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| Accra | Kazan |
| Alexandria | Kiev |
| Algiers | Konya |
| Amsterdam | Kyoto |
| Andong | Lahore |
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| Baku | Lviv |
| Barcelona | Melbourne |
| Bordeaux | Mexico City |
| Boston | Minsk |
| Bratislava | Montpellier |
| Brussels | Montreal |
| Budapest | Nanjing |
| Buyeo | Nara |
| Chengdu | Nicosia |
| Chiang Mai | Nis |
| Cologne | Norwich |
| Constanta | Norwood Paynter & St Peters |
| Cordoba | Odessa |
| Cracow | Osmangazi |
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| Gyeongju | Tunis |
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| Helsingborg | Veliko Turnovo |
| Hue | Vienna |
| Iasi | Xian |
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| Istanbul | Yangzhou |
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| Kaesong | Zagreb |
| Kanazawa | Zhenzhou |
| Katmandu | Zurich |

Osmangazi

~Osmangazi from the Past to the Future~

Cover Photo: Birds-eye View of the City Centre of Osmangazi

*Review of the Board of Directors Meeting
of LHC 2009 in Nara, Japan*

New member cities, the 12th World Conference of Historical Cities, etc.



WORLD HISTORICAL CITIES

The League of Historical Cities Bulletin
No.53: December 2009

Osmanngazi - From the Past to the Future

Dept. of Architecture, Osmanngazi Municipality, Turkey

Osmanngazi Municipality has realized a number of important works regarding the preservation and regeneration of rich history of Bursa that had hosted various civilizations during the history.

It has struggled to look after the glorious background of Bursa and its historical heritage responsibility and to protect the traces of Roman, Byzantium and Ottoman civilizations. Works to keep the cultural continuation and to enliven the identity of Bursa are ongoing.

Many projects have been produced under the frame of 'Revitalization Project of Bursa Historical and Cultural Way' and most of them have been implemented. All kinds of possibilities are in use in order to preserve the historical heritage, deliver it to the further generations and make it the joint heritage. Historical monuments, which were inactive and excluded, have become important again and restoration projects have started rapidly diligently. Those structures, which were formerly the basements of social and cultural life (khans, baths, madrasahs, fountains), have been functioned as social and cultural areas where people of Bursa are able to get maximum benefit.

As well as monumental architectures, civic architectures were also restored and it was aimed to furbish the traditional roads up. When talking about traditional roads, street furnitures are also included. The neighborhoods were exhausted as a whole, in where garden wall and fountain were considered in a holistic approach. Many of historical fountains are not alive. Only the ones that are adjacent to the monumental buildings were protected together. However many fountains in the side streets have faded away. Restorations of fountains that reflect our water culture best take a considerable amount of the project of Cultural Way. As Awliya Chelebi (Eyliya Celebi), the famous traveler, said: "to sum up, Bursa consists of water."

In order to focus on arising and disappearing roads and to maintain abstract cultural heritage, booklets of Our Neighborhood, Our Village and Our Bazaar were published in which lives in bazaars, villages and neighborhoods are drawn attention.

City culture is first fallen out in neighbors and then shares the joint culture. Booklets of neighborhoods have transmitted the common city conscious from neighborhood to the city level. Osmanngazi Municipality has realized a number of abstract and concrete works for the sake of city culture in Bursa and is aware of that cities are not only composed of buildings and transportation networks but also people



(Photo 1)
Gokdere Madrasah
before the restoration



(Photo 2)
Gokdere Madrasah
after the restoration

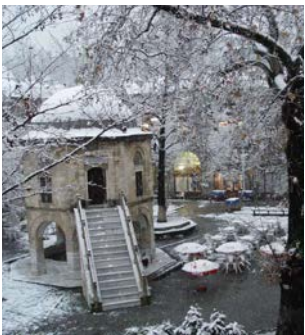
living in there. Therefore the project "Our Neighborhood" looms large as a project that targeted the people and their social and cultural lives.

Our bazaars in the history were places, where people gathered for shopping and are in constant socioeconomic communication. We observe that shopping traditional tend to change as big shopping malls are opened. This social transformation shows that our traditions are fading away. The project 'Our Bazaar' displays the importance of the cultural values that we are losing.

