The last five years have seen a variety of important developments in the archaeology of the Ryukyus. This survey is meant to cover the period from 1966 to the end of 1971, although earlier important items not introduced previously have been included.

Preliminary news of radiocarbon dates for Layer V of the Yamashita Cho site, Naha (32,000 ± 1000 B.P.), and the Minatogawa site of southern Okinawa (about 18,300 B.P.) has brought confirmation to the 'Palaeolithic' of the Ryukyus. However, the sites are not without problems. The Yamashita Cho site is virtually without a lithic industry on which to base comparison with other localities in East Asia, the diagnostic artifacts being crudely worked bones, with a total absence of stone artifacts. We eagerly await the report of recent research on the sites by the Ryukyu Cultural Properties Commission and Professor Chokei Watanabe of Tokyo University.

Another major contribution in the last few years has been research on the late prehistoric period and the function of the 'castle' or 'gushiku' sites. Several scholars have refined the chronology of the late prehistoric period (roughly the latter part of the first millennium A.D.) and have tackled the problem of the hard gray stoneware or 'sueki' which had largely been overlooked in the past. It is now suggested that this ware is of relatively late manufacture (Nara or Heian period), and that it was imported from Japan (Sato 1970). While it used to be assumed that all 'gushiku' sites were habitations of the lords or 'anji', it is now acknowledged that some of them may have had religious rather than residential functions. From the dwelling refuse present on others, however, it seems that they must have been habitation sites early in their development, later becoming ritual precincts or burial areas.

The extensive work on Katsuren castle in the last five years has brought to light a great deal of information concerning the structure of the site and the distribution of artifacts within it, whereas in the early 1960s, surface collections of Chinese ceramics and very limited test pitting formed the only basis for discussion (Hirano...
PEARSON: The Ryukyus

Considerable effort has been expended in broadening the traditional Japanese, idealized-type-oriented approach to include ethnohistory and ethnology in dealing with the beginnings of the historic period. A number of scholars have turned to the study of Okinawan society from the castle period to the time of the independent Chuzan kingdom. Particularly useful in this study are accounts of relations with Korea and China (Kadena 1971, Kobata and Matsuda 1965, Liang 1965). The late prehistoric period, termed 'genshi' or primitive by the researchers, is taken as a base line upon which many influences, internal and external, had their effect, and the 'makyo' or kin-based community of this early period can be found through the study of local place names and sacred places (Inamura 1968, 1971; Kokubu 1970a, 1970b; Miyagi 1971; Nakamatsu 1961; Takemoto 1966, 1969, 1970, 1971; Tomoyose and Takemoto 1969).

The presence of Yayoi-type pottery from Kyushu has spurred a good deal of interest in examining the nature of the historical connections between Japan and Okinawa (Takamiya 1968a, Tomoyose 1970, Tomoyose and Takamiya 1968). It is now generally acknowledged that the presence of a small number of sherds does not necessarily imply the contemporary arrival of other traits such as irrigated rice agriculture. From the evidence available, it is thought that agriculture began some time in the latter portion of the first millennium A.D. (Asato 1969; Mishima 1971a, 1971b, Nitta 1969).

A number of excavations have been made for which reports are still in preparation. These include the Uzabama site at Hedo on the northern promontory of Okinawa, excavated by the Cultural Properties Commission in 1967; the Rendobaru site in Yomitan village, excavated by Professor Hiroe Takamiya in 1965; and a portion of the Nakasone site, dug by the Cultural Properties Commission (Eiichiro Tomoyose, personal communication). The founding of the Archaeological Association of Okinawa has created a great deal of formal interest in local archaeology, and has provided a very significant journal, Nanto Koko, for the publication of Okinawan materials. In addition, new journals for history (Ryudai Shigaku and Okinawa Rekishi Kenkyu) carry a number of articles of archaeological interest. The work done by student groups on the outer islands, using surface collections, is exemplary from a number of points of view (Okinawa Gakusei Bunka Kyokai 1967, 1968, 1970a, 1970b; Ryukyu Daigaku Kokogaku Kenkyukai 1971).

Osteological studies are still regrettably rare in the area, although a promising start has been made in several areas (Nagai 1964, Morita 1966, Ogata and Morisawa 1971).

In 1971 the Cultural Properties Commission and the University of British Columbia, with the support of the Canada Council and the Wenner-Gren Foundation, initiated on Kumejima and Iriomote a project designed to look at cultural change in these islands in terms of adaptation to the island resources and to other cultural groups in the East China Sea area with whom the inhabitants were in contact. The first season’s work concentrated on Kumejima, and consisted of a continuation of survey work done in 1970 and the excavation of the airport site near Kitaharu village, located in a sand dune on the western end of the island. Work is also being carried out on the history of cultivated plants on these islands, village
ethnohistory, the study of the history of vegetational change in the prehistoric period, and the quantitative and functional analysis of artifactual and nonartifactual remains. Fieldwork in 1972 will concentrate on excavation and investigation of the agricultural systems on Kumejima and work on early sites on Iriomote.

