

1. HISTORIC SITES, PLACES OF SCENIC BEAUTY AND NATURAL MONUMENTS
2. NATIONAL TREASURES AND IMPORTANT CULTURAL PROPERTIES (BUILDINGS)

1. Historic Sites, Places of Scenic Beauty and Natural Monuments

The cultural properties of Japan are protected by the Cultural Properties Protection Act (Legislation 214, 1950). The Cultural Properties Protection Act categorizes the cultural properties into cultural properties, intangible cultural properties, tangible folk cultural properties, intangible folk cultural properties, historic sites, places of scenic beauty, natural monuments and traditional buildings. The Minister of Education designates important cultural properties, important intangible cultural properties, important tangible folk cultural properties, important intangible folk cultural properties, historic sites, places of scenic beauty and natural monuments, and also selects the areas to be preserved as important traditional buildings. In regard to the cultural properties buried underground (buried cultural properties), those who excavate such areas for the purposes of investigation and engineering work are bound to submit a notification prior to their excavation; buried cultural properties are preserved by suspension of excavation, if necessary.

Of the designated cultural properties, there were 1,304 historic sites (including 57 special historic sites), 288 places of scenic beauty (32 special places of scenic beauty) and 955 natural monuments (75 special natural monuments) as of April 1, 1989. The number of these designated properties has been increasing year by year, the number of historic sites having increased 1.8-fold, and that of places of scenic beauty 1.4-fold, since 1960.

Extremely precious cultural properties, such as the Imperial Mausoleum, Syōsōin in Nara Si and the Imperial Palace in Kyōto Si are included in the government-owned properties under the jurisdiction of the Imperial Family and the Imperial Household Agency; they are, in principle, excluded from being designated as cultural assets by the Cultural Properties Protection Act and are protected by the Imperial Household Agency.

In addition, the Law Concerning Special Measures for the Preservation of Ancient Capitals' Historic Landscapes (Legislation 1, 1966; Legislation 60, 1980 -also known as the Ancient Capital Preservation Law) was established in order to preserve the historic landscape in ancient capitals; in compliance with this law a variety of measures, including designation of areas in which a historic landscape has to be preserved, are taken.

[Salient Points of the Legend and Map Compilation]

This map shows the historic sites, places of scenic beauty and natural monuments designated by the Cultural Properties Protection Law as of January 31, 1988. In the event that there is dual designation for the same item, for example, an item is designated both as a historic site and a place of scenic beauty, the item is indicated by one symbol as either an historic site, a place of scenic beauty or a natural monument, depending on the principal reason for its designation.

In the event that historic sites, places of scenic beauty and natural monuments are concentrated in small areas, making it difficult to indicate each one with its respective symbol, an all-inclusive symbol is used for each Si, Mati and Mura in order to indicate that plural-designated items of the same kind and the same age exist. The figures within the symbols show the number of designated items.

In the case of animals designated as natural monuments without specification of

their habitat, the name of each animal is printed approximately in the center of its major area of distribution. Nevertheless, this indication is omitted for such domestic animals as dogs and chickens.

The standards for the designation of historic sites, places of scenic beauty and natural monuments are roughly as follows:

Historic Sites: shell-mounds, ancient burial mounds, palace remains, Shinto shrine and Buddhist temple remains, checking station remains, etc., which are necessary for an understanding of the history of Japan and are of scientific value.

Places of scenic beauty: gardens, mountain rivers, mountains, areas with wide views, etc., which are indispensable well-known areas of exceptional scenic beauty, and of great value from an artistic and scientific viewpoint.

Natural monuments: animals-unique to Japan or well-known, and their habitat; flora-rare trees, giant trees, primeval forests, alpine flora zones, boundary areas for distribution of flora, etc.; geological features and minerals-rocks, minerals, phenomena related to weathering and erosion, thermal springs, etc.; protected natural areas-certain districts where many natural monuments worthy of protection exist. Of the above, those which are precious scientifically and commemorate the nature of Japan are designated as natural monuments.

Special historic sites, places of scenic beauty and natural monuments: historic sites, places of scenic beauty and natural monuments which are especially precious in value.

2. National Treasures and Important Cultural Properties (Buildings)

The provisions of the Cultural Properties Protection Act state that tangible cultural properties such as buildings, paintings, sculptures, objects of craftwork, books, classical books, paleographies and other tangible cultural properties which are of great value to Japan in terms of history and art, and provide important historical materials for archaeological and scientific studies, are designated as important cultural properties, while those which are considered particularly important are designated as national treasures.

The number of buildings designated as important cultural properties was 3,297 buildings at 2,030 locations, as of May 19, 1989. The number of designated items has been increasing year by year, the number in 1989 showing a 1.5-fold increase from 1960. Of the designated important cultural properties, a total of 249 buildings at 207 locations were designated as national treasures.