The buildings you can see in the photos 1, 3, 5, 7 were derelicted or degenerated by unconscious users. Although most of them were in the city center, because of tall buildings or unplanned structures that had been stucked on their faces, people living around those buildings were unaware of them. Thanks to the restoration projects of Osmanngazi Municipality, these values have received their original identities and people have become aware of these cultural entities. Following the expropriation works, these buildings were initially revealed and then renovated to open to the public use.

All these restored buildings are used in social and cultural projects. For example Gokdere Masrasah (photo-1), which was built by Bayezit II in the middle of 15th century, was formerly an outdated carpenter shop, it is now open to public use, where there are cultural activities and various training courses were given, i.e. painting, music, language courses, ebru and calligraphy. As far as it was opened, old Kayhan Bazaar, where this center located has enlivened.

Turkish Bath of Murat II (photo-3), which was built in an old settlement area of Muradiye by Sultan Murat II, was locked before the restoration; but now it is a rehabilitation center for handicapped people. Many handicapped people come to this center to join the social activities instead of remaining at home.



Turkish Bath of Ordekli (photo-5), whose construction started in the reign of Yildirim Bayezit and finished in the reign of Celebi Mehmet (Mehmet I.), is one of the double baths where both men and women can use. Before the restoration it was ruined both by human beings and natural disasters. Cooling section for men were completely demolished and overlays on the domes were considerably damaged. It was a derelict building where people had scared to enter. During the restoration project, structures around the bath were expropriated and the bath was exposed with its gorgeous appearance. After the restoration it was refunctioned as a social facility in where cultural organizations are held. Nowadays exhibitions, meetings, congresses, seminars and various artistic courses are organized in the center.

Seyyid Usul Lodge (photo-7), one of the old lodge constructions of Bursa and an example of civic architecture, composed of a whirling hall, a cellar and a kitchen. While the deformed structure that had lost its functions was waiting the complete destruction, it has been reactivated after the restoration. The building was restored, demolished whirling hall was rebuilt and the zone was maintained and repaired. As it was considered important, additional toilets were built in the yard and a traditional-shaped fountain was located on those constructions. We believe that it is a good example of restoration. This structure is now a cultural center for various groups of literature hold their activities and a place for traditional art courses.

Old buildings are whole with their environment. Hence the building and its surroundings are always considered in a holistic approach in historical landscape preservation projects. Open and green spaces between historical buildings and the backyard, where a part of daily life takes place and the usage of the location reflect the traditional living style and the original material. During the landscape projects in these regions, these details were majored on. Moreover the new functions of the buildings were considered and it was ascertained that they would be coherent with the historical tissue.

Osmangazi Municipality undertakes the urban planning projects in close cooperation with Bursa Cultural and Natural Assets Preservation Board experts from the university and asks their ratification. Protected areas are also determined with the joint decision of those institutions.

Non-governmental organizations are included to the meetings when amendments and revisions of master plans in protected areas are talked. As a result of these meetings, targets of preservation and development are set and

projects are implemented in accordance with those targets. The planning targets in the city level are as follows:

- * Developing through substitution,
- * Healing the current structure,
- * Protecting and refunctioning the traditional tissue with the existing structure,
- * Elimination of the squatter, (impeding over-migration to the protected areas)
- * Collecting data in the unsettled plots through drilling and creating an archeologic park within the walls,
- * Evacuation of regional public buildings,
- * Composing a pedestrian-intensive transportation network,
- * Using archeologic protected areas from the first degree in recreational purposes,
- * Get rid of divergent structures,
- * Encouraging the usage of houses as pensions,
- * Considering the faith tourism and cultural tourism together,
- * Using protected areas actively and highlighting the continuity with the tourism,
- * Having the people related to the preservation conscious.

One of the biggest problems that were encountered during this process was unconscious behavior of people that were living in or around these structures. Destruction of the nature can be eliminated with some kinds of precautions, but the damage by human beings causes non-recyclable deprivations.

These buildings have been revitalized one by one and consequently people around those structured have changed their approaches to the historical monuments. Each restored building boosts them to claim their cultural identity.

Organizing 19th symposium of Walled Towns in 8-11 October 2009, Osmangazi Municipality, which leads the preservation and implementation projects in Turkey, has undertaken another innovative attempt and examined the walled towns and castles.



