 square meters
Total floor area	1,739 square meters
Extent	one basement floor, one aboveground floor
Structure	steel-frame construction and reinforced concrete construction
Construction period	November 1991 - November 1993
Total construction cost	474 million

Profile of architect



Akio Yachida

1951

Born in Niigata Prefecture

1975

Graduated from Department of Architecture, Faculty of Engineering, Yokohama National University

- 1978 Completed master's course, University of Tokyo
- 1978 Established WORKSHOP (co-principal)
- 1995 Established WORKSHOP

●Principal Works

SQUQRES; ALTO B; CUBES

Michio Kinoshita

- 1951 Born in Hyogo Prefecture
- 1975 Graduated from Department of Architecture, Faculty of Engineering, Yokohama National University
- 1978 Established WORKSHOP (co-principal)
- 1995 Established Michiro Kinoshita/WORKSHOP (principal)

●Principal Works

House in Ogikubo; Old M Cabin; Balcon

Koh Kitayama

- 1950 Born in Kagawa Prefecture
- 1976 Graduated from Department of Architecture, Faculty of Engineering, Yokohama National University
- 1978 Established WORKSHOP (co-principal)
- 1980 Completed master's course, Yokohama National University
- 1995 Established Architecture WORKSHOP (principal) Currently professor, Yokohama National University

●Principal Works

Shiroishi Municipal No.2 Elementary School (Co: TARO ASHIHARA ARCHITECTS); T.N -House; K House

Photo : Shoichi Ishimaru