CULTURAL CONTINUITY :
Dwellings and Their Activities in Tokyo
From Pre-Meiji Period to Today

by

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Abstract

This dissertation concentrates on “cultural continuity”, how traditional culture has been
continued in a modern society today using Tokyo housing as a case study. The research
focuses on middle class Tokyo dwellings (from Pre-Meiji Period to today) and their related
residential activities. Traditional and modern homes are compared.

The result of this study shows that even though large part of the traditional culture 9in
terms of dwelling design and activities) are no longer dominant in modern homes, it did not
disappear completely. Hence, there is a mixture of foreign and traditional Japanese
products in today’s homes which suggests that the traditional culture has been evolved
into a contemporary culture with the introduction of foreign culture. This is largely due to
the reconstruction during the Meiji Period and external political influences.

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