(Photo 7)
Seyyid Usul Lodge
before the restoration

(Photo 8)
Seyyid Usul Lodge
after the restoration
(Seyyid Usul Lodge Culture Center)



(Photo 3)
Turkish Bath of Murat II. before the restoration



(Photo 4)
Turkish Bath of Murat II. after the restoration
(Turkish Bath of Muradiye Center for Handicapped)



(Photo 5)
Turkish Bath of Ordekli before the restoration



(Photo 6)
Turkish Bath of Ordekli after the restoration
(Turkish Bath of Ordekli Culture and Art Center)

For further information

Ali Gulbay
International Coordinator
Osmangazi Municipality

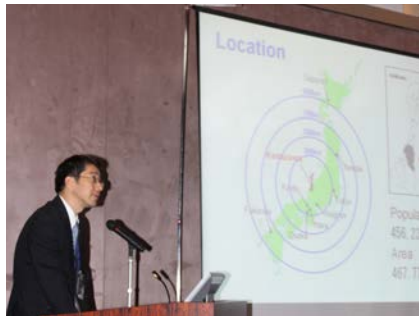
Santral Garaj Mh. Ukkubatli Hasan
blv. No:6 Osmangazi Bursa Turkey
tel +90 224 2707056
e-mail :aligulbay@osmangazi.bel.tr

Review of the Board of Directors Meeting of LHC 2009 held in Nara, Japan on 14-15 Oct., 2009

The Board of Directors Meeting of the League of Historical Cities 2009 was held in Nara, Japan from 14 to 15 October 2009. Four Board Cities out of eight attended the meeting, i.e. Kyoto (President), Xian (Vice President), Vienna (Vice President) and Gyeongju. Paris sent the delegation of powers to the president and Ballarat and Montreal were absent. The board members mainly discussed about new applying cities for the membership and future world conferences of historical cities. Please find the followings for the details of what has been resolved in the meeting.

<New Member Cities>

The board members had discussed the new membership of the City of Nis (Serbia) and the City of Yangzhou (China) via internet and approved in May. In this meeting in Nara, the board members discussed the new membership of the City of Constanta (Romania), the City of Kanazawa (Japan), the City of Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina) and the City of Veliko Turnovo (Bulgaria). Mr. Genji Mori, vice mayor of Kanazawa made a presentation in front of the board members. As a result, all four cities were approved as member cities. The League enlarged the membership to 84 cities from 55 countries.



Mr. Genji Mori, vice mayor of Kanazawa makes a presentation at the meeting.

<Candidate Cities for hosting the 13th Conference>

The City of Hue (Vie Nam) and the City of Yangzhou (China) have stood as candidate cities for hosting the 13th World Conference of Historical Cities which will be held in 2012. Mr. Nguyen Nhien, Director of Hue City Center for International Cooperation and Mr. Nanjun Zhao, Deputy Chairman of Yangzhou Committee of People's Political Consultative Conference made a presentation to express their desire and appealed merits to hold the conference in the cities. The host city of the 13th conference will be officially decided at the next board meeting in 2010 and board members requested two cities to make a detailed presentation at next board meeting.

<The 12th World Conference of Historical Cities>

1 Theme of the 12th Conference

Mr. Yukio Nishimura, the member of the Planning Committee for the 12th World Conference of Historical Cities and the professor of the Research Center for Advanced Science and Technology of University of Tokyo made a presentation about main theme of the Conference. Following Mr. Nishimura's presentation, Mr. Ikuo Tanabe, Director General of the Committee and Director General of National Institutes for Cultural Heritage of Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties made a presentation about sub theme of the Conference. After the discussion with the board members, the themes for the 12th World Conference of Historical Cities has been decided as follows:

Themes for The 12th World Conference of Historical Cities 2010

Main Theme

Succession of Historical City with Creative Revitalization

Sub theme

(Theme for Round Table Forum)

1. **Unique City Planning Utilizing Its Historical Characteristics**
- Establishment of Identity
2. **City Maintaining Its History**
- Harmonious Coexistence

(Theme for Workshop)

System Designing to Succeed Culture of Historical City

- Technical Succession
- Disaster Prevention of Historical City

*Please refer to page 6 for the details of main theme.



