

Japanese Traditional Architecture Study based on Timber Construction System

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The Japanese traditional wooden architecture has so many variations, such as main halls of Buddhist temple accommodating large groups, soaring Buddhist towers, castles having a complicated shape and dwelling houses in farming villages. These types of architecture all have their distinctive shapes and internal spaces. However the structure basically composed of columns and beams is simple in principle, its construction system has evolved in its own unique way over a long period of history to adapt to natural environment and society system in each place, and finally achieved a huge variety of spaces. The accumulation of such diversity forms the foundation of rich architectural culture in Japan today.

From the perspective described in above, this book is designed to interpret spaces of the Japanese traditional architecture focusing on timber construction system and to study the mechanism of its change. Such a point of view is quite unprecedented, especially the analysis of farmhouses and traditional town houses. Therefore, this book clarifies the relationship between spaces of the Japanese traditional architecture and its construction system, providing essential knowledge to people involved in conservation or renovation of traditional architecture. (186 words)