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UNESCO Region: ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

SITE NAME: Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the kingdom of Ryukyu

DATE OF INSCRIPTION: 2nd December 2000

STATE PARTY: JAPAN

CRITERIA: C (ii)(iii)(vi)

DECISION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE:

Criterion (ii):For several centuries the Ryukyu Islands served as a centre of economic and cultural interchange between south-east Asia, China, Korea, and Japan, and this is vividly demonstrated by the surviving monuments.

Criterion (iii):The culture of the Ryukyuan Kingdom evolved and flourished in a special political and economic environment, which gave its culture a unique quality.

Criterion (vi):The Ryukyu sacred sites constitute an exceptional example of an indigenous form of nature and ancestor worship that has survived intact into the modern age alongside other established world religions.

BRIEF DESCRIPTIONS

Five hundred years of Ryukyuan history (12th - 17th century) are represented by this group of sites and monuments. The ruins of the castles, on imposing elevated sites, are evidence for the social structure over much of that period, whilst the sacred sites provide mute testimony to the rare survival of an ancient form of religion into the modern age. The wide economic (and hence cultural) contacts of the Ryukyu islands over that period are illustrated by the unique culture that emerged.

1.b State, Province or Region: Okinawa Prefecture

1.d Exact location: 26° 12' N, 127° 41' E

WORLD HERITAGE LIST NOMINATION

JAPAN

Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu

1999

Agency for Cultural Affairs
Government of Japan

WORLD HERITAGE LIST NOMINATION

Name of Property ***Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu***

State Party **Japan**

Prepared by **Agency for Cultural Affairs
Government of Japan**

Date **June 1999**

CONTENTS**Main Text [File No.1]****1. Identification of the Property**

- a. Country 1
- b. State, Province or Region 1
- c. Name of property 1
- d. Location 1
- e. Boundary of area proposed for inscription and of buffer zone 2
- f. Area of property proposed for inscription and of buffer zone 2

2. Justification for Inscription

- a. Statement of significance 3
- b. Comparative analysis 4
- c. Authenticity 5
- d. Criteria under which inscription is proposed 8

3. Description

- a. Description of property 11
- b. History 26
- c. Form and date of most recent records of property 43
- d. Present state of conservation 53
- e. Policies and programs related to the presentation and promotion of property 58

4. Management

- a. Ownership 63
- b. Legal status 63
- c. Protective measures and means of implementing them 65
- d. Agencies with management authority 67
- e. Level at which management is exercised and name and address of responsible person for contact purposes 67
- f. Agreed plans related to property 68
- g. Sources and levels of finance 69
- h. Sources of expertise and training in conservation and management techniques 70
- i. Visitor facilities and statistics 70
- j. Property management plan and statement of objectives 71
- k. Staffing levels 71

5. Factors Affecting the Property

- a. Development pressures 73
- b. Environmental pressures 73
- c. Natural disasters and preparedness 73
- d. Visitor / tourism pressures 74
- e. Number of inhabitants within property and buffer zone 75

6. Monitoring

- a. Key indicators for measuring state of conservation 77
- b. Administrative arrangements for monitoring property 78
- c. Results of previous reporting exercises 78

7. Documentation

- a. Photographs, slides and video 87
- b. Address where inventory, record and archives are held 87

8. Signature on behalf of the State Party

Appendices

[File No.1]

1. Maps indicating the location of the nominated property
 - a. The location in Japan
 - b. The location in Okinawa Prefecture
 - c. The location in the directly related municipality.
2. Map indicating the nominated property and the surrounding natural and built environment
3. Maps indicating the extent of the nominated property and the buffer zone
 - a. The extent of the nominated property and the buffer zone with indication of the zones of legal protection
 - b. The extent of the nominated property with indication of areas protected through designations of Important Cultural Properties, Historic Sites and / or Places of Scenic Beauty.
4. Inventory of cultural assets; copies of the official designation notices
 - a. Inventory of the monuments and sites included in the nominated property
 - b. Copies of the official designation notices
5. Drawings of the cultural assets (major remains)
 - a. Major structures (Important Cultural Properties) of the monuments
 - b. Major components of the sites
 - c. Drawings and related materials about conservation repair works

[File No. 2]

6. Chronological table of history in relation to the nominated property
7. Plans indicating locations of fire prevention systems
 - a. Shuri-jô Site (2-E)
 - b. Shikinaen (2-F)
8. Maps indicating the zones of legal protection
 - a. Tamaudun (1-A), Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon (1-B) and Shuri-jô site (2-E)
 - b. Nakijin-jô site (2-A)
 - c. Zakimi-jô site (2-B)
 - d. Katsuren-jô site (2-C)
 - e. Nakagusuku-jô site (2-D)
 - f. Shikinaen (2-F)
 - g. Sêfa-utaki (2-G)
9. Summary of laws and regulations which control the nominated property and buffer zone
10. Map of the area relevant to agreed plans related to the nominated property
11. Chronological table of conservation work
12. Plans indicating locations of the cultural assets for which conservation work has been completed
13. Plans indicating locations of support facilities and facilities for visitors

[File No. 3]

14. List of photographs

15. Photographs and maps indicating the places where the photographs were taken

Additional Reference Materials

[File No.2]

1. Laws and regulations
 - a. The Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties
 - b. City Parks Law (excerpt)

2. Color slides

[Files No. 4 and No.5]

3. Videotape production

1. Identification of the Property

1. Identification of the Property a. Country	Japan																				
b. State, Province or Region	Okinawa Prefecture																				
c. Name of property	<i>Gusuku</i> Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu																				
d. Location	<p>The nominated cultural property, “<i>Gusuku</i> Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu”, is a group of cultural assets of the late 14th to the late 18th centuries, which exemplify the unique cultural development of Ryukyu. The nominated property is located in Okinawa Prefecture, Japan.</p> <p>The specific locations of the cultural assets included in the nominated property are listed below and their geographical presentations are given in Appendix 1.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Name of cultural asset</th> <th>Location</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1-A. Tamaudun</td> <td>Naha City, Okinawa Prefecture</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1-B. Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon</td> <td>Naha City, Okinawa Prefecture</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2-A. Nakijin-jô site</td> <td>Nakijin-son, Kunigami-gun, Okinawa Prefecture</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2-B. Zakimi-jô site</td> <td>Yomitan-son, Nakagami-gun, Okinawa Prefecture</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2-C. Katsuren-jô site</td> <td>Katsuren-chô, Nakagami-gun, Okinawa Prefecture</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2-D. Nakagusuku-jô site</td> <td>Kitanakagusuku-son, Nakagami-gun, Okinawa Prefecture; Nakagusuku-son, Nakagami-gun, Okinawa Prefecture</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2-E. Shuri-jô site</td> <td>Naha City, Okinawa Prefecture</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2-F. Shikinaen</td> <td>Naha City, Okinawa Prefecture</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2-G. Sêfa-utaki</td> <td>Chinen-son, Shimajiri-gun, Okinawa Prefecture</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Geographical position (location of the Okinawa prefectural office) Latitude: 26 ° 12' 31" N Longitude: 127 ° 40' 58" E</p> <p>Appendix 1. Maps indicating the location of the nominated property 1a. The location in Japan 1b. The location in Okinawa Prefecture 1c. The location in the directly related municipality</p>	Name of cultural asset	Location	1-A. Tamaudun	Naha City, Okinawa Prefecture	1-B. Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon	Naha City, Okinawa Prefecture	2-A. Nakijin-jô site	Nakijin-son, Kunigami-gun, Okinawa Prefecture	2-B. Zakimi-jô site	Yomitan-son, Nakagami-gun, Okinawa Prefecture	2-C. Katsuren-jô site	Katsuren-chô, Nakagami-gun, Okinawa Prefecture	2-D. Nakagusuku-jô site	Kitanakagusuku-son, Nakagami-gun, Okinawa Prefecture; Nakagusuku-son, Nakagami-gun, Okinawa Prefecture	2-E. Shuri-jô site	Naha City, Okinawa Prefecture	2-F. Shikinaen	Naha City, Okinawa Prefecture	2-G. Sêfa-utaki	Chinen-son, Shimajiri-gun, Okinawa Prefecture
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<p>e. Boundary of area proposed for inscription and of buffer zone</p>	<p>Maps showing the boundaries of the areas proposed for inscription and of their buffer zones are submitted herewith:</p> <p>Appendix 2. Map indicating the nominated property and the surrounding natural and built environment</p> <p>Appendix 3. Maps indicating the extent of the nominated property and the buffer zone</p> <p>3a. The extent of the nominated property and the buffer zone with indication of the zones of legal protection</p> <p>3b. The extent of the nominated property and areas protected through designations of Important Cultural Properties, Historic Sites and Places of Scenic Beauty</p>																																	
<p>f. Area of property proposed for inscription and of buffer zone</p>	<p>The area of the property proposed for inscription, i.e. the nominated property, and the area of the buffer zones are as follows:</p> <p>Total area of the nominated property 54.9 ha</p> <p>Total area of the buffer zones 559.7 ha</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Name of cultural asset</th> <th>Nominated area (ha)</th> <th>Area of buffer zone (ha)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1-A. Tamaudun</td> <td>1.1</td> <td>136.9*</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1-B. Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon</td> <td>0.008</td> <td>136.9*</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2-A. Nakijin-jô site</td> <td>7.9</td> <td>25.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2-B. Zakimi-jô site</td> <td>4.4</td> <td>78.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2-C. Katsuren-jô site</td> <td>13.2</td> <td>44.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2-D. Nakagusuku-jô site</td> <td>12.3</td> <td>178.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2-E. Shuri-jô site</td> <td>7.3</td> <td>136.9*</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2-F. Shikinaen</td> <td>4.2</td> <td>84.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2-G. Sêfa-utaki</td> <td>4.5</td> <td>12.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>54.9</td> <td>559.7</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Note: Tamaudun, Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon and the Shuri-jô site are protected by a single buffer zone; hence the same value for the area of the buffer zone.</p>	Name of cultural asset	Nominated area (ha)	Area of buffer zone (ha)	1-A. Tamaudun	1.1	136.9*	1-B. Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon	0.008	136.9*	2-A. Nakijin-jô site	7.9	25.3	2-B. Zakimi-jô site	4.4	78.9	2-C. Katsuren-jô site	13.2	44.2	2-D. Nakagusuku-jô site	12.3	178.1	2-E. Shuri-jô site	7.3	136.9*	2-F. Shikinaen	4.2	84.2	2-G. Sêfa-utaki	4.5	12.1	Total	54.9	559.7
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2. Justification for Inscription

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a. Statement of significance

From the 12th to the 16th centuries, local chieftains known as *Aji* divided Ryukyu into several small domains and contended against one another. Those local chieftains constructed castles called *Gusuku* as their residences and strategic bases for the defense of their domains. Originally in the 10th to 12th centuries, the term *Gusuku* meant hamlets of farmers, who enclosed their villages with plain stone walls for self-defense purposes. Later as some of these groups gained more strength to become local powers, *Gusukus* became accordingly more stately and solid in a way suitable for the residence of the head of a village. It was not long after that large-scale castles surrounded by firmly stacked stone walls appeared as the residences of *Aji* and came to be referred to by the name of *Gusuku*. This period was a time of great change for Ryukyuan society in terms of industry, economics and politics. Industrially, agricultural production increased in great measure thanks to improved agricultural tools and equipment; economically, ardent transit trades with Sung Dynasty China, mainland Japan, the Korean peninsula and Southeast Asia brought long-term economic prosperity to Ryukyu. Politically, it was a time when numerous local powers were gradually united and integrated into three kingdoms, i.e. Hokuzan, Chûzan and Nanzan, which would eventually be unified into the Kingdom of Ryukyu.

The Ryukyu Islands are now an administrative unit of Japan under the name of Okinawa Prefecture and classified into the same cultural area as mainland Japan from the anthropological, linguistical and archeological points of view. However, being part of a chain of islands located in the southernmost region of Japan, Ryukyu's historical development followed quite a unique course, culminating in its emergence as an independent kingdom of its own. The location was also advantageous in terms of overseas trade with China, the Korean peninsula and Southeast Asia, which brought wealth and prosperity to the

Ryukyus. After Ryukyu was conquered by the Tokugawa Shogunate and the Satsuma domain of mainland Japan in 1609, the Kingdom of Ryukyu was placed under the lordship system of Japan until abolished by the Meiji government of mainland Japan and incorporated into the centralized prefectural system as Okinawa Prefecture eventually in 1879. After World War II, in which Okinawa suffered severe damage and in which many lives were lost, Okinawa was under the control of the government of the United States of America for 26 years until it was returned to the government of Japan in 1972.

All through these periods of change, over 300 *Gusuku* sites and related archeological remains have survived to the present day on the Ryukyu Islands.

Among them, the five *Gusuku* sites and two other monuments and two cultural landscapes included in the nominated property are especially outstanding with a vividness which illustrates the distinctive characteristics of Ryukyuan geography and history and the unique development of the political, economical and cultural aspects of the region.

b. Comparative analysis

There are no other regions of Japan that had achieved political, economical and cultural development of a high standard as uniquely as the region characterized by the nominated property, where even an independent kingdom prospered on its own in pre-medieval Japan. Even today the monuments and archeological sites continue to represent the typical cultural characteristics of the region, quite distinctive in such a heavily industrialized nation as Japan. As there are hardly any other such examples, it is not possible to make a direct comparison with similar properties elsewhere in the world.

c. Authenticity

Each of the monuments and sites included in the nominated property clearly shows outstanding value as cultural heritage in terms of design, material, workmanship and setting -- thanks to appropriate maintenance and management by the property owners and also by the national and local governments.

In particular, as part of repair works undertaken under the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties, advance investigations, including excavations and environmental impact research, are carefully prepared and carried out on the history of the archeological sites. On the basis of these results a conservation committee composed of the owners, experienced experts and administrative representatives discusses and decides the principles of repair works and provides guidance as required. For any alterations to the existing condition which are proposed for restoration or other purposes, the permission of the national government is required based on detailed examination by the Council for the Protection of Cultural Properties, which includes many members of ICOMOS Japan.

The techniques in the repair work applicable to both wooden and stone structures have been established and refined through experience gained from conservation projects which have been undertaken in the modern age. In this respect, the authenticity of the nominated property as a cultural property is assured as follows:

i) Authenticity of Design and Material

Stone monuments and stone structures which remain at Tamaudun, Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon and Shikinaen have maintained most of their original condition in terms of structure, design and materials, although some parts were

replaced with new materials after being damaged in World War II. Restoration of lost parts is rendered as accurately and precisely as possible through detailed analysis of data recorded in photographs and scale drawings of the cultural assets. In addition, the remaining structural members and their fragments are used for reference analysis through anastylosis methodology. In this way the composition, the structure, relief decorations and materials of most parts have been maintained in their original condition without compromise to their historical value. Accordingly, the authenticity of design and material of these monuments and structures is guaranteed.

On the other hand, *Gusuku* sites, which suffered severe damage during World War II, have undergone a series of restoration efforts aimed at re-creating the magnificent atmosphere of the Gusuku Period. To that end the castle walls of the *Gusuku* sites have been restored observing the following principles: to record the state of the cultural asset before and after the operation in drawings precisely scaled by means of photogrammetry or other technologies; to incorporate the latest knowledge of materials, skills and architectural technologies obtained through studies by scientists and restoration engineers of stone walls and to review literature on similar restoration attempts for reference; to reuse the remaining parts of the original structural members whenever possible; to mark the restored parts clearly to distinguish them from the original.

Furthermore any alteration to the existing condition is prohibited without advance permission from the national government, which is issued only after the adequacy of the proposed alteration is discussed and scrutinized by the Council for the Protection of Cultural Affairs. In this system there is not likely to be any compromise in terms of the authenticity of design and material.

At *Gusuku* sites included in the nominated property, not only above-ground stone remains but also underground remains are preserved in good condition, guaranteeing the high historical / archeological value of the property, as a result

of implementation of preservation methods suitable for fragile materials, i.e. soil and wood.

ii) Authenticity of Workmanship

The technique for constructing and conserving stone-stacked structures has been established and transmitted for generations through repeated repair works conducted on the stone castle walls of modern Japan including Ryukyu. In short, regular dismantlement techniques have been developed and refined: stone structures are dismantled to repair or replace unstable members whose structural strength has been weakened through weathering and aging; even restoration of missing parts are attempted when necessary. In recognition of the importance of maintaining peculiar techniques and architectural styles accumulated in stone structures through repetition of dismantlement and reconstruction, each step of repair work is carefully conducted. The authenticity of workmanship has thereby been successfully maintained.

iii) Authenticity of Setting

None of the components of the nominated property have been moved from their original locations; traces of buildings discovered through archeological excavations have also been preserved as sources of precious historical information indicating the original composition or arrangement of those now-lost structures in the castle sites and others. At the same time, ceaseless efforts have been made to mitigate war-caused damage to the natural and cultural setting of the region, which is the spiritual home to the people of Okinawa Prefecture.

In addition, technological attempts to preserve the value of underground remains more effectively are made at each of the *Gusuku* sites and other archeological remains. Installation of full-scale replicas for visual representation and other symbolic approaches to promoting archeological remains are extended applications of these technologies.

At the Shuri-jô site, for instance, the state hall, which was lost during the war as a National Treasure (designated under the National Treasures Preservation Law of pre-war Japan), has been reproduced precisely at the original location based upon scale drawings and photographs of the hall, cross-checked with the results of investigative excavations. This restoration is a result of the devoted efforts of the national government of Japan, which decidedly tackled the project in the belief that to rebuild the state hall of Shuri-jô -- i.e. to produce an exact full-scale replica -- was a flagship project necessary for Okinawa Prefecture to recover from the aftermath of great hardship it had suffered during World War II.

Also in the case of Shikinaen, which suffered severe damage during World War II, preservation of the underground remains of the royal villa (a Place of Scenic Beauty under the Law for the Preservation of Historic Sites and Places of Scenic Beauty of pre-war Japan) is being carried out in combination with accurate restoration repair work of its garden area, including full-scale replica presentation of garden facilities at the original locations on the basis of pre-war photographs cross-checked with the results of investigative excavations.

In this way the authenticity of the setting has been preserved on a high level while promotion of the property through full-scale replicas of architectural structures or rebuilt structures is pursued with a high degree of accuracy and precision in relation to the authenticity of the setting.

d. Criteria under which inscription is proposed

The nominated property "*Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu*" is proposed for inscription on the World Heritage List under evaluation criteria *C (ii), (iii), (iv) and (vi)*, as is explained in detail below.

Each of the stone monuments and archeological sites included in the

nominated property illustrates the unique development and transition that Ryukyu had experienced through political, economic and cultural interchanges with mainland Japan, China and Southeast Asia. In this sense, the nominated property meets the standard of evaluation criterion *C (ii)*.

The *Gusuku* sites included in the nominated property are exceptionally precious archeological remains, valuable as sources of information about the architecture of forts and castles which had developed in tandem with the political changes of Ryukyu since they first appeared as the residences of local chieftains representing farmer villages on the southernmost islands of Japan. They are tangible symbols of the now-lost ancient culture and tradition of Ryukyu. Originally the *Gusukus* were deeply incorporated in the day-to-day lives of farmer villages. Still today they are active stages for cultural activities of Ryukyu and local spiritual centers where people living in the region strengthen spiritual ties with each other through prayer and worship for their shared ancestors. Being exceptional testimony to the cultural tradition of Ryukyu, the nominated property meets the standard of evaluation criterion *C (iii)*.

Each of the monuments, sites and cultural landscapes included in the nominated property is an outstanding example showing that Ryukyu during the reign of the Ryukyu Kingdom boasted civil engineering, architecture and landscape architecture of high standards from cultural and esthetic points of view. In particular, stone monuments such as Tamaudun and Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon and other stone structures -- ranging from old-type plain-stacked castle walls to newer block-piled walls and arched gateways -- clearly reflect elements of architectural workmanship and designs used in China and East Asia which are skillfully modified and adjusted to the use of unique Ryukyuan materials. At the same time, Shikinaen shows, in its composition, landscape and garden facilities including arched bridges, typical elements of a uniquely Ryukyuan

sense of architectural composition and design, which have been born out of a fusion between the Japanese-style garden and the Chinese-style garden.

Being an outstanding example of architectural techniques of stone monuments and cultural landscapes from the inception of the Ryukyu Kingdom throughout its time of prosperity, the nominated property meets the standard of evaluation criterion *C (iv)*.

Each of the monuments and sites included in the nominated property is an outstanding example representing the typical elements of religious beliefs and activities unique to Ryukyu. Among them *Gusuku* sites were not simply political centers but also religious stages for the local people in the farmer hamlets in many cases. Still today, *Gusukus* are at the same time archeological remains of high academic value and living spiritual centers for contemporary Ryukyuan people, as is reflected in the fact that *Gusuku* sites are still today used by traditional priestesses called *Noro* as stages for religious rituals. *Sêfa-utaki*, which was the religious center of the entire Ryukyu Kingdom, still retains those key features of Ryukyuan sacred places known as *Utaki*: closed thick forests and picturesque rocks. It is intriguing that *Sêfa-utaki* commands a view of small islands in the eastern sea between the tree trunks of the thick forest, reminding devout visitors of the old Ryukyuan belief that the gods' land of *Nirai Kanai* is located far in the east at the end of the sea. In this way *Sêfa-utaki* is a cultural landscape closely associated with religious beliefs unique to Ryukyuan nature worship, a living religious tradition still flowing in contemporary rituals and festivals of this region. For that matter, the whole of the nominated property is rooted in the spiritual lives and day-to-day activities of the local people as an active stage for such rituals.

Being directly and tangibly associated with the religious beliefs and living traditions of Ryukyu, the nominated property meets the standard of evaluation criterion *C (vi)*.

3. Description

3. Description

a. Description of property

Tamaudun and Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon are proposed for inscription as "*monuments*", as defined in Article 1 of the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage. The Nakijin-jô site, the Zakimi-jô site, the Katsuren-jô site, the Nakagusuku-jô site, the Shuri-jô site, Sêfa-utaki and Shikinaen are "*sites*", as defined in the same article of the convention. Shikinaen and Sêfa-utaki are additionally nominated as "*cultural landscapes*", as defined in Paragraph 39 (i) and Paragraph 39 (iii) of the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention (1999).

Descriptions of the cultural assets included in the nominated property and the cultural landscapes follow:

1) Monuments

1-A. Tamaudun (Tamaudun Royal Mausoleum)

Tamaudun is a royal mausoleum dedicated to the kings of the second Shô Dynasty of the Ryukyu Kingdom. The mausoleum is known to have been constructed by the third king of the dynasty Shô Shin (r 1477-1526) as a symbol to show the power of the central royal government throughout the kingdom. Ryukyuan people share such strong respect for the founders of their clans that it is a common religious practice to worship the tombs of their ancestors as the shrines of guardian deities. It can be rightly said that Tamaudun was intended to take advantage of this religious mentality of the Ryukyuan people in favor of the king's sovereignty over the Ryukyu Islands.

According to the inscription on the stela in the central court, the mausoleum was constructed in approximately 1501. The tomb is carved out of naturally-occurring limestone bedrock and covered with a gabled roof of pan-tiles. Tamaudun is characterized by its stone walls of coral limestone blocks,

enclosing the burial chamber and the mausoleum grounds and also separating the outer tomb court from the inner tomb court.

The burial chamber is divided into the central chamber, the eastern chamber and the western chamber, each with a stone gate at the center. The central chamber was used to store the remains of deceased royal members temporarily before the bones were washed for purification; the eastern chamber was exclusively for the washed remains of kings and queens whereas the western chamber was used to enshrine the washed remains of other royal members. The stone wall in front of the tomb is equipped with balustrades, which are decorated with carvings of lions and lotuses, and three stone sculptures in the shape of lions seated on pedestals of a height of 1m are placed at the center and on both sides of the burial chamber.

The first gate of the royal mausoleum, in the surrounding stone wall, is a south-facing arched gateway with double wooden doors. The other gate, called *Chûmon*, in the separation wall is also an arched gateway, topped with stone carved in imitation of a hip-and-gable style roof. The two gateways are characteristically narrow in width and the axes are deliberately offset from each other. The floor of the inner court is impressively bedded with fragments of forked coral. All of these features of the mausoleum's composition and design are closely associated with Ryukyuan religious beliefs, especially the concepts of exorcism and purification.

Tamaudun suffered partial destruction during World War II; however, the first gate and the stone walls around the mausoleum and in the inner court were given adequate first-aid repair in 1962 and by 1977 most of the damaged parts had been completed with repair. In preparation for the repair work, photographs taken around 1941 and surviving structural members and parts were collected as sources of information about the original state of the remains; the repair work was conducted reusing the remaining original structural members whenever possible; even when there was no alternative but to introduce new parts, the

same kind of material, i.e. coral limestone, was used.

Tamaudun is a rare example representing the unique architectural style of stone monuments developed in the Ryukyu Islands in the early 16th century.

1-B. Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon (Stone Gate of the Sonohyan Shrine)

Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon is a stone gate erected in 1519 by Shô Shin (r 1477-1526), the third king of the Ryukyuan Shô Dynasty. The area behind the gate was revered as a sacred forest, or *Sonohyan-utaki* proper, by the people of the Ryukyu Kingdom. The forest received much attention from the government of the Ryukyu Kingdom as a guardian shrine of the nation, to which prayers were offered for the peace and security of the kingdom and to which annual rituals were dedicated. In addition, the king made it a custom to offer a prayer for protection when he was to leave Shuri-jô for a tour around the kingdom; the highest priestess, *Kikoeôgimi*, did the same before she left Shuri-jô for Sêfa-utaki to practice the rite of *Oaraori*.

Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon represents the unique style of stone architecture that developed on the Ryukyu Islands out of a combination of Japanese architectural style and Chinese architectural style: detailed decorative designs usually used for wooden structures are painstakingly reproduced in stone using exquisite carving techniques on rafters, cusped gables, flame-shaped pendants and ridge decorations. Coral limestone is used for the main structural members and the roof, whereas fine-grained sandstone is used for ridge stones and parts of the ornamental precious jewel sets. Among these stone structures the doors of the gate are exceptional, made from wood.

Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon suffered damage in World War II but has been repaired through conservation repair work done in 1956-1957 -- in which the remaining parts and materials were preserved or reused -- and through major repair work done in 1981-1986 in which structural members were dismantled for thorough repair.

The sacred forest behind the gate, or *Sonohyan-utaki*, which had been the main subject of worship, was reduced in scale due to the need of land for a school site in the postwar period. As a result, the forest no longer expresses the same magnificence that it had back during the reign of the Ryukyu Kingdom. In contrast, the gate leading to the forest, the *Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon*, has assumed the role as the main subject of worship, receiving increased attention from many devout people.

2) Sites

2-A. Nakijin-jô Site (Nakijin Castle Remains)

Before the Ryukyu Kingdom ruled the Ryukyu Islands, the three kingdoms of Hokuzan, Chûzan and Nanzan divided the control of Ryukyu. Nakijin-jô was founded as the castle of the king of Hokuzan, and after Hokuzan was conquered by Chûzan in 1416 the castle was used by the governor deployed by the royal government of the Ryukyu Kingdom as the local government office for the Hokuzan district. Archeological excavation of the site has revealed large quantities of Chinese ceramic ware, indicating that the king of Hokuzan enjoyed prosperous trade with China. Other excavated artifacts also show that the construction of Nakijin-jô started in the late 13th century and reached completion between the early 14th century and the beginning of the 15th century.

The location of the castle, an isolated hill surrounded by a river on the east, a valley on the west and a steep cliff on the south, gave Nakijin-jô a great deal of strategic advantage. Although parts of the six enclosures that comprise the castle compound suffered some degree of deterioration -- e.g. collapsed stone walls or replacement with new materials in the post-war repair work -- most parts remain in a rather good condition of preservation; overall the castle remains much as it was during the reign of the three kingdoms.

The castle walls surrounding Nakijin-jô extend approximately 1,500 m in

total length and they are arranged in the form of elegant arcs, instead of in linear formation, in better harmony with the curvature of the natural terrain. An excellent sense of workmanship is also evident in the design of the castle walls around *Ôsumikaku*, an enclosure used by the soldiers as a parade ground, located to the east of the main gate. The castle walls were made by piling blocks of hard limestone at an acute inclination to a height of 6 to 10 m. A wall measures 2 or 3 m in thickness at the upper part. The walls are equipped at the top with parapets, 50 cm wide and 70 cm high, which were used when defending the castle.

The existing main gate, called *Heirômon*, is a 1962 reconstruction. Throughout the reconstruction work, due attention was paid to protection of the remains by placing on the construction site a buffering layer of soil so that the gate's foundation would not impact the archeological ground itself; rectangular slits were made in the castle walls at both sides of the gate as part of the restoration, based on research about the original state of the wall. Those slits were assumed to have been designed as arrow slits for defense by gate guards who used the wall as a watchtower.

The existing straight stone stairway between the main gate to a large courtyard in the first enclosure was added to the site in 1960; the remains of the original front approach to the enclosure are preserved beneath the new stairway and along the walls of the *Kâzafukaku*, located to the east of the stairway.

The first enclosure is located on the highest level in the castle site. Its flat floor was produced by painstakingly cutting the protruding parts of the bedrock and filling in the ground cavities with transported soil. The area contains the state hall, a shrine dedicated to a god of fire and a stone slab monument on which the history of Hokuzan including the story of the governor from the Ryukyu Kingdom are inscribed.

In front of the state hall were the northern hall and the southern hall, which together with a courtyard between them formed one large ritual stage. At the

back of the state hall was the *Uchibaru*, the residential quarters for priestesses, only the base stones of which remain to the present. At the *Shigemajôkaku*, located one step lower down to the southeast of the first enclosure, remain the sites of soldiers' residences with a gate called *Shigemamon*.

At the Nakijin-jô site remains a *Soitsugi-no-utaki* shrine dedicated to *Kanahiyabu*, the castle's guardian deity closely associated with the founding of the Ryukyu Islands. This shrine is one of the most important worship places together with two other sacred sites, i.e. the sacred dry well called *Karaukâ* and the site of the ritual stage called *Kamiasagi*.

2-B. Zakimi-jô Site (Zakimi Castle Remains)

Zakimi-jô was a castle constructed in the early 15th century by an influential chieftain of the time named Gosamaru. After the Ryukyu Kingdom (Chûzan) conquered Hokuzan, the royal government erected this castle for the purpose of keeping a close watch over the remaining Hokuzan supporters, who had withdrawn and stayed in the west coast area of Okinawa Island. In this way, Zakimi-jô played a strategically significant role in securely consolidating the sovereignty of the Ryukyu Kingdom in its early stages of foundation.

The location of the castle was tactically planned and decided, from the viewpoint of ease of defense, at a site on a hill where a clear view of Shuri-jô was obtained in favor of smooth and prompt communication with the king at Shuri-jô. Zakimi-jô has two enclosures surrounded by winding walls of piled coral limestone blocks. The extant gate of the second enclosure is one of the oldest arched gates remaining on the island of Okinawa. Constructed with large-size stone blocks, the gate served as a robust barrier against the enemy. In addition, its structure made it easy to flank the enemy around the gate, giving advantage to the defending side. The first enclosure contains a trace of a building foundation, which is currently covered with mound of soil for

preservation.

At the Zakimi-jô site remains a sacred place dedicated to *Kobazukasa*, *Manezukasa* and *Jônai Hinukan*, guardian deities revered by local chieftains, who wished for political stability and continuance of their influence through divine providence. It is still today an active place of worship, attracting many devout people.

The castle walls and the arched gates in the site collapsed partially during World War II and suffered further damage in the post-war period when military bases of the United States of America were constructed. As a result of restoration work conducted from 1974 to 1983, the site was restored to the present condition, though the building site at the first enclosure and parapets of the castle walls were left untreated for lack of reliable information about their original state.

2-C. Katsuren-jô Site (Katsuren Castle Remains)

Katsuren-jô was the castle of Amawari, a feudal lord who resisted to the last against the king of the Ryukyu Kingdom, whose influence was prevailing over the entire Ryukyus. Lord Amawari won a 1458 war against Gosamaru, a senior vassal of the Ryukyu Kingdom, at Nakagusuku-jô and took over the castle, but his ambition for the throne was to be thwarted when he suffered a crushing defeat in attacking Shuri-jô. The defeat of Lord Amawari led to further consolidation and centralization of power at the royal government of Chûzan, or the Ryukyu Kingdom, at Shuri-jô.

The large amount of artifacts excavated at the Katsuren-jô site indicates that Awamari and other lords of Katsuren-jô actively traded with countries outside the Ryukyu Islands. These artifacts provide precious sources of information about the facts of Katsuren-jô, such as the construction date of the castle, which is estimated to have been in the 12th or 13th century.

The castle site contains an isolated steep hill with a panoramic view of the

surrounding land in all directions. The benefits of the location, i.e. ease of detecting the enemy in the distance and access to an excellent port to the south, made the castle the more formidable. Katsuren-jô is composed of four enclosures which are separated from each other by walls of coral limestone blocks. The composition of the castle walls is characterized by curvature and a rhythmic flow of lines produced by the series of walls. The first enclosure, located at the highest level of the site, had an arched gate in the castle wall. Excavations of the second enclosure have revealed the site of a shrine spanning 14.5 m wide from east to west and 17m wide from north to south, which is now covered with a soil mound for preservation. At the third enclosure the trace of a four-pillared wooden gate called *Shikyakumon* has been excavated as well as piles of stone blocks, presumably remains of repeatedly reconstructed or remodeled castle walls. The fourth enclosure has two gates, *Nishiharaujô* on the northeast side and *Haebaruujô* on the southwest side, and there remain five wells and several base stones, presumably part of a former building.

At the Katsuren-jô site remain places of worship for *Kobazukasa* and *Jônai Hinukan*, guardian deities revered by local chieftains, who wished for political stability and continuance of their influence through divine providence. The shrine of *Kobazukasa*, a round stone column placed at the center of the first enclosure, is still today the subject of worship for a large number of devout people. Near a cave in the second enclosure remains a shrine dedicated to a god of fire. Another important sacred place is a ritual stage called *Tunumutu* at the third enclosure, where ten stone stools are placed in the form of the letter "L". These stools are known to have been used by officially registered local priestesses called *Noro* on occasions of ritual prayer offerings.

2-D. Nakagusuku-jô Site (Nakagusuku Castle Remains)

Nakagusuku-jô was the castle to which Lord Gosamaru was deployed from Zakimi-jô on the king's order to check the invasion of Lord Amawari at

Katsuren-jô, who was aspiring to the throne of the kingdom. In the middle of the most turbulent period of Ryukyuan history, the castle played a strategically important role and witnessed the last wars the Ryukyu Kingdom fought to acquire dominant power in Ryukyu.

Judging from the artifacts excavated at the site, it is estimated that the castle was constructed in the late 14th century; it has also been confirmed that the third enclosure and the northern enclosure were added by Lord Gosamaru in the mid-15th century, introducing the best available techniques of castle construction at that time.

The Nakagusuku-jô site contains six enclosures. They are arranged from the northeast to the southwest in a row: the northern enclosure, the third enclosure, the second enclosure and, on the highest level at the center of the site, the first enclosure -- from which extend the southern enclosure to the southwest and the western enclosure to the northwest.

The castle walls are made out of stacked stone blocks which were hewn out of coral limestone, piled on naturally occurring bedrock and arranged elegantly to give a rhythmic flow to the wall lines. Excellent workmanship was exercised in the design of the projecting corners, which are smoothly connected using blocks larger than the ordinary wall blocks to give a seamless rounded form. They are decorated with uniquely designed ornamental stonework in some places. The height of the wall is over 10 m at the highest part. Different methods of wall construction were applied to different enclosures: *Nunozumi*, in which stone blocks are stacked in a horizontal alignment, was used for the walls of the first enclosure and the second enclosure, while *Aikatazumi*, in which blocks are stacked hexagonally or randomly, are used for the walls of the third enclosure. The inconsistency in the construction method is construed as indicating that the castle underwent several phases of extension after its original foundation. The wall of the southern enclosure has three arrow slits and the wall of the western enclosure has one arrow slit.

The main castle gate of Nakagusuku-jô was presumably a turret gate, as remaining parts of the castle wall indicate. On the other hand, the gates of the first enclosure, the second enclosure and the northern enclosure were built-in arched gates. On elevated flat ground at the far end of the first enclosure remain the traces of an office building of the guard post known as *Magiribanjo*, which was later used as the office of the municipal government of Nakagusuku Village. It is known that the building was not there before 1611 and had already been constructed when World War II broke out. In the first enclosure the remains of a well surrounded by walls of stacked stone blocks are found and another well has been found in the western enclosure.

In 1853, Commodore Perry of the United States of America visited the Ryukyu Islands on his expedition to the Japanese mainland. He sent his men for surveillance of the island, on which they found and studied the Nakagusuku-jô site with intellectual ardor, impressed by the high standard of castle construction techniques employed in the castle. Their paintings and scale drawings of the castle site remain to this date, providing precious information about the condition of the site at that time.

Several sacred places and places of worship have been found in the southern enclosure, the second enclosure, the western enclosure, etc. Among them are Kudaka Island, a sacred space enclosed by stone walls, a long-revered place of worship for Shuri-jô and *Amagoi-no-utaki*, a ritual site for praying for rain. Still today many people visit these spots in pilgrimage.

2-E. Shuri-jô Site (Shuri Castle Remains)

Shuri-jô was the castle of the king of the Chûzan Kingdom, which eventually became the Ryukyu Kingdom, unifying the Ryukyu Islands in 1429. The castle continued to flourish as the center of the Ryukyus in terms of politics, diplomacy and culture until 1879. Past excavation efforts revealed that Shuri-jô was constructed in the middle or end of the 14th century. The castle is located

on a hill overlooking the town of Shuri and the major port of the Ryukyu Kingdom, Naha Port; the castle site is separated into inner and outer enclosures in harmony with the natural landform of its location. The inner enclosure was constructed in the early 15th century by Shô Hashi (r 1422 -1439), the second king of the first Shô Dynasty Ryukyu Kingdom. The outer enclosure and the surrounding area were added when the castle was enlarged in the reigns of Shô Shin (r 1477-1526) and Shô Sei (r 1527 -1555) of the second Shô Dynasty. The castle walls of *Aikatazumi* (random stacking style) coral limestone blocks extend 1,080 m in total length. The walls measure from 6 to 15 m in height and approximately 3 m in thickness. Watchtowers were annexed at the eastern and the western ends of the wall, the *Higashi-no-azana* and *Nishi-no-azana*, respectively. The remains of these towers can be seen still today.

Shuri-jô had several castle gates including arched gates with hipped-roof wooden turrets, called *Kankaimon*, *Keiseimon* and *Kyûkeimon*. On both sides of the *Kankaimon* a pair of stone lion sculptures were placed, whereas at the sides of the *Keiseimon* were placed stone monuments on which the story of Shuri-jô's foundation was inscribed, in Japanese and Chinese. In addition, Shuri-jô had multi-storied castle gates called *Zuisemmon* and *Rôkokumon*. On both sides of the stone steps leading to the *Zuisemmon* seven stelae featuring investiture envoys' handwritings and the *Ryûhi* fountain known to have been the source of water for people in the castle. By the side of the *Rôkokumon*, it is known, there used to be a sundial.

The state hall of the castle, called *Seiden*, was a three-storied palatial building with a hip-and-gable roof, facing toward the southwest. Decoration of the hall represents unique Ryukyuan features, which are most evidently exemplified by the front eaves of Chinese-style gables. The state hall repeatedly burned down until it was reconstructed in 1715 and designated as a National Treasure. Although the hall had been conserved under legal protection for a while, a war-caused fire reduced it to ashes once again in World War II.

Recently from 1989 to 1992 the Ministry of Construction and the Okinawa Development Agency conducted the restoration work of the hall in cooperation with the Agency for Cultural Affairs and the Okinawa Prefectural Government. Prior to this project not only were records of the past condition such as photographs and scale drawings of the hall which had been made at the time of National Treasure designation collected and analyzed but also excavations were carried out for detailed investigation so as to realize a high degree of accuracy in the restoration. As a result of the newly-conducted excavations, the underground remains of the state hall turned out to be in a fairly good state of preservation and there was evidence of four phases of reconstruction on the foundation platform for purposes of enlargement or remodeling. Under the stall hall that was restored above-ground lie the strictly protected underground remains.

Before it was burned down in World War II the state hall was on an elevated foundation platform with stone balustrades in the front and along the sides of the front stone steps. In addition, a pair of *Ryûchû*, pillars carved in the shape of a dragon, were installed at both sides of the front steps. The center of the front eave and the ends of the main ridge were decorated with large sculptures of dragonheads called *Ryûtô*. The main pillars and the connecting boards at the joints were ornamented with multicolored carvings of dragons accompanied with strings of clouds. Though the state hall was a three-storied structure, only the first floor and the second floor were used. The simple and subtle atmosphere of the first floor makes a striking contrast with the second floor, which is exuberantly ornamented with splendid colorful decorations and exquisitely crafted designs and patterns. The splendor of the second floor culminates in the king's throne called *Usasuka*. In front of the throne at the eave of the second floor was an audience space. The first floor and the second floor were both separated by a lengthy corridor into a front section and a back section. The front section was used as the office of the royal government, while the back

section was used as a waiting room. These features and functions of the state hall -- in terms of both design and structure -- have been faithfully reproduced.

The state hall was surrounded by a state court called *Unâ* in front with the *Hokuden* (northern hall) and the *Nanden* (southern hall) at its sides. The court served as the stage for important rituals on the kingdom level, such as investiture ceremonies. The Chinese-style northern hall was the office of an administrative bureau with the function of a guesthouse while investiture envoys from China were visiting the Ryukyu Kingdom. In contrast, the southern hall was Japanese-style architecture used when entertaining the mission from the Japanese mainland, or, to be specific, from the domain of Satsuma. Restoration works of the two halls were conducted from 1989 to 1992 and now the reconstructed halls serve tourists and other visitors as exhibition halls or souvenir shops.

At the back of the state hall was the *Uchibaru*, the residential quarters for the royal members. Sacred places called *Kyônouchi* and *Shurimori* in the Shuri-jô site were used as places of worship where prayers were offered to guardian deities for protection of the Ryukyu Kingdom.

2-F. Shikinaen

Shikinaen was a royal garden villa which is said to have been constructed in 1799. The garden was used by the royal members not only for recreational purposes but also for diplomatic affairs such as when they hosted reception parties for investiture envoys from the emperor of China.

The plan of the garden shows the influence of Japanese gardens from the 17th to 18th centuries whereas Chinese influences are also evident in some garden facilities. But, when viewed in the whole perspective, the garden is distinctively Ryukyuan in design and composition, the style of garden in which a pond plays the central part in terms of concept and composition. Facilities -- passageways, pavilions, artificial hills and flower gardens -- are arranged around

the pond, which itself is accented with two small islands and Chinese-style arched bridges. Boating was one of the recreational activities enjoyed in the garden. A hexagonal pavilion fashioned after a Chinese architectural style is erected on one of the small pond islands. Other pavilions are one-storied wooden structures roofed with red tiles, which was a privilege only allowed to the upper class of the Ryukyu Kingdom, but at the same time these pavilions show some characteristic features of Ryukyuan folk residences in the eave design. The garden contained an archery field, as was usually the case with residences for feudal lords of Edo Period Japan. Passageways around the pond are intentionally given vertical variation to emphasize the ups and downs of the terrain with the effect that a rhythmical change of views can be enjoyed as visitors proceed along the paths. The pond is filled with fresh water from a nearby spring known as *Ikutokusen*, secluded with hedges of coral limestone. At the top of the hedges are two stone slabs on which handwritings of two investiture envoys, Zhao Wenka and Lín Hóngnián, are inscribed in commemoration. In the southernmost area of the pond is installed a piece of stone equipment used to drain the water of the pond out of the garden.

World War II caused severe damage to Shikinaen, damaging garden pavilions, shoreline revetments and arched bridges. Large-scale restoration work was carried out from 1975 to 1996. As a result, the garden facilities including the hexagonal pavilion and the arched bridges have been restored with a high degree of precision on the strength of photographs taken in the pre-war period together with newly-conducted investigative excavations.

Being a rare example of the Ryukyuan garden landscape, with a style which had developed quite uniquely and which had established a distinctive status in Japanese garden culture, Shikinaen is nominated as a designed cultural landscape, as described in Paragraph 39 (i) of the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention (1999).

2-G. Sêfa-utaki

Shô Shin (r 1477-1526), the third king of the second Shô Dynasty, is known as a reformer of the religious system. He broke away from the traditional religious system of ancestor worship and nature worship that had developed locally, then re-organized it into a centralized system at the top of which he placed a new rank of priestess entitled *Kikoeôgimi*; he selected a woman from a closely-related royal family and assigned the title and its accompanying power to her. Sêfa-utaki was one of the most sacred places, closely associated with the highest priestess *Kikoeôgimi*, and it greatly contributed to supporting the centralized sovereignty of the Ryukyu Kingdom from the religious side.

