

A STUDY ON THE ATTRACTIVE LIFE IN THE SUBURBS
—with a Focus on the Actors and Residents in Town Development
in the UK—

Yutaka Iwami (Professor, Department of Political Science and
Public Administration, Faculty of Political Science and Economics,
Kokushikan University)

[SYNOPSIS]

This study aims to examine what is the attractive life style on the outskirts. It investigated the developmental process of Letchworth Garden City in the UK, the operation and maintenance of the town, the developmental process of some garden cities in Japan and the recent trends of the renovation in residential suburbs.

The present actions (the development and maintenance of the town) of Letchworth Garden City are operated by the Heritage Foundation based on a law in the UK. It seems that it is difficult to apply the operation to Japan.

Consequently, it can be said that it is the best and realistic scheme to promote renovating suburbs that a private developer, UR (Urban Renaissance Agency) and a local government cooperate while one of them plays a leading role on it.

And also, the history of garden cities in Japan suggests that many years of the residents' assiduous effort, so called 'civic pride', to preserve the environment of a local area enhances the value and attractiveness of the suburbs.

What does 'local residents' mean? It means not only people who live in the communities such as neighborhood associations. It can also include people who visit the suburbs for various purposes. These various groups of people make a life in the suburbs rich and attractive. This is the most important point in my research report.