

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

Japan began to implement a wide variety of measures for the preservation of cultural assets, after some of them had been damaged in the anti-Buddhist movement around the Meiji Restoration (about 1870) that led to the destruction of Buddhist temples. Furthermore, some cultural assets were burned by air raids during World War II; some were dispersed and devastated during the chaotic period immediately following World War II. At present, the cultural assets are preserved under the Cultural Properties Protection Law (Law No. 214 of 1950).

The cultural assets designated by the Cultural Properties Protection Law include important cultural properties, important intangible cultural properties, important folk culture, historic sites, places of scenic beauty, and natural monuments.

The Imperial Household's properties and also national assets under the jurisdiction of the Imperial Household Agency include a great number of extremely precious cultural properties, such as the Imperial mausolea, Syōsōin in Nara Si, Imperial Palace and Katura Detached Palace in Kyōto Si. As a rule, these properties are excluded from being designated as cultural properties. They are placed under the protection of the Imperial Household Agency.

To preserve the historic landscape of each ancient capital, the Law Concerning Special Measures for the Preservation of Ancient Capitals' Historic Landscapes (Law No. 1 of 1966, also known as the Ancient Capital Preservation Law), was enacted in 1976. Under this law, the areas which have to be preserved as historic landscapes are designated, and a wide variety of controls and measures are implemented for their preservation. The five areas designated as such at present are: (1) Kyōto Si, (2) Nara Si, (3) Kamakura Si, (4) Tenri Si-Kashihara Si-Sakurai Si-Asuka Mura in Nara Prefecture and (5) Ikaruga Tōyō in Nara Prefecture, covering a total area of about 14,000 ha. Of these, the designated Special Preservation Areas total about 4,000 ha.

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 April 1, 1974. Historic sites were classified by kind and age, places of scenic beauty and natural monuments were classified by kind. These were shown with symbols in different colors. In the event that one and the same object had been identically designated as a historic site, a place of scenic beauty and a natural monument, a symbol of the historic site, place of scenic beauty or natural monument was indicated, depending on the principal reason for its designation.

NUMBER OF GOVERNMENT-DESIGNATED CULTURAL PROPERTIES

(As of February 18, 1975)

Cultural properties		Number of objects designated	
Important cultural properties	Buildings	1786(207)	
	Artistic handicrafts	8653(813)	
Important intangible cultural properties	Group designation	Handicraft technology	8
		Entertainment	5
	Individual designation	Handicraft technology	28
		Entertainment	23
Important folk culture		102	
Historic sites, places of scenic beauty and natural monuments	Historic sites	951(53)	
	Places of scenic beauty	219(24)	
	Natural monuments	897(68)	

() Number of national treasures and special historic sites, places of scenic beauty and natural monuments given in brackets
(Compiled from General Directory of Designated Cultural Properties)

NUMBER OF HISTORIC SITES BY AGE

(As of January 1, 1974)

Kind	Age					Total
	Primitive age	Ancient age	Middle age	Early modern age	Modern age	
Shell-mounds, archaeological subsoils, dwelling sites, stone circles, etc.	151(3)					151(3)
Ancient burial mounds, Yokoana (side caves), graves, etc.	237(7)	8(3)	9	36	1	291(10)
Sites of castles, palaces, old battle-grounds and other sites related to government and administration		26(7)	71(1)	68(9)	1	166(17)
Sites of religious services and faiths		148(13)	35	7		190(13)
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	15	15	51(2)	4	92(2)
Old dwelling houses, gardens, ponds, areas with historical backgrounds and sites related to foreign countries		6	20(2)	57(4)	1	84(6)
Total	395(10)	204(23)	154(3)	242(18)	9	954(54)

() Number of special historic relics given in brackets
(Compiled from General Directory of Designated Cultural Properties)

In case historic sites, places of scenic beauty and natural monuments were concentrated in narrow areas and it would be impossible to indicate each one with its respective symbol, an all-inclusive symbol showing the kind of object designated and the number of objects designated under an age classification was used for each Si, Mati or Mura.

With respect to animals designated as natural monuments without specifying their habitat, the name of each designated animal was printed near the center of the area in which their distribution was concentrated. However, no symbols were shown for breeding animals, such as dogs and domestic fowls.

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

Historic sites: Consist of shell-mounds, ancient burial mounds, palace remains, castle remains, Shinto shrine and Buddhist temple remains, checking station remains, etc., which are of scientific value in appreciating the history of Japan.

Places of scenic beauty: Consist of bridges, gardens, mountain torrents, beaches, mountains, etc., which are of scientific value or excel in scenic beauty.