The whole problem of the derivation of the population of Yaeyama might better be approached through the establishment of a firm temporal chronology in Yaeyama rather than through the tracing of particular traits from Taiwan or the northern Philippines to the island group (Pearson in press, Takemoto 1971).

The thinness of their deposits, the prevalence of disturbance, and the localized nature of their dimensions have long been noted as striking characteristics of sites in the Ryukyus in comparison to other sites in East Asia. Unfortunately, even the small sample of sites now known is far from safe. The Cultural Properties Commission has noted with alarm the destruction of sites throughout the islands, and particularly on American military bases, where no salvage attempts of any sort have been made. Particularly vulnerable are the castle sites on high places. A goodly number of these have been made into radar and other electronic sites. At all of these, one can find votive offerings of incense and paper left outside the high wire fences. These castle sites are not dead relics; they are important local religious places to the Okinawans of today. In twenty-five years, no channel of communication has been effectively opened up between the Okinawan authorities and the military government in regard to these sites. In addition, new training areas opened up within the last year in northern Okinawa have destroyed a number of rare plants and birds and scarce timber resources.

Unless otherwise noted, all publications included here are in Japanese. This report was completed with the support of the Canada Council, The Wenner-Gren Foundation, and the University of British Columbia Research Committee. Grateful acknowledgment is offered for their aid.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

ASATO, SUSUMU
1969 Okinawa no tanka mai, o-mugi shitsudo iseki [Okinawan sites yielding carbonated rice and barley]. Kokogaku Janaru, no. 32:10-16.
An account of carbonated rice and barley remains, accompanying artifacts and context, from twelve Okinawan sites, all but one of which are castles. One of these sites, Itoztsu castle, is reported in detail. It yielded iron, shell and bone artifacts, trade ceramics, 'sueki' stoneware, and several varieties of local pottery.

CHINEN, ISAMU, and HIROE TAKAMIYA
Report on a collection from the Ogido site made in 1964 during the excavation of holes for the construction of a building. Ogido is placed in the middle of the prehistoric period. Pottery, adzes, and bone artifacts are described.

EMERY, K. O., H. NIINO and B. SULLIVAN
1971 Post pleistocene levels of the East China Sea. In The Late Cenozoic Glacial Ages, edited by K. K. Turekian, pp. 381-390. New Haven: Yale University Press. (In English.) Sea level of the East China Sea was about 130 m below the present level about 15,000 years ago, and probably at an intermediate level 30,000 years ago. Transgressions are noted from about 6000 up to several hundred years B.C. These may be due in part to diastrophic changes in land elevation.
PEARSON: The Ryukyus

FUKUDA, KOTEI, ed.  
Contains an initial section on local prehistory and Katsuren castle; greatest emphasis is on recent history.

HAYASHI, KIYOKUNI  
1971 Kokogaku to rekishi [Archaeology and history]. Nanto Kobo, no. 2:42–44.  
Stresses the importance of archaeology, folklore, and history in the study of the ancient period of Ryukyu history, particularly in the examination of the accounts of the Amami kyo, Kudaka Island, and the beginning of the Ryukyu 'state' in Chinen and Tamagusuku in the southern part of Okinawa.

HIRANO, KUNIO  
Sets the Katsuren excavations in an Okinawan context and adds some comparative notes from Japan.

HOKAMA, SEIKO  
1966 Nihon no Kogei; Ryukyu [The crafts of Japan; Ryukyu]. 247 pp. Kyoto: Tanko Shinsha.  
A survey of ceramics, lacquer, textiles, wooden crafts, and stone sculpture going back to the traditional period, with excellent photos.

INAFUKU, SEIKI  
Using a sample of 4017 students, the author found that their ABO distribution was similar to that of Japan, but that the much higher Rh negative distribution is the result of racial admixture. (The author does not mention the possibility of genetic drift.)

INAMiRA, KENpU  
1968 Okinawa no kodai buraku 'makyo' no kenkyu [A study of 'makyo' in ancient Okinawan villages]. Naha: Bunkyo Toshi Ltd. 471 pp.  
A study of villages in Okinawa dating from before the castle period that were endogamous, and which are now recognizable by the presence of local 'ugan' or 'utaki'. The study was based on the Ryukyu koku yuraiki, compiled in 1713, by the Ryukyu Han Cho.

