

# Outline of the Research Symposium for Cultural Sites and Landscapes in FY 2013

## 1. Introduction

At the Department of Cultural Heritage of the Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, separate meetings were held to discuss “archaeological sites management” and “cultural landscapes.” In this fiscal year, however, the 3rd Management Research Symposium for Cultural Sites and the 6th Research Meeting on Cultural Landscapes were held concurrently with a view to encouraging in-depth discussions transcending the boundaries between these two themes, with a focus placed on the keyword, “planning.”

## 2. Insights gained from research symposiums held in the past

To discuss the issue of archaeological site management, we held “Research Symposium on Preservation and Utilization of Historic Sites” annually from FY 2006 to FY 2010, and following the conclusion reached in the 5th round of this symposium<sup>1</sup>, we started “Management Research Symposium for Cultural Sites” in FY 2011 to replace the former symposium. In the 2nd Management Research Symposium for Cultural Sites held in FY 2012, we discussed the theme of “Archaeological Sites and Cultural Heritage in Public” to explore the social significance of archaeological sites and heritage, which are located in various parts of the world in different conditions, focusing on a range of stakeholders. Through the discussion, we renewed our awareness of the importance of “mechanism” and “method” which enable various people involved in the protection of cultural sites and heritage to overcome difficulties they face<sup>2</sup>.

In the field of cultural landscapes, on the other hand, we started a Research Meeting on Cultural Landscapes in FY 2008, in which we discussed the outline and diversity of cultural landscapes as a new type of cultural property (the first meeting); the system inherent in cultural landscapes that is

constantly changing yet remains the same at the core (the second meeting); and management and utilization of cultural landscapes in a manner that ensures sustainability of such a system (the third meeting). Over the years, an increasing number of locations were given the designation, “Important Cultural Landscape,” which allowed us to identify specific tasks to be undertaken. Against this backdrop, the fourth meeting was held to develop a more comprehensive understanding of the circumstances in which cultural landscapes of Japan are placed. In the fifth meeting held in FY 2012, we discussed “mechanisms” and “activities” that should be incorporated in our cultural landscape protection efforts, based on an understanding of the close linkage between cultural landscapes and local livelihoods. In this meeting, we agreed on the necessity of taking action beyond the framework of the ongoing cultural landscape protection scheme, while recognizing the importance of this scheme<sup>3</sup>

## 3. Planning for cultural site and landscape management

Building on the results of the abovementioned discussions, this Research Symposium dealt with the issue of “planning” as one of the “mechanisms,” in which we discussed the significance and method of planning based on the following understanding.

Planning is about making clear our intention for the future. It indicates by whom, for what purpose and use, and in what manner the intention will be turned into action. Of course, planning is not a goal itself, but it is just a part of a method. Planning, if elaborately combined with a well-defined intention, can be a reliable guidepost that will take us to the future we desire.

The effectiveness and importance of “planning” that represents our intention for the future has been repeatedly stressed in our efforts to protect “monuments,” such as archaeological sites and

scenic spots located in communities of all sizes and scales, and “cultural landscapes” that reflect the history of the local communities and lifestyles that have long been developed there.

Today, Japanese governmental agencies responsible for protection of cultural sites and other monuments make it a common practice to develop a “Protection and Management Plan” as a master plan to be completed in 10 to 15 years, and a “Maintenance and Utilization Plan” as an action plan to implement projects. In case of groups of historic buildings and cultural landscapes, development of a “Protection Plan” is required as a condition for applying for eligibility for protection under the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties of Japan. For the purpose of getting the entire picture of local cultural properties, development of a “History and Culture Basic Plan” is also encouraged, which indicates that a paradigm shift is taking place in planning of cultural properties protection: Today, greater emphasis is placed on developing an understanding of the value of unique local cultural properties and creating new value for the future, than on exploring measures to better protect cultural properties that have been already recognized as valuable.

