Experiences with Japanese Heritage Preservation: Built Heritage Conservation and Preservation in Japan

• 1 What is protected?

2 How and why is it protected and preserved?

3 Who is protecting and conserving?
   Who are the actors?
Traditional Japanese Architecture

What is protected?

- Buddhist temples
- Shinto shrines,
- Aristocratic Palaces and Samurai Mansions,
  - Castles,
- rural Farmhouses
- urban Townhouses.
- Japanese Gardens
- Urban and Rural Landscape, (Ensemble)

and after Meiji

- Industrial heritage
- Modern Japanese Architecture (after Meiji Aerea)

- Japanese Building Materials
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

Religious buildings
- Buddhist temples
- Shinto shrines

Feudal architecture
- palaces
- samurai mansions
- Castles

Vernacular architecture
- farmhouses
- townhouses
Traditional Japanese Architecture

Where did it start?

Cultural, Religious (Buddhism) and Administrative Influence Route in the 7./8. Century
Traditional Japanese Architecture

West Japan, Kansai
the birthplace of
Traditional
Japanese Architecture
- Osaka (Naniwa)
- Nara
- Kyoto
- Ise
- etc.
Traditional Japanese Architecture

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Chang'an 700 B.C.
Model for the imperial and royal cities in Korea and Japan
Traditional Japanese Architecture
traditional forms of Japanese architecture

Heijo-kyo

Heijō-kyō, capital of Nara-period (710 – 784) Japan
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

Heijo-kyo (Nara)
and
Heian- kyo (Kyoto)
(the last Imperial City in Kansai- Aerea 10C.)
Traditional Japanese Architecture

Hōryū-ji Buddhist temples, Nara

Asuka-Zeit founded and built 607, lost 670 after fire, 711 reconstructed, repaired and reassembled in the early twelfth century, in 1374, 1603, 1949, 1976
Traditional Japanese Architecture

Hōryū-ji

Buddhist temples, Nara

pagoda

Buddha Hall, Kondo

Lecture hall

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Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

Hōryū-ji

Buddhist temples, Nara
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

Todai-ji, Nara 8th c.

Buddhist temples, Nara

Traditional Japanese Architecture

Buddhist temples, Nara

薬師寺 Yakushi-ji, Nara, 697

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Traditional Japanese Architecture

Buddhist temples, Nara

West pagoda rec. 1981,  
Buddha Hall, Kondo rec. 1976,  
east pagoda 7th c.
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

Buddhist temples in Kyoto

Heian-kyo, Kyoto,
Imperial Capital of Japan 794 - 1868
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

Buddhist temples in Kyoto

Heian-kyo (Kyoto)
Traditional Japanese Architecture

Buddhist temples in Kyoto

To-ji, Kyoto
Pagoda 877-887
Rec 1644
Higashi Honganji. Kyoto, established in 1602 buildings built in 1895
Traditional Japanese Architecture

Nishi Honganji. Kyoto,
established in 1602 buildings built in 1895
Traditional Japanese Architecture

Buddhist temples in Kyoto

Kyomizu-dera, founded 798 hall 1633

Shisendo, 1631
Traditional Japanese Architecture

Buddhist temples in Kyoto

Daitoku-ji Zen temple, Rinzai sect, since 1324

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Kinkaku-ji 1397,
villa of Shogun Ashikaga Yoshimitsu, converted into a Zen temple
Traditional Japanese Architecture

Buddhist temples in Kyoto

Gingkaku-ji 1483
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

Shinto shrines

1. Torii - Shinto gate
2. Stone stairs
3. Sandō - the approach to the shrine
4. Chōzuya or temizuya - purification font to cleanse one's hands and mouth
5. Tōrō - decorative stone lanterns
6. Kagura-den - building dedicated to Noh or the sacred kagura dance
7. Shamusho - the shrine's administrative office
8. Ema - wooden plaques bearing prayers or wishes
9. Sessha/massha - small auxiliary shrines
10. Komainu - the so-called "lion dogs", guardians of the shrine
11. Haiden - oratory or hall of worship
12. Tamagaki - fence surrounding the honden
13. Honden - main hall, enshrining the kami
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

Shinto shrines

Ise Shrine
since 690
every 20 y.
replacement
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

