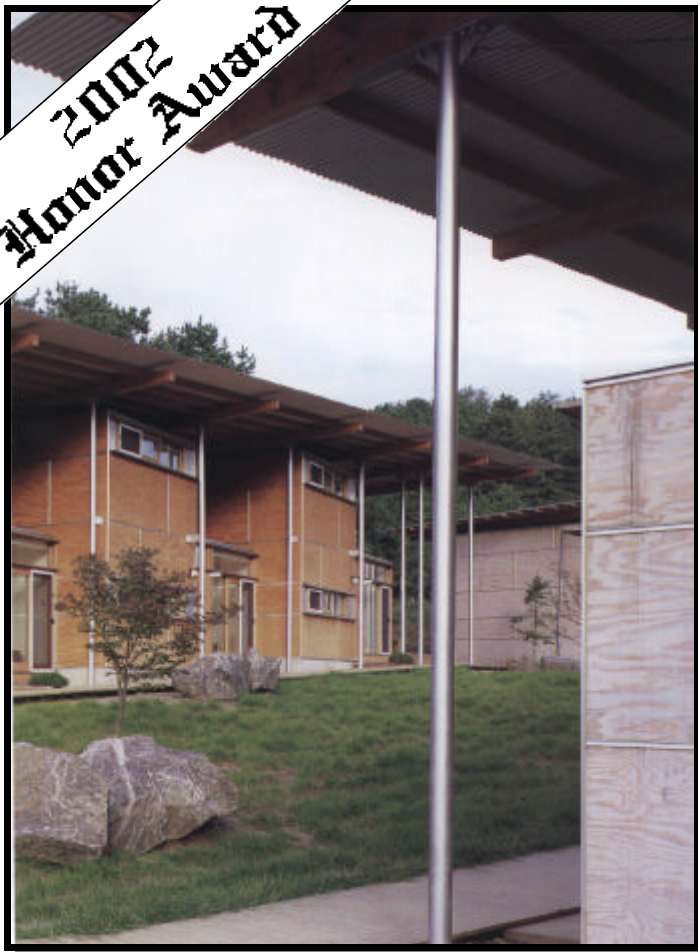


**2012  
Honor Award**



**AIA Montana 2002  
Design Award of Excellence  
Honor Recipient**

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The site was located on a hill called "Hill with Fish Playing". The site was really peaceful, not betraying its name. Woods gently embrace the site below in which rural fields unfold. The smell of earth prevails here. A brick building with a dull slab roof was blocking the access route to the hill site, but space between the building and the hill was void enough to be useful. Some of the void still remains unfilled between the expanded toilet building and the multi-purpose space (auditorium) where gathering and playing would be every day's event. The space was

also intended to be used by the surrounding community of the city. As a result, a small outdoor amphitheater has been created at the boundary between the auditorium and the hill.

The sleeping/living building was designed not to spoil the gentle sense of the hill and woods surrounding it. At the same time, I had to support the program or a village-like atmosphere.

After all, the final plan dictated a plywood box and its cover sprawling softly on the gentle slope of the hill. The box-like dormitory building consists of bundles each of which has two or three rooms supervised by a teacher. Each unit, approximately 440 square feet, is designed to house four people aged over eighteen years old. It was not at my discretion to change the bundle structure programmed already. I judged that the

simple repetition of a form for the dormitory building would not be the best choice for the users, mentally disturbed people, but I believed that I would be able to overcome such a problem by using materials and joints adequately and thereby maintaining a certain sense of scale. Although the overall massing was very monotonous, I felt that such a monotony would be overcome also with the voids left between boxes.

## *Village of Dancing Fish*

The entire dormitory building is laid out to embrace the sky introducing the surrounding nature fully into itself by taking advantage of the site conditions. Since the layout was able to be less rigid, a regular or monotonous repetition of a cubic form could be taken.