Residents’ Evaluations of a Symbolic Sound Facility: A Time Bell at Tanagura Town, Fukushima, Japan
Miho Kanomata and Koji Nagahata (Fukushima University)

PURPOSE
There have been several cases of local revitalization that involve the production of sound from newly created symbolic facilities. How do the local populace evaluate these new sounds and facilities?

The present study analyzed residents' evaluations of the time bell of Tanagura town in Fukushima prefecture, Japan.

SURVEY
Tanagura Town
Located in southern Fukushima prefecture, Japan, it has a population of 16,000, with agricultural and forestry industries.

The time bell modeled on that of its sister city, Kawagoe, helps to produce the atmosphere of a castle town.

Small-scale, family-run shops in the town center have become more suited to the castle town.

Recently, inactivity of the shopping streets in the center of the town has become a problem.

The bell tower was administered to local residents.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION
Degree of Facility Satisfaction
There were some respondents whose satisfaction ratings of the facility and evaluations of the sounds were opposite.

The characteristics of each grouping of the respondents' descriptions grouped according to the KJ method were fundamentally similar irrespective of residents' satisfaction ratings.

Relation of the Bell Sound Evaluation to Satisfaction Ratings of the Facility
The viewpoint related to sound was only one of them.

Examples of Viewpoints of Respondents' Evaluations of the Time Bell and the Bell Tower
- Positive viewpoints:
  - Suitability to the castle town
  - Familiarity with the bell
  - Goodness of sound
  - etc.
- Negative viewpoints:
  - Dissatisfaction for the volume
  - Financial difficulty
  - Dissatisfaction with the facility other than the time bell tower
  - etc.

The characteristics of each grouping of the respondents' descriptions were fundamentally similar irrespective of residents' satisfaction ratings.

Conclusions
The characteristics of the respondents' descriptions of the time bell and the bell tower were fundamentally similar irrespective of their satisfaction ratings.

Their facility evaluations and the time bell evaluations are constructed within a wide variety of contexts.

The evaluations were determined depending on the importance level of each resident’s point of view.

CONCLUSIONS
The structures of the respondents’ descriptions of the time bell and the bell tower were fundamentally similar irrespective of their satisfaction ratings.

Their facility evaluations and the time bell evaluations are constructed within a wide variety of contexts, and the evaluations are decided depending on the importance level of each resident’s point of view.

The viewpoint related to sound was only one of them.

Table I: Details of the distribution and collection of the questionnaires

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pocket park</th>
<th>The Furumachi and Jouseki areas</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>40</td>
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Table II: Distribution of satisfaction rating of the facility

| Good evaluation of the sound | 26 |
| Good evaluation of the volume | 25 |
| Neither                     | 26 |

Table III: Distribution of satisfaction rating of the sound

| Good evaluation of the bell | 26 |
| Good evaluation of the tone quality | 25 |
| Good evaluation of the tone quality and volume | 26 |

Figure I: The map which shows the position of Tanagura town

Figure II: The time bell at Tanagura

Figure III: The Furumachi and Jouseki areas

Figure IV: The Structures of Free Descriptions of the Time Bell and the Bell Tower