

Two Recent Projects

Morphosis

Morphosis is a Santa Monica-based patnership established in 1977 by Thom Mayne and Michael Rotondi. Since its inception the practice has built up a strong international reputation and an extensive portfolio, that encompasses work from house alterations and restaurants to cultural centres and health clinics. Morphosis have won many design competitions and have been acclaimed with numerous design awards along with having their work published in an impressive collection of critical and professional journals.

In addition to their professional activities, Mayne and Rotondi have been and continue to be involved extensively in Architectural Education. Mayne was a founding board member of the Southern California Institute of Architecture (1972) - SCI ARCH - and is still listed on the faculty there. Rotondi is currently Director of SCI-ARCH. Both Mayne and Rotondi have been listed on the visiting faculty for many architectural schools, and have served on different juries of importance.

Thom Mayne visited New Zealand in 1989 as the Levene Paints Ltd International Architect.

SCAP

UPEn J



Site model (photo Tom Boner)

CHIBA PREFECTURE GOLF CLUB

'The ongoing conversation about the environment is grounded in the ancient dichotomy of man versus nature. So far we have sought to resolve the argument through a series of truces; either sequestering large traces of wilderness in a state of imagined innocence, or limiting the ways in which man can domesticate nature's imagined savagery. We must begin to talk about man and nature, not man versus nature. What do we see when we look into a forest? Lumber? Our planet's breathing apparatus?'

The Chiba Project concerns itself with the interaction of our architecture (which establishes a discussion about the man-made) and the natural landscape. It is a project which attempts to break down or blur the demarcations between the man-made and the natural by developing a strategy which links a site investigation to an architectural language. The focus is directed to the whole of the physical and draws on all senses, producing an architecture which is engaged in making natural environmental processes self-evident and connected to one's day-to-day life. The work is perceived as an instrument of pleasure, a sum of knowledge capable of organising space and time. The entire program with it's emphasis on the game (golf) is about movement, the rhythm of walking, the arc of an arm in full swing, the nature and sequence of physical spaces, the narrative and diversity of place, and the dynamic and connective nature of a complex organisation.

The building is about the land's surface (hence its orientation to the building's sectional characteristics) as it affects movement both via the automobile and via the pedestrian. The basic *Parti* is made up of four elements; a segment of a curved wall which produces a space for arrival (automobile), a lineal sequence of alternating volumes which accommodates a majority of the program, a second circular wall which embraces the larger site and facilitates movement to the grounds, and a pavilion which contains space for dining and social events. The configuration of the two curved walls holds the more static and platonic inner spaces which are introspective and contemplative in character. The Pavilion piece is in the air and outside the limits of the bounding walls allowing the observer to perceive the vastness and expansiveness of the natural setting.

The realised or built environment seeks more than just a 'truce' with nature. We have aspired to create an architecture which can contribute to the 'man and nature' rather than the 'man versus nature' conversation.

Design architect: Morphosis

Principals: Thom Mayne, Michael Rotondi

Principal in charge: Thom Mayne

Project architect: Kiyokazu Arai

Project team: John Enright, Julee Herdt, Teresa Ross, George Yu

Project assistants: Susan Addison, John Baez, David Bennett, Peter Buffington, Craig Burdick, Belinda Georhe, Andreas Heirholzer, Jim Jackson, Conrad James, Frederick Lebard, Lauren MacColl, Frank Martens, Mark McVay, James Meraz, Raul Moreno, Christopher Oakley, Michael Poris, Scott Romses, Jennifer Schierbeck, Ursula Shumacher, Peggy Shinkle, Selwyn Ting, Chris Wahl

