POST-TSUNAMI HOUSING
Kirinda, Sri Lanka

CLIENT
Philip Bay, developer and fundraiser,
Washington, USA

ARCHITECT
Shigeru Ban Architects, Tokyo, Japan:
Shigeru Ban, principal
Anthony Benjamin, project manager

LOCAL ARCHITECT
PWA Architects, Colombo, Sri Lanka:
Philip Weeraratne, Sumith Perera, architects

PROJECT COORDINATORS
Pradip Jayawardana, Charith Goonetilleke,
Colombo, Sri Lanka

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT
Shitanee Ivonne Balasunya, Colombo, Sri Lanka

PROJECT DATA
Site area: 3195 m²
Ground-floor area: 71 m² each house
Cost: 1,700,000 USD
Cost per house: 15,000 USD
Commission: December 2004
Design: January 2005
Construction: June 2005
Completion: 2007

SHIGERU BAN
Born in Tokyo in 1957, Shigeru Ban attended
the Southern California Institute of Architecture
(SCI-Arc) and graduated from the Cooper
Union School of Architecture in 1984. In 1985,
he established Shigeru Ban Architects, a private
practice in Tokyo. In 1995, he began working
as a consultant to the United Nations High
Commissioner for Refugees and in the same
year established an NGO, Voluntary Architects’
Network (VAN).
Renowned for his innovative ideas in works
such as the Curtain Wall House (Tokyo, Japan,
1995), Japan Pavilion, Expo 2000 (Hanover,
Germany), Nomadic Museum (2005, 2006,
2007), Nicolas G. Hayek Centre (Tokyo, Japan,
2007), and Centre Pompidou-Metz (Metz,
France, 2010), today, Ban operates three
offices, in Tokyo, New York and Paris. He has
contributed his knowledge, skills and energy
to disaster-relief projects, including the Paper
Log House (Kobe, Japan, 1995; Turkey, 2000,
India, 2002), Paper Church (Kobe, 1995),
Tsunami Reconstruction Project (Kirinda,
Sri Lanka, 2005), Temporary Elementary School
(Chengdu, China 2008), L’Aquila Temporary
Concert Hall (L’Aquila, Italy, in progress),
and waterproof shelters currently underway
in Haiti.
Ban has been awarded a number of prizes,
including the Grande Médaille d’Or de
l’Académie d’Architecture, France (2004),
Arnold W. Brunner Memorial Prize in Architec-
ture (2005), Thomas Jefferson Foundation
Medal in Architecture (2005), L’Ordre National
du Mérite, France (2009), and L’Ordre des
Arts et des Lettres, France (2010). He served
on the jury for the Pritzker Architecture
Prize from 2007 to 2009. He was a Professor
at Keio University, Japan, from 2001 to 2008
and is a Visiting Professor at Harvard University
Graduate School of Design and a Visiting Critic
at Cornell University (2010).

WEBSITE
www.shigerubanarchitects.com