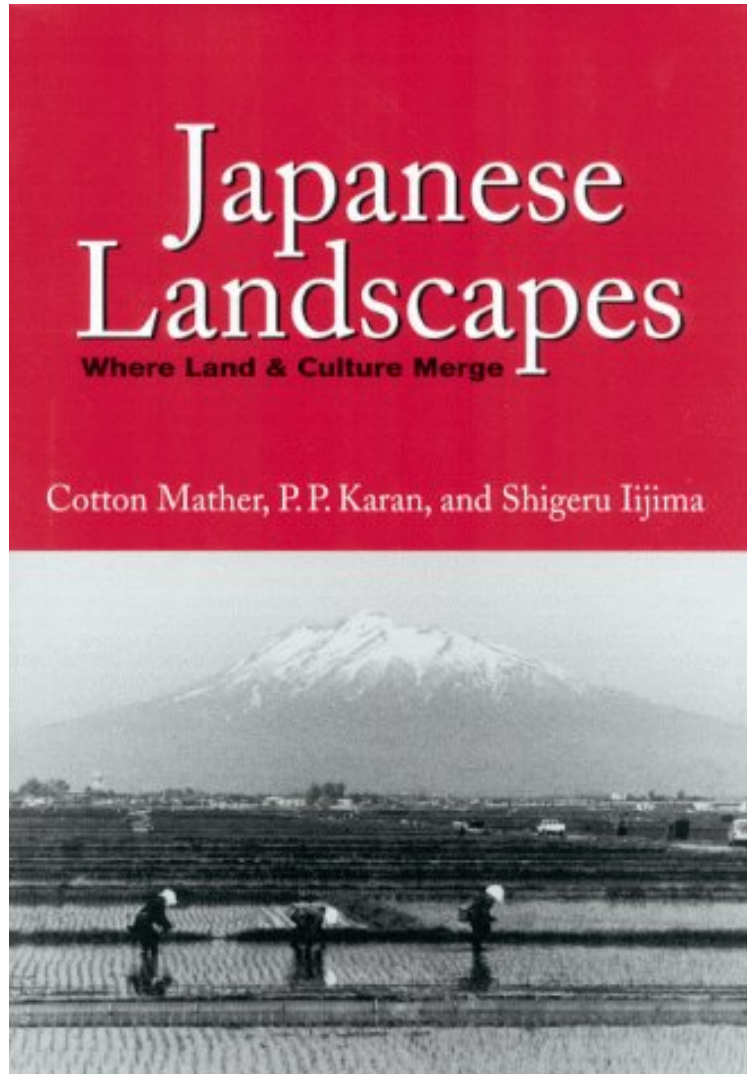


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Japanese Landscapes: Where Land and Culture Merge

Cotton Mather, P.P. Karan, Shigeru Iijima
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Cotton Mather, P.P. Karan, Shigeru Iijima : Japanese Landscapes: Where Land and Culture Merge before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Japanese Landscapes: Where Land and Culture Merge:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. The Landscape Speaks! By Anagama Cotton Mather and PP Karan traveled the length and breath of Japan in a small red car, attempting to make the landscape "speak." Somewhere on the Kii Peninsula, south of Ise, what they'd been looking at finally began to make sense: categories and generalizations began. From this point on, their generalizations were tested and retested with the resultant Primary and Secondary Characteristics of what one sees in Japan: Paucity of Idle Land; Scarcity of Level Land; Compactness; Meticulous

Organization; Immaculateness; Interdigitation; and Tiered Occupance among others. A nice explanation with plenty of photos by men who have been involved with Japan since the Second World War. 2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. japan's landscapes By A Customer When i first bought this book for a gardening friend i thought i wouldn't like but it turned out i did. the next day i went back and got one for myself. it was stimulating and inspiring and i thought it was excellent!

From the busy streets of Tokyo to the secluded shores of Kyushu, from the volcanoes of Hokkaido to the temples of Kyoto, the treasured landscapes of Japan are brought to life in this concise visual guide. Drawing upon years of observation, Cotton Mather, P.P. Karan, and Shigeru Iijima explore the complex interaction of culture, time, and space in the evolution of landscapes in Japan. The authors begin with a discussion of the landscape's general characteristics, including paucity of idle land, scarcity of level land, and its meticulous organization and immaculate nature. They then apply those characteristics to such favorite subjects as home gardens, sculpted plants, and flower arrangements, but also to more mundane matters such as roadside shoulders, utility lines, and walled urban areas. This unique blending of physical and social sciences with humanities perspectives offers a unified analysis of the Japanese landscape.

"The comparison of current landscapes with what might be called traditional landscapes is instructive in a much larger context." Allen G. Noble "An elegantly produced short book, of which about half is taken up by a series of black and white photographs of the Japanese landscapes." Geographical Journal "Puts Japan's renowned urbanization within a broader cultural and national context." Journal of Urban Design "Will provide a valuable starting point for the study of Japanese landscape." Landscape Research "A large part of the enjoyment of this book comes from the chance to compare notes with the authors about what is essential in Japan's landscape, and to engage them in a quiet, one-sided debate while reading." Pacific Affairs "The book excels in explaining and categorizing the faces of Japan through physical environmental constraints interwoven with cultural attitudes." Todd Stradford "The authors draw on years of observation and experience to explore the interaction of culture, time and space in the Japanese landscape." UK News About the Author Cotton Mather is the author of Beyond the Great Divide. P.P. Karan, chair of the Japanese Studies committee and professor of geography at the University of Kentucky, is the co-editor of The Japanese City. Shigeru Iijima is professor emeritus of cultural anthropology in the Tokyo Institute of Ethnology.