The exact date of the foundation of Sêfa-utaki is not clear, but the official chronicle of the Ryukyu Kingdom, titled *Chûzan Seikan*, says that it was one of the ritual stages created by *Amamiku*, the god who founded Ryukyu. In the early 15th century Sêfa-utaki had already established itself as an indispensable sanctuary in the Ryukyu Kingdom: the Ryukyuan king made pilgrimages to Sêfa-utaki and the ritual of *Oaraori* was performed by the *Kikoeôgimi* highest priestess. Lush sub-tropical forests and rocks in various picturesque shapes produce an awe-inspiring, forbidding atmosphere around Sêfa-utaki.

There are several places of worship at Sêfa-utaki, among which *Uhugûi*, *Yuinchi*, *Sangûi* and *Ujouguchi* are famous. The first three of these are closely related and are connected by stone-paved passageways. It is known that, originally, Sêfa-utaki was closed to males, although today the sacred place is open to many people regardless of gender. In August of the lunar calendar, the sacred place becomes alive with people who perform the traditional ritual of *Agarimâi*, also known as *Agariumâi*, in which they make pilgrimage in a procession in a spiritual pursuit following their ancestors' footsteps.

Being an outstanding example representing a unique form of religious activities based upon the Ryukyuan concept of nature, Sêfa-utaki meets the

standards for a cultural landscape, as described in Paragraph 39 (iii) of the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention (1999).

Appendix 4. Inventory of the cultural assets; copies of the official designation notices

4a. Inventory of the monuments and sites included in the nominated property

4b. Copies of the official designation notices

Appendix 5. Drawings of the monuments and sites included in the nominated property

5a. Major structures (Important Cultural Properties) of the monuments

5b. Major components of the sites

5c. Drawings and related materials about conservation repair works

b. History

The nominated property, "Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu", is a group of cultural assets which illustrate significant stages of Okinawan history since the 14th century when the unification of separate reigns by several principalities started.

Ryukyuan history before the unification of the Ryukyu Kingdom can be divided broadly into four periods: the Old Stone Age, the Jōmon Period, the Gusuku Period (Aji Period) and the Sanzan Period. The Gusuku Period is characterized by a castle construction boom by rivaling local chieftains called *Aji*, who designed the castles or *Gusukus* as their residences and defense bases.

In the 10th to 12th centuries, farmers began to arm themselves to protect their villages on their own. Before long, powerful groups appeared here and there and came to be known as *Aji*. While the struggle among numerous *Ajis* continued without the appearance of a dominant single power, Ryukyu had been split into several small domains from the 12th to 16th centuries. It was in the 15th century that these domains were merged into three big powers, which were

to share the reign of Ryukyu for a while. The three kingdoms were called Hokuzan (north mountain), Chûzan (central mountain) and Nanzan (southern mountain). This period, when Ryukyu was under the rule of three kingdoms, is called the Sanzan Period, or the period of three mountains.

In 1429 Ryukyu was finally unified under the reign of one kingdom, marking the end of the Sanzan Period. The new Kingdom of Ryukyu lasted for more than four hundred years until 1879, although the royal government of the first king and his followers was thwarted in a coup d'état which broke out in 1469. Today the first government is referred to as the first Shô Dynasty and the second government is known as the second Shô Dynasty.

In 1609 the Ryukyu Kingdom was conquered by the Tokugawa Shogunate and the Satsuma fief of mainland Japan and compelled to fall under the lordship of the Satsuma fief. The Satsuma kept the kingdom system as the local government of the Ryukyu Islands instead of abolishing it. Later in 1868 when anti-shogunate forces thwarted the long-lived Tokugawa Shogunate during the Meiji Restoration, the Meiji government -- the new government of mainland Japan -- made Ryukyu a new domain in 1872. The end of the Ryukyu Kingdom came when the Meiji government abolished the older feudal domains and established a centralized prefectural system in 1879. In the process, the Ryukyu Kingdom was abolished and incorporated as one of the administrative units of the Japanese government. From 1944 to 1945 Ryukyu became a major battlefield during World War II, losing many lives and suffering severe damage from the viewpoint of cultural assets. After the cease-fire of World War II the region was under the control of the government of the United States of America until it was returned to Japan in 1972.

Ryukyu participated in active overseas trade from the Sanzan Period. It reached its peak of prosperity from the end of the 14th century to the mid-16th century, when the Ryukyuan people sent trading ships to mainland Japan, China, the Korean peninsula and Southeast Asia. Through these active

interactions with overseas nations, Ryukyu was exposed to continuous stimuli not only politico-economically but also culturally, which resulted in the formation of a unique cultural style, evident, for instance, in the construction of *Gusukus*.

A brief description of the Okinawan history related to the nominated property since the birth of the Ryukyu Kingdom to the present is given below.

[Late Sanzan Period ~ Foundation of Ryukyu Kingdom: late 14th century to 1429]

Consisting of small islands surrounded by China, mainland Japan, Southeast Asia and the Korean peninsula, Ryukyu had continuously been influenced by these areas in terms of politics, economics and culture through trading transactions.

In the Sanzan Period, Ryukyu was ruled by the three kingdoms of Hokuzan, Chûzan and Nanzan, founded by powerful local chieftains called *Aji*. *Nakijin-jô*, *Shuri-jô* and *Shimajiriôzato-gusuku* (also called *Shimasoeôsato-gusuku*) were all constructed as the seats of the three kingdoms, Hokuzan, Chûzan and Nanzan respectively. In the case of Chûzan, the seat of government had been originally at *Urasoe-gusuku* until the construction of *Shuri-jô*. These kingdoms enlarged or reinforced these castles as they acquired more wealth and power through overseas trade, especially with China. In the late 14th century each of the three rival kingdoms sent its own tribute mission to the imperial court of China and received various kinds of artifacts from the continent.

In the end, the kingdom of Chûzan conquered Hokuzan in 1416 (1422 according to another interpretation) and Nanzan in 1429, placing all the territory of the Ryukyu Islands under the reign of the single central kingdom.

Nakijin-jô (2-A) was constructed as the residence of the king of Hokuzan. From the results of archeological excavations, the castle is estimated to have been erected in the 13th century. A legend tells us that the castle was extended

on a large scale from 1322 to 1415 (1421 according to another interpretation) to take on its present shape. Presumably the addition of the sacred *Soitsugi-no-utaki* dedicated to *Kanahiyabu*, the guardian deity of the castle, was part of this particular enlargement project. The king of Hokuzan sent tribute missions to the Chinese Emperor 18 times from 1383 to 1415 in order to strengthen his influence and power in Ryukyu. Despite these efforts, the castle fell in 1416 (1422 according to another interpretation) under attack from the kingdom of Chûzan. Chûzan continued to use the castle as a base for the governor of the Hokuzan region, who was stationed there on the order of the Chûzan king. The government of the Hokuzan region by the governor at Nakijin-jô lasted even after the kingdom of Chûzan completed unification of Ryukyu and establishment of the Ryukyu Kingdom - until 1665.

Zakimi-jô (2-B) is an early 15th century construction by Lord Gosamaru, a local power who also participated in Chûzan's attack on Nakijin-jô. The castle had a south-facing pavilion measuring 14.94 m wide and 16.58 m deep in the first enclosure. The major role of the castle was to keep close watch over the recalcitrant Hokuzan supporters, who had withdrawn and stayed in the west coast area of Okinawa Island after the fall of Nakijin-jô. Lord Gosamaru led the construction work but did not stay long there himself since he had to move on to Nakagusuku-jô on the king's order.

Katsuren-jô (2-C) is known as the residence of Lord Amawari, another local power of the time. The castle was assumedly constructed around the 12th or 13th century in this location which featured a wide, unobstructed view of the eastern coast in the central part of Okinawa Island. The castle had a great advantage in terms of trade and transportation with other islands, enjoying easy access to an excellent south-facing port in close proximity. After Amawari died, Katsuren-jô was in the hands of the Chûzan Kingdom.

Nakagusuku-jô (2-D) is the castle where Lord Gosamaru resided after he left his former residence, Zakimi-jô. The existing castle walls are constructions carried out by Gosamaru himself, while the castle itself dates further back to the late 14th century, according to archeological excavations. The original scale or structure of the castle is still not clear but investigative research has revealed that old walls of coral limestone blocks stacked in a plain manner are hidden inside the existing castle wall. The location of this castle, also with a good view of the central part of Okinawa Island, indicates the strategically significant role it played in watching and checking the remaining followers of the Hokuzan Kingdom.

Shuri-jô (2-E) was the seat of the royal kingdom of Chûzan, constructed presumably before the late 14th century. It is hypothesized that the original extent of the castle was no larger than the existing inner enclosure. In addition, the castle gate was originally located in the southern section of the castle site while the existing gate is on the north side. Nine sacred spaces called *Utaki* were established in the castle site, including *Shuimui* and *Madamamori*. When the Chûzan Kingdom unified Ryukyu and became the Ryukyu Kingdom in 1429, it reinforced and enlarged the castle and improved the surrounding region to make it suitable for the residence of the king of the centralized kingdom. In the process of improvement not only were the castle walls reinforced but also to the north of the castle was constructed a new garden pond called *Ryûtan*, which was landscaped with various kinds of trees and flowers transported from overseas to add splendor to the detached garden.

[Reign of Ryukyu Kingdom: 1429 to 1879]

The Kingdom of Ryukyu, founded in 1429, consolidated its centralized system of government through the 1458 victory over Lord Amawari, who had

been waging war in a scheme to subvert the fledgling Ryukyu Kingdom. A decade later in 1469 a political coup d'état broke out, replacing the old authority or the first Shô Dynasty with the new, second Shô Dynasty. The third king of the second Shô Dynasty, Shô Shin (r 1477-1526) contributed much to the development of the castle town, including the construction of Tamaudun and Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon. He also carried out a reformation of the ruling system, in which he ordered local chieftains to move their residences to the castle town near Shuri-jô and placed a royal member as the highest priestess called *Kikoeôgimi* at the top of the religious system of priestesses. In so doing, he established a strong royal government system to control both the politics and the religion at the same time at the central seat of government. The kingdom continued for over 400 years even though it was under the control of the Satsuma domain of the Tokugawa Shogunate after having been conquered by the Satsuma troops in 1609. The Satsuma leaders chose to keep the kingdom system in place rather than to govern Ryukyu on their own, because that way it would bring more benefit to Satsuma on the strength of the kingdom's experience and ability to handle overseas trade. In 1879, the Ryukyu Kingdom was finally abolished by the Meiji government of mainland Japan, which incorporated Ryukyu into its centralized prefectural system and renamed the region Okinawa Prefecture, as it is called today.

In this period Shuri-jô continued to prosper as the center of overseas trade, mainly tribute trades with China.

Nakijin-jô (2-A) was used as the residence of the governor of the Hokuzan region who was stationed there on royal orders from Shuri. After the castle buildings were burned down by the Satsuma troops in 1609, the residence of the governor was moved outside the castle in 1612. In 1665 the governorship was abolished and since then the castle has been used and maintained by authorized local priestesses called *Noro*.

Zakimi-jô (2-B) was constructed as the residence of Lord Gosamaru, who, nevertheless, did not stay there long. A legend suggests that Gosamaru left for Nakagusuku-jô in 1440. The castle was in use for a while after Lord Gosamaru left; even after it was officially closed, it was apparently maintained in relatively good condition; it is known that a local officer installed lanterns in the castle site in 1843, indicating the possibility that the site had been used on occasion for local events.

Katsuren-jô (2-C) prospered most when Lord Amawari was the head of the castle from the early 15th century to the mid-15th century. This was the period when the improvement of the castle made the greatest progress. Amawari, who promoted trade with the Amami Islands and other partners, worked ardently to strengthen Katsuren-jô and thereby contributed to making the industry of the castle town thrive. His influence and power grew strong enough to conquer Lord Gosamaru of the Ryukyu Kingdom at Nakagusuku-jô in 1458, only to be defeated by the Ryukyu Kingdom before the year ended. Archeological excavations revealed that some architectural work was done on the castle even after the fall of the castle from the end of the 15th century to the 16th century, although the purpose and the exact extent of the architectural treatment are not clear.

Lord Gosamaru, according to a folk legend, came from Zakimi-jô in 1440 to administer **Nakagusuku-jô (2-D)** and applied the latest techniques of castle construction available at that time to reinforce Nakagusuku-jô. Gosamaru was charged with the responsibility of keeping in check the potential enemy in the Hokuzan region in order to maintain the security and peace of the Ryukyu Kingdom until he was defeated by Lord Amawari in 1458. The castle was placed under the direct management of the central royal government of the

Ryukyu Kingdom as the property of the prince after around 1477. Later in 1611 Satsuma founded the bureau of justice in the first enclosure of the castle, which eventually came to be used as the government office of Nakagusuku Village. In 1853, Commodore Perry of the United States of America visited the Ryukyu Islands on his mission to the Japanese mainland. He sent a survey party onto the island, who, impressed by the high standard of castle construction techniques used in Nakagusuku-jô, made visual records of the castle in pictures and scale drawings.

Shuri-jô (2-E) was the residence of the king for approximately 450 years from the 1429 foundation of the Ryukyu Kingdom to its abolition of 1879. The castle was gradually extended in scale with the addition of the state hall, the northern hall, southern halls and the royal residential quarters behind the state hall, as well as sacred religious stages such as *Kyônouchi*. At the state hall, official rituals related to politics, administration and overseas affairs such as investiture rituals were performed.

Shô Hashi, the second king of the first Shô Dynasty who reigned from 1422 to 1439, constructed the state hall and the other part of the inner enclosure. The castle at that time presumably had two main gates, i.e. the *Zuisemmon* and the *Bifukumon*. Though Shuri-jô was burned down in a war-caused fire of 1453 during a civil war for the throne between the brother of the king and the prince, it was reconstructed by 1458.

A coup d'état of 1469 thwarted the first Shô Dynasty and Shuri-jô became the seat of the royal government of the second Shô Dynasty. In 1506 the northern hall, which represents typical elements of unique Ryukyuan decoration in the apparently Chinese-style dragons on pillars and beams, was added to the castle site. This hall was the judicial courthouse of the time. In 1509 the foundation platform of the state hall was constructed and large pillars in the shape of a dragon were placed at the entrance. Around 1529 the *Shureimon*,

(also known as the *Shurimon*) was founded as the second outer gate. This gate shows some of the unique characteristics of Ryukyuan architecture, a combination of the Chinese-style turret gate and the elements of Japanese architecture. The outer enclosure was added in 1546 for the purpose of strengthening defense against attacks from marauders called *Wakô*, who carried out repeated raids along the coasts of the East China Sea and also conducted acts of piracy. The *Keiseimon* was constructed on this occasion. The southern hall was constructed in a Japanese architectural style from 1621 to 1627. This hall was used as a reception hall for officers sent from Satsuma.

Shuri-jô was reduced to ashes in 1660 and reconstructed again in 1671. In 1682 the colorful dragon-head sculpture made in China was set on the roof of the state hall as a decorative symbol. Another fire burned down the castle in 1709. The major parts of the castle were reconstructed in 1712, although the restoration work was continued until 1715. Partial repair of the state hall was conducted in 1729 and major repair was completed in 1768.

These repair works provided precious opportunities to study and record the structural specifications in drawings, which have been kept in storage up to the present time. The gates of the castle were reinforced in succession: the *Kankaimon*, the *Kyûkeimon* and the *Keiseimon* were fitted with double doors in 1846 and remodeled again in 1851 into gates with threefold doors. The *Keiseimon* saw the last of the king, who left Shuri-jô on the order of evacuation from the Meiji government, which decided to abolish the kingdom and established Okinawa Prefecture to replace it.

Tamaudun (1-A) was constructed as the royal mausoleum for the kings of the second Shô Dynasty around in 1501 by Shô Shin (r 1477-1526), the third king of the second Shô Dynasty. Architectural characteristics unique to Ryukyuan royal mausoleums are evident in Tamaudun: the construction of the burial chamber in harmony with the natural landforms, i.e. the naturally-

occurring cavity below a cliff, and the installation of front balustrades decorated with carvings. In 1748 guardhouses were placed on both sides of the mausoleum and wardens were stationed to safeguard the site. The warden system was later abolished, although the actual date of abolition is not clear.

Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon (1-B) is a uniquely Ryukyuan religious structure in the form of a gateway. It was erected in 1519. It is basically made of stone except for the doors of the gate, which are made of wood. The king of the Ryukyu Kingdom, when leaving the castle on journeys around his kingdom, made it a custom to visit the sacred gate and offer a prayer for safety and protection. In addition, the stone gate was the stage for the inauguration ritual performed when the king's mother, queen or sister became the highest priestess.

Shikinaen (2-F) was constructed in 1799 as a royal villa with a pond garden. It was used not only for recreational purposes but also for official uses such as when the king hosted reception parties for investiture envoys from the emperor of China. The garden has a pond at the center with pathways and other facilities arranged around the pond. Stelae were erected by the sides of the *Ikutokusen* spring, the source of water for the garden pond, in commemoration of the arrivals of two investiture envoys, Zhao Wenka and Lín Hóngnián, who visited Ryukyu in 1800 and 1838, respectively.

Sêfa-utaki (2-G) was constructed in the mid-15th century as the ritual stage on which to perform national rituals to offer prayers for the security and peace of the Ryukyu Kingdom. The kings of the second Shô Dynasty repeatedly made pilgrimage to this sacred place until 1673. Since 1677 the stage was used for the inauguration ceremonies of the highest priestess *Kikoeôgimi*; the inauguration ceremony was performed from beginning to end only by female staff and closed to all males. The royal government stationed wardens to take care of this sacred

place and prohibited the cutting of trees in the area.

[Fall of Ryukyu Kingdom ~ End of World War II : 1879 to 1945]

The Kingdom of Ryukyu was gradually dismantled and absorbed into the administrative system of mainland Japan: the Meiji government first incorporated the kingdom under the name of the Ryukyu domain in 1872 and later renamed it Okinawa Prefecture in 1879. In the same year the Meiji government abolished the Ryukyu Kingdom by ordering the dethroned Shô Shin (r 1848-1879) to evacuate Shuri-jô. On the other hand, the social system established during the reign of the Ryukyu Kingdom was maintained without much alteration and the nominated property was also maintained in a good condition of conservation until 1903. In the early 20th century some *Gusuku* sites were developed to be used as public facilities such as school buildings and became public properties, while some sites were sold to citizens and passed into private ownership. During World War II many cultural assets, including ports and many other facilities around Naha City, suffered severe damage through bombing raids in October 1944. Furthermore, battles which raged on Okinawa Island beginning in April 1945 caused serious damage to cultural assets distributed around Shuri, where major military facilities were located.

The Nakijin-jô site (2-A) has been maintained by local people living in Imadomari, to the north of the castle, since 1915. Thanks to their devoted efforts the castle was kept in a sound state of conservation without much degradation, comparable to its condition at the time of the Ryukyu Kingdom. However, in 1924 a road (now the prefectural road) was constructed to the castle site and in 1930 a torii gate was added in front of the *Heirômon* under the influence of Shintoism. In World War II the castle gate and the castle walls were damaged.

The Zakimi-jô site (2-B) was conserved in good condition until World

War II, in which attacks of 1945 on the Japanese antiaircraft guns installed at the site caused damage to the castle walls.

The Katsuren-jô site (2-C) suffered some deterioration ascribed to the construction of coastal roads in the 1910s and 1920s, which used parts of the castle walls as construction materials.

The Nakagusuku-jô site (2-D) had remained the way it was during the reign of the Ryukyu Kingdom, including the wooden building of the government office of Nakagusuku Village in the first enclosure of the castle. However, the battles of 1945 damaged parts of the castle wall and burned down the wooden structure.

The Shuri-jô site (2-E) became a national property after Shuri-jô was evacuated by the last king of the Ryukyu Kingdom in 1879. There was a time when some portions of the buildings in the castle site were used as classrooms for elementary school students. In 1909 the ownership of the Shuri-jô site was transferred to Shuri Ward. The state hall was designated as a building in need of special preservation in 1925, under the provisions of the Ancient Shrines and Temples Preservation Law of 1897. It was designated as a National Treasure in 1929 under the National Treasures Preservation Law, which was enacted in the same year. Major repair work was conducted from 1928 to 1933, in which the structural members of the state hall were dismantled in order to provide opportunities to record dimensions and other specifications in scale drawings. These scale drawings were to contribute greatly when the state hall was reconstructed from 1989 to 1992. In the restoration work these drawings provided a concrete image of the completed condition. In 1933 four castle gates, i.e. the *Shureimon*, the *Kankaimon*, the *Zuiseimon* and the *Hakugimmon*, were additionally designated as National Treasures in accordance with the National

Treasures Preservation Law. The *Shureimon* was dismantled and repaired from 1936 to 1937. In World War II Japan constructed dug-in military headquarters beneath the Shuri-jô site; attacks upon those facilities were delivered from 1944 to 1945, reducing to ashes most of the buildings in the Shuri-jô site.

Tamaudun (1-A) was conserved much as it had been at the time of its foundation until 1945, when the burial chamber, balustrades and stone hedges suffered partial damage during the war.

Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon (1-B), which has been conserved in its original condition over a long period of time, was designated as a National Treasure in 1933 under the National Treasures Preservation Law. However, the stone gate was demolished in the battles of 1945, except for parts of the roof and stacked stone blocks, which composed the front central part of the gate.

Shikinaen (2-F) has remained in its original state over a long period of time and was designated as a Place of Scenic Beauty in 1941 under the provisions of the Law for the Preservation of Historic Sites and Places of Scenic Beauty. However, battles fought in 1944-1945 in the last stages of World War II caused severe damage to the property; the garden, trees, pavilions and stone bridges were demolished and lost.

Sêfa-utaki (2-G) had been forlorn without any ritual performance at the site after the Ryukyu Kingdom fell in 1879. There was a time when its condition began to suffer deterioration due to a lack of proper maintenance. However, it had continued to be the subject of worship by local people, who kept up a patient effort to take care of it. As a result the original landscape around Sêfa-utaki was fairly well conserved and after it became the property of Chinen Village in 1906 it was properly protected and maintained by the local government. During

World War II the 1945 bombardment by warships caused damage to the site, destroying trees and leaving holes and depressions in the foundation ground.

[End of World War II ~ Okinawa Reversion: A. D. 1945 to 1972]

During this period Okinawa and mainland Japan were placed under the control of separate governments. Accordingly, the protection of cultural assets on the Ryukyu Islands, which resumed immediately after the end of war, was administered in cooperation with the U.S. military forces. While the cultural assets included in the nominated property were stabilized in the condition of that time, at least preventing further deterioration, efforts for their restoration also began at the same time through fund-raising campaigns and other approaches.

In 1954 the Government of the Ryukyu Islands (GRI) established the Law for the Protection of the Cultural Properties of its own. In accordance with the provisions of this law, the Board for the Protection of Cultural Properties of Okinawa was set up to deal with the protection and restoration of cultural assets.

In this period designations of Cultural Properties were conducted under the above-mentioned "Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties of Okinawa", not the present applicable law of Japan, "the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties".

The Nakijin-jô site (2-A) was legally protected through multiple designations as a Historic Site and a Place of Scenic Beauty in 1955, as a Special Historic Site in 1958 and as a Tangible Cultural Property (Building) in 1962. The castle walls were restored from 1962 to 1967 and the *Heirômon* castle gate was restored in 1963, in which the surviving remains of the gate were conserved carefully. In 1960 a straight stairway was constructed from the castle gate to the court called *Unâ*, paying due attention to conservation of the remains of the original passageway.

The Zakimi-jô site (2-B) was designated as an Important Cultural Property in 1956. However, it suffered partial damage to the castle walls in 1960 during the construction of a U.S. military base.

The Katsuren-jô site (2-C) was designated as a Historic Site in 1967 and has been properly conserved in good condition.

The Nakagusuku-jô site (2-D) was designated as a Historic Site, a Place of Scenic Beauty and an Important Cultural Property (Building) at the same time in 1955 and as a Special Historic Site in 1958. The restoration of the damaged castle walls was carried out from 1961 to 1968; the site had been open to the public to serve as a park since 1948, and various park facilities such as a zoo and an exhibition hall had been added to the castle compound, although the zoo has already been removed as part of the restoration work. The remaining exhibition facilities in the castle site are scheduled to be removed together with some large-scale accommodation facilities in the vicinity in accordance with a newly agreed park plan.

The Shuri-jô site (2-E) was designated as a Historic Site in 1955. The site of the lost castle gate "*Shureimon*" was also designated as a Historic Site in 1955 and reconstructed from 1957 to 1958 on the basis of detailed records including photographs and scale drawings, which were precious by-products of the painstaking repair work conducted in the prewar period. In 1972, immediately prior to the reversion of Okinawa to the government of Japan, the reconstructed gate was designated as an Important Cultural Property. In 1950 facilities of the University of the Ryûkyûs were constructed in the inner enclosure with due attention paid to conservation of the castle walls and building remains.

Tamaudun (1-A) was designated as a Special Important Cultural Property

and a Special Historic Site in 1956. First-aid restoration of the main gate and the stone walls of the royal mausoleum was carried out from 1960 to 1962.

Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon (1-B) was designated as a Special Important Cultural Property in 1955. Repair of the stone gate was carried out from 1956 to 1957, using remaining structural members and materials whenever possible.

Shikinaen (2-F) was left without any treatment of its war-caused damage during this period.

Sêfa-utaki (2-G) was designated as a Historic Site and a Place of Scenic Beauty in 1955 and is protected in a good condition of preservation.

[After Okinawa Reversion: 1972 to the present]

After Okinawa's governance was returned from the United States of America to the government of Japan in 1972, the protection of cultural assets in Okinawa was conducted under the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties, which had been established by the government of Japan in 1950. Under the provisions of the law, Tamaudun and Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon were designated as Important Cultural Properties in 1972. At the same time, the Nakijin-jô site, the Zakimi-jô site, the Nakagusuku-jô site, the Katsuren-jô site, the Shuri-jô site, Tamaudun and Sêfa-utaki were designated as Historic Sites. Shikinaen was designated as a Place of Scenic Beauty four years later in 1976. In addition, Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon and the land occupied by the stone gate were included in the area of the Historic Site, "Shuri-jô Site".

The protected area related to **the Nakijin-jô site (2-A)** was extended when it was designated additionally as a Historic Site in 1979. Since 1980 conservation repair work has been under way and the castle walls have been

provided with regular repair treatment.

The protected area related to **the Zakimi-jô site (2-B)** was also extended when it was additionally designated as a Historic Site in 1978. From 1974 to 1983 repair work was carried out in which castle walls were restored, and the U.S. military base located in the castle site was removed in 1974.

The Katsuren-jô site (2-C) has undergone regular restoration repair work to maintain the castle walls etc. since 1978.

The Nakagusuku-jô site (2-D) has undergone regular conservation repair work to maintain the castle walls etc. since 1995.

At **the Shuri-jô site (2-E)**, the university facilities located inside the castle site were moved out and restoration repair work was carried out there from 1989 to 1992 to restore the state hall, the northern hall, the southern hall, the *Unâ* (large court), the castle gates, the castle walls and so forth. The restoration repair work has resumed and is currently being carried out for the rest of the damaged areas. In 1992 the restored *Shureimon* was repainted for maintenance.

Tamaudun (1-A) underwent restoration repair work from 1974 to 1977, in which the total area of the royal mausoleum, including the burial chamber, balustrades and stone walls, was repaired.

Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon (1-B) was dismantled for repair of deteriorated structural members from 1981 to 1986. After that treatment the stone gate remained in a good state of conservation, with the gate and the land occupied by the structure were included in the protected area of the Historic Site, "Shuri-jô

Site", in 1999.

Shikinaen (2-F) underwent restoration repair work from 1975 to 1996. The repair work covered various garden facilities such as garden buildings, pavilions, the stone bridge, the entrance gate, the pond shore revetments and landscape plantings in the garden.

Sêfa-utaki (2-G) and the surrounding landscape have been maintained in good condition, attracting many visitors for the purposes of worship or sightseeing. Since 1994 conservation repair work has been carried out on the front approach and in other areas for maintenance purposes.

Appendix 6. Chronological table of history in relation to the nominated property

c. Form and date of most recent records of property

There are numerous books, articles, scientific reports, and other literature on the nominated property. The following is a list of particularly important reference materials on the nominated property.

i) Publications on the history of the region

Okinawa Prefectural Board of Education. *Okinawaken-shi 1* [History of Okinawa Prefecture. Vol. 1]. Okinawa Prefectural Board of Education, 1976.

Kamakura, Yoshitaro. *Okinawa Bunka no Ihô* [Treasury of Okinawan Culture]. Iwanami Shoten, 1982.

Okinawa Bijutsu Zenshû Kankô Inkai, ed. *Okinawa Bijutsu Zenshû 5 Kenchiku・Chôkoku・Mingu・Kôgei* [Complete Collection of Okinawan Fine Art 5 - Architecture / Sculpture / Folk Art and Handicrafts]. Okinawa Times, 1989.

ii) Publications regarding the nominated property**a. On Tamaudun (1-A) (in order of publication)**

Foundation of Preservation of Architectural Cultural Properties, ed. *Jûyô Bunkazai Tamaudun Fukugenshûrikôji Hôkokusho* [Documentation on the Restoration of the Important Cultural Property "Tamaudun"]. Jûyô Bunkazai Tamaudun Fukugenshûri Iinkai, 1977.

Okinawa Prefectural Board of Education, ed. *Okinawa no Sengo Kyôiku-shi* [History of Post-War Education in Okinawa Prefecture]. Okinawa Prefectural Board of Education. 1977.

Education Department of Okinawa Prefecture, ed. *Okinawa Bunkazai Chôsa Hôkokusho* [Research Report on Cultural Properties of Okinawa Prefecture]. Naha Shuppansha. 1978.

Kamakura, Yoshitaro. *Okinawa Bunka no Ihô* [Treasury of Okinawan Culture]. Iwanami Shoten, 1982.

Oechsle, Rob, and Uehara Masatoshi, eds. *Aoimegamita Dai-Ryukyu* [Great Lewchew Discovered: 19th Century Ryukyu in Western Art and Illustration]. Niraisha, 1987.

Okinawa Bijutsu Zenshû Kankô Iinkai, ed. *Okinawa Bijutsu Zenshû 5 Kenchiku・Chôkoku・Mingu・Kôgei* [Complete Collection of Okinawan Fine Art 5 - Architecture / Sculpture / Folk Art and Handicrafts]. Okinawa Times, 1989.

Takamiya, Hiroe, and Nakayama Mitsuru, eds. *Okinawaken Fudoki* [Customs, Culture and Economic Life of Okinawa Prefecture]. Obunsha. 1993.

b. On Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon (1-B) (in order of publication)

Iha, Fuyu, *et al*, eds. *Ryukyu-koku Yuraiki* [The Story of the Foundation of Ryukyu]. Tokyo Bijutsu, 1940.

Okinawa Prefectural Board of Education, ed. *Okinawa no Sengo Kyôiku-shi* [History of Post-War Education in Okinawa]. Okinawa Prefectural Board of Education. 1977.

Naha City Board of Education. *Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon Kison Chôsa Hôkokusho* [Investigation Report of Damaged Parts of Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon]. Naha City Board of Education, 1978.

Okinawa Prefectural Board of Education. *Okinawa Bunkazai Chôsa Hôkokusho* [Research Report on Cultural Properties of Okinawa Prefecture]. Naha Shuppansha. 1978.

Kamakura, Yoshitaro. *Okinawa Bunka no Ihô* [Treasury of Okinawan Culture]. Iwanami Shoten, 1982.

Naha City Municipal Board of Education. *Jûyô Bunkazai Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon Hozonshûrikôji Hôkokusho* [Documentation on the Conservation Repair Work for the Important Cultural Property "Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon"]. Naha City Municipal Board of Education, 1986.

Oechsle, Rob, and Uehara Masatoshi, eds. *Aoimegamita Dai-Ryukyu* [Great

Lewchew Discovered: 19th Century Ryukyu in Western Art and Illustration]. Niraisha, 1987.

Okinawa Bijutsu Zenshû Kankô Inkai, ed. *Okinawa Bijutsu Zenshû 5 Kenchiku・Chôkoku・Mingu・Kôgei* [Complete Collection of Okinawan Fine Art 5 - Architecture / Sculpture / Folk Arts and Handicrafts]. Okinwa Times, 1989.

Okinawa Prefectural Board of Education. *Agarimâi Tô Kanren Haisho Sôgô Chôsa (I)* [Survey of Places of Worship Related to the Agarimâi etc.]. Okinawa Prefectural Board of Education, 1995.

c. On Nakijin-jô site (2-A) (in order of publication)

Majikina, Anko, and Shimakura Ryuji. *Okinawa Issennen-shi* [Millenium History of Okinawa]. Ozawa Shoten, 1923.

Iha, Fuyu, *et al*, eds. *Ryukyu-koku Yuraiki* [The Story of the Foundation of Ryukyu]. Tokyo Bijutsu, 1940.

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Kodama, Kota. *Nihon Jôkaku Taikei 1 Hokkaido・Okinawa* [Comprehensive Guide to Japanese Castles Vol.1: Hokkaido and Okinawa]. Jimbutsuoraisha, 1980.

Nakijin Village Board of Education. *Nakijin-jô Kankyô Seibi Kihon Kôsô Nakijin-jôseki Kankyô Seibi Dai-ichiji Gokanen Keikaku* [The 1st Five Year Plan for the Environmental Improvement of the Nakijin-jô Site]. Nakijin Village Board of Education, 1981.

Nakijin Village Board of Education. *Shiseki Nakijin-jôseki Dai-ichiji Hakkutsu Chôsa Gaihô* [The 1st Excavation Report of the Historic Site "Nakijin-jô Site" (Summary)]. Nakijin Village Board of Education, 1981.

Kamakura, Yoshitaro. *Okinawa Bunka no Ihô* [Treasury of Okinawan Culture]. Iwanami Shoten, 1982.

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Ni [Revised Edition. History of Chûzan Vol.2]. Okinawa Prefectural Board of Education, 1983.

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Okinawa Bijutsu Zenshû Kankô Inkai, ed. *Okinawa Bijutsu Zenshû 5 Kenchiku・Chôkoku・Mingu・Kôgei* [Complete Collection of Okinawan Fine Art 5 - Architecture / Sculpture / Folk Art and Handicrafts]. Okinawa Times, 1989.

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in text books of Japanese history used in Japan but also in a number of encyclopedias published throughout the world, which are listed below.

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Dutch language

Grote Winkler Prins Encyclopedie. El server, written in Dutch.

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d. Present state of
conservation

The national government and local governments are taking strong measures to protect the value of the Important Cultural Properties, the Historic Sites and the Place of Scenic Beauty included in the nominated property, as provided under the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties. As a result, the nominated property has been maintained in a good state of conservation.

From its foundation to World War II, the nominated property had been maintained through ordinary daily care such as grass removal and pruning, as well as repair work legally prescribed under the National Treasures Preservation Law and the Law for the Preservation of Historic Sites and Places of Scenic Beauty. The castle walls were repaired at regular intervals and other large-scale structures were dismantled for repair and maintenance of structural members when necessary. However, in the last stages of World War II, Okinawa Island became the site of fierce battles and the nominated property could not help suffering severe damage under such extreme circumstances. Especially heavily damaged was the Shuri-jō site, beneath which the dug-in headquarters of the Japanese military forces were located, as well as Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon, Tamaudun and Shikinaen.

Each of the cultural assets included in the nominated property is tangible testimony to Okinawan history and represents the Okinawan culture which flourished during the reign of the Ryukyu Kingdom. Recognizing that conservation of these cultural assets is meaningful in the context of Okinawan culture as a whole, the national government and related local governments have implemented extensive conservation repair work and restoration work after World War II. In other words, the conservation of the cultural value of the nominated property has been an essential part of a greater attempt to pass on Okinawan culture to future generations, to help deepen the understanding of Okinawan culture and to promote its development in new directions. Actually to a number of citizens of Okinawa Prefecture the restoration of these cultural assets

meant much more than mitigation of war-caused damage to Okinawan culture; to those people it meant nothing less than the restoration of the identity of the Okinawan people.

It was in recognition of the metaphysical value of these cultural assets that the national government of Japan started in 1973, the year following the reversion of Okinawa, a series of restoration and conservation projects -- comprehensive restoration of the Shuri-jô site, including the high-precision reconstruction of the state hall, and repair work of various kinds on the castle walls and castle gates of other *Gusuku* sites -- under the financial support of the Agency for Cultural Affairs.

Conservation repair works and restoration repair works are carefully planned before implementation. The image of the result is drawn up based upon various sources of information, including records of archeological excavations in the past and reports of research about the state of conservation in the post-war period as well as photographs, drawings and so forth. The drawn-up image and the plan of restoration are subjected to close scrutiny by a board of experienced experts in related disciplines. Different boards are set up for different cultural assets to scrutinize the specifications of restoration. Needless to say, the original structural members and other parts are made most use of and if there is no alternative but to introduce new structural members the same type of material is used to maintain the authenticity of materials. All of these efforts have contributed to maintaining the authenticity and integrity of the nominated property by making the repair works as accurate and as close to the original state as possible.

Preservation of archeological remains is practiced in most cases by re-burying the excavated remains under soil mounds. In some cases chemical reinforcement agents are applied to extremely fragile remains including materials such as soil or limestone; limestone bedrock weakened by fractures or other faults is strengthened or physically supported by civil engineering methods when

necessary. Measures are taken to distinguish the original parts of the archeological remains from the restored parts to avoid confusion about which is which. In some exceptional cases buildings which used to be an integral part of the archeological site are reconstructed in the original location on the basis of historical records, as far as the reliability of the historical records can be confirmed.

Tamaudun (1-A) underwent conservation repair work from 1974 to 1977 on the burial chamber and the stone hedge, carried out by the owner of the property with financial support and technical instruction from the Agency for Cultural Affairs and the Okinawa Prefectural Government. A conservation plan was carefully prepared by a board of experienced experts including architects, historians and fine arts scholars, and a major repair work program was conducted. In the implementation of the plan, the highest attention was paid to the original remains and structural members, which were preserved or reused whenever possible.

Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon (1-B) was first restored from 1956 to 1957 by the Board for Protection of Cultural Affairs of the Government of the Ryukyu Islands. Again, from 1981 to 1986, it was dismantled for repair by Naha City with financial support and technical instruction from the Agency for Cultural Affairs and the Okinawa Prefectural Government. After that this cultural asset has been kept in a good state of conservation without need for additional repair work.

At the **Nakijin-jô site (2-A)** archeological remains of the Sanzan Period buildings and castle walls have been preserved in relatively good condition. Parts of the original front approach leading from the castle gate to a large courtyard in the first enclosure remain in spots beneath the newly-constructed

passageway and along the piled stone blocks of the *Kâzafu* enclosure. From 1962 to 1967 the Board for Protection of Cultural Properties of the Government of the Ryukyu Islands carried out the restoration of the first gate and the castle walls there. Since 1980 the local government of Nakijin Village has continually implemented conservation repair works, mainly on castle walls, with financial support and technical instruction from the Agency for Cultural Affairs and the Okinawa Prefectural Government. The existing parapets at the top of the castle walls are among the achievements of these restoration works (in this case traces of the original parapets were found and it was possible to determine accurately the original positions of the parapets in the walls).

At the **Zakimi-jô site (2-B)** the local government of Yomitan Village restored the castle gates and castle walls from 1974 to 1983 with financial support and technical instruction from the Agency for Cultural Affairs and the Okinawa Prefectural Government. Although the excavated remains suggested that the parapets had existed as part of the original castle walls, they were not restored in this particular site because their exact positions could not be deduced with sufficient reliability. Traces of buildings were found in the first enclosure but are now re-buried under a soil layer 50 cm thick for preservation purposes.

At the **Katsuren-jô site (2-C)** parts of the old castle walls constructed when Lord Amawari was the head of the castle can be seen even now. Traces indicating the existence of above-ground buildings in the second enclosure and the remains of a reservoir in the third enclosure are kept in a good state of preservation under protective soil mounds. Restoration repair works have been carried out continuously by the local government of Katsuren Town since 1978 with financial support and technical instruction from the Agency for Cultural Affairs and the Okinawa Prefectural Government.

At the **Nakagusuku-jô site (2-D)** the archeological remains show a fairly good state of conservation, including stone-stacked castle walls, arched gates, stone stairways and wells, as well as archeological remains of underground building foundations. From 1961 to 1968 the Board for Protection of Cultural Properties of the Government of the Ryukyu Islands restored parts of the walls of the first enclosure and the second enclosure. Conservation repair works on the castle walls have been implemented there since 1995 by the local government of Nakagusuku Village with financial support and technical instruction from the Agency for Cultural Affairs and the Okinawa Prefectural Government.

At the **Shuri-jô site (2-E)** the Board for Protection of Cultural Affairs of the Government of the Ryukyu Islands restored an outer castle gate of Shuri-jô, the *Shureimon*. Since 1972 the Okinawa Prefectural Government has been conducting restoration repair work on the castle site in close cooperation with the Okinawa Development Agency and the Agency for Cultural Affairs. In 1989 the Ministry of Construction and the Okinawa Development Agency started the construction of a national government park in cooperation with the Okinawa Prefectural Government and the Agency for Cultural Affairs. As a result, the inner enclosure had been completed with intensive restoration efforts by 1992, in which the state hall, the southern hall, the northern hall and castle walls were successfully restored. In addition, in 1986 the Okinawa Prefectural Government started restoration repair work on the outer enclosure and its surroundings as part of the construction of a prefectural park in cooperation with the Okinawa Development Agency and the Agency for Cultural Affairs. The restoration and repair of this archeological site, both in the inner and outer enclosures, have been realized through the cooperative efforts of the many organizations concerned.

At the site of Shikinaen, the owners of this cultural asset -- in 1992 the

ownership was transferred to the present custodial body, Naha City -- have been engaged in maintenance and restoration works from 1975 to 1996 with financial support and technical instruction from Naha City (until 1992), the Agency for Cultural Affairs and the Okinawa Prefectural Government. As a result, the restoration of villa houses, pavilions and other garden facilities including a stone bridge, the entrance gate and pond shore revetments and landscape trees has by now been completed. Currently Naha City is managing a maintenance program for the purpose of enhancing the overall scenic beauty of the garden landscape, recognizing the value of this cultural asset and its original function as a guesthouse for high officials from overseas.

At the site of Sêfa-utaki the local government of Chinen Village has been engaged in restoration repair work on the front approach and the altar since 1994 with financial support and technical instruction from the Agency for Cultural Affairs and the Okinawa Prefectural Government. In preparation for the repair work, a board of experienced experts including folklorists, botanists, archeologists and landscape architects was organized to review the conservation plan. The focus of the conservation work was on keeping the awe-inspiring atmosphere of the forest landscape which has always been an integral component of the sacred area surrounding Sêfa-utaki. Removal of non-indigenous plant species, which is painstakingly conducted routinely there, is one of the practical measures introduced to achieve that purpose.

e. Policies and programs related to the preservation and promotion of the property

Each cultural asset included in the nominated property is provided with protection of the highest standard in Japan, as an Important Cultural Property, a Historic Site or a Place of Scenic Beauty designated under the Law for the

Protection of Cultural Properties (as is explained in the previous section).

Conservation repair works for the Nakijin-jô site, the Zakimi-jô site, the Katsuren-jô site, the Nakagusuku-jô site, the Shuri-jô site and Sêfa-utaki are conducted every year in accordance with carefully planned programs under national subsidy.

Tamaudun (1-A) is planned in the *Shuri-jô Kôen Kihon Keikaku* [Basic Plan for the Shuri-jô Castle Park] (1984) as a compact symbolic area representing typical cultural elements of the Ryukyu Kingdom, especially Shuri-jô. For that purpose the plan is programmed to be coordinated with the development of the Shuri-jô site.

Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon (1-B) is preserved as an integral part of the historic environment closely associated with the Shuri-jô site in accordance with the *Shuri-jô Kôen Kihon Keikaku* [Basic Plan for the Shuri-jô Castle Park] (1984).

The Nakijin-jô site (2-A) is preserved and promoted in accordance with *Nakijin-jô Kankyô Seibi Kihon Kôsô Nakijin-jôseki Kankyô Seibi Dai-ichiji Gokanen Keikaku* [The 1st Five Year Plan for the Environmental Improvement of the Nakijin-jô Site] (1981) and *Nakijin-jôseki Kôen Kihon Kôsô• Kihon Keikaku* [Basic Concept and Basic Plan of Nakijin-jô Site Park] (1982).

At the Zakimi-jô site (2-B) the castle walls and castle gates have been restored while their original structural members and other parts are properly preserved. Regarding promotion of the site, visitor facilities and other services are available in the city park which surrounds the site..

The Katsuren-jô site (2-C) is preserved and promoted in accordance with the *Katsuren-jôseki Oyobi Ue-gusuku Kôen Kihon Keikaku* [Basic Plan for Katsuren-jô Site - Ue-gusuku Park] (1990).

The Nakagusuku-jô site (2-D) is preserved and promoted in accordance with the *Nakagusuku-jôseki Seibi Kihon Keikakusho* [Basic Plan Related to the Nakagusuku-jô Site] (1994).

