

“Prof. Ian L. McHarg, My Mentor” 私の恩師、マクハーグ先生について

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Abstract

ペンシルベニア大学大学院名誉教授であった Ian McHarg は、今も私の心の中に生き続けている恩師である。McHarg 先生は、1960年代に地球と自然と共存しながらの土地利用についての革命的ともいわれる独自の評価手法を確立し、その後約40年間、アメリカ国内、ヨーロッパ、アジアにおいても大きな影響を与えた。

生態学的地域及び都市計画（エコロジカルプランニング）プロセスは、1969年に Design With Nature として出版された。この本は、世界各国に翻訳され、エコロジカルプランニングにおけるバイブルとも評された。（日本語版は、1994年出版）

先生は、若いころから特に日本に強い関心と興味を持たれていた。日本の伝統文化と自然あふれる環境を愛され、たびたび来日し、Design With Nature の中にも、日本について意味深い提言が書かれている。

1968年9月に、私は先生の授業をうけるため、ペンシルベニア大学大学院、地域（生態）計画研究科に入学し、先生のもとで Design With Nature と、その手法と考え方を徹底的にたたき込まれた。日本の地域の一つ淀川流域のエコロジカルプランニングの修論を完成してから1970年5月に大学院を卒業した。その年の7月に先生の愛する日本に渡って、京都大学大学院に籍をおいた。それから40年間私は、関西における大学等で、先生の教えを学生達に解き続けた。

2000年4月28日に、大きな喜びが私にもたらされた。国立劇場で天皇、皇后両陛下御臨席のもと、第16回国際日本賞を、McHarg 先生が受賞された。明るる年の3月5日、私の喜びの余韻も続くなか、突然先生は天国に召された。80歳だった。あれから11年が過ぎたが、私は机の前の先生の写真に語りかけている。先生が構築された理論、自然との共生の手法等の大きな業績を遺産として、私の教え子、そして次の代へと引き続いてゆく責任を強く感じている。

On April 28, 2000, University of Pennsylvania professor emeritus Ian L. McHarg (age 79) was awarded the prestigious International Japan Prize in Tokyo in the presence of HRH the Emperor and Empress and several thousand people, of whom I was one. It turned out to be the final chapter in that man's "love affair" with Japan, a country the traditional culture of which he had loved and admired for most of his life.

Prof. McHarg has been referred to as "one of the most important voices in the field of Landscape Planning" during the last half of the 20th century. His internationally known book, Design With Nature (first published in 1969), established the principles of modern landscape planning, known widely as Ecological Planning. It showed how development can/should respond to natural processes, as well as how it can/should protect vital environmental/landscape resources. His approach used an "overlay" method, now referred to widely as G.I.S. (geographical information system). In G.I.S.,

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This photograph was taken with my mentor at his home in the Philadelphia hinterland during a visit there in the summer of 1997. During that visit, I gave him a copy of my doctoral dissertation entitled “Ecological Planning in East Asia, Its Past, Present and Future”, completed at Kyoto University in Kyoto, Japan. I think he kept it on a shelf in his office at Penn. alongside my master’s thesis, “An Ecological Planning Study of the Yodo River Basin in Japan”.

maps (or layers of information) are overlaid to help guide development to the most suitable locations or away from the least/less suitable ones, based first and foremost in McHarg’s approach on natural processes. Though he computerized the original hand-drawn maps approach in the mid-1980’s, later developments in computer technology have made that kind of work routine in regional, urban and landscape planning today.

Ian McHarg was born on November 20, 1920 in Clydeback, Scotland, a little town northwest of the nation’s capital of Glasgow. His father was a devout Presbyterian who loved nature and the arts as did his mother. From earliest times, little Ian went with his parents to church in Glasgow. This exposure to both the beautiful natural environment of Clydeback and the urban-industrial environment of Glasgow stimulated questions in the boy as to why the two environments were so different, one “with Nature” and the other “against Nature”? These questions formed the basis of his later professional fields of landscape architecture and urban/regional planning.

