

An Investigation on *Keihoku-Handenzu*

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1. *Keihoku-Handenzu* 京北班田図 preserved by *Saidai-ji* 西大寺 in Nara Prefecture of Japan is the map of *Keihoku-Jori* area 京北条里区. There are two copies. One is owned by *Saidai-ji*, and the other is owned by the University of Tokyo. That *jori*-area was developed to the northwest of *Heijo-Kyo* 平城京, the ancient capital during eighth century. *Saidai-ji* was established in 765 at the northwestern zone of *Heijo-kyo*. It was one of the biggest temples at that time. But it had declined and been under the control of *Kofuku-ji* 興福寺 in the tenth century. *Eizon* (叡尊, 1201-1290) founded the *Shingon-Ritsu* sect at *Saidai-ji*. His sect increased in power and gained control of the temple from *Kofuku-ji* in 1278. His sect had scrambled the dominion of northern area with *Akisino-ji* 秋篠寺, established in 780 and located about 1km to the north of *Saidai-ji*. *Keihoku-Handenzu* were the maps for the evidence of estate exchange made by *Saidai-ji* and *Akisino-ji* in the latter half of thirteenth century, and the medieval manor-map made from ancient official estate map called *Denzu* or *Handenzu*. We can reconstruct the example of the ancient *Denzu* or *Handenzu* from *Keihoku-Handenzu*.

2. This paper reports the findings of observation on two maps. The observation is made on the followings comparing each other. (1) Sizes of papers and composition of the ground paper. (2) *Jori*-grid lines on the map. (3) Drawing of the topography by colors and carbon liquid. (4) Letters on the map. (5) Process of drawing map.

The author proposed “the Methodology of Study on Historical Materials for Ancient Japan” on this journal in 1988. So this paper proposes the ways how to measure and to analyze ancient maps, taking *Keihoku-Handenzu* as an example. Observation is the fundamental work to reconstruct original materials from copies. This method is common to materials for ancient and mideaval East Asia.