The Shuri-jô site (2-E) is planned as a symbolic area representing the historic heritage of the Kingdom of Ryukyu, as prescribed in the *Shuri-jô Kôen Kihon Keikaku* [Basic Plan for the Shuri-jô Castle Park] (1984), in which restoration of the state hall and other structures are manifested as keystone projects of the plan. Restoration of the inner enclosure of the castle site is being carried out under the charge of the Ministry of Construction and the Okinawa Development Agency with cooperation from the Agency for Cultural Affairs and the Okinawa Prefectural Government. To be specific, the highly accurate restoration of the state hall has been completed and the northern hall, the southern hall, the *Hôshimmon* gate and the *Koufukumon* gate have been equipped to serve the functions of a treasury museum and resting facilities. In the outer enclosure the castle walls have been restored by the Okinawa Prefectural Government in close cooperation with the Okinawa Development Agency and the Agency for Cultural Affairs as part of the local government's mandate.

The national government has designated the area related to the cultural assets as a Historic Site to legally protect the natural and built environment associated with the nominated property as an integrated unit of the cultural landscape.

Sêfa-utaki (2-G) is promoted in accordance with the *Chinen-jôseki*•

Sefa-utaki Oyobi Shûhen Seibi Kihon Kôsô・Kihon Keikaku [Basic Concept and Basic Plan for the Development of the Chinen-jô Site, Sêfa-utaki and the Vicinity] (1993).

Tamaudun and Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon, both designated as Important Cultural Properties and Historic Sites, are under the management of Naha City, which implements strict regulations to control any alteration to the existing state of the nominated property.

The Nakijin-jô site is managed and maintained by the local government of Nakijin Village; the Zakimi-jô site by Yomitan Villlage; the Katsuren-jô site by Katsuren Town; the Nakagusuku-jô site by Nakagusuku Village and Kitanakagusuku Village; the Shuri-jô site and Shikinaen by Naha City; Sêfa-utaki by Chinen Village. These Historic Sites and Place of Scenic Beauty are protected with strict legal regulations to control alterations to the existing condition.

It is the policy of the national government of Japan to continue the present policies and programs mentioned above, thereby to ensure that the protection and promotion of the nominated property will continue to be conducted in an effective and integrated manner.

As for presentation and promotion of the nominated property, the nominated archeological remains are open to the public throughout the year except for areas where conservation repair works or other operations are in progress. At the same time, a number of excavated artifacts and other historical materials are kept on display in treasury houses or exhibition museums at the Nakijin-jô site and the Shuri-jô site. In addition, new exhibition facilities are planned in the vicinities of the Nakagusuku-jô site and Sêfa-utaki. These efforts are all coordinated for the purpose of transmitting the value of the nominated

property to future generations.

Appendix 13. Plans indicating locations of support facilities and facilities for visitors

4. Management

4. Management

a. Ownership

Ownership of the nominated property is shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Owners and Locations of the Nominated Property

Cultural asset included in the nominated property	Owner	Location
1) Monuments		
1-A. Tamaudun	Naha City and Okinawa Prefecture	Shurikinjô-chô, Naha City;
1-B. Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon	Naha City	Shuritônokura-chô, Naha City.
2) Sites		
2-A. Nakijin-jô site	Nakijin Village	Nakijin-son Aza Imadomari;
2-B. Zakimi-jô site	Yomitan Village	Yomitan-son Aza Zakimi;
2-C. Katsuren-jô site	Katsuren Town	Katsuren-chô Aza Haebara;
2-D. Nakagusuku-jô site	Nakagusuku Village; Kitanakagusuku Village	Nakagusuku-son Aza Tomari and Kitanakagusuku-son Aza Ôgusuku;
2-E. Shuri-jô site	Government of Japan and Okinawa Prefecture	Shuritônokura-chô, Naha City;
2-F. Shikinaen*	Naha City	Maaji, Naha City;
2-G. Sêfa-utaki*	Chinen Village	Chinen-son Aza Kudeken

* indicates a cultural landscape.

b. Legal status

The nominated property consists of 2 monuments and 7 sites including 2 cultural landscapes, which are designated as Important Cultural Properties, Historic Sites or Places of Scenic Beauty under Article 27 or Article 69 of the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties (promulgated on May 30, 1950, combining the former 1919 and 1929 laws; the original law was enacted in 1897) (hereinafter referred to as the “designated sites”; see Appendix 4 for the inventory of the cultural assets included in the nominated property and the copies of the official designation notices).

Detailed information regarding the designated sites is given in Table 2. In principle, it is the owners or custodial bodies of the designated sites that manage, repair and open them to the public for promotion purposes (under Articles 71-2, 72 and 72-2). Alterations to the existing state of designated sites are legally restricted and any such alteration requires the permission of the

national government (under Article 80).

The national government subsidizes the cost of repair and management of the designated sites and provides technical guidance (under Articles 35 and 47).

These designated sites are open to the public throughout the year.

The lands covered by Sêfa-utaki and the Zakimi-jô site are owned by the municipal governments concerned and are managed as public property. The Nakijin-jô site, the Katsuren-jô site and the Nakagusuku-jô site are located mainly on public lands, although some portions are left under private ownership. The Shuri-jô site is under the ownership of the national government of Japan and Okinawa Prefecture. The area occupied by Tamaudun is the property of Okinawa Prefecture and Naha City. Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon and Shikinaen are located on lands owned by Naha City.

The buffer zones are legally regulated by the City Parks Law, the Law concerning the Improvement of Agricultural Promotion Area, the Forest Law, the City Planning Law and other laws and regulations of Okinawa Prefecture and the municipal governments concerned; a summary of the laws and regulations is provided in the appendices with the state of legal protection prescribed thereby prescribed thereby.

Category of "Cultural Heritage"	Name of the cultural asset	Category under the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties
Monument	1-A. Tamaudun 1-B. Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon	Historic Site and Important Cultural Property Historic Site and Important Cultural Property
Site (incl. cultural landscape)	2-A. Nakijin-jô site 2-B. Zakimi-jô site 2-C. Katsuren-jô site 2-D. Nakagusuku-jô site 2-E. Shuri-jô site 2-F. Shikinaen 2-G. Sêfa-utaki	Historic Site Historic Site Historic Site Historic Site Historic Site Historic Site Historic Site

**Additional reference material - laws and regulations:
the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties;
-the City Planning Law (excerpt);**

c. Protective measures
and means of
implementing them

i) The Nominated Property

The monuments and sites (including cultural landscapes) which comprise the nominated property are protected and preserved on the property as Important Cultural Properties, Historic Sites or Places of Scenic Beauty designated by the national government -- the Agency for Cultural Affairs, to be specific -- under the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties. In those areas, any alteration to the existing condition is prohibited without prior permission from the Agency for Cultural Affairs.

In consideration of the fact that some wooden structures are located in the designated sites nominated hereby for inclusion on the World Heritage List, due attention is paid to fire prevention, although those structures themselves are not part of the nominated property.

To be specific, these wooden buildings are equipped with automatic fire alarm systems and are further protected with fire extinguishing systems and lightning conductors installed in the immediate vicinity.

Appendix 7. Plans indicating locations of fire prevention systems

ii) The Buffer Zone

The areas surrounding the individual assets of the nominated property are regulated through various applicable laws and municipal ordinances, as listed below for each asset, to ensure that the historic natural settings and scenic beauty of these areas will be conserved in close harmony with the nominated property.

Particularly for the three closely-related cultural assets, i.e. the Shuri-jô site, Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon and Tamaudun, Naha City carried out in 1998 a program of basic research in preparation for administrative planning regarding

landscape formation along the Shuri Symbol Road. Based on the research result, the architectural characteristics of buildings (i.e. color and height of the buildings) in the immediate vicinity of these cultural assets have been placed under regulation, so that the natural and cultural settings around the nominated property can be kept in a good state of conservation.

Name of the cultural asset included in the nominated property	Measures for protection within the buffer zone
1-A. Tamaudun; 1-B. Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon; 2-E. Shuri-jô site	Building height, etc. are regulated in City Parks designated under the City Parks Law; Category I Exclusively Low-story Residential District designated under the City Planning Law; Shurikinjô Landscape Formation Area designated under the applicable municipal ordinance of Naha City.
2-A. Nakijin-jô site	Building height, design, color, etc. are regulated in Landscape Conservation Areas for Historical Cultural Properties designated under the applicable municipal ordinance of Nakijin Village.
2-B. Zakimi-jô site	Building height, design, color, etc. are regulated in Conservation Areas for Natural and Cultural Settings of the Zakimi-jô Site designated under the applicable municipal ordinance of Yomitan Village.
2-C. Katsuren-jô site	Building height, design, color, etc. are regulated in Conservation Areas for Natural and Cultural Settings of the Katsuren-jô Site designated under the applicable ordinance.
2-D. Nakagusuku-jô site	Building height, design, color, etc. are regulated in Landscape Formation Areas and Historical Cultural Landscape Protection Areas designated under the applicable ordinances of Nakagusuku Village and Kitanakagusuku Village.
2-F. Shikinaen	Construction works, building height, etc. are regulated in City Parks designated under the City Parks Law and Category I Exclusively Low-story Residential District designated under the City Planning Law.
2-G. Sêfa-utaki	Building height, design and color are regulated in Historical Cultural Landscape Protection Areas designated under the applicable municipal ordinance of Chinen Village.

	<p>At Shikinaen, there is not likely to be any adverse change to its cultural value even if the land use outside the garden changes according to development trends, because the mature growth of trees inside the garden visually separates the garden from the outside.</p> <p>Appendix 3-a. Maps indicating the extent of the nominated property and zones of legal protection</p> <p>Appendix 8. Maps indicating the zones of legal protection</p> <p>Appendix 9. Summary of laws and regulations which control the nominated property and the buffer zones</p>
<p>d. Agencies with management authority</p>	<p>Agency for Cultural Affairs 3-2-2 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo</p>
<p>e. Level at which management is exercised and name and address of responsible person for contact purposes</p>	<p>Ordinary maintenance and management of the cultural assets included in the nominated property is the responsibility of the owners and custodial bodies appointed under the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties. On the other hand, the said law requires that even owners or custodial bodies need to notify the Agency for Cultural Affairs in advance in order to carry out any repair works other than day-to-day maintenance work or emergency repair work. This system is intended and so organized as to maintain the high standard of conservation technique through technical support from the national government.</p> <p>The names and addresses of responsible persons for contact purposes are listed in Chapter 6.</p>

f. Agreed plans related to property

Agreed plans related to the cultural assets included in the nominated property and their buffer zones are summarized as follows:

At **Tamaudun (1-A)** together with **Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon (1-B)** and **the Shuri-jô site (2-E)**, a city park construction project is currently being carried out in tandem with the implementation of appropriate measures to protect the integrity of the nominated property. Accordingly, it has been assured that the value of the nominated property will be well preserved.

The Nakijin-jô site (2-A) and its buffer zone are given high priority for restoration of historical settings by the municipal government of Nakijin Village in accordance with the Nakijin Village's basic plan for development as a tourist resort, which was agreed officially in 1998. In the implementation of the plan, by various administrative means, due attention is given to the cultural value of the Nakijin-jô site.

The Zakimi-jô site (2-B) and its surroundings have already been established as a park in accordance with the Yomitan Village's 2nd basic comprehensive plan for regional development; the value of the nominated cultural asset is and will be continuously preserved in good condition.

Reconstruction of existing roads is planned in the buffer zone of **the Katsuren-jô site (2-C)**; however, there is unlikely to be any adverse impact upon the value of the cultural asset since the said construction work is mainly intended to widen existing daily service roads for the convenience of regional inhabitants and no further construction is scheduled. There are two plans pertinent to port facilities for the coastal area west of the cultural asset, parts of which have already been put into operation: one part of the plan is to repair the fishing port of Nambara and the other is to promote the development of the Nakagusuku Port region. Green belts and other measures to mitigate the adverse

impact upon the cultural value of the nominated property are incorporated as part of these plans.

At the **Nakagusuku-jô site (2-D)**, construction work is under way in accordance with the already-agreed Nakagusuku Park construction plan, in which preservation of the historic site is manifested as the central concept of the park itself so that the project will contribute to protection and promotion of the nominated property. At the same time, the long-abandoned shell of a half-constructed accommodation facility which stands in the buffer zone is to be dismantled and removed in the near future; this work is included in the budget of the project.

Shikinaen (2-F) and its surroundings are planned as a city park, as defined in the City Parks Law, whose construction has already been completed. To the south of the cultural asset, construction work for improvement of the existing Maaji-Kumoji Road is planned and has already been set into operation; however, the green belt surrounding the boundary of Shikinaen sufficiently separates the inner space of the garden from the outside view to the extent that even bridges over the road are invisible from inside the garden. As a result, the visual impact of the road improvement construction will be negligible.

In the vicinity of the buffer zone for **Sêfa-utaki (2-G)**, a bicycle route is being planned as part of a pan-Okinawa bicycle-trail network. The detailed construction specifications including final trail routes remain to be decided, but due consideration for protection of the natural landscape in the region will be incorporated in the process of further discussion so as not to impair the integrity of the nominated property.

g. Sources and levels of
finance

It is a general rule that owners and custodial bodies of the nominated property are responsible for essential day-to-day maintenance of parts of the property in terms of manpower and finance. On the other hand, in the cases of

	<p>conservation repair work and restoration of monuments and sites (incl. cultural landscapes) or in the case of improvement of their natural and cultural settings, the owners and custodial bodies can receive financial support from the national government, which subsidizes up to 80 % of the total cost, and further financial support is provided by the government of Okinawa Prefecture as well.</p>
<p>h. Sources of expertise and training in conservation and management techniques</p>	<p>The local governments related to the nominated property have their own staff of professional engineers with technical skills and experience of the high standard necessary for conservation and maintenance of the property. For the purpose of improving their skills, these organizations take active measures to promote opportunities for the engineers to participate in training seminars, such as those held by the Nara National Cultural Properties Research Institute.</p>
<p>i. Visitor facilities and statistics</p>	<p>The location of the nominated property and its vicinity is famous for its outstanding scenic beauty, characterized by natural beaches and abundant coral reefs, and great numbers of visitors are attracted from throughout Japan.</p> <p>Approximately 3.87 million tourists visit Okinawa Prefecture every year, of whom about 210,000 are students from all over Japan on study tours as part of their school curriculum and about 190,000 are tourists from outside of Japan. These numbers confirm the fact that Okinawa is widely known not only in Japan but also throughout the world.</p> <p>For the convenience of those tourists, explanatory signboards are set up at the entrances and other sightseeing points. In addition, car parking, lavatories and museums are installed in the visitors' service facilities at the Nakijin-jô site, the Zakimi-jô site and the Shuri-jô site.</p>

<p>j. Property management plan and statement of objectives</p>	<p>Specific policies of management are prescribed in the management plans listed below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Nakijin-jô site: <i>Nakijin-jôseki Hozonkanri Keikaku</i> [the Preservation Management Plan for the Nakijin-jô Site]. Nakijin Village Board of Education.• The Katsuren-jô site: <i>Katsuren-jôseki Hozonkanri Keikaku</i> [the Preservation Management Plan for the Katsuren-jô Site]. Katsuren Town Board of Education.• The Nakagusuku-jô site: <i>Nakagusuku-jôseki Hozonkanri Keikaku</i> [the Preservation Management Plan for the Nakagusuku-jô Site]. Nakagusuku Village Board of Education.
<p>k. Staffing levels</p>	<p>The professional staff, including staff researchers and technical engineers affiliated with the organization listed below, is in charge of the management of the nominated property.</p> <p>(1) For matters pertinent to the whole nominated property</p> <p>Agency for Cultural Affairs 3-2-2 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo</p> <p>Okinawa Prefectural Board of Education 1-2-2 Izumizaki, Naha City, Okinawa Prefecture</p>

(2) For matters pertinent to individual cultural assets included in the nominated property

Name of the cultural asset	Organization	Contact Address
1-A. Tamaudun; 1-B. Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon; 2-F. Shikinaen	Naha City Board of Education	2-8-8 Okegawa, Naha City
2-A. Nakijin-jô site	Nakijin Village Board of Education	232 Nakijin-son Aza Nakasone
2-B. Zakimi-jô site	Yomitan Village Board of Education	708-4 Yomitan-son Aza Zakimi
2-C. Katsuren-jô site	Katsuren Town Board of Education	3047 Katsuren-chô Aza Henna
2-D. Nakagusuku-jô site	Nakagusuku Village Board of Education; Kitanakagusuku Village Board of Education	190 Nakagusuku-son Aza Asato; 435 Kitanakagusuku-son Aza Chunjun
2-E. Shuri-jô site	Okinawa Prefectural Board of Education	1-2-2 Izumizaki, Naha City
2-G. Sêfa-utaki	Chinen Village Board of Education	22 Chinen-son Aza Kudaken

Detailed information relevant to this section is given in an appendix of Chapter 6.

5. Factors Affecting the Property

5. Factors Affecting the Property

a. Development pressures

Okinawa Prefecture plans to develop and establish itself as an internationally-oriented resort area in harmony with its unique natural setting and cultural tradition.

In the process of achieving this vision, it can naturally be expected that some older buildings will be replaced with new ones in the urbanizing area of the prefecture; however, in order to continuously enhance the standards of urban life without impairing the historic and esthetic value of the traditional environment, any future construction activities are to be carefully planned through effective enforcement of the city planning codes regulating land use, building height and design quality. Therefore, this development would not undermine the value of the nominated property.

b. Environmental pressures

The environmental pressure anticipated in the relevant region is dust pollution at the Shuri-jô site and Shikinaen. As a countermeasure to address this impact, monitoring is scheduled at regular intervals: when the results of monitoring indicate the need for maintenance work, cleaning or other appropriate measures are implemented to clear the property of dust. There are no other clear and present environmental pressures that would undermine the value of the nominated property.

c. Natural disasters and preparedness

Major natural disasters which could occur in the relevant region include typhoons, earthquakes, etc. For the purpose of mitigating the adverse effects of these disasters, measures to prevent the collapse of stone walls are implemented: for instance, trees that could strike against castle walls if broken in a storm are

thinned in advance at regular intervals.

In addition, in the case of typhoons, ad hoc measures are taken to protect wooden structures: for example, exterior supportive props and storm shutters are installed to reinforce the structural strength of wooden buildings.

d. Visitor / tourism pressure

The Nakijin-jô site, the Zakimi-jô site, the Katsuren-jô site, the Nakagusuku-jô site, Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon, Tamaudun, Shikinaen and Sêfa-utaki are all open to the public. The Shuri-jô site is also open to the public but entry is limited in some areas such as the state hall of the castle.

The Zakimi-jô site, the Katsuren-jô site, Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon and Sêfa-utaki are open at any hour of the day so that visitors can enter anytime they like. At the Nakijin-jô site, the Nakagusuku-jô site and Tamaudun, visitors are allowed to enter during a certain time period. On the other hand, at the Shuri-jô site and Shikinaen their owners prescribe the extent of area where visitors are allowed, the hours that visitors can stay and the routes visitors can take in consideration of sensitive factors including the structural strength of the building concerned and the possibility of damage from contact with the decorative parts.

In addition, security systems are in operation and the areas are patrolled in order to safeguard the property against malevolent behavior ranging from misdemeanor and mischief to theft. At the same time, awareness-enhancing efforts are made to appeal for the cooperation of all visitors in protecting the property, through messages on explanatory signboards and in instruction pamphlets together with installation of security fences. As a result, tourism has not resulted in deterioration of the value of the nominated property.

e. Number of inhabitants within property and buffer zone

Number of inhabitants within the nominated property and the buffer zones (as of February 1, 1999)

Name of the cultural asset	Population within the nominated property	Population within the buffer zone
1-A. Tamaudun ; 1-B. Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon; 2-E. Shuri-jô site	0	9,855
2-A. Nakijin-jô site	7	2
2-B. Zakimi-jô site	0	1,375
2-C. Katsuren-jô site	0	637
2-D. Nakagusuku-jô site	0	931
2-F. Shikinaen	0	4,693
2-G. Sêfa-utaki	0	0

6. Monitoring

6. Monitoring

a. Key indicators for measuring state of conservation

The nominated property and the buffer zones are monitored periodically and systematically; the state of conservation is constantly checked in order to judge whether there is need to improve the techniques and to reinforce the organizations involved in conservation / preservation, repair, restoration, management, disaster prevention and risk control.

The monitoring is conducted according to the three indicators listed below. Specific items for measurement are given in Annexed Table 1.

Key Indicator 1: the state of conservation in terms of the significance of the property and the authenticity of the property, as stated in Chapter 2 on the justification for inscription.

Key Indicator 2: the effectiveness of the management system, as stated in Chapter 4 on management.

Key Indicator 3: the effects of affecting factors (visitor / tourism pressures, environmental pressures, natural disasters, development pressures etc.) upon the nominated property and the buffer zone, in relation to Chapter 5 on factors affecting the property.

In addition, a fourth key indicator is set, consistent with the 1972 World Heritage Convention, so that the role and value of this particular World Heritage site could be evaluated in the context of contemporary society. This attempt will contribute to realizing a comprehensive system of conservation planning which would not interfere with the development of the region and which could even help promote it.

Specific items for measurement are given in Annexed Table 2.

	<p>Key Indicator 4: the degree of achievement in development of the region including the nominated property together with the buffer zones and vicinity toward an internationally-oriented resort in harmony with natural settings and cultural tradition (as stated in Chapter 5).</p>
<p>b. Administrative arrangements for monitoring property</p>	<p>The Agency for Cultural Affairs is the agency with management authority. Practical monitoring efforts are conducted under the instruction of the Okinawa Prefectural Board of Education and the Agency for Cultural Affairs by the Naha City Board of Education in the case of Tamaudun (1-A), Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon (1-B) and Shikinaen (2-F); by the Nakijin Village Board of Education in the case of the Nakijin-jô site (2-A); by the Yomitan Village Board of Education in the case of the Zakimi-jô site (2-B); by the Katsuren Town Board of Education in the case of the Katsuren-jô site (2-C); by the Nakagusuku Village Board of Education and the Kitanakagusuku Village Board of Education in the case of the Nakagusuku-jô site (2-D); by the Chinen Village Board of Education in the case of Sêfa-utaki (2-G). The Shuri-jô site (2-E) is monitored by the Okinawa Prefectural Board of Education under the instruction of the Agency for Cultural Affairs. (See item 1-c) of Annexed Table 1 for details.)</p> <p>In accordance with Paragraph 72 of the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention (1999), the condition of the property is recorded every fiscal year and a report is compiled every six years to be submitted (in English) to the World Heritage Committee via the UNESCO World Heritage Centre.</p>
<p>c. Results of previous reporting exercises</p>	<p>Reports and other published documents related to the monuments and sites included in the nominated property are listed in Annexed Table 3.</p>

Annexed Table 1. Items for measurement of key indicators 1, 2 and 3.

Key Indicator 1: the state of conservation in terms of the significance of the property and the authenticity of the property.

Key Indicator 2: the effectiveness of the management system.

Key Indicator 3: the effects of affecting factors (visitor / tourism pressures, environmental pressures, natural disasters, development pressures etc.) upon the nominated property and the buffer zone.

Category	Sub-category	Target	Index
1) Management	a) Conservation	Nominated property	<p>1. Owners or responsible organizations (with names and titles of representatives): Nakijin-jô site: Nakijin Village Board of Education. Representative: head of the education dept. (OSHIRO Fujio). Zakimi-jô site: Yomitan Village Board of Education. Representative: head of the education dept. (IHA Seian). Katsuren-jô site: Katsuren Town Board of Education. Representative: head of the education dept. (UEZU Ankichi). Nakagusuku-jô site: Nakagusuku Village Board of Education. Representative: head of the education dept. (MIYAHIRA Shuko); Kitanakagusuku Village Board of Education. Representative: head of the education dept. (HIGA Isao). Shuri-jô site: Okinawa Prefectural Board of Education. Representative: head of the education dept. (ONAGA Yoshimori). Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon: Naha City Board of Education. Representative: head of the education dept. (TOGUCHI Masayoshi). Tamaudun: Naha City Board of Education. Representative: head of the education dept. (TOGUCHI Masayoshi). Shikinaen: Naha City Board of Education. Representative: head of the education dept. (TOGUCHI Masayoshi). Sêfa-utaki: Chinen Village Board of Education. Representative: head of the education dept. (SHIMABUKURO Chotoku).</p> <p>2. Supervising organizations: Organization: the Agency for Cultural Affairs. Representative: commissioner (HAYASHIDA Hideki). Staff in charge: director of the monuments and sites division (SOWAKI Hiroshi).</p> <p>3. Advisory organizations: Organization: Okinawa Prefectural Board of Education. Representative: head of the education dept. (ONAGA Yoshimori). Staff in charge: director of the culture division (TOMA Shiichi).</p>
	b) Fire prevention	Nominated property	<p>1. Organizations and persons in charge of fire prevention and leaders of fire fighting squads.</p> <p>Shuri-jô site: Fire Office of Naha City: head of the office (NAKAMURA Masatoshi) Person in charge: SHIROMA Noboru. Leader of fire fighting squad (SHINZATO Toshiaki).</p> <p>Shikinaen: Fire Office of Naha City: head of the office (NAKAMURA Masatoshi) Person in charge: section leader for cultural properties (KIN Seiki) Leader of fire fighting squad (KAMIYA Arisu).</p>

(Annexed Table 1. Items for measurement of key indicators 1, 2 and 3.)

Category	Sub-category	Target	Index
2) State of conservation of the nominated property	a) State of conservation	Monuments and sites including cultural landscapes	1. Environmental pressures.
			2. Natural disasters.
			3. Visitor / tourism pressures.
			4. Other (degree of deterioration by aging etc.)
	b) Records of permitted actions to alter the existing state or actions to affect conservation	Monuments and sites including cultural landscapes	1. Actions to alter the existing state and actions to affect preservation permitted by the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs under the provision of Article 80 of the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties.
	c) Records of conservation repair work and conservation construction work	Monuments and sites including cultural landscapes	1. Name of the repair work
			2. Contractor.
			3. Cost.
			4. Duration of work.
			5. Details of expenses.
			6. Name and descriptive data of the building or site for which conservation work is conducted.
			7. List and evaluation of preceding conservation repair work / conservation construction work.
			8. Content and principles of conservation repair work / conservation construction work.
			9. Contractor-designer and supervising contractor (supervisor of repair work, senior engineer) Technical advisor
			10. Sub-contractor.
			11. Availability of reports.
	d) Records of construction work and repair work on disaster prevention facilities	Sites	1. Name of the construction work/ repair work.
			2. Contractor.
			3. Cost.
			4. Duration of work.
			5. Details of expenses.
			6. Name of the building or site related to the construction work / repair work.
			7. Year of construction and records or repair work.
8. Content and principles of construction work / repair work.			
9. Contractor-designer and supervising contractor.			
10. Sub-contractor.			
e) Results of inspection of disaster prevention facilities	Sites	1. Name of the disaster prevention facility.	
		2. Year of construction.	
		3. Records of repair work.	
		4. Date of inspection.	
		5. Results of inspection.	
		6. Name of the inspector	
		7. Name of the observer	
		8. Other. (Report on malfunctions of the automatic fire alarm system etc.)	
f) Conservation of the surrounding environment	Natural objects forming the historical landscape in conjunction with the nominated property	1. Content of maintenance work / construction work.	
	Facilities for the conservation of the surrounding environment	2. Content of maintenance work / construction work.	

(Annexed Table 1. Items for measurement of key indicators 1, 2 and 3.)

Category	Sub-category	Target	Index
3) State of conservation of the buffer zone	a) State of conservation	Natural environment etc.	1. Environmental pressures. 2. Natural disasters. 3. Visitor / tourism pressures. 4. Other. (Human impact etc.)
	b) Alteration to the existing state	Category I Exclusively Low-story Residential District, City Parks and other areas regulated under applicable municipal ordinances	1. Construction work by private corporations regulated under applicable laws and regulations. 2. Public works.
4) Conservation and transmission of conservation techniques	a) Seminars and on-site training etc.	Sites (Shuri-jô site and Shikinaen)	1. Date of the seminar / training. 2. Host / sponsor. 3. Content. 4. Participants / trainees. 5. Number of participants. 6. Cost. 7. Availability of reports.
	b) Designation of traditional conservation techniques under the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties	Engineers engaged in conservation work of the nominated property	1. Name of the holder of the designated traditional conservation technique. 2. Assistance and support for the conservation of the designated traditional conservation technique. 3. Availability of records on the designated traditional conservation technique.

Annexed Table 2. Items for measurement of key indicator 4.

Key Indicator 4: the degree of achievement toward the ideal vision, "an internationally oriented resort in harmony with natural settings and cultural tradition".

Category	Sub-category	Target	Index	
1) Tourism	a) Number of visitors	Okinawa Island	1. Number of visitors.	
		Okinawa Island	2. Number of visitors from abroad.	
	b) Tourist industry	Okinawa Island	1. Number of accommodation facilities. (Hotels etc.)	
			2. Number of users of accommodations. (Number of hotel guests etc.)	
			3. Shops. (Number of shops and value of sales.)	
			4. Restaurants. (Number of restaurants.)	
	c) Tourist facilities	Okinawa Island	1. Business hours.	
			2. Admission fee.	
			3. Number of customers.	
	d) Tourist information system	Okinawa Island	1. Tourist maps, brochures etc.	
			2. Tourist information centers.	
	2) Socio-economic condition in relation to the nominated property	a) Structure of residents	Okinawa Island	1. Population.
				2. Total number of households.
3. Average number of family members per household.				
4. Population by gender and age group.				
b) Labor force by industry		Okinawa Island	1. Labor force by gender.	
c) Local industry		Okinawa Island	1. Business type.	
d) Major corporations		Okinawa Island	1. Business type.	
			2. Scale.	
			3. Location.	
e) Land use and roads.		Nominated property and buffer zone.	1. Map indicating the zones of legal protection designated under the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties, the City Planning Law, the City Parks Law and other applicable laws and municipal ordinances.	
		i) Nakijin-jô site ii) Zakimi-jô site iii) Nakasusuku-jô site iv) Katsuren-jô site v) Shuri-jô site vi) Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon vii) Tamaudun viii) Shikinaen ix) Sêfa-utaki	i) Nakijin-jô site ii) Zakimi-jô site iii) Nakasusuku-jô site iv) Katsuren-jô site v) Shuri-jô site vi) Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon vii) Tamaudun viii) Shikinaen ix) Sêfa-utaki	
		Okinawa Island	2. Traffic amount.	

Annexed Table 3. List of reports and other published documents related to the monuments and sites included in the nominated property.

1-A. Tamaudun.

Foundation of Preservation of Architectural Cultural Properties, ed. *Jûyô Bunkazai Tamaudun Fukugenshûrikôji Hôkokusho* [Documentation on the Restoration of the Important Cultural Property "Tamaudun"]. Jûyô Bunkazai Tamaudun Fukugenshûri Iinkai, 1977.

1-B. Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon

Naha City Municipal Board of Education. *Jûyô Bunkazai Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon Hozonshûrikôji Hôkokusho* [Documentation on the Conservation Repair Work for the Important Cultural Property "Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon"]. Naha City Municipal Board of Education, 1986.

2-A. Nakijin-jô site

Nakijin Village Board of Education. *Nakijin-jôseki Hozon Kanri Keikaku* [Plan of Preservation and Maintenance for the Nakijin-jô Site]. Nakijin Village Board of Education, 1978.

2-B. Zakimi-jô site

Yomitan Village Board of Education. *Kunishitei Shiseki・Zakimi-jôseki Kankyo Seibi Jigyô Hôkokusho* [Report of the Environmental Improvement Project for the National Historic Site, "Zakimi-jô Site"]. Yomitan Village Board of Education, 1986.

2-C. Katsuren-jô site

Katsuren Town Board of Education. *"Katuren-jôseki" Kankyô Seibi Hôkokusho I, II, III* [Report of the Environmental Improvement Project for "Katuren-jô Site". I, II and III]. Katsuren Town Board of Education, 1986.

2-D. Nakagusuku-jô site

Nakagusuku Village Board of Education. *Nakagusuku-jôseki Hozonkanri Keikaku* [the Preservation Management Plan for the Nakagusuku-jô Site]. Nakagusuku Village Board of Education, 1982.

2-E. Shuri-jô site

Katsuura, Yasuyuki, and Suzuki Kankichi, eds. *Ryukyu Ôfu Shuri-jô* [Shuri-jô or the Seat of the Ryukyu Kingdom]. Gyosei, 1993.

Shuri-jô Fukugen Kiseikai, ed. *Yomigaeru Shuri-jô - Rekishi to Fukugen -* [Reborn Shuri-jô - its History and Restoration -]. Shuri-jô Fukugen Kiseikai, 1993.

2-F. Shikinaen

Meishô Shikinaen Kankyô Seibi Iinkai. Meishô Shikinaen Kankyô Seibi Jigyô Hôkokusho [*Project Report of Improvement Civil Engineering Works for the Place of Scenic Beauty, "Shikinaen"*]. Meishô Shikinaen Kankyô Seibi Iinkai, 1977.

2-G. Sêfa-utaki

Chinen Village. *Chinen-jô Ato・Sêfa-utaki Oyobi Shûhen Seibi Kihon Kôsô・Kihon Keikaku* [Basic Concept and Basic Plan for the Development of the Chinen-jô Site, Sêfa-utaki and the Vicinity]. Chinen Village Board of Education, 1993.

7. Documentation

7. Documentation

a. Photographs, slides and video

Appendix. List of photographs

Appendix. Photographs and maps indicating the places where the photographs were taken (taken in 1999)

Additional reference material.

Color slides (taken in 1999; copyright agreement attached)

Additional reference material.

Videotape production (filmed in 1999)

b. Address where inventory, records and archives are held

Agency for Cultural Affairs

3-2-2 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo

Okinawa Prefectural Museum

1-1 Shuriôna-chô, Naha City, Okinawa Prefecture

Okinawa Prefectural Board of Education

1-2-2 Izumizaki, Naha City, Okinawa Prefecture

Naha City Board of Education

2-8-8 Higawa, Naha City, Okinawa Prefecture

Katsuren Town Board of Education

2976-1 Katsuren-chô Aza Henna, Nakagami-gun, Okinawa Prefecture.

Nakijin Village Board of Education

232 Nakijin-son Aza Imadomari, Kunigami-gun, Okinawa Prefecture.

Yomitan Village Board of Education

708-6 Yomitan-son Aza Zakimi, Nakagami-gun, Okinawa Prefecture.

Nakagusuku Village Board of Education

190 Nakagusuku-son Aza Asato, Nakagami-gun, Okinawa Prefecture.

Kitanakagusuku Village Board of Education

435 Kitanakagusuku-son Aza Chunjun, Nakagami-gun, Okinawa Prefecture.

Chinen Village Board of Education

22 Chinen-son Aza Kudeken, Shimajiri-gun, Okinawa Prefecture

8. *Signature on behalf of the State Party*

Signed on behalf of the Government of Japan

HAYASHIDA Hideki

Commissioner
Agency for Cultural Affairs

Government of Japan

June 16, 1999

Contents

CHAPTER I	General Provisions (Article 1 — Article 4)	2
CHAPTER II	Deleted (Article 5 — Article 26)	3
CHAPTER III	Tangible Cultural Properties	3
Section 1.	Important Cultural Properties (Article 27 — Article 56)	3
Subsection 1.	Designation (Article 27 — Article 29)	3
Subsection 2.	Custody (Article 30 — Article 34)	4
Subsection 3.	Protection (Article 34-2 — Article 47)	6
Subsection 4.	Opening to the Public (Article 47-2 — Article 53)	11
Subsection 5.	Investigation (Article 54 — Article 55)	13
Subsection 6.	Miscellaneous Provisions (Article 56)	13
Section 2.	Registered Tangible Cultural Properties (Article 56-2 — Article 56-2-11)	14
Section 3.	Tangible Cultural Properties other than Important Cultural Properties and Registered Tangible Cultural Properties (Article 56-2-12)	16
CHAPTER III-2	Intangible Cultural Properties (Article 56-3 — Article 56-9)	16
CHAPTER III-3	Folk-cultural Properties (Article 56-10 — Article 56-21)	18
CHAPTER IV	Buried Cultural Property (Article 57 — Article 68)	20
CHAPTER V	Historic Sites, Places of Scenic Beauty and/or Natural Monuments (Article 69 — Article 83)	24
CHAPTER V-2	Preservation Districts for Groups of Historic Buildings (Article 83-2 — Article 83-6)	30
CHAPTER V-3	Protection of Traditional Techniques for Conservation of Cultural Properties (Article 83-7 — Article 83-12)	31
CHAPTER V-4	The Council for the Protection of Cultural Properties (Article 84 — Article 84-4)	32
CHAPTER VI	Additional Provisions	34
Section 1.	Public Hearings and Protests (Article 85 — Article 85-8)	34
Section 2.	Special Provisions regarding the State (Article 86 — Article 97-5)	36
Section 3.	Local Public Bodies and Boards of Education (Article 98 — Article 105-2)	41
CHAPTER VII	Penal Provisions (Article 106 — Article 112)	45
	Supplementary Provisions (Article 113 — Article 130)	48

CHAPTER I General Provisions

(Purpose of this Law)

Article 1. The purpose of this Law is to preserve and utilize cultural properties, so that the culture of the Japanese people may be furthered and a contribution be made to the evolution of world culture.

(Definition of Cultural Properties)

Article 2. "Cultural properties" in this Law shall be the following:

(1) Buildings, pictures, sculptures, applied arts, calligraphic works, classical books, ancient documents, and other tangible cultural products, which possess a high historical and/or artistic value in and for this country (including lands and other objects which are combined with them altogether to embody such value), archaeological specimens and other historical materials of high scientific value (hereinafter referred to as "tangible cultural properties");

(2) Art and skill employed in drama, music and applied arts, and other intangible cultural products, which possess a high historical and/or artistic value in and for this country (hereinafter referred to as "intangible cultural properties");

(3) Manners and customs related to food, clothing and housing, to occupations, religious faiths, festivals, etc., to folk-entertainments and clothes, implements, houses and other objects used therefor, which are indispensable for the understanding of changes in our people's modes of life (hereinafter referred to as "folk-cultural properties");

(4) Shell mounds, ancient tombs, sites of palaces, sites of forts or castles, monumental dwelling houses, and other sites, which possess a high historical and/or scientific value in and for this country; gardens, bridges, gorges, sea-shores, mountains, and other places of scenic beauty, which possess a high value from the point of view of art or visual appreciation in and for this country; and animals (including their habitats, breeding places and summer and winter resorts), plants (including their habitats), and geological features and minerals (including the grounds where peculiar natural phenomena are seen), which possess a high scientific value in and for this country (hereinafter referred to as "monuments");

(5) Groups of historic buildings of high value which form a certain antique beauty in combination with their environs (hereinafter referred to as "groups of historic buildings");

2. The term "important cultural properties" used in the provisions of this Law (excepting the provisions of Article 27 to 29 inclusive, Article 37, Article 55 paragraph 1 item (4), Article 84-2 paragraph 1 item (1), Article 88, Article 94 and Article 115) shall be construed as including national treasures.

3. The term "historic sites, places of scenic beauty and/or natural monuments" used in the provisions of this Law (excepting the provisions of Article 69, Article 70, Article 71, Article 77, Article 83 paragraph 1 items (4), Article 84-2 paragraph 1 items (5) and (6), Article 88 and Article 94), shall be construed as including special historic sites, places of scenic beauty and/or natural monuments.

(Duty of the Government and Local Public Bodies)

Article 3. The Government and the local public bodies shall, recognizing that the cultural properties of the country are indispensable to the correct understanding of its history, culture, etc., and that they form a foundation for its cultural development for the future, make efforts to ensure that the purport of this Law is thoroughly understood by the public, so that such properties may be duly preserved.

(Attitude of the People, Owners, etc.)

Article 4. The people in general shall faithfully cooperate in the measures taken by the Government and the local public bodies for the attainment of the purpose of this Law.

2. The owners of cultural properties and other persons concerned shall preserve such properties with good care and utilize them for cultural purposes by opening them to the public or by other means, in full consciousness that cultural properties are valuable national possessions.

3. In the execution of this Law, the Government and the local public bodies shall respect the ownership and other property rights of the persons concerned.

CHAPTER II Deleted.

Articles from 5 to 26 inclusive. Deleted.

CHAPTER III Tangible Cultural Properties

Section 1. Important Cultural Properties

Subsection 1. Designation

(Designation)

Article 27. The Minister of Education may designate important items of tangible cultural properties as important cultural properties.

2. From among the important cultural properties, the Minister of Education may designate as national treasures those properties which are of especially high value from the viewpoint of world culture and which are the matchless treasures of the nation.

(Announcement, Notice and Issuance of Certificate of Designation)

Article 28. Designation under the provision of the preceding Article shall be made by an announcement in the Official Gazette and also by the issuance of a notice thereof to the owner of the national treasure or the important cultural property concerned.

2. Designation under the provision of the preceding Article shall come into effect as from the day of its announcement in the Official Gazette made in accordance with the provision of the preceding paragraph; however, it shall come into effect for the owner of the national treasure or the important cultural property concerned as from the time when the notice provided for in the same paragraph reached the said owner.
3. When the designation under the provision of the preceding Article has been made, the Minister of Education shall issue a certificate of designation to the owner of the national treasure or the important cultural property concerned.
4. The items to be entered in the certificate of designation and other necessary matters relative to such certificate shall be determined by the Ministry of Education Ordinance.
5. When the owner has received the certificate of designation of the national treasure in accordance with the provision of paragraph 3, he/she shall return to the Minister of Education within thirty (30) days the certificate of designation of the important cultural property which has now been designated as a national treasure.

(Annulment)

Article 29. In case a national treasure or an important cultural property has lost its value as such or in case there is any other special reason, the Minister of Education may annul the designation of such national treasure or important cultural property.

2. The annulment of designation under the provision of the preceding paragraph shall be made by an announcement in the Official Gazette and also by the issuance of a notice thereof to the owner of the national treasure or the important cultural property concerned.
3. To the annulment of designation under the provision of paragraph 1, the provision of paragraph 2 of the preceding Article shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

4. When the owner has received the notice under paragraph 2, he/she shall return to the Minister of Education the certificate of designation within thirty (30) days.
5. In cases where the designation of a national treasure has been annulled under paragraph 1, but where the designation of the same tangible property as an important cultural property has not been annulled, the Minister of Education shall issue to the owner without delay a certificate designating the same property as an important cultural property.

Subsection 2. Custody

(Instruction respecting Method of Custody)

Article 30. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may give necessary instructions to the owner of an important cultural property with respect to the custody thereof.

(Owner's Duty of Custody, and Custodian)

Article 31. The owner of an important cultural property shall undertake the custody thereof, in accordance with this Law, as well as the Ministry of Education Ordinances and the instructions of the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs, issued thereunder.

2. The owner of an important cultural property may, when there exist special reasons, appoint an appropriate person to be responsible on his/her behalf for the custody of the same property (hereinafter in this Section and in Chapter VI referred to as "the custodian").
3. When the owner of an important cultural property has appointed a custodian in accordance with the provision of the preceding paragraph, such owner shall report in writing within twenty (20) days the appointment to the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs, stating the matters prescribed by the Ministry of Education Ordinance, under joint signature with the custodian so appointed. This provision shall also apply to the cases where the custodian has been released of the responsibility.
4. The provisions of the preceding Article and paragraph 1 of this Article shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the custodian.

(Changes of Owner or Custodian)

Article 32. When the owner of an important cultural property has been changed, the new owner shall report in writing within twenty (20) days the changes to the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs, stating the matters prescribed by the Ministry of Education Ordinance, attaching to the report the certificate of designation issued to the former owner.

2. The owner of an important cultural property shall, when he/she has changed the custodian, report in writing within twenty (20) days the change to the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs, stating the matters prescribed by the Ministry of Education Ordinance, under joint signature with the newly appointed custodian. In this case the provision of paragraph 3 of the preceding Article shall not apply.
3. The owner or the custodian of an important cultural property shall, when he/she has changed his/her name, title or address, report in writing within twenty (20) days the change to the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs, stating the matters prescribed by the Ministry of Education Ordinance. When the change has occurred in the name, title or address of the owner, he/she shall attach the certificate of designation to the report to be submitted.

(Custody by Custodial Body)

Article 32-2. With regard to an important cultural property, in cases where its owner is not traceable, or where it is obvious that the custody by the owner or the custodian is extremely difficult or inadequate, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may appoint an appropriate local public body or any other appropriate juridical person and charge it with the conduct of custody necessary for the preservation of such important cultural property (including the safe-keeping of such facilities, equipments or any other objects as

are needed for its preservation and are owned by or in the custody of the owner of the said important cultural property).