In addition, it has become a growing trend for Japanese municipalities to incorporate local cultural properties at the core of community development projects, representative of which is the “Plan for the Maintenance and Improvement of the Beautiful Historical Scenery in the Region” developed under the Law for the Maintenance and Improvement of the Beautiful Historical Scenery in the Region.

In recent years, predetermined criteria for developing plans, or standard forms, guidelines and templates based on such criteria are available on most occasions and adherence to such criteria is likely to be regarded as important. Against this backdrop, it seems that a great many people are mistakenly convinced that they can develop plans for historical heritage protection simply by filling

in individual local information (e.g. local situations, name and type of the heritage) on such forms. In fact, we have often come across such cases.

It should be noted, however, that while various criteria, standard forms, guidelines and templates are available for planning, all they indicate are matters that we should take notice of and consider to confirm, reconstruct and express our intention for the future, as well as procedures to implement plans, and they can never cover specific details of what we intend to do with our plans or structures of plans. Let me also add that for example, Japan’s projects to protect archaeological sites, which started more than 100 years ago and have since continued evolving, now cover a far more diverse range of properties. In case of cultural landscape, which was newly added to the category of cultural properties to be protected in consideration of the recent social situation, we may say that the intention of planning itself can determine the value of a certain landscape as cultural heritage. This means that lack of clear intention can obscure the reason for protecting the particular landscape.

With this understanding in mind, we organized the Research Symposium to explore the idea and practice of “planning,” focusing on the significance of planning for cultural heritage such as archaeological sites and cultural landscapes and how such plans should be developed and implemented.

#### **4. Structure of the Research Symposium**

Designed to explore the principle and process of planning, the Research Symposium consisted of three lectures and four presentations on topics relating to planning for archaeological sites, cultural landscapes and other types of cultural heritage.

At the beginning of the Research Symposium (January 24, 2014), Mr. Hirasawa shared issues to be addressed that had been identified in the discussions held during the Management Research Symposiums for Cultural Sites and the Research

Meetings on Cultural Landscapes in the past. He also raised problems concerning the current practice of “planning” for archaeological sites and cultural landscapes, while discussing the reason for focusing on “planning” in this symposium.

Next, a special lecture titled “Planning and Implementation of Projects for Regional Development and Heritage” was delivered by Mr. Kensuke Ohishi from the Economic Infrastructure Department of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). He discussed the relevance between JICA’s projects and local cultural heritage and stressed the importance of planning in implementing projects for the dual purpose of promoting regional development and protecting local cultural heritage, by referring to two projects undertaken by JICA—the Project for the Construction of the Petra Museum (Jordan) and the Project for the Conservation Centre in the Grand Egyptian Museum (Egypt). This was followed by Keynote Lecture 1: “From Individual Planning to Comprehensive Planning,” by Professor Konomi Ikebe from the Graduate School of Horticulture of Chiba University. Professor Ikebe indicated that plans for cultural property protection developed by competent governmental agencies are not effective enough to meet today’s needs, and discussed how we should develop workable plans that would benefit local communities into the future. Keynote Lecture 2, “Concept of Conservation and Planning of Landscape Values,” was delivered by Associate Professor Hisako Koura from the Graduate School of Engineering of Osaka University, who emphasized that landscapes could be a useful platform for region-wide planning, in light of the recognition of the value of landscapes that has been growing since the 1960s and the potentials of today’s landscaping projects.

On the second day of the Research Symposium (January 25 2014), four presentations were made based on case studies, by two planners and two municipal government officials in charge of heritage protection. The planners are Mr. Kunio

Akiyama from Historic Environment Planner’s and Architect’s Studio, and Mr. Sadao Yoshida from the Department of City and Regional Planning of PREC Institute Inc., who spoke on the themes “Development and Implementation of Plans for Archaeological Site Management” (Presentation 1) and “Viewpoint and Method for Developing Plans for Preserving Local Resources” (Presentation 2), respectively. The municipal governmental officials are Mr. Hiroshi Sugimoto from the Historic City Promotion Section of the Uji Municipal Government, who shared the experiences of Uji City in his presentation titled “Planning and System for Creation of a Historic City” (Presentation 3), and Mr. Shinya Kawamura from the Lifelong Learning Division of the Shimanto City Board of Education, who introduced the experience of Shimanto City in the Shimanto River basin in his presentation “Planning to Make Cultural Landscapes a Natural Part of the Local Environment” (Presentation 4).

