



Research for the Block Park Design in Inner City Area of Large Cities

メタデータ	言語: eng 出版者: 公開日: 2009-08-25 キーワード (Ja): キーワード (En): 作成者: MASUDA, Noboru, ABE, Daishu, SHIMOMURA, Yasuhiko, YAMAMOTO, Satoshi, TAKEDA, Kazuma メールアドレス: 所属:
URL	https://doi.org/10.24729/00009207

Research for the Block Park Design in Inner City Area of Large Cities

Noboru MASUDA, Daishu ABE, Yasuhiko SHIMOMURA,
Satoshi YAMAMOTO, and Kazuma TAKEDA

Laboratory of Urban Landscape Planning and Design, College of Agriculture

(Received October 31, 1994)

Abstract

The aim of this study is to identify some of the trends in block park design resulting from efforts to cater to changes and diversification in the lifestyle of residents in these areas. This research seeks to predict future design trends in block parks which are appropriate to the needs of users and which take into consideration the character of the locality. For example, in residential areas there is a need for open spaces, while in commercial areas, which cater not merely to the needs of residents but also to those of workers and visitors, there is a need for more functional urban plaza. Where there is a mixture of industrial and residential areas, there is a need for parks which take into consideration both multiuseful open spaces and functional urban plaza.

Research Goal

In recent years, with changes in the living environment and in the structure of society, the part that parks play in city life has also become more diverse and complex. This study seeks to predict future design trends in block parks (previously known as children's parks) and changes in their function through analysis of the influence which changes in the social environment has had on design in recent years.

Research Method

In this study, a total of 12 block parks in Higashi-Sumiyoshi Ward, Kita Ward and Joto Ward, which are typical residential, commercial and industrial areas, or mixtures of these types of area, in Osaka City, were analyzed on the basis of the year in which they were established - one park from each area from the 1950s, 60s, 70s and 80s. The location of these parks is shown in Figure 1.

First, to analyze changes in the social environment, a reference literature survey was carried out regarding the changes in social needs, changes in population concentration, and development of state and city park administration - all factors which underlie park planning. A survey was also made of the number of block parks established in Osaka City during the past 40 years. Secondly, population movement within each of the chosen wards, changes in the function of these wards and the number of block parks established in these wards were analyzed.

The design and function of these parks was considered by analyzing the plans of each individual

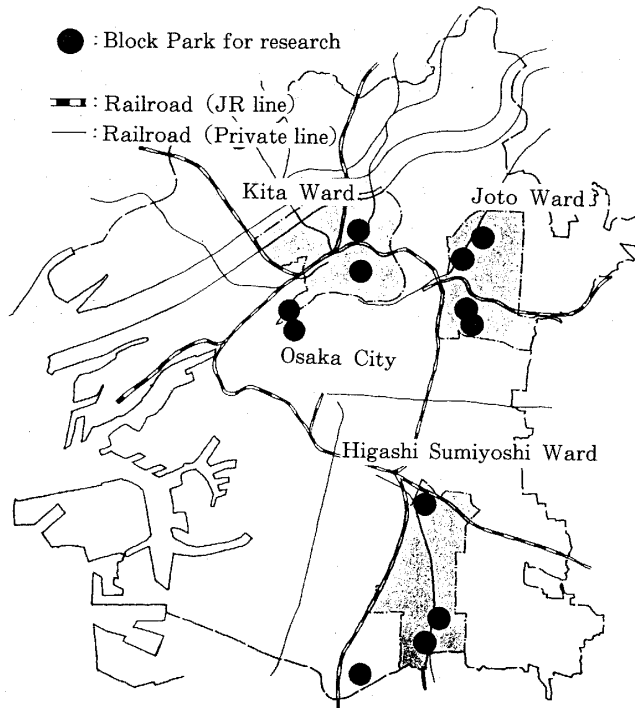


Figure 1 Location of the block park for research

Facilities		
Play Areas	Rest Areas	Sports Areas
Space		
Multiseuseful Open Space	Rest Areas	Entrance Areas
Pathways		
Formal Pathways	Informal Pathways	
Altered Ground Formation	Planting	
	Sparse	Dense Areas