2. In order to make an appointment under the provision of the preceding paragraph, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs shall in advance obtain the consent of the owner of the important cultural property concerned (excluding the case where the owner is not traceable) and of its possessor/occupant by title, as well as that of the local public body or other juridical person to be appointed.
3. The appointment under the provision of paragraph 1 shall be made by an announcement in the Official Gazette and also by the issuance of a notice thereof to the owner, the possessor/occupant and the local public body or other juridical person, prescribed in the preceding paragraph.
4. To the appointment under the provision of paragraph 1 the provision of Article 28 paragraph 2 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.
5. The owner or the possessor/occupant of an important cultural property shall not, without justifiable reasons, refuse, interfere with or evade the act of custody or the execution of measures necessary for the custody by the local public body or other juridical person appointed in accordance with the provision of paragraph 1 (hereinafter in this Section and Chapter VI referred to as the "custodial body").
6. The provisions of Article 30 and Article 31 paragraph 1 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the custodial body.

Article 32-3. In cases where the reasons provided for in paragraph 1 of the preceding Article have become extinct or where there is any other special reasons, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may annul the appointment of the custodial body.

2. The provisions of paragraph 3 of the preceding Article and of Article 28 paragraph 2 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the annulment under the provision of the preceding paragraph.

Article 32-4. The expenses required for the custody by the custodial body shall, unless otherwise provided for in this Law, be borne by the said body.

2. Notwithstanding the provision of the preceding paragraph, part of the expenses required for the custody may be borne by the owner, in accordance with what may be agreed upon by the custodial body and the owner, within the limits of the material profit which the latter will enjoy as a result of the custody conducted by the former.

(Destruction, Damage, etc.)

Article 33. When whole or part of an important cultural property has been destroyed, damaged, found missing or stolen, the owner (or the custodial or the custodial body, if such has been appointed) shall report it in writing to the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs within ten (10) days of the knowledge of the fact, stating the matters prescribed by the Ministry of Education Ordinance.

(Change of Location)

Article 34. When the location of an important cultural property is to be changed, the owner (or the custodian or the custodial body, if such has been appointed) shall report it in writing to the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs at least twenty (20) days prior to the date on which the location is to be changed, stating the matters prescribed by the Ministry of Education Ordinance and attaching to the report the certificate of designation. However, in cases provided for by the Ministry of Education Ordinance, it may be unnecessary to report it at all or to attach the certificate of designation to the report, or it may suffice to file an *ex post facto* report in accordance with the provisions of the Ministry of Education Ordinance.

Subsection 3. Protection

(Repair)

Article 34-2. The repair of an important cultural property shall be conducted by its owner. It shall, however, be conducted by the custodial body, if such has been appointed.

(Repair by Custodial Body)

Article 34-3. In case the custodial body conducts the repair of the important cultural property in its custody, the said body shall in advance hear the opinions of the owner of the said property (except for the cases where the owner is not traceable) and of its possessor/occupant by title in regard to the method and the time of the repair.

2. The provisions of Article 32-2 paragraph 5 and Article 32-4 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* in case the custodial body conducts such repair.

(Subsidy for Custody or Repair)

Article 35. In cases where the owner of an important cultural property or its custodial body is unable to bear the large expenses required for the custody or repair of such property, or where there exist any other special circumstances, the Government may grant a subsidy to the said owner or custodial body so as to cover part of such expenses.

2. In cases where a subsidy under the preceding paragraph is granted, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may, as a condition thereof, instruct necessary matters with respect to the custody or repair.
3. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may, if he/she deems it necessary, direct and supervise the custody or repair of the important cultural property for which a subsidy is granted under the provision of paragraph 1.

(Order or Advice on Custody)

Article 36. When the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs concludes that the important cultural property is in danger of destruction, damage or theft because of the incompetence of the person who is in charge of its custody, or of the inappropriate method of custody, he/she may order or advise the owner, custodian or custodial body of such property with respect to the measures necessary for its custody, such as the appointment or change of the person in charge of its custody, the improvement of the method of custody, the provision of fire prevention and other facilities for its preservation.

2. The expenses required for such measures as may be taken in conformity with the order or advice given under the provision of the preceding paragraph may be borne, in whole or in part, by the National Treasury in accordance with what may be provided for by the Ministry of Education Ordinance.
3. The provision of paragraph 3 of the preceding Article shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the cases where whole or part of the expenses is borne by the National Treasury under the provision of the preceding paragraph.

(Order or Advice on Repair)

Article 37. When a national treasure is damaged, and the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs deems it necessary to repair it in view of its proper preservation, he/she may give necessary order or advice on its repairs to the owner or the custodial body concerned.

2. In cases where an important cultural property other than a national treasure is damaged, and the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs deems it necessary to repair it in view of its proper preservation, he/she may give necessary advice on its repair to the owner or the custodial body concerned.
3. The expenses required for the repair conducted in conformity with the order or advice given under the provisions of the preceding two paragraphs may be borne in whole or in part by the National Treasury in accordance with what may be provided for by the Ministry of Education Ordinance.

4. The provision of Article 35 paragraph 3 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the cases where whole or part of the expenses is borne by the National Treasury in accordance with the provision of the preceding paragraph.

(Execution of Repair, etc. of National Treasure by the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs)

Article 38. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs himself/herself may, in either of the following cases, undertake the repair of national treasures or take preventive measures against their destruction, damage or theft:

- (1) When the owner, the custodian or the custodial body does not comply with the order given in accordance with the provision of the preceding two Articles;
 - (2) When, in cases where the national treasure has been damaged or where it is in danger of destruction, damage or theft, it is deemed inadvisable to have the repair undertaken or the preventive measures against destruction, damage or theft taken by the owner, the custodian or the custodial body.
2. When the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs intends to undertake the repair or take measures under the provisions of the preceding paragraph, he/she shall in advance issue a writ to the owner, the custodian or the custodial body concerned stating the necessary items such as the name of the national treasure in question, the substance of the repair or measures, the date of commencement of the work and others, and at the same time give notice thereof to its possessor/occupant by title.

Article 39. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs shall, in undertaking the repair or measures under the provision of paragraph 1 of the preceding Article, appoint from among the staff members of the Agency for cultural Affairs a person or persons who are to be responsible for the execution of the said repair or measures and for the custody of the national treasure concerned.

2. The person or persons who have been appointed as responsible persons under the provision of the preceding paragraph shall, when they execute the said repair or measures, carry with them their identity cards, show them upon demand to the parties concerned, and duly respect the reasonable opinions of such parties.
3. To the execution of the repair and measures under the provision of paragraph 1 of the preceding Article, the provision of Article 32-2 paragraph 5 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

Article 40. The expenses required for the repairs or measures executed under the provision of Article 38 paragraph 1 shall be defrayed from the National Treasury.

2. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may, in accordance with what may be provided for by the Ministry of Education Ordinance, charge the owner (or the custodial body, if such has been appointed) part of the expenses required for the repair or measures executed under the provision of Article 38 paragraph 1; however, this shall apply exclusively to either of the cases, falling under paragraph 1 item (2) of the same Article, where the immediate causes which brought about the necessity of such repair or measures rest with the owner, the custodian or the custodial body, or where the owner or the custodial body is capable of bearing part of such expenses.
3. To the charging of expenses under the preceding paragraph, the provisions of Articles 5 and 6 of the Law for Administrative Execution by Proxy (Law No. 43 of 1948) shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

Article 41. The State shall indemnify the person or persons, who have suffered a loss in the repairs or measures executed under the provision of Article 38 paragraph 1, for the ordinary damage incidental thereto.

2. The amount of indemnity payable under the preceding paragraph shall be determined by the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs.
3. Any person who is not satisfied with the amount of the indemnity payable under the preceding paragraph may demand an increase in the amount by litigation; however, this shall not apply when three (3) months have passed after receiving the notice of determination of the indemnity mentioned in the same paragraph.
4. In case of litigation under the preceding paragraph, the State shall be the defendant.

(Reimbursement in case of Assignment of Important Cultural Property for which Subsidy, etc. has been granted)
Article 42. In case the then owner of the important cultural property for which the State has granted subsidies

under Article 35 paragraph 1 or borne expenses under Article 36 paragraph 2, Article 37 paragraph 3 or Article 40 paragraph 1, for the repairs or preventive measures against destruction, damage or theft (hereinafter in this Article referred to as "repairs, etc."), his/her heir, legatee or donee (including the second or subsequent heir, legatee or donee; hereinafter the same in this Article) (hereinafter in this Article referred to as "owner, etc.") has assigned the said important cultural property for a consideration after performance of the repairs, etc. for which the State granted subsidies or borne expenses, he/she shall reimburse the National Treasury in accordance with what may be provided for by the Ministry of Education Ordinance the total amount of the said subsidies or expenses defrayed by the State (as for the expenses borne by the National Treasury under the provision of Article 40 paragraph 1, the amount of such expenses less what amount of money as was charged to the owner in accordance with the provision of paragraph 2 of the same Article; hereinafter the same in this Article) minus the sum spent by himself/herself for repairs, etc. of the said cultural property since the performance of the said repairs, etc. (hereinafter in this Article referred to as "the amount of reimbursement").

2. "The amount of subsidies or expenses defrayed by the State" provided for in the preceding paragraph shall be the sum corresponding to that which is arrived at by dividing the amount of the subsidies or the expenses defrayed by the State by the number of durable years fixed individually by the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs in regard to the important cultural property or its parts subjected to such repairs, etc. and then by multiplying the quotient by the number of residual years (discarding the fractional period less than a year) which is obtained by deducting from such number of years that have passed since the time of the repairs, etc. until the time of assignment of the same property.
3. In case the value of such important cultural property has fallen off considerably through a cause not imputable to the owner, etc., or in case he/she has assigned the said important cultural property to the State, after the performance of the repairs, etc. for which the State granted subsidies or bore expenses, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may exempt whole or part of the amount of reimbursement.
4. In case the person in question fails to pay off within the time limit fixed by the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs the amount of reimbursement for which he/she is held due, the State may collect it following suit of coercive collection of national tax. In this case, the order of priority in collection shall be next to national and local taxes.
5. In case the person who is to pay the amount of reimbursement is the heir, legatee or donee, the sum corresponding to the quotient, obtained by dividing the sum equivalent to the balance between the amount of inheritance tax or donation tax provided for in item (1) and the amount provided for in item (2), by the number of years provided for in item (3), multiplied by the number of years provided for in item (4), shall be deducted from the amount of reimbursement he/she is to be charged:
 - (1) The amount of inheritance tax or donation tax the person concerned has already paid or is obliged to pay in acquiring the important cultural property concerned;
 - (2) The amount corresponding to that of inheritance tax or donation tax which is supposed to be imposed upon the person concerned for the important cultural property or its parts in question which is or are included in the value of assessment used as a basis of calculation of the tax under the preceding item, when worked out on the bases of the same value of assessment less the total amount of the subsidies or the expenses, mentioned in paragraph 1, defrayed by the State for the repairs, etc. which have been carried out prior to the time of such inheritance, bequest or donation in regard to the said important cultural property or its parts in question;
 - (3) The number of residual years (discarding the fractional period less than a year) obtained by deducting from the number of durable years fixed by the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs concerning the important cultural property or its parts in question, in accordance with the provision of paragraph 2, the number of years that have passed since the time of performance of such repairs, etc. until the time of inheritance, bequest or donation of the property concerned;

- (4) The number of residual durable years of the important cultural property or its parts in question, provided for in paragraph 2.
6. With respect to the amount of subsidies or expenses defrayed by the State as provided for in paragraph 1, which is referred to in item (2) of the preceding paragraph, the provision of paragraph 2 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*. In this case, "the time of assignment" in the same paragraph shall read "the time of inheritance, bequest or donation."
7. In the assessment of the amount of capital gains under Article 33 paragraph 1 of the Income Tax Law (Law No. 33 of 1965) relative to the assignment provided for in paragraph 1 of this Article by the person who pays the amount of reimbursement according to the provision of the same paragraph, the amount he/she reimburses thereunder shall be taken as the expenses related to the assignment as provided for in Article 33 paragraph 3 of the same Law.

(Restriction on Alteration of Existing State)

Article 43. In case any person intends to alter the existing state of an important cultural property or to do an act affecting its preservation, he/she shall obtain the permission of the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs; however, this shall not apply to the cases where such act as altering the existing state is merely a measure of maintenance or an emergency measure to be taken in the event of an unforeseen disaster, or to the case where the consequences to be entailed by the act which may affect preservation is only trifling.

2. The extent of the measure of maintenance referred to in the proviso to the preceding paragraph shall be established by the Ministry of Education Ordinance.
3. In giving the permission under paragraph 1, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may give necessary instructions as a condition thereof regarding the alteration of the existing state or the act affecting the preservation under the same paragraph.
4. In case the person who has received the permission under paragraph 1 has failed to observe the condition of the permission provided for in the preceding paragraph, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may order the suspension of the act of altering the existing state or of the act affecting the preservation, for which the permission has been given, or cancel the permission.
5. The State shall indemnify the person or persons who have suffered a loss from the fact that they failed to obtain the permission under paragraph 1 or that the permission given was attached with conditions under paragraph 3, for the ordinary damage incidental thereto.
6. To the cases under the preceding paragraph the provisions of Article 41 paragraphs 2 to 4 inclusive shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

(Report on Repairs, etc.)

Article 43-2. In case any important cultural property is to be repaired, its owner or its custodial body shall report it to the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs in writing in accordance with what may be provided for by the Ministry of Education Ordinance, at least thirty (30) days prior to the date on which such repair is to be started; however, this shall not apply to the cases where the permission must needs be applied for in accordance with the provision of paragraph 1 of the preceding Article and to those other cases as provided for by the Ministry of Education Ordinance.

2. In case the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs deems it necessary for the protection of the important cultural property, he/she may provide technical guidance and advice in regard to the repair of the important cultural property which has been reported under the preceding paragraph.

(Prohibition of Exportation)

Article 44. Any important cultural property shall not be exported; this shall not apply, however, in case the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs has given permission therefor in recognition of its special necessity from the viewpoint of international exchange of culture or from other considerations.

(Integrity of Surroundings)

Article 45. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may, when he/she deems it necessary for the preservation of the important cultural property, restrict or prohibit certain kinds of acts or order the provision of necessary facilities, within an area designated by him/her.

2. The State shall indemnify the person or persons who have suffered a loss from the dispositions taken in accordance with the provision of the preceding paragraph for the ordinary damage incidental thereto.
3. To the cases under the preceding paragraph the provisions of Article 41 paragraphs 2 to 4 inclusive shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

(Offer of Sale to the State)

Article 46. Any person who desires to assign an important cultural property for a consideration shall beforehand file in writing with the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs an offer of sale of the said property to the State, stating therein the name of the assignee, the estimated value of the consideration (the value has to be calculated in money at the current price in case the consideration stipulated consists in things other than money; hereinafter the same) and any other matters prescribed by the Ministry of Education Ordinance.

2. The circumstances surrounding wanting to make assignation to the said assignee may be listed in the written offer of the preceding paragraph.
3. When the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs has determined that the circumstances listed according to the provisions of the preceding paragraph are reasonable, then within thirty (30) days from the making of the said offer, notice shall be given that the said important cultural property shall not be bought.
4. When the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs has, within thirty (30) days from the offer of sale filed under the provision of paragraph 1, given notice that the State will buy the said important cultural property, a bargain shall be deemed to have been closed at a price corresponding to the estimated value of the consideration stated in the paper referred to in paragraph 1.
5. The person stipulated in paragraph 1 shall not transfer the said important cultural property within the period specified in the preceding paragraph (or until the time within that period when the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs has noticed that the same important cultural property will not be bought by the State).

(Subsidy for Purchase by Custodial Body)

Article 46-2. In case the local public body or other juridical person which is a custodial body is to purchase an important cultural property in its custody (exclusively building, other fixture to land, and the land which combined with such fixture is covered by the designation as the said important cultural property) in view of its positive necessity for the purpose of ensuring the preservation thereof, the State may grant a subsidy to cover part of the expenses required for the said purchase.

2. To the cases under the preceding paragraph the provisions of Article 35 paragraphs 2 and 3 and the preceding paragraph shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

(Trust of Custody or Repair, or Technical Guidance)

Article 47. The owner of the important cultural property (or the custodial body if such has been appointed) may entrust the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs with the custody (excluding the cases where the custodial body has been appointed) or repair thereof on the conditions determined by the same Commissioner.

2. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may, in case he/she deems it necessary for the preservation of the important cultural property, advise its owner (or the custodial body if such has been appointed), presenting him/her conditions, to entrust the same Commissioner with the custody (excluding the cases where the custodial body has been appointed) or repair of such property.

3. The provisions of Article 39 paragraphs 1 and 2 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the cases where the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs has been entrusted with the custody or repair of the important cultural property in accordance with the preceding two paragraphs.
4. The owner, custodian, or custodial body of the important cultural property may request the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs, in accordance with what may be provided for by the Ministry of Education Ordinance, for technical guidance respecting the custody or repair of the important cultural property concerned.

Subsection 4. Opening to the Public

(Opening to the Public)

Article 47-2. Opening to the public of the important cultural property shall be undertaken by its owner; however, it shall be undertaken by the custodial body, if such has been appointed.

2. Notwithstanding the provision of the preceding paragraph, a person or persons other than the owner and the custodial body may throw open to public viewing, organized under the provisions of this Law, the important cultural property which the owner or the custodial body concerned agree to display.
3. The custodial body may collect admission fees from the visitors in opening to the public the important cultural property in its custody.

(Opening to the Public by the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs)

Article 48. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may advise the owner (the custodial body if such has been appointed) of the important cultural property to display the property for a term not exceeding one year at the public viewing to be held by the same Commissioner at the National Museums or other institutions.

2. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may order the owner (the custodial body if such has been appointed) of the important cultural property, for the custody or repair of which the National Treasury has defrayed whole or part of the expenses or granted subsidies, to display the property for a term not exceeding one year at the public viewing to be held by the same Commissioner at the National Museums or other institutions.
3. When the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs deems it necessary in the cases under the preceding paragraph, he/she may renew the term of display for a limited period not exceeding one year; however, such renewal shall in no case exceed a period of five consecutive years.
4. When an order is issued under paragraph 2 or the period of display is renewed under the preceding paragraph, the owner or the custodial body of the important cultural property concerned must so display it.
5. Other than the cases provided for in the preceding four paragraphs, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may, if he/she deems it appropriate, accept the proposal made by the owner (the custodial body if such has been appointed) of the important cultural property to display such property at the public viewing to be held by the same Commissioner at the National Museums or other institutions.

Article 49. Excepting the cases provided for in Article 100, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs shall, when important cultural properties are displayed in accordance with the provisions of the preceding Article, appoint from among the staff members of the Agency for Cultural Affairs a person or persons who are to be responsible for the custody of such properties.

Article 50. Expenses required for the display under the provision of Article 48 shall be defrayed from the National Treasury in accordance with the standards prescribed by the Ministry of Education Ordinance.

2. The Government shall, in accordance with the standards prescribed by the Ministry of Education Ordinance, give compensation to the owner or the custodial body of the property which has been displayed under the provisions of Article 48.

(Opening to the Public by the Owner, etc.)

Article 51. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may advise the owner or the custodial body of the important cultural property to open such property to the public for a limited period not exceeding three (3) months.

2. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may order the owner or the custodial body of the important cultural property, for the custody, repair or purchase of which the National Treasury has defrayed whole or part of the expenses or granted subsidies, to open such property to the public for a limited period not exceeding three (3) months.
3. The provision of Article 48 paragraph 4 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the cases under the preceding paragraph.
4. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may give necessary instructions to the owner or the custodial body of the important cultural property concerning the opening to the public of such property to be made under the provisions of the preceding three (3) paragraphs and the custody thereof during such public viewing.
5. In case the owner, the custodian or the custodial body of the important cultural property fails to observe the instructions mentioned in the preceding paragraph, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may order the suspension or discontinuance of the act of such public viewing.
6. The expenses required for opening such property to the public under the provisions of paragraphs 2 and 3 may, in accordance with what may be provided for by the Ministry of Education Ordinance, be defrayed in whole or in part from the National Treasury.
7. Other than the case provided for in the previous paragraph, expenses required by the owner or the custodial body of the important cultural property for the opening of the said property shall be wholly or partially defrayed from the National Treasury in accordance with what may be provided for by the Ministry of Education Ordinance.

Article 51-2. Except for the occasions of public viewing under the preceding Article, in the cases where a report has been filed in accordance with the provision of Article 34 with a view to moving the important cultural property from its domicile to some other place where it will be shown to the public, the provisions of paragraphs 4 and 5 of the preceding Article shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

(Indemnification for Loss)

Article 52. In case an important cultural property has been destroyed or damaged as a result of its display or public viewing conducted in accordance with the provisions of Article 48 or Article 51 paragraphs 1 to 3 inclusive, the State shall indemnify its owner for the ordinary damage incidental to it; however, this provision shall not apply in case the destruction or damage has resulted from a cause imputable to the owner, to the custodial or to the custodial body.

2. The provisions of Article 41 paragraphs 2 to 4 inclusive shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the cases under the preceding paragraph.

(Opening to the Public by Person other than Owner, etc.)

Article 53. When any person other than the owner and the custodial body of the important cultural property intends to show such property to the public at an exhibition or on any other public occasion to be held under his/her own auspices, such person shall obtain the permission of the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs therefor; however, this shall not apply in case such exhibition or other event is to be held under the auspices of a State agency other than the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs or of a local public body at a museum or other similar institution which has previously been approved by the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs (hereinafter in this paragraph referred to as "public approved institutions"), or when the person who has established a public approved institution holds such an event at the said public approved institution.

2. In the proviso of the preceding paragraph, a person holding an event stipulated in that paragraph (except for the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs) shall, within 20 days from the day following the conclusion of the public display of that important cultural property, give written notice of the items stipulated in the Ministry of Education Ordinance to the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs.
3. In giving permission under paragraph 1, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may give as a condition thereof necessary instructions with respect to the public viewing for which permission is to be given and to the custody of the important cultural property to be on display.
4. When any person who obtained the permission under paragraph 1 has failed to observe the conditions of the permission provided for in the preceding paragraph, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may order the suspension of the public viewing for which he/she has given permission.

Subsection 5. Investigation

(Investigation for the Purpose of Preservation)

Article 54. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may, when he/she deems it necessary, ask the owner, custodian or custodial body of an important cultural property to report on the existing state of such property, or on the conditions of its custody, of its repairs or of the preservation of the integrity of its surroundings.

Article 55. In any of the following cases, when the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs is unable to confirm the conditions of a particular important cultural property in spite of all the information given in the report filed under the preceding Article and when there appears to be no alternative way for the confirmation thereof, he/she may appoint a person or persons to conduct an investigation, and cause them to enter the place where the said property exists and conduct an on-the-spot investigation in regard to the existing state of the property or the conditions of its custody, of its repairs or of the preservation of the integrity of its surroundings:

- (1) Where application has been filed for the permission for alteration of the existing state of the important cultural property or for the act affecting its preservation;
- (2) Where the important cultural property has been damaged or where there has been a change in its existing state or its location;
- (3) Where there is a fear of destruction, damage or theft of the important cultural property;
- (4) Where there is necessity of revaluing the qualifications of a cultural property classified as national treasure or important cultural property because of special circumstances.

2. In the event of any investigation to be conducted by entering the place under the preceding paragraph, the person or persons who are to engage in such investigation shall carry with them their identity cards, show them upon demand to the parties concerned, and duly respect the reasonable opinions of such parties.
3. The State shall indemnify the person or persons who have suffered a loss in the investigation conducted in accordance with the provision of paragraph 1 for the ordinary damage incidental thereto.
4. The provision of Article 41 paragraphs 2 to 4 inclusive shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the cases under the preceding paragraph.

Subsection 6. Miscellaneous Provisions

(Succession to Rights and Obligations on Change of Owner, etc.)

Article 56. In case the owner of an important cultural property has changed, the new owner shall with reference to the said property succeed to the rights and obligations of the former owner established by the orders, advices, instructions and other dispositions of the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs issued or made under this Law.

2. In the cases under the preceding paragraph, the former owner shall deliver to the new owner the certificate of designation concerned simultaneously with the delivery of such important cultural property.
3. To the case where a custodial body has been appointed or the appointment thereof has been annulled, the provision of paragraph 1 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*; in case of the appointment of the custodial body, however, this provision shall not apply to the rights and obligations which should belong exclusively to the owner.

Section 2. Registered Tangible Cultural Properties

(Registration of Tangible Cultural Property)

Article 56-2. Among tangible cultural properties other than important cultural properties (excluding those designated by local public bodies under the provisions of Article 98-2) which are buildings, the Minister of Education can, in view of the value of those cultural properties, register those which are in particular need of preservation and utilization measures in the Cultural Property Original Register.

2. When undertaking registrations under the preceding paragraph, the Minister of Education shall obtain the opinions of pertinent local public bodies in advance.
3. The items to be registered in the Cultural Property Original Register and other necessary matters relative to the Cultural Property Original Register shall be determined by the Ministry of Education Ordinance.

(Announcement, Notice and Issuance of Certificate of Designation)

Article 56-2-2. Registration under the provision of paragraph 1 of the preceding Article shall be made by an announcement in the Official Gazette and also by the issuance of a notice thereof to the owner of the tangible cultural property concerned (hereinafter referred to as the "registered tangible cultural property").

2. Registration under the provision of paragraph 1 of the preceding Article shall come into effect as from the day of its announcement in the Official Gazette made in accordance with the provision of the preceding paragraph; however, it shall come into effect for the owner of the registered tangible cultural property concerned as from the time when the notice provided for in the same paragraph reached the said owner.
3. When the registration under the provision of paragraph 1 of the preceding Article has been made, the Minister of Education shall issue a certificate of registration to the owner of the registered tangible cultural property concerned.
4. The items to be entered in the certificate of registration and other necessary matters relative to such certificate shall be determined by the Ministry of Education Ordinance.

(Annulment of Registrations of Registered Tangible Cultural Property)

Article 56-2-3. In case a registered tangible cultural property has been designated an important cultural property under the provision of Article 27-1, or when it has been designated by a local public body under the provision of Article 98-2, the Minister of Education shall annul that registration.

2. In case a registered tangible cultural property has lost its need of preservation and utilization measures or in case there is any other special reason, the Minister of Education may annul that registration.
3. In case of an annulment of registration under the provision of the two preceding paragraphs, prompt announcement to that effect shall be made in the Official Gazette and also notification shall be issued to the owner of the registered tangible cultural property concerned.
4. To the annulment of registration under the provision of paragraphs 1 and 2, the provision of paragraph 2 of the preceding Article shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.
5. When the owner has received the notice under paragraph 3, he shall return to the Minister of Education the certificate of registration within thirty (30) days.

(Custody of Registered Tangible Cultural Property)

Article 56-2-4. The owner of a registered tangible cultural properties shall undertake the custody thereof, in accordance with this Law as well as the Ministry of Education Ordinances based hereupon.

2. The owner of a registered tangible cultural property may, when there exist special reasons, appoint an appropriate person to the responsible on his behalf for the custody of the said property (hereinafter in this Section referred to as "the custodian").
3. With regard to a registered tangible cultural property, in cases where the owner is not traceable, or where it is obvious that the custody by the owner or the custodian is extremely difficult or inadequate, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may appoint an appropriate local public body or any other appropriate juridical person (hereinafter in this Section referred to as "the custodial body") and charge it with the conduct of custody necessary for the preservation of the said registered tangible cultural property (including the safe-keeping of such facilities, equipment or any other items as are needed for its preservation and which are owned by or in the custody of the owner of the said registered tangible cultural property).
4. To the custody of the registered tangible cultural property, the provisions of Article 31-3, Article 32, Article 32-2 paragraphs 2 to 5 inclusive, Article 32-3 and Article 32-4 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.
5. The provisions of paragraph 1 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the custodian or the custodial body of the registered tangible cultural property.

(Destruction or Damage of Registered Tangible Cultural Property)

Article 56-2-5. When the whole or part of a registered tangible cultural property has been destroyed or damaged, the owner (or the custodian or the custodial body, if such has been appointed) shall report it in writing to the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs within ten (10) days of the knowledge of the fact, stating the matter prescribed by the Ministry of Education Ordinance.

(Repair of Registered Tangible Cultural Property)

Article 56-2-6. The repair of a registered tangible cultural property shall be done by its owner; however, it shall be done by the custodial body if such has been appointed.

2. In case the custodial body does the repair, the provisions of Article 32-2 paragraph 5, Article 32-4 and Article 34-3 paragraph 1 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

(Notifications, etc. on Alterations to the Existing State of a Registered Tangible Cultural Property)

Article 56-2-7. In case any person intends to alter the existing state of a registered tangible cultural property, he shall, no later than thirty (30) days prior to the intended date of effecting said alteration, submit notification thereof, as determined by the Ministry of Education Ordinance, to the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs; however, this shall not apply to cases where such act as altering the existing state is merely a maintenance measure or an emergency measure to be taken in the event of an unforeseen disaster, or to cases where the existing state must be altered in order to comply with orders under the provisions of other legal statutes.

2. The scope of maintenance measures in the proviso of the previous paragraph shall be determined by Ministry of Education Ordinance.
3. When deemed to be necessary for the protection of a registered tangible cultural property, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may give necessary instructions, advice, or remonstrance concerning alterations to the existing state of the said registered tangible cultural property pertaining to the notification of paragraph 1.

(Technical Guidance Concerning Custody or Repair of Registered Tangible Cultural Property)

Article 56-2-8. The owner, custodian or custodial body of a registered tangible cultural property can ask the Commissioner of Agency for Cultural Affairs for technical guidance respecting the maintenance or repair of the registered tangible cultural property concerned, in accordance with what may be provided for by the Ministry of Education Ordinance.

(Public Opening of Registered Tangible Cultural Property)

Article 56-2-9. Opening to the public of the registered tangible cultural property shall be undertaken by its owner; however, it shall be undertaken by the custodial body, if such as been appointed.

2. Notwithstanding the provision of the preceding paragraph, a party other than the owner and the custodial body may open to the public the registered tangible cultural property with the agreement of the owner (or the custodial body, if there is one).
3. To the public opening of a registered tangible cultural property by the custodial body, the provisions of Article 47-2, paragraph 3 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.
4. When deemed necessary in the utilization of a registered tangible cultural property, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may give necessary guidance or advice to the owner or custodial body of the said registered tangible cultural property concerning its public opening or concerning its custody with respect to its public opening.

(Reporting on the Existing State of a Registered Tangible Cultural Property)

Article 56-2-10. When the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs deems it necessary, he may ask the owner, custodial or custodial body of a registered tangible cultural property to report on the existing state of such property, or on the state of its custody or repair.

(Transfer of Certificate of Registration Accompanying Changes of Ownership)

Article 56-2-11. In case the owner of a registered tangible cultural property has changed, the former owner shall deliver to the new owner the certificate of registration concerned simultaneously with the delivery of the said registered tangible cultural property.

Section 3. Tangible Cultural Properties other than Important Cultural Properties and Registered Tangible Cultural Properties

(Technical Guidance)

Article 56-2-12. The owner of any tangible cultural property other than important cultural properties and registered tangible cultural properties may, in accordance with what may be provided for by the Ministry of Education, ask the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs for technical guidance in regard to the custody or repair of such tangible cultural property.

CHAPTER III-2 Intangible Cultural Properties

(Designation, etc. of Important Intangible Cultural Property)

Article 56-3. The Minister of Education may designate important items of intangible cultural properties as important intangible cultural properties.

2. The Minister of Education shall, in making the designation under the provision of the preceding paragraph, recognize the holder or holders who are the persons that represent the high standard of such important intangible cultural property, or the holding body which is composed mainly of the holders of such intangible cultural property and has its representative established by its own statute (hereinafter the same).
3. Designation under the provision of paragraph 1 shall be made by an announcement in the Official Gazette, and also by the issuance of a notice thereof to the person or the body to the recognized as the holder or the holding body, respectively, of the important intangible cultural property concerned (in case of a holding body, to its representative).
4. Even after making the designation under the provision of paragraph 1, the Minister of Education may, if in his/her opinion there still is a person or a body eligible to the recognition as the holder or the

holding body of a particular important intangible cultural property, make supplementary recognition as such.

5. To the supplementary recognition under the provision of the preceding paragraph the provision of paragraph 3 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

(Annulment of Designation, etc. of Important Intangible Cultural Property)

Article 56-4. In case an important intangible cultural property has lost its value as such, or in case there is any other special reason, the Minister of Education may annul the designation of such important intangible cultural property.

2. In case a holder is deemed to have become inadequate to maintain such title for his/her mental or physical reasons, or in case a holding body is deemed to have become inadequate to maintain such title for the change of its constituent members, or in case there is any other special reason, the Minister of Education may annul the recognition concerned.
3. The annulment of the designation under the provision of paragraph 1 or of the recognition under that of the preceding paragraph shall be made by an announcement in the Official Gazette, and also by the issuance of a notice thereof to the holder or the holding body of the important intangible cultural property concerned.
4. When a holder has died or a holding body has been dissolved (including the cases of its having become extinct; the same shall apply in this Article and the following one) his/her or its recognition as such shall be deemed to have been annulled; and when all the holders have died, or all the holding bodies have been dissolved, the designation of the important intangible cultural property concerned shall be deemed to have been annulled. In these cases the Minister of Education shall announce the fact in the Official Gazette.

(Change of Name of Holder, etc.)

Article 56-5. When a holder has changed his/her name or address, when he/she has died, or when there is any of such reasons as are provided for by the Ministry of Education Ordinance, such holder or his/her heir shall report the fact to the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs in writing within (twenty (20) days of the day on which it took place (in case of a holder's death, the day on which his/her heir came to know the fact), stating the matters prescribed by the Ministry of Education Ordinance. When a holding body has changed its name, the address of its office, or its representative, or when there is any change among its constituent members, or when the body has been dissolved the same provision shall apply to its representative (in case of dissolution, it shall apply to the person who has been its representative).

(Preservation of Important Intangible Cultural Property)

Article 56-6. When the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs deems it necessary for the preservation of a particular important intangible cultural property, he/she may himself/herself take any appropriate measures for its preservation, such as recording, training successors in the arts, etc., and the State may aid its holder, its holding body or a local public body, or any other person or persons deemed appropriate for taking care of its preservation by granting a subsidy to cover part of the expenses required for its preservation.

2. To the subsidization under the provision of the preceding paragraph the provisions of Article 35 paragraphs 2 and 3 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

(Opening to the Public of Important Intangible Cultural Property)

Article 56-7. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may advise the holder or the holding body of the important intangible cultural property to open the said property to the public, or the owner of the records of the important intangible cultural property to open such records to the public.

2. In case the holder or the holding body of the important intangible cultural property opens such property to the public, the provision of Article 51 paragraph 7 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.
3. In case the owner of the records of the important intangible cultural property opens such records to the public, the State may grant a subsidy to cover part of the expenses required for the said opening.

4. To the subsidization under the provision of the preceding paragraph, the provisions of Article 35 paragraphs 2 and 3 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

(Suggestion or Advice on Preservation of Important Intangible Cultural Property)

Article 56-8. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may give suggestions or advice necessary for the preservation of the important intangible cultural property to its holder or holding body, or a local public body or any other person who is deemed to be appropriate for taking care of its preservation.

(Recording, etc. of Intangible Cultural Property other than Important Intangible Cultural Property)

Article 56-9. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may, selecting such items of the intangible cultural property as of special necessity, other than the important intangible cultural property, take himself records thereof, preserve such records or open the same to the public, and the State may subsidize an appropriate person to cover part of the expense required for opening such intangible cultural property to the public, or recording it, preserving such records or opening the same to the public.

2. To the subsidization under the provision of the preceding paragraph the provision of Article 35 paragraphs 2 and 3 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

CHAPTER III-3 Folk-cultural Properties

(Designation of Important Tangible Folk-cultural Property and Important Intangible Folk-cultural Property)

Article 56-10. The Minister of Education may designate especially important items of tangible folk-cultural properties as important tangible folk-cultural properties, and especially important items of intangible folk-cultural properties as important intangible folk-cultural properties.

2. To the designation of the important tangible folk-cultural property under the provision of the preceding paragraph the provisions of Article 28 paragraphs 1 to 4 inclusive shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.
3. The designation of the important intangible folk-cultural property under the provision of paragraph 1 shall be made by an announcement in the Official Gazette.

(Annulment of Designation of Tangible Folk-cultural Property and Important Intangible Folk-cultural Property)

Article 56-11. In case any important tangible folk-cultural property or important intangible folk-cultural property has lost its value as such, or in case there is any other special reason, the Minister of Education may annul the designation of such important tangible folk-cultural property or important intangible folk-cultural property.

2. To the annulment of designation of the important tangible folk-cultural property under the provision of the preceding paragraph the provisions of Article 29 paragraphs 2 to 4 inclusive shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.
3. The annulment of designation of the important intangible folk-cultural property under the provision of paragraph 1 shall be made by an announcement in the Official Gazette.

(Custody of Important Tangible Folk-cultural Property)

Article 56-12. To the custody of important tangible folk-cultural property the provisions of Articles 30 to 34 inclusive shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

(Protection of Important Tangible Folk-cultural Property)

Article 56-13. Any person who intends to alter the existing state of a particular important tangible folk-cultural property or to do an act affecting its preservation or to export it shall report it to the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs in writing in accordance with what may be provided for by the Ministry of Education Ordinance at least twenty (20) days prior to the day on which such alteration, or act or exportation

is to be effected; however, this shall not apply to the cases prescribed by the Ministry of Education Ordinance.

2. In case the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs deems it necessary for the protection of the important tangible folk-cultural property give necessary instructions with regard to the alteration of the existing state of such folk-cultural property or the act affecting the preservation of the said property or its exportation, for which report has been filed under the preceding paragraph.

Article 56-14. To the protection of the important tangible folk-cultural property the provisions of Articles 34-2 to 36 inclusive, Article 37 paragraphs 2 to 4 inclusive, and Articles 42, 46 and 47 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

(Opening to the Public of Important Tangible Folk-Cultural Property)

Article 56-15. In case any party other than the owner or the custodial body of the important tangible folk-cultural property, or local public body or any other juridical person appointed in accordance with the provision of Article 32-2 paragraph 1, applying *mutatis mutandis* under Article 56-12 (hereinafter the same in this Chapter and in Chapter VI), intends to open such important tangible folk-cultural property to the public at an exhibition or at any other public occasion to be held under his/her own auspices, such person shall report it to the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs in writing at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of commencement of such public viewing, stating the matters prescribed by the Ministry of Education Ordinance; however, ex post facto notification within 20 days from the day after the final day of the public opening shall suffice in case such exhibition or other event is to be held under the auspices of a State agency other than the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs or of a local public body at a museum or other similar institution which has previously been exempted of such notification requirements by the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs (hereinafter in this paragraph referred to as "opening advance notification exempted institutions"), or when the person who has established an opening advance notification exempted institution holds such an event at the said opening advance notification exempted institution.

2. The provisions of Article 51 paragraphs 4 and 5 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the public viewing for which report has been filed under the text of the preceding paragraph.

Article 56-16. The provisions of Articles 47-2 to 52 inclusive shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the opening to the public of the important tangible folk-cultural property.

(Investigation for Preservation of Important Tangible Folk-cultural Property and Succession to Rights and Obligations on Changes of Owner, etc.)

Article 56-17. To the investigation for the purpose of preservation of the important tangible folk-cultural property the provision of Article 54, and to the change of the owner of the important tangible folk-cultural property, to the appointment of a custodial body for such folk-cultural property or to the annulment of such appointment the provisions of Article 56 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*, respectively.

(Preservation of Important Intangible Folk-cultural Property)

Article 56-18. When the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs deems it necessary for the preservation of the important intangible folk-cultural property, he/she may himself/herself undertake recording and other appropriate measures for the preservation thereof, and the State may aid a local public body or any other person deemed appropriate for taking care of its preservation by granting a subsidy to cover part of the expenses required for such preservation.

2. The provisions of Article 35 paragraphs 2 and 3 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the subsidization under the provision of the preceding paragraph.

(Opening to the Public of Records of Important Intangible Folk-cultural Property)

Article 56-19. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may advise the owner of the records of the important intangible folk-cultural property to open the said records to the public.

2. To the case where the owner of the records of the important intangible folk-cultural property opens such records to the public, the provisions of Article 56-7 paragraph 3 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.
3. The provision of Article 70-2 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the disposition to be made under the provision of paragraph 1 by the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs or by the Board of Education of the To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefectures), or by the designated city of Article 252-19-1 of the Local Public Body Law (Law No. 67 of 1947) or the core city of Article 252-22-1 of the same law (hereinafter referred to as "designated cities, etc."), to which the competence of the said Commissioner has been delegated.

(Suggestion or Advice on Preservation of Important Intangible Folk-cultural Property)

Article 56-20. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may give suggestions or advice necessary for the preservation of important intangible folk-cultural property to a local public body or any other person who is deemed to be appropriate for taking care of its preservation.

(Recording, etc. of Intangible Folk-cultural Property Other Than Important Intangible Folk-cultural Property)

Article 56-21. The provisions of Article 56-9 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to intangible folk-cultural property other than the important intangible folk-cultural property.

CHAPTER IV Buried Cultural Property

(Report, Instruction and Order on Excavation for Investigation)

Article 57. Any person who intends to excavate the land for the purpose of investigation of cultural properties which are buried underground (hereinafter referred to as "buried cultural property") shall report it to the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs in writing at least thirty (30) days prior to the day on which the said excavation is to be commenced, stating the matters prescribed by the Ministry of Education Ordinance; however, this shall not apply to the cases prescribed by the Ministry of Education Ordinance.

2. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may, when he/she deems it positively necessary for the protection of the buried cultural property, instruct necessary matters with regard to the excavation reported in accordance with the preceding paragraph and demand the submission of the reports thereof, or may prohibit the excavation or order its suspension or discontinuance.

(Report and Instruction on Excavation for Construction Working)

Article 57-2. In case any site well-known to contain buried cultural property such as shell mounds, ancient tombs or others (hereinafter referred to as "the well-known archaeological and/or historical subsoil") is to be dug up in the course of construction working or for any other purposes than the investigation of the buried cultural property, the provision of paragraph 1 of the preceding Article shall apply *mutatis mutandis*. (In this case, "thirty (30) days prior to" in the same paragraph shall read "sixty (60) days prior to.")

2. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may, when he/she deems it positively necessary for the protection of buried cultural property, give necessary instructions with regard to the excavation reported under paragraph 1 of the preceding Article applying *mutatis mutandis* under the preceding paragraph.

(Special Provisions regarding Excavation Conducted by State Organs etc.)

Article 57-3. To the case where State organs, local public bodies, or juridical persons established by the State or local public bodies and prescribed by the Cabinet Order (hereinafter generically referred to as "State organs, etc." in this Article and in Article 57-6) intend to excavate the well-known archaeological and/or historical subsoil for the purpose provided for in paragraph 1 of the preceding Article, the provisions of the

said Article shall not apply, but when the said State organs, etc. formulate a plan of operation related to the said excavation, they shall inform in advance the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs to that effect.

2. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may, when he/she received the information under the preceding paragraph and found it positively necessary to do so for the protection of the buried cultural property, give notice to the State organ, etc. to the effect that the latter shall consult him/her regarding the formulation of the said plan of operation and its enforcement.
3. The State organ, etc. which have received the notice under the preceding paragraph shall consult the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs on the formulation of the said plan of operation and its enforcement.
4. In case the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs has received the information under paragraph 1, other than the cases under the preceding two paragraphs, he/she may give such advice as necessary for the protection of the buried cultural property regarding the enforcement of the plan of operation which has been informed of.
5. In the case under the preceding four paragraphs, if the said State organs, etc. are the heads of the Ministries of Agencies (to be taken as the heads of the Ministries of Agencies referred to in Article 4 paragraph 2 of the State Property Law (Law No. 73 of 1938); hereinafter the same) such notice, consultation or advice as provided for in these paragraphs shall go from the Minister of Education.

(Information to the Public of Archaeological and/or Historical Subsoil)

Article 57-4. The State and local public bodies shall attend to the complete documentation and other measures needed to keep the public fully and correctly informed of the well-known archaeological and/or historical subsoil.

2. The State may give guidance, advice or other necessary assistance regarding the measures taken by local public bodies under the preceding paragraph.

(Report on Discovery of Remains, Order for Suspension, etc.)

Article 57-5. When the owner or the possessor/occupant of the land has discovered what is recognizable as shell mound, swelling site, ancient tomb and other remains through the chance finds of unearthed articles, etc., excepting the case of discovery on the occasion of investigation exercised under the provision of Article 57 paragraph 1, he/she shall, without altering the existing state of such remains, report the fact without delay to the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs in writing stating the matters prescribed by the Ministry of Education Ordinance. In case it is necessary to take emergency measures for the prevention of extraordinary disaster, however, he/she may alter the existing state of such remains within the normal limits of the emergency measures.