Nara Park and Deer, Nara's Divine messengers
Photo : Courtesy of Nara City Tourist Association



Mr. Nguyen Nhien (center) from Hue answers to the question from the board members.



Mr. Nanjun Zhao from Yangzhou makes a presentation at the meeting.

2 Outline of the 12th Conference
 Ms. Miyako Nishizaki, Director of Tourism Promotion and International Section of the City of Nara made a presentation about the overall plan for the 12th Conference including the period, venue, time schedule, registration fee and others. After the discussion with board members, the proposed plan was approved by the board members.

**The 12th World Conference
 of Historical Cities 2010
 <12 Oct. - 15 Oct.>**

Conference Venues

AM on 12 Oct. (Opening Ceremony & Keynote Lecture)
**Noh Theatre, Nara Prefectural
 New Public Hall** (<http://www.shinkokaido.jp/>)

PM on 12 Oct.-
Main Hall, Nara Centennial Hall
 (<http://www.nara100.com>)

Program

Day 0 (11 Oct.):
 PM Pre-conference Tour to
 Todaiji Temple & Kasuga Taisha Shrine

Day 1 (12 Oct.):
 AM Opening Ceremony
 Keynote Lecture

PM Youth Forum
 Workshop (for experts)

Day 2 (13 Oct.):
 AM Workshop (for experts)

PM Roundtable Forum(for City representatives)

Day 3 (14 Oct.):
 AM Excursion to Heijo Palace Site

PM General Overview for the session
 General Assembly of LHC
 Closing Ceremony

Day 4 (15 Oct.):
**Post-conference Tour to Kyoto
 including Lunch hosted by Mayor of Kyoto**

Registration

**Registration will start from
 1 May 2010**

Registration Fee:
JPY50,000
 (registration before 30 June 2010)

JPY80,000
 (registration after 1 July 2010)

<Note>
 Registration Fee includes:
 * Three nights accommodation between
 11 Oct. and 15 Oct.
 * All meals on 12,13,14 Oct. in Nara and
 Lunch in Kyoto on 15 Oct.
 * Transportation from Kansai Airport
 or Itami Airport to Nara
 * Pre-conference tour around Nara
 and Post-conference tour to Kyoto

JPY20,000 Registration fee for those who
 do not need accommodation.

Registration Method:
 1. **Internet** (<http://wchc2010-nara.jp/>)
 2. **Fax or Post the Registration Form**
 The Registration Form is available from
 the official website
 (<http://wchc2010-nara.jp/>) after 1 May.
 The form will be enclosed with the
 invitation letter to the conference which
 is to be sent out from January 2010
 from the City of Nara and Kyoto as well.

Contact Person of the City of Nara:
 Mr. Kiyohide Nishite
 Director
 Tourism Promotion and International
 Section

Nara Municipal Office
 1-1-1, Nijooji-Minami, Nara City,
 630-850, Japan
 Phone & Fax: +81-742-34-1965
 E-mail: kankokoryu@city.nara.lg.jp

Official Website for the 12th Conference:
<http://wchc2010-nara.jp/>



Conference Room of Nara Prefectural
 New Public Hall, where the board meeting
 was held.



Mr. Gen Nakagawa (fourth to the left) and
 the board members at the press conference
 held after the board meeting on 14 Oct.



Board members inspecting the Noh Theatre
 located in the Nara Prefectural New Public
 Hall, the venue for the opening ceremony
 and key note lecture of the 12th Conference.



The board members at the
 meeting : (from left) one from
 City of Vienna, two from Xian
 and three from Gyeongju

(from right) Mr. Gen Nakagawa,
 Mayor of Nara, Mr. Nishimura
 and Mr. Tanabe from the
 Planning Committee for the 12th
 Conference and Staff from
 Tourism Promotion and
 International Section, City of Nara.



Board members inspecting the Main Hall of
 Nara Centennial Hall, the main venue for
 the 12th Conference.

Description of Main Theme for the 12th World Conference of Historical Cities held in Nara, Japan on 12-15 Oct., 2010

The main theme for the 12th World Conference of Historical Cities has been decided as "Succession of Historical City with Creative Revitalization". The following is the contents of the presentation made by Mr. Yukio Nishimura, the member of the Planning Committee for the 12th Conference at the board meeting in order to seek approval about this theme. The Secretariat hopes the following helps readers understand the main theme well.