These presentations were followed by a discussion titled “Significance and Method of Planning” (Moderator: Mr. Hirasawa), which also addressed questions from the floor.

## 5. Viewpoint of “planning”: a summary of the discussion

In this discussion, the lecturers and presenters made comments and answered questions from the floor, and a variety of topics were discussed, including persuasiveness, flow of time, vision, concept, sustainability, relationship between regional development and cultural heritage protection, universal design, planning as a means to describe value, landscape literacy, process of sharing, and education to raise public awareness.

The discussion started with an indication that in our efforts to pass down archaeological sites and cultural landscapes to the future 50 years and 100 years from now, we should note that what we seek today may not necessarily match the needs of future generations, and that as an

important part of the planning process for cultural heritage protection, we should think how we can communicate the validity of our plans and convince people of our times of the significance of these plans. It was also argued that we cannot deal with all types of cultural properties and cultural heritage in the same manner. Using archaeological sites and cultural landscapes as an example, time flows differently over them in terms of values to be protected, beneficiaries of the values, and materials to be handled. Despite such difference, however, it was stressed that protection of all types of cultural heritage should be planned with an approach that ensures the well-being of local residents into the future.

In response to questions from the floor, important requirements for planning were identified, which include (a) incorporating a system that local residents can manage on their own; (b) making plans simple so that local residents will naturally take interest in them; (c) continuing persistent efforts to solve problems that may arise in implementing a plan and promote greater understanding among people involved in such problems; (d) making plans based on a comprehensive understanding of various demands to ensure the plans will benefit as many people as possible.

In discussing how the value of cultural heritage should be described in a plan, an opinion was expressed that residents become gradually aware of the value of local cultural heritage through repeated interactions with the heritage in their community lives, and in this process, the value is established. The issue of “sharing of value” was discussed along with the issue of “coexistence,” in which attention was paid to the role and function of a planning process in creating a linkage between local cultural heritage and residents and among residents in the community, with the understanding that the value for which plans are made is created through awareness and dialogue among various stakeholders.

The discussion allowed us to share the understanding that “value” at the core of “planning,” which is the theme of this symposium, is not something given or recognized by others but should be discovered through substantial local experiences that have long been accumulated, combined with aspirations for the future.

The discussion closed with the following statement. People of different positions have different expectations on what “planning” can bring, and for them, planning may have different functions and meanings. On the other hand, all heritage protection plans should be developed in a manner that convinces local residents that the plan has a direct concern with their lives. Such plans should also incorporate a system that allows future-oriented initiatives to be continuously pursued and further developed by local residents. Desirably, any heritage protection plan should be developed through discussion on its details including uses, and people of various positions will participate and cooperate in the planning process. It is hoped that the intention behind the plan will be embraced by many people, who in turn, will communicate the intention for wider support.

**HIRASAWA Tsuyoshi and NAKAJIMA Yoshiharu**  
(Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties)

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#### Notes

- 1 “Comprehensive Management of Cultural Sites and Heritage in Local Communities” 2011, ed. Sites Management Research Section, Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, 137pp.
- 2 “Archaeological Sites and Cultural Heritage in Public” 2013, ed. Sites Management Research Section, Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, 217pp.
- 3 “Report on the 5th Research Meeting on Cultural Landscapes: The Comprehensive Management of Cultural Landscapes” 2014, ed. Landscape Research Section, Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, 90pp.

