

Chronicle of Edo Shogunate Government's Document Keepers (1) 1746 to 1760

by UJIIE Mikito

"Shomotsukata Nikki" (Diary of Edo Shogunate Government's Document Keepers, 書物方日記) was a business daily of "goshomotsukata" (document officials, 御書物方), who took care of the "Momijiyama Bunko" (紅葉山文庫), an Edo Period library of books owned by the Shogun family and precious documents of the Shogunate Government. The National Archives of Japan keeps 225 documents from the library, dated from the 3rd year of Hiei (1706) through 4th of Ansei (1857).

Of these, documents up to the 2nd year of Enkyo (1745) were already published to the general public by University of Tokyo Press over the time period of 1964 through 1988, as part of the publication series titled "Dainihon Kinsei Shiryo" (Historical Sources of Early Modern Japan 大日本近世史料). Those dated in the 3rd of Enkyo (1746) and later, however, have yet to be published. Only a limited number of researchers know what is written in these documents.

This paper, entitled "Chronicle of Edo Shogunate Government's Document Keepers (1)," abstracts records to note in the Diary, such as lending and returning of books of the library, staffing records, etc., for the time period from the first day of the 3rd of Enkyo through the 10th of Horeki (1760).

Documents Transferred from Regional Forest Offices to the National Archives' Control in 2007

by KOMIYAMA Toshikazu

Approximately two-thirds of Japan's land is covered with forest. As we discuss, therefore, in discussing the nation's history and cultural events, forest is indispensable. At the same time, as awareness of environment protection heightens, people are growing more and more conscious of how crucial forest is for us. In a situation like this, in accordance with the document control transfer program for 2007, a total of 17,561 documents, mainly those formerly taken care of by the Regional Forest Offices, were transferred to the National Archives' control. Including some records of forest control from the Edo Period, these transferred documents are highly precious, in terms of both quality and volume.

This paper outlines the preservation and research / examination activities conducted on those documents by the relevant institutions and organizations before the transfer. It also mentions some of the moves made by us, the National Archives, and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and the Forestry Agency prior to the transfer. So far, very few mentions have been made on those moves. The paper also analyzes the transferred documents from three viewpoints, chronology, organizations that took care of

them, and organizations that created them, with a view to presenting the general characteristics of those documents.

Summary of the Sources on Financial Administration History of the Showa Period, Transferred to the National Archives' Control from the Ministry of Finance in 2003
by SHIMOJU Naoki

This paper discusses the historical records originally prepared by the Ministry of Finance (Okura-sho 大蔵省) before World War II and now preserved by the National Archives, especially the "Sources on Financial Administration History of the Showa Period" (Showa Zaiseishi Shiryo 昭和財政史資料, 856 volumes in all), which are the major part of those historical records. Transferred to the National Archives' control in Fiscal 2003 from the Ministry of Finance, those records were collected and compiled in a history research project that followed the "Financial Administration History of the Meiji Period" (明治財政史) and "Financial Administration History of the Meiji and Taisho Periods" (明治大正財政史). Made public after World War II, "Showa Financial Administration History" (Showa Zaiseishi 昭和財政史), a product of such historical research efforts, came to be recognized as basic documents for researchers of financial history. The "Sources on Financial Administration History of the Showa Period" were also made available to the general public in the 1980s, in the form of microfilm as well as at the former Office of Financial Administration History, the Ministry of Finance (Okura-sho Zaiseishi Shitsu 大蔵省財政史室). After the transfer to us, the National Archives, these records came to be more broadly available as record images in our digital archive system. This collected even more attentions from broader circles to these precious historical records.

So far, these records met with limited recognition, i.e., many considered them as something separated from the existing preservation system of public documents or from the process of administrative work that actually prepared these documents. For this reason, no effort has been made so far to clarify the internal structure of these records or their position in the records management system of the former Ministry of Finance. In this paper, the author reevaluates the characteristics of the "Sources on Financial Administration History of the Showa Period" from multiple viewpoints, in comparison with other records kept in the National Archives as well as in other relevant institutions. The intention is to clarify how the historical progress of the Ministry's programs to compile financial administration history documents interacted with the relevant organizational system of documents. As a result, the author has made the following findings:

First, the "Sources on Financial Administration History of the Showa Period" were not just a collection of outdated documents from the relevant bureaus and departments. They were, in fact, administrative documents treated as "For Reference (参考書)," "To Be Compiled

Separately (別纂)," or To be Preserved Separately (別存)," to form a separate series of documents. Those documents, sent into the Document Department from the respective relevant bureaus and departments since they considered such documents as no longer necessary, are actually precious historical sources as we try to reconstruct the processes of decision-makings from the original manuscripts used in such decisions. And a collection of documents like this one is especially valuable from a Ministry like this, where decision-makings were made in a bottom-up style, beginning with the respective bureaus and departments.