Natural monuments: Animals which are unique to Japan or well-known and their habitats are designated as natural monuments. The flora designated as natural monuments include rare trees, giant trees, primeval forests, alpine flora zones, boundary areas for the distribution of flora, etc. The geological features and minerals designated as natural monuments consist of rocks, minerals, dykes, river erosions, marine erosions, limestone topography, lava caves, thermal spring phenomena, etc. The Protected Natural Area is a limited area in which the natural monuments that have to be protected exist in abundance, and which is of scientific value and symbolizes the nature of Japan.

Special historic sites, places of scenic beauty and natural monuments: Consist of historic sites, places of scenic beauty and natural monuments which are of particularly high value.

Sources

- Agency for Cultural Affairs, General Directory of Designated Cultural Properties, Volume on Historic Sites, Places of Scenic Beauty and Natural Monuments and Volume on Important Folk Culture.
- Agency for Cultural Affairs, Maps of Archaeological Sites in Japan.
- Data from Agency for Cultural Affairs.

2. National Treasures and Important Cultural Properties (Buildings)

Of all the buildings, paintings, sculptures, objects of handicraft, classical calligraphies, classical books and other tangible cultural properties, those which are considered to be of historical or artistic value to Japan and also archaeological relics are designated as important cultural properties. Of these important cultural properties, those which are considered particularly important are designated as national treasures. As of September 25, 1974, 2,826 buildings in 1,786 cases were designated as important cultural properties. Of these, 249 buildings in 207 cases were designated as national treasures.

The majority of Shinto shrine buildings designated as important cultural properties consist of main halls and halls of worship, and most of these were constructed in the Edo Era. Most of the Buddhist temple buildings designated as important cultural properties are the halls which were constructed in the Muromati Era. In the sector of the castle buildings designated as important cultural properties, those constructed in the Momoyama Era are practically the same in number as built in the Edo Era, and most of these

buildings consist of turrets and gates, the castle towers totaling 16. The Inuyama Castle is designated as an important cultural asset, as it represents the Muromati Era. Of the residences, private houses, Western-style buildings and other buildings, those constructed in the Edo Era account for about three-fourths. Private houses share the greatest percentage of this category, of which there were 154 main farm houses and 103 storehouses, and 40 main houses of urban households. The housing structures designated as important cultural properties include 87 "Syoin" type houses and 20 tea-ceremony houses. Of the Western-style buildings designated as important cultural properties, about 90% were constructed in the Meiji Era, and many of them are school buildings, public buildings and dwellings. In the sector of tombstones and monuments, bronze statues, bridges, etc., tombstones totaled 170, accounting for three-fourths of the total number. Practically all of these were constructed in the Kamakura Era.

In regard to the buildings designated as important cultural properties, there are many cases in which a number of buildings of a Shinto shrine or Buddhist temple are designated. The most typical example is Himezi Castle (in Himezi Si), 82 buildings of which are designated as important cultural properties. Having more than 30 buildings designated as important cultural properties are the Tōsōyū Shrine (Nikkō Si), Hutarasan Shrine (Nikkō Si), Kamo Mioya Shrine (Kyōto Si), Kamo Wakeikazuti Shrine (Kyōto Si), etc.

Of the buildings designated as important cultural properties, shrines or temples own about 80% in terms of cases or about 70% in terms of buildings. About 30% of the private houses are owned by juridical persons, such as public organizations and museums.

Recently, there has been a rise in the number of institutions exerting efforts for preserving buildings centering around private houses which are designated as important cultural properties. The main institutions include, among others, Nihon Minkaen (Kawasaki Si), Meiji Mura (Inuyama Si) and Nihon Minka Syūroku Hakubutukan (Toyonaka Si).

Salient Points of the Legend and Map Compilation

Of the buildings designated as important cultural properties as of June 1, 1974, the map classifies them by kind and age. The buildings, as referred to here, include not only structures in various eras, such as structures and bridges, but their components, building models, miniature shrines, household Buddhist shrines, monuments, etc., which could not have been built without construction technology. In the event that there is more than one building designated as an important cultural property for a Shinto shrine, Buddhist temple or castle, an all-inclusive symbol showing the number of buildings for each era was used. In case where such buildings were concentrated and considered difficult to indicate with individual symbols, an all-inclusive symbol was again used for each Si, Mati or Mura as a rule. In view of the fact that buildings designated as important cultural properties are concentrated in the peripheries of Kōfu Si, the middle part of Siga Prefecture, the southern part of Kyōto Prefecture, the middle part of Ōsaka Prefecture, the northern part of Nara Prefecture, the northern part of Wakayama Prefecture, and other districts in particularly great numbers, all-inclusive symbols were used with several Si, Mati and Mura or several Gun regarded as a group.