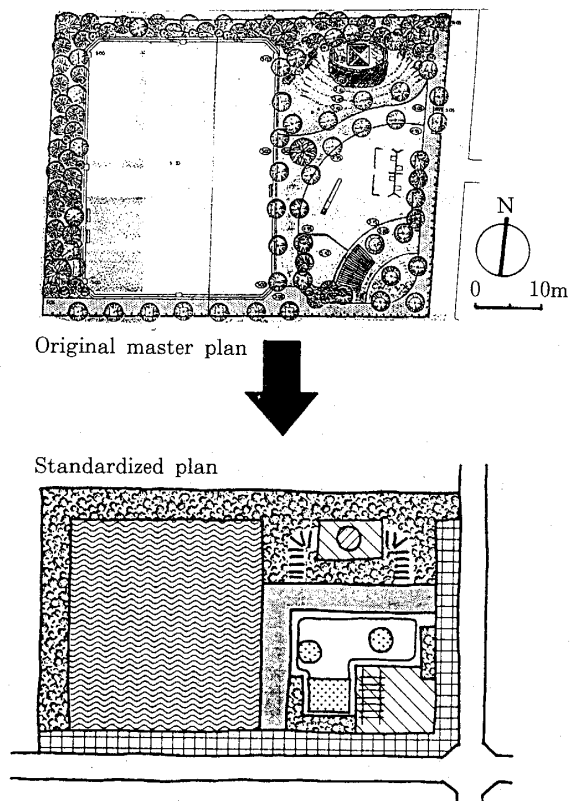


Figure 2 Standardized method

park. Firstly, each park was divided into facilities, space, pathways, altered ground formations and planting. Secondly, facilities were divided into play areas, rest areas and sports areas; space was divided into multiuseful open space, rest areas and entrance areas; pathways were divided into formal pathways and informal pathways featuring stepping stones etc.; and planting was divided into sparse and dense areas. In order to be able to adequately compare all 12 block parks, the plans of these parks were standardized as shown in Figure 2. Using these standardized plans, the relationship between design changes and social changes was analyzed. For standardization purposes, the shape of parks was ignored in order to highlight the features mentioned above.

Results of Analysis and Discussion

1) *Changes in the Social Environment*

Table 1 shows the history of changes in state and city park administration. State administration of parks began in 1873 with Cabinet Order No.16. In 1956, the City Parks Law was enacted. In 1972, as a long-term target for city park consolidations, the first 5-year City Park Consolidation Plan was formulated resulting in an overall increase in parks. In 1993, partial amendments were made to the City Parks Law in order to cater to the diversifying and increasingly complex needs of residents. Through these amendments, childrens parks, which were previously specifically for use by children, were reclassified as block parks in order to open them up to use by others. Osaka City park administration began in 1928 with the Comprehensive Osaka City Plan, and in 1964 a century of greenification was proclaimed. In 1968, the Emergency 5-year Childrens Park Plan was introduced, followed in 1972 by the first 5-year City Park Consolidation Plan, resulting in an overall increase in parks. In 1983, the Park Refreshment Plan was formulated resulting in an improvement in overall quality.

Figure 3 shows the number of people per block park by age in Osaka City. In comparing the number of persons under 9 years of age with the number of citizens over the age of 65, during the

Table 1 The history of changes in state and city park administration

	State administration of parks	Osaka City park administration
1873	Cabinet Order No.16	
1928		Comprehensive Osaka City Plan
1956	City Parks Law	
1964		A Century of Greenification
1968		Emergency 5 -year Childrens Park Plan
1972	A Long-term Target for City Park Consolidation (The First 5 -year City Park Consolidation Plan)	The First 5 -year City Park Consolidation Plan
1983		Park Refreshment Plan
1993	Partial Amendments of the City Parks Law	