Shinto shrines

Izumo Shrine
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

Shinto shrines
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

Shinto shrines
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

Shinto shrines

tori
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

Shinto shrines
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture:

Shinto shrines

Heian Shrine  built in 1895 for the 1,100th anniversary of the establishment of Heiankyō

Meiji Shrine  is dedicated to the deified spirits of Emperor Meiji and his wife, Empress Shōken
Traditional Japanese Architecture

Aristocratic palaces and samurai mansions

Gosho Kyoto

Moved to this place in the 12th century, destroyed and rebuilt eight times, completed in 1855, Order to be preserved 1877
Traditional Japanese Architecture

Gosho Kyoto

Aristocratic palaces and samurai mansions
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture:

Katsura Rikyu  Aristocratic palaces and samurai mansions

Katsura Imperial Villa

Ground Plan

Shoin Complex and Geppa-ro

Shoin built 1615
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture:

Katsura Rikyu

Aristocratic palaces and samurai mansions
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture:

Katsura Rikyu

Aristocratic palaces and samurai mansions
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture:

Ni-jo palace

Aristocratic palaces and samurai mansions

Palace of the shogun in Kyoto
completed 1626
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture:

Ni-jo palace

Aristocratic palaces and samurai mansions
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture:

Ni-jo palace

Aristocratic palaces and samurai mansions
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture:

Castle town and Castle
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture:

Castle town and Castle

Fukuchiyama, Tamba

Himeiji

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Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture:

Castle

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Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture:

Castle
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture:

Castle

Okayama

Nagoya
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture:

Castle

Edo, Tokyo
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture:

Castle

Himeji

Nagoya

Kumamoto

Matsumoto
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture:

- Castle
- Matsue
- Hikone
- Himolji
- Inuyama
- Hirosaki
- Matsuyama
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

Japanese houses
Traditional Japanese Architecture

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Traditional Japanese Architecture

**Figure 1:** The human figure as standard for measurement.
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

FIGURE 57 (continued): Floor plans of standard room units.
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

Japanese houses

Tatami
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

FIGURE 57 (continued): Floor plans of standard room units.
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture
Traditional Japanese Architecture

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Traditional Japanese Architecture

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Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

rural farmhouses
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

rural farmhouses

Shirakawa-go and Gokayama
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

rural farmhouses

Symposium “Art, Architecture and Technology” am 24./25. Mai 2019 in Wien
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

rural farmhouses
The steeply-sloped roof structure composed of open-trussed frames provides a large volume of usable interior space. It is divided into two, three or four levels which are actively used for raising silkworms.
In the generic Japanese farmhouse, the overall size is not unusually large, the height of the ridge is not especially tall, and the slope of the roof is not so steep (typically less than 45 degrees).
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

rural farmhouses
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

rural farmhouses
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

rural farmhouses
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

Town houses

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Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

Town houses
Traditional Japanese Architecture

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Town houses
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

Town houses
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

Town houses in Kyoto
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

Town houses in Kawagoe
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

Town houses in Imai
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

Kura, Storehouse
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

Kura, Storehouse
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

Town houses in Kurashiki
Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

Tea ceremony

Traditional Japanese Architecture

traditional forms of Japanese architecture

Tea house
Traditional Japanese Architecture

Material:

Japanese buildings made extensive use of readily available natural material —including miscanthus reed thatch, --bamboo, --straw, - - stone, -wood, -plaster -clay -paper -tile.
Traditional Japanese Architecture

Early structures had beams and rafters tied together, bound in place by straw rope.
Traditional Japanese Architecture

Bamboo
Traditional Japanese Architecture

emphasis on fine joinery; buildings came to be pieced together like giant wooden puzzles with beams and pillars, railings and window grids all locked in place without the extensive use of nails.

Since posts and beams supported the roof, walls in traditional Japanese buildings essentially were utilized as decorative dividers, easily pushed aside or removed altogether, even along the exterior.
Many traditional Japanese structures are then in essence merely roofed pavilions, open to cooling summer breezes but hard pressed to cope with winter's chill.
Traditional Japanese Architecture
Traditional Japanese Architecture

glay
Traditional Japanese Architecture

Paper
Traditional Japanese Architecture
Traditional Japanese Architecture

shoji

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Traditional Japanese Architecture

tiles
2. How and why is it protected and preserved?

Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties

1871 Plan for the Preservation of Ancient Artifacts

1897 Ancient Temples and Shrines Preservation Law

1919 Historical Sites, Places of Scenic Beauty, and Natural Monuments Preservation Law

1929 National Treasures Preservation Law

1933 Law Regarding the Preservation of Important Works of Fine Arts

1950 Present Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties
  - 1954 amendment
  - 1966 Law for the Preservation of Ancient Capitals
  - 1975 amendments: Preservation District for a Group of Historic Buildings and Techniques for the conservation of cultural properties
  - 1996 amendment: Registered Cultural Properties
  - 1999 amendment
  - 2004 amendment
Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties

[Diagram of Cultural Properties]

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Tangible and Intangible Cultural Heritage in Japan of importance for the preservation of monuments

Built Heritage category according Legislation (World Heritage Monuments)

Tangible Cultural Properties (Buildings and other structures)
4. Important Preservation Districts for Groups of Traditional Buildings 83 (2009)
5. Monuments: Garden, Bridges,
6. Industrial Heritage

Important Intangible Cultural Property
2. Selected Conservation Techniques: Number of Holders and Groups Holders 47 (52 people) (2009)
   Holding Groups 27 (28 groups) (2009)
Tangible and Intangible Cultural Heritage in Japan of importance for the preservation of monuments

National Treasurers (国宝 kokuhō)
Important Cultural Properties (重要文化財 jūyō bunkazai)

Tangible and Intangible Cultural Heritage in Japan of importance for the preservation of monuments (文化財 bunkazai)

Registered Tangible Cultural Properties 登録有形文化財 Tōroku yūkei bunkazai

Villa Iwasaki 1896, Tokyo J.Conder
Kokusai Kodomo Toshokan (Imperial Library) 1906
YOKOHAMA SHÔKIN BANK 1904

DÔSHISHA UNIVERSITY, Kyōto 1884
Nara National Museum, Katayama Tōkuma 1895
Yodokō Guest House, Frank Lloyd Wright 1924

Tangible and Intangible Cultural Heritage in Japan of importance for the preservation of monuments (文化財 bunkazai)

- Industrial Heritage
  - Steel Factory Izunokuni
  - Hashima coal mine, Nagasaki 1887-1974
  - Tomioka Silk Mill (富岡製糸場 Tomioka Seishijō) 1872
  - Kitami Hakka Memorial Hall, laboratory of the Hokuren Kitami, Light Weight Factory (built in 1965)
  - Nagasaki Shipyard
  - First Head Office of the Steel Works 1899
Cultural Properties: Monuments, (Special) Places) of Scenic Beauty,

- Garden, Bridges,

- Shugakuin, Kyoto

- Nikko

- Katsura Rikyu, Kyoto

- Iwakuni

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Groups of Traditional Buildings
(伝統的建造物群 Dentōteki kenzōbutsu-gun, DENKEN)

Shirakawa-gō

Imai Cho

Uminojuku, Nagano Ken

Rural village in Taketomi island

Important Preservation Districts for Groups of Traditional Buildings (IPDGHB)
### Groups of Traditional Buildings
(伝統的建造物群 Dentōteki kenzōbutsu-gun, DENKEN)

#### List of Important Preservation Districts for Groups of Traditional Buildings in Japan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>District Name</th>
<th>Type of District</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Minato-ku, Tokyo City</td>
<td>Port quarter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Yokohama, Kanagawa Prefecture</td>
<td>Warrior quarter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Kyoto, Kyoto City</td>
<td>Merchant quarter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Nara, Nara City</td>
<td>Mountain village</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Hida, Gifu Prefecture</td>
<td>Fishing village</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Tsushima, Kochi Prefecture</td>
<td>Temple town</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Saga, Saga Prefecture</td>
<td>Shinto shrine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Tottori, Tottori Prefecture</td>
<td>Samurai town</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: This list continues with more districts.*
## Intangible Cultural Properties

