

オーディオテクニカ本社

AUDIO TECHNICA HEADQUARTERS

This is a headquarters building constructed in a gently sloping hilly area on the outskirts of Tokyo. The site faces south onto a main road, with a 3m difference in level from north to south over a distance of 90m in the depth direction. This slope to the south was the central theme in the development of the design.

The main building consisting of offices and a research laboratory is provided in the center along the north-south axis of the site, to the west is a small canteen, and to the east a small machine and vehicle store, giving a layout in which functions are divided. A large and a small trapezoidal block arranged in accordance with the topography reflects the slope, and the terrain sinking into the landscape is visualized with the skyline formed by a one-way sloping roof with top lights having the opposite slope.

The main building is divided into the south block office zone and the north block research zone with a light garden in between, sandwiched between side core walls with light and air slits, “gills”, on the east and west sides, and a split level conforming to the topography connected by a “bridge core” consisting of a bridge, stairs, and elevator.

The four surfaces of the light garden where the north and south spatial blocks clash are expressed graphically in an equilibrium of black and white with a mannerism-like tension, suggestive of a leap from form to force.