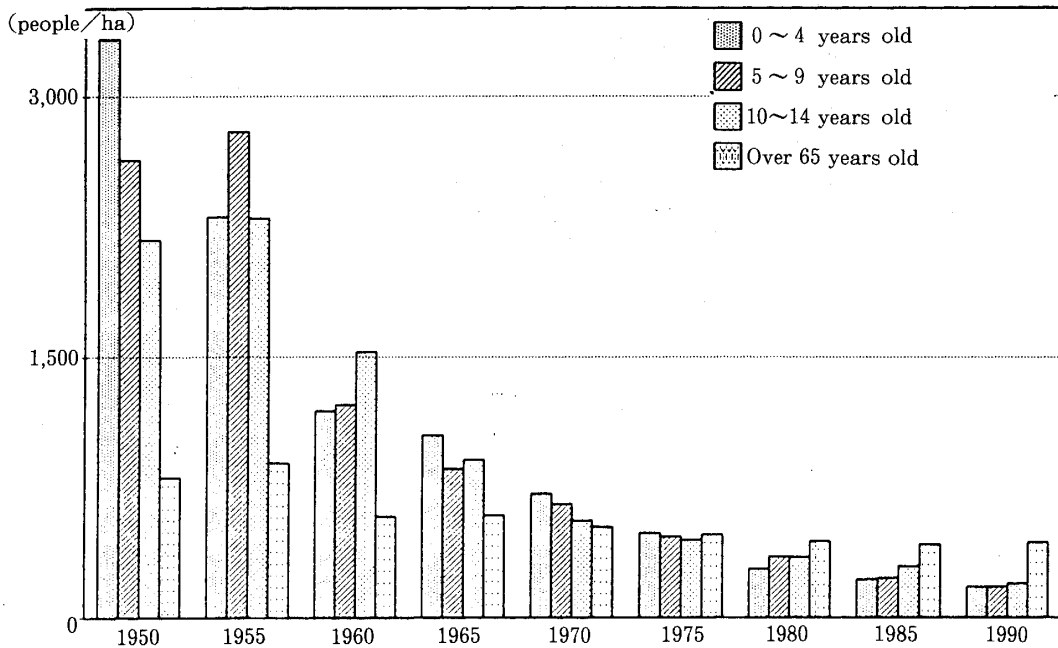


Figure 3 The number of people per each block park by age in Osaka City

period between 1975 to 1985 the number of children steadily decreased while the number of senior citizens steadily increased. Therefore, it is fair to presume that the proportion of block park users under 9 years old during that time was decreasing while the corresponding proportion of senior citizens was increasing. In order to meet the changing needs of block park users, it can be assumed that the subsequent improvements in quality became increasingly important.

2) Changes in the Environment of Areas Surrounding Block Parks

Figure 4 shows the estimated number of persons utilizing each block park in each of the 3 wards by age between 1950 and 1990.

More than 80% of Higashi-Sumiyoshi Ward is classified as residential. In the late 1980s, the average number of children under 9 years of age using each block park was 360. However, the number of persons over the age of 65 using each block park was 50% greater at 560, indicating that a greater proportion of those using these parks were persons over the age of 65.

Most of Kita Ward is classified as commercial, and so in comparison with other inner city wards the number of residents is relatively few. In 1990, the average number of children under 9 years of age using each block park was 250, and the number of persons over the age of 65 using each block park was 370. Of all 24 wards in Osaka City, Kita Ward had the least number of block parks at 13 and the majority of users were workers and visitors.

Joto Ward is a residential and industrial area. The number of persons using block parks in this area is approximately mid-way between the figures for Higashi-Sumiyoshi Ward and Kita Ward. In addition to children and senior citizens, it can be also assumed that a large number of workers also use these parks.