1971 'Makyo' to Okinawa no kodai shi ['Makyo' and the history of old Okinawa]. Ryudai Shigaku, no. 2:92–103.  
Discussion of 'makyo' in the pre-agricultural period of Okinawa.

ISHIKAWA, Tsumetaro  
A comprehensive summary, from the Palaeolithic to the historic period, with plates, maps, photos, bibliography.

KABIRA, Choshin, compiler.  
Simplified nontechnical story of Okinawa's past from the early finds at Minatogawa to the historic period. Heavy emphasis placed on the Minamoto Tametomo legend.

KADENA, SOTOKU, ed.  
Selected passages from the Korean Yi dynasty records dealing with the most important period of contact, from the beginning of Yi. This is the material covered in the first fourteen volumes of the Richo Jitsuroku. Another selection, dealing with the later contacts, mostly shipwrecks, is in preparation.

KAGAWA, MITSUO  

KANeTAKE (KIN), Masanori  
Brief descriptions of survey and test pitting of four sites, including some pH testing. Kouri Island lies off the harbor of Unten, on the north side of the Motobu peninsula.
Asian Perspectives, XV, 1972

KAWAGUSHI, SADANORI


Report of a site containing late Jomon and early to middle Yayoi ceramics, excavated in 1963. The site yielded two one-piece fishhooks made of boar tusk. It is very interesting that such fishhooks do not occur in the Ryukyu Islands.


A Jomon site on the southwest coast of the Satsuma peninsula, 4 km south of the Takahashi site, containing pottery and including a figurine, a polished stone knife, and a variety of adzes. The site fits chronologically between the Oishi site of Oita Prefecture and the sites which contain fully developed Goryo pottery.

KERAMA, CHITOKU

1962a Ryukyu sosan hokan [Dictionary of the ancestors of Ryukyu]. Ryukyu Shiryou Kenkyukai. 197 pp. (Reprint of the 1933 edition.)

1962b Ryukyu chigusa no maki [Miscellany of Ryukyu]. Ryukyu Shiryou Kenkyukai. 217 pp. (Reprint of the 1934 edition.)

These two volumes contain materials written and collected by Kerama concerning folklore, customs, history, legends, and genealogy.

KINJO, SITOKU

1971 Min dai sho chuki ni okeru Kaigai boeki ni tsuite-choko boeki o chushin ni [Overseas trade during the early and middle Ming dynasty—particularly concerning the tribute system]. Ryukyu daigakkt hobungakubu kiyo, no. 15:1-28.

KOBATA, ATSUSHI, and MITSUGU MATSUDA

1969 Ryukyuwan Relations with Korea and South Sea Countries: An Annotated Translation of Documents in the Rekidai Hoan. Higashiyama, Kyoto: Atsushi Kobata, Sennyuji Torincho. (In English.)

The publication consists of the translation of the texts of the Rekidai Hoan [Precious documents of successive generations] which deal with the relations of the Ryukyus to China, Korea, and trading centers in Southeast Asia. The present volume, based on 127 documents, includes the relations between the Ryukyus and Korea, Siam, Malacca, Palembang, Java, Sumatra, Sunda-karapa, Patani, and Annam between 1425 and 1638. It contains the translation, commentaries, glossaries, and photographic reproductions of the texts.

KOBAYASHI, HISAO


The collected papers of a very talented amateur archaeologist who worked extensively in the southern portion of Kyushu. Yayoi and Kofun materials are also included, as well as a section on reminiscences.

KOKOGAKU JANARU


A detailed account of survey and surface collection from ten sites on Ishigaki Island and eight sites on Kobama. This is an important article for Yaeyama research, since it includes a number of sites which appear to predate the period of intense contact with China. These sites contain pottery and occasional stone tools, but no celadon or 'Namban' stonewares. The authors also mention finding a number of sherds which resemble late prehistoric sherds from Okinawa Island, from the Mateibaru site on Kobama Island, and a site near Kabira on Ishigaki.

KOKOGAKU HAN [Archaeology team]


In October, 1966, Shinjun Tawada, from the Ryukyu Cultural Properties Commission, and a local archaeologist, Mr. Taira, sent skeletal remains from Tobaru, near Oyama, and a human bone fragment from Ie Jima to Tokyo University for expert opinion. For the Ie Jima fragment a fluorine determination of 0.6% was received. This finding is
thought to indicate an antiquity of 20,000 to 30,000 years ago, at a time when it is said that Okinawa was joined to Japan and to the China mainland. (Most experts caution that fluorine should never be used to give absolute dates—R.P.)

