

Submitted for:
IFLA AAPME Awards 2023 - Parks and Openspace

GREEN SPRINGS

Creating a future with the rich environment in mind

PROJECT TITLE

GREEN SPRINGS

Creating a future with the rich environment in mind

PROJECT STATEMENT

The project site was where they were creating airplanes during World War II. After the war, the area grew to become the largest terminal station and the largest park in Tokyo was built next to the site.

We, as landscape architects, participated in the project from the initial stages as the master designer of the entire project. We were also involved in the entire design process, from the development of the master plan integrating landscape and architecture, to the consideration of details and the selection of materials, while studying the project plan and the layout of facilities. Our goal was to create a whole block where the mind and body can be healthy, with a 1 hectare plaza at the center of the block, a public space surrounded by overwhelming greenery and water, and a fringe-like space integrated with the plaza at each facility, including offices, restaurants, halls, and hotels. These series of policies, ironically, clearly captured the zeitgeist of After Corona. It is in the project's policy of maintaining a constant commitment to total optimization in contributing to the community while keeping an eye on the rapidly changing world that the project has the power to overcome unpredictable risks.

PROJECT NARRATIVE

Site Context

Green Springs is a complex facility planned for a site measuring approximately 400 m north to south and 100 m east to west, located between Showa Memorial Park and Tama Monorail line on the north side of Tachikawa Station. The area surrounding the planned site was the site of a concentration of army airfields and related factories during World War II, the core of which was the Tachihi Group, a GREEN SPRINGS business that had its origins in airplane manufacturing. The GREEN SPRINGS project site is located in a key location, connecting Tachikawa's major facilities, such as Tachikawa Station and Showa Memorial Park, with the real estate owned by the Tachihi Group, and is the key point of their group's estimate.

Design Concept

In planning the project, we as landscape architects were asked not only to carry forward the cutting-edge technology of airplane manufacturing into new urban development, but also to take on the challenge of innovative urban development that would enhance the value of the entire east-side of Tokyo area through economic support and human resource development that would promote the growth of the local community. Innovative urban development is not economic growth-oriented urban development that maximizes floor-area ratios and seeks short-term capital recovery, but rather a business scheme that is driven by both space and structure, with a focus on the local environment and sustainable, natural circulation-oriented regional development. We started by deciphering future trends from history.

Design Process

When we started to formulate the design concept for GREEN SPRINGS, we looked at the geography of the Tama area, including Tachikawa, and the history of the Tachihi Group, and found an east-west axis that connected the city and nature, such as Tama River and Tamagawa Stream, and a

north-south axis where the land opened up to the Pacific Ocean, making it suitable for airplanes to take off and land. From the traces imprinted on the earth, we now understand that infrastructure such as water supply and railroads have strengthened the east-west regional linkage, and that the north-south runway, with the sun and the North Star as landmarks for easy return, was a symbol that forced us to be aware of the relationship between Japan and the rest of the world.

To integrate this local and global space and convey a message for the future, we proposed the creation of a vertical axis connecting the sky and the earth. This is the "X" axis that runs through the entire city block: the angle at which the X's intersect is the aeronautical range at which airplanes take off and land, and the slope of the cascade extending into the sky is aligned with the aeronautical angle at which airplanes take off and land. The cascade, which is an extension of the X street, is a staircase that leads up to the roof of the hall, and the cascade extends into the sky, evoking a sense of flight. It is designed as a special place that evokes a sense of floating.

Construction Supervision

This huge cascade, which has become a new landmark in the area, was carefully studied during the design process to determine the babbling of the Tamagawa Stream and the shimmering surface of the stream, and was verified in full scale using mock-ups before construction, with the aim of creating a unique waterscape facility that is characteristic of this area. The biotope in the center of the plaza reproduces the bay environment of the Tama River and displays endangered aquatic plants along with underwater creatures to provide a field for children to learn about the local environment. In addition, given Tachikawa's location at the nexus connecting central Tokyo and Okutama, the company is actively using wood from the Tama region as part of its efforts to promote sustainable circulation in the local economy. In order to make GREEN SPRINGS a showcase for Tama building materials, lumber is used on the exterior eaves of the building,

which are easily visible to the public, and on the benches and parkways of the plaza, which are easily touched by the public. In addition, all of the more than 5,000 plants in the planned site are regional species grown in the Kanto region, mainly in the Tama River basin. The landscape architects visited the field to inspect all the trees and determine the arrangement of the trees, creating an environment that will serve as the center of a new ecological network in the Tama region.