# The Joint Symposium on Cultural Sites Management and Cultural Landscape

## Outline of the Programme <Actual Results>

a. **Theme:** Significance and Method of Planning:

“For What and How to Establish and Implement the Plan for Cultural Heritage Management?”

b. **Date:** 24 Friday-25 Saturday, January, 2014

c. **Place:** Hall in the Material Pavilion of the Heijo Palace Site

d. **Secretariat:** Sites Management Research Section & Cultural Landscape Research Section,  
Department of Cultural Heritage,  
Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties

e. **Programme:**

\*the 1<sup>st</sup> day: Philosophy of Planning — What is the “Planning” for Cultural Heritage?

13:00-13:30 Registration

13:30-13:35 Opening

NAKAJIMA Yoshiharu (Senior Resercher / Sites Management Research Section)

13:35-14:10 Explanation of the Aim of the Symposium

About “Planning” concerning Historic Sites and Cultural Landscape

HIRASAWA Tsuyoshi (Head / Cultural Landscape Research Section)

Keynote Address I: Planning and Implementation of a Project: JICA’s approach  
toward Regional Development and Cultural Property Protection

14:10-15:10 OISHI Kensuke (Depty Assistant Director / JICA)

**Break 15:10-15:20**

Keynote Lecture 1: From Each Planning to Comprehensive Planning

15:20-16:20 IKEBE, Konomi ( Professor / Chiba University)

Keynote Lecture 2: Concept of Conservation and Planning of Landscape Values

16:20-17:20 KOURA, Hisako (Associate Professor / Osaka University)

\*the 2nd day: Method of Planning — How to be Established and How to be Operated?

Anecdotal Report 1: Planning and Composition for the Maintenance of Historic Ruins

9:30-10:10 AKIYAMA Kunio (Supervision / Historic Environment Planner’s and Architect’s Studio)

Anecdotal Report 2: Viewpoints and Methods for the Planning of the Conservation of Local Resources.

10:10-10:50 YOSHIDA Sadao

(Director of Department of City and Regional Planning / PREC Institute Inc.)

**Break 10:50-11:00**

Anecdotal Report 3: ‘Planning’ to Realize Historical Town Development

11:00-11:40 SUGIMOTO Hiroshi

(Deputy Manager / Historic City Promotion Section, Uji City Municipal Office)

Anecdotal Report 4: Resolution to Adapt the Cultural Landscape

11:40-12:20 KAWAMURA Shinya

(Chief Investigator / Lifelong Learning Division, Shimanto City Board of Education)

12:20-12:30 Summarizations of Lectures and Reports [Secretariat; MAEKAWA Ayumi]

**Break 12:30-14:00**

Panel Discussion: Significance and Method of Planning on Cultural Heritage

14:00-16:35 [Moderator: HIRASAWA Tsuyoshi]

Closing Remarks HAYASHI Yoshihiko (Director / Department of Cultural Heritage)

16:35-16:40 and Secretariat

# “Significance and Method of Planning”

‘ For What and How to Establish and Implement the Plan for Cultural Heritage Management? ’  
The Reports of the Research Symposium for Cultural Sites and Landscape in fiscal 2013