1968a Okinawa de shinshu no inoshishi no bakken suru [Fossil of new species of wild boar discovered in Okinawa]. *Kokogaku* Janaru, no. 16:32.

Mentions find of a new fossil wild boar from the Minatogawa site on the south coast of Okinawa Island, which could date from 10,000 to 20,000 years ago. This means that the wild boar in Okinawa is not necessarily a feral type from domesticated animals brought in by later migrants from South China, but has been in Okinawa at least from the Palaeolithic.


Reports finds of Sainokami, Todoroki, Kuhama, and Sobata-type pottery. The site yields information on the relation of the Kuhama type of Tanegashima to the Todoroki and Sobata types of Kyushu.


A brief note that in Okinawa the old way of manufacturing tiles, which came to Japan in Asuka times from China via Paekche, but changed in Japan in the 8th century, can still be seen. It is gone in China and Korea.


A very short note mentioning the excavation of a preceramic to Jomon site. Artifacts such as microliths, Sobata pottery, and Todoroki pottery have been recovered. A nearby site with six layers may be related.


Mentions work on the reconstruction of Katsuren, a typical castle, the lord of which fought with the Shō family in 1458. The excavations and reconstruction will cost about 6 million yen, of which the government is providing 4.8 million.

**KOKUBU, NAOICHI**


Discusses the directions of diffusion of ceramics into the Ryukyus.


One of the early attempts to reach a chronology for sites in the Ryukyus based on ceramics, in the absence of a very explicit typology or any quantified data. Still valuable for the Amami area, since it digests the difficult material from the Ushuku and Omominawa sites.


The evolution of different categories of tools from the Ryukyus, with references to the activities for which they were used. Includes a discussion of domesticated plants and animals. Kokubu suggests that the horse may have been imported from South China to Okinawa at the same time as the *Ming tao ch'ien* coins (probably 3rd century B.C.) and that the dog may be from South China. He refers to the account by the Ch'ueh islanders that chickens were seen in the 15th century but that they were not eaten. He draws parallels to early Okinawan agriculture from the island of Bōto Tabo, noting that in the two areas the traditional agricultural cooperative groups involved only women, the men being involved in fishing groups.


This book contains discussions of the prehistoric relations of Japan to the north, to Korea, and to the south, with coverage of the archaeological and ethnological materials. Individual sections deal with relevant topics such as the archaeology of the Ryukyus, contacts with the south, Kudaka Island, the beginnings of agriculture, culture of the Satauan area, problems relating to the Okinawan 'gushiku', sacred places of Hateruma Island, and cliff burial at Yamakawa on the south coast of Kagoshima.

1970b Gushiku o meguru mondai [Some problems revolving around 'gushiku']. *Nanto* Koko, no. 1:4-8.

Covers the problems raised by Nakamatsu and Takemoto in regard to the true functions of castle sites as dwelling places or centers of ritual or the location of communal burials. The paper also discusses the ceramic sequence for the late prehistoric and early historic periods, including the problems of 'sueki' ware.
1971 Nanto senshi doki no hennen o megutte oyobi Takemoto Seishun shi e [The prehistoric pottery chronology of the southern islands—a reply to Mr. Takemoto]. *Nanto Koko*, no. 2:40–41.

Gives the distribution of nail-impresed, incised, pointed bottom, round bottom, plain, and Yayoi pottery within sites in the Amami group, including the rather complicated Omona sites. As is customary, no quantification is presented.

**Kokubu, Naoki, Naotaka Morizono, and Juro Shigehisa**


An excavation in the late 1950s on the north shore of Yakushima, in the Satsuman group of islands immediately south of Kagoshima. Ichiki, the local Isso type, and Goryo sherds were found in the upper layer. A layer containing Sobata sherds was also located. Grinding stones were located from the upper layer; in other areas of Japan, these have been construed as evidence for incipient cultivation.

**Liang, Chia-pin**

1965 *Liu chiu chi tung nan chu hai tao hsiung chung kuo* [Islands in the East and South China seas, emphasizing the Ryukyus]. Taichung: Tung hai ta hsueh. 369 pp. (In Chinese.)

Detailed discussion of relations between China and Ryukyu, including the problem of whether the term ‘Ryukyu’ in the Sui dynasty refers to Taiwan and/or Okinawa.

**Makino, Kiyooshi**


An exhaustive account of the disastrous Meiwa tidal wave, which struck Yaeyama in 1771. The author is currently preparing a revised history of Yaeyama.