2. In case the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs received the report under the preceding paragraph and recognizes the reported remains important, and deems it necessary to conduct an investigation for the purpose of their protection, he/she may order the owner or the possessor/occupant of the land to suspend or prohibit him/her to do within a prescribed term and area, the act which may lead to the alteration of their existing state. The term, however, shall not exceed three (3) months.
3. In case the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs intends to issue the order under the preceding paragraph, he/she shall in advance hear the opinions of the local public body concerned.
4. The order under paragraph 2 shall be issued within one (1) month of the day of reporting under paragraph 1.
5. In the case under paragraph 2, when the investigation is not completed within the term prescribed in the same paragraph and is needed to be carried on, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may extend once for all the term of investigation in regard to all or part of the area set out in the said order. The term of the same order, however, shall not exceed six (6) consecutive months including the original term specified under the same paragraph.

6. The term under paragraph 2 and the preceding paragraph shall be so calculated as to cover the period of time starting from the day on which the report under paragraph 1 is received until and including the day on which the order under paragraph 2 is issued.
7. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may, even when the report under paragraph 1 has not been received, take measures as provided for in paragraphs 2 and 5.
8. Upon receipt of the report under paragraph 1, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may, excepting the case where he/she has taken measures under paragraph 2, give instructions necessary for the protection of the said remains. Except for the case where he/she has taken measures under paragraph 2 in accordance with the provision of the preceding paragraph, the same shall apply to the case where he/she has not received the report under paragraph 1.
9. The State shall indemnify the person or persons who have suffered a loss owing to the order issued under paragraph 2, for the ordinary damage incidental thereto.
10. To the cases under the preceding paragraph the provisions of Article 41 paragraphs 2 to 4 inclusive shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

(Special Provisions regarding Discovery of Remains by State Organs, etc.)

Article 57-6. When State organs, etc. have made a discovery as provided for in paragraph 1 of the preceding Article, the provisions of the same Article shall not apply, but, excepting the case where they have made a discovery on the occasion of investigation exercised under the provision of Article 57 paragraph 1 or Article 98-2 paragraph 1, they shall, without altering the existing state of the remains, inform the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs to that effect without delay. In case they take emergency measures necessary for preventing extraordinary disasters, however, they may alter the existing state of the remains within the limits of such emergency measures.

2. In the cases where the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs has received the information under the preceding paragraph, if he/she recognizes the remains informed as important and if he/she deems it necessary to investigate them for the purpose of their protection, he/she may notify the said State organs, etc. to the effect that they should apply to him/her for consultation regarding their investigation, preservation, etc.
3. The State organs, etc. which have received the notice under the preceding paragraph shall consult with the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs.
4. In case the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs has received the information under paragraph 1, excepting the cases under the preceding two paragraphs, he/she may give necessary advice for the protection of the said remains.
5. To the cases under the preceding four paragraphs, the provision of Article 57-3 paragraph 5 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

(Execution of Excavation by the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs)

Article 58. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may undertake the excavation of any land to investigate the buried cultural property for which investigation by the State is deemed necessary in view of its exceptionally high value from the point of view of history or science as well as for the technical difficulty it will entail.

2. In case the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs intends to undertake excavation in accordance with the provision of the preceding paragraph, he/she shall in advance issue to the owner and the possessor/occupant by title of the land a writ stating the purpose and the method of excavation, the date of its commencement, and other necessary matters.
3. To the cases under paragraph 1, the provisions of Article 39 (including the provision of Article 32-2 paragraph 5 applying *mutatis mutandis* under paragraph 3 of the same Article) and Article 41 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

Article 59. When any cultural property has been discovered by the excavation carried out in accordance with paragraph 1 of the preceding Article, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs shall return the said property to its owner if the owner is known, but in case the owner is not traceable it shall suffice for him/her to notify the chief of the police station of the discovery, irrespective of the provision of Article 1 paragraph 1 of the Lost Property Law (Law No. 87 of 1899) applying *mutatis mutandis* under Article 13 of the same Law.

2. The chief of the police station shall, upon receiving the notice referred to in the preceding paragraph, issue promptly a public notice with regard to the said cultural property in accordance with the provision of Article 1 paragraph 2 of the Lost Property Law applying *mutatis mutandis* under Article 13 of the same Law.

(Presentation)

Article 60. In case an unearthen object placed as such before the chief of the police station in accordance with the provision of Article 1 paragraph 1 of the Lost Property Law applying *mutatis mutandis* under Article 13 of the same Law is recognizable as a cultural property, the said object shall be presented to the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs without delay by the chief of the police station; however, this shall not apply where the owner thereof has been traced.

(Judgement)

Article 61. When an object has been presented to the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs in accordance with the provision of the preceding Article, he/she shall judge whether the object is really a cultural property or not.

2. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs shall, upon finding the said object to be a cultural property, notify the chief of the police station thereof or shall, in a contrary case, send back the object to the chief of the police station.

(Delivery)

Article 62. When the owner of the cultural property mentioned in Article 59 paragraph 1 or paragraph 2 of the preceding Article has asked the chief of the police station to return the cultural property to himself/herself, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs shall deliver the object to the chief of the police station concerned.

(Reversion to National Treasury and Compensation)

Article 63. In case the owner of the cultural property mentioned in Article 59 paragraph 1 or Article 61 paragraph 2 is not traceable, the ownership thereof shall revert to the National Treasury. In this case the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs shall so inform the finder of the said cultural property and the owner of the land where it was found, and shall pay them a compensation corresponding to the value of the object.

2. When the finder and the owner of the land referred to in the preceding paragraph are different persons, the compensation under the same paragraph shall be given them half and half.
3. To the cases under the preceding two paragraphs the provisions of Article 41 paragraphs 2 to 4 inclusive shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

(Transfer, etc.)

Article 64. The Government may, unless it is necessary for the State to retain for itself the cultural property reverted to the National Treasury in accordance with the provision of paragraph 1 of the preceding Article for the purpose of its preservation or in view of its utility, transfer the said property to the finder thereof or to the owner of the land where it was found, within the limits of the value corresponding to the amount of the compensation to be received by the said person in accordance with the provisions of the preceding Article.

2. In the case mentioned in the preceding paragraph, the amount of money corresponding to the value of the transferred cultural property shall be deducted from the amount of the compensation provided for in the preceding Article.
3. The Government may, unless it is necessary for the State to retain for itself the cultural property reverted to the National Treasury in accordance with the provision of paragraph 1 of the preceding Article for the purpose of its preservation or in view of its utility, transfer the said property without consideration, or to assign it at a price lower than the current price, to the local public body which has jurisdiction over the land where the said cultural property was found, in case application is filed therefor.

(Application of the Lost Property Law)

Article 65. Unless otherwise provided for by this Law, the provision of Article 13 of the Lost Property Law shall apply to the buried cultural property.

Article 66 to Article 68 inclusive. Deleted.

CHAPTER V Historic Sites, Places of Scenic Beauty and/or Natural Monuments

(Designation)

Article 69. The Minister of Education may designate important items of monuments as historic sites, places of scenic beauty, or natural monuments (hereinafter collectively referred to as "historic sites, places of scenic beauty and/or natural monument").

2. Of the historic sites, places of scenic beauty and/or natural monuments designated as such in accordance with the provision of the preceding paragraph, the Minister of Education may designate those which are particularly important as special historic sites, special places of scenic beauty, or special natural monuments (hereinafter collectively referred to as "special historic sites, places of scenic beauty and/or natural monument").
3. The designation under the preceding two paragraphs shall be made by an announcement in the Official Gazette and also by the issuance of a notice thereof to the owner and the possessor/occupant by title of the special historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument concerned or of the historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument concerned.
4. In case there are too many persons to be given the notice individually in accordance with the provision of the preceding paragraph, the Minister of Education may, in place of the notice provided for in the same paragraph, put up a notice of the matters to be communicated to them on the notice board of the public office or of any similar establishment of the city, town or village where the special historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument concerned or the historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument concerned is located. In this case the notice mentioned in the preceding paragraph shall be deemed as having reached the addressees thereof when two weeks have elapsed from the day on which the notice was first exhibited.
5. The designation under the provision of paragraph 1 or paragraph 2 shall come into effect as from the day of announcement in the Official Gazette under the provision of paragraph 3. However, for the owner or the possessor/occupant by title of the special historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument concerned or of the historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument concerned, it shall come into effect as from the time when the notice under the provision of paragraph 3 has reached him/her or when it is deemed to have reached him/her in accordance with the provision of the preceding paragraph.
6. The Minister of Education shall, in designating the historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument, ask the opinion of the Director General of the Environment Agency, if the area to be covered by the designation possesses a high value from the point of view of the protection of natural environment.

(Provisional Designation)

Article 70. Prior to the designation under the provision of paragraph 1 of the preceding Article, if the Board of Education of To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefectures) deems it urgently necessary, it may make provisional designation of the historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument.

2. When the Board of Education of To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefectures) has made the provisional designation under the provision of the preceding paragraph, it shall report the fact to the Minister of Education without delay
3. To the provisional designation under the provision of paragraph 1 the provisions of paragraphs 3 to 5 inclusive of the preceding Article shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

(Respect for Ownership, etc. and Coordination with Other Public Interest)

Article 70-2. In making the designation under the provision of Article 69 paragraph 1 or paragraph 2 or in making the provisional designation under the provision of paragraph 1 of the preceding Article, the Minister of Education or the Board of Education of To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefectures) shall respect in particular the ownership, the mining right and other property rights of the parties concerned, and at the same time pay attention to the coordination with land development and other kinds of public interests.

2. The Minister of Education or the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may, if it is deemed necessary for the protection and improvement of natural environment related to the place of scenic beauty or natural monument, express his/her opinions to the Director General of the Environment Agency.

(Annulment of Designation)

Article 71. When a special historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument, or a historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument has lost its value as such or when there is any other special reason, the Minister of Education or the Board of Education of To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefectures) may annul the designation or the provisional designation thereof.

2. When the designation referred to in Article 69 paragraph 1 was made of such a historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument as was provisionally designated under the provision of Article 70 paragraph 1, or when no designation under the same provision was made of the same property within two years from the day of such provisional designation, the said provisional designation shall become null and void.
3. The Minister of Education may annul any provisional designation made under the provision of Article 70 paragraph 1, if he/she deems such designation inappropriate.
4. The provisions of Article 69 paragraphs 3 to 5 inclusive shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the annulment of the designation or the provisional designation to be made under the provision of paragraph 1 or of the preceding paragraph.

(Custody and Restoration by Custodial Body)

Article 71-2. In the cases where the owner of the historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument does not exist or is not traceable, or where the custody thereof by its owner or by the person appointed in accordance with the provision of Article 74 paragraph 2 to be responsible for the conduct of its custody is obviously deemed extremely difficult or inappropriate, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may appoint a suitable local public body or any other suitable juridical person and charge it with the conduct of custody and restoration necessary for the preservation of the historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument concerned (including the custody and restoration of such facilities, equipments and other matters under the ownership or in the custody of the owner of the historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument concerned as are necessary for the preservation thereof).

2. In order to make an appointment under the provision of the preceding paragraph, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs shall obtain in advance the consent of the local public body or any other juridical person to be appointed as such.

3. The appointment under the provision of paragraph 1 shall be made by an announcement in the Official Gazette, and also by the issuance of a notice thereof to the owner and the possessor/occupant by title of the historic site, place scenic beauty and/or natural monument concerned, as well as to the local public body or other juridical person to be appointed.
4. To the appointment under the provision of paragraph 1 the provisions of Article 69 paragraphs 4 and 5 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

Article 71-3. In the cases where the reasons referred to in paragraph 1 of the preceding Article have become extinct or where there is any other special reason, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may annul the appointment of the custodial body.

2. To the annulment under the provision of the preceding paragraph the provisions of paragraph 3 of the preceding Article and Article 69 paragraphs 4 and 5 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

Article 72. The local public body and any other juridical person appointed under the provision of Article 71-2 paragraph 1 (hereinafter in this Chapter and Chapter VI referred to as the "custodial body") shall in accordance with the standards established by the Minister of Education Ordinance set up signs, explanation boards, landmarks, fences and other facilities necessary for the custody of the historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument concerned.

2. When, in regard to the land within the designated area of the historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument, there has been any change in the name of town, lot number, category or acreage, the custodial body concerned shall report it to the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs in accordance with what may be provided for by the Ministry of Education Ordinance.
3. In case the custodial body undertakes restoration, it shall in advance hear the opinions of the owner (exclusive of the case where the owner is not traceable) and the possessor/occupant of the historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument concerned in regard to the method and the time of the restoration.
4. The owner or the possessor/occupant of the historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument shall not, without justifiable reasons, refuse, interfere with or evade the acts of custody or restoration, or the measures necessary for the execution of such acts, undertaken by the custodial body.

Article 72-2. The expenses required for the custody and the restoration undertaken by the custodial body shall be borne by the same body, unless otherwise provided for by this Law.

2. Notwithstanding the provision of the preceding paragraph, part of the expenses required for the custody or the restoration may be borne by the owner, in accordance with what may be agreed upon between the custodial body and the owner, within the limits of the material profit which the latter will enjoy as a result of the custody or the restoration conducted by the former.
3. The custodial body may collect admission-fees from the visitors to the historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument in its custody.

Article 73. As for the person or persons who have suffered a loss owing to the act of custody or restoration performed by the custodial body, the body concerned shall indemnify them for the ordinary damages incidental thereto.

2. The amount of the indemnity under the preceding paragraph shall be determined by the custodial body (or, when the custodial body is a local public body, the Board of Education of the same body).
3. As regards the amount of the indemnity under the provision of the preceding paragraph, the provision of Article 41 paragraph 3 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.
4. In case of litigation under the provision of Article 41 paragraph 3 applying *mutatis mutandis* in the preceding paragraph, the custodial body shall be the dependent.

Article 73-2. To the custody undertaken by the custodial body the provisions of Article 30, Article 31 paragraph 1 and Article 33, to the custody and the restoration undertaken by the custodial body the provisions of Articles 35 and 47, and to the cases where the custodial body has been appointed or where such appointment has been annulled the provision of Article 56 paragraph 3 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*, respectively.

(Custody and Restoration by Owner)

Article 74. Excepting the case where a custodial body has been appointed, the owner of the historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument shall be responsible for the custody and the restoration thereof.

2. The owner who undertakes the custody of the historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument under the provision of the preceding paragraph may, if there is any special reason, appoint an appropriate person to be responsible on his/her behalf for the conduct of the custody of the same property (hereinafter in this Chapter and Chapter VI referred to as the "custodian"). In this case the provision of Article 31 paragraph 3 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

Article 75. To the custody by the owner the provisions of Article 30, Article 31 paragraph 1, Article 32, Article 33 and Article 72 paragraphs 1 and 2 (as for Article 72 paragraph 2, exclusive of the cases where the custodial body has been appointed), to the custody and the restoration by the owner the provisions of Article 35 and 47, to the succession to rights and obligations upon change of the owner the provision of Article 56 paragraph 1, and to the custody by the custodian the provisions of Article 30, Article 31 paragraph 1, Article 32 paragraph 3, Article 33, Article 47 paragraph 4 and Article 72 paragraph 2 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*, respectively.

(Order or Advice on Custody)

Article 76. In case the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs concludes that a historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument is in danger of destruction, damage, decay or theft because of its inappropriate custody, he/she may order or advise the custodial body, the owner or the custodian thereof, with respect to the improvement of the method of custody, provision of facilities for preservation and any other measures necessary for its custody.

2. To the cases under the preceding paragraph the provisions of Article 36 paragraphs 2 and 3 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

(Order or Advice on Restoration)

Article 77. In the cases where a special historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument is damaged or in decay and the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs deems it necessary for its preservation, he/she may give any necessary order or advice about its restoration to the custodial body or the owner thereof.

2. In the cases where a historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument, other than the special historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument, is damaged or in decay and the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs deems it necessary for its preservation, he/she may give any necessary advice about its restoration to the custodial body or to the owner thereof.
3. The provisions of Article 37 paragraphs 3 and 4 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the cases under the preceding two paragraphs.

(Execution of Restoration, etc. of Special Historic Site, Place of Scenic Beauty and/or Natural Monument by the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs)

Article 78. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may himself/herself execute the restoration of the special historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument, or take preventive measures against its destruction, damage, decay or theft, in either of the following cases:

- (1) Where the custodial body, owner or custodian does not comply with the orders given in accordance with the provisions of the preceding two Articles;

(2) Where any special historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument is damaged or in decay, or in danger of destruction, damage, decay or theft, and where it is deemed inappropriate to make the custodial body, the owner or the custodian thereof execute its restoration or take preventive measures against its destruction, damage, decay or theft.

2. The provisions of Article 38 paragraph 2 and Articles 39 to 41 inclusive shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the cases under the preceding paragraph.

(Reimbursement in case of Assignment of Historic Site, Place of Scenic Beauty and/or Natural Monument for which a Subsidy was granted, etc.)

Article 79. With respect to the historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument for which a subsidy has been granted by the State for its restoration or for the conduct of preventive measures against its destruction, damage, decay or theft in accordance with the provision of Article 35 paragraph 1 applying *mutatis mutandis* under Article 73-2 and Article 75, or for which whole or part of the expenses required for such action have been defrayed by the State in accordance with the provision of Article 36 paragraph 2 applying *mutatis mutandis* under Article 76 paragraph 2, in accordance with Article 37 paragraph 3 applying *mutatis mutandis* under Article 77 paragraph 3 or in accordance with Article 40 paragraph 1 applying *mutatis mutandis* under paragraph 2 of the preceding Article, the provision of Article 42 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

(Restriction on Alteration, etc. of Existing State and Order for Recovery to Original State)

Article 80. In case any person intends to do an act altering the existing state of a historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument or an act affecting the preservation thereof, he/she must obtain the permission of the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs; however, this shall not apply to the case where such act as altering the existing state is merely a measure for maintaining the existing state of the property or an emergency measure necessary for the prevention of extraordinary disasters or where the influence of the act which may affect its preservation is only negligible.

2. The coverage of the measures for maintaining the existing state mentioned in the proviso to the preceding paragraph shall be established by the Ministry of Education Ordinance.

3. The provision of Article 43 paragraph 3 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the issuance of permission provided for in paragraph 1, and that of Article 43 paragraph 4 to the person who has obtained such permission.

4. The provision of Article 70-2 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the disposition to be made under the provision of paragraph 1 by the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs or by the Board of Education of To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefectures) to which the competence of the said Commissioner has been delegated.

5. The State shall indemnify the person who has suffered a loss owing to the fact that he/she failed to receive the permission under paragraph 1 or that the permission given was attached with conditions under Article 43 paragraph 3 applying *mutatis mutandis* under paragraph 3, for the ordinary damage incidental thereto.

6. The provisions of Article 41 paragraphs 2 to 4 inclusive shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the case under the preceding paragraph.

7. In case any person has done an act altering the existing state or affecting the preservation of a historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument without obtaining the permission under the provision of paragraph 1 or without complying with the conditions of the permission given under Article 43 paragraph 3 applying *mutatis mutandis* under paragraph 3, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may order him/her to recover its original state. In this case the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may give necessary instructions regarding such recovery.

(Notice by the Administrative Agency Concerned)

Article 80-2. In case of an act for which permission should be obtained under the provision of paragraph 1 of the preceding Article, and the conduct of which is subjected to permission, authorization or other disposition prescribed by the Cabinet Order under the provisions of other laws or orders, the administrative agency

which has the competence for such dispositions under the said other laws or orders, or the person to whom the said competence has been delegated, shall in making the disposition give a notice to the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs (or to the Board of Education of the To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefectures) or the designated city, etc., when the competence for permission under the provision of paragraph 1 of the same Article is delegated thereto) in accordance with what may be provided for by the Cabinet Order.

(Report, etc. on Restoration)

Article 80-3. In case a historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument is to be restored, the custodial body or the owner thereof shall report it to the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of commencement of such work, in accordance with what may be prescribed by the Ministry of Education Ordinance; this shall not apply, however, to the cases where the permission must be obtained in accordance with the provision of Article 80 paragraph 1 and to those other cases prescribed by the Ministry of Education Ordinance.

2. In case the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs deems it necessary for the protection of the historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument, he/she may give technical guidance and advice in regard to the restoration of the historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument reported in accordance with the preceding paragraph.

(Integrity of Surroundings)

Article 81. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may, if he/she deems it necessary for ensuring the preservation of the historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument; restrict or prohibit certain kinds of act within a prescribed area or may order the provision of necessary facilities in such area.

2. The State shall indemnify the person or persons, who have suffered a loss owing to the disposition mentioned in the preceding paragraph, for the ordinary damage incidental thereto.
3. To the person who has disobeyed the restriction or prohibition provided for in paragraph 1 the provision of Article 80 paragraph 7, and to the case under the preceding paragraph the provisions of Article 41 paragraphs 2 to 4 inclusive shall apply *mutatis mutandis*, respectively.

(Subsidy for Purchase by Custodial Body)

Article 81-2. In case a local public body or other juridical person that is a custodial body deems it positively necessary to purchase the land or buildings or other fixtures to land involved in the designation as historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument, for the purpose of ensuring the preservation of such designated property which is under its custody, the State may grant a subsidy to cover part of the expenses required for the purchase.

2. To the cases under the preceding paragraph the provisions of Article 35 paragraphs 2 and 3 and Article 42 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

(Investigation for the Purpose of Preservation)

Article 82. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may, when he/she deems it necessary, ask the custodial body, the owner or the custodian to file reports on the existing state of the historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument, or on the conditions of its custody, of its restoration or of the preservation of the integrity of its surroundings.

Article 83. In any of the following cases, when the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs is unable to confirm the conditions of a historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument in spite of all the information given in the report filed under the preceding Article, and when there appears to be no alternative way for the confirmation thereof, he/she may appoint a person or persons who are to conduct investigation, and cause them to enter the land where the historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument to be investigated exists or the area adjoining and carry out an investigation on the spot as to its existing state or the conditions of its custody, of its restoration or of the preservation of the integrity of its

surroundings, as well as excavation, removal of obstacles or any other measures necessary for the purpose of such investigation; however, he/she shall not cause the said person or persons to take such steps as may result in considerable damage to the owner or the possessor/occupant of such land or to any other interested parties:

- (1) Where application has been filed for approval of alteration of the existing state or of actions affecting the preservation of a historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument;
 - (2) Where a historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument is damaged or in decay;
 - (3) Where a historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument is in danger of destruction, damage, decay or theft;
 - (4) Where special circumstances necessitate the re-investigation of the value of a special historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument or of a historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument as such.
2. The State shall indemnify the person or persons who have suffered a loss owing to the investigation or measures carried out in accordance with the provision of the preceding paragraph, for the ordinary damage incidental thereto.
 3. The provision of Article 55 paragraph 2 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the cases where investigation is conducted by entering the land in accordance with the provision of paragraph 1, and the provisions of Article 41 paragraphs 2 to 4 inclusive to the cases under the preceding paragraph, respectively.

CHAPTER V-2 Preservation Districts for Groups of Historic Buildings

(Preservation Districts for Groups of Historic Buildings)

Article 83-2. The term "preservation districts for groups of historic buildings" in this Chapter shall mean the districts determined by cities, towns or villages in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 1 or 2 of the following Article, for the purpose of preserving groups of historic buildings and the environs which build up a value in combination with such buildings.

(Determination and Protection of Preservation Districts for Groups of Historic Buildings)

Article 83-3. Municipalities may establish the preservation districts for groups of historic buildings in their city plans within the city planning areas designated under the provision of Article 5 of the City Planning Law (Law No. 100 of 1968). In this case the municipalities may, for the purpose of ensuring the preservation of the said districts, determine by their own regulations necessary matters concerning the control on the alteration of the existing state in view of the standards prescribed by the Cabinet Order, and also determine any other necessary measures for the said preservation.

2. The municipalities may in the districts other than the city planning areas under the preceding paragraph, establish the preservation districts for groups of historic buildings in accordance with their own regulations. In this case, the provision of the latter part of the preceding paragraph shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.
3. In case the governor of a municipality approves the city plan in regard to the preservation districts for groups of historic buildings under paragraph 1 in accordance with the City Planning Law, he/she shall in advance hear the opinions of the Board of Education of To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefectures) concerned.
4. In case the municipalities have established or cancelled the preservation districts for groups of historic buildings, or has enacted, revised or abolished their own regulations, they shall report the fact to the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs.
5. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs or the Board of Education of To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefectures) may give municipalities guidance or advice necessary for the preservation of the preservation districts for groups of historic buildings.

(Classification of Important Preservation Districts for Group of Historic Buildings)

Article 83-4. The Minister of Education may, according to the application filed by municipalities, classify whole or part of the preservation districts for groups of historic buildings which possess an especially high value in and for this country as important preservation districts for groups of historic buildings.

2. The classification under the provision of the preceding paragraph shall be made by an announcement in the Official Gazette, and also by the issuance of a notice thereof to the municipalities which have filed the application.

(Annulment of Classification)

Article 83-5. When any important preservation district for groups of historic buildings has lost its value as such, or when there is any other special reason, the Minister of Education may annul the classification thereof.

2. To the cases under the preceding paragraph the provision of paragraph 2 of the preceding Article shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

(Subsidy for Custody, etc.)

Article 83-6. The State may, for the preservation of the important preservation district for groups of historic buildings, grant a subsidy to cover part of the expenses required for such measures as may be taken by municipalities for the custody, repair, enhancement, or restoration of the buildings and such objects as are deemed positively necessary for the preservation of their environs which are inseparably combined with the groups of historic buildings within the said district.

CHAPTER V-3 Protection of Traditional Techniques for Conservation of Cultural Properties

(Designation of Traditional Conservation Technique, etc.)

Article 83-7. The Minister of Education may designate as traditional conservation techniques those traditional techniques or craftsmanship which is indispensable for the conservation of cultural properties and must be preserved with positive measures.

2. In making the designation under the provision of the preceding paragraph, the Minister of Education shall recognize the holder or holders of the traditional conservation technique concerned who represent the high standard of such technique, or its preservation body or bodies (including juridical persons) which primarily aim at the preservation of such technique and have their representatives or managers established by their own statutes; hereinafter the same).
3. The recognition relative to a particular designated traditional conservation technique under the provisions of the preceding paragraph may cover both the holders and the preservation bodies.
4. To the designation under the provision of paragraph 1 and the recognition under the provisions of the preceding two paragraphs the provisions of Article 56-3 paragraphs 3 to 5 inclusive shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

(Annulment of Designation, etc.)

Article 83-8. The Minister of Education may, when it is no longer necessary to take positive measures for the preservation of a designated traditional conservation technique or when there is any other special reason, annul the designation concerned.

2. In case a holder is deemed to have become inadequate to maintain such title for his/her mental or physical reasons, or in case a preservation body is deemed to have become inadequate to maintain such title or when there is any other special reason, the Minister of Education may annul his/her or its recognition as holder or preservation body, respectively.
3. The provision of Article 56-4 paragraph 3 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the cases under the preceding two paragraphs.

4. In case the recognition under paragraph 2 of the preceding Article has been made only of the holders and all of them have died, or in case the recognition under the same paragraph has been made only of the holding bodies and all of them have been dissolved (including their extinction; hereinafter the same in this paragraph), or in case the said recognition has covered both the holders and the preservation bodies and all of the holders have died and all of the preservation bodies have also been dissolved, the designation as the designated traditional conservation technique shall be deemed to have been annulled. In such cases, the Minister of Education shall announce the fact in the Official Gazette.

(Change of Name of Holder, etc.)

Article 83-9. The provision of Article 56-5 shall *mutatis mutandis* to the holder and the preservation body. In this case, "the representative" in the latter part of the same Article shall read "the representative or the manager."

(Preservation of Designated Traditional Conservation Technique)

Article 83-10. When it is deemed necessary to do so for the preservation of the designated traditional conservation technique, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may himself/herself take record of technique, or take any appropriate measures for what is deemed necessary for the preservation thereof, including training of successors in the art.

(Opening to the Public of Records of Designated Traditional Conservation Technique)

Article 83-11. The provisions of Article 56-19 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the owner of the records of the designated traditional conservation technique.

(Assistance for Preservation of Designated Traditional Conservation Technique)

Article 83-12. The State may give guidance, advice or other assistance which is deemed necessary to the holder or preservation body of the designated traditional conservation technique, or to those who are considered appropriate for undertaking its preservation, such as a local public body.

CHAPTER V-4 The Council for the Protection of Cultural Properties

(Establishment and Functions)

Article 84. The Ministry of Education shall have the Council for the Protection of Cultural Properties.

2. The Council for the Protection of Cultural Properties (hereinafter referred to in this Chapter as the "Council") shall, when consulted by the Minister of Education or the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs, investigate and deliberate on important matters concerning the preservation and utilization of cultural properties, as well as make proposals to the Minister of Education or the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs concerning such matters.

(Consultation with the Council)

Article 84-2. The Minister of Education shall in advance consult the Council with reference to the following matters:

- (1) Designation of national treasures or important cultural properties, and annulment of such designation;
- (1-2) Registration of registered tangible cultural properties, and annulment of such registrations (excluding annulment of registrations under the provision of Article 56-2-3 paragraph 1);
- (2) Designation of important intangible cultural properties, and annulment of such designations;
- (3) Recognition of holders or holding bodies of important intangible cultural properties, and annulment of such recognition;
- (4) Designation of important tangible folk-cultural properties or important intangible folk-cultural properties and annulment of such designation;

- (5) Designation of special historic sites, places of scenic beauty and/or natural monuments, or of historic sites, places of scenic beauty and/or natural monument, and annulment of such designation;
 - (6) Annulment of the provisional designation of historic sites, places of scenic beauty and/or natural monuments;
 - (7) Classification to important preservation districts for groups of historic buildings, and annulment of such classification;
 - (8) Designation of traditional conservation technique, and annulment of such designation;
 - (9) Recognition of holders or preservation bodies of designated traditional conservation techniques, and annulment of such recognition.
2. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs shall in advance consult the Council with reference to the following matters:
- (1) Orders concerning the custody of important cultural properties or the repair of national treasures;
 - (2) Execution by the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs of the repair of national treasures or of preventive measures against their destruction, damage or theft;
 - (3) Permission for alteration of the existing state or acts affecting the preservation of important cultural properties;
 - (4) Restriction or prohibition of acts, or orders for the provision of necessary facilities, as may be required for the maintenance of the integrity of surroundings of important cultural properties.
 - (5) Purchase of important cultural properties by the State;
 - (6) Selection of intangible cultural properties other than important intangible cultural properties, of which the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs should prepare records or for the recording, etc. of which subsidies should be granted;
 - (7) Orders concerning the custody of important tangible folk-cultural properties;
 - (8) Purchase of important tangible folk-cultural properties;
 - (9) Selection of intangible folk-cultural properties other than important intangible folk-cultural properties, of which the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs should prepare records or for the recording, etc. of which subsidies should be granted;
 - (9-2) Extension of the term of orders for suspension or for prohibition of act altering the existing state of remains;
 - (10) Execution of excavation by the Commissioner of the Agency for cultural Affairs for the purpose of investigating buried cultural properties;
 - (11) Orders concerning the custody of historic sites, places of scenic beauty and/or natural monuments, or concerning the restoration of special historic sites, places of scenic beauty and/or natural monuments;
 - (12) Execution by the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs of restoration or of preventive measures against destruction, damage, decay or theft of special historic sites, places of scenic beauty and/or natural monuments;
 - (13) Permission for alteration of the existing state of historic sites, places of scenic beauty and/or natural monuments or for acts affecting the preservation thereof;
 - (14) Restriction or prohibition of acts, or orders for provision of necessary facilities, as may be required for the maintenance of the integrity of surroundings of historic sites, places of scenic beauty and/or natural monuments;
 - (15) Orders for the recovery of original state of historic sites, places of scenic beauty and/or natural monuments, to be issued in the cases where any acts have been made without permission for alteration of the existing state or for acts affecting the preservation thereof, or not in compliance with the conditions of such permission, or where the restriction or prohibition of acts for maintenance of the integrity of their surroundings has been disobeyed;
 - (16) Delegation to the Boards of Education of To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefectures) or of the designated city, etc. of the competence to give permission for alteration of the existing state of important cultural properties or for acts affecting the preservation thereof, or for alteration of the existing state of historic sites, places of

scenic beauty and/or natural monuments or for acts affecting the preservation thereof, or to cancel such permission.

(Members, etc.)

Article 84-3. The Council shall be composed of five (5) members who have been appointed by the Minister of Education, with the approval of the Cabinet, from among those who have wide and eminent views on and knowledge of culture.

2. When it is necessary for the investigation of and deliberation on professional matters, the Council may have an expert member or members and a temporary expert member or members.

(Transfer to Cabinet Order)

Article 84-4. In addition to what have been provided for in this Chapter, matters relating to the internal organization of the Council, affairs under its jurisdiction, its members and other personnel shall be determined by the Cabinet Order.

CHAPTER VI Additional Provisions

Section 1. Public Hearings and Protests

(Special Cases of Public Hearings)

Article 85. When the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs intends to make dispositions or take measures mentioned in the following items, he/she shall hold a public hearing, regardless of the classification of the procedures for the voicing of opinions stipulated in Article 13, paragraph 1 of the Administrative Procedures Law (Law No. 88 of 1993).

- (1) Restriction, prohibition or order to be issued to particular persons under the provisions of Article 45 paragraph 1 or Article 81 paragraph 1;
- (2) Order for discontinuance of public viewing under the provisions of Article 51 paragraph 5 (including cases where Article 51-2 [including cases where Article 56-16 applies *mutatis mutandis*], Article 56-15 paragraph 2 and Article 56-16 apply *mutatis mutandis*);
- (3) Prohibition of or order for discontinuance of excavation under the provision of Article 57 paragraph 2;
- (4) Order for suspension or for prohibition under Article 57-5 paragraph 2 for the conduct of investigation mentioned in the same paragraph or extension of the term of such order under the provision of paragraph 5 of the same Article;
- (5) Order for restoration to the status quo under the stipulations of Article 80 paragraph 7 (including cases where Article 81 paragraph 3 applies *mutatis mutandis*);

2. When the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs intends to hold a public hearing under the preceding paragraph or a public hearing related to the cancellation of permission under the provisions of Article 43 paragraph 4 (including cases where Article 80 paragraph 3 applies *mutatis mutandis*) or those of Article 53 paragraph 4, he/she shall give notice in accordance with the provision of Article 15 paragraph 1 of the Administrative Procedures Law, and at the same time shall make a public announcement concerning the substance of the disposition and the date and place of the public hearing, at least ten (10) days in advance.
3. Deliberations on the date for the public hearing under the preceding paragraph shall be held publicly.

(Hearing of Opinions)

Article 85-2. When the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs intends to make dispositions or take measures mentioned in the following items, he/she shall hold a public hearing by the requesting the attendance of the parties concerned or their proxies:

- (1) Execution of repairs, restoration or measures under the provision of Article 38 paragraph 1 or Article 78 paragraph 1;

- (2) Execution of an invasive inspection or measures necessary for inspection under the provisions of Article 55 paragraph 1 or Article 83 paragraph 1;
- (3) Execution of excavation under the provisions of Article 58 paragraph 1.
2. When the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs intends to hold a public hearing under the preceding paragraph, he/she shall notify the parties concerned of the reasons for the disposition or measure to be made or taken under the relevant items of the same paragraph, the substance of each disposition or measure, and the date and place of the public hearing, at least ten (10) days in advance, and at the same time shall make a public announcement of such substance of disposition or measure and of the date and place of the said public hearing.
3. At the public hearing under paragraph 1, the parties concerned or their proxies may express opinions or give explanations, and produce evidences, in behalf of themselves or of the principals.
4. In case the parties concerned or their proxies failed to attend the public hearing under paragraph 1 without a justifiable reason, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may effect the disposition or measure mentioned in each of the items of paragraph 1 without holding any public hearing.

(Public Hearing in Case of Procedures for Protest)

Article 85-3. In case a protest has been filed with the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs against either of the dispositions mentioned below, except in cases where the protest is to be rejected, he/she shall, within thirty (30) days of receiving the written protest, open a public hearing, requesting the attendance of the protestant(s) and participants, or any proxies thereof:

- (1) Permission or rejection of demand for permission for the alteration of existing state or for an act affecting the preservation thereof under the provision of Article 43 paragraph 1 or Article 80 paragraph 1;
- (2) Appointment of the custodial body under the provision of Article 71-2 paragraph 1.
2. In holding a public hearing, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs shall notify the protestant(s) and any participants of the date and place of the public hearing at least ten (10) days in advance, while making at the same time a public announcement of the gist of the case and of the date and place of the said public hearing.

(Participation)

Article 85-4. In addition to the protestant(s), participant(s) and any proxies thereof, any interested party to the disposition in question who desires to express his/her opinion on the occasion of the public hearing under paragraph 1 of the preceding Article shall make written application for permission to the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs, stating the matters prescribed by the Ministry of Education Ordinance.

(Presentation of Evidence, etc.)

Article 85-5. On the occasion of the public hearing opened under the provision of Article 85-3 paragraph 1, the protestant(s), the participant(s) and the person(s) participating in the said public hearing in accordance with the provision of the preceding Article, or the proxies of thereof, must be given the opportunity to present evidences and to express opinions in regard to the case concerned.

(Consultation, etc. preceding Final Decision)

Article 85-6. When the case of the protest involves certain coordination with the mining or stone-quarrying industry, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs shall, except in the case of rejecting the protest, give his/her final decision after consulting with the Environmental Disputes Coordination Commission.

2. Heads of respective administrative organs concerned may give their opinions in regard to the case of the protest.

(Procedures)

Article 85-7. Other than those provided for in the preceding four Articles and in the Administrative Appeal Law (Law No. 160 of 1962), procedures with respect to a protest shall be prescribed by the Ministry of Education Ordinance.

(Relation between Protest and Lawsuit)

Article 85-8. A lawsuit for cancellation of such disposition as mentioned in each of the items of Article 85-3 paragraph 1 shall not be instituted unless decision is reached as to the protest raised against the disposition in question.

Section 2. Special Provisions regarding the State

(Special Provisions regarding the State in Connection with Important Cultural Properties, etc.)

Article 86. In applying the provisions of the present Law to the State or State organs, special provisions contained in this Section shall have the priority.

Article 87. When the important cultural property, important folk-cultural property or historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument is the State property which is provided for by the State Property Law (Law No. 73 of 1948), it shall be subjected to the custody of the Minister of Education; however, when any such property is the administrative property prescribed in Article 3 paragraph 2 of the same Law in the custody of a person other than the Minister of Education, or when there is any special reason to place such a property in the custody of a person other than the Minister of Education, the question whether the said property should be placed in the custody of the head of the Ministry or Agency concerned or in the custody of the Minister of Education shall be determined through the consultation of the Minister of Education, the head of the Minister or Agency concerned and the Minister of Finance.

Article 87-2. When the transfer of jurisdiction or administrative control is to be made between the accounting units belonging to different jurisdictions respecting an important cultural property, important tangible folk-cultural property, or historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument, for the purpose of placing the said property in the custody of the Minister of Education in accordance with the provision of the preceding Article, it shall be so arranged without compensation notwithstanding the provision of Article 15 of the State Property Law.

Article 88. When any tangible cultural property or tangible folk-cultural property belonging to the State has been designated as national treasure or important cultural property or important tangible folk-cultural property, the notice or the certificate of designation to be issued to its owner under the provision of Article 28 paragraph 1 or paragraph 3 (including the cases where the same provisions apply *mutatis mutandis* under Article 56-10 paragraph 2) shall be issued to the head of the Ministry or Agency in charge of the custody of the tangible cultural property or the tangible folk-cultural property concerned.

In this case, the head of the Ministry or Agency who has received the certificate of designation of national treasure shall send back to the Minister of Education without delay the certificate of designation of important cultural property previously issued for the same property that has now been designated as national treasure.

2. When the designation of a national treasure, important cultural property or important tangible folk-cultural property belonging to the State has been annulled, the notice or the certificate of designation to its owner under the provision of Article 29 paragraph 2 (including the cases where the same applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 56-11 paragraph 2) or paragraph 5 shall be issued to the head of the Ministry or Agency in charge of the custody of such national treasure, important cultural property or important tangible folk-cultural property. In this case, the head of the Ministry or Agency concerned shall send back the certificate of designation to the Minister of Education without delay.

3. When the property owned or occupied by the State has been designated or provisionally designated as special historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument or as historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument, or when such designation or provisional designation has been annulled, the notice to be issued to the owner or the possessor/occupant under the provision of Article 69 paragraph 3 (including the cases where the same applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 70 paragraph 3 and Article 71 paragraph 4) shall be issued to the head of the Ministry or Agency in charge of the custody of such property.

Article 89. The head of the Ministry or Agency in charge of the custody of an important cultural property, important tangible folk-cultural property or historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument shall exercise the custody of such property in accordance with this Law, and with the Ministry of Education Ordinance and at the advice of the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs, issued or given thereunder.

Article 90. The head of the Ministry or Agency concerned shall give a notice to the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs through the Minister of Education in any of the following cases:

- (1) Where any important cultural property, important tangible folk-cultural property, or historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument has been newly acquired;
- (2) Where there has been the transfer of jurisdiction or of administrative control respecting any important cultural property, important tangible folk-cultural property, or historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument;
- (3) Where any important cultural property, important tangible folk-cultural property, or historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument, under the jurisdiction of the Ministry or Agency concerned has been entirely or partially destroyed, damaged, or decayed, or has been lost or stolen;
- (4) Where the location of any important cultural property or important tangible folk-cultural property, under the jurisdiction of the Ministry or Agency concerned, is to be changed;
- (5) Where any important cultural property or historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument, under the jurisdiction of the Ministry or Agency concerned, is to be repaired or restored (excluding the case where consent of the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs must be applied for in accordance with the provision of a paragraph 1 item (1) of the following Article, or any other cases provided for by the Ministry of Education Ordinance);
- (6) Where the existing state of any important tangible folk-cultural property under the jurisdiction of the Ministry or Agency concerned is to be changed or an act affecting the preservation thereof is to be taken, or where such property is to be exported;
- (7) Where in regard to the land within the designated area of any historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument under the jurisdiction of the Ministry or Agency concerned, there has been a change in the name of town, lot number, category or acreage.

2. In cases where notices are to be filed under the respective items of the preceding paragraph, the following provision shall apply *mutatis mutandis*: the provision of Article 32 paragraph 1 and those of Article 56-12 and Article 75 under which Article 32 paragraph 1 applies *mutatis mutandis*, when notices are to be filed under items (1) and (2) of the preceding paragraph; the provision of Article 33 and those of Article 56-12 and Article 75 under which Article 33 applies *mutatis mutandis*, when notices are to be filed under item (3) of the preceding paragraph; the provision of Article 34 and that of Article 56-12 under which Article 34 applies *mutatis mutandis*, when notices are to be filed under item (4) of the preceding paragraph; the provisions of Article 43-2 paragraph 1 and Article 80-3 paragraph 1 when notices are to be filed under item (5) of the preceding paragraph; the provision of Article 56-13 paragraph 1, when notices are to be filed under item (6) of the preceding paragraph; and the provision of Article 72 paragraph 2, when notices are to be filed under item (7) of the preceding paragraph.
3. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may give necessary advice on the matters notified under paragraph 1 item (5) or (6).

Article 91. The head of the Ministry or Agency concerned shall obtain in advance the consent of the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs through the Minister of Education, in any of the following cases:

- (1) Where he/she intends to alter the existing state of the important cultural property or of the historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument, or to do any act affecting the preservation thereof;
 - (2) Where he/she intends to export any important cultural property under his/her jurisdiction;
 - (3) Where he/she intends to loan, exchange, sell, transfer, or otherwise dispose of the important cultural property, important tangible folk-cultural property or historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument under his/her jurisdiction.
2. When any of the State organs other than the head of the Ministry or Agency intends to alter the existing state of the important cultural property or of the historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument, or to do any act affecting the preservation thereof it shall obtain in advance the consent of the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs.
 3. In the case coming under paragraph 1 item (1) and the preceding paragraph, the proviso to Article 43 paragraph 1 and the provision of paragraph 2 of the same Article, as well as the proviso to Article 80 paragraph 1 and the provision of paragraph 2 of the same Article shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.
 4. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs shall, in giving consent regarding the steps provided for in paragraph 1 item (1) or paragraph 2, give necessary advice thereon as a condition to such consent.
 5. The head of the Ministry or Agency concerned or any other State organ shall duly respect the advice of the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs given under the provision of the preceding paragraph.

Article 92. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may, when he/she deems it necessary, give appropriate advice to the head of the Ministry or Agency through the Minister of Education, respecting the following matters:

- (1) Method of custody of the important cultural property, important tangible folk-cultural property, or historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument, under his/her jurisdiction;
 - (2) Repair or restoration or preventive measures against destruction, damage, decay or theft of the important cultural property, important tangible folk-cultural property, or historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument, under his/her jurisdiction;
 - (3) Provision of facilities necessary for the preservation of the integrity of surroundings of the important cultural property or of the historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument;
 - (4) Display or opening to the public of the important cultural property or the important tangible folk-cultural property under his/her jurisdiction.
2. With respect to the advice under the preceding paragraph, the provision of paragraph 5 of the preceding Article shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.
 3. With respect to the share of expenses required for the repairs, restoration or measures mentioned in paragraph 1 item (2) or for the provision of facilities mentioned in item (3) of the same paragraph to be undertaken or made on the advice of the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs given under the same paragraph, the Minister of Education and the head of the Ministry or Agency concerned shall decide by consultation between themselves.