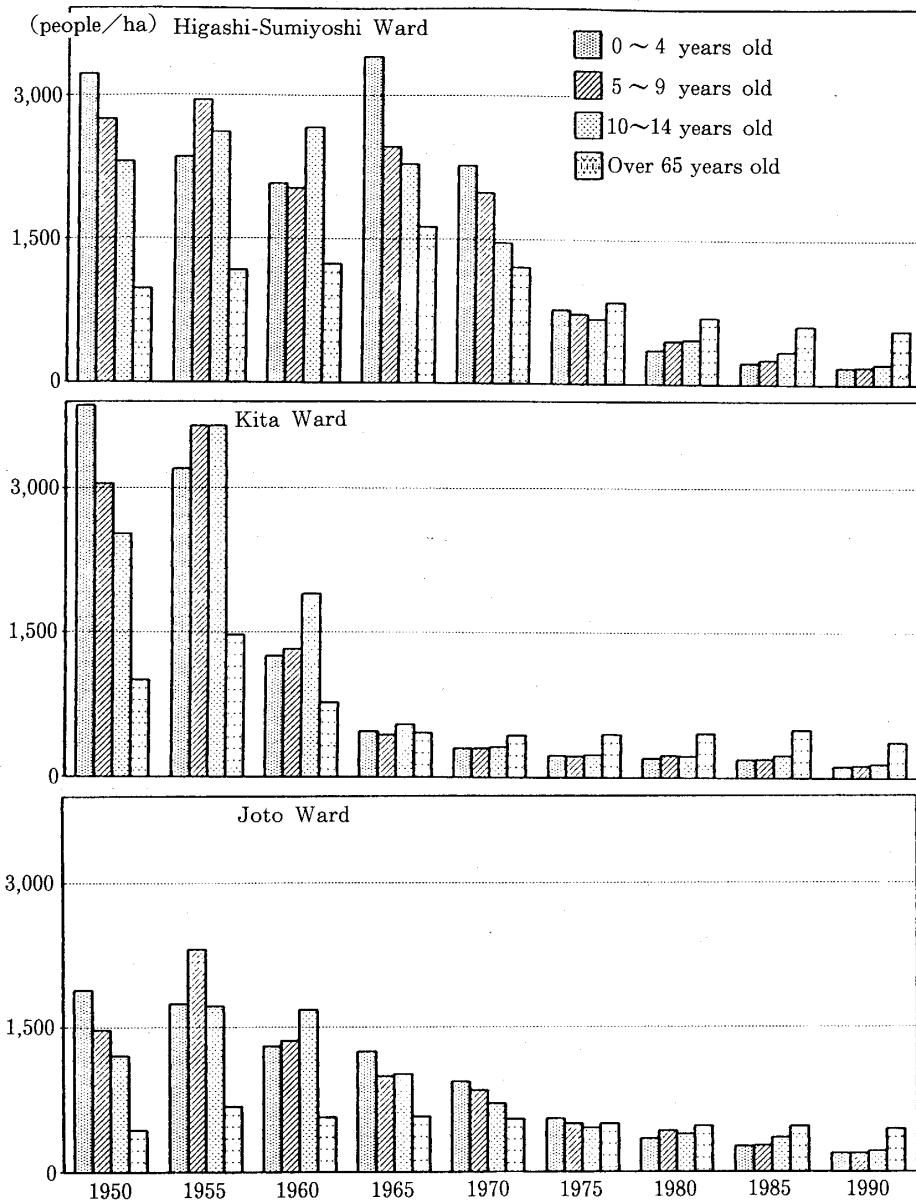


Figure 4 The number of persons per each block park in each of the 3 wards

3) Changes in the Design of Block Parks

Figure 5 8 show the standardized plans of block parks established in the period between 1955 and 1985.

Figure 5 shows that during the late 50s and early 60s there was a tendency in all 3 wards to design parks around multiuseful open spaces.

Figure 6 also shows that during the late 60s and early 70s there was the same tendency in all 3 wards to design parks around multiuseful open spaces.

Figure 7 shows that in the late 70s and early 80s there was a tendency in Higashi-Sumiyoshi Ward to reduce the areas of multiuseful open space, to increase the size of rest areas and to introduce play areas with changes in land formation. In Kita Ward, rest areas were incorporated into the