The majority of the Shinto shrine buildings designated as important cultural properties were a main hall and halls of worship; in the case of the Buddhist temples, however, the majority consisted of halls. In the case of castle buildings, the majority consisted of turrets and gates; the number of castle towers being 16. In the case of private houses, the majority were farmhouses, whereas in the case of western-style buildings, buildings for public purposes and school buildings were most common. In the case of stone monuments, bronze statues, bridges and others, the proportion of tombstones, and stone monuments accounted for 3/4 of the total.

There are many cases where several buildings within one Shinto shrine or Buddhist temple are designated as national treasures or important cultural properties: Himeji Castle has the most with 82 designated buildings. More than 30 buildings are designated as national treasures or important cultural properties within the same shrine or temple, such as Tōsyōgū and Hutarasan Shrine in Nikkō, etc.

In regard to the classification of important cultural properties (buildings) by owners, those owned by Shinto shrines and Buddhist temples accounted for 73% of the number of locations and 67% of the number of buildings. With respect to private houses, 2/3 were owned by private owners, whereas the rest were owned by the nation, public bodies, museums, etc. The category of museums include Minkaen, Meiji Mura, Nihon Minka Syūroku Hakubutukan, and Hida Minzoku Mura, which move and rebuild buildings, private houses in particular, in order to preserve them.

[Salient Points of the Legend and Map Compilation]

This map shows the status of buildings, which are selected out of all the important cultural properties as of January 31, 1988. The buildings referred to here represent those constructed by specific architectural techniques, and include ruins, remains and other structures (such as bridges and tombstones) from various eras, as well as models of buildings, miniature shrines, household Buddhist shrines, etc.

In classifying these, the five-storied pagoda of Nikkō Tōsyōgū and the Tahōtō, or the Tower of Multiple Precious Articles, of Itukushima Shrine are treated as shrine buildings and the Kasuga Dō of the Enryō Zi as temple building, even though they actually form parts of Shinto shrines and Buddhist temples. In the classification of residences, private houses, and western-style and other buildings, the category "residence" refers to Syoin-type drawing rooms and tea-ceremony rooms, including those of the Buddhist temples and Shinto shrines; the category "western-style buildings" includes quasi-western buildings. In addition, the category "other buildings" includes school buildings (except for modern western-style buildings) and Nō Theaters. Torii, or shrine gates, are treated as shrine and temple buildings, regardless of whether they are made of stone or bronze.

In the event that one Shinto shrine, Buddhist temple, or castle, etc., has several buildings designated differently, an all-inclusive symbol is used for each era. Furthermore, in the event that buildings are concentrated, making it difficult to indicate them by individual symbols, an all-inclusive symbol is used for every Si, Mati and Mura. In the case of the peripheries of Kōhu Si, the central part of Siga Prefecture, the southern part of Kyōto Prefecture, the central part of Ōsaka Prefecture, the northern part of Nara Prefecture, the northern part of Wakayama Prefecture and other areas, several Si, Mati and Mura, or several Gun (counties) are regarded as one group which is indicated by an all-inclusive symbol.

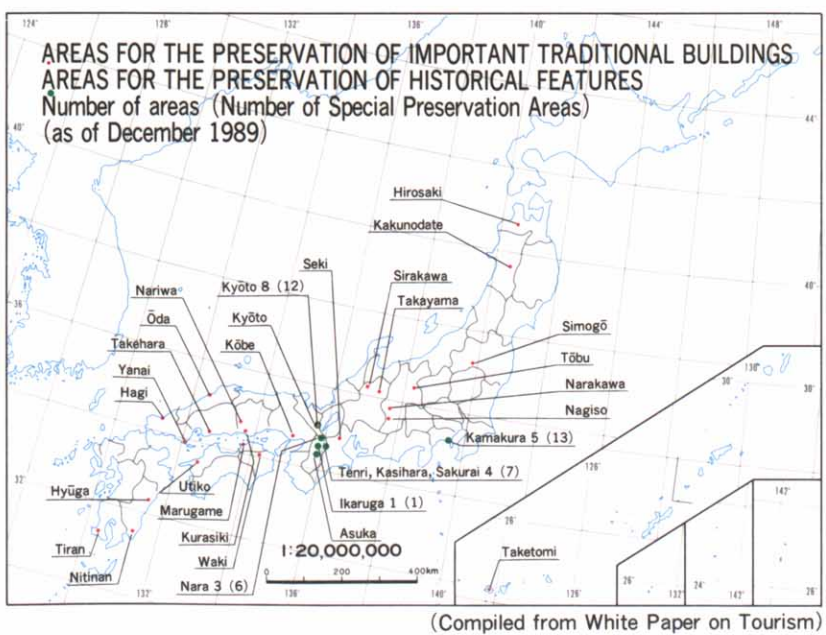
[Sources]

1. Agency for Cultural Affairs, *Directory of Designated Historic Sites, Places of Scenic Beauty and Natural Monuments*
2. Agency for Cultural Affairs, *Maps of Archaeological Sites in Japan*
3. Agency for Cultural Affairs, *Directory of National Treasures and Important Cultural Assets*
4. Data from Agency for Cultural Affairs

THE NUMBER OF NATIONALLY-DESIGNATED CULTURAL PROPERTIES (AS OF JANUARY 1, 1989)