### Number of Recognized Important Intangible Cultural Properties holders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domain</th>
<th>No. of designation</th>
<th>Individual recognition</th>
<th>Collective or group recognition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dance</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gagaku</strong></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Noh</strong></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bunraku</strong></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kabuki</strong></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kumiodori</strong></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Music</strong></td>
<td>18</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dance</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Engel</strong></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td>38</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Comics</strong></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Textile weaving and dying</strong></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lacquerwork</strong></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Metalwork</strong></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Woodwork and handicraft</strong></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thailand making</strong></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Papermaking</strong></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td>44</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>80</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Designation, Registration and Selection
Inventory (Investigation and Designation)

- For Inventory of Cultural Properties (Research, Investigation and Designation)
- Construction and Art Historians of Universities,
- Tokyo and Nara National Research Institutions for Cultural Properties
- (Tōkyō Bunkazai Kenkyū Sho TOBUNKEN 東京文化財研究所,
- Nara Bunkazai Kenkyū Sho NABUNKEN

Organization Chart of TOBUNKEN

Organization Chart of NABUNKEN

for conservation management, research, design and construction:
JACAM Japanese Association for Conservation of Architectural Monuments BUNKENKYO

Nationwide Association of Conservation Architects
- authorized by the government – (over 100 Architects )
- Committed to the repair and conservation of National Treasures and Important Cultural Properties

- Task: - design and management of conservation and repair project
  - Thorough inspection
  - Survey and research of the current condition of the building (structural system, material, history of repair and conservation)
  - Analyzing and evaluation of the cultural significance of the building
  - Designing the conservation project
  - Managing the conservation and repair work
  - Thorough recording and documentation of the work

Training of other conservation architects for restoration and conservation work on Prefectural and Municipal level and for the registered monuments. (more than 500 so far)
Japanese Conservation of Built Heritage

Conservation Management and Financing related to the Ranking of a Monument

**National Treasures (国宝 kokuhō)**
- Important Cultural Properties (重要文化財 jūyō bunkazai)

**Administrative Management**
- Financial Support

**Planning and Workmanship**

**Registered Tangible Cultural Properties 登録有形文化財 Tōroku yūkei bunkazai**
- Groups of Traditional Buildings (伝統的建造物群 Dentōteki kenzōbutsu-gun, DENKEN)
- Registered Monuments (garden, bridges etc)

**Administrative Management**
- Financial Support

**Planning and Workmanship**

**Aceny of Cultural Affairs Bunka Cho**

**JACAM Bunkenkyo**

**Conservation Architects Team Craftsman**

**Financing:**
- Up to 90% by Bunka Cho (National Government, some percentage by Prefecture and Municipal Government and about 10% by Owner)

**Aceny of Cultural Affairs Bunka Cho** and

**Prefectural or Municipal Board of Education and Planning and/or Construction Department**

**Financial support according to registration level**
- By National, Prefecture and Municipal Government, largest share from the owner
- Tax relief

**Freelance Conservation Architects, Planners, Heritage Consultants**

**Freelance Craftsman Construction Companies**
The SYUKEI (修景) “Repair Scenery”
Architectural Design Method to Harmonize with the Historic Landscape
by Prof. Saito Kyoto Women's University

Group of Historic Buildings
Groups of historic buildings of high value which form historical scenery in combination with their environs
The local governments concerned which intend to preserve their historic districts or traditional settlements should first establish their local regulations for the preservation of them, and subsequently determine the relevant preservation districts and draw up their preservation plans.

If such areas are within "city planning zones", the relevant preservation districts should naturally be established within the city planning concerned.

The Minister may select some of them as "Important Preservation Districts for Groups of Historic Buildings" when the municipalities concerned apply for it and these districts are of high values.
1. the guideline for the renovation of the historic buildings
2-a. the guideline of architectural design for new buildings.
2-b. the guideline for such buildings that are not in harmony with the characteristics of the preservation district with the preservation plan.

※2-a,b : The guideline of the SYUKEI

The guideline of the SYUKEI for the IPDGH in Nagasaki-City
A case of renovation for the historic house

before

after
A case of renovation for the historic house

before

after
2-a. SYUKEI: harmonized new buildings in new method
2-a. SYUEKI: harmonized new building in new method
„machizuki“ example

- Kaneyama, Yamagata Prefecture
- Restoration and Utilisation of Store Houses (KURA) with design guidelines
- Improving timber industry
- Improving tourism
- Improving infrastructure
- Improving open space and infrastructure
- ’Beautification’ of buildings by guidelines
Thank you
ありがとう