Article 93. In any of the cases given in the following items, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may himself/herself conduct repairs or restoration, or take preventive measures against destruction, damage, decay or theft, respecting the national treasure or the special historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument belonging to the State. If, in this case, however, the cultural property in question is under the jurisdiction of the head of the Ministry or Agency, other than the Minister of Education, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs shall consult in advance, through the Minister of Education, the head of the Ministry or Agency taking custody of the said property respecting the substance of the repairs, restoration or measures, the date of commencement of the work, and other necessary matters; and

if the said property is under the jurisdiction of the Minister of Education, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs shall secure his/her approval, unless otherwise regulated by the Minister of Education.

(1) Where the head of the Ministry or Agency concerned fails to comply with the advice of the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs, given in regard to the repairs, restoration or measures as provided for in paragraph 1 item (2) of the preceding Article;

(2) Where it is not deemed appropriate to have the said repairs or restoration or measures undertaken by the head of the Ministry or Agency concerned, in the case where the national treasure, or the special historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument is damaged or in decay, or where there is a fear that such property may be destroyed or damaged, fall into decay, or may be stolen.

Article 94. In case the Minister of Education deems it necessary for the purpose of designating a State property as national treasure, as important cultural property, as important tangible folk-cultural property, as special historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument, or as historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument, or for the purpose of clearly grasping the conditions of the State property designated as such, he/she may demand of the head of the Ministry or Agency concerned a report necessary for the investigation, or may, except for the case regarding the important tangible folk-cultural property, appoint a person or persons who are conduct the investigation and let them carry it out on the spot.

Article 95. In case the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs deems it positively necessary for the purpose of preservation of the State property designated as an important cultural property, as an important tangible folk-cultural property or as a historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument, he/she may appoint an appropriate local public body or any other appropriate juridical person and charge it with the conduct of custody necessary for the preservation of such cultural property (including the care of such facilities, equipments or any other objects in the ownership or custody of the State as are needed for the preservation of the said cultural property).

2. In making appointment under the provision of the preceding paragraph, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs shall obtain in advance the consent of the head of the Ministry or Agency in charge of the custody of the cultural property concerned, through the Minister of Education, as well as that of the local public body or any other juridical person to be appointed as such.

3. To the appointment under the provision of paragraph 1 the provisions of Article 32-2 paragraphs 3 and 4 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

4. Any profit raised from the exercise of the custody under the provision of paragraph 1 shall revert to the local public body or any other juridical person concerned.

5. In regard to the custody undertaken by the local public body or any other juridical person in accordance with the provision of paragraph 1, the following provisions shall apply *mutatis mutandis* as follows: the provisions of Article 30, Article 31 paragraph 1, Article 32-4 paragraph 1, Articles 33, 34, 35 and 36, Article 47-2 paragraph 3 and Article 54 to the custody of the important cultural property or of the important tangible folk-cultural property; and those of Article 30, Article 31 paragraph 1, Articles 33 and 35, Article 72 paragraphs 1 and 2, Article 72-2 paragraphs 1 and 3, Article 76 and Article 82 to the custody of the historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument.

Article 95-2. To the annulment of the appointment under the provision of paragraph 1 of the preceding Article the provision of Article 32-3 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

Article 95-3. In case the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs deems it positively necessary for the purpose of protection of important cultural property, important tangible folk-cultural property, or historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument, he/she may make the local public body or any other juridical person appointed to conduct custody under the provision of Article 95 paragraph 1 undertake the repair or restoration of the cultural property concerned.

2. In case the local public body or any other juridical person is made to undertake the repair or restoration under the provision of the preceding paragraph, the provision of Article 95 paragraph 2 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.
3. In regard to the execution of repair or restoration by the local public body or any other juridical person under the provision of paragraph 1, the following provisions shall apply *mutatis mutandis* as specified below: the provisions of Article 32-4 paragraph 1 and Article 35 to the repair or restoration of the important cultural property or of the important tangible folk-cultural property, and those of Article 35, Article 72-2 paragraph 1 and Article 73 to that of the historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument.

Article 95-4. The local public body appointed under the provision of Article 95 paragraph 1 may use without compensation the land or the building which is covered by the designation of the important cultural property, important tangible folk-cultural property or historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument, belonging to the State ownership, within the limits of its custodial necessity.

2. The provisions of Article 22 paragraphs 2 and 3 of the State property Law shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the case where the land or building may be used under the provision of the preceding paragraph.

Article 96. When the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs intends to execute himself/herself an excavation under the provision of Article 58 paragraph 1, if the land where the said excavation is to take place is owned by the State or occupied by any organ of the State, he/she shall consult in advance, through the Minister of Education, the head of the Ministry or Agency concerned with respect to the purpose, method and date of commencement of the excavation, and any other matters deemed necessary; however, if the head of the Ministry or Agency concerned is the Minister of Education, his/her approval shall be secured.

Article 97. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs shall keep in custody the cultural property which has reverted to the National Treasury under the provisions of Article 63; however, the objects which had better be placed in the custody of any other organ for the purpose of its preservation or in view of its utility shall be transferred to the custody of such more appropriate organ.

(Special Provisions Regarding the State in Connection with Registered Tangible Cultural Properties)

Article 97-2. When registered tangible cultural properties belonging to the State which are buildings have been registered in accordance with the provision of Article 56-2 paragraph 1, the notice or the certificate of registration to be issued to the owner under the provisions of Article 56-2-2 paragraph 1 or 3 shall be issued to the head of the Ministry or Agency in charge of the custody of the registered tangible cultural property concerned.

2. When the registration of a registered tangible cultural property belonging to the State has been annulled under the provisions of Article 56-2-3 paragraph 1 or 2, the notification to be given to its owner under paragraph 3 of the same Article shall be made to the head of the Ministry or Agency in charge of the custody of the registered tangible cultural property concerned. In this case, the head of the Ministry or Agency concerned shall send back the certificate of designation to the Minister of Education without delay.

Article 97-3. The head of the Ministry or Agency in concerned shall give notice to the Commissioner of the Agency of Cultural Affairs through the Minister of Education in the following cases:

- (1) Where a registered tangible cultural property has been acquired;
- (2) Where there has been a transfer of jurisdiction or of administrative control with respect to any registered tangible cultural property;
- (3) Where a registered tangible cultural property under the jurisdiction of the Ministry or Agency has been entirely or partially destroyed or damaged;

- (4) Where the existing status of a registered tangible cultural property is to be altered;
2. When any State organ other than the heads of the Ministries and Agencies intends to alter the existing state of a registered tangible cultural property, it must notify the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs.
3. The proviso of Article 32 paragraph 1 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to notifications under paragraph 1 items (1) and (2), and likewise the proviso of 56-2-5 to notifications under paragraph 1 item (3), and the proviso of 56-2-7 paragraph 1 to notifications under paragraph 1 item (4) and the preceding paragraph.
4. The proviso of Article 56-2-7 paragraph 1 and the provisions of paragraph 2 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to alterations to the existing state under paragraph 1 item (4) and paragraph 2.
5. When deemed necessary for the protection of a registered tangible cultural property, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs can, through the Minister of Education, state his opinion to the head of the Ministry or Agency concerned, or to State organs other than the heads of the Ministries and Agencies, concerning alterations to the existing state under paragraph 1 item (4) and paragraph 2.

Article 97-4. When it is deemed necessary to confirm the status of a registered tangible cultural property belonging to the State, the Minister of Education can demand of the head of the Ministry or Agency concerned a report necessary for that investigation.

Article 97-5. To registered tangible cultural properties belonging to the State, the provisions of Article 56-2-4 paragraphs 3 to 5 inclusive, of Article 56-2-6 paragraph 2, and of Article 56-2-9 paragraph 3 shall not apply.

Section 3. Local Public Bodies and Boards of Education

(Functions of Local Public Body)

Article 98. Local public bodies may issue subsidies in regard to the expenses required for the preservation and utilization of cultural properties, including their custody, repair, restoration and public viewing.

2. Any local public body may, in accordance with its own regulations, designate important items of cultural properties which are located within its own administrative limits and that which are not designated by the State as important cultural properties, the important intangible cultural properties, important tangible folk-cultural properties, important intangible folk-cultural properties or historic sites, places of scenic beauty and/or natural monuments, and take necessary measures for their preservation and utilization.
3. In case a local public body has enacted, revised or abolished its own regulations mentioned in the preceding paragraph, or in case it has designated cultural properties or annulled such designation, its Board of Education shall report the fact to the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs in accordance with the Ministry of Education Ordinance.

Article 98-2. When local public bodies deem it necessary to investigate the buried cultural property, they may, excepting those which the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs undertakes to excavate in accordance with the provision of Article 58 paragraph 1, undertake to excavate the land considered to contain buried cultural properties.

2. In cases where a local public body intends to undertake excavation in accordance with the provision of the preceding paragraph, if the land where it is to be undertaken belongs to the State ownership or occupied by a State organ, responsible Board of Education shall consult in advance the head of the Ministry or Agency concerned or any other State organ with respect to the purpose, method and date of commencement of the excavation, and any other matters deemed necessary.
3. The local public body may ask the undertaker for his/her cooperation in regard to the excavation carried out in accordance with paragraph 1.
4. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may give the local public body necessary guidance and advice concerning the excavation carried out under paragraph 1.

5. The State may grant the local public body a subsidy to cover part of the expenses required for the excavation carried out under paragraph 1.

Article 98-3. In case the Board of Education of a To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefecture) or of a designated city, etc. has discovered a cultural property through an excavation carried out in accordance with the provision of paragraph 1 of the preceding Article, the provisions of Article 59 and Article 62 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*. In this case, "Article 59 paragraph 1 or paragraph 2 of the preceding Article" mentioned in Article 62 shall read "Article 59 paragraph 1 which applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 98-3 paragraph 1."

2. As for the application of the provision of Article 63 under the preceding paragraph, "Article 59 paragraph 1 or Article 61 paragraph 2" mentioned in Article 63 paragraph 1 shall be taken as "Article 59 paragraph 1 which applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 98-3 paragraph 1."

(Consideration with Respect to Local Bond)

Article 98-4. With respect to local bonds to be issued by local public bodies as a means of raising necessary funds for carrying out undertakings for the sake of preservation and utilization of cultural properties, appropriate consideration shall be given, within the limits of laws and regulations, and as far as the financial situation and the financial conditions of the said local public bodies permit.

(Delegation of Competence)

Article 99. When deemed necessary, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may delegate to the Boards of Education of To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefectures), or of designated cities, etc., part of his/her competence as listed below:

- (1) Direction and supervision under the provision of Article 35 paragraph 3 (including the cases where this paragraph applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 36 paragraph 3 [including the cases where this paragraph applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 56-14, Article 76 paragraph 2 (including the cases where the latter paragraph applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 95 paragraph 5) and Article 95 paragraph 5], Article 37 paragraph 4 [including the case where this paragraph applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 56-14 and Article 77 paragraph 3], Article 46-2 paragraph 2, Article 56-6 paragraph 2, Article 56-9 paragraph 2 [including the cases where this paragraph applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 56-21], Article 56-14, Article 56-18 paragraph 2, Article 73-2, Article 75, Article 81-2 paragraph 2, Article 95 paragraph 5 and Article 95-3 paragraph 3);

- (2) Permission for the alteration of the existing state or for the acts affecting preservation, cancellation of such permission, and order for suspension of such alteration or acts, under the provision of Article 43 or Article 80 (excluding permission for gross alteration of the existing state or for acts seriously affecting preservation, and cancellation of such permission);

- (3) Order for suspension of public viewing under the provision of Article 51 paragraph 5, Article 51-2 (including the cases where this Article applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 56-16), Article 56-15 paragraph 2 and Article 56-16;

- (4) Permission for public viewing, cancellation thereof and order for suspension of such act, under the provisions of Article 53 paragraphs 1, 3 and 4.

- (5) Investigation or execution of measures necessary there of under the provisions of Article 54 (including the cases where the same Article applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 56-17 and Article 95 paragraph 5), Article 55, Article 82 (including the cases where this Article applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 95 paragraph 5), or Article 83;

- (6) Order for the suspension of the act of excavation under the provision of Article 57 paragraph 2.

2. In case the Boards of Education of To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefectures), or of designated cities, etc., by virtue of the competence delegated to them under the provision of the preceding paragraph, cancel the permission under item (2) or (4) of the same paragraph, or in case they execute investigation by entry into land or take measures necessary therefor under item (5) of the same paragraph, the provisions of Article 85 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*, respectively.

3. With respect to such acts as provided for in the preceding paragraph, out of those of the execution of the public authority including the disposition which the Boards of Education of To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefectures), or of designated cities, etc., have made by virtue of the competence delegated under the provision of paragraph 1, no one can address an appeal of dissatisfaction under the Administrative Appeal Law.
4. The provisions of Articles 85-3 to 85-7 inclusive shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the procedure for appeal to the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs for examination on the acts of execution of the public authority including the dispositions made by the Boards of Education of To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefectures), or of designated cities, etc., and the provision of Article 85-8 to the appeal for annulment of the dispositions provided for in Article 85-3 paragraph 1 item (1) which were made by the Boards of Education of To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefectures), or of designated cities, etc.

(Delegation of Custody of Important Cultural Properties on Display)

Article 100. When deemed necessary, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may delegate to the Boards of Education of To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefectures), or of designated cities, etc., the duties relating to the custody of the important cultural properties or important tangible folk-cultural properties displayed under the provisions of Article 48 (including the cases where this Article applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 56-16).

2. The Boards of Education of To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefectures), or of designated cities, etc., to which the duties referred to in the preceding paragraph have been delegated, shall appoint from among their personnel persons who are to undertake the custody of the important cultural properties or important tangible folk-cultural properties in question.

(Delegation of Judgement of Objects Presented as Buried Objects)

Article 100-2. When deemed necessary, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs shall delegate to the Boards of Education of To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefectures), or of designated cities, etc., the duties of judgement provided for in Article 61 paragraph 1, of notification and sending back the object, provided for in paragraph 2 of the same Article and of deliver provided for in Article 62 (exclusively the delivery of the cultural property prescribed in Article 62 paragraph 2).

2. When duties are delegated under the provision of the preceding paragraph, the presentation of the object by the chief of the station under Article 60 shall be made to the prefectural or municipal Board of Education to which such duties are delegated.

(Trust of Execution of Repairs, etc.)

Article 101. With respect to repairs of the national treasure or preventive measures against its destruction, damage or theft provided for in Article 38 paragraph 1 or in Article 93, excavation of buried cultural property provided for in Article 58 paragraph 1, restoration of the special historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument or preventive measures against its destruction, damage, decay or theft provided for in Article 78 paragraph 1 or in Article 93, the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may, when he/she deems it necessary, entrust the Boards of Education of To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefectures) with the execution of the whole or a part of such affairs.

2. In case the Boards of Education of To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefectures) act by virtue of the trust provided for in the preceding paragraph, the following provisions shall apply *mutatis mutandis* respectively: the provisions of Article 39, when whole or part of the repairs or measures mentioned in Article 38 paragraph 1 is to be executed; the provisions of Article 39 applying *mutatis mutandis* under Article 58 paragraph 3, when whole or part of the excavation mentioned in Article 58 paragraph 1 is to be executed; the provisions of Article 39 applying *mutatis mutandis* under Article 78 paragraph 2, when whole or part of the restoration or measures mentioned in Article 78 paragraph 1 is to be executed.

(Acceptance of Trust of Custody, etc. of Important Cultural Property or Technical Guidance thereon)

Article 102. Upon request of the owner (the custodial body, if such has been appointed) or of the custodian, the board of Education of To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefecture) may, with previous approval by the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs, accept the trust of custody (excluding the cases where a custodial body has been appointed), repair or restoration of the important cultural property, of important tangible folk-cultural property or of historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument, or give technical guidance thereon.

2. The provisions of Article 39 paragraphs 1 and 2 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*, when the Board of Education of To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefecture) accepts the trust of custody, repair or restoration under the preceding paragraph.

(Channel for Presentation of Papers, etc.)

Article 103. Reports and other papers, as well as objects, to be submitted to the Minister of Education or to the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs under the provisions of this Law with regard to the cultural property, shall go through the Board of Education of To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefecture) concerned.

2. The Board of Education of To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefecture), upon receiving the papers and objects mentioned in the preceding paragraph, shall forward them to the Minister of Education or to the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs together with the statement of its own opinions thereon.
3. Notification of order, advice, instruction and any other kinds of disposition to be issued by the Minister of Education or the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs under the provisions of this Law with regard to cultural property, shall go through the Board of Education of To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefecture) concerned; this shall not apply, however, in cases of extreme urgency.
4. The act of reporting, proposal, or returning of the certificate of designation to the Minister of Education or to the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs as provided for by this Law shall be deemed as complete at the time when such report or other document or the certificate of designation has reached the Board of Education of To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefecture) which it is to go through in accordance with the provision of paragraph 1.

(Direction, Supervision and Payment of Expenses)

Article 104. The Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs may direct and supervise the Boards of Education of To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefectures), or of designated cities, etc., with respect to the duties which the said Commissioner makes such Boards perform.

2. The expenses which the Boards of Education of To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefectures), or of designated cities, etc., require for carrying out the duties mentioned in the provisions of Articles 99 to 101 inclusive shall be borne by the National Treasury.

(Presentation of Opinions to the Minister of Education or the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs)

Article 104-2. The Boards of Education of To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefectures), or of municipalities (including municipal federations and special districts; hereinafter the same in this Section), may present their opinions to the Minister of Education or to the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs concerning the preservation and utilization of the cultural properties which are located within their administrative districts.

(Regional Cultural Properties Protection Council)

Article 105. Any prefectural or municipal Board of Education may, in accordance with its own regulations, have a Regional Cultural Properties Protection Council.

2. The Regional Cultural Properties Council shall, upon inquiry of the prefectural or municipal Board of Education concerned, investigate and deliberate important matters concerning the preservation and utilization of cultural properties as well as make proposals to the said Board of Education with respect to such matters.

3. Particulars concerning the organization and management of the Regional Cultural Properties Protection Council shall be determined by the regulations of the prefecture or municipality concerned.

(Specialist-Members for Cultural Property Protection)

Article 105-2. The Board of Education of To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefecture) may have specialist-members for cultural property protection.

2. The specialist-members for cultural property protection shall from time to time make inspection tours of cultural properties, give guidance and advice to their owners and other related persons in regard to the protection of cultural properties and also undertake educational activities for community people on the spirit of the protection of cultural properties.
3. The specialist-members for cultural property protection shall serve on a part-time basis.

CHAPTER VII Penal Provisions

(Criminal Penalties)

Article 106. Any person who has, in contravention of the provision of Article 44, exported any important cultural property without obtaining the permission of the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs shall be liable to imprisonment, with or without hard labor, for a term not exceeding five (5) years or to a fine not exceeding one million (1,000,000) yen.

Article 107. Any person who has damaged, discarded or secreted any important cultural property shall be liable to imprisonment, with or without hard labor, for a term not exceeding five (5) years or to a fine not exceeding three hundred thousand (300,000) yen.

2. If the person mentioned in the preceding paragraph happens to be the owner of the important cultural property in question, he/she shall be liable to imprisonment, with or without hard labor, for a term not exceeding two (2) years or to a fine of minor fine not exceeding two hundred thousand (200,000) yen.

Article 107-2. Any person who has altered the existing state of a historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument, or by practicing any act affecting its preservation destroyed it, damaged it or brought it to decay, shall be liable to imprisonment, with or without hard labor, for a term not exceeding five (5) years or to fine not exceeding three hundred thousand (300,000) yen.

2. If the person mentioned in the preceding paragraph happens to be the owner of the historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument in question, he/she shall be liable to imprisonment, with or without hard labor, for a term not exceeding two (2) years or to a fine or minor fine not exceeding two hundred thousand (200,000) yen.

Article 107-3. The person who comes under any of the following items shall be liable to a fine not exceeding two hundred thousand (200,000) yen.

- (1) Any person who has, in violation of the provisions of Article 43 or Article 80, altered the existing state of or done an act affecting the preservation of any important cultural property or any historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument with obtaining the permission of the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs or the Board of Education of To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefecture) or designated city, etc., to which the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs had delegated his competence, or without complying with the conditions of such permission, or failed to obey the order of the said Commissioner or Board of Education issued to the violator to suspend the act of altering the existing state or affecting preservation;
- (2) Any person who has, in contravention of the provision of Article 57-5 paragraph 2, failed to obey the order of suspension or prohibition of the act which may lead to the alteration of the existing state issued by the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs.

Article 107-4. The person who comes under any of the following items shall be liable to a fine not exceeding ten thousand (10,000) yen;

(1) Any person who has refused or interfered with the execution of repair or of any measure for the prevention of destruction, damage or theft of a national treasure, in contravention of the provision of Article 32-2 paragraph 5 applying *mutatis mutandis* under Article 39 paragraph 3 (including the cases where this paragraph applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 101 paragraph 2);

(2) Any person who has refused or interfered with the execution of excavation, in contravention of the provision of Article 32-2 paragraph 5 applying *mutatis mutandis* under Article 39 paragraph 3 which applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 58 paragraph 3 (including the cases where this paragraph applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 101 paragraph 2);

(3) Any person who has refused or interfered with the execution of restoration or of any measure for the prevention of destruction, damage decay or theft of the special historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument, in contravention of the provision of Article 32-2 paragraph 5 applying *mutatis mutandis* under Article 39 paragraph 3 which applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 78 paragraph 2 (including the cases where this paragraph applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 101 paragraph 2);

Article 107-5. In case the representative of a juridical person, or the proxy, a servant or any other employee of a juridical person or of a natural person has committed any of the offenses mentioned in the preceding five Articles, in regard to the performance of duties or custody of property for which such juridical or natural person concerned by the same particular Article.

(Administrative Penalties)

Article 108. If a person appointed as responsible for the execution of custody, repairs or restoration of any important cultural property, important tangible folk-cultural property or historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument, in accordance with the provision of Article 39 paragraph 1 (including the cases where this paragraph applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 47 paragraph 3 (including the cases where the latter applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 56-14, Article 78 paragraph 2, Article 101 paragraph 2 or Article 102 paragraph 2), Article 49 (including the cases where this paragraph applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 56-16), or Article 100 paragraph 2, has destroyed, damaged or brought to decay the same property or has it stolen, by negligence or serious fault in duty, he/she shall be liable to a non-criminal fine not exceeding three hundred thousand (300,000) yen.

Article 109. The person who comes under any of the following items shall be liable to a non-criminal fine not exceeding three hundred thousand (300,000) yen:

(1) Any person who has failed to obey without justifiable reasons such order of the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs as may be issued under Article 36 paragraph 1 (including the cases where this paragraph applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 56-14 and Article 95 paragraph 5) or Article 37 paragraph 1 pertaining to the custody of an important cultural property or an important tangible folk-cultural property, or to the repair of a national treasure;

(2) Any person who has failed to obey without justifiable reasons such order of the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs as may be issued under the provision of Article 76 paragraph 1 (including the cases where this paragraph applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 95 paragraph 5) or Article 77 paragraph 1 pertaining to the custody of a historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument, or to the restoration of a special historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument.

Article 110. Any person who comes under any of the following items shall be liable to a non-criminal fine not exceeding one hundred thousand (100,000) yen:

(1) Any person who has, without justifiable reasons, disobeyed the restriction, prohibition or the order for provision of facilities issued under Article 45 paragraph 1;

(2) Any person who, in contravention of the provisions of Article 46 (including the cases where this Article applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 56-14), has failed to make the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs an offer of sale to the State or after making the said offer to him/her has transferred the important cultural property or important tangible folk-cultural property in question to any other party than the State within the period prescribed in paragraph 3 of the same Article (including the cases where this paragraph applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 56-14), or has given false statements in making the offer of sales under paragraph 1 of the same Article (including the cases where this paragraph applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 56-14) or in making an application for approval referred to in the proviso to the same paragraph (including the cases where this paragraph applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 56-14);

(3) Any person who has failed to display or open the property concerned to the public, in contravention of the provision of Article 48 paragraph 4 (including the cases where this paragraph applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 51 paragraph 3 [including the cases where the latter paragraph applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 56-16], or who has, in violation of the provision of Article 51 paragraph 5, Article 51-2 [including the case where this Article applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 56-16], Article 56-15 paragraph 2 and Article 56-16), failed to obey the order for suspension or discontinuance of such public viewing, which was issued by the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs or by the Board of Education of To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefecture) or designated city, etc. concerned to which the said Commissioner had delegated his/her competence;

(4) Any person who has in violation of the provisions of Article 53 paragraphs 1, 3 or 4, opened any important cultural property to the public without obtaining the permission of the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs or of the Board of Education of To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefecture) or designated city, etc. to which the said Commissioner has delegated his competence, or without complying with the conditions of such permission, or failed to obey the order of the said Commissioner or Board of Education for the suspension of such public viewing;

(5) Any person who has, in violation of the provisions of Article 54 (including the cases where this Article applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 56-17 and Article 95 paragraph 5), Article 55, Article 56-2-10, Article 82 (including the cases where the latter Article applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 95 paragraph 5), or Article 83, failed to submit a report or submitted a false report, or has refused, interfered with or evaded the responsible officials' on-the-spot investigation by entry into land or the execution of measure necessary for such investigation;

(6) Any person who has, in violation of the provision of Article 57 paragraph 2, failed to obey the prohibition or the order for suspension or discontinuance of the act of excavation issued by the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs or the Board of Education of To, Do, Fu or Ken (Prefecture) or designated city, etc. to which the said Commissioner has delegated his competence;

(7) Any person who has, without justifiable reasons, disobeyed the restriction, prohibition or order for provision of facilities issued under the provision of Article 81 paragraph 1.

Article 111. The person who comes under any of the following items shall be liable to a non-criminal fine not exceeding fifty thousand (50,000) yen:

(1) Any person who has failed to return to the Minister of Education the certificate of designation of an important cultural property or of an important tangible folk-cultural property, or to hand it over to the new owner of the property concerned in violation of the provision of Article 28 paragraph 5, Article 29 paragraph 4 (including the cases where this paragraph applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 56-11 paragraph 2), Article 56 paragraph 2 (including the cases where this paragraph applied *mutatis mutandis* under Article 56-17), Article 56-2-3 paragraph 5 or Article 56-2-11;

(2) Any person who has failed to report or who has submitted a false report in violation of the provision of Article 31 paragraph 3 (including the cases where this paragraph applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 56-2-4 paragraph 4, Article 56-12 and Article 74 paragraph 2), Article 32 (including the cases where this Article applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 56-2-4 paragraph 4, Article 56-12 and Article 75), Article 33 (including the cases where this Article applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 56-12, Article 73-2, Article 75

and Article 95 paragraph 5), Article 34 (including the cases where this paragraph applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 56-12 and Article 95 paragraph 5), Article 43-2 paragraph 1, Article 56-2-5, Article 56-2-7 paragraph 1, Article 56-5, Article 56-13 paragraph 1, the body text of Article 56-15 Paragraph 1, Article 57 paragraph 1, Article 57-5 paragraph 1, Article 72 paragraph 2 (including the cases where this paragraph applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 75 and Article 95 paragraph 5), or Article 80-3 paragraph 1;

(3) Any person who has refused, interfered with, or evaded the execution of custody, repair or restoration of or measure necessary for such action, in violation of the provision of Article 32-2 paragraph 5 (including the cases where this paragraph applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 34-3 paragraph 2 [including the cases where the latter applies *mutatis mutandis* under Article 56-14], Article 56-2-4 paragraph 4, Article 56-2-6 paragraph 2, and under Article 56-12) or Article 72 paragraph 4.

Article 112. Deleted.

Supplementary Provisions

(Date of Enforcement)

Article 113. The date of the enforcement of this Law shall be provided for by Cabinet Order within a period not exceeding three (3) months from the day of its promulgation. (The same Law came into force from the 29th of August, 1950, by the Cabinet Order No. 276 of August, 1950).

(Abolition of Relevant Laws and Orders)

Article 114. The following Laws, Imperial Ordinances and Cabinet Orders are hereby abolished:

National Treasures Preservation Law (Law No. 17 of 1929);

Law concerning the Preservation of Important Objects of Art, etc. (Law No. 43 of 1933);

Law for the Preservation of Historic Sites, Places of Scenic Beauty and Natural Monuments (Law No. 44 of 1919);

Ordinance for the Enforcement of the National Treasures Preservation Law (Imperial Ordinance No. 210 of 1929);

Ordinance for the Enforcement of the Law for the Preservation of Historic Sites, Places of Scenic Beauty and Natural Monuments (Imperial Ordinance No. 499 of 1919);

Regulations governing the Organization of the National Treasures Preservation Society (Imperial Ordinance No. 211 of 1929);

Order for the Important Art Objects, etc. Research Council (Cabinet Order No. 251 of 1949);

Order for the Research Council on Historic Sites, Places of Scenic Beauty and Natural Monuments (Cabinet Order No. 252 of 1949).

(Transitional Provisions consequential upon Abolition of Laws and Orders)

Article 115. The designation of national treasures made prior to the enforcement of this Law under the provision of Article 1 of the National Treasures Preservation Law (excluding the cases where the annulment thereof has been made pursuant to Article 11 paragraph 1 of the same Law) shall be deemed as the designation of important cultural properties under Article 27 paragraph 1 of this Law, and the permission given pursuant to Article 3 or 4 of that Law shall be deemed as the permission under Article 43 or 44 of this Law.

2. With respect to the destruction or damage of national treasures which may have occurred prior to the enforcement of this Law, the orders which were given in accordance with Article 7 paragraph 1 of the National Treasures Preservation Law prior to the enforcement of this Law, and the subsidies which were granted in accordance with the former part of Article 15 of the same Law prior to the enforcement of this Law, the provisions of Articles 7 to 10 inclusive, the latter part of Article 15, and Article 24 of that

Law shall continue to be in force. In this case, "the competent Ministers" in Article 9 paragraph 2 of that same Law shall read "the National Commission for Protection of Cultural Properties."

3. With regard to the punishment of acts committed prior to the enforcement of this Law, the provisions of the National Treasures Preservation Law, excepting Articles 6 and 23 shall continue to be in force.
4. Any person who owns, at the time of the enforcement of this Law, any national treasure designated under Article 1 of the National Treasures Preservation Law, shall report to the Commission stating particulars prescribed by the Regulations of the Commission, within three (3) months from the time of the enforcement of this Law.
5. When the report mentioned in the preceding paragraph has been filed, the Commission shall issue to the owner concerned a certificate of designation of important cultural property prescribed in Article 28 of this Law.
6. Any person who, in contravention of the provision of paragraph 4, has failed to report or has filed a false report shall be liable to a non-criminal fine not exceeding five thousand (5,000) yen.
7. The head of the Ministry of Agency having control, at the time of the enforcement of this Law, over any national treasure designated under Article 1 of the National Treasures Preservation Law shall, within three (3) months from the time of the enforcement of this Law, notify the Commission in writing, stating particulars prescribed by the Regulations of the Commission; however, this shall not apply if otherwise provided for by the Regulations of the Commission.
8. When the notification has been made according to the preceding paragraph, the Commission shall issue to the head of the Ministry or Agency concerned a certificate of designation of important cultural property prescribed in Article 28 of this Law.

Article 116. With respect to the objects classified under the provision of Article 2 paragraph 1 of the Law concerning the Preservation of Important Objects of Art, etc. up to the time of the enforcement of this Law, the old Law shall continue to be in force for the time being. In this case, the affairs concerning the operation of that Law shall be conducted by the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs, and "the national treasures" occurring therein shall read "the important cultural properties under the provisions of the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties," "the competent Minister" reading "the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs" and "designate the same objects as national treasures in accordance with Article 1 of the National Treasures Preservation Law" reading "the preceding Article."

2. The Council for the Protection of Cultural Properties shall, in response to the consultation instituted by the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs, undertake for the time being investigation and deliberation respecting the permission of exportation under Article 1 of the Law concerning the Preservation of Important Objects of Art, etc., and matters concerning the annulment of recognition under Article 2 of the same Law, and other important matters concerning the preservation of important objects of art, etc., and shall submit to the said Commissioner such proposals as may be deemed necessary with reference to these matters.
3. With respect to the operation of the Law concerning the Preservation of Important Object of Art, etc., the provisions of Article 103 of the present Law shall for the time being apply *mutatis mutandis*.

Article 117. The designation of historic sites, places of scenic beauty and/or natural monuments made prior to the enforcement of this Law, in accordance with the provision of Article 1 paragraph 1 of the Law for the Preservation of Historic Sites, Places of Scenic Beauty and Natural Monuments (excepting the cases where the designation has been annulled) shall be regarded as the designation made in accordance with the provision of Article 69 paragraph 1 of this Law, the provisional designation made in accordance with the provision of Article 1 paragraph 2 of the said old Law (excepting the cases where the designation has been annulled) shall be regarded as the provisional designation made in accordance with the provision of Article 70 paragraph 1 of this Law, and the permission given in accordance with the provision of Article 3 of the said old Law shall be regarded as the permission given in accordance with the provision of Article 80 paragraph 1 of this Law.

2. With respect to the orders issued or the dispositions made prior to the enforcement of this Law, in accordance with the provision of Article 4 paragraph 1 of the Law for the Preservation of Historic Sites, Places of Scenic Beauty and Natural Monuments, the provision of Article 4 of the said Law and of Article 4 of the Ordinance for the Enforcement of the said Law shall continue to be in force. In this case, "the Minister of Education" occurring in Article 4 of the said Ordinance shall read "the National Commission for Protection of Cultural Properties."
3. As to the punishment for acts committed prior to the enforcement of this Law, the Law for the Preservation of Historic Sites, Places of Scenic Beauty and Natural Monuments shall continue to be in force.

(Appointment of the First Members)

Article 118. As to the appointment of the first members of the Commission, only in the case where the Diet stands prorogued or where the House of Representatives stands dissolved, an ex post facto approval of the both Houses of the Diet at the first session convened thereafter shall suffice notwithstanding the provision of Article 9 paragraph 1.

2. The Minister of Education shall, when he/she is unable to obtain the ex post facto approval of the both Houses under the provision of the preceding paragraph, remove such members from their office.

(Convocation of the First Meeting of the Commission)

Article 119. The First meeting of the Commission under this Law shall be convened by the Minister of Education, notwithstanding the provision of Article 14.

(Term of Office of the First Members)

Article 120. The term of office of the Commission members appointed first in accordance with this Law, other than the Chairperson and a member who is to act for him/her, shall be one year for one member and two years for the other two.

2. The term of office of such members under the application of the provision of the preceding paragraph shall be decided by lot.

(Partial Amendment of the National Organization Law)

Article 121. The National Government Organization Law shall be partially amended as follows:

(Omitted.)

(Partial Amendment of the Ministry of Education Establishment Law)

Article 122. The Ministry of Education Establishment Law shall be partially amended as follows:

(Omitted.)

(Partial Amendment of the Law concerning the Fixed Number of Personnel of Government Organs)

Article 123. The law concerning the Fixed Number of Personnel of Government Organs shall be partially amended as follows:

(Omitted.)

(Former National Museums)

Article 124. Unless otherwise provided for by Laws (including orders thereunder) the former National Museums and the personnel thereof (excepting the Research Institutes of Art and personnel thereof) shall be the National Museums and the personnel thereof under this Law and the Research Institutes of Art attached to the former National Museums and the personnel thereof shall be the Research Institutes and the personnel thereof under this Law, and shall retain their respective identities.

2. The Tokyo National Research Institute of Cultural Properties under this Law shall be able to use the name of "Research Institute of Art," with respect to the researches and studies equivalent to those managed by the Research Institutes of Art attached to the former National Museums.

(Partial Amendment of the Law concerning Compensation for Public Service Personnel in the Special Government Service)

Article 125. The Law concerning Compensation for Public Service Personnel in the Special Government Service shall be partially amended as follows:
(Omitted.)

(Partial Amendment of the Lost Property Law)

Article 126. The Lost Property Law shall be partially amended as follows:
(Omitted.)

(Partial Amendment of the National Property Law)

Article 127. The National Property Law shall be partially amended as follows:
(Omitted.)

(Partial Amendment of the Outdoor Advertisement Law)

Article 128. The Outdoor Advertisement Law (Law No. 189 of 1949) shall be partially amended as follows:
(Omitted.)

(Partial Amendment of the Board of Education Law)

Article 129. The Board of Education Law (Law No. 170 of 1948) shall be partially amended as follows:
(Omitted.)

(Partial Amendment of the Net Fortune Tax Law)

Article 130. The Net Fortune Tax Law (Law No. 174 of 1950) shall be partially amended as follows:
(Omitted.)

Supplementary Provisions

(Law No. 318, December 24, 1951)

(Extract)

1. The Law shall come into force as from the day of its promulgation. However, the revised provisions of Articles 20, 22, 23 and Article 124 paragraph 2 as well as the provision of paragraph 3 of the Supplementary Provisions shall come into force as from April 1, 1952.
2. With regard to the application of the penal provisions to the acts committed prior to the enforcement of this Law, the provisions of Article 34 of the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties before the amendment shall continue to be in force.

Supplementary Provisions

(Law No. 272, July 31, 1952)

(Extract)

(Date of Enforcement)

1. This Law shall come into force as from August 1, 1952. The provision of paragraph 3 of the Supplementary Provisions, however, shall come into force as from the day of its promulgation.

(Transitional Provisions concerning Personnel of Branch Office of Tokyo National Museum)

2. Those who are the personnel of the branch office of the Tokyo National Museum at the time of the enforcement of this Law shall be the personnel of the Nara National Museum under the same conditions of service unless an official announcement of appointment is otherwise issued.

Supplementary Provisions

(Law No. 194, August 10, 1953)
(Extract)

1. This Law shall come into force as from the day of its promulgation.

Supplementary Provisions

(Law No. 213, August 15, 1953)
(Extract)

1. This Law shall come into force as from September 1, 1953.
(Omitted hereinafter.)
2. The permission, approval and other dispositions or application, report and other proceedings made under the provisions of former laws and orders prior to the enforcement of this Law shall be deemed as the dispositions or proceedings made under the corresponding provisions respectively after the revision.
3. The organs or the personnel established under the provisions of the former laws and orders at the time of enforcement of this Law shall be deemed as established under the corresponding provisions respectively after the revision.

Supplementary Provisions

(Law No. 131, May 29, 1954)
(Extract)

1. This Law shall come into force as from July 1, 1954.
2. The provisional designation of a historic site, place of scenic beauty and/or natural monument made prior to the enforcement of this Law shall, notwithstanding the provision of Article 71 paragraph 2 of the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties after the revision under this Law (hereinafter referred to as "the new Law") become null and void, when the designation has been made under the provision of Article 69 paragraph 1 of the new Law or when no designation under the same provision has been made of the same property within three years of the day of enforcement of this Law.
3. Any person dissatisfied with such disposition as the permission or rejection for the alteration of the existing state, etc. made within six (6) months before the enforcement of this Law under the provision of Article 43 paragraph 1 or Article 80 paragraph 1 of the former Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties prior to the revision under this Law or with the restriction, prohibition or order issued to particular persons under the provision of Article 45 paragraph 1 or Article 81 paragraph 1 of the same former Law may place a protest before the Commission within thirty (30) days of the day of enforcement of this Law. In this case, the provisions of Article 85-2 paragraphs 2 and 3 and Articles 85-3 to 85-9 inclusive shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.
4. With regard to the application of penal provisions for the acts conducted before the enforcement of this Law the precedent shall be followed.
5. The Cabinet Order concerning the Designation, etc. of Bodies for the Conduct of Custody of the Historic Site, Place of Scenic Beauty and/or Natural Monument (Cabinet Order 289 of 1953) shall be deleted.

6. The local public body or any other body designated under Article 1 paragraph 1 of the Cabinet Order concerning the Designation, etc. of Bodies to take Custody of the Former Historic Site, Place of Scenic Beauty and/or National Monument, and the body who is a juridical person and has been recognized under the provision of paragraph 2 of the Supplementary Provisions to the same Order as a local public body or any other body designated under the provision of Article 1 paragraph 1 of the same Order shall be deemed as a local public body or any other juridical person designated under the provision of Article 71-2 paragraph 1 or Article 95 paragraph 1.
7. The body which is provided for in the preceding paragraph but is not a juridical person may, notwithstanding the provision of Article 71-2, Article 95 or Article 95-3 of the new Law, be charged during one year of the day of enforcement of this Law with the conduct of custody and restoration provided for in Article 71-2 paragraph 1, Article 95 paragraph 1 or Article 95-3 paragraph 1 of the new Law. In this case the provisions concerning a juridical person designated under the provision of Article 71-2 paragraph 1 or Article 95 paragraph 1 of the new Law shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

Supplementary Provisions

(Law No. 148, June 12, 1956)

(Extract)

1. This Law shall come into force as from the day of the enforcement (September 1, 1956) of the Law concerning Partial Revision of the Local Autonomy Law (Law No. 147 of 1956).

Supplementary Provisions

(Law No. 163, June 30, 1956)

(Extract)

(Date of Enforcement)

1. This Law shall come into force as from October 1, 1956. (Omitted hereinafter.)

Supplementary Provisions

(Law No. 86, April 25, 1958)

(Extract)

1. This Law shall come into force (Omitted.) as from the day of its promulgation.

Supplementary Provisions

(Law No. 148, April 20, 1959)

(Extract)

(Date of Enforcement)

1. This Law shall come into force as from the day of the enforcement (January 1, 1960) of the National Tax Collection Law (Law No. 147 of 1959).

Supplementary Provisions

(Law No. 111, June 2, 1961)
(Extract)

(Date of Enforcement)

1. This Law shall come into force as from the day of its promulgation and applicable as from April 1, 1951.

Supplementary Provisions

(Law No. 140, May 16, 1962)
(Extract)

1. This Law shall come into force as from October 1, 1962.
2. The provisions revised by this Law shall apply to such matters as taken place prior to the enforcement of this Law, unless otherwise provided for by these Supplementary Provisions; however, the effect taken under the provisions provided for prior to the revision by this Law shall be retained.
3. With regard to the lawsuits pending at the time of the enforcement of this Law the precedent shall be followed, notwithstanding the provisions revised by this Law which prescribes that the lawsuits in question shall not be instituted.
4. With regard to the jurisdiction over the lawsuits pending at the time of the enforcement of this Law, the precedent shall be followed notwithstanding the provisions revised by this Law which makes the jurisdiction concerned an exclusive jurisdiction.
5. With regard to the period of institution of a lawsuit for the disposition or the decision for with the period of a lawsuit is in progress at the time of the enforcement of this Law according to the provisions provided for prior to the revision under this Law, the precedent shall be followed; however, this shall apply exclusively to the case where the period of institution of a lawsuit under the provisions revised by this Law is shorter than that of institution of a lawsuit under the provisions provided for prior to the revision by this Law.
6. The period of institution of the lawsuit of parties for the disposition or the decision made prior to the enforcement of this Law, which is to be decided according to the revision by this Law, shall be counted as from the day of the enforcement of this Law.
7. With regard to the lawsuit for revocation of the disposition or the decision pending at the time of the enforcement of this law, the precedent shall be followed notwithstanding the provision revised by this Law that one of the parties related to the law concerned shall be a defendant; however the court concerned may permit by its decision to change the lawsuit in question into the lawsuit of parties.
8. In case of the proviso to the preceding paragraph, the provisions of the latter part of Article 18 and Article 21 paragraphs 2 to 5 inclusive of the Administrative Litigation Law shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

Supplementary Provisions

(Law No. 161, September 15, 1962)
(Extract)

1. This Law shall come into force as from October 1, 1962.
2. The provisions revised by this Law shall apply, unless otherwise provided for by these Supplementary Provisions, to the dispositions made by the administrative agency prior to the enforcement of this Law, the forbearance of the administrative agency as to the application made prior to the enforcement of this Law and other matters taken place prior to the enforcement of this Law; however the effect taken under the provisions provided for prior to the revision by this Law shall be retained.

