

Trial Records of Criminal Cases Prior to the Enforcement of the Criminal Procedure Law 1880: The Structure and Features of the Trial Records Transferred from the Ministry of Justice to the National Archives of Japan in 2005

by NIIMI Katsuhiko

2,862 trial records of criminal cases prior to the enforcement of the Criminal Procedure Law (January 1, 1882) were transferred to the National Archives of Japan from the Ministry of Justice in 2005. This group of records consists of judgement papers and records of confession statements of criminal cases that had been kept by public prosecutors offices in various districts, and is valuable in that it has been held in a cohesive fashion.

However, even though some of the records have been discussed individually in legal history studies, there have been few analyses of this group of records as a whole. Hence, this paper identifies the structure and features of the records as a group by focusing on the file names with reference to the laws and regulations behind them, the flow of records created in the trials of criminal cases, and the differences among the courts.

Bibliographical Introduction to Medieval Literature (3)

by HOSHI Mizuho

This is a bibliographic introduction to pieces of literature from the Kamakura period and Muromachi period and their commentaries listed in the “National Literature” chapter of the “Revised Catalog of Japanese Books housed in the Cabinet Library,” which has been relegated to the National Archives of Japan. For public use, this introduction also briefly comments on every item covered. By covering items owned by various institutions such as Mojimiyama-Bunko, Shoheizaka-Gakumonjo, and Wagaku-Kodanjo and also a considerable number of commentaries published in the 17th century, it illustrates how medieval literature has been accepted.

Readers are referred to the preceding introductions numbered 1 and 2 by the same author for some of the items from the catalog. As for picture books, they are referred to “Bibliographic Introduction to Picture Books housed at the National Archives of Japan” numbered 1 to 6 collected in “Kitanomaru” volume 45 (2013) to 50 (2018).

Bibliographical Notes of the Maps of Edo

by TAKAHASHI Nobuko

Among the documents belonging to the National Archives of Japan, this paper introduces bibliographic information and content as annotations about the maps of Edo with a focus on manuscripts that have originated from a document in the Cabinet Library. The "Maps of Edo" refers to the illustration of Edo and the city's environs. There are many maps of Edo around the country when counting both manuscripts and published books; our facility owns many of these maps. Published maps of Edo in particular list details because of prior research. On the other hand, manuscripted maps of Edo have a mix of unique documents, copies of printed books, and copied material that have been distributed throughout the country as manuscripts. Although we own many of those manuscripts of the map of Edo, the whole collection has not been cleared.

This is why this paper focuses on and lists a notes of manuscripts of the map of Edo (including copies of published books); this list excludes summaries of published books that have cleared.

Appraisal and Selection Process Using a Retention Chart: A Case Study of the Administrative Documents from the Personnel Affairs Division, Bureau of Personnel and Education of the Ministry of Defense

by KUSUMOTO Riho

This research studies the possibilities of efficiently carrying out appraisal and selection process, by using the retention chart as a reference tool for which focuses on the ability to know the details of administrative documents that have been created and acquired in administrative organ from the retention chart. One case study chooses the work of the Personnel Affairs Division, Bureau of Personnel and Education of the Ministry of Defense as a focus, where analysis of the work and retention chart was carried out. The first chapter reveals the actual realities and the rules from the Management of Administrative Documents in the Ministry of Defense. The second chapter analyzes the business activity in the rule of "restrictions on reemployment" and "personnel exchange between the government and the private sector" in this framework. The third chapter reveals whether or not that analyzed work has been matched in the retention chart and whether or not the chart has had any usefulness on efficiency of the appraisal and selection process.

‘Essence’ of the Specified Historical Public Records and Archives: Considering preservation policy of the National Archives of Japan to be effective in transition to digital records management

by SHINOHARA Sawako

This study reveals that the concept of ‘essence’, which is often considered as specific for only digital records, is effective for the preservation of the Specified Historical Public Records and Archives, and proposes a comprehensive preservation policy for the National Archives of Japan (NAJ) that incorporates ‘essence’. For this purpose, this report: (1) reviews the circumstances of NAJ's digital preservation and confirms that the concept of ‘essence’ is included in the relevant laws and regulations of NAJ, (2) summarizes history and issues of this concept in terms of international digital preservation approach, and (3) points out this concept is actually not limited to digital records by examining the preservation approach of analog records of NAJ etc.

Assuming digital and non-digital are mixed for a while, comprehensive preservation policy will be effective in transition to digital records management.