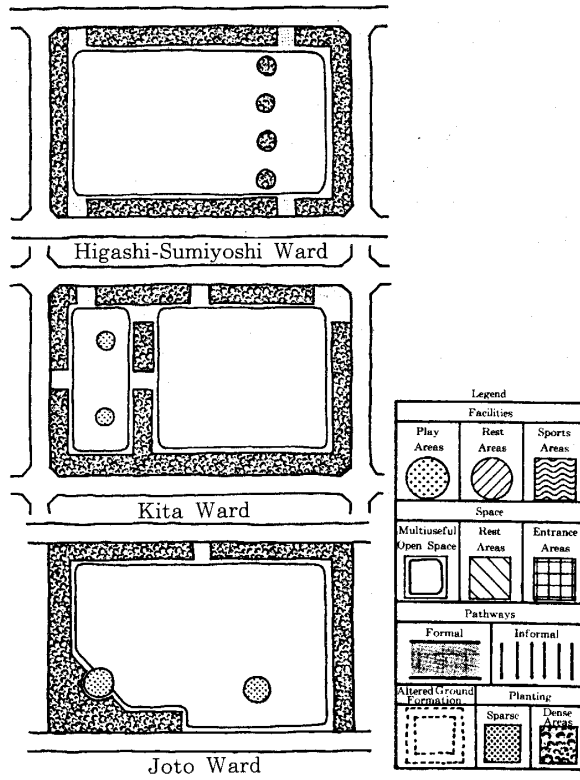


Figure 5 The design of block parks during the late 50s and early 60s

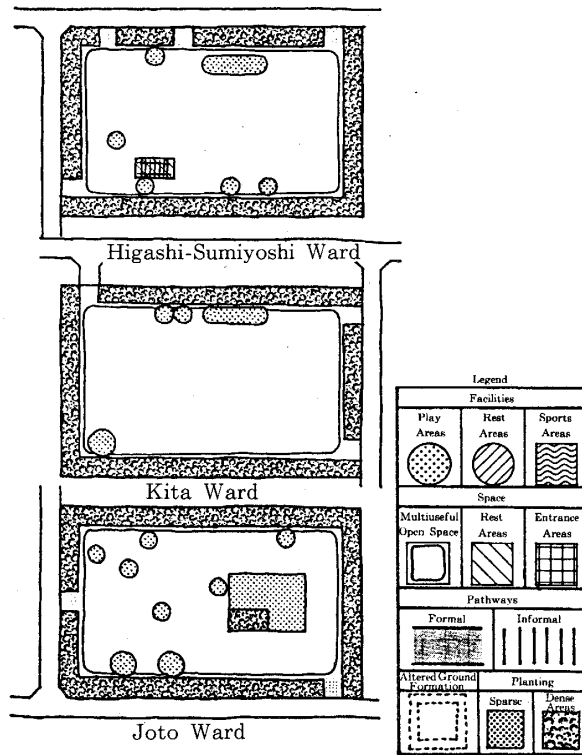


Figure 6 The design of block parks during the late 60s and 70s

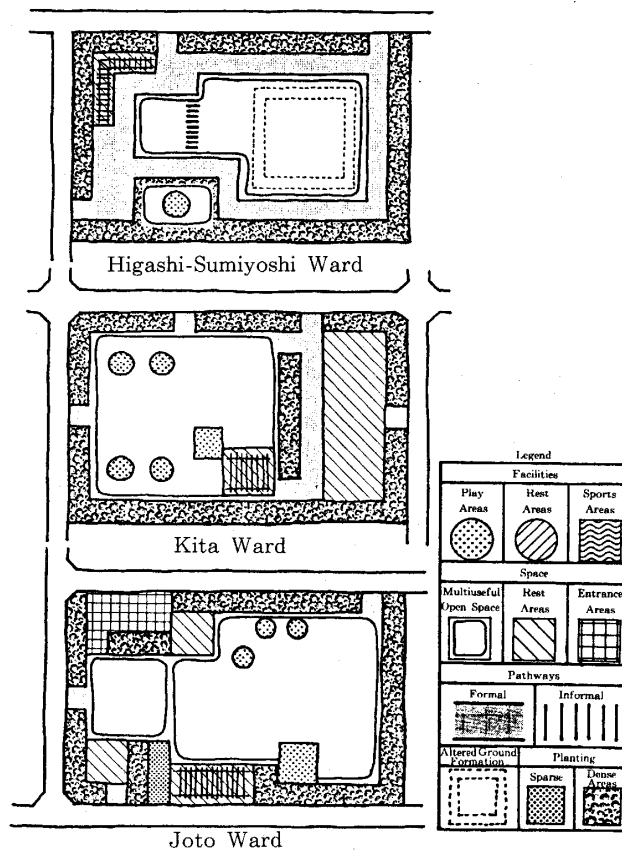


Figure 7 The design of block parks during the late 70s and early 80s

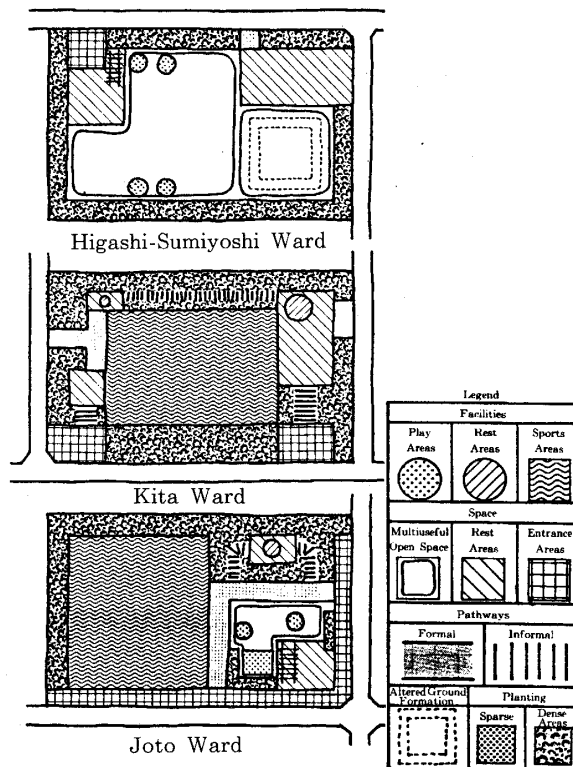


Figure 8 The design of block parks during the late 80s and early 90s

overall design. In Joto Ward, in addition to the introduction of rest areas and entrance areas, multiuseful open spaces were divided into a number of smaller separate zones.

Figure 8 shows that again during the late 80s and early 90s there was the tendency in Higashi-Sumiyoshi Ward to adopt the design popular in the late 70s and early 80s which centered around multiuseful open spaces. In Kita Ward, during the late 80s and early 90s there was the tendency to reduce the size of multiuseful open spaces and to instead develop sports areas. In Joto Ward, there was the tendency to divide areas of multiuseful open space up into smaller areas and to develop a portion as a sports area.

From the above analysis the differences in character of the 3 wards were known, during the late 50s and early 60s there was the tendency to adopt designs incorporating large areas of multiuseful open space. However, during the late 70s and early 80s, reflecting the character of the each individual ward, there was the tendency to develop rest areas and entrance areas rather than emphasize multiuseful open spaces. During the late 80s and early 90s, differences in the character of these wards had a distinct effect on the design of block parks. Planting is used primarily in the perimeter areas of block parks and that play areas incorporating swings, sand pits and slides are also included regardless of time.