3. With regard to the petitions, the requests for examination, the protests, or other appeals of dissatisfaction (hereinafter referred to as "the petitions, etc.") filed prior to the enforcement of this Law, the precedent shall be followed even after the enforcement of this Law. With regard to the petitions, etc. of those who are dissatisfied with the judgements, decisions or other dispositions (hereinafter referred to as "the judgements, etc.") on the petitions, etc. formed prior to the enforcement of this Law, or the judgements, etc. which are to be given after the enforcement of this Law on the petitions, etc. filed before the enforcement of this Law, the same shall apply.
4. The petitions, etc. provided for in the preceding paragraph, relating to the dispositions against which appeals of dissatisfaction may be instituted according to the Administrative Appeal Law after the enforcement of this Law, shall concerning the application of laws other than that Law, be deemed as the appeals of dissatisfaction instituted under the Administrative Appeal Law.
5. With regard to the judgement, etc. on the requests for examination, the protests or other appeals of dissatisfaction to be formed after the enforcement of this Law according to the provision of paragraph 3, no appeal of dissatisfaction can be instituted under the Administrative Appeal Law.
6. With regard to the dispositions which were made by the administrative agency prior to the enforcement of this Law and against which the petitions, etc. could be formed according to the provisions provided for prior to the revision of this Law and of which the period for institution was not decided, the period during which appeals of dissatisfaction can be instituted shall be counted as from the day of the enforcement of this Law.
8. With regard to the application of the penal provisions to such actions as conducted prior to the enforcement of this Law, the precedent shall be followed.
9. Other than those provided for in the preceding eight paragraph, transitional measures necessary for the enforcement of this Law shall be decided by the Cabinet Order.
10. In case where this Law and the Law for Adjustment of Laws concerned in Compliance with the Enforcement of the Law concerning Legal Procedure for Administrative Cases (Law No. 140 of 1952) have revised provisions relating to one and the same Law, the last one shall be revised first by this Law and then revised by the Law for Adjustment of Laws concerned in Compliance with the Enforcement of the Law concerning Legal Procedure for Administrative Cases.

Supplementary Provisions

(Law No. 36, March 31, 1965)

(Extract)

(Date of Enforcement)

Article 1. This Law shall come into force as from April 1, 1965. (Hereinafter omitted.)

(Principle in Transitional Measures in Compliance with Partial Amendment of Other Laws and Orders)

Article 5. The provisions of the laws and orders after the revision under the provisions of Chapter II shall, unless otherwise provided for, apply to the income tax after that for 1965 or to the corporation tax for a business year of juridical persons provided for in the provisions of such laws and orders which terminates after the day of the enforcement, and with regard to the income tax before that for 1964 or the corporation tax for a business year of the said juridical persons which terminated before the day of the enforcement, the precedent shall be followed.

(Commitment to Cabinet Order)

Article 15. Other than those provided for in the Article 1 to the preceding Article inclusive of the Supplementary Provisions, transitional measures necessary for the enforcement of this Law shall be decided by the Cabinet Order.

Supplementary Provisions

(Law No. 99, June 15, 1968)

(Extract)

(Date of Enforcement)

1. This Law shall come into force as from the day of its promulgation; however the provisions of Chapter XIII shall come into force as from August 1, 1968.

(Transitional Provisions)

2. Those who are the personnel of the Cultural Affairs Bureau of the Ministry of Education, the Secretariat of the National Commission for Protection of Cultural Properties, the Institutions under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Education (excluding those which shall become corresponding organs under the jurisdiction of the Agency for Cultural Affairs) or the auxiliary organs to the National Commission for Protection of Cultural Properties (excluding the Council of Experts on Cultural Properties) shall be the corresponding personnel of the Agency for Cultural Affairs with equivalent conditions of service, unless otherwise orders be issued.
3. The permission, approval, designation and other dispositions or the notification and other proceedings which have been made or issued at the time of enforcement of this Law by the National Commission for Protection of Cultural Properties or by the Minister of Education in accordance with the provisions of the former Laws prior to the revision by this Law, such as the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties, the Copyright Law, the Law concerning Intermediary Services with regard to the Copyright, the Law concerning Special Provisions of the Copyright Law in Consequence of the Enforcement of the Universal Copyright Convention, the Law regulating Possession of Swords and Firearms, or the National Theater Law shall be regarded as the dispositions and proceedings made or issued by the Minister of Education or the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs in accordance with the corresponding provisions of the Laws revised by this Law.
4. The applications, report or other proceedings which have filed at the time of the enforcement of this Law by the National Commission for Protection of Cultural Properties or the Minister of Education in accordance with the provisions of the former Laws prior to the revision by this Law, such as the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties, the Copyright Law, the Law concerning Intermediary Services with regard to the Copyright, the Law concerning Special Provisions of the Copyright Law in Consequence of the Enforcement of the Universal Copyright Convention, the Law regulating Possession of Swords and Firearms, or the National Theater Law shall be regarded as the proceedings taken by the Minister of Education or the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs in accordance with the corresponding provisions of the Laws revised by this Law.
5. The Regulations of the National Commission for Protection of Cultural Properties which are in force at the time of the enforcement of this Law shall have the force as the Ministry of Education Ordinance.

Supplementary Provisions

(Law No. 88, May 31, 1971)

(Extract)

(Date of Enforcement)

Article 1. This Law shall come into force as from July 1, 1971.

(Omitted hereinafter.)

Supplementary Provisions

(Law No. 96, June 1, 1971)
(Extract)

(Date of Enforcement, etc.)

1. This Law shall come into force as from the day of its promulgation.
(Omitted hereinafter.)

(Transitional Measures)

16. The application of the penal provisions to the acts committed prior to the enforcement of this Law (With regard to the provisions prescribed under each item of paragraph 1 of the Supplementary Provisions, each of the said provisions) shall be same as heretofore.

Supplementary Provisions

(Law No. 52, June 3, 1972)
(Extract)

(Date of Enforcement, etc.)

Article 1. This Law shall come into force as from the day provided for by the Cabinet Order within a period not exceeding thirty (30) days from the day of its promulgation.

(Omitted hereinafter.)

(The same Law came into force as from the first of July, 1972, by the Cabinet Order No. 235 of June, 1972.)

Supplementary Provisions

(Law No. 49, July 1, 1975)

(Date of Enforcement)

1. This Law shall come into force three (3) months after its promulgation.

(Special Provisions regarding the Order for Suspension, etc. in Case of Discovery of Remains)

2. With regard to the application of the provisions of Article 57-5 of the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties revised by this Law (hereinafter referred to as "the new Law") for the period of five years from the day of its enforcement, "three (3) months" in the proviso to paragraph 2 of the same Article shall read "six (6) months," and "six (6) months" in the proviso to paragraph 5 of the same Article shall read "nine (9) months." In this case the dispositions under paragraph 2 of the same Article which have been made prior to the day five (5) years after the day of its enforcement shall follow the precedent under the same Article given before the said day even after the said day.

(Transitional Measures)

3. With regard to the important intangible cultural property designated under the provision of Article 56-3 paragraph 1 of the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties before amendment under this Law (hereinafter referred to as "the former Law") at the time of the enforcement of this Law, if the Minister of Education deems it necessary to recognize holding bodies under Article 56-3 paragraph 2 of the new Law instead of the holders who have been recognized under Article 56-3 paragraph 2 of the former Law, he/she shall annul the recognition of all the holders made under the provision of Article 56-3 paragraph 2 of the former Law within the period of one year after the enforcement of this Law and newly recognize the holding

bodies under the provision of Article 56-3 paragraph 2 of the new Law. In this case the provisions of Article 56-3 paragraph 3 and Article 56-4 paragraph 3 of the new Law shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

4. With regard to the application of the provisions of the new Law, the important material folk-culture which has been designated under the provision of Article 56-10 paragraph 1 of the former Law at the time of the enforcement of this Law shall be regarded, as the important tangible folk-cultural property designated under the provision of Article 56-10 paragraph 1 of the new Law. In this case, the certificate of designation of the important material folk-culture issued under the provision of Article 28 paragraph 3 of the former Law applying *mutatis mutandis* under Article 56-10 paragraph 2 of the former Law shall be regarded as the certificate of designation of the important tangible folk-cultural property issued under the provision of Article 28 paragraph 3 of the new Law applying *mutatis mutandis* under Article 56-10 paragraph 2 of the new Law.
5. With regard to the excavation reported prior to the enforcement of this Law under the provision of Article 57-2 paragraph 1 of the former Law, the precedent under Article 57-2 of the former Law shall be followed notwithstanding the provisions of Article 57-2 and Article 57-3 of the new Law.
6. In case of the application of the provision of Article 57-3 of the new Law to the State organs, etc. provided for in Article 57-3 paragraph 1 of the new Law which have formulated the plan of operation under the same paragraph prior to the enforcement of this Law (excluding those which have been reported under the provision of Article 57-2 paragraph 1 of the former Law concerning the execution of such plan of operation), "when the said State organs, etc. formulate the plan of operation related to the said excavation, they shall inform in advance" shall read "the said State organs, etc. shall after the enforcement of this Law inform without delay."
7. As to those which were reported as recognizable to be remains prior to the enforcement of this Law under the provision of Article 84 paragraph 1 of the former Law, the provisions of Article 84 of the former Law shall continue to be in force notwithstanding the provisions of Article 57-5 of the new Law (in case of the State organs, etc. provided for in Article 57-3 paragraph 1 of the new Law which cannot be taken as the head of the Ministry or Agency Provided for in Article 87 of the former Law, Article 57-6 of the new Law).
8. As to those which were notified prior to the enforcement of this Law as recognizable to be remains under the provision of Article 90 paragraph 1 item (8) of the former Law by the head of the Ministry or Agency provided for in Article 87 of the former Law, the provision of Article 90 paragraph 3 of the former Law applicable to the notice given under Article 90 paragraph 1 item (8) of the former Law shall continue to be in force notwithstanding the provision of Article 57-6 of the new Law.
9. The application of the penal provisions to the acts committed prior to the enforcement of this Law shall be same as heretofore.
10. Other than those provided for in the preceding seven paragraphs, transitional measures necessary for the enforcement of this Law shall be determined by the Cabinet Order.

(Partial Amendments to Relevant Laws)

11. The Ministry of Education Establishment Law (Law No. 146 of 1949) shall be partially amended as follows:
(Omitted.)
12. The Outdoor Advertisement Law (Law No. 189 of 1949) shall be partially amended as follows:
(Omitted.)
13. The Building Standard Law (Law No. 201 of 1950) shall be partially amended as follows:
(Omitted.)
14. The Local Tax Law (Law No. 226 of 1950) shall be partially amended as follows:
(Omitted.)
15. The City Planning Law (Law No. 100 of 1968) shall be partially amended as follows:
(Omitted.)

Supplementary Provisions

(Law No. 78, December 2, 1983)
(Extract)

1. This Law (excepting Article 1) shall come into force as from July 1, 1984.

Supplementary Provisions

(Law No. 89, November 12, 1993)
(Extract)

(Date of Enforcement)

Article 1. This Law shall come into force as from the day of the promulgation (October 1, 1994) of the Administrative Procedures Law (Law No. 88 of 1993).

(Transitional Provisions Concerning Non-profit Dispositions into which Inquiries, etc. are Held)

Article 2. If, before the enforcement of this Law, there is a request by law for an inquiry or the like for which procedures should be implemented corresponding to the procedures for public hearings or to the procedures for granting opportunities to express opinions to deliberative councils and other parliamentary organs as stipulated by the Article 13 of the Administrative Procedures Law, with regard to non-profit disposition procedures related to the said request for an inquiry or the like, precedents under the former Law shall be followed notwithstanding the relevant provisions of the new Law.

(Transitional Provisions Concerning Penal Provisions)

Article 13. Precedents under the former Law shall be followed concerning the application of penal provisions to acts committed prior to the enforcement of this Law.

(Transitional Provisions for Arrangement of Stipulations Concerning Public Hearings)

Article 14. Prior to the enforcement of this Law, any audiences, inquiries or public hearings (excluding those related to non-profit dispositions) held according to law, as well as the procedures therefor, shall be regarded to have been conducted in accordance with the corresponding provision of the Laws revised by this Law.

(Cabinet Order Mandate)

Article 15. Other than those provided for in Supplementary Provision Article 2 through the preceding Article, transitional measures necessary for the enforcement of related laws shall be determined by Cabinet Order.

Supplementary Provisions

(Law No. 49, June 29, 1994)
(Extract)

(Date of Enforcement)

1. Among the Chapters of this Law, the stipulations of Chapter 1 and of the following paragraph shall come into force [ellipsis] as from the day of the promulgation (April 1, 1995) of the revised stipulations of Volume 2 Chapter 12 of the Local Government Act (Law No. 67 of 1947) among the Law Revising Part of the Local Government Act (Law No. 48 of 1994).

Supplementary Provisions

(Law No. 97, November 11, 1994)

(Extract)

(Date of Enforcement)

Article 1. This Law shall come into force as from the day of its promulgation. (Omitted hereinafter.)

(Transitional Provisions Accompanying Partial Revision of the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties)

Article 4. Prior to revision according to the stipulations of Article 4, offers for transfer under the stipulations of Article 46 paragraph 1 of the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties (including cases where the same Law's Article 56-14 apply *mutatis mutandis*) as well as applications for approval under the stipulations of the proviso Article 46 paragraph 1 of the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties (including cases where the same Law's Article 56-14 apply *mutatis mutandis*), which were made prior to enforcement of the stipulations of Article 4, shall follow precedents under the former Law, notwithstanding the stipulations of the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties after revision according to the stipulations of Article 4.

(Transitional Provisions Concerning Penal Provisions)

Article 20. Concerning the application of penal provisions to acts committed prior to the enforcement of this Law as well as in cases where precedents under the former Law shall be followed concerning the application of penal provisions under [ellipsis] the stipulations of the Supplementary Provisions [ellipsis] Article 4 [ellipsis], to acts committed after the enforcement of the stipulations of Article 4 [ellipsis], the precedents under the former Law shall be followed.

(Cabinet Order Madate)

Article 21. Other than those provided for in Supplementary Provision Article 2 through the preceding Article, transitional measures necessary for the enforcement of this Law (including transitional measures concerning penal provisions) shall be determined by Cabinet Order.

Supplementary Provisions

(Law No. 66, June 12, 1996)

(Extract)

(Date of Enforcement)

1. This law shall come into force as from the day provided for by the Cabinet Order within a period not exceeding nine (9) months from the day of its promulgation.

(Transitional Measures Concerning Notifications on Public Viewing of Important Cultural Properties, etc.)

2. At the time this Law comes into force, persons who have received or who have applied for permission under the stipulations of Article 53 paragraph 1 of the Law for the Protection of Important Cultural Properties prior to revision (hereinafter referred to as "the former Law"), and who are establishers of a public viewing approved institution stipulated in the proviso of Article 53 paragraph 1 of the Law for the Protection of Important Cultural Properties after revision (hereinafter referred to as "the new Law"), and who hold exhibitions and/or other events at said public viewing approved institution, shall be regarded as having made notification according to the stipulations of paragraph 2 of the same Article.

3. Before this Law comes into force, State organs or local public bodies, other than the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs, which have given notice under the stipulations of the proviso of Article 53 paragraph 1 of the former Law, and who hold exhibitions and/or other events at public viewing approved

institutions stipulated in the proviso of Article 53 paragraph 1 of the new Law, shall be regarded as having made notification according to the stipulations of paragraph 2 of the same Article.

4. State organs or local public bodies, other than the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs, which hold exhibitions and/or other events at a public viewing advance notification exempted institution under the stipulations of the proviso of Article 56-15 paragraph 1 of the new Law, or, among establishers of a public viewing advance notification exempted institution which hold these at said public viewing advance notification exempted institution, those which gave notice under the stipulations of Article 56-15 paragraph 1 of the former Law shall be regarded as having given notice under the stipulations of the proviso of Article 56-15 paragraph 1 of the new Law.

(Transitional Provisions Concerning Penal Provisions)

5. Precedents under the former Law shall be followed concerning the application of penal provisions to acts committed prior to the enforcement of this Law.

(Deliberations)

6. If ten (10) years have passed since the enforcement of this Law, the Japanese government shall consider the Law's implementation status, the status of cultural properties to be protected under this Law, etc., and, adding deliberations concerning systems related to the registration of tangible cultural properties, shall take necessary measures based on the results thereof.

CITY PARKS LAW

Chapter I. General Provisions

(Purpose)

Article 1. This Law aims at the sound development of city parks for the promotion of the public welfare, by providing the standards, etc. in relation to the establishment and the administration of city parks.

(Definition)

Article 2. In this Law, 'City Park' is defined as the park or the "green space" illustrated hereunder; which contains 'park facilities' established by the local public entities or the State (the central government).

(1) A park or a green space as the city planning institution determined in accordance with Paragraph 6, Article 4 of the City Planning Law (Law No. 100, 1968) (The same hereinafter) which shall be established by local public entities, or a park or a green space established by local public entities within the city planning area determined in accordance with Article 4 Paragraph 2 of the Law.

(2) A park or a green space listed hereunder, and which shall be established by the State:

- 1) A park or a green space as the city planning institution established in conformation to wider range of its utilization, which covers more than one Prefectural Government, (excluding one which is concerned with 2)).
- 2) A park or a green space as the city planning institution established by the State provided by Cabinet Council, for nation-wide memorial program. or for the positive use or the conservation as a Japanese superior cultural asset.

2. In this Law, "park facilities" are defined as the following facilities constructed in city parks to increase the utility of city parks:
 - (1) Garden-roads and open spaces.
 - (2) Garden plants, flower-beds, fountains and other facilities for arranging landscape provided by Cabinet Order;
 - (3) Resting-places, benches, and other resting-facilities provided by Cabinet Order;
 - (4) Swings, slides, sand pits and other play-facilities provided by Cabinet Order;
 - (5) Baseball grounds, athletic grounds, swimming pools and other sport-facilities provided by Cabinet Order;
 - (6) Botanical gardens, zoological gardens, open-air theaters and other cultural facilities provided by Cabinet Order;
 - (7) Stands, parking-places, water-closets and other beneficial facilities provided by Cabinet Order;
 - (8) Gates, fences, control offices and other administrative facilities provided by Cabinet Order;
 - (9) In addition to those enumerated in the preceding items, the facilities to increase the utility of city parks provided by Cabinet Order.
3. Those listed below are not included in city parks, notwithstanding Paragraph 1:
 - (1) A park or a green space which is the institution based on the park-planning on the national park or the quasi-national park, determined in accordance with the provisions of Natural Parks Law (Law No. 161, 1957), (hereinafter referred to as the "institution of the national or the quasi-national park").;
 - (2) A park or a green space which is the collective-institution area, designated inside the area of the national or the quasi-national park in accordance with the provisions of Natural Parks Law.

Chapter II. Establishment and Administration of city parks

(Establishment of city parks)

Article 2-2. A city park shall be established when those who, determined by Article 3, are expected to administrate the concerned park make a public notice of items related to the opening of the park determined by Cabinet Order.

(Administration of city parks)

Article 2-3. Local public entities shall administrate a city park which is established by them, and the Minister of Construction shall administrate the city park which is established by the State.

(Standards of construction of park facilities)

Article 4. The total amount of building-areas of structures (the structures provided by Article 2 Item 1 of Building Standard Law (Law No. 201, 1950) (the same hereinafter); which are constructed as the park facilities in one city park (excepting the building-areas of the structures which are the institutions of the national or the quasi-national park) shall not be more than two-hundredths of the lot-area of the same city park. However, in case of establishing zoological gardens and in other special cases provided by Cabinet Order, it may exceed the limits within the range provided by Cabinet Order.

2. In addition to the standards provided in the preceding Paragraph, other standards concerning the construction of the park facilities shall be determined by Cabinet Order.

(Permission of occupying city parks)

Article 6. A person who intends to occupy city parks by constructing structures, other objects or facilities other than the park facilities shall obtain the permission of the park administrator.

2. A person who intends to obtain the permission provided by the preceding Paragraph shall send the park administrator a written application containing the purpose, the period and the place of occupation, and the construction of structures or other facilities as well as other matters provided by Ordinance in case of a city park established by the local public entities, or by Order of the Ministry of Construction in case of those by the State.

3. When the person who obtained the permission provided in Paragraph 1 intends to change the permitted matters, he shall send the park administrator a written application containing the concerned matters, and shall obtain the permission. However, this shall not apply to the case where the changes are the slight ones provided by Ordinance in case of a city park established by the local public entities, or by Cabinet Order in case of those by the State.

4. The period of the occupation of city parks provided by Paragraph 1 shall not be more than ten years and shall be within the limits provided by Cabinet Order. The same shall also apply to the period when it is renewed.

Article 7. The park administrator may give the permission provided by Paragraph 1 or Paragraph 3 of the preceding Article, only when the structures, other objects or facilities which are applied for the permission, provided by Paragraph 1 or Paragraph 3 of the preceding Article, come under one of the following items, when the occupation of city parks does not interfere seriously with the public utilization of it, when it is recognized that he has a compelling reason, and when they are in conformity with the technical standards provided by Cabinet Order:

- (1) Electric poles, electric lines, transformer towers or other things similar to these;
- (2) Water-pipes, sewer-pipes, gas-pipes or other things similar to these;
- (3) Passages, railways, tracks, public parking-places or other underground facilities similar to these;
- (4) Mailboxes, or public telephone-booths;

- (5) Temporary structures constructed for the purpose of housing the sufferers from disasters;
- (6) Temporary structures constructed for athletic meetings, assemblies, exhibitions or other meetings similar to these;
- (7) Structures, other objects or facilities provided by Cabinet Order, in addition to those enumerated in the preceding items.

(Conditions for permission)

Article 8. The park administrator may attach conditions, within the limits that they are necessary for the administration of city parks, to the permission provided by Article 4 Paragraph 2, Article 6 Paragraph 1 or Paragraph 3.

(Supervisory disposition)

Article 11. The park administrator may cancel the permission given in accordance with the provisions of this Law, may suspend its effect, may change its conditions, or may order to discontinue the activities or the construction, to reconstruct, to move, or to eliminate the structures, other objects or facilities established in city parks, to establish the necessary facilities in order to prevent the damage caused by the concerned structures, other objects or facilities, or to recover the original state of city parks, to a person who comes under one of the following items:

- (1) A person who acts against the provisions of this Law, the provisions of Cabinet Order conformed to this Law, or the dispositions based on the provisions of this Law;
- (2) A person who acts against the conditions attached to the permission provided in this Law;
- (3) A person who obtained the permission provided in this Law by deceit or by other illicit means.

2. The park administrator may execute the dispositions provided in the preceding paragraph, or may order the person who obtained the permission provided in this Law to take the necessary measures provided by the preceding Paragraph, in such a case which comes under one of the following items:

- (1) When it is necessary for the construction concerning city parks;
- (2) When the preservation or the public utilization of city parks is seriously interfered with;
- (3) In addition to the cases enumerated in the preceding two Paragraphs, when it becomes necessary for promoting the public welfare, by the reasons other than the reason of administering city parks.

3. The park administrator shall hold hearings from the person to whom the concerned disposition is to be made, or to whom the concerned measures are to be ordered, before executing the disposition or ordering the necessary measures in accordance with the provisions of the preceding two paragraphs. However, this shall not apply in case the person refuses the hearing, or in case of emergency.

4. When the park administrator intends to order the necessary measures in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 1 or Paragraph 2, if he cannot, without negligence, recognize the person to whom the measures are to be ordered, he may take the measures by himself, or may make the appointee or the mandatory take the measures. In this case, the park administrator shall give a public notice beforehand to the effect that the measures ought to be taken within the reasonably necessary term fixed by the park administrator; and also to the effect that, if the measures are not taken within the fixed term, the park administrator, the appointee or the mandatory shall take the measures.

(Compensation for losses attendant upon supervisory disposition)

Article 12. In case the person who obtained the permission provided in this Law suffers from the losses caused by the dispositions or by the necessary measures provided by Paragraph 1 in the preceding Article, the park administrator shall compensate him for such losses as would ordinarily arise.

2. Concerning the compensation for the losses in accordance with the provisions of the preceding Paragraph, the park administrator and the sufferer from the losses shall decide at the conference.

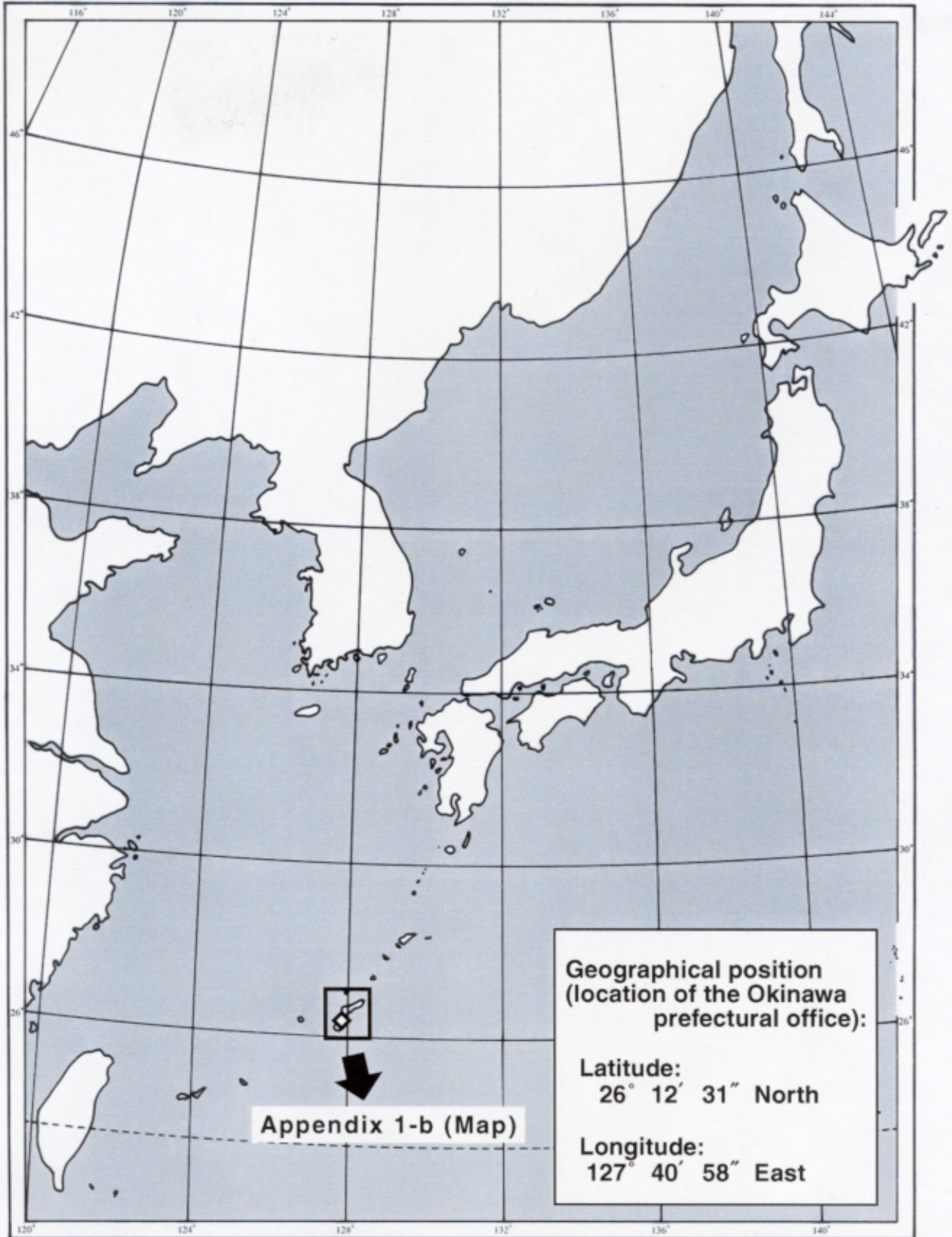
3. When the conference provided by the preceding Paragraph, does not reach an agreement, the park administrator shall pay the sufferer from the losses the amount of money estimated by himself. In this case, the person who has a complaint to make about the concerned amount of money may apply to the Expropriation Committee for the judgment provided by Article 94 of the Land Expropriation Law (Law No. 219, 1951), within the period of thirty days as from the day of receiving the compensatory money.

4. When the losses, which are the reason for the compensation provided by Paragraph 1, are caused by the dispositions or the necessary measures provided in Paragraph 2 Item 3 of the preceding Article, the park administrator may charge the compensatory money to the causer of the losses.

APPENDIX 1 - a

MAP INDICATING THE LOCATION
OF THE NOMINATED PROPERTY :◇

The Location in Japan



SCALE 1:15,000,000

0 100 300 500 1,000 1,500km

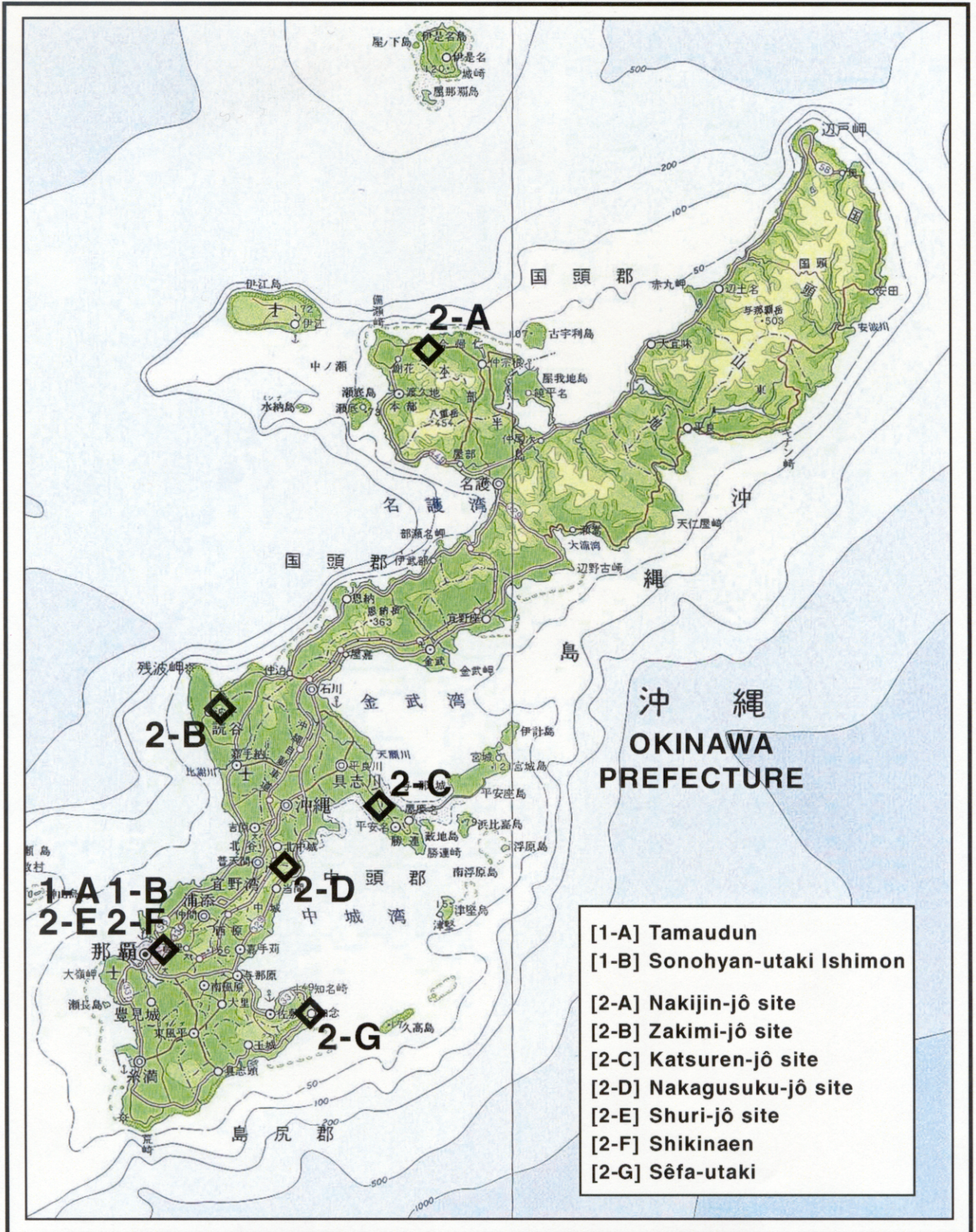


JAPAN / RYUKYU

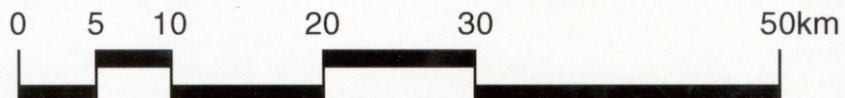
APPENDIX 1 - b

MAP INDICATING THE LOCATION
OF THE NOMINATED PROPERTY :◇

The Location in Okinawa Prefecture



SCALE 1:500,000





APPENDIX 1 - c



MAP INDICATING THE LOCATION OF THE NOMINATED PROPERTY

The Location in the Directly Related Municipality

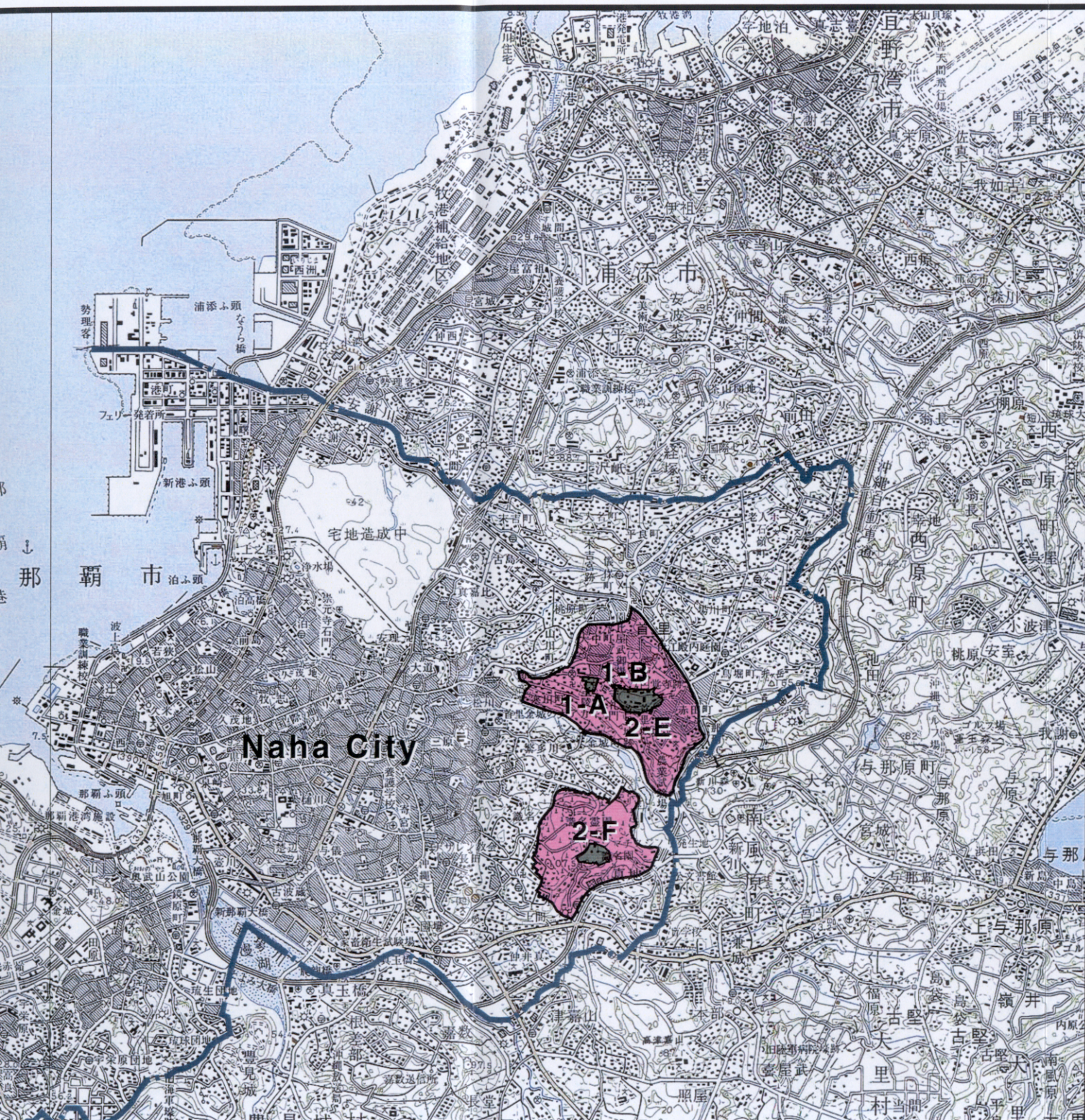
- [1-A] Tamaudun
- [1-B] Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon
- [2-E] Shuri-jô site
- [2-F] Shikinaen

--- Naha City

	Nominated property	
	[1-A] Tamaudun	1.1ha
	[1-B] Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon	0.008ha
	[2-E] Shuri-jô site	7.3ha
	Buffer zone	136.9ha
	Total	145.3ha

	Nominated property	
	[2-F] Shikinaen	4.2ha
	Buffer zone	84.2ha
	Total	88.4ha

Key plan

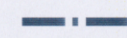



APPENDIX 1 - c

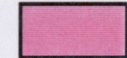
MAP INDICATING THE LOCATION OF THE NOMINATED PROPERTY

The Location in the Directly Related Municipality

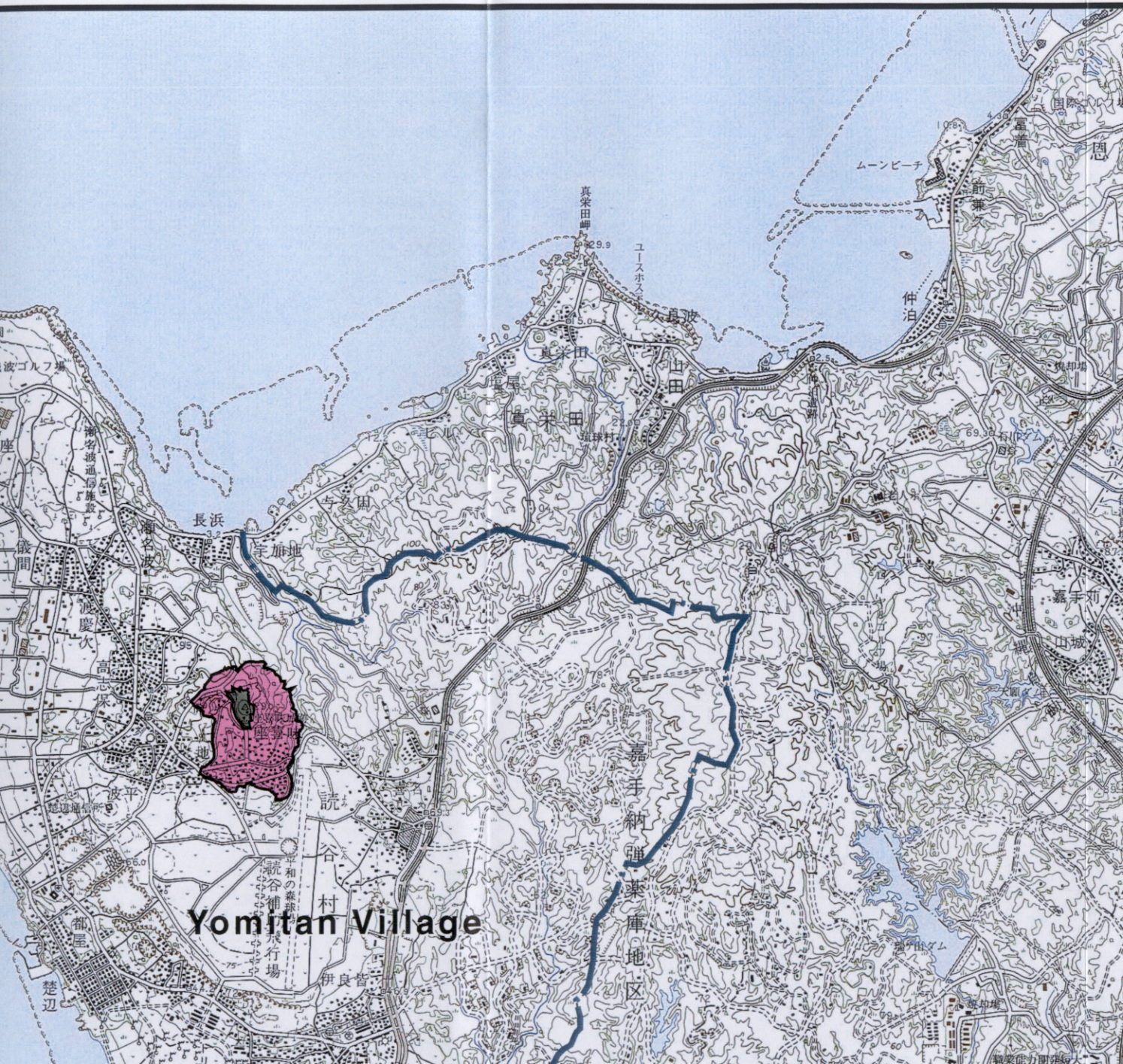
[2-B] Zakimi-jô site

 Yomitan Village

 Nominated property [2-B] Zakimi-jô site 4.4ha

 Buffer zone 78.9ha

Total 83.3ha



APPENDIX 1 - c

MAP INDICATING THE LOCATION OF THE NOMINATED PROPERTY

The Location in the Directly Related Municipality

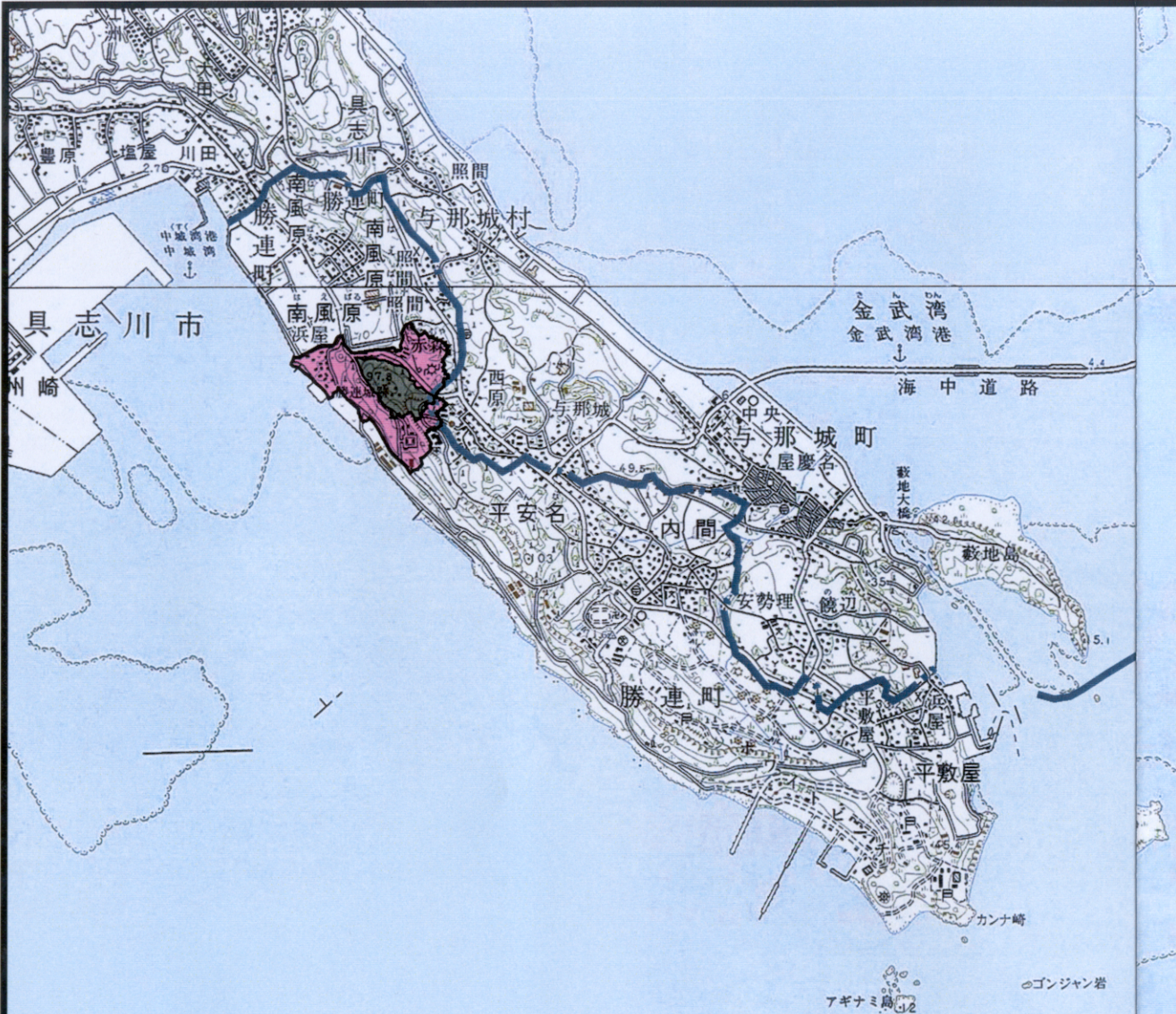
[2-C] Katsuren-jô site

— — — Katsuren Town

■ Nominated property [2-C] Katsuren-jô site 13.2ha

■ Buffer zone 44.2ha

Total 57.4ha



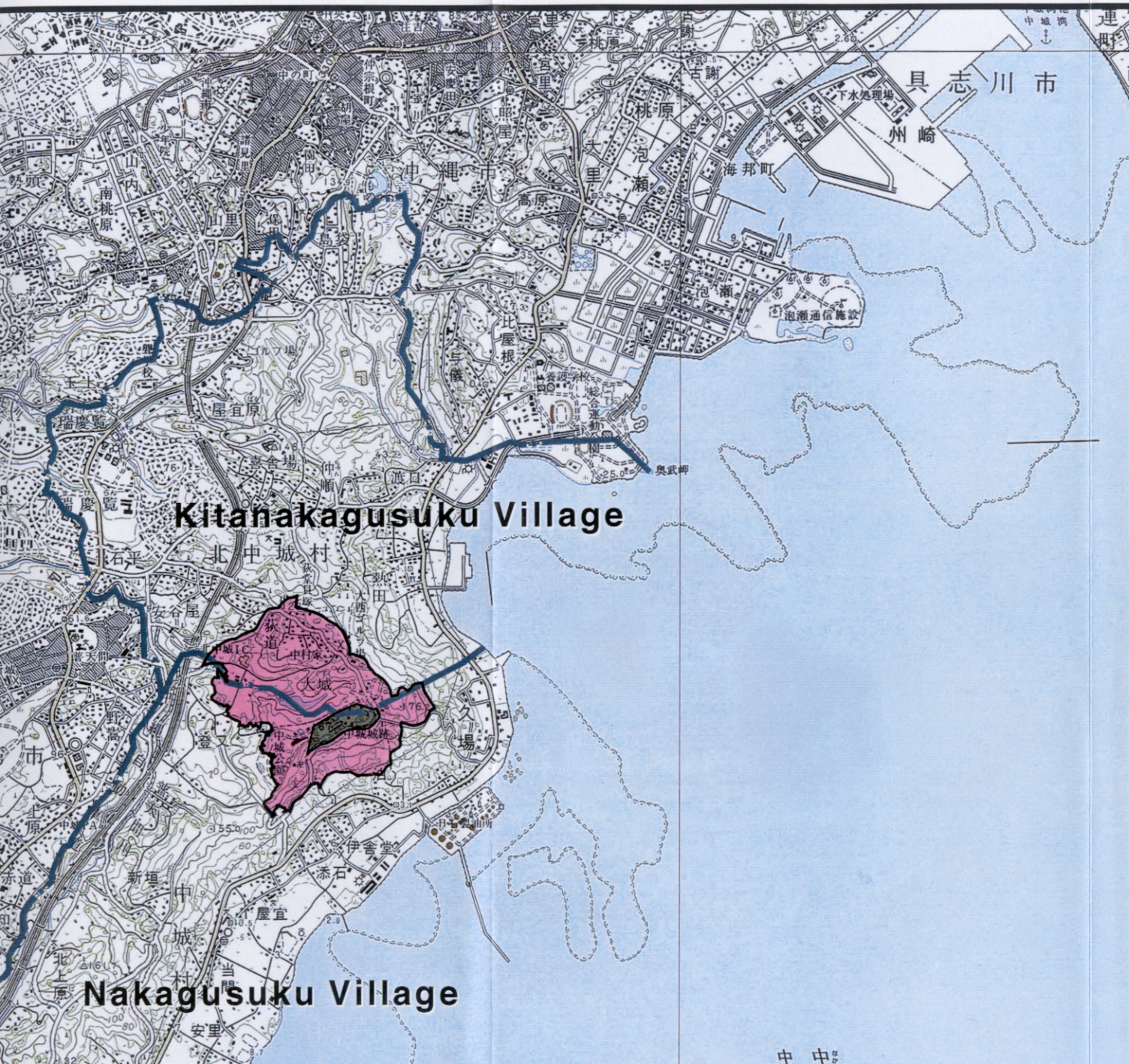
Katsuren Town

APPENDIX 1 - c

MAP INDICATING THE LOCATION OF THE NOMINATED PROPERTY

The Location in the Directly Related Municipality

[2-D] Nakagusuku-jô site



--- Kitanakagusuku Village
 --- Nakagusuku Village

■ Nominated property
 [2-D] Nakagusuku-jô site 12.3ha

■ Buffer zone 178.1ha

Total 190.4ha

Kitanakagusuku Village

Nakagusuku Village

中中

Key plan

APPENDIX 1 - c

MAP INDICATING THE LOCATION OF THE NOMINATED PROPERTY OF THE DIRECTLY RELATED MUNICIPALITY

The Location in the Directly Related Municipality

[2-G] Sêfa-utaki

— — — Chinen Village

■ Nominated property [2-G] Sêfa-utaki 4.5ha

■ Buffer zone 12.1ha

Total 16.6ha





1-A-5 Tamaudun. Burial chamber and stone wall.



