

Historical Development of Record-keeping by the Cabinet Auxiliary Bureau: An Essay on Policy Formation and Archives

by SHIMOJU Naoki

This article follows the historical developments of the role document records have played in policy formation and planning processes in Japan to the present date. This will allow the National Archives to create a sketch of the future functions, organizational vision and required professional staff for the storage of archives as an intellectual resource, the creation of new policies in the administrative management, and the functions of the National Archives provided for the use of the nation.

The administration of archives by Japanese governments since the Meiji era has focused mainly on documents that can establish the whereabouts of decisions and responsibility, but it is the records relating to study and deliberation including the grounds of such decisions and judgments and the possibility of non-publication that are the materials to verify the quality itself of creating policies and making decisions as a group and should be the subject of archives to be confronted by governments in the future.

At the same time, it is an intellectual resource to create new policies, and the archives kept by the National Archives for national use are also necessary in terms of standard policy formation processes.

Reviewing the value of kept archives by the National Archives of Japan itself is essential to lead the systems of the National Archives to such a new stage. On the other hand, archivists are professionals that support policy formation, so they should have an intellectual background when it comes to a structural understanding of and ways to use archives and be in possession of a drive to provide information resources corresponding to policy issues of the period.

Rather than creating high-quality decision-making, there is a fear that records and information lay behind arbitrary decisions. Another reason is the need to reconcile accountability such as ensuring falsifiability from the same era and future historical evaluations.

A Study of Documents Relating to Planning Statistical Surveys: Taking the 1970 National Census as a Case Study

by KAKEHI Masaki

“Documents relating to Planning Fundamental Statistical Surveys” is shown in “Criteria for Establishing Measures at Expiration of Storage Period” , the appended Table 2 to the “Guidelines relating to Management of Government Documents” (agreed by the Prime Minister on April 1, 2011) as a specific example of an historical official document.

So what exactly does “Documents Relating to Planning Statistical Surveys” refer to?

Taking the 1970 National Census as a case study, this article studies “Documents Relating to Planning Statistical Surveys” based on the planning, decision-making and implementation processes of statistical surveys.

The composition of this article is therefore as follows. First, the results of transferring control of documents relating to National Censuses and the reasons for selecting the 1970 National Census as a case study will be confirmed. Next, the planning, decision-making and implementation processes of statistical surveys will be considered in the context of the 1970 National Census.

In addition, the role of 1970 National Census related documents shall be assessed at each stage of the statistical survey planning, decision-making, and implementation processes. Lastly, documents relating to the planning of the 1970 National Census shall be analyzed using documents relating to that census, and focal points for considering “Documents Relating to Planning Statistical Surveys” shall be presented.

Efforts to Describe Information on an Archives Holding Institution based on an International Standard

by NAKAJIMA Yasuhiko and MIZUNO Kyoko

This article attempts to describe the National Archives of Japan (NAJ) based on the International Standard for Describing Institutions with Archival Holdings (ISDIAH) developed and published by the International Council on Archives (ICA) in 2008.

Following on from the General International Standard Archival Description (ISAD(G)), the International Standard Archival Authority Record For Corporate Bodies, Persons and Families (ISAAR(CPF)), and the International Standard for Describing Functions (ISDF), the ISDIAH is a standard that provides rules for describing institutions which hold archives for public use.

This article is structured as follows. The first section summarizes the contents of the article. The second section provides an overview of the ISDIAH, and the third section gives the results of efforts to describe the NAJ applying the standard. Based on the outcome of description experiments, some consideration is given to the significance of the ISDIAH itself.

Reviewing the results of descriptions applying the ISDIAH and the content of these descriptions, it is found that 1) a wide variety of archival institutions providing information based on common systems and standards not confined by the boundaries and differences among those institutions would improve convenience of using the archival institutions and encourage further use of them. It is found that 2) the ISDIAH is significant as it has the potential to improve the convenience of using such institutions if descriptions of beneficial information relating to documents, such as finding aids and explanatory information of their holdings and access guides published by institutions, is systematized. It is not expected that the very essence of the above-described significance and effectiveness of the ISDIAH will be exhibited, until descriptions have been made by multiple archival institutions based on the standard.

Chronicle of Edo Shogunate Government's Document Keepers (5) 1814 to 1857

by **UJIIE Mikito**

“Shomotsukata Nikki” (Chronicle of Edo Shogunate Government's Document Keepers, 書物方日記) was a business diary of “goshomotsukata” (document officials, 御所物方), who managed “The Momijiyama Bunko” (紅葉山文庫), the Edo-period library of books owned by the family of the Shogun and precious documents of Shogunate Government. The National Archives of Japan keeps 225 documents of the library, dated from the third year of Hoei(1706)through the fourth year of Ansei(1857).

This article, entitled “Chronicle of Edo Shogunate Government's Document Keepers (5) abstracts records to note in the Chronicle, such as lending and returning of books of the library, staffing records, etc. for the time period from New Year's Day of the 11th year of Bunka (1814) through June of the 4th year of Ansei (1857).

***Shichu-shishu* Book of Essays - Entry Details (1st Volume)**

by **UJIIE Mikito**

The “Shichu-shishu” book of essays is a record made up of 22 books bequeathed by the shogunal vassal, Amano NAGASHIGE (1621-1705). They record the lessons, observations, policy statements and hygiene methods, etc. compiled by NAGASHIGE over more than 40 years, and the number of entries runs up to 2015.

It could be called the No.1 historical material to become acquainted with the social conditions and customs as well as the lives and thinking of samurai of the early Edo period. This article introduces the events leading to the establishment of the “Shichu-shishu” book of essays and the background etc. of Amano NAGASHIGE, and gives the names of entries listed in the main text of the “Shichu-shishu” one by one.

Bibliography of Pictorial Books of the National Archives of Japan (2)

by **HOSHI Mizuho**

With recent advancements in research on the painters and producers of picture scrolls and picture books, more attention has been focused on pictures not only in the field of art history, but also in Japanese literature. Although various types of illustrated books and scrolls are stored here, they remain unused since most attention is paid to other types of valuable old manuscripts.

This article contains a bibliography of pictorial books with annotations of bibliographic information and explanations, so that the public can make greater use of the books.

Pictorial books are extracted for examination from the section of Japanese literature of the Revised Cabinet Library Japanese Documents Catalog. Among 513 narrative documents including transcripts and printed

materials, 85 items are accompanied by pictures. The order of the bibliography was determined according to the Revised Cabinet Library Japanese Documents Catalog.

Bibliography of Chinese Books from Sung and Yuan Kept by the National Archives of Japan (4)

by TSUCHIYA Hiroshi

This article intends to provide a user-friendly bibliography which covers the outlines, provenances, years of publication, etc. of the Chinese books of the Sung and Yuan periods in the Cabinet Library collection of the National Archives of Japan. The Sung versions were published during the Southern Sung Dynasty (1127 to 1279), and the Yuan versions, during the Yuan Dynasty(1279 to 1367).

This article pays special attention to the provenance of each book covered. It discusses how and from whom the National Archives obtained each book, base on the ownership marks on it.

In addition, experts' opinions regarding the year publication of each book covered are arranged in a table.