Uto Marina House



Architectural Outline

The architect believed the marina house should project to people gathered in the park or for whom the marina was a place of everyday life an image suggestive of a house or an urban quarter. The building was designed, not as a single mass, but in a way that suggested a cluster of buildings. The idea was to create a framework from which an attractive townscape might be formed. First, a minimum basic model, consisting of simply the functionally necessary volumes, was prepared. Then those volumes were pulled apart, resulting in many crevasse-like leftover spaces. The volumes were each modeled using the so-called "continuum method" and given textured materials that created continuity among them. The building has few common spaces. An attempt was made, by effectively reversing inside and outside, to create a building with a group form in which the distinction between inside and outside is blurred. The repair building and the boat storage building in the boat yard were reduced as much as possible to geometrical forms so as not to be out of scale with the rest of the facility. They were all given similar textures to give the marina park continuity as a whole.



Architectural Data

Name	Uto Marina House
Location	3084-1 Okoshiki, Shimoouda-machi, Uto City
Main function	marina house, repair, boat storage
Developer	Uto City
Architects	Archipro architects (Hideki Yoshimatsu)
General contractors	Kyushu Office, Nishimatsu Kensetsu; Ueno Kogyosho
Site area	90,000 square meters
Building area	1,619.92 square meters
Total floor area	1,980.36 square meters
Extent	(marina house, repair building) two aboveground floors; (boat storage building) one aboveground floor
Structure	reinforced concrete construction and steel-frame construction (marina house); steel-frame construction (repair building, boat storage building)
Construction period	June 1997 - August 1998
Total construction cost	544 million

Profile of architect



Hideki Yoshimatsu

1958	Born in Kobe, Hyogo Prefecture, JAPAN
1982	Graduated from Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music
1984	Master's degree from University of Tokyo
1984-87	Worked at Arata Isozaki and associates, Tokyo
1987-91	Assistant Instructor, Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music
1991	Founded Archipro architects
1996	Participant Artist, Atlantic Center for the Arts, Florida, USA
1998	Associate Professor, Tokai University, Dept. of Architecture

•Principal Works

Ono Dental Office (1993); Ohta Complex (1996); Haizuka Earthworks Projects (1996); Uto Marina House (1998); Unknowns' Cemetery (1998); Mirasaka Ceramics studio (2000); Earthworks Center (2000), etc.

•Awards

JIA Awards for the Best Young Architects of the Year (1999); Canadian Green Design Award, Grand prize (2002); American Wood Design Award, Grand prize (2002); American Wood Design Award, Citation (2002); Ar+d Award, prizewinner (2002)

Photo : Shoichi Ishimaru