In 1994, experts from various culture areas throughout the world gathered in the City of Nara to hold the Nara Conference on Authenticity in Relation to the World Heritage Convention, a very meaningful international expert meeting on cultural heritage. The experts discussed the value of cultural heritage and the evaluation of its authenticity. Compared with "stone culture", which has considerable durability, we have difficulty in conserving "wood culture" as it is. Therefore, some experts and scholars have not expressed favorable opinions about the authenticity of "wooden culture" in the past. At this international expert meeting, it was agreed that the value and authenticity attributed to heritage should be made from a more comprehensive point of view, including the material aspect and the cultural context of each property. This was an epoch-making agreement that caused a stir in the conventional concept of the authenticity of heritage. It was understood at this meeting that the value of Japanese traditional wooden structures is common to humankind. A report on the international expert meeting entitled The Nara Document on Authenticity plays an important role in the evaluation of today's world heritage. Researchers throughout the world acknowledged the existence of cultural diversity at the meeting. In 1998, a large number of wooden inheritances that Nara is proud of were recognized as Historic Monuments of Ancient Nara and registered as world heritage. This has opened the way for the registration of a large number of wooden structures as world heritage. This document says, "Cultural heritage diversity exists in time and space, and demands respect for other cultures and all aspects of their belief systems." The document proposes that respect for cultural diversity demands acknowledgment of the legitimacy of the cultural values of all parties in the world. This is a strong message to world peace.

A number of arrangements made progress for the decade in order to apply the principle of The Nara Document on Authenticity to the practical preservation of the cultural heritage. Most of them attached importance to tangible cultural heritage. During the period, however, there was a rise in experts' consciousness of the protection of intangible cultural heritage and the interaction of tangible and intangible cultural heritage. In 2004, another International Conference on the Safeguarding of Tangible and Intangible Cultural Heritage: Towards an Integrated Approach was held in the City of Nara. The participants of the conference adopted the Yamato Declaration on Integrated Approaches for Safeguarding Tangible and Intangible Cultural Heritage. The Yamato Declaration appeals for the importance of intangible cultural heritage, and advocates that the protection of intangible cultural heritage should be discussed with the recognition of its peculiarity kept in mind while attaching importance to the relation between tangible and intangible cultural heritage and the interaction of tangible and intangible cultural heritage.

Why were these two conferences held in the City of Nara? The reason is that Nara is a treasure house of intangible cultural heritage as well as tangible cultural heritage including wooden construction heritage. Nara is aware of its mission to continue transmitting the purposes of these two conferences proudly to the world.

The cultures of ethnic minorities are suppressed and some cultures are destroyed because of religious opposition in the world, which leads to regional conflict. On the other hand, the spirit of The Nara Document on Authenticity and the Yamato Declaration are very meaningful to the world's people when they create an environment where they acknowledge the diversity of cultures, respect cultures different from theirs, and coexist. I think living symbiotically (i.e., living together) is a message that will be a great peaceful weapon to appeal for peace in contemporary society.

The City of Nara inaugurated its Planning Committee for the 12th Conference. The Committee has held four conferences since September last year to study and decide the themes of the 12th Conference. The members of the Committee discussed in the hope that the main theme would be suitable to this international conference to be held in Nara, which has a history of 1,300 years, and contain strong message perfectly complementing Nara. After the discussions, the Committee decided the main theme to be Succession of Historical City with Creative Revitalization.

A standardized system will be established soon for the preservation of the cultural heritage of the world's historical cities with the understanding and cooperation of citizens. This is a result of the constant, long-year effort of people concerned with the cultural heritage.

However, there has been no concrete decision on how to utilize the preserved cultural heritage for the future, for which a large number of countries are grouping. The ideal future of a historical city is not the restoration of the city's sights of the past or the reproduction of the city's sights of a certain period in the past.

The City of Nara is known as a historical city to which Japan's capital was relocated 1,300 years ago, and has a large amount of cultural assets including the world heritage. What we have been protecting and handing down from generation to generation is the essence of Nara that ancient people created. The essence has been maintained successfully. The reason is that Nara was already a city of a worldwide fame that was proud of advanced culture 1,300 years ago.