When the important cultural properties were classified by kind, the five-storied pagoda of the Nikkō Tōsōyū Shrine, Tahōtō of the Itukusima Shrine, etc., were looked upon as temple structures, and the Kasuga Dō (Hall) of the Enryō Zi Temple as a shrine structure, even though they constitute an integral part of a shrine or temple.

In the sector of residences, private houses, Western-style buildings, etc., the residences, as referred to here, suggest "Syoin" type buildings and tea-ceremony houses, including those of shrines and temples. The Western-style buildings, as referred to here, include pseudo-Western-style buildings. Other buildings, as referred to here, include school buildings (excluding Western-style buildings) and Noh theaters. Torii (shrine gates) are considered as shrine structures, regardless of whether they were made of stone or bronze.

Sources

- Agency for Cultural Affairs, General Directory of Designated Cultural Properties, Volume on Buildings.
- Data from the Agency for Cultural Affairs.

NUMBER OF IMPORTANT CULTURAL PROPERTIES (BUILDINGS) BY AGE

(As of September 25, 1974)

Kind	Age					Total
	Shinto age	Ancient age	Middle age	Early modern age	Modern age	
Shinto shrines	5(3)	333(23)	561(32)	2		901(58)
Buddhist temples	62(48)	488(83)	312(21)	1		863(152)
Castles		1(1)	228(15)	1		230(16)
Dwellings and other houses		7(2)	112(18)	2		121(20)
Western-style buildings			8(1)	72		80(1)
Private houses			1	369	18	388
Tombstones and monuments	13	169	9			191
Bronze monuments	1	1	9			11
Bridges			3	17		20
Others			1	20(2)		21(2)
Total	81(51)	1004(109)	1645(89)	96		2826(249)

() Number of national treasures given in brackets
(Compiled from Agency for Cultural Affairs data)

NUMBER OF PLACES OF SCENIC BEAUTY

(As of January 1, 1974)

Kind	Number of cases	
	Number of cases	Number of buildings
Gardens	110	
Parks	4	
Bridges	2	
Pine groves	6	
Flowering trees	12	
Rocks and caves	11	
Waterfalls	9	
Fountains	1	
Lakes	2	
Sand bars	1	
Islands	9	
Beaches	25	
Mountains	15	
Rivers	1	
Observation points	8	
Gorges and torrents	34	
Total	250	

NUMBER OF NATURAL MONUMENTS

(As of January 1, 1974)

Kind	Number of cases	
	Number of cases	Number of buildings
Special animals	178	
Special plants	519	
Minerals and geological phenomena	203	
Protected natural areas	21	
Total	921	

NUMBER OF IMPORTANT CULTURAL PROPERTIES (BUILDINGS) BY OWNERSHIP

(As of September 25, 1974)

Owner	Number of buildings	
	Number of cases	Number of buildings
National	35	172
Local autonomous bodies	124	221
Shrines	475	885
Temples	899	1105
Juridical persons	47	80
Private	193	349
Others	13	14
Total	1786	2826

(Compiled from Agency for Cultural Affairs data)

HISTORIC SITES, PLACES OF SCENIC BEAUTY AND NATURAL MONUMENTS

(1974)

HISTORIC SITES

(For areas with numerous monuments, all-inclusive symbols are used, and the number of monuments is shown numerically.)

Kind of historic sites	Age	Zyūjōn-Kūhōn (~60 c.)	Nara-Heian (710 c.-120 c.)	Kamakura-Muromachi (1330 c.-1600 c.)	Azuchi-Mōmoyama-Edo (1570 c.-1600 c.)	Meiji- (1868 c.-)
Shell-mounds, archaeological subsites, dwelling sites, stone circles, etc.	All inclusive symbol	●	●	●	●	●
Ancient burial mounds, Yokozue (side caves), Graves, etc.	All inclusive symbol	●	●	●	●	●
Sites of castles, palaces, old battle-grounds and other sites related to government and administration	All inclusive symbol	●	●	●	●	●
Sites of religious services and faiths	All inclusive symbol	●	●	●	●	●
Sites related to education, art, science and social works	All inclusive symbol	●	●	●	●	●
Sites related to industry, communication and public works	All inclusive symbol	●	●	●	●	●
Old dwelling houses, gardens, ponds, areas with historical backgrounds and sites related to foreign countries	All inclusive symbol	●	●	●	●	●

PLACES OF SCENIC BEAUTY

- All-inclusive symbol: Gardens, parks, etc.
- Designated special area: Gorges, beaches, mountains, etc.

NATURAL MONUMENTS

- Designated special area: Special animals and habitat
- Special plants and natural growth
- Minerals and geological phenomena
- Protected natural areas
- Not designated to any particular area

Designated by the Government as of April 1, 1974

1:2,500,000