Second, the author points out existence of some contemporary issues not necessarily covered by Showa Financial Administration History published after World War II, based on analysis of the internal structure of the Sources surveyed. We need further analyses of these issues, since there obviously was a major disconnection, namely Japan's defeat in World War II, between the time period when the Sources on Financial Administration History of the Showa Period were compiled and that when Showa Financial Administration History was.

We find it quite difficult to clarify how policy- and decision- makings as well as administrative office work were actually conducted in the Ministry of Finance before the War. And much of this difficulty arises from scarcity of sources available to us. This author hopes that better understanding of the document control and decision-making systems back then will lead us to discovery of more information out of the Showa Financial Administration History. Also, as we compare such newly discovered information with the relevant historical sources kept in the National Archives, this author hopes we will draw more precise and multi-dimensioned images of the pre-War period history.

Effort for Appropriate Evaluation and Selection of Administrative Documents - Based on Surveys and Researches

by TAJIMA Chihiro

This paper summarizes the results of the surveys and researches conducted by the National Archives from Fiscal 2006 to 2008 with respect to appraisal of electronic public records, etc. during or from before their creation." The paper in addition considers how to apply function-based appraisal methodologies to appraisal of administrative documents in Japan, referring to situations with those methodologies in Australia and some other countries.

One finding the author has confirmed is that in Australia the efforts to implement function-based appraisal methodologies are facing some difficulties. One reason the author sees for such difficulties in that particular country is that the methodologies employed in function-based appraisal are complicated and require abundance of resources.

Considering such difficulties, this paper introduces two manuals prepared in Fiscal 2008,

"A Japanese Version of Function-Based Appraisal Manual (Rough Draft) for Administrative Documents" and "A Japanese Version of Basic Policies in Appraisal of Administrative Documents (Rough Draft)."

These two manuals, while containing some very similar content, are intended to serve very different objectives. On the one hand, "A Japanese Version of Function-Based Appraisal Manual (Rough Draft) for Administrative Documents" is meant to facilitate implementation of function-based appraisal. On the other, "A Japanese Version of Basic Policies in Appraisal of Administrative Documents (Rough Draft)" points out the things to consider with respect to securing of evidence in disposal of administrative document files and in transfer of such files over to the control of the National Archives, against the background of the existing control and transfer system for administrative documents and records.

This paper concludes with things to note as we select methodologies of appraisal of administrative documents.

Attempt to Create a Catalog of Maps - Catalog Compilation in Accordance with Distinctions of Governmental Bodies

by IKEDA Katsuyuki

Maps meet great demand. The author of this paper has attempted to create a catalog of maps and map documents kept in the archives of the City of Kuki (久喜市). This paper begins with presenting to readers a fact that many uses, when they try to find the maps they want, approach the wanted maps with three keys, the geographic areas, the years of creation, and subjects of such maps. Thus the author attempted, making use of existing data, to create a catalog of maps that covers all these three keys, is as easy to use as possible, and can survive changes in the organization of the National Archives.

Many of the maps stored in the City's archives were created in the modern period. This means they were created by the municipal governments of what is now Kuki-shi, of the Town of Kuki (久喜町) before it was given the city status, and of those towns and villages before they were incorporated into the City. In the attempt described in this paper, the author paid special attention to who created the respective maps and created a catalog structured to correspond to the governmental bodies that existed in the different time periods in the history of transformation of the governmental organization of what is today the City of Kuki. Though this methodology has resulted in a catalog that lets users to roughly zoom in to the desired area, year of creation, and subject, it is necessary to add further structure into the catalog to enable users to zoom into the documents they want more precisely and efficiently, as they actually use this catalog.

Now we have this catalog of maps, we intend to spread information on it aggressively.

Moreover, we need to show, in the years to come, how to make more use of the maps and map documents we have.

