Change in Meaning of Landscape Observed in Location and Relocation of Factories

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This article studies the meaning of landscape in the location and relocation of factories that caused pollution problems. The coastal area of Kawasaki, a typical industrial city in Japan, was chosen as a target of the study. In the process of clarifying how the factories that caused pollution problems were located, the commonality of the factories being relocated because they caused pollution problems in the previous site location was confirmed.

While Kawasaki continued to form an industrial area, Fukagawa in Tokyo and Zushi in the Miura Peninsula where the factories were formerly located achieved a transformation respectively by using their landscape resources different from the factory landscape. Fukagawa formed a landscape with residential and business functions and adjacent gardens as well as a surrounding urban core area. Zushi transformed as a fine resort and a popular tourist site using tourism resources of the coastal area.

In Fukagawa, corporate laboratories were left as the remains of the industrial landscape while in Zushi, a marina resort was constructed on the former factory site. If it is possible to convert the meaning of landscape, it will be possible to use landscape resources prior to the industrialization also for Kawasaki that came to form an industrial area at a turning point of the times. In Kawasaki, feelings toward the sea of people engaged in the fishing industry as an indigenous industry are inherited. The movement for environmental reclamation after the pollution litigation may bring a new land use in the coastal area of Tokyo Bay. When landscape resources of natural environments are going to be used, the landscape prior to the industrialization may not remain; however, past landscape resources are engraved in the monuments erected by fishermen.

By reconsidering the meaning of landscape, it becomes possible to treat the past landscape as a cultural resource while incorporating the negative historical legacy of pollution problems. In that case, it is necessary not only to evaluate the factory landscape simply as an ornamental work, but also to evaluate comprehensively the change of the area near the factories and the influence given by the factories. This also leads to the judgment of the development of landscape resources not only from the viewpoint of economic policies, but also in consideration of cultural aspects and natural environments as well. It is hoped that discussions on the landscape policies will deepen by the accumulation of such case studies in the future.
Key words: Location of Factories, Landscape, Pollution Problems, Kawasaki, Fukagawa, Zusi