Conclusion

From the above analysis the following conclusions were known. Residential wards, such as Higashi-Sumiyoshi Ward, tend to base the design of block parks around multiuseful open spaces, which foster a community atmosphere; there is a tendency to cater equally to the needs of senior citizens and children, rather than exclusively to the needs of children. In commercial inner city wards, such as Kita Ward, in addition to the needs of residents, the needs of workers and visitors are taken into consideration, and therefore the functional urban plaza in these areas will reflect this tendency. In wards where there is an even distribution of industrial and residential areas, such as Joto Ward, there is the tendency to cater to both the needs of residents and workers and to provide them with a combination of both types of block parks mentioned above.

References

- 1) OSAKASHI KENSETUKYOKU, (1992). *Toshikoen ichiran-hyo*. 1-69. (in Japanese)
- 2) OSAKASHI SOGOKEIKAKUKYOKU, (1950,1957,1962,1967,1972,1977,1982,1987,1992). *Osakashi Tokeisho*. (in Japanese)
- 3) KITAYAMA, T., (1993). *Osakashi no Kouen-ryokuchi Jigyo - Toshikoen Seibi Taiyo*. 466-475, 614-628. (in Japanese)
- 4) MIYAZAKI, K., et al. (1993). *Midori to Amenity - Osakashi no Ryokka Seisaku*-. Toshimondai Kenkyu, 45-6, 144-162. Toshimondai Kenkyukai (in Japanese)
- 5) OSAKASHI KENSETUKYOKU, (1991). *Osaka no Machi-zukuri -Kino, kyo, asu-*. 197-208, 335-343, 354-356. (in Japanese)