

ABSTRACT

**The Role of the “Hikurodo-Bugyo” in the Early Modern Period
and Its Archival Activities**

NISHIMURA Shintaro

The purpose of this paper is to clarify the role of the “Hikurodo-Bugyo”, who oversaw the “Hikurodo”, attendants responsible for miscellaneous tasks at the Imperial Court during the Edo period. The study particularly examines this role from an archival science perspective.

The roles of the “Hikurodo-Bugyo”, as identified from an archival science standpoint, are as follows: (1) attendance management, (2) communication of laws and directives, (3) management of residence and name changes, (4) inheritance management, (5) management of annual ledgers, and (6) attendance management of the “Hikurodo”. Although the “Hikurodo-Bugyo” handled document transmission, there is no evidence of proactive involvement in other activities. However, in the event of problems, they were expected to take on a behind-the-scenes role, rather than a public one.

The Irregularization of MLA Professionals and the Japanese-style Employment and Civil Service System

KAN Masaki

The informalization of MLAs, or museum, library, and archives professionals, is underway.

While librarians and museum curators are nationally certified, there is no national certification for archivists, although a certification system for archivists, certified by the National Archives of Japan, was launched in FY2020. The premise of this system is the Statement of Professional Standards for Archivists.

In the Archives Law enacted in 1987, a special provision regarding the assignment of archivists was included in Supplementary Provision 2. There is an argument that this special provision should be abolished, but this argument does not understand the transition of the civil service system and is incorrect as a campaign theory, pointing out that we must strive to make archivists regular employees and improve the treatment of fiscal year appointees.

In Japan, there are no statistical surveys or professional associations for archivists. This has led to a lack of recognition of archives and archivists, and we will discuss the need to form a professional association of archivists, establish a code of ethics, and conduct statistical surveys in Japan.

The salaries of regular professionals are the same as those of civil servants in general employment in Japan and are not commensurate with their professional status. It is necessary to change this Japanese-style employment to job-style employment.

Finally, I discuss the need for international comparisons on the issue of professional employment.

Archival Science Education in Ibero-America: Its Relationship to Information Science

NORITAKE Rihito

It is possible that archival science is, as one of its interdisciplinary aspects, being more related to information science in general, since the records, the main target of that area, have an element of information and that element is being more important along with the development of the information technology. In Ibero-America, archival science may be more similar to information science, considering that the aspects of records and evidence of the information are more emphasized in information science of that region and there is solid operational cooperation among the areas related to information, including the archival area, of some Ibero-American countries.

In this article, archival science education courses currently offered and those offered in the past are analyzed and their tendencies are searched for based on their relationship to information science. It is found that there are a lot of relevant examples in many countries or territories though how each course is related to information science is varied: in some courses archival science is educated as a part of information science; in other courses archival science is one of the options branching out from the information science curriculum. In addition, while in some examples archival science is offered at the undergraduate level and information science is offered at the graduate one, by which they complement each other, in other examples information science is offered prior to archival science. Those examples would be beneficial, by their variation, when the archival science education related to information science is considered in other regions.

Thinking About the Handling of Publications in Archives

HORIUCHI Nobuyuki

The purpose of this paper is to show the problems with the handling of publications in archives and to present a framework of rules toward a solution. Generally, archives and libraries exist separately because they have different social roles and different functions in terms of the objects they hold, and they also have different fields of study. On the other hand, in reality, there are many cases in which archives handle publications, especially when it comes to personal documents from the modern era onward. In light of this situation, he presented specific examples of problems with two fonds, and pointed out that there are problems in terms of organization, retrieval, and management. He then classified the policies to be taken in the future into three phases, crossed them with the operations in the archives, and presented what kind of ideas and rules are necessary for the handling of publications. Although this is only a rough outline, we would like to take this opportunity to discuss the common rules with those involved in archives who are facing similar problems.

The Historical Material Space of the Ruling Families of Daimyō Document Groups: Taking Myouzi-shu of the Kubota Domain as the Example

KAMADA Nanako

This paper focuses on documents preserved in the various myouzi-shu of the Kubota Domain's samurai, utilizing the working concept of “historical material space.” The aim is to clarify the characteristics of these document groups, considering the process of document creation and exchange between the domain lord and the documents shared among the myouzi-shu, as well as the function of these “spaces” during that process. The primary period of focus is the Hōrreki to Meiwa era, during which the domain experienced significant political and economic turmoil.

The analysis revealed that the actions and seating arrangements of the vassals during the transmission of the domain's highest law, the “Gojōmoku,” prominently reflected social hierarchies and functioned to maintain and strengthen order among the vassals. Additionally, within the myouzi-shu, the laws were transformed into a more practical form through consultations and deliberations with the main domain and were then shared among subordinates. The analysis of document sharing indicated that the accumulation of information and the exchange of documents were related to the unique political roles of the myōzi-shu, which involved coming to the Kubota castle town from their residences to assist in domain governance during the absence of the lord.

**The Model Research Towards Usable Archives of Family Records in Modern Japan:
Focus on The Records of Ajima Branch Family**

MURAKAMI Mizuki

The archival construction model for modern personal records has been proposed to organize them based on an individual's social roles. However, this approach is only effective when the individual's social career is clearly defined, and corresponding records have been preserved. In this paper, I attempt to construct a model focusing on modern and contemporary family records, where personal records are accumulated in multiple layers, viewing the "family" as an organization and linking the "individual" within it.