Operational Support

With a design that reflects the natural capital of the region, the project has succeeded in deriving a space that easily blends in with the local environment over time and conveys a sense of comfort to the local people. In order to sublimate this spatial design into the design of a sustainable mechanism, landscape architects were commissioned by the project owner to provide ecosystem maintenance advisory services after construction was completed. The mission in this work is threefold. First, we will conduct collaborative patrols four times a year in spring, summer, fall, and winter with the operator, facility manager, and planting manager to maintain high-quality management in response to changes in the vegetation. Next, environmental surveys of the ecosystem and vegetation will visualize the environmental performance of the plaza provided by abundant greenery and water, and communicate its value to visitors and tenants. Finally, the plaza's green space and waterside environment will be made known through events, lectures, and other activities to promote interest in the natural environment of Tachikawa and Tama. Believing that each of these small efforts will become a major force in creating a sustainable local community, we will continue to engage in activities that contribute to the community.

MASTERPLAN



LOCATION



The area surrounding the project site was the site of a concentration of army airfields and related factories during WWII, the core of which was the Tachihi Group, a Green Springs business that had its origins in airplane manufacturing.

DESIGN PROCESS

Sustainability



As an initiative to promote the circulation of the local economy through the natural capital of the Tama area, approximately 6,100 m² of Tama-grown cedar wood is used in the eaves of buildings and benches.

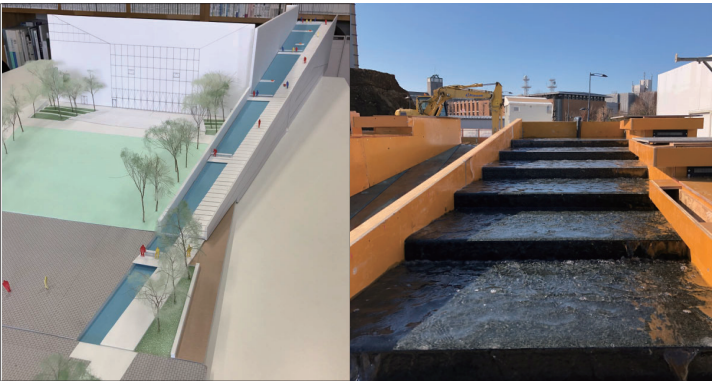
Diversity



The Tama River was recreated with rare species and maintained as a place to practice environmental education for children. The stonework was inspected one by one for its shape, and I carefully placed the stones to create a biotope.

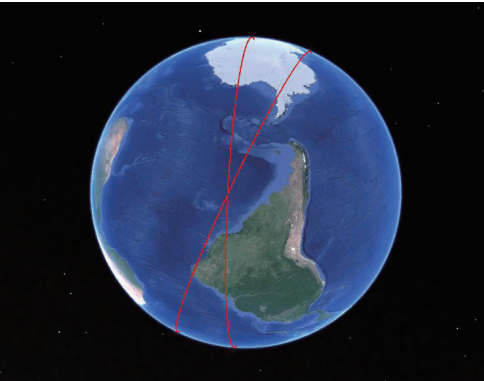
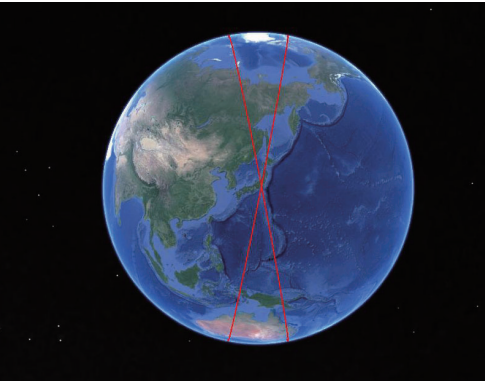
DESIGN PROCESS

Locality



The full-scale mockup of the cascade was created during construction to reproduce the look and sound of Tamagawa-josui water, which is familiar to local residents, and to study how the cascade would fit into the landscape of enitre city block.

History



The iconic plaza of Green Springs has an “X” street. The curbstone extends this X-axis on a global scale and is engraved with the location, country, longitude, and name of the airport through which the international line passes.

Masterpieces



Signage Plan



Masterpieces : On the opnspace of Green Springs, people can easily access to the masterpieces of art.

Signage Plan : On the signage plan, actively using material from the local region, and it designed to convey the character of this location.

