

Kuma High School of Industry Traditional Architecture Workshop



Architectural Outline

The project was conceived as four districts connected by a circular arcade and outdoor terraces. Pleasant half-outdoor spaces that take advantage of the climate and make use of the abundant greenery and west wind have been incorporated into the design. Because the Traditional Architecture Workshop is where students learn traditional architecture, the architects decided to make the building a pure wooden structure. It is a new form of wooden architecture that demonstrates the intriguing nature of large wooden framing and the beauty of light. The trusses and other structural parts were made visible from inside the building, so that the building itself might serve as educational material. Diverse structural systems, materials and finishes were deliberately used in the building and in the adjacent Planning and Training Building.



Architectural Data

Name	Kuma High School of Industry, Traditional Architecture Workshop
Location	800 Shiromoto-machi, Hitoyoshi City
Main function	workshop
Developer	Kumamoto Prefecture
Architects	Atelier Zo
General contractors	Iwai Komuten
Site area	70,100 square meters
Building area	578 square meters
Total floor area	560 square meters
Extent	two aboveground floors
Structure	wooden construction
Construction period	October 1990 - March 1991
Total construction cost	113 million

Profile of architect



1971 Established Atelier Zo

Reiko Tomita

1938 Born in Tokyo

1963 Completed graduate studies,
Department of Architecture, Faculty of
Engineering, University of Tokyo

Hiroyasu Higuchi

1939 Born in Shizuoka Prefecture

1965 Completed graduate studies, School of
Science and Engineering, Waseda
University

●Principal Works

Nakijin Community Center; Nago City Hall;
Kasahara Elementary School, Miyashiro,
Saitama Prefecture; Yano-Minami Elementary
School, Hiroshima City; Tajimi Junior High
School, Tajimi City

●Awards

1977 Education Minister's Art Award
(Nakijin Community Center)

1982 Architectural Institute of Japan Award
(Nago City Hall)

1990 Japan Design Award

1994 Grand Prize, Ishikawa Townscape
Award (Ishikawa Noto Jomon Mawaki
Hot Spring)

2002 Education Minister's Art Award
(Tajimi Junior High School)

Photo : Masatsugu Miyai, K.A.P