

Protection of Cultural Properties

Under the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties, important cultural properties are protected by being designated or selected.

Cultural properties that have been designated or selected are governed by regulations on alterations to current state or repairs and restrictions on export. On the other hand, subsidies concerning repair and maintenance are also provided.

Efforts to protect tangible cultural properties (Fine arts and applied crafts, structures, etc.) are granted subsidies for repairs to preserve the properties and work to prevent fires.

Efforts to protect intangible cultural heritage (traditional performing arts, craft techniques, traditional events and festivals, folk performing arts, etc.) are granted subsidies for documentation and training of successors.

Modern cultural properties that are in danger of being lost due to development are registered instead of being designated.

This allows the properties to be used in modern society while being protected, and has less strict roles on protection.

Designation and other

Cultural properties are designated, selected or registered after the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology has consulted the Council for Cultural Affairs and received its report.

Preservation

- Guidance and subsidies concerning repair and maintenance to owners and municipalities
- Subsidies for municipalities to purchase land or structures which are cultural properties
- Regulations on alterations to current state, restrictions on export
- Establishment of tax exemptions
- Documentation as necessary, making documentation available to the public
- Environmental preservation

Utilization

- Subsidies to owners or municipalities regarding the maintenance of facilities or the creation of explanatory signs for the public display of cultural properties
- Creation of more opportunities to view cultural properties (such as exhibitions).