His first encounter with Japan came at the young age of 14. His Sunday-school teacher was a man interested in contemporary issues and had his students study about them too. Young Ian was assigned the task of researching and reporting on Toyohiko Kagawa (1888–1960), a Japanese missionary, Christian reformer and labor activist. That was the subject of young Ian’s first speech, the first in a lifetime of speeches. Ian’s respect for Kagawa and subsequent interest in Japan grew out of this youthful experience. Shortly after that, he decided to become a landscape architect and started studying it at Glasgow College of Art as a special student. However, his studies were cut short by World War II. He enlisted in 1938 and served as a British air force officer fighting the Nazis in Italy, France, Holland, Greece and North Africa. After the War, he resumed his studies going to Harvard

from 1946-1950. There he took undergraduate and graduate degrees in both landscape architecture and city planning, the two fields of his long-time interest and concern. Upon graduation from Harvard, he returned to Scotland looking for a job where he could apply both of his newly acquired academic skills. Finding none, he wrote to his Harvard mentor, who was then at the University of Pennsylvania and was advised to apply for a teaching position at Penn. in a graduate school Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning that was soon to be newly established. He got the job and became the first chairman of that new department, a position he would hold from 1954 until he retired as chairman in 1985. He developed that department into an internationally known and respected one. In 1990, he retired as professor emeritus from Penn., and on September 10th of the year, he was awarded the National Medal of Art from the President and Mrs. Bush at the White House, the first landscape architect or planner to receive that award.

During the 1960's, he developed his "ecological planning" philosophy and method and taught and applied it in both academic and professional practice. His concern about environmental destruction and interest in protecting the natural environment grew along with that in the United States at the time. His outspoken character brought him into the public spotlight, on TV, in newspapers and elsewhere. His groundbreaking approach to higher education and the practice of landscape architecture and regional planning brought him fame in the professional community. However, more than anything else, it was his seminal book "Design With Nature" that made him both a nationally and internationally known figure in the environmental and planning fields.

I became aware of him and his views in 1964, near the end of my undergraduate architectural education. That awareness would later change me from an architect into an ecological science-based urban and regional planner, i.e. ecological planner. I studied ecological planning with him at Penn. from September, 1968 until May of 1970. During that period, Design With Nature was published; It was one of my main texts and remains one of my primary professional reference books to this day.

My own interest in Japan dates from the early 1960's when I studied about oriental architecture and landscape architectural history in architecture school. That was followed by a one month visit to Japan in the autumn of 1967 to see those buildings and gardens I had studied about in architecture school. I was shocked by the pollution and environmental destruction that I saw at that time, as I was unaware of them before I went there. When I decided to do the first ecological planning study ever done about a Japanese region, the Yodo River Basin in Western Japan, as my master's thesis at Penn., Prof. McHarg was my thesis advisor. Though he had yet to go to Japan, he knew more about it than many people who had visited and/or lived there. His advice and encouragement contributed to me successfully completing my thesis. However, there were many things I could not know about Japan without going there again, so after I graduated from Penn. I left for Japan and my second "visit" in July, 1970. That "visit" has now lasted over 40 years! The ecology-based planning education I received at Penn. under Prof. McHarg's direction and guidance has served me well all those years. During those over four decades, I have taught it, done research related to it, and occasionally practiced ecological planning in Japan. Without that education, I doubt that I would have stayed in Japan nor been able to contribute anything there as an ecological planner and educator. The official, authorized, Japanese translation of Design With Nature was finally published in 1994, a quarter of a century after the original version came out in the West, making that seminal basis of ecological planning

available to the larger Japanese public in a way that perhaps nothing else could have done. McHarg's spirit of love for Nature and view that "man is part of, not apart from, Nature" were expressed beautifully in the words, pictures and maps of real projects in *Design With Nature* as well as in his other books, "Quest for Life" (1996) and "To Heal the Earth" (1998). I think it struck a chord deep in the Japanese people's traditional view of man and his place in Nature. It was his philosophy, method and applications of them as expressed best in "Design With Nature", perhaps more than anything else, that was finally recognized and resulted in him being awarded the International Japan Prize in Tokyo in the spring of 2000.

Prof. McHarg is gone now; He passed away suddenly on March 5, 2001 at the age of 80, but his words and works live on in many of us who studied with him directly and hopefully of some of those thousands of young Japanese who have studied ecological planning with me over the last four decades. Only time will tell the extent of this influence. However, for me, his words and works will continue to guide me professionally as long as I live. Even though I am now retired, I hope to have further opportunities to "spread the gospel" of my mentor, the late Prof. Ian. McHarg. I wish to thank the publishers of this journal for giving me one of those post-retirement opportunities.