**Mishima, Itaru**


Report on a five-day excavation of the Yaya site by Mishima and Nagai in 1963. The site yielded two cultural layers, the lower of which contained sling stones, flat stone tools, shell bracelets, adzes, weights, and ornaments, in addition to incised and nail-impresed pottery. The upper layer contained incised and plain pottery including the so-called Yaya type, plus shell and stone adzes, and shell spoons. Further reports appear in the *Suisandiagakko kenkyu hokoku kagaku* hen, no. 10, and in *KZ* 50(2) [1964]:49–64.


Outlines the distribution of bracelets made from southern shells in sites in Kyushu, particularly the Hirota site of Tanegashima. The relationship of the bracelets to Taiwan, China, and prehistoric sites farther south in the Ryukyus is also discussed.

**Miyagi, Chosin**


Brief report of the Nejame castle site in northern Okinawa.
Stresses the importance of archaeological research in the study of historical problems in Okinawa and the importance of Okinawan archaeology in a number of cultural-historical problems dealing with Japan and East Asia.

1966 Amami Oshima kaizuka shutsudo no inoshishi to inu [Concerning skulls from the Yamato tomb on Yonaguni Island]. Kyushu daigaku kaigai gakujutsu chosa gakujutsu hokoku, no. 2.

A collection of historical writings and essays on Okinawan literature, including the Omoro. Particularly rich on the traditional culture of Kumejima (vol. 3). By one of Okinawa's foremost scholars.

The authors obtained a sample of 5000 blood specimens from Okinawa and Miyako. They found that the frequencies of the ABO, Lewis, Kell, and Duffy groups are very similar to those of mainland Japanese. However, the frequencies of MNSs blood groups in Miyako and Okinawa have been found to be significantly different from each other; IgM in Miyako is closer to the Taiwanese frequency, and lower than that of Okinawans and Japanese. Rh negative is higher for Okinawa and Miyako than for Japanese, Chinese, and Koreans. The MNSs and Rh frequencies would support the hypothesis of some remote connections with the Ainu, according to the authors, but the findings of the Kell blood group contradict this.

The author discusses the ritual process of bone washing, referring to burial places and receptacles.

In this extremely important article, Professor Nakamatsu proposes that the 'gushiku' ('castle' sites in the Ryukyus) are sacred precincts rather than actual dwelling sites of the local rulers. The article has led to a series of works by Kokubu and Takemoto and others, in which different functions (sacred precinct, community or hamlet), and different time periods for the different forms have been proposed and defended.

A review of developments concerning the Palaeolithic, the Neolithic, and problems of the 'gushiku' sites. Also, the problems of agricultural development and origins in the Ryukyus are covered. The author suggests that agriculture gradually began in the middle prehistoric period, prior to the occupation of the Noguni site, as slash-and-burn cultivation.

Report of the 1969 excavation of an important early shell mound in central Okinawa, which has yielded similar pottery to that from the lower layers of the Usuku site in Amami Oshima. Professor Sadanori Kawaguchi (personal communication) has pointed out that some of the sherds from Usuku are identical to the Ichiki-type sherds from Kyushu. The author stresses the common features of early shell mounds in Amami and Okinawa.
OFUJI, TOKIHIKO, and TORU OGAWA, eds.


- Collection of reprinted articles covering many aspects of Okinawan culture and folklore; does not deal specifically with archaeology.

OGATA, TAMOTSU, and SATOSHI MORISAWA

1971 *Naminoue dokutsu shutsudo jinkotsu gun ni tsuite* [Concerning the group of skeletons from the Naminoue cave]. *Nanto Koko*, no. 2:26-27.

- Osteological description of twenty-three skeletons reported by Takamiya (1968b: 301-307). There is no sign of tooth extraction, and secondary burial seems to have occurred. Morphologically they share characteristics with Jomon and with modern populations. (The pottery from the site is said by Takamiya to be a combination of prehistoric and early types.)

OKINAWA GAKUSEI BUNKA KYOKAI


- Contains a summary of the archaeology of Tokashiki within the larger anthropological-geographical report, based on collections from four sites: Tokashiki, Awaren, Ariga and Aganjobaru. The sites all appear to fall into the middle and late prehistoric period.


- Includes the Sugaibaru site excavated by Nitta, which has yielded the radiocarbon date of 760 ± 80 B.C., published in Pearson 1969:112. The section on Kumejima in the same volume contains a 40-page description of eight sites and surface collections from them.


- Contains a description of five sites and surface collections made by the students who visited the island. The section on Iriomote contains brief descriptions of surface collections made along the west side of Iriomote. In addition to the nonceramic site of Funaura, two other similar sites are mentioned near the village of Uehara.


- Contains a section on late prehistoric or early prehistoric artifacts from Karimata, on the northern tip of Miyako. These include celadons, Swatow ware, blue and white ware, iron-glazed Chinese jars, local soft pottery, 'Yaeyama type' external lug pottery, and shell artifacts.