It can be said that a city with traditional culture has potential energy to produce something avant-garde. Tradition grows luster in contrast to the vanguard of culture. Historical cities have potential energy. While leaving the history of humankind in a certain form, we must concentrate modern wisdom for the brighter future of historical cities. I hope that the 12th Conference will provide us with an opportunity to discuss from various angles what should be done to create new culture while the world's historical cities inherit their unique local culture.



The Great Buddha

The Symposium named "Guided by the Past: A Symposium on Historic Preservation in Kyoto and Boston" was held at First floor Theater at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston on 24 August, sponsored by the City of Kyoto, the City of Boston and the Japan Society of Boston. The following is the report about the symposium by Mr. Kirk Sykes, one of the panelist of the symposium, President of Urban Strategy America Fund & New Boston Fund.

This symposium celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the Boston-Kyoto Sister City relationship. What might have been a ceremonial meeting between The Honorable Thomas Menino, Mayor of Boston and the Honorable Daisaku Kadokawa, Mayor of Kyoto evolved into an exciting exchange of International Heritage. Japanese and American planners, architects and government officials found common ground in their respective love for their countries, preservation and heritage. The Japan American Society of Boston in Association with the Cities of Kyoto and Boston were the conveners of this fantastic event held at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston on August 26, 2009.

The most notable aspect of the symposium was the contrast in the scale of the presentation topics. The Kyoto presentations were more consistent in their focus on the importance of the Kyo-Machiya, the traditional Kyoto townhouse. Toshinori Terada, Director, Urban Planning Bureau for the City of Kyoto looked at the role of the traditional house from a neighborhood scale, considering how these historic districts and their residents affect the city overall. Yoshifumi Muneta, Professor of Urban Planning at Kyoto Prefectural University spoke of the importance of preserving the architectural heritage of these townhouses and its effect on cultural tourism. However, it may have been Fusae Kojima, President of the Kyo-Machiya Study Group, who married into a family that owned a Kyo-Machiya and began to learn and live the heritage of these homes first hand, that best conveyed their importance in Japanese culture. In simple terms, it appeared to Fusae a matter of living Kyoto culture one house and one family at a time.

The presentations by the Bostonians were collectively broader and covered everything from the conversion of a historic prison into a

boutique hotel to the effect of submerging Boston's highway and its effect on the preservation of its historic districts. Kairos Shen, Chief Planner for the City of Boston spoke of Boston's preservation efforts at the city scale. Ann Beha, Principal of Ann Beha Architects, spoke of her creative and adaptive reuse of Boston's oldest existing prison into a vibrant social center for Boston's historic Beacon Hill. I was fortunate enough to share the presentation that I made to many of you in Konya at the 11th World Conference of Historical Cities on Boston's "Big Dig" highway submersion. Our moderator Andrea Leers skillfully lead the Boston presenters through a process that revealed that all of us were engaging in creative manipulation of current uses, neighborhoods, regulations and planning to create a Boston that recognizes it's past in new and innovative ways that uniquely reflect Boston's and America's need to keep moving forward.

Professor Leers pointed out the relevance of the intimate relationship with the Kyoto townhouse and its similarities to Boston's efforts to restore entire historic districts. While both Boston and Kyoto cherish their heritage and have put strict policies in place to preserve special districts, both cities are also grappling with the challenges of 21st Century urban living. Accommodation of cars, commerce and population growth are conversations that both cities are engaged in. It was Ms. Kojima who had the revelation that it is the relationship between a citizen and his or her house that is the essence of the City. Whether it is the Kyo-Machiya townhouse or the Boston Brownstown, it is these minute associations magnified by thousands of people that creates the character of the City. Beyond this intimate scale, it is the creativity with which we address the large scale planning issues that lets the City's character shine.