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#### Explanatory Notes

1. This booklet summarizes the results of the Research Symposium for Cultural Sites and Landscapes (referred to as the “Research Symposium” in the rest of this document) titled “Significance and Method of Planning: For What and How to Establish and Implement the Plan for Cultural Heritage Management?” which was held on January 24 (Friday) and 25 (Saturday), 2014 in the atrium of the Nara Palace Site Museum.
2. The Research Symposium was planned and organized by the Sites Management Research Section and the Landscape Research Section of the Department of Cultural Heritage, Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, as part of the research projects on “preservation and management of archaeological sites” and on “cultural landscapes and their protection.” The operation of the Research Symposium was undertaken by Mr. Yoshihiko Hayashi (Director, Department of Cultural Heritage; Head, Sites Management Research Section), Mr. Tsuyoshi Hirasawa (Head, Landscape Research Section), and Mr. Yoshiharu Nakajima (Senior Researcher, Department of Cultural Heritage). The Research Symposium was attended by about 150 people, ranging from local government officials, researchers and professionals to those involved in preservation of archaeological sites.
3. The study reports contained in this booklet were written at our request in FY 2014. The organizational affiliations shown in this booklet are as of the dates of the Research Symposium.
4. This booklet consists of three parts: “I. Study Reports A,” “II. Study Reports B,” and “III. Information Documents.”
5. The section “I. Study Reports A” contains seven papers that the lecturers and presenters wrote based on the outcome of the discussions held in the Research Symposium, along with some of the slides used in the presentations, while the section “II. Study Reports B” contains six new papers dealing with the theme of the Research Symposium.
6. The section “III. Information Documents” contains summary records of the Research Symposium, which consist of the outline of the programme and a list of participants, as well as the purpose description (January 24), and summaries of lectures and presentations (January 25) and discussion (January 25). The discussion was summarized by Mr. Tsuyoshi Hirasawa based on the text transcribed from the audio recordings, for which each speaker was asked to check their own remarks. Some wordings were changed so that the speakers could clearly communicate what they wanted to say. In summarizing the discussion, a draft summary was sent to some of the participants who asked questions during the discussion to add new comments to the summary, while three new columns on relevant topics were submitted and included in the summary. To include the “Fuji Santaro” cartoon in this section, which is shown on p.144, consent was obtained from the copyright holder, the Asahi Shimbun Company, in advance (Consent No. 14-0644 dated June 9, 2014).
7. At the end of this booklet, the outline of the Research Symposium and table of contents are shown in English.
8. The English translation of the “Explanatory Notes” and the “Outline of the Research Symposium” (III. Information Documents) was undertaken by Congress Corporation.
9. Mr. Tsuyoshi HIRASAWA was responsible for editing this booklet.

## **The Research Symposiums on Preservation and Utilization of Historic Sites**

(Organized by Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, from Fiscal 2006 to 2010)

1<sup>st</sup> January 25 Thu.- 26 Fri., 2007

Utilization of the Archaeological Site from the Viewpoint of Education

2<sup>nd</sup> January 25 Fri.- 26 Sat., 2008

Preservation and Utilization of Historic Sites, and the Specified Management System under the Local Autonomy Law

3<sup>rd</sup> January 30 Fri.- 31 Sat., 2009

Current Issues regarding In Situ Exhibition of Archaeological Features from a view point of Preservation and Utilization of Buried Cultural Properties

4<sup>th</sup> January 28 Thu.- 29 Fri., 2010

Environments and Landscapes of Inside and Outside of Cultural Sites;  
Sites Management and Regional Promotion

5<sup>th</sup> January 21 Fri.- 22 Sat., 2011

Comprehensive Management of Cultural Sites and Heritage

## **The Management Research Symposiums for Cultural Sites**

(Organized by Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, from Fiscal 2011)

1<sup>st</sup> February 16 Thu.- 17 Fri., 2012

Management of Natural Heritage as Cultural Properties

2<sup>nd</sup> December 21 Fri.- 22 Sat., 2012

Archaeological Sites and Cultural Heritage in Public

## **The Research Meetings on Cultural Landscapes**

(Organized by Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, from Fiscal 2008)

1<sup>st</sup> February 20 Fri.- 21 Sat., 2009

What is 'Cultural Landscape'? : Concerning Its Outline and Diversity

2<sup>nd</sup> December 18 Fri.- 19 Sat., 2009

Cultural Landscape as Living Things: How do We Read System of Change?

3<sup>rd</sup> December 16 Thu.- 17 Fri., 2010

Sustainability of Cultural landscapes: Management and Utilization for Inheriting a Living Relationships

4<sup>th</sup> December 16 Fri.- 17 Sat., 2011

The Current Situation and Challenges for Cultural Landscapes:  
Interim Summary of Preservation Administration and Academic Research

5<sup>th</sup> December 14 Fri.- 15 Sat., 2012

Comprehensive Management of Cultural Landscapes

## **The Joint Symposium on Cultural Sites Management and Cultural Landscapes**

(Organized by Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties)

January 24 Fri.- 25 Sat., 2014

Significance and Method of Planning on Cultural Heritage