PEARSON, R. J.


- Gives five new dates from the Hirota site, Tanegashima, the Aguni shell mound, the Yaeyima shell mound, the Garabi go site, and the Funaura site, and discusses their implications.


- An attempt to synthesize the prehistory and historical archaeology of the Ryukyu Islands and to tie the archaeology to the archaeology of southern Kyushu and eastern Taiwan. Uses the traditional American methods of building sequences.

In Press *Archaeological survey in southeastern Taiwan. BIEAS.*

- Suggests that the megalithic remains in eastern Taiwan may have been left by Paiwanic groups whose ancestors were the Lungshan populations found in western Taiwan, and that these Paiwanic groups may have settled the Yaeyama group of the southern Ryukyus.

PEARSON, R., and NAOICHI KOKUBU

1971 *Nansei shoto no kokogaku kenkyu o megutte* [Discussion of the archaeological study of the Ryukyu Islands]. *Kokogaku Janaru*, no. 56:2-9.

- A transcribed review discussion of problems in Okinawan prehistory, particularly those raised in Pearson's *Archaeology of the Ryukyu Islands*. Difficulties in classifying Ichiki pottery, which Professor Kokubu raises, are also mentioned in Erika Kaneko's review in *JAS* 30(2):456-457 (1971).
Pearson: The Ryukyus

Ryukyu Daigaku Kokogaku Kenkyukai


Discusses the development of class differentiation through the excavation and study of the village of Inafuku, to the east of Naha in southern Okinawa. The author distinguishes three community patterns: an initial arrangement based on kinship ties (as described by Nakamatsu), a second stage based on localized units, and a third stage of full agricultural settlement based on a loose aggregate of smaller houses around a larger house, each with attached fields. An important paper for its interpretive aspects and its use of surface collections.

Ryukyu Seifu Bunkazai Hogoin Kai


The second excavation of Katsuren took place in August 1965. The work covered four areas of the castle itself in addition to portions to the north and south. It was devoted to an exploration of the actual form of the castle and changes in that form through time.


Contains sections on folklore gathered from elderly informants for twenty-four locations in the Ryukyus. Topics covered include cultural geography, ethnohistory, economic activities, particularly at the beginning of Meiji, working clothes, dyeing and weaving, daily foods, foods for different seasons of the lunar calendar, folk architecture, activities around the hearth, social life, local kinds of transportation, local trade, burial customs, yearly observances, and public entertainments.

Ryukyu Seifu Hakubutsukan


Contains an outline of the function of the museum, with details on its operation. Photos of new acquisitions, including some important lacquer objects, are included.

Sato, Shinji


Covers 'suiki' pottery found in fourteen sites from Kikaijima to Yoron, and forty-six sites from Okinawa to Yaeyama. The author divides the castle period of Okinawa into three units: early (approximately simultaneous with the late dune sites), middle, into which the second layer of Katsuren can be fitted (about the latter half of the 12th century), and late. Rice agriculture may have been introduced along with suiki from Japan at about the beginning of the castle period.

Takamiya, Hirob


Outlines a seven-day excavation in 1966 of one of seventeen sites known from Motobu and the small off-lying islands. From the overwhelming predominance of plain pottery, the site belongs to the later period of shell mound culture. Mentions the occurrence of ridged pottery which resembles the Yayoi Sugu type. The author believes that from this similarity, one would infer that the Bise site is of about the same time period as Japanese Yayoi.

1968b Naha shi no koko shiryo [The archaeological materials of Naha City]. In Naha shi shi shiryo hen [The compilation of historical materials of Naha City], vol. 1, no. 1:243–393. The most detailed and abundantly illustrated monograph on Okinawan archaeology to date. It includes the palaeolithic materials from Yamashita Cho and the Naminoue Cave site.

Takayama, Jun

1969 Jomon jin no irezumi; kodai no shuzoku o sagaru [The tattoos of the Jomon people; a search for ancient customs]. Tokyo: Kodansha.

Covers tattooing in Asia and Pacific, using ethnographic data to throw light on the tattoos which appear on the figurines of the Jomon period. Mentions the Hirota data from Tanegashima, suggesting that the shell plaque designs look like designs from tattoos from the areas to the south of Japan.
194  Asian Perspectives, xv, 1972

TAKEMOTO, SEISHUN


Report of the 1965 excavation of a castle site southwest of Koza City. The site yielded ‘sueki’ and celadon; particularly significant, however, is the large quantity of local pottery (97% of the total ceramics) of a variety of forms. Takemoto mentions the problems regarding the true function of the sites, stating that in their early forms they must have been dwelling sites, since they contain abundant dwelling refuse.