1-B-1 Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon . S



2-A-4 Nakijin-jō site. Heirōmon .



2-B-6 Zakimi-jô site. View toward arched gate of first enclosure (middle ground) from second enclosure (foreground). S



2-C-4 Katsuren-jô site. View from southeast. S



2-D-16 Nakagusuku-jô site. Arched gate and castle walls of second enclosure. S



2-E-7 Shuri-jô site. Streamline castle walls with reconstructed *Kankaimon* (center) and *Kyûkeimon* (right). S



2-F-5 Shikinaen, viewed from south. S



2-G-7 Sêfa-utaki. Noro priestess offering prayer at *Sangûi*. S

Ryukyu sites (Japan)

No 972

Identification

<i>Nomination</i>	Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu
<i>Location</i>	Okinawa Prefecture
<i>State Party</i>	Japan
<i>Date</i>	25 June 1999

Justification by State Party

Each of the stone monuments and archaeological sites included in the nominated property illustrates the unique development and transition that Ryukyu underwent through political, economic, and cultural interchanges with mainland Japan, China, and south-east Asia. **Criterion ii**

The *gusuku* sites included in the nominated property are exceptionally precious archaeological remains, valuable as sources of information about the architecture of forts and castles which had developed in tandem with the political changes of Ryukyu since they first appeared as the residences of the chieftains of farming villages on the southernmost islands of Japan. They are tangible symbols of the now lost ancient culture and tradition of Ryukyu. Originally the *gusukus* were deeply incorporated in the daily lives of farming villages. They remain to the present day active stages for cultural activities for Ryukyu and local spiritual centres where people living in the region strengthen spiritual ties with one another through prayer and worship of their common ancestors. **Criterion iii**

Each of the monuments, sites, and cultural landscapes included in the nominated property is an outstanding demonstration that Ryukyu boasted high standards of civil engineering, architecture, and landscape architecture from both the cultural and the aesthetic points of view during the Ryukyu Kingdom. Stone monuments such as Tamaudun and Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon and other structures in stone, in particular, clearly reflect elements of architectural workmanship and design used in China and east Asia skilfully modified and adjusted to suit traditional Ryukyu materials. At the same time, Shikinaen shows, in its composition, landscape, and garden elements such as arched bridges, typical elements of a uniquely Ryukyuan sense of architectural composition and design born out of a fusion between Japanese and Chinese garden design. **Criterion iv**

The monuments and sites included in the nominated property represent the typical elements of religious beliefs and activities unique to Ryukyu. *Gusuku* sites were not simply

political centres but also religious stages for the local people of the farming hamlets. At the same time, *gusuku* sites are archaeological relics of high academic value and living spiritual centres for contemporary Ryukyuan people, reflected in the fact that they are still used today by priestesses known as *Noro* as settings for religious rituals. Sêfa-utaki, which was the religious centre of the entire Ryukyu Kingdom, retains the key features of the Ryukyuan sacred places known as *Utaki*: dense enclosed forest and picturesque rocks. It is intriguing that Sêfa-utaki commands a view of small islands in the eastern sea between the tree trunks of the dense forest, reminding devout visitors of the old Ryukyuan belief that the land of the gods, *Nirai Kanai*, is located far to the east at the end of the sea. In this sense Sêfa-utaki is a cultural landscape closely associated with religious beliefs unique to Ryukyuan nature worship, a living religious tradition still flourishing in the contemporary rituals and festivals of this region. Indeed, the entire nominated property is rooted in the spiritual lives and daily activities of the local people as an active setting for such rituals. **Criterion vi**

Category of property

Two of the three categories of cultural property set out in Article 1 of the 1972 World Heritage Convention – *monuments* and *sites* – and also *cultural landscapes*, as defined in paragraph 39 of the *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention*, are represented in the nine properties that make up this nomination.

History and Description

History

In the 10th-12th centuries, Ryukyuan farming communities (*gusukus*) began to enclose their villages with simple stone walls for protection. From the 12th century onwards powerful groups, known as *aji*, began to emerge. They enlarged the defences of their own settlements, converting them into fortresses for their own households; these adopted the term *gusuku* to describe these formidable castles. There followed a continual struggle for supremacy between the *aji*, which did not coalesce until the 15th century into three main kingdoms – Hokuzan (North Mountain), Chûzan (Central Mountain), and Nanzan (South Mountain).

The Sanzan (Three Mountain) period was marked by many changes in Ryukyuan society and economy. Improved tools and techniques resulted in enormous growth in agricultural production. There was intensive trade from the Sanzan Period onwards with Song Dynasty China, mainland Japan, the Korean peninsula, and south-east Asia, reaching its peak between the end of the 14th century and the mid 16th century.

This period came to an end in 1429 when Ryukyu was finally united by the Chûzan ruler into a single kingdom. The first king was expelled in a coup-d'état in 1469, but the kingdom survived intact until 1879; the two periods are known as the First and Second Shô Dynasty respectively. The third king of the Second Shô Dynasty, Shô Shin, consolidated the administration of the kingdom, instituting strong centralized control of both the political and the religious system.

The Kingdom was conquered from Japan in 1609 by the Satsuma fief during the Tokugawa Shogunate, but the new overlords retained the Ryukyuan monarchy as its local administration. It also provided valuable links with the rest of the world at a period when Japan was virtually closed to all overseas contacts. With the end of the Shogunate at the Meiji Restoration in 1868, it survived briefly as the “Ryukyu Domain,” but in 1879 the Ryukyu Kingdom was abolished and the islands became the Okinawa Prefecture under the new administrative system.

Ryukyu was the scene of heavy bombardment and bitter land fighting at the end of World War II; many lives were lost and the cultural properties were grievously damaged. It was under US administration until 1972, when control was returned to Japan.

Description

- Tamaudun Royal Mausoleum [monument; Naha City]

The mausoleum was built by Shō Shin around 1501 as a symbol of royal power, and to take advantage of the Ryukyuan people’s practice of worshipping at the tombs of ancestors.

It is carved into the limestone bedrock and covered by a gabled pantile roof. The walls enclosing the burial chamber and the mausoleum area are of coralline limestone. The burial chamber has three compartments, each entered through a stone gate. The central one was for the reception of royal remains before purification by washing; they were then transferred to the western chamber (kings and queens only) and eastern chamber (other members of the royal family).

- Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon (Stone Gate of the Sonohyan Shrine) [monument; Naha City]

This stone gate was erected in 1519 by Shō Shin, fronting a sacred forest (*Sonohyan-utaki*). It was considered to be the guardian shrine of the Ryukyu Kingdom, where prayers were offered for peace and security at annual ritual ceremonies.

It represents the unique style of stone architecture developed in Ryukyu. This is based on decorative designs used on wood but reproduced painstakingly in stone on rafters, gables, pendants, and ridges. Coralline limestone is used for the main structural members and the roof and fine sandstone on ridges and elsewhere. The doors themselves are in wood.

- Nakijin-jō (Nakijin Castle) [site; Nakijin Village]

The castle of the Hokuzan King during the Sanzan Period became the residence of the Ryukyuan Kingdom governor. Work began on its construction in the late 13th century and that it had reached its final form by the beginning of the 15th century. Archaeological excavations have produced immense quantities of Chinese ceramics, indicating intensive trade.

The castle is strategically sited on a lone hill, well defended by natural features (river, cliffs, deep valley). The steeply sloping external walls extend over 1500m, laid out in arcs conforming with the topography. They are constructed of blocks of hard limestone, rising to 6-10m, up to 3m thick at the top, where there are low parapets.

The existing gate (*Heirōmon*) is a reconstruction of 1962; following Japanese conservation practice, its foundations are separated from the below-ground archaeological evidence by a layer of sterile soil. Inside there are six enclosures. The first, at the highest point of the site, which was painstaking

levelled, was the site of the state hall, a shrine, and a stone slab recording the history of Hokuzan. In front is a second enclosure on which two more halls were built, and behind is the *Uuchibaru*, the priestesses’ residence. One stage below is the *Shigemajōkaku*, with the barracks of the garrison.

The Lower Shrine (*Soitsugi-no-utaki*) was dedicated to the guardian deity of the castle. It is one of the most important sacred sites in the Ryukyu Islands.

- Zakimi-jō (Zakimi Castle) [site; Yomitan Village]

This castle was built in the early 15th century by powerful chieftain, Gosamaru. After the establishment of the Ryukyu Kingdom it served to watch over the survivors of the Hokuzan kingdom, who had fled to the west coast of Okinawa.

It is on an elevated site strategically selected to give a clear view of the Ryukyu royal castle of Shuri-jō. It consists of two linked enclosures surrounded by serpentine walls of coralline limestone blocks. The extant gate of the second enclosure is one of the oldest arched gates on Okinawa. Within are to be found the foundations of at least one large building. The site includes a sacred site dedicated to guardian deities, and it is still an active place of worship.

- Katsuren-jō (Katsuren Castle) [site; Katsuren Town]

Built in the 12th/13th century, Katsuren was the castle of another powerful chieftain, Amawari. Archaeological excavations have provided abundant evidence of extensive trade in the Sanzan period. Again sited on a dominating hill, it comprises four linked enclosures with walls of coralline limestone. The foundations of several substantial buildings have been discovered by excavation.

There are several ancient places of worship. In particular, the shrine dedicated to Kobazukasa, a round stone column in the middle of the first enclosure, is still of considerable spiritual significance. There is also a ritual stage (*Tunumutu*) in the third enclosure, where ten stone stools are placed in an L-shaped configuration. These are known to have been used by local priestesses (*noro*) for ritual prayers.

- Nakagusuku-jō (Nakagusuku Castle) [site; Kitanakagusuku and Nakagusuku Villages]

This castle, built in the turbulent final years of the 14th century and extended in the mid 15th century, consists of six enclosures, arranged in a line on a steep promontory. The walls are of coursed coralline limestone blocks; the corners are especially well fashioned using much larger, shaped blocks. In places the height of the walls exceeds 10m. Various forms of bonding the stone blocks (horizontal, hexagonal, random) are used on different walls, confirming that the castle was extended more than once. There are several places of worship in the southernmost enclosure.

- Shuri-jō (Shuri Castle) [site; Naha City]

Built in the second half of the 14th century, Shuri-jō was the main castle of the kings of Chūzan and, after unification, of the Ryukyu Kingdom. The hill on which it stands dominates Naha City and its port. It is divided into inner and outer enclosures, conforming with the topography.

The castle’s enclosure walls, built with random bonding of coralline limestone, extend over 1080m, with two watch towers, the remains of which are still visible. They vary in height from 6m to 15m and are on average 3m thick. There

were several gates, including vaulted examples with hipped-roof wooden turrets.

The state hall (*Heiden*) was a three-storeyed palatial structure with a hipped gabled roof, facing south-west, built on an elevated foundation platform with stone balustrades in front and along the sides of the approach stairway. Its decoration displays unique Ryukyuan features, most notably the front eaves of the gables, which have large dragon sculptures, in Chinese style. Only the first and second floors were used, the second being lavishly decorated, as befitted its use as the royal throne and reception room. The hall was surrounded by a state courtyard (*Unâ*), with large halls on either side; the northern of these, in Chinese style, was used for receiving and accommodating Chinese delegations, whilst the other was in Japanese style and served the same purpose for Japanese delegations.

The hall was destroyed by fire repeatedly, most recently and comprehensively during World War II. It had, however, been thoroughly recorded before the war, and exhaustive archaeological excavations took place before the present reconstruction was made.

- Shikinaen [site/cultural landscape; Naha City]

This royal garden villa is recorded as having been constructed in 1799. The plan of the garden shows Japanese influence, whilst Chinese features are to be found in some of the structures within it; the result is, however, uniquely Ryukyuan. The central feature is the pool, around which are disposed walkways, pavilions, artificial hills, and flower gardens. The pond itself is accentuated by the presence of two small islands and Chinese-style arched bridges; on one of the islands there is a hexagonal pavilion in Chinese style. Other pavilions are single-storeyed wooden structures roofed with red tiles, a privilege reserved for the upper classes.

- Sêfa-utaki [site/cultural landscape; Chinen Village]

During his long reign (1477-1526) the third Shô king, Shô Shin, reorganized and centralized Ryukyuan religion, the spiritual head of which was a women priest, *Kikoeôgimi*. Sêfa-utaki, already an important ritual site, became one of the most sacred places in the new religion.

There are several places of worship, three of them linked by stone-flagged paths. There are few material indications of the significance of Sêfa-utaki: it is essentially a densely wooded hill on which the shrines and prayer sites have an ageless spiritual quality that derives from their setting rather than manmade symbols.

Management and Protection

Legal status

Two of the nine properties that make up this nomination (Tamaudun and Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon) are designated under Article 27 of the 1950 Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties as Important Cultural Properties. They are also designated as Historic Sites, the designation which applies to the other properties. Any interventions proposed to the protected properties must be submitted for authorization to the national Agency for Cultural Affairs. There are heavy penalties for contravention of this law.

Management

Ownership of the properties making up this nomination is varied. Sêfa-utaki and Zakimi-jô are owned by the relevant local authorities. Nakijin-jô, Katsuren-jô, and Nakagusuku-jô are largely on public land, with small portions in private ownership. Shuri-jô belongs to the Government of Japan and Okinawa Prefecture. Ownership of Tamaudun is shared by the Prefecture and Naha City, whilst Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon and Shikinaen are on lands belonging to Naha City.

Maintenance, repair, and presentation of these properties is the responsibility of the owners or custodial bodies. However, there is financial and technical support available from the national and prefectural administrations.

In addition to the protection of the sites and monuments themselves arising from designation under the 1950 Law, each of the properties features in municipal ordinances, which define buffer zones within which there are strict controls over building heights, design, colour, etc. Most also form part of city park projects, designed to improve their settings and their presentation to visitors.

Conservation and Authenticity

Conservation history

All the properties were designated cultural sites and monuments before World War II. During this time they were subject to systematic maintenance programmes, with some authorized repair and restoration projects on, for example, the castle walls.

Damage during the closing stages of World War II was enormous. Shuri-jô suffered worst, since the headquarters of the Japanese forces was dug beneath the monument; severe damage was also sustained by Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon, Tamaudun, and Shikinaen. After the end of the war conservation and restoration work was put in hand, though it had to compete with the major reconstruction required by the whole island in order to provide a basic social and economic infrastructure.

With the reversion of Okinawa in 1973, the Japanese Government initiated a major programme of restoration and conservation projects, mindful of the significance of these properties in the maintenance of Ryukyuan cultural identity. All such projects have been planned with great care and precision, with the objective of ensuring the highest degree of authenticity and integrity. Reconstructions are based on detailed archival and archaeological research and great care is taken to ensure that original and reconstructed features are clearly distinguished.

Authenticity

Because of the strict standards of restoration and reconstruction that have been in force in Japan for more than a century, the level of authenticity of design and materials of the properties nominated is high. Care is taken to distinguish between original and restored or reconstructed structural elements and in the selection of materials for restoration. In a few cases of immediate post-war restoration using inappropriate materials, these either have been replaced or are clearly differentiated.

All such projects are based on meticulous survey and research in advance of starting operations. The complete reconstruction of the state hall at Shuri-jō derives from scale drawings and photographs of the hall before it was destroyed by fire, cross-checked with extensive archaeological excavation. The result is an exact replica of the earlier structure, which is of great symbolic value in Okinawa. At Shikinaen, a similar process is being used in the accurate re-creation of the garden of the royal villa.

Underground archaeological remains are carefully excavated, recorded, and preserved in good condition, where necessary sealed by a layer of sterile soil or sand from structures reconstructed *in situ* and protected against any form of intervention from them. There are examples of this at Nakijin-jō and Shuri-jō.

There is an equally high level of authenticity in terms of workmanship. Traditional techniques are employed extensively in all restoration and conservation projects.

Evaluation

Action by ICOMOS

An ICOMOS expert mission visited all the properties included in the nomination in January 2000.

Qualities

The group of monuments and sites that make up this nomination graphically illustrate the special cultural trajectory of a territory that provided a link between the cultures of China, Japan, the Korean peninsula, and south-east Asia. Its multi-cultural background and the unique character that emerged from several centuries of interchange is of great importance in studying the processes of cultural interaction.

The nomination is also significant for the way in which ancient religious practices have survived intact over many centuries, and have been largely unaffected by the growth around them of major world religions, such as Buddhism and Christianity. This has been one of the most important factors in the strength of Ryukyuan cultural identity, despite some 150 years of external political and economic pressures.

Comparative analysis

Because of the unique nature of the culture of the Ryukyuan Kingdom, it is difficult to find any comparanda, especially in east Asia or the Pacific Rim generally.

Brief description

Five hundred years of Ryukyuan history are represented by this group of sites and monuments. The ruined castles, on imposing elevated sites, are evidence for the social structure over much of that period, whilst the sacred sites provide mute testimony to the rare survival of an ancient form of religion into the modern age. The wide economic (and hence cultural) contacts of the islands over that period are illustrated by the unique culture that emerged.

Recommendation

That this property be inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of *criteria ii, iii, and vi*:

Criterion ii For several centuries the Ryukyu islands served as a centre of economic and cultural interchange between south-east Asia, China, Korea, and Japan, and this is vividly demonstrated by the surviving monuments.

Criterion iii The culture of the Ryukyuan Kingdom evolved and flourished in a special political and economic environment, which gave its culture a unique quality.

Criterion vi The Ryukyu sacred sites constitute an exceptional example of an indigenous form of nature and ancestor worship which has survived intact into the modern age alongside other established world religions.

ICOMOS, September 2000

Sites des Ryukyu (Japon)

No 972

Identification

<i>Bien proposé</i>	Sites Gusuku et biens associés du royaume des Ryukyu
<i>Lieu</i>	Préfecture d'Okinawa
<i>État partie</i>	Japon
<i>Date</i>	25 juin 1999

Justification émanant de l'État partie

Chacun des monuments de pierre et sites archéologiques inclus dans le bien proposé pour inscription illustre l'évolution et la transition unique qu'ont connues les Ryukyu au fil des échanges politiques, économiques et culturels avec le Japon continental, la Chine et l'Asie du sud-est.

Critère ii

Les sites *gusuku* inclus dans le bien proposé pour inscription sont des vestiges archéologiques exceptionnellement précieux, d'une grande valeur en tant que sources d'information sur l'architecture des forts et des châteaux qui s'est développée de concert avec les changements politiques des Ryukyu depuis leur première apparition, en tant que résidences des seigneurs des villages paysans de ces îles méridionales du Japon. Ce sont les symboles vivants des anciennes cultures et traditions des Ryukyu, aujourd'hui disparues. À l'origine, les *gusuku* étaient profondément intégrés à la vie quotidienne des villages de paysans. Ils restent à ce jour le théâtre actif des activités culturelles des Ryukyu, et les centres spirituels de la région, où les résidents renforcent les liens spirituels qui les unissent par la prière et la vénération de leurs ancêtres communs.

Critère iii

Chacun des monuments, sites et paysages culturels objet de la proposition d'inscription est une exceptionnelle démonstration de la haute qualité de l'ingénierie civile, de l'architecture et du paysagisme des Ryukyu, tant du point de vue culturel qu'esthétique, à l'époque où l'archipel était un royaume. Les monuments de pierre tels que Tamaudun et Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon et d'autres structures de pierre, en particulier, reflètent clairement la savante modification de certains éléments de la façon et de la conception en vigueur en Chine et dans l'est de l'Asie, et leur adaptation aux matériaux traditionnels des Ryukyu. Parallèlement, Shikinaen montre, dans sa composition, son paysage et ses éléments décoratifs comme les ponts en arc, un sens de la composition et de la conception architecturale exclusivement propre à cette région et né de la fusion entre les arts paysagers japonais et chinois.

Critère iv

Les monuments et les sites inclus dans le bien proposé pour inscription représentent les éléments typiques des croyances et pratiques religieuses propres aux Ryukyu. Les sites *gusuku* n'étaient pas de simples centres politiques, mais aussi des lieux de culte pour les habitants des hameaux agricoles. Par ailleurs, ce sont des vestiges archéologiques d'une immense valeur académique, et des centres spirituels vivants pour les habitants actuels des Ryukyu, comme en atteste leur utilisation, aujourd'hui encore, par les prêtresses *Noro*, qui y accomplissent leurs rites religieux. Sêfa-utaki, qui était le centre religieux de l'ensemble du royaume des Ryukyu, conserve les principales caractéristiques des lieux sacrés des Ryukyu connus sous le nom de *Utaki* : une forêt dense et des rochers pittoresques. Fait intrigant, Sêfa-utaki jouit d'une vue sur les petites îles de la mer orientale, entre les arbres de la forêt, rappelant ainsi aux visiteurs dévots l'ancienne croyance de Ryukyu selon laquelle la terre des dieux, *Nirai Kanai*, est située à l'extrême orient, là où s'arrête la mer. En ce sens, Sêfa-utaki est un paysage culturel étroitement associé à des croyances religieuses uniques, caractéristiques du culte de la nature de l'archipel, tradition religieuse vivante qui a toujours sa place dans les rituels et festivals contemporains de la région. De fait, tout le bien proposé pour inscription est profondément enraciné dans la vie spirituelle et les activités quotidiennes des gens du cru, car c'est là que se tiennent les rituels.

Critère vi

Catégorie de bien

Deux des trois catégories de biens culturels définies à l'article premier de la Convention du patrimoine mondial de 1972 - *monuments* et *sites* - et également *paysages culturels*, tels que définis au paragraphe 39 des *Orientations devant guider la mise en œuvre de la Convention du patrimoine mondial*, sont représentées dans les neuf biens qui composent cette proposition d'inscription.

Histoire et description

Histoire

Aux Xe-XXe siècles, les communautés agricoles des Ryukyu (*gusuku*) commencèrent à protéger leur village de murs de pierre très simples. À partir du XIIe siècle, de puissants groupes, connus sous le nom d'*aji*, firent leur apparition. Ils agrandirent les défenses de leurs peuplements, transformant leur propre résidence en véritable forteresse ; le terme *gusuku* fut adopté pour désigner ces formidables châteaux. S'ensuivit une lutte continue entre les *aji*, se battant pour la suprématie. Ce n'est qu'au XVe siècle qu'ils se réunirent en coalitions, sous l'égide de trois royaumes principaux - Hozukan (la Montagne du Nord), Chûzan (la Montagne du Milieu) et Nanzan (la Montagne du Sud).

La période Sanzan (Trois Montagnes) fut marquée par de nombreux changements dans la société et l'économie des Ryukyu. L'amélioration des outils et des techniques entraîna en effet une hausse énorme de la production agricole. Ainsi, à partir de la période Sanzan, les Ryukyu entretenirent un commerce intensif avec la Chine de la dynastie Song, le Japon continental, la péninsule coréenne et l'Asie du sud-est, commerce qui atteignit son apogée entre la fin du XIVe siècle et le milieu du XVIe siècle.

Cette époque prit fin en 1429, avec l'unification des Ryukyu, sous l'égide du souverain Chūzan, en un seul royaume. Le premier roi fut renversé par un coup d'État en 1469, mais le royaume survécut, intact, jusqu'en 1879. Ces deux périodes sont connues sous le nom de première et seconde dynastie Shō, respectivement. Le troisième roi de la deuxième dynastie Shō, Shō Shin, consolida l'administration du royaume, instituant un contrôle centralisé et puissant des systèmes politique et religieux.

Le royaume fut enlevé au Japon en 1609 par le fief Satsuma, sous le shogunat Tokugawa, mais les nouveaux suzerains conservèrent la monarchie des Ryukyu comme administration locale. Il fournissait des liaisons importantes avec le reste du monde, à une époque où le Japon était virtuellement coupé de tout contact avec le monde extérieur. À la fin du shogunat, au début de l'ère Meiji, en 1868, il survécut brièvement en tant que « domaine Ryukyu », mais en 1879, le royaume des Ryukyu fut aboli et les îles devinrent la préfecture d'Okinawa, sous le nouveau système administratif.

Les Ryukyu furent le théâtre de lourds bombardements et d'âpres combats à la fin de la Seconde Guerre mondiale ; beaucoup y perdirent la vie, et les biens culturels furent dévastés. Ils demeurèrent sous tutelle américaine jusqu'en 1972, date à laquelle le Japon en reprit le contrôle.

Description

- Mausolée royal de Tamaudun [monument ; ville de Naha]

Shō Shin construisit le mausolée aux alentours de 1501, en symbole du pouvoir royal et pour profiter des pratiques des habitants des Ryukyu, qui accomplissaient leurs rituels religieux sur les tombes de leurs ancêtres.

Il fut creusé dans la roche de calcaire et couvert d'un toit de tuiles pannes à pignons. Les murs encerclant la chambre funéraire et le mausolée sont de calcaire corallien. La chambre funéraire possède trois compartiments, dotés chacun d'une porte de pierre. Le compartiment central accueillait les dépouilles royales avant leur purification par l'eau ; elles étaient ensuite transférées dans la chambre de l'ouest (rois et reines uniquement) et dans la chambre de l'est (autres membres de la famille royale).

- Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon (Porte de Pierre du Sanctuaire de Sonohyan) [monument ; ville de Naha]

Cette porte de pierre fut érigée en 1519 par Shō Shin, face à une forêt sacrée (*Sonohyan-utaki*). Elle était considérée comme la gardienne du royaume des Ryukyu, sanctuaire où des prières étaient faites pour la paix et la sécurité lors de cérémonies rituelles annuelles.

Elle représente le style unique de l'architecture de pierre développée dans les Ryukyu. Ce style est basé sur les motifs décoratifs normalement réalisés sur du bois mais reproduits minutieusement dans la pierre sur des chevrons, des pignons, des pendants et des faîtes. Le calcaire corallien est utilisé pour les principaux éléments structurels et le toit, du grès fin sur les faîtes et ailleurs. Quant aux portes, elles sont en bois.

- Nakijin-jō (château de Nakijin) [site ; village de Nakijin]

Pendant la période Sanzan, le château du roi Hokuzan devint la résidence du gouverneur du royaume des Ryukyu. Les travaux de construction commencèrent à la fin du XIIIe siècle, et il atteignit sa forme définitive au début du XVe siècle. Les fouilles archéologiques ont révélé d'énormes quantités de céramiques chinoises, attestant d'un commerce intensif.

Le château occupe une position stratégique, sur une colline isolée bien dotée en défenses naturelles (rivière, falaises, vallée profonde). Les murs extérieurs, aux pentes abruptes, s'étendent sur plus de 1500 mètres, suivant la forme d'arcs consécutifs que leur impose la topographie du lieu. Ils sont faits de blocs de calcaire dur, et s'élèvent sur 6 à 10 m. Au sommet, épais de 3 mètres, ils comportent des parapets peu élevés.

La porte (*Heirōmon*) est une reconstruction datant de 1962 ; conformément aux pratiques de conservation japonaises, ses fondations sont séparées des vestiges archéologiques souterrains par une couche de sol stérile. À l'intérieur, on trouve six enceintes. La première, au point culminant du site, qui a été égalisé grâce à un dur labeur, accueillait le bâtiment d'État, un sanctuaire et une dalle de pierre où était inscrite l'histoire de Hokuzan. Devant, une seconde enceinte dans laquelle deux autres salles ont été construites avec, derrière, l'*Uchibaru*, la résidence des prêtresses. En dessous se trouve le *Shigemajōkaku*, avec les baraquements de la garnison.

Le sanctuaire du bas (*Soitsugi-no-utaki*) était consacré à la divinité gardienne du château. C'est l'un des plus importants sites sacrés des îles Ryukyu.

- Zakimi-jō (château de Zakimi) [site ; village de Yomitan]

Ce château a été construit au début du XVe siècle par un puissant suzerain, Gosamaru. Après l'établissement du royaume des Ryukyu, il servit à surveiller les survivants du royaume de Hokuzan, qui avaient fui vers la côte ouest d'Okinawa.

Il se situe sur un site élevé, choisi pour son emplacement stratégique car il offre une excellente vue sur le château royal des Ryukyu de Shuri-jō. Il se compose de deux enceintes reliées, entourées par des murs sinueux faits de blocs de calcaire corallien. La porte de la deuxième enceinte est l'une des plus anciennes portes en arc à Okinawa. On trouve là les fondations d'au moins un grand édifice. Le site comporte un lieu sacré, dédié aux divinités protectrices, et il est toujours aujourd'hui un lieu de culte vivant.

- Katsuren-jō (château de Katsuren) [site ; ville de Katsuren]

Construit au XIIIe/XIIIe siècle, Katsuren était le château d'un autre puissant suzerain, Amawari. Les fouilles archéologiques ont mis au jour d'innombrables preuves d'un commerce important à l'ère Sanzan. Également dressé sur une colline en surplomb, il comporte quatre enceintes reliées, dont les murs sont faits de calcaire corallien. Les fouilles ont mis au jour les fondations de plusieurs grands bâtiments.

On dénombre plusieurs anciens lieux de culte. Le sanctuaire dédié à Kobazukasa, en particulier, colonne de pierre ronde au milieu de la première enceinte, conserve toujours une grande importance spirituelle. Une scène rituelle (*Tunumutu*) figure également dans la troisième enceinte, avec dix tabourets de pierre placés en L. On sait qu'ils servaient aux prêtresses locales (*noro*) pour les prières rituelles.

- Nakagusuku-jô (château de Nakagusuku) [site ; villages de Kitanakagusuku et Nakagusuku]

Ce château, construit à l'époque agitée des dernières années du XIV^e siècle et agrandi au milieu du XV^e, se compose de six enceintes, alignées sur un promontoire aux pentes abruptes. Les murs sont faits de blocs taillés de calcaire corallien ; les angles, faits de blocs plus grands et façonnés, sont particulièrement travaillés. À certains endroits, les murs dépassent 10 mètres de hauteur. Plusieurs formes d'engagement des blocs de pierre (horizontal, hexagonal, aléatoire) sont utilisées sur les différents murs, ce qui confirme que le château a été agrandi plusieurs fois. L'enceinte la plus au sud abrite plusieurs lieux de culte.

- Shuri-jô (château de Shuri) [site ; ville de Naha]

Construit pendant la seconde moitié du XIV^e siècle, Shuri-jô était le château principal des rois de Chûzan et, après l'unification, du royaume des Ryukyu. La colline sur laquelle il se dresse domine la ville de Naha et son port. Il se divise en enceintes intérieures et extérieures, suivant la topographie du lieu.

Les murs d'enceinte du château, en calcaire corallien à engagement aléatoire, s'étendent sur plus de 1080 m, avec deux tours de garde dont les vestiges sont encore visibles. Leur hauteur varie entre 6 et 15 mètres, et ils font en moyenne 3 mètres d'épaisseur. Il y avait plusieurs portes, dont certaines à voûtes, dotées de tourelles en bois à toit en croupe.

Le bâtiment d'État (*Heiden*) était une structure palatiale de trois étages, dotée d'un toit à pignons en croupe, orientée sud-ouest, construite sur une plate-forme surélevée, avec des balustrades de pierre devant et sur les côtés de l'escalier d'approche. Sa décoration présente des caractéristiques exclusivement propres aux Ryukyu, notamment les avant-toits des pignons, ornés de grandes sculptures de dragons, dans le style chinois. Seuls les premier et deuxième étages étaient utilisés, le second étant somptueusement décoré, comme il seyait à ses fonctions de salle du trône royal et de salle de réception. Ce bâtiment était entouré d'une cour d'État (*Unâ*), avec de grands halls d'un côté et de l'autre. Le plus au nord, de style chinois, servait à accueillir et à loger les délégations chinoises, tandis que l'autre, de style japonais, remplissait les mêmes fonctions auprès des délégations japonaises.

Le bâtiment fut plusieurs fois détruit par le feu, le plus récemment et le plus complètement durant la Seconde Guerre mondiale. Il avait toutefois été complètement inventorié avant la guerre, et des fouilles archéologiques exhaustives avaient été entreprises avant que l'actuelle reconstruction n'ait lieu.

- Shikinaen [site/paysage culturel ; ville de Naha]

La villa royale et son jardin ont été construits en 1799 d'après les archives. Le plan du jardin montre une influence japonaise, mais l'on trouve des caractéristiques chinoises dans certaines de ses structures. Le résultat, toutefois, n'en est pas moins purement typique des Ryukyu. La caractéristique centrale est le bassin, autour duquel sont disposés des allées, des pavillons, des collines artificielles et des jardins floraux. Le bassin lui-même est embelli par la présence de deux petites îles et de ponts cintrés de style chinois ; sur l'une des îles s'élève un pavillon hexagonal, de style chinois lui aussi. Les autres pavillons sont des structures de bois de plain-pied, au toit de tuiles rouges, privilège réservé à l'élite.

- Sêfa-utaki [site/paysage culturel ; village de Chinen]

Pendant son long règne (1477-1526), le troisième roi Shô, Shô Shin, réorganisa et centralisa la religion des Ryukyu, dont le chef spirituel était une prêtresse, la *Kikoeôgimi*. Sêfa-utaki, déjà site rituel important, devint l'un des lieux les plus sacrés de cette nouvelle religion.

On dénombre plusieurs lieux de cultes, dont trois reliés par des voies pavées. Il y a peu d'indications matérielles de l'importance de Sêfa-utaki : il s'agit essentiellement d'une colline densément boisée, sur laquelle les sanctuaires et les sites de prière sont dotés d'une qualité spirituelle intemporelle, émanant plus du lieu lui-même que des symboles fabriqués par l'homme.

Gestion et protection

Statut juridique

Deux des neuf biens qui composent cette proposition d'inscription (Tamaudun et Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon) sont désignés en vertu de l'article 27 de la loi de 1950 sur la protection des biens culturels comme d'importants biens culturels. Ils sont également classés sites historiques, désignation s'appliquant également aux autres biens. Toutes les interventions envisagées sur les biens protégés doivent être soumises à l'autorisation préalable de l'Agence nationale aux affaires culturelles. Les contrevenants sont passibles de lourdes sanctions.

Gestion

Les biens composant cette proposition d'inscription appartiennent à des propriétaires variés. Sêfa-utaki et Zakimi-jô sont la propriété des autorités locales compétentes. Nakijin-jô, Katsuren-jô et Nakagusuku-jô s'étendent largement sur des terres publiques, avec quelques petites parties en propriété privée. Quant à Shuri-jô, il appartient à l'État japonais et à la préfecture d'Okinawa. La préfecture et la ville de Naha se partagent la propriété de Tamaudun, tandis que Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon et Shikinaen sont des terres appartenant à la ville de Naha.

La maintenance, la réparation et la présentation de ces biens sont du ressort des propriétaires ou des autorités de tutelle. Toutefois, les administrations nationale et préfectorale apportent leur soutien technique et financier.

En sus de la protection des sites et monuments aux termes de la loi de 1950, chacun des biens est protégé par des arrêtés municipaux, qui définissent des zones tampon au sein desquelles la hauteur, le style, la couleur, etc. des bâtiments sont strictement contrôlés. La plupart s'inscrivent également dans des projets de parc, visant à améliorer leur environnement et leur présentation aux visiteurs.

Conservation et authenticité

Historique de la conservation

Tous les biens ont été classés sites et monuments culturels avant la Seconde Guerre mondiale. Pendant cette période, ils ont fait l'objet de programmes de maintenance systématiques, avec quelques projets de réparation et de restauration autorisés, par exemple, sur les murs du château.

Les dégâts occasionnés à la fin de la Seconde Guerre mondiale ont été énormes. C'est Shuri-jô qui a le plus souffert, le quartier général des forces japonaises ayant été creusé sous le monument, mais Sonohtan-utaki Ishimon, Tamaudun et Shikinaen ont eux aussi subi de graves dommages. Après la fin de la guerre, des travaux de conservation et de restauration furent entrepris, bien qu'ils eurent lieu au même moment que la reconstruction majeure que nécessitait l'ensemble de l'île pour retrouver au moins une infrastructure sociale et économique rudimentaire.

Avec la restitution d'Okinawa en 1973, le gouvernement japonais a initié un programme majeur de projets de restauration et de conservation, soucieux de l'importance de ces biens dans le maintien de l'identité culturelle des Ryukyu. Tous ces projets ont été planifiés avec grand soin et beaucoup de précision, dans l'objectif d'assurer le plus haut degré d'authenticité et d'intégrité. Les reconstructions sont basées sur des archives et des recherches archéologiques détaillées, et le plus grand soin a été apporté pour veiller à ce que les traits d'origine et ceux qui ont été reconstruits ne puissent être confondus.

Authenticité

Du fait des strictes normes de restauration et de reconstruction en vigueur au Japon depuis plus d'un siècle, le degré d'authenticité du style et des matériaux des biens proposés pour inscription est élevé. Il a été pris grand soin de bien distinguer les éléments structurels originaux de ceux restaurés ou reconstruits, et de bien sélectionner les matériaux utilisés pour la reconstruction. Il y a eu certains cas de restauration immédiate après la guerre avec des matériaux inadéquats, mais ceux-ci ont été remplacés ou sont clairement différenciés.

Aucun de ces projets n'a eu lieu sans de méticuleuses études et recherches avant le début des opérations. La reconstruction complète du bâtiment d'État à Shuri-jô est ainsi fondée sur des plans à l'échelle et des photographies de l'édifice avant sa destruction par le feu, vérifiés par rapport à des fouilles archéologiques minutieuses. Le résultat est une réplique exacte de la structure antérieure, d'une grande valeur symbolique à Okinawa. À Shikinaen, un procédé similaire est utilisé pour recréer avec précision le jardin de la villa royale.

Les vestiges archéologiques souterrains sont soigneusement mis au jour, enregistrés et préservés en bon état, et, si ceci s'avère nécessaire, ils sont séparés par une couche de sol stérile ou de sable des structures reconstruites sur place et protégés contre toute forme d'intervention. On trouve des exemples de ces pratiques à Nakijin-jô et Shuri-jô.

Le degré d'authenticité est tout aussi élevé en termes de savoir-faire. Les techniques traditionnelles sont en effet largement employées dans tous les projets de restauration et de conservation.

Évaluation

Action de l'ICOMOS

Une mission d'expertise de l'ICOMOS a visité tous les biens qui composent cette proposition d'inscription en janvier 2000.

Caractéristiques

Le groupe de monuments et de sites qui composent cette proposition d'inscription sont le témoignage vivant du parcours culturel particulier d'un territoire qui faisait la liaison entre les cultures de la Chine, du Japon, de la péninsule coréenne et de l'Asie du sud-est. Ce contexte multiculturel et la personnalité unique née de plusieurs siècles d'échanges est d'une grande importance pour l'étude des processus d'interaction culturelle.

Le bien proposé pour inscription est également d'une grande valeur en ce que d'anciennes pratiques religieuses y survivent, intactes, depuis des siècles, largement épargnées par l'essor, autour d'elles, des grandes religions du monde, telles que le bouddhisme et le christianisme. C'est d'ailleurs là l'une des principales raisons de la force de l'identité culturelle des Ryukyu, en dépit de quelques 150 ans de pressions politiques et économiques extérieures.

Analyse comparative

Du fait de la nature unique de la culture du royaume des Ryukyu, il est difficile de trouver un point de référence, spécialement dans l'est de l'Asie ou dans la ceinture du Pacifique.

Brève description

Ce groupe de sites et de monuments représente cinq cent ans d'histoire des Ryukyu. Les châteaux en ruines, sur des sites imposants en hauteur, illustrent la structure sociale d'une grande partie de cette période, tandis que les sites sacrés sont les témoins muets de la rare survie d'une ancienne forme de religion dans l'ère contemporaine. Les importants contacts économiques (et donc culturels) des îles sur cette période se traduisent par le caractère unique de la culture qui y a émergé.

Recommandation

Que ce bien soit inscrit sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial sur la base des *critères ii, iii et vi* :

Critère ii Pendant plusieurs siècles, les îles des Ryukyu ont servi de centre d'échanges économiques et culturels entre l'Asie du sud-est, la Chine, la Corée et le Japon, comme en témoignent avec force les monuments qui subsistent.

Critère iii La culture du royaume des Ryukyu a évolué et s'est épanouie dans un environnement politique et économique particulier, qui lui a conféré des caractéristiques uniques.

Critère vi Les sites sacrés des Ryukyu constituent un exemple exceptionnel de forme indigène de culte de la nature et des ancêtres qui a survécu intact dans l'âge moderne, aux côtés des grandes religions du monde.

ICOMOS, septembre 2000