

Architect Masatsune Matsumura and Another Modernism

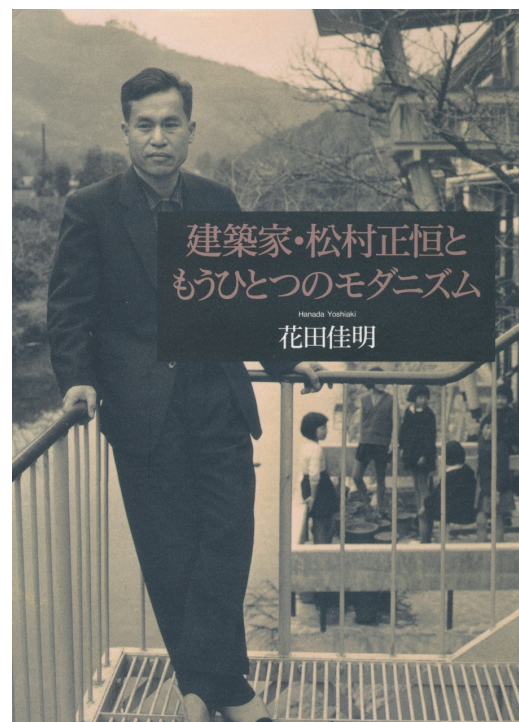
Yoshiaki Hanada (Professor, Kobe Design University)

This book is the first academic monograph on architect Masatsune Matsumura. He served as a municipal architect for Yawatahama City in Ehime Prefecture from 1947 to 1960. During these 13 years, he designed about 37 buildings. They are basically what should be referred to as modernist architecture. However, by employing a wood-steel hybrid structural form and gable roof, he succeeded in embodying architecture that is neither so-called “white box” international style nor Le Corbusier like concrete style.

In this book, I carefully examined Matsumura’s career, his historical background and spatial structure of the buildings he designed. And I revealed that he embodied the democratic idea for education and life of Japan after World War 2 in his unique design of architecture.

My investigation in this book led to the re-evaluation of Matsumura and provided a number of specific judgment basis to conservation and renovation project of Hizuchi Elementary School which is the most excellent building he designed between 1956 and 1958.

The consortium members including me of this project were awarded the Annual Award of the Architectural Institute of Japan and World Monuments Fund/Knoll Modernism Prize in 2012. Furthermore Hizuchi Elementary School was designated as a national important cultural property of Japan in 2012. This book made a great contribution to each selection process.



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