The "Ajima Branch Family Records" in focus are a collection accumulated by the Ajima branch family, founded by Ajima Michi, the daughter of a Mito domain samurai. While her records are central to this collection, it also includes materials from individuals who later inherited the family headship and their families. Therefore, the aim was to organize these records as modern family documents with an emphasis on future flexibility.

In conclusion, this paper presents an organizational model from the perspective of "family" as an organization and "individual," which is believed to be effective for the organization of so-called "mobile documents." Additionally, I also discussed the importance of a continuous approach toward the preservation and utilization of privately held materials.

Document Management and Information Disclosure of Impermanent Corporations Financed by Local Governments

IGARASHI Keisuke

Some local government-financed corporations are established for the purpose of preparing and managing events together with the local government, and are dissolved shortly after the project's completion. To ensure accountability, local governments must establish systems to prevent the loss of documents created by these impermanent corporations. This study focuses on the case of the Tokyo Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games, financed by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government. The Organising Committee aimed to preserve documents for future event management, while the Tokyo Metropolitan Assembly valued expense scrutiny, leading to the enactment of the "Ordinance on the Preservation and Succession of Documents Pertaining to the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games." Under this ordinance, the Tokyo Metropolitan Government lobbied the Organising Committee and others. As a result, approximately 4,000 documents were made publicly available online after the dissolution of the Organising Committee. However, challenges remain, such as the insufficient framework for future public disclosure of currently non-public documents and concerns about the thoroughness of document succession due to the lack of published evaluation criteria and disposal lists. Finally, the paper proposes measures to improve document management and information disclosure systems for local government-financed corporations dissolving in a short period.

**Providing Access to Personal Papers:
A Case Study of the Plaintiff's Papers in a Medical Lawsuit**

IMAI Yoshiko

This article considers ways to provide access to the Toshiko Hiraguri Papers (hereafter “the Papers”) related to a medical lawsuit she filed. The Papers are housed in Rikkyo Research Center for Cooperative Civil Societies and have been closed to access since the donation.

As a baseline for the examination, I first examines the contents and characteristics of the Papers, as well as the access principles and guidelines by the International Council on Archives (ICA). Then, it discusses potential issues regarding access to the Papers, taking into account relevant legislation, donor requirements, the repository's mission and access policies. As a result, it is confirmed that the major impediment to access is the privacy concern, especially of those other than the donor herself, such as doctors or witnesses. To address this, I reviewed legal cases related to privacy, focusing on court decisions that recognize the legal interest in protecting individuals from the unnecessary disclosure of having been sued in civil litigation, as such case law is applicable to doctors sued for malpractice. The review of the cases demonstrated that the potential infringement of third-party privacy should be carefully assessed before providing access to the Papers. Based on the above considerations, this article proposes a feasible approach to providing access to the Papers, balancing the widest possible access to archives with respect for privacy.

Learning Programme for Beginning Archivists
— Establishment of Online Courses and Challenges —

AKUTSU Miki

This paper addresses the topic of online courses outside of higher education institutions, with a particular emphasis on digital archiving, which represents a significant learning objective for first-time students and a current challenge. Despite the fact that online courses are not yet widely established in Japan, they offer a number of significant advantages. These include the possibility of undertaking courses from remote locations, the ability to study according to one's own schedule, and the potential for reduced tuition fees, among other benefits. Since 2017, the International Council on Archives (ICA) has offered five online courses: 'Organising Family Archives (beginner)', 'Understanding and Using the UDA (beginner)', 'Collection Care (beginner)', 'Introduction to Records Management (beginner/intermediate)' and 'Managing Digital Archives (intermediate)'.

It is thought that the use of these online courses has played a significant role in the development of archives studies, by widening the scope of the subject and offering more opportunities for those interested to learn. Among the various forms of archival learning, this paper will examine the role of learning tools in supporting learners.

**Document Administration and Assistance to Village Office
by the Forest Officers of the Owari Clan**

OTA Naohiro

This paper draws on the records of the Naiki family of Kashimo Village, Ena County, Mino Province, to reveal how the Naiki family, who served as forestry administrators (called “Oyamamori”) for the Owari clan in the mid-Edo period, interacted with their territory, prepared documents, managed and used forests, and coordinated their interests with the local community.

In order to overcome their precarious position between the samurai and the peasants, Oyamamori were keenly aware of their status as “officials” rather than peasants. As an expression of this awareness, he positioned the accurate preparation of documents and their mediation and submission as important duties as an “official,” and actively intervened in documents prepared by villagers.

As an example of this, we have extracted the process of preparing documents related to the inspection of stolen forests in 1765 and the application for the contract of “Kokeraita-yama” in 1763, and found that he repeatedly ordered revisions to ensure accuracy, and also confirmed and added to the contents.

This paper also mentions that the selection system for village officials in Kashimo Village, known as the “one-year rotation system of Kumigashira,” expanded the opportunities for ordinary farmers to create documents.

On the other hand, in the process of preparing the “Forest Control Pledge” in 1771, the paper analyzed the situation in which villagers demanded that the wording be deleted from the draft presented by the governor because it would interfere with their daily lives, and how the governor adjusted the wording to strike a balance between mountain control and villagers’ lives.