Revitalizing Tokyo’s Back Alleys as Areas of Cultural Sustainability and Decelerated Lifestyle

Evelyn Schulz
Japan Center, LMU Munich
Roji Maze-Like Network in Omotesandô Area

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2. Transforming Tokyo into a Global Megacity: The Erasure of Small-Scale Residential Quarters and the Revival of “Slow City” Zones
Shiodome
The Japanese Slow City (2008)

1. **Humanism**: People can walk around in people-friendly public spaces at a comfortable pace.

2. **Slow food**: People can enjoy locally produced food.

3. **Involvement**: Citizens can participate in the region’s culture and folklore.

4. **Exchange**: People can talk to each other, look at the scenery, and are comforted by being in the space.

5. **Sustainability**: The lifestyles and intentions of the citizens are taken into consideration.
Nagai Kafû
(1879–1959)
Typical *Roji* in the 1930s
Hiyorigeta (1914) – Hiyorigeta: Reading-Walks (2007)
4. Diversifying *Rojiron* (Discourse on *Roji*) in Contemporary Japan

4.1 *Roji* as Part of the Discourse on Architecture and Urban Planning: Building Sustainability

4.2 Mapping and Documenting the *Roji*

4.3 *Roji* as Spaces that Preserve Memories and the Material Culture of the Past

4.4 Real *Roji* Walking, Dwelling, and Shopping
4.1 *Roji* in the Discourse on Architecture and Urban Planning: Building Sustainability

*The Design of the Revitalization of Roji Quarters. Learning from Roji the Art of Revitalizing Living Spaces* (2010)
4.2 Mapping and Documenting the *Roji*

4.2 Mapping and Documenting the *Roji*

TATENO Mitsuhiko (2005)
Hundred Backstreets of Japan (2005) and New Hundred Backstreets of Japan (2008)
Hundred Backstreets of Japan (2005)
4.3 *Roji* as Spaces that Preserve Memories and the Material Culture of the Past

*Memories of the Roji* (2008)
Grand Exhibition of the Backstreets of the Shôwa Period (2001)
4.4 Real Roji Walking, Dwelling, and Shopping
– Tokyo’s Most Famous Roji Areas –

• Kagurazaka 神楽坂
• Kichijôji 吉祥寺
• Tsukudajima 佃島
• Yanesen 谷根千 = Yanaka 谷中, Nezu 根津, and Sendagi 千駄木
• Shimokitazawa 下北沢
• Ôkubo 大久保
Kagurazaka 神楽坂

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Kichijôji 吉祥寺
Tsukudajima 佃島
Shopping Street in Yanaka 谷中
Shimokitazawa

©http://www.00ff00.com/wp-content/photos/shimokitazawa-shopping-center.jpg
Ôkubo
The Turning Point towards a Japanese Way of Building Cities (2007)