



Architecture

(Buildings, Facilities, Heritage and
more!)

By: Blue Galvan, Yuma Kaida, Vivian Nguyen, and
Quentin-Allen Fernandez



Early Japanese Architecture

- Jomon Period
 - 13,000BCE to 300BCE
 - Primitive Housing
- Yayoi Period
 - 300 BC to 300 AD
 - Permanent Settlements
 - Use of stilts
 - Fences
 - Watch towers



Various types of old designs

- Tatami are traditional rush mats that covers the floors of most Japanese living spaces
- While modern materials are replacing the mats they are still found in many Japanese homes and hotels
- Tatami was a type of flooring that can replaceable in event of fire or natural disaster.
- Translucent sliding door (shoji) made up of wooden lattices covering in translucent paper.



Shinto Shrines

- ❖ Shinto shrines are places of worship and the dwellings of the kami.
- ❖ People come to various shrines to pay their respects to the kami or pray for good fortune.
- ❖ Usually found that shrines: Torii, Komainu, Purification trough, main and offering hall, stage, ema, omikugi, and shimenawa
- ❖ There are a few majors groups of shrines.
- ❖ The general blueprint of shrines originated from Buddhist, because before shrines were just temporary structures.



Shinto Shrines



- ❖ Torii: gates that are the entrances to the shrines. There could be one or many.
- ❖ Komainu: guardian statues on both sides of the entrance, usually animals such as foxes or dogs.
- ❖ Purification trough: usually water fountains where people wash their hands and mouth before entering the shrine
- ❖ Main and offering hall: the main hall, in its innermost chamber, has the shrine's sacred object and the offering hall is where visitors make their prayers and offerings
- ❖ Stage: has performances such as noh or other, only various shrines have stages
- ❖ Ema: a place where people can write their wishes on a wooden board and hope that it can come true
- ❖ Omikugi: slips of paper with various predictions or fortunes that are tied to the tree branches to encourage good fortune or avert bad fortune.
- ❖ Shimenawa: a straw rope that creates a boundary for something that is sacred, usually around torii gates, sacred trees or stones.

Castles

- Typical Castle Structure
 - Castle Tower
 - Wall and Moats
 - Guard Towers
 - Gates
 - Palace

- Himeji Castle
 - White appearance
 - Twelve Original Castles
 - 83 Buildings
 - Huge Dimensions
 - Great Defenses
 - One of the first UNESCO World Heritage Sites







Gardens/Teahouses

- Ryoan-ji Zen Garden is famous for its simplicity. Made of nothing but clay walls, raked sand and fifteen rocks.
- The fifteen rocks in the Ryoan-ji Zen Garden have different names and meanings for each one.
- To enter the room, all guests regardless of rank need to crawl through a low entrance way to show humility and social equality



Western influences in Japan

- ❖ Western influences began during the mid 19th century
- ❖ Changes happened right after World War I such as how Japanese homes changed from single story houses to two-story or bigger and taller houses. Then it began to change again after World War II
- ❖ There were many influences from European architecture as well as Roman and Catholic Architecture.
- ❖ Many designs began to change from simplistic and small to big and intricate.



Western Influences in Japan



- ❖ Before western influences, Japanese buildings were made of wood, stone, and paper.
- ❖ Japanese mainly changed their architecture due to the effects of war.
- ❖ They wanted to improve their cities with new innovative designs to help their country recover.
- ❖ The new buildings in Japan became more sturdier and bigger in result of war as well as earthquakes.
- ❖ The tall buildings also helped with the overpopulation of Japan.

Landmark: TOKYO SKYTREE

“TOKYO SKYTREE is designed in an original color, "SKYTREE White", representing harmony with the surrounding scenery, its name and the design concept: "The creation of city scenery transcending time: A fusion of traditional Japanese beauty and neo-futuristic design". (<http://www.tokyo-skytree.jp/en/archive/design/index.html>)

Dressed in "SKYTREE white", the new tower will stand tall against the blue sky in downtown Tokyo and transcend time with eternal brightness. (<http://www.tokyo-skytree.jp/en/archive/design/index.html>)



SKYTREE: Lighting

“Iki,” essence of “Kokoroiki”

“Kokoroiki”, the straightforward down-to-earth spirit of Edo commoners, is represented in the pale blue light with the motif of the water of Sumida River, which focuses on the center pillar ‘Shimbashira’ of the tower. The tower stands tall and strong, exposing the inside of the structure. You can feel the stylishness and resoluteness of the people of Edo.”

