

Fisheries Control Office



Architectural Outline

Misumi-machi, a railway line and a national road separate the residential area from the sea (i.e. the harbor), and the development of reclaimed land including this site is gradually cutting off places of everyday life from the harbor and sea, physically and psychologically. In this project, therefore, an attempt has been made to shorten the distance to the sea, connect the harbor to everyday life and restore to the harbor its original function and value as an everyday space by adding to the facility a function closely linked to the now distant town. A large canopy in the shape of a gate extends the full width of the site on the sea side and serves to welcome gods, good fortune and wealth from the sea. (This is also an allusion to the name Misumi, which was formerly written with characters meaning "gate".) The deck, which seems to rise out of the ground, and the roof, which echoes the ridgeline of the mountains in the distance, together call to mind the residential area of the town situated on higher ground. The wind, welcomed by the "gate", blows over the railway and the road toward the town and ultimately reaches an observation point overlooking the town and the harbor.



Architectural Data

Name	Fisheries Control Office
Location	1160-36 Higashiminato Misumi-machi, Uto-gun
Main function	office
Developer	Kumamoto Prefecture
Architects	Barn Architects & Associates (Kenji Kozai)
General contractors	Yamaguchi Komuten
Site area	900.02 square meters
Building area	482.09 square meters
Total floor area	322.85 square meters
Extent	one aboveground floor
Structure	wooden construction and reinforced concrete construction
Construction period	September 1997 - February 1998
Total construction cost	142 million



Kenji Kozai

- 1959 Born in Kumamoto Prefecture
- 1984 Completed master's course, Kumamoto University
- 1984 Entered Ito Architect's Office
- 1987 Entered ARTEC
- 1989 Established Barn Architect & Associates

●Principal Works

Yamaemura Spa Center; House in Hitoyoshi; House in Jonan; Gymnasium, Minamata Number 3 Junior High School; Fishing Industry Management Office

●Awards

- 1999 Prize, Itsuki-mura Town Hall Competition
- 2000 JIA Kumamoto Residential Award
- 2003 Kumamoto Artpolis Advancement Award

Photo : Masatsugu Miyai