Guided by the Past: A Symposium on Historic Preservation in Kyoto & Boston

held in Boston on 26 Aug. -Report from Kirk Sykes, Panelist of the Symposium-



Mr. Daisaku Kadokawa, President of the League of Historical Cities, Mayor of Kyoto



Ms. Fusae Kojima, President, Kyo-machiya Revitalization Study Group



Mr. Toshinori Terada, Director of Urban Planning Bureau, City of Kyoto



Mr. Yoshifumi Muneta, Prof. of Urban Planning, Kyoto Prefectural University



Left: Mr. Kairos Shen, Chief Planner of City of Boston
Right: Mr. Kirk Sykes, writer of this report



Historic Preservation in Boston
 Chief Planner, City of Boston: Kairos Shen



Kairos Shen
 Chief Planner, City of Boston

Boston is a city that prides itself on its history while embracing the future. From the oldest subway station in America and the sight of the Boston Tea Party to its cutting edge hospitals and technology firms, the City seamlessly knits its past into the future. But Boston did not always value its history. The preservation movement in Boston was formed as a reaction to inner city disinvestment and urban renewal in the 1960s when many historic buildings and whole neighborhoods were torn down.

When Boston was settled in 1630, the landmass was significantly smaller than it is today. The original land form dictated a spider-web-like street alignment. As neighborhoods such as the Back Bay and the South End were built on land fill in the mid-1800s, street grids were put into place, often at incongruous angles to the original network of roads creating interesting and memorable urban places. These street patterns not only reveal the history of Boston but are a critical element of the physical character and shape on which the city was built and they are as valuable as the individual buildings which together form the fabric of the city.

Boston approaches historic preservation by two means: the city has approximately 7,000 individually landmarked buildings and 12 separate landmarked districts. This dual approach defines clear boundaries for the historic neighborhoods and protects their character while allowing greater latitude for new development outside these districts. Boston's tallest towers have sprouted up next to and surrounded by some of the city's most historic buildings and they stretch carefully down along the east-west spine of the city, between two of the largest landmarked neighborhoods: the Back Bay and the South End.

Quincy Market, originally built in 1826 as a food distribution center, had fallen into disrepair by the 1970s. The city embarked on an ambitious restoration effort which was completed in 1975, and it has served as a national model for downtown historic revitalizations. The buildings were restored and given new life as a hub for the retail and emerging tourism economy. New additions to the original market building were modern and distinct, allowing visitors to appreciate the original form and character.

Trinity Church and the John Hancock Tower

exemplify Boston's blend of historic preservation and the City's emergence as a modern metropolis. Trinity Church, built in 1877 and designed by H.H. Richardson, is the centerpiece of Copley Square in Boston. The church was the archetype of a new architectural style, later repeated across the United States. In order to respect the significance of the church and Copley Square, the Hancock tower was designed to celebrate its historic neighbor. The glass was chosen to reflect not only the sky, but the church itself. The offset angle of the Hancock tower responds to historically important views of Trinity Church.

Both the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum and the Museum of Fine Arts have wrestled with how to expand their landmarked structures while maintaining their original character and charm. They are currently undergoing renovations which will expand and enhance the iconic 1900's buildings with the most contemporary and greenest structures. In both instances, very light glass pavilions have been added to recreate street wall facades, complimenting, respecting and revealing the original structures.

These are just a few examples of how Boston has been building a modern city while honoring the character of its historic neighborhoods and preserving the most significant historic buildings. Boston benefitted from the strong advocacy of historic preservationists during the early 1970s which put into place regulations that made the early preservation projects possible. This respect for the history of the city is now so ingrained into the culture and the psyches of its citizens that it has become the normative approach to the city's planning and development. This attitude will continue to allow Boston to grow into the future while preserving and enriching the unique physical character of the city.



Quincy Market Restoration



The 12th World Conference of Historical Cities in Nara, Japan

Period: 12 - 15 Oct., 2010
 Theme: Succession of Historical City with Creative Revitalization

Contact: Mr. Kiyohide Nishite
 Director, Tourism Promotion and International Section,
 Nara Municipal Office
 1-1-1, Nijooji-Minami, Nara City, 630-8580, Japan
 Phone & Fax: +81-742-34-1965
 E-mail: kankokoryu@city.nara.lg.jp
<http://www.city.nara.nara.jp>



The League of Historical Cities Secretariat

International Relations Office,
 City of Kyoto
 Teramachi Oike, Nakagyo-ku,
 Kyoto 604-8571, Japan
 Phone: +81-75-222-3072
 Fax: +81-75-222-3055
 E-mail: lhcs@city.kyoto.jp
 URL: <http://www.city.kyoto.jp/somu/kokusai/lhcs/>