(<http://www.tokyo-skytree.jp/en/archive/design/lighting.html>)



SKYTREE Lighting

“Miyabi”, the Aesthetics

"Miyabi", the aesthetic sense, expresses an elegant and dignified image of the tower by showing its intricate steel structure. The theme color is Edo purple shining with a well-balanced sprinkle of gold foil-like lights.

(<http://www.tokyo-skytree.jp/en/archive/design/lighting.html>)



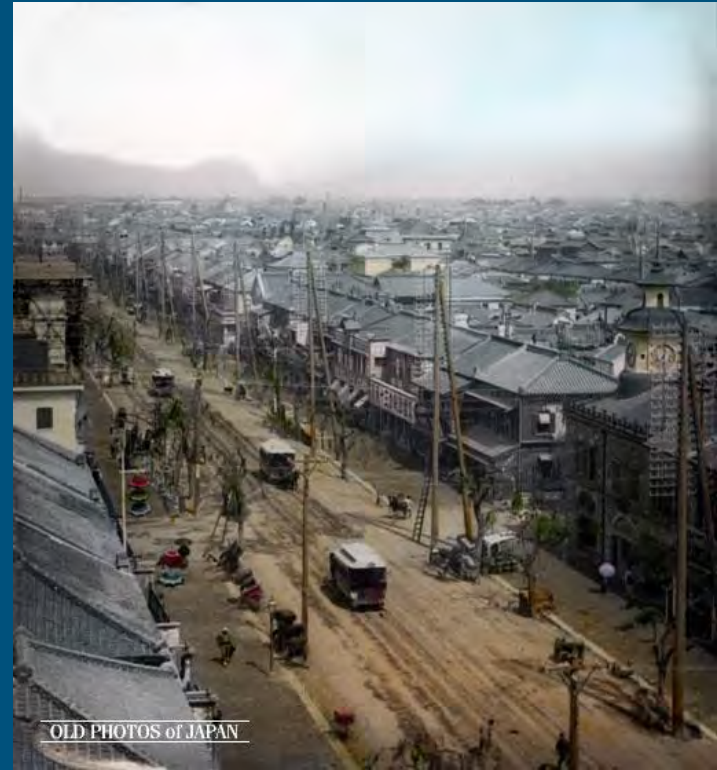
Landmark: Tokyo Tower

- Is the most iconic tower in Tokyo, well known landmark of Tokyo.
- Was opened in 1958. Serves 2 purposes, one a telecommunications hub and a tourist attraction
- A tribute to the success of industrialization and economic growth
- Center of Tokyo
- 333 meters
- Can see all of Tokyo by going to the 2 observation decks one at 150m and the other one at 250m