Biotope Observation



Bird-Watching Event



GREEN SPRINGS

夏だあつまれ！
7/25 [日]
10:00 ~ 12:00
雨天中止

親子で
ビオトープ
生きもの観察会

定員：15名(要予約・先着順)
対象：親子(小学生以下)
場所：GREEN SPRINGS内ビオトープ、
LIVING ROOM W(7階参加)

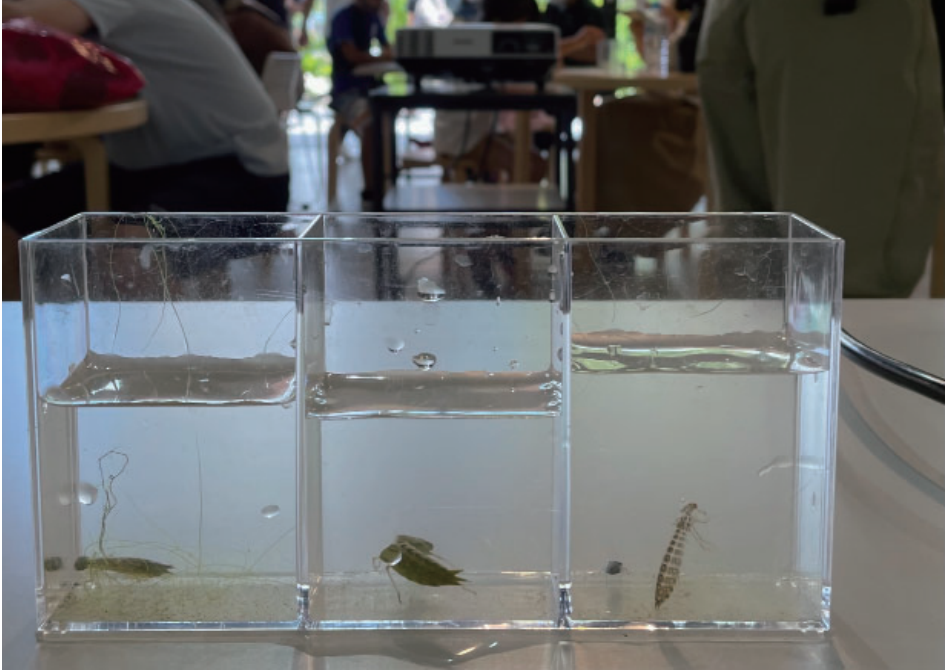
参加費：無料
持ち物：タオル、帽子、飲み物、
水遊び用のかかとが固定される靴
(ない上履きやウォーターシューズ)

※お天候により開催状況が変更される場合がございます。

【観察会内容】
・GREEN SPRINGS内のビオトープへ入
り、生きものの観察を行います。
・観察ポイントで生きものの観察を行いながら
スタッフが行います。
・観察ポイントで、観察を行った生きものの
写真を撮ります。

【申し込み】
申し込み期間：7月22日(木)
申し込み方法：お申し込みください。
申し込み締め切り：7月22日(木)午後18時
申し込み受付時間：7月22日(木)午後18時～
申し込み受付場所：GREEN SPRINGS内
申し込み受付時間：7月22日(木)午後18時～
申し込み受付場所：GREEN SPRINGS内

【主催】株式会社立川トラディショナル、(協力)株式会社ランドスケープ・プラス、株式会社日比谷アメニス



親子
野鳥
観察会

2023.2.19 (SUN)
9:30 ~ 14:30
雨天中止

定員：親子10組20名(要予約・先着順)
対象：親子(小学生以上の児童と保護者)
集合場所：GREEN SPRINGS内及び
昭和記念公園みどりの文化ゾーン

参加費：無料
持ち物：飲み物、野鳥図鑑(あれば)、
双筒望遠鏡(当日貸出もあります※1組1つ)
※貸出の望遠鏡は、お天候により貸出状況が変更される場合がございます。

【申し込み】
申し込み期間：2023年2月8日(水)～
申し込み締め切り：2023年2月17日(金)午後18時
申し込み受付時間：2023年2月8日(水)午後18時～
申し込み受付場所：GREEN SPRINGS内

【講師】
鳥博士
中村 忠昌さん



For children to learn about the local environment, several event are held at Green Springs. Overwhelming greenery and biotope in the center of the plaza offer the field to keep in touch with local nature.

Images



The 'biotope', which is a restoration of the environment of the Tama River watershed that flows near the site and is familiar to local residents, nurtures the original diverse ecosystem of the region.

Images



The outdoor living room created in the grove of trees allows visitors to enjoy the shimmering of the grove and the sounds of insects.



A large green covering one hectare on the artificial ground at the second floor level.



The 120m long 'cascade' recreates the sound of the Tamagawa Stream.

Images



The area around the 'biotope' is illuminated with warm light, creating a place for relaxation.



Cold-toned light around the cascade is creating a fantastic space.