

IV The Japanese Garden Outside of Japan - Construction Practice -

4. Maintenance-2

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Preface

Maintenance management of a garden is roughly divided into the management in connection with everyday cleaning, everyday sprinkling of water, etc., and the management over every year, such as growth of planting. Also in the case of overseas, about the former, it is easy to leave it to a local staff to some extent. The problem is annual management accompanied by pruning of planting which is the important element of a Japanese garden. Although an engineer is periodically dispatched from Japan and management may be performed, he leaves it to a spot as a result, and it becomes leaving, and also when the original form and design are lost, it can see not a little. Hereafter, a writer wants to introduce a concrete example with an opportunity to be concerned directly, and to perform the proposal about maintenance management of an overseas Japanese garden.

1. Japanese Gardens in Urban Parks

(1) Maintenance situation just after completion

The garden concerned was located in City of London in Britain, and as part of the commemoration enterprise of a local Japanese meeting, the cooperation company was collected by the appeal of the economic organization of a book in Japan, and it was presented. It is in a city large-scale park, and the engineer was dispatched and built from Japan. The local contractor who contracts park management about management every day performed maintenance management, and it has managed by dispatching an engineer once in five years from Japan.

(2) Changes in a situation

From Japan which used it at the time of construction, for the tools of bringing, every day, management and Japan to the worker asked you so that it might be kept there supposing the thing when being dispatched and I might have you use it. Moreover, the easy manual about management was created and it was deposited with the person in charge. Management was also considered to be favorable when amendment easy one year after was performed. However, while the interval of five years opened to dispatch, the situation which becomes ambiguous taking over, such as a management manual in which the person in charge who the local management contractor changed and talked the Japan side stops being, occurred. Moreover, the difference with the view and the method of the management currently performed there, and the method assumed by the Japan side came to be found, and since growth of a plant was earlier than the original assumption, luxuriant growth of planting came to be seen notably. Planting which is different from an intention of Japan also made it carried out enough.

(3) Subsequent correspondence

The dispatch frequency from Japan is increased to once in three years, and an effort to take as many communications with a spot as possible is made. Moreover, in order that dispatch of Japan and an official responsible for administrative affairs might also replace, the manual for the Japan side person in charge was also created. The circumstances, local each contact, the management method based on the opinion of the engineer dispatched until now, etc. were comprehensively packed into this manual.

2. Japanese gardens in diplomatic facilities

(1) Maintenance situation just after completion

Although design/construction by Japanese people were performed at the time of the garden concerned, subsequent everyday management is performed by the hand of the worker employed there. The engineer is once dispatched from Japan per year.

(2) Changes in a situation

Since everyday trees management was restricted to the range which a hand reaches, trees had carried out until growth quite highly. Moreover, although relocation of a garden was performed due to the institution extension, since the local contractor worked, the point used as the original design and the form with which the intention is not filled was able to see. Although anyone comes to be able to do it if only one work, such as how to massage the leaf of a pine, is seen if it explains, about management of the whole garden, the worker is once dispatched from Japan per year from the idea of the local person in charge that it cannot do unless he understands culture and a view of Japan. However, since it is the time when the dispatch period was restricted, it mainly becomes management of a pine in many cases.

(3) Subsequent correspondence

Although the management method is taught to a local worker and it came to be able to carry out skillful on that spot, as for whether the technology is understood and it continue to carry out continuously, a question remains. It is important to perform dispatch from Japan periodically and continuously, to aim at communication with a local person in charge and a worker as much as possible, and to talk about the view of management with the individual management method instruction. Moreover, it is also a required subject to enrich the manual in connection with it gradually.

3. Turn to subject solution of maintenance management and it is the support organization

(1) Maintenance management.

From the organization and organization that is doing possession/maintenance management of the Japanese garden overseas, it asks an upward tendency about the maintenance management from this garden lover one day in recent years, and it is thought that there is much demand. However, the present condition is that correspond to it and there is no window of Japan which makes information offer. Moreover, the expense for maintenance management and restoration also poses a big problem. Therefore, it is also an idea to make the organization which carries out special support activities the Japan side and overseas both.

(2) Technical transfer and manual of the individual technique

In management of Japanese gardens, working with a steadfast viewpoint including an aesthetic sense-portion, after understanding the view of a Japanese garden is called for. Cutting that why first in addition to how cutting for an overseas worker, although growth of trees is expected and scissors are put in, when a Japanese worker performs since you have to tell in many cases. If it is the person in charge who understood the Japanese garden well, it will be considered for there to be little direction in such a case. Although a form is imitated and individual work can perform it to some extent in the present condition with few engineers of a Japanese garden overseas, when the whole is seen, the judgment which returns planting which grew too much may be difficult. Therefore, it becomes important how intention is told. It is also an idea to create a manual, to leave a sketch in a photograph with the individual management technique, and to tell an image.

(3) Another use of engineer dispatch

The environment which surrounds an overseas Japanese garden is various with a natural thing, and also when severe, there is not little. Making it compulsory in the style of Japan in such a case, for example, pine pruning, is taking out Japanese flavor with the position made good and the tree shape suitable for the climate of a spot. There will be a position which the method of making good. If it is made the form of the Japanese style by force when environment is not ready, the trees itself, not to mention a tree shape, do not have for a long time. Then, the approach of taking out a Japanese atmosphere with the frequency of about 1 time by carrying out fine management for it if the dispatch work to a spot is possible per year possible, either, making it the tree shape suitable for the environmental climate of a spot? Although there is a problem of expense, there is such a use in engineer dispatch from Japan.

(4) The plan and local organization which were conscious of maintenance management

As what should be intentionally tackled from the stage of construction, it is important to first understand the custom of a partner country, an area, and Japan, the difference in environment, and the difference in cultural consciousness or a sense of values to each other because of subsequent smooth maintenance management. Therefore, it is desirable to work with the worker who has taken charge if possible of maintenance management, and to perform opinion exchange. Furthermore, in planning a Japanese garden, if they it not only incorporates the method of maintenance management and the allowance of expense firmly, but are made, the production of organization of the maintenance management in a spot will also put into a view is desired. The device for it not being dependent on a person-in-charge individual, and involving in the organization and organization of the country and establishing the continuous organization for maintenance management. Then, the maintenance management manual created with much trouble could prevent the situation where it is no longer utilized with a shift of a person in charge and a work contractor. Since there is no time to look for an alternative plant after performing dispatch management from Japan in limited time in many cases, for example, arriving at a spot, cooperation of arranging for arrangements by the spot side beforehand is very helpful. Inviting the worker of a spot to a long range perspective earnestly in Japan for training is also considered. In addition, in some gardens, the volunteer of an area is performing gardening or management. It will also be important for the Japanese garden of a future overseas to convey the technology and the view of maintenance management of a Japanese garden towards people who can be said also as this Japanese garden fan.

Postscript

Many Japanese gardens have so far been made as part of cultural exchanges overseas. However, various problems have occurred in process of maintenance management -- a plant is planted afterwards -- from the view about management, or the difference in a method. If it goes to say that it is a "Japanese garden" and to see, it is not few also when lost in thought with whether I may make this into a "Japanese garden." However, changing a form here freely also poses a problem just because an image is different. It is necessary to take into consideration thought to the garden of the men of a spot in the Japanese garden of the overseas which passed especially through years. I want to understand the custom of a partner country, an area, and Japan, and the difference in consciousness or a sense of values to each other, and to communicate continuously. It will be connected with true cultural exchanges and friendship.