Associate architect: EPI Corporation

Principal: Takero Ogawa

Project Team: Yoshikazu Togami, Masao Abe

Structural and mechanical engineer: Ove Arup and Partners

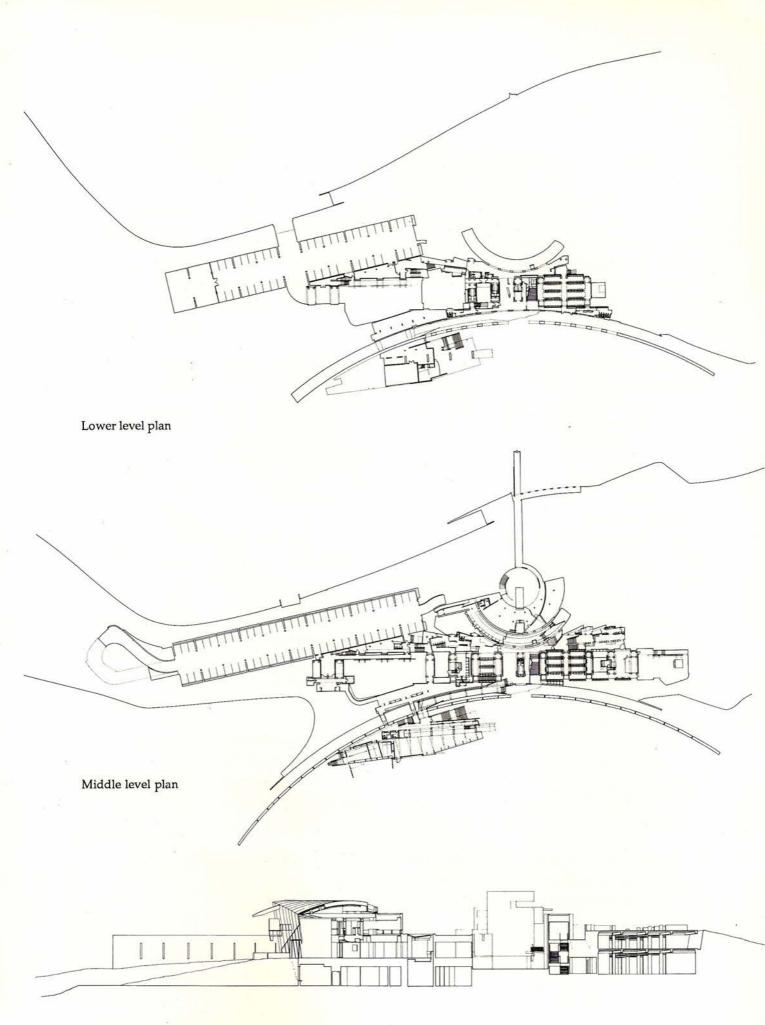
Principals: Peter Budd, Alan Locke

Structural engineer: Toyohiko Yamabe

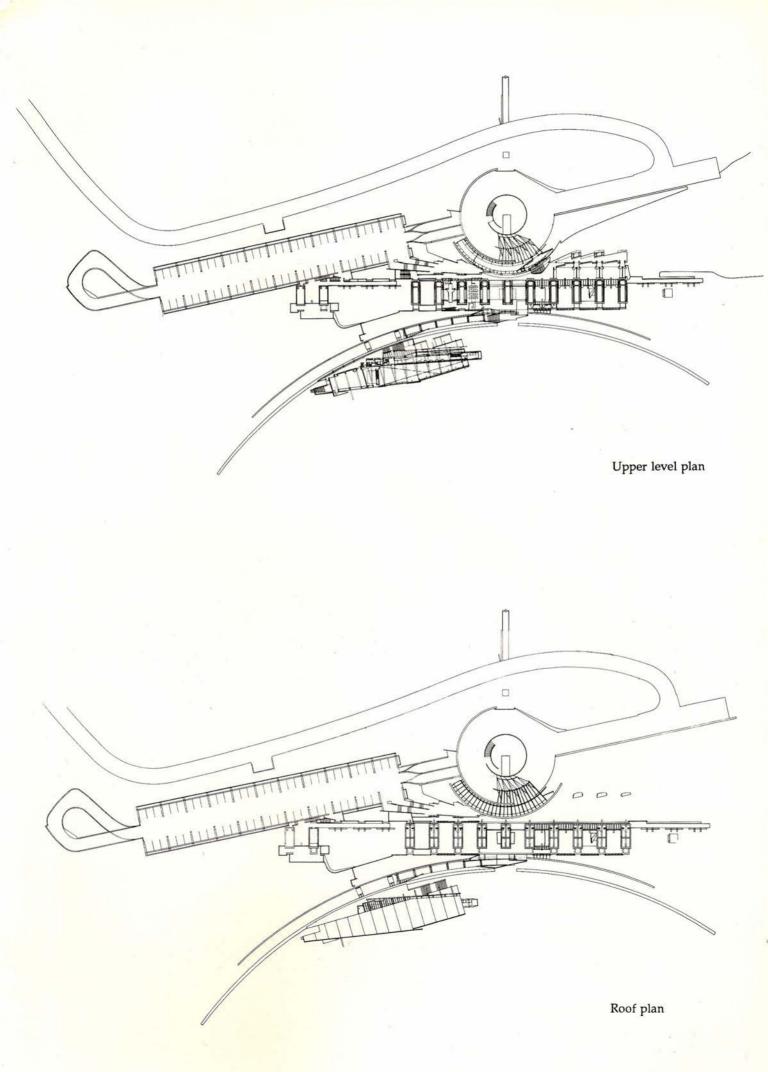
Project team: Mitsuhiro Hashino

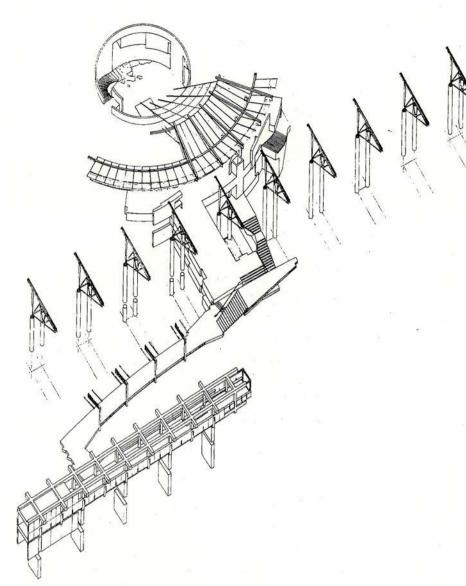
Mechanical engineer: Alpha Engineering Company Ltd

Principal: Masanobu Kondo



Transverse section through restaurant





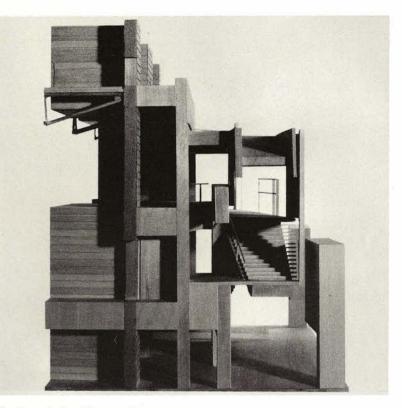
Axonometric showing the parti of the project in order from top:

Vehicle entrance canopy

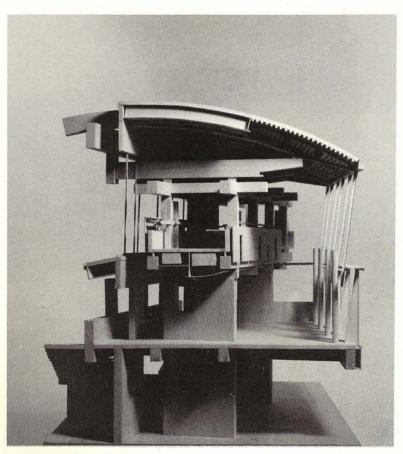
Monitors truss that support the shell of the light monitor

Cantilevered walkway connecting main building to the restaurant pavilion

Structural armature of the restaurant



Section study of connecting passage and stair (photo George Yu)

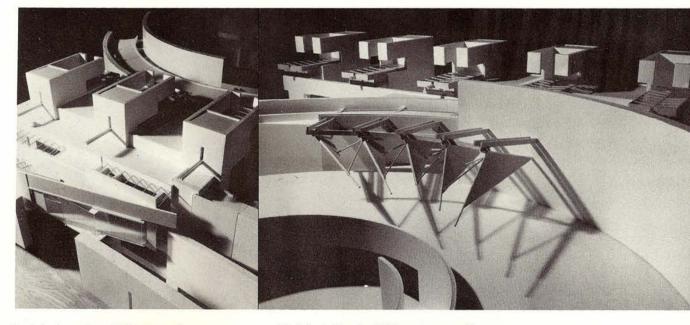


Section model study of restaurant

opp. Drawing study for canopy and monitors

insert left. Model study of light monitor

insert right. Plan view of light monitor model



Partial view of model from south showing vehicle entrance, light monitors, entrance to club house, double landscape wall (photo George Yu)

Model study of vehicle entrance with truss-canopy and light monitors beyond