Discusses Nakamatsu’s division of Okinawan castle sites into three categories, with emphasis on the B type, which are considered to be dwelling sites at the transition between the ‘primitive’ period and the ‘ancient’ period. The distribution of iron artifacts and bones of domesticated animals are considered.

1970 Okinawa ken nai shitsudo no sen’ka [Concerning coins found within Okinawa Prefecture]. Nanto Koko, no. 1:20–32.

Outlines the finds of coins from twenty-eight sites. A mention of another Ming tao ch’ien coin (Chinese, ca. 3rd century B.C.) is included, but cannot be verified. A large cache of coins from Kaninan in Kochinda son is also described.

1971 Kokogaku no shomondai to sono genjo [Various problems in archaeology and their current states]. Okinawa Rekishi Kenkyu, no. 9.

A review article concerning the general outline of Okinawan archaeology, the paleolithic population, problems of prehistoric population in Yaeyama, the chronology of the Neolithic, the introduction of Yayoi pottery and its relation to agriculture, and the end of the primitive period and the problems of castle sites.

TAMAKI, MORIKATSU

1969 Yaeyama Kohama shima Tomari iseki saishu sekki ni tsuite [Concerning stone artifacts collected from the Tomari site, Kohama Island, Yaeyama]. Ryuku Seijutsu Hakubutsukan Kanpo, pp. 45–51.

A résumé of 6 adzes from Kohama Island, with brief review of the periods and adze forms found previously in Yaeyama.

1971 Taketomi jima Nakasui iseki saishu shiryo [Remains found at the Nakasui shell mound, Taketomi Island]. Nanto Koko, no. 2:35–36.

Report of ceramics from the Nakasui site. Included are external lug pottery, celadon, ‘Namban’ pottery, and some small iron fragments which appear to be modern.

TAMURA, KOICHI


Brief summary of the 1970 excavations at Katsuren, by one of the four members of the Japanese Government Cultural Office who participated.

TANIKAWA, KENICHI, ed.

1971 Kigen souso; waga Okinawa No. 3 [The controversy over origins; our native Okinawa, no. 3]. 291 pp.

A collection of papers by Takeo Kanaseki, Toso Miyara, Shiro Hattori, Naoichi Kokubu, and Eiichiro Tomoyose on the early culture history of the Ryukyus, particularly in the light of northward and southward migrations and comparative linguistics.

TAWADA, SHINJUN


Discusses the occurrence of iron artifacts in several major Okinawan shell mounds and castle sites, with another section on the occurrence of terms referring to iron in the Omoro poems.


Article gives very brief treatment of geological history, mentions that recently on Iejima, the author found one cranial fragment of ‘Okinawa early man’ and an old stone tool; suggests that the last date that humans could have migrated from the mainland was 25,000 years ago. A chronology for the shell mound period is presented. It is proposed that ‘sueki’ stoneware in Okinawa is derived from Korea rather than from Japan. Mr. Tawada states that in the early and middle Jomon period, raised beaches of 100 m above sea level, and in the late Jomon, beaches of 50 m, were created. (However, in Japan, slightly more than 10 m is the case, while shell mounds may be as much as 20 m above sea level. See Yoshimasa Kamaki, ed., Nihon no kokogaku, vol. 2 [Tokyo: Kawade Shobo Shinsha, 1965], p. 402. I am not entirely convinced of the accuracy of the statements in this article concerning geologic history—R.P.)
PEARSON: The Ryukyus 195

1968 Okinawa no bunkazai hogo gyosei [The administration of the preservation of cultural properties in Okinawa]. Kokogaku Janaru, no. 17:2–3.

Reports on the administration of grants and expenditures for the preservation and reconstruction of Okinawan culture, in addition to the permission granted for archaeological investigations.

TOKUNOSHIMA CHO SHI HENSHAN IINKAI


Contains a fourteen-page section by Kaneyoshi Shiraikibaru on the prehistory of Tokunoshima, including a map of relevant sites and a discussion of the remains found.

TOMA, SHIICHI

1971 Okinawa ni okeru teshii iseki to tetsuhin ni tsuite [Iron slag sites on Okinawa and some of the problems relating to iron tools]. Ryudai Shigaku, no. 2:35–47.

Examines iron remains from 17 sites and includes one spectrographic analysis of a specimen from the Ibaru site. The author believes that iron came to be used at the end of the shell mound period. The author closes his article with a strong plea that the activities of the Ryukyu Cultural Properties Commission should be linked more firmly to those of the Japan Cultural Properties Commission.