Evolution of Japanese Architecture: Ginza

1870's-1880's



Evolution continued

Ginza 1920's



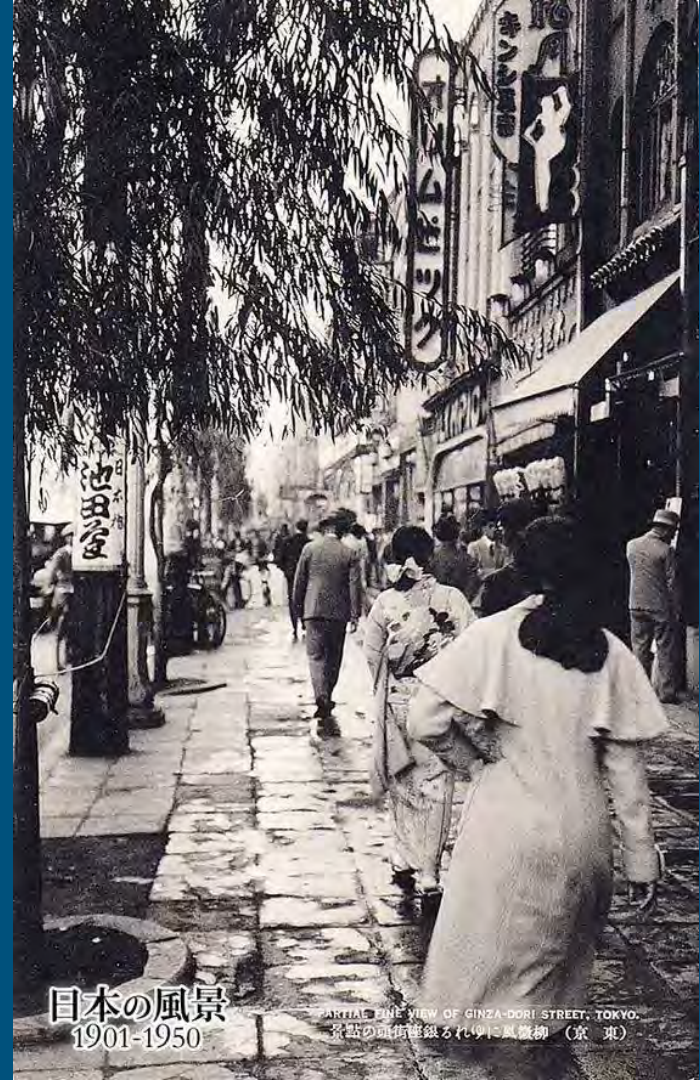
Ginza Dori, Tokyo. 銀座通



Great Sight of Ginza.

銀座ノ西方座銀ハハ踏歩ヲ空上ノ橋新

Evolution continued



日本の風景
1901-1950

ARTIST: LINE VIEW OF GINZA-DORI STREET, TOKYO.
景品の町街銀座れいに風舞柳 (京 東)









Present Day



How innovative Japanese architecture is

Earthquake Proof Building- Their goal is to continue to study and enhance construction techniques in order to refine and perfect buildings, make them safe as possible in the future.

Bike Parking In Japan: Having bikes underground is good since, in my opinion especially Tokyo has roughly 3.5 million people commuters use a bicycle in conjunction with trains to go to work space for parking is a premium.



Famous Modern Architects

Isozaki Arata:

- He was a student of Tange (a well known japanese architect)
- He makes his and other visions into a reality
- No signature of any kind because he wants to make a building according to the client and space
- Modern Japanese style

Art Tower
Mito, Ibaraki



Tange Kunio

- One of the leaders of the reconstruction and urban planning after WW2 with his mentor Maekawa
- He was known for infusing Japanese aesthetic into modern buildings

MODE Gakuen
Cocoon Tower
(Tokyo/ Shinjuku)



Maekawa Kunio

- A leader in the reconstruction and urban planning after WW2 with Tange
- He was a student of the world famous architect Le Corbusier
- Used Le Corbusier's ideas in his work as well as his own

Tokyo Bunka
Kaikan (Tokyo:
Ueno)



Fun facts about Japanese architecture

- ❖ Shrines were built without nails, all structures were made to fit together like a puzzle.
- ❖ Most houses were built that way as well due to earthquakes, so when it happened, it would actually strengthen the houses because it would push the pieces closer together
- ❖ A lot of Japanese architecture was adapted from other countries such as Korea and China, then it slowly began to adapt Western and European styles later on as well.
- ❖ Japan is credited for its minimalistic but durable designs.
- ❖ The architecture of Japanese buildings were all built in consideration of the weather, they all had to figure out what would be best to handle all four seasons
- ❖ The beauty in the building tended to be in the roof with its curves and various structural designs.



Construction of a small wooden house in the traditional style

Works Cited

<http://www.tokyo-skytree.jp/en/archive/design/>

<http://archive.artsmia.org/art-of-asia/architecture/japanese-teahouse.cfm>

<http://japan-guide.com/e/e2007.html>

<http://orientalarchitecture.com/Japan/Kyoto/ryoanji.php>

<http://www.japan-guide.com/e/e2111.html>

<http://www.orientalarchitecture.com/japan/tokyo/ginza.php>

<http://blog.discoveryeducation.com/blog/2013/06/28/fun-fact-friday-earthquake-resistant-buildings/>

Works cited (continued)

<http://www.jinto.go.jp/eng/indepth/cultural/experience/a.html>

http://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Japanese_architecture

<http://www.tokyotower.co.jp/eng/>

<http://maki-and-associates.co.jp/firm/index.html>

<http://www.iso-zaki.co.jp/>

<http://www.japan-guide.com/e/e2059.html>

<http://blogs.yis.ac.jp/15kundua/2013/04/23/the-way-architecture-evolved-in-japan/>