

# Kumamoto South Police, Kumamoto Station Koban (Community Police Station)



## Building Profile

This facility is in a corner of the East Exit Square of Kumamoto Station and is located midway between the Tsuboigawa and Shirakawa riverfronts in the east and the rich greenery of the mountains Hanaoka-yama and Mannichi-yama in the west. With the progress of the construction plan, this area has become more vibrant. This police box has two roles: to watch over the community and to protect the safety of the many people who visit the station-front, which itself acts as a gateway to Kumamoto. Built as an expression of the interplay between water, green, and motion, this community police station is meant to become a landmark for both travelers and citizens alike.

By utilizing the characteristic round-cornered triangle land shape for the traffic square, the architecture outline was decided with consideration for police car traffic lines, approach for users, and visibility in the environment. This building was purposefully designed with no clear distinction between its front and back.

There is a wide curving balcony protruding from a robust black outer wall structure on the first floor. The sparkling white 9mm-thick steel screen which wraps around the building seems to be floating. All the inner screens and outer walls have gradational colors, while round apertures large and small are colored green as the mountains beyond, blue as water, and in warm colors evoking motion - all blending harmoniously with the surrounding views from Kumamoto Station. The colors of the sky and landscape change over the course of the day, as do those of the building when seen from different directions or distances. With these hues mingling with the architecture, the police box building provides a benevolent presence for the area and its numerous visitors.



Architectural Data	
Name	Kumamoto South Police, Kumamoto Station Koban
Address	2-Chome, Kasuga, Kumamoto City, Kumamoto Prefecture
Main Purpose	Community police station
Project implementing body	Kumamoto Prefectural Police Headquarters
Architects	Astrid K l e i n + Mark Dytham / Klein Dytham Architecture
Builder	Architecture Oda-kensetsu Co.,Ltd.
Area	Premises 305.95 m <sup>2</sup>
	Architecture 117.11 m <sup>2</sup>
	Floor space 143.62 m <sup>2</sup>
Stories	two-story building
Structure	reinforced concrete
Outside finishing	Roof: metal trowel finished concrete + urethane coated waterproof coating (second floor balcony is asphalt waterproof finished) Outer wall (first floor): Exposed concrete finish + 2 corrugated polyurethane enameling

	(second floor): Exposed concrete finish+2 fluoropolymer gradation enamel (normal temperature curing type) (second floor balcony fence) : zinc-coated steel+ fluoropolymer gradation enamel (normal temperature curing type)
Construction Period	November, 2010~March, 2011
Total construction cost	50,000,000 yen

### Profile of architect



<b>Astrid Klein</b>	
1962	Born in Varese, Italy
1986	Graduated from Ecole des Arts Decoratifs Obtained Bachelor's Degree of Art: Interior design (France, Strasbourg)
1988	Completed master's degree at the Royal College of Art (London, England) Obtained Master's Degree of Art in Architecture
1988	Travel scholarship from Richard Rogers
1988	Toyo Ito & Associates, Architects (Tokyo)
1991	Established Klein Dytham Architecture
2009	Guest Professor at Musashino Art University

<b>Mark Dytham</b>	
1964	Born in Northamptonshire, England
1985	Graduated from Newcastle University Obtained Bachelor's Degree of Art in Architecture
1986	SOM (Chicago, USA)
1986	Graduated from the Royal College of Art with a first-class honors degree (London, England) Obtained Master's Degree of Art in Architecture
1988	S O M (London, England)
1988	Scholarship from Milton Keynes Development Corporation
1988	Toyo Ito & Associates, Architects (Tokyo)
1991	Established Klein Dytham architecture

<b>Main Works</b>	
Undercover Lab, Risonare Kobuchizawa Leaf Chapel/Brillare/Moku Moku Yu, Billboard Building, TBWA\HAKUHODO, Selfridges : The Wonder Room, The Tower : Alpha Resort Tomamu, Google Tokyo Office, SHISEIDO THE GINZA	
<b>Main Prizes</b>	
2006	ID Award Honorable Mention / Billboard Building
2007	Nikkei New Office Awards Japan, The Best of New Offices Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry Award Creative Office Award, New Office Award / TBWA\HAKUHODO
2008	DBA Design Effectiveness Awards 2008, Interiors Bronze / Virgin Atlantic Airways Tokyo Narita Clubhouse World Architecture Festival, Top Recommended Award / TBWA\ HAKUHODO British Business Awards, Innovation Award / Klein Dytham Architecture
2010	The 9th Roof·Wall·Specific Greenery Technology Competition , Wall and Specific Greenery Technology Division Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism Award / Mozo Wonder City wall greenery