

Barns and Storehouses of *Minka*: A Study on Timber Construction for Storage, Drying and Defence in Japanese Farmhouses

This book discusses the barns and storehouses developed as attached buildings to Japanese farmhouses of the early modern and modern ages. Through a comprehensive field survey, it clarifies the characteristics of locality and historical transitions as well as these significant factors. By defining 'storehouses' as one category of 'barns', the establishment of *Minka*, i.e. Japanese farmhouses, and their process of development is explored.

The book discusses how the attached houses, including storehouses, have been used for productive and storage functions and have transformed through the developmental process of their building construction.

Few systematic studies have been undertaken of early modern attached houses including storehouses, although some have been studied as to the piloti-granary in Southeast Japan and clay-plastered storehouses of traditional townhouses.

Based on the results of the historical research on attached architecture, this study endeavors to outline the history of storehouses of log-construction and those of board-construction which have been omitted from architectural history. Projecting this result toward the early modern history of clay storehouses, we can illustrate the relationship between the local occupations and farm buildings globally.

Furthermore, the building construction techniques for log- and board-storehouses can be utilized to guide development in contact with the locality of wooden constructions utilizing Japanese forest resources.