Chapter 2: Do Urban Designs by Codes and Flexibility.

(A project of mine — The inner streets, Kyoto, 2003)

Located in a crowded historical community, this project tried to reach 4 goals by making construction rules and adding a physical system of open space:

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2. Increase the capacity of the area.
3. Preserve historical buildings.
4. Form a new style of the community.
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The vein of the Kyoto city, like most of the old cities in east Asia, was a fixture composed by chess-board-like squares. But however, there are still some little twists can be found in the outside of the old city.

To understand the reasons, I took a look of the traffics.

About Development and Traffic in Kyoto

The graphic on the left shows the traffics and the main streets of Kyoto today.

Compare the old city with the age of the feudal society with the new one, we can see the city grows southwest.

And if we look carefully into the roads and avenues, we'll find that they never go across the old center. For it's too complicated and crowded with historical buildings.
And the zoning of high limit is just as interesting. They're highest parts are in pink and orange.

In this graphic, the 31 meters orange zone is seriously outed by the 20 meters yellow zone — it's because of all the most important ancient monuments. In the old days, they were located in the suburbs.

About Hight Limit and Site Selection
Growing population of senior citizens
Kyoto’s Characters and Problems

Two Different Features in my Site, Alone the ”Oike-dori” and inside the blocks
A historical city like Kyoto should provide more capacity than a normal city—the extra capacity is for history.

The inner streets should provide comfortable open spaces.

The inner streets are for walking and outdoor activities.

The system should work as a network.

The system should cooperate with the old one.

Kyoto

The Inner Streets Statements

This is how transitional blocks developed.

What I have to do is only to make connections and to provide supplying systems.

2-05
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The inner streets should provide comfortable open spaces.

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The inner streets should work as a network.

The system should cooperate with the old one.

The system should identify itself from the old one.

Kyoto

The Inner Streets Statements

For the natural organic growing of the city, there are going to be little chance to design the whole area once.

But there is still necessity to bring new orders with in new buildings. The transitional ways to solve this problem is usually by zoning and construction laws.

In this project, I design three different levels of the inner streets, and develop frames that connect with each other, in those frames, I create three dimensional building sites, and give rules of height, capacity and program.
This is a site on the north-east of the old-city area located on the both sides of the "Oike-dori."

Master Plane of the Inner Streets System

Master plan of the system
Top View & Lower Floors

Top View of the Inner Streets System

- buildings of the existing system
- roofs (over 6 floors)
- inner streets (public, ground floor)
- inner streets (level 2-3 floors)
- balconies (4-5 floors)

Old / preserved
Open space
Commercial
Mixed use

The Lower Floors Show the Problems and the Connections