TOMOYOSE, EUCIRIO


Gives a brief history of research plus a summary of finds from fourteen sites with a rough indication of their chronological position. The article represents an important step in the establishment of a cultural chronology initiated in the late 1950s and early 1960s by Shinjun Tawada and Hiroe Takamiya.


Contains references of books, articles, and newspaper contributions, largely since the publications referred to in his bibliography, part I, published in 1964 (Ryukyu daigaku bunri gakubu kiyo shakai ron, no. 8).

1970 Okinawa shitsudo no yayoi shiki doki; fu-Ryukyu kankei kokogaku bunken mokuroku hoi [Yayoi pottery found in Okinawa; including a supplement to the bibliography of sources relating to Ryukyu archaeology]. Ryukyu daigaku hobun gakubu kiyo shakai ron, no. 14:47–59.

Discussion of the interesting questions raised by the finding of about 30 sherds of Yayoi pottery which appear to be of Kyushu Middle Yayoi origin, in at least four sites in Okinawa. Professor Tomoyose's bibliography contains several items not covered in this section.


TOMOYOSE, EUCIRIO, and TAKAMIYA, HIROE

1968 Iejima Gushibaru kaizuka chosa gaiho; fu-Ryukyu kankei kokogaku bunken mokuroku hoi (2) [Report of the investigations of the Gushibaru shell mound, Ie jima; attached, bibliography of archaeology sources relating to Ryukyu (2)]. Ryukyu daigaku hobun gakubu kiyo shakai ron, no. 12:37–79.

Report of an important project in late 1963, in which the excavation was supervised by Professor Tomoyose and the analysis of the artifacts by Professor Takamiya. In addition to stone, bone, and shell artifacts, four kinds of pottery were noted. Both wide-mouthed and narrow-mouthed vessels were noted. No settlement information is available. The artifacts are largely from the fourth layer, which was undisturbed; a sixth layer, containing shell, was discovered at the end of the excavation, but time did not permit adequate exploration. Ridged sherds, of the Yayoi Sugu type of Kyushu, were recovered.


Report of the excavation of a latest period prehistoric shell mound. The site yielded one shell plaque, similar to those from Hirota, Tanegashima. A detailed chronology of the Shell Mound Period is presented. Appended to the paper is a bibliography of sources on the archaeology of the Ryukyus published in 1968. It includes newspaper articles, some of which contain a good deal of information.


Brief report of the excavation of a small site on Henza Island, to the west of Okinawa.
WADA, HISANORI

WATANABE, MAKOTO
1967 Nihon no basshi fuzoku to shuhen chiiki to no kankei [Tooth extraction in Japan and its regional distribution and relationships]. Kokogaku Janaru, no. 7:17-21.
Includes data from two Ryukyu sites, Hirota and the Kinenbaru site of Tokunoshima. The Ryukyus, in Yayoi times, are seen to have a mainland Asian type of tooth extraction pattern, which is combined with an eastern Japan form in the area from Kansai to southern Kyushu.

YACHIMUN KENKYU KAI
Catalogue of a large exhibition of ceramics in the Ryukyu Government Museum, with essays by Seiitoku Oshiro and a number of other writers. The publication also marks the establishment of a society for the appreciation of ceramics in Okinawa.

YAMADA, SEICHI
A detailed chronology from the 12th century to the 1950s, with comparative sections on China and Japan.

YAMASHIRO, ZENZO, and TORU UESEDO
1971 Taketomi shita shi [Records of Taketomi Island]. Taketomi Kominkan.
A general book on the history and culture of Taketomi Island, Yaeyama, with sections on the traditional history, and description of archaeological specimens in the collection of Toru Uesedo.

YAMAZATO, EIKICHI
A collection of articles on historical topics (several on the Chuzan kingdom), published in the newspaper Ryukyu Shimpo from December 1963 to July 1964.

YEN, DOUGLAS, and J. M. WHEELER
1968 Introduction of taro into the Pacific; the indication of chromosome numbers. Ethnology 7:259-266. (In English.)
On the basis of the distribution of somatic chromosome numbers for taro, the authors point out two lines of diffusion of 28 and 42 chromosome numbers traveling northward through the Ryukyus to Japan, along with apparently later varietal shifts from China to Okinawa.

KOTARO YOHENA
Contains sections on place names, villages, livelihood, society, family organization, and the annual cycle.

YOSHIDA, MITSUKUNI, JU-KAN CHIN, et al.
A book in somewhat popular style on the Satsuma pottery of Kagoshima Prefecture. Useful for identification of some kinds of historic ceramics in the Ryukyus. Items identified in Ryukyu collections as Korean may well have been produced by the Koreans at Naeshirogawa, Kagoshima.