

Urban Design Lab. Magazine

Urban Design(Nishimura & Kitazawa) Laboratory,

Faculty of engineering / Department of Urban Engineering
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Presentation at Architecture Institution in Kyushu

The Architectural Institution was held at Fukuoka University from on August 29th to 31st. Many of our lab. members spent holidays from the center of Fukuoka before or after the Institution.

Presentation

Fourteen members from our lab gave presentations about their products such as doctor thesis, master thesis, graduation thesis or projects(Yatsuo, Kitakata, Shinjyuku.) Though only six minutes we were given for presentation, all of them were solid matters. At the Architectural Institution, research conventions and panel discussions are one of amusements. Lab. members attend various sessions such as "Potential of everyday landscape" Prof. Nishimura gave speech.

We went to downtown and enjoyed food culture of Fukuoka such as youza, ramen at stands at night.



Fukuoka

D2 Shin Nakajima

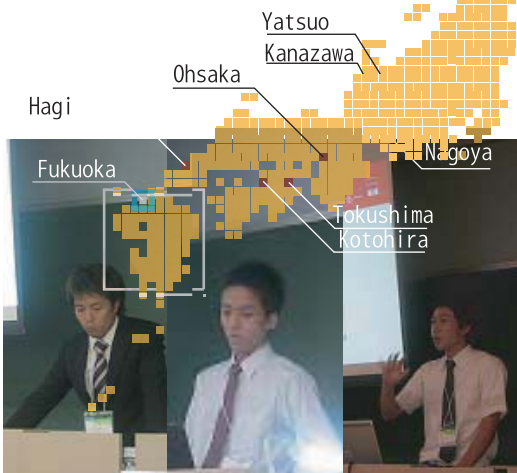
I arrived in Fukuoka one day before the Institution to see modern architecture. I saw collective house, "Nexas world" Arata Isozaki produced and the core plant of "island city central park" coastal area which is under construction, "Gurin gurin" Toyo Ito designed. I could see completely new park that grounds lead walls of architecture.

Kagoshima

D1 Yang Hui-Hsuan

I got to visit Kumi Eguchi's grand parents' house with her in early September. We traveled to many places such as samurai house in Chiran and Izumi, Sakura island, Yamakawa Onsen, and Ohshima in Akune city and had a great time with good weather. In particular, I felt samurai house in Chiran and Izumi was enjoyable because people live ordinary lives and the place is open to visitors even though it is registered as a National Architectural Preservation Site. I would really like to see Yatsuo become like that.

Kyushu!



Aso

M2 Vichienpradit Pornsan

Some lab members went to Mount Aso in the center of Kyushu after the presentations. Although it was raining around Mt. Aso, when we reached the top of the mountain, the sun came out and we were able to take pictures in front of Kusasenri. We had a BBQ at night at the foot of the mountain, and we realized the vastness of the world's biggest caldera from Mount Gairin. We felt so small in nature and it was such a contrast to how we feel in cities.



Nagasaki

M2 Masato Ito

I participated in the two-day Kitazawa lab trip to Nagasaki. I got to see Minami-yamanote, cruised around Gunkan Island, learned about the urban design system of Nagasaki, and visited a museum and a park. An alumnus of our lab, Kunihiro Masahiko, works as a civil servant for Nagasaki Prefecture and coordinated our trip. He talked about various things and I learned a lot. Thank you very much!

Mojikou

M1 Yuri Yahara

Heading away from the station, the area has a retro feel and one can feel the cultural significance. I was, however a bit disappointed that there were many new buildings and some high rise apartment towers. Beyond that, the whole area has been turned into a tourist attraction and that takes away some of its character. After visiting Mojiko, I crossed the Kanmon and moved into Yamaguchi prefecture. Though distance of this trip was long from Hagi to Kanazawa, and Yatsuo, I recognized the importance and history hidden in Japanese architecture.



Community-based planning University started in Yatsuo

text_Shiozawa



Four years have passed since the Yatsuo project was started. The time has come for both team members and Yatsuo residents to review our activities and take the next step. So we plan to hold a Community-based Planning University supported by the Yatsuo Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Board of Trade and Sightseeing Association.

The Community-based Planning University consisted of three parts: A community-based planning seminar, an exhibition of findings, and the walk rally Yatsuo. The activities will be held in Yatsuo from September 22nd to December 2nd.

The community-based planning seminar is the main part of the Community-based Planning University and will be held four times. The main goal is to find the main supporters and use the opportunity for interested parties to interact. The first seminar was held on September 22nd. Those who participated in the seminar were mainly from Yatsuo, but some of them were from other areas. Everyone is looking forward to see what might happen next.

The Walk Rally Yatsuo is an event conducted with Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Board of Trade, mainly aimed at children to know and enjoy their town more. It took place on September 23rd. Over forty people consisting of children and their parents participated.



won the first prize! proposal of public facility in Katori city

M1 Takato kamagata



At the end of August, volunteers from the group of first year Master's students tried a student competition to redesign the parking area of Tadataka Inohara memorial hall in Sawara.

Although we only had five days to create the proposal for walls and alleys, we won the 1st prize by impressing judges composed of both administration and residents. We were surprised by the events, but we think it was a good experience to be involved in the actual design.

We are going to proceed with the design with help from the administration. The first meeting following the competition was held on September 19th, and we discussed modifications of our proposal due to budget and management concerns. We plan to meet three more times this year and the bid and construction is going to start next January.



Announcement Noren in Kitakata

text_Kakibaya

We conducted a landscape experiment exhibiting noren successively on the Odatsuki Kura Street to coincide with a local festival on September 8th.

There was concern that the noren might not be finished, because only half of the noren were finished at the second noren-making workshop on August 26. With many residents and shop owners' positive support, we finished making all 32 noren. Having the noren displayed along the street gave definition to the street. A visitor to the area said "I thought they are unique to this city!"

Though the noren that were made this time were only part of a temporary experiment, the experience provided a base for future community-based planning efforts that can give residents a chance to shape and influence their own landscape.