Sources Related to Taiwan in the Cabinet Library [Naikaku Bunko] - With a Focus on "Publications by the Japanese Government-General in Taiwan" Made Public by the Japan Center for Asian Historical Records
by KUROKI Nobuyori

The Cabinet Library documents kept at the National Archives can be classified into three categories, Japanese documents" (washō, 和書), Chinese documents" (kanseki, 漢籍), and Western documents" (yoshō, 洋書). Of these, the Japanese documents" consist of the following three sub-categories: those of the Momijiyama Bunko" (紅葉山文庫) library, the Shoheizaka Gakumonjo" (昌平坂学問所) institute, the Igakukan" (医学館) medical school, and other institutes and libraries of an Edo Period. These Japanese documents were later transferred to control of the new government of Meiji. Those purchased by the Meiji government in the early phase of the Meiji Period from the Todaiji Gaijisha (東大寺外寺社) library, Kutsuki (朽木氏) and other samurai families, Oshikoji (押小路) and other court noble families, etc. The new government purchased the documents of this sub-category as part of its efforts to collect records and documents. Finally, the Cabinet's library" collection of publications by the governmental ministries on ministerial jobs, in and after the Meiji Period.

Of these Japanese documents," the Japan Center for Asian Historical Records offers for public inspection the following documents collected in Meiji or later: publications of the Cabinet Information Agency (Naikaku Joho-kyoku 内閣情報局), statistic annual reports on Japan's colonies (shokuminchi kankei tokei nenpo 植民地関係統計年報), publications of the Japanese Government-General in Korea (Chosen Sotokufu 朝鮮総督府), publications of the Japanese Government-General in Taiwan (Taiwan Sotokufu 台湾総督府), publications of the Koain" (興亜院) governmental agency, and publications of agencies and organizations other than Koain.

Now, in the previous issue of this KITANOMARU (No. 41), Mr. Takehiko Osawa introduced many of the publications of Koain," which include many records related to mainland China. This paper, therefore, introduces publications of the Japanese Government-General in Taiwan. This author's intention in doing so is to call for more attention to these publications, which contain many highly precious survey records very helpful to researchers of Taiwan-related subjects today. In spite of such tremendous value, there is little evidence of these publications utilized by such researchers. This paper first provides readers with the whole picture of the records contained in these publications of the Japanese Government-General in Taiwan. Then, it introduces readers to some of the records

contained. The author hopes that this paper will attract more researchers to utilize these precious publications.

An Overview of Recent Trends toward Standardization of Digitizing Non-electronic Records: Efforts Made by the Archives/Records Authorities in New Zealand and Australia
by NAKAJIMA Yasuhiko

While we can see various studies and practices of management of, preservation of and access to "born-digital" records by many organizations and institutions in many countries in the world, we can also see many programs and projects for digitizing non-electronic records for better business efficiency and accessibility to records, and other purposes. In the field of digitization of non-electronic records, some efforts for standardization have been made recently. This article introduces the Digitisation Standard which was published by the Archives New Zealand in 2007. The standard has had so great an impact on recordkeeping communities in the world that the standard has been taken as a draft of an International Standard. The article then overviews the Guidelines for Digitisation of Paper Records which was published by the Queensland State Archives in 2006.

Classification Catalog of Chinese Documents in the Cabinet Library [Naikaku Bunko]
- Index of Chinese Aliases
by TSUCHIYA Hiroshi

The revised Classification Catalog of Chinese Documents in the Cabinet Library (Naikaku Bunko Kanseki Bunrui Mokuroku 内閣文庫漢籍分類目録)," published in 1971, contains a list of the document names included at its end. Still, the Catalog has no index of authors, a problem to those searching for Chinese documents kept in the Library. Today, thanks to the digital archive system of our National Archives, a user can search for the Chinese documents he/she wants simply by entering some keywords, regardless of the documents' names and authors.

Thus we have made considerable progress in terms of search functions for Chinese documents. Still, there are some inconveniences remaining. One of them is handling of Chinese aliases. There has been a time-honored custom in China to refer to the same person with many different names, including his/her "regular" name, "azana" (字), "go" (号), name as a government official (kanmei 官名), "okurina" (謚)," and others.

Considering this problem, this paper presents an index of aliases of authors extracted from the document names, etc. of the Chinese documents kept by the National Archives.