Cultural properties			Designated Number of items
Tangible cultural properties	Important cultural properties	Artistic handicrafts Buildings	9,456 (827) 2,020 (207)
Intangible cultural properties	Important intangible cultural properties	Individually designated	24 items 32 persons
		Designated as a protected group	7 items 11 items
Folk cultural properties	Important tangible folk cultural properties		169
	Important intangible folk cultural properties		141
Monuments	Historic sites,		1,272 (56)
	places of scenic beauty,		253 (27)
	natural monuments		914 (72)
Groups of traditional buildings	Important traditional buildings		28 areas

() Numbers in brackets indicate national treasures, and specially designated monuments. (Compiled from Agency of Cultural Affairs data)



THE NUMBER OF HISTORIC SITES BY PERIOD (AS OF April 1, 1989)

Type	Period	~6th century	7th~12th century	13th~16th century	17th~19th century	19th century~	Total
Shell-mounds, archaeological subsols, dwelling sites, stone circles, etc.		199 (3)	3				202 (3)
Ancient burial mounds, Yokoana (side caves), graves, etc.		334 (7)	10 (3)	10	45	1	400 (10)
Sites of castles, palaces, old battle-grounds and other sites related to government and administration			53 (9)	110 (1)	77 (9)	2	242 (19)
Sites of religious services and faiths			175 (14)	38	8		221 (14)
Sites related to education, art, science and social works			1	4	23 (3)	2	30 (3)
Sites related to industry, communication and public works			7	30	18	61 (2)	121 (2)
Old dwellings, gardens, ponds, areas with historical backgrounds and sites related to foreign countries			6	20 (2)	61 (4)	1	88 (6)
Total		540 (10)	278 (26)	200 (3)	275 (18)	11	1,304 (57)

() Numbers in brackets indicate specially designated historic sites. (Compiled from Agency of Cultural Affairs data)

THE NUMBER OF PLACES OF SCENIC BEAUTY (AS OF JANUARY 9, 1989)

Type	Number
Gardens	147 (20)
Parks	4
Bridges	2
Rivers	1
Springs	1
Lakes and marshes	2 (1)
Rocks and caves	11
Waterfalls	9
Sandbars	1 (1)
Islands	9 (2)
Beaches	25
Mountains	15 (2)
Gorges and mountain rivers	34 (5)
Pine forests	6 (1)
Flowering trees	13
Observation points	8
Total	288 (32)

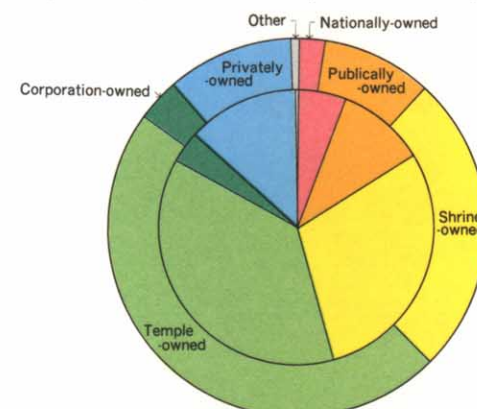
() Brackets indicate the number of places of special scenic beauty. (Compiled from Ministry of Cultural Affairs data)

THE NUMBER OF NATURAL MONUMENTS (AS OF JANUARY 9, 1989)

Type	Number
Animals	192 (21)
Plants	532 (30)
Minerals	208 (20)
Protected natural areas	23 (4)
Total	955 (75)

() Numbers in brackets indicate special natural monuments. (Compiled from Agency of Cultural Affairs data)

THE NUMBER OF IMPORTANT CULTURAL PROPERTIES (BUILDINGS) BY OWNER (OUTER CIRCLE) AND THE NUMBER OF BUILDINGS (INNER CIRCLE) (1989)



THE NUMBER OF IMPORTANT CULTURAL PROPERTIES (BUILDINGS) BY HISTORICAL PERIOD (AS OF MAY 19, 1989)

Type	Period	7th~12th century		13th~16th century		17th~19th century		19th century~		Total
		Nara	Heian	Kamakura	Muro-machi	Edo	Meiji	Taisyō		
Shinto shrines		5 (3)	54 (15)	301 (8)	151 (6)	496 (26)	2		1,009 (58)	
Buddhist temples		30 (26)	32 (22)	160 (53)	345 (30)	115 (10)	290 (10)	5	977 (152)	
Castles				1 (1)	117 (13)	113 (2)	1		232 (16)	
Dwellings				7 (2)	38 (13)	96 (5)	2		143 (20)	
Western-style buildings						8 (1)	108	8	124 (1)	
Japanese farmhouses				2	2	515	44	1	564	
Stone buildings and others		1	13	122	53	11 (1)	46 (1)	2	248 (2)	
Total		31 (26)	50 (25)	336 (68)	709 (41)	434 (44)	1,564 (45)	164	9,329 (249)	

() Numbers in brackets indicate national treasures. (Compiled from Agency of Cultural Affairs data)

