

NAGAYA Alive: Creation of the Osaka City University Model

Row houses (nagaya in Japanese) were the main type of dwelling in Osaka before World War II. After the war, row houses were demolished one after another due to deterioration, but some row house blocks for regular citizens still remain. One of them is Toyosaki Nagaya, which received the Prize of AIJ for Education Award for Outstanding Practice in 2010. This book is the result of a collaborative research conducted by Osaka City University's researchers who were involved with the revitalization of Toyosaki Nagaya.

The authors, who specialize in different fields, delved into the redevelopment issues faced by row houses by bringing their respective awareness of the issues and using different analytical methods. They presented a number of universal models for architecture and community development such as the conservation and utilization of residential assets, redevelopment design and technology, housing management for generations, traditional space, residences for elderly people, reestablishment of communities, and urban development.

The abundant data and photographic materials accumulated through detailed investigations and researches over seven years show that the row houses in Osaka are living historical assets, and that they are sources for future creation.