

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

11 WEST 53 STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900

May 1956

No. 57c

CHRONOLOGY OF THE JAPANESE EXHIBITION HOUSE

Given to the Museum of Modern Art by the America-Japan
Society of Tokyo and private citizens

1953 January -
February

Arthur Drexler, Curator of the Department of Architecture and Design at the Museum of Modern Art, visits Japan; selects Junzo Yoshimura as architect for Exhibition House.

House first erected in Nagoya; then dismantled and each part, including stones from mountains near Nagoya for garden, wrapped separately and labeled.

1954 January 29

House shipped on S. S. Tungus in 636 crates.

March 16

Reconstruction begun in Museum garden under the supervision of Junzo Yoshimura and with Japanese craftsmen brought to New York from Japan.

April 22
3:00 p.m.

Ridge-pole raising ceremony--Mune-Age

Invited Guests Included:

Naraichi Fujiyama, Consul
Masao Yagi, Acting Consul General
Renzo Zwado, Permanent Ambassador to U. N.
Tokichi Matsuoka, President of Japanese Air Association in New York
John D. Rockefeller III, President of Japan Society
Buddhist priest, Hozen Seki, officiated

June 20

House open to public

June 24

NBC Television, remote from House. HOME. Sidney Smith interviewed Mr. Junzo Yoshimura.

August 13

Six carp placed in garden pool. Gift of Willard S. Simkins.

October 31

House closed for winter. Had been visited by 121,187 people. Heavy brown paper wrapped around all delicate paper sliding walls; house cleaned and waxed; old tatami (mats) replaced by 48 new ones; 400 square feet added to garden; 1,000 new myrtle plants, 5 laurels, 3 cryptomeria, and one yew planted.

November 7

House especially opened for visit by Prime Minister of Japan, Shigeru Yoshida, escorted by Mr. and Mrs. John D. Rockefeller 3d.

more.....

1955 April 26

Re-opening ceremony

Invited Guests included:

Takashi Komatsu, President of America-Japan Society
of Tokyo
John D. Rockefeller 3rd, President of Japan Society
Philip C. Johnson, Chairman of Museum's Architecture
Committee
Mrs. John D. Rockefeller 3rd, Trustee of Museum
Dr. Henry Allen Moe, Trustee of Museum

April 27

House re-opened to public

Survey of visitors begun by Bureau of Social Science Research,
American University, Washington, D. C.

May 26

House was open for a Japanese evening sponsored by the Junior
Council. Shin-ichi Yuize sang and played the Koto, a stringed
instrument; Arthur Drexler spoke on "Aspects of Japanese Archi-
tecture."

July 10

CBS Television, remote. LET'S TAKE A TRIP. Shirley Yamaguchi,
Japanese film star, shows how a Japanese family lives at House.

NBC Television, remote. TODAY. Faye Emerson interviews Bob Ar-
nold at House.

July 15

ARCHITECTURE OF JAPAN, by Arthur Drexler published by the
Museum.

August 9

Dumont Television. Visitors to House interviewed.

October 16

House closed, had been visited by 101,937 persons in 1955 making
a total of 223,124 visitors altogether.

1956 May

House given to Fairmount Park Commission, Philadelphia.
