



Cambridge University Library

Digitisation and Conservation of Early Japanese Books at Cambridge University Library: How to solve the problems caused by additional western bindings

Noboru Koyama Cambridge University Library



- Donation (£50,000) from Prof. Mikiko Ishii treasures of Japanese collection (selected Items) digitised by Imaging Services
- 2. Digitisation by Ritsumeikan University ARC (Prof. Akama's Project) comprehensive



In order to make our early Japanese books stand on the shelf, simple western bindings were added to them in the 1960s. Originally these early Japanese books were bound in the traditional Japanese method using threads or strings. In some cases, these additional bindings present problems for the digitisation process.



Early Japanese materials (present situation)

- 1. Books with additional western bindings
 - A. Can be opened safely for digitisation
- B. Unable to be opened safely for digitisation
 - 2. Books in boxes or folding cases
 - 3. Scrolls



Solutions (A)

To digitise these books without opening them fully (with partial opening)("non-destructive" method for digitisation)

- 1. To digitise only one side at each time (without opening them fully)
- To use V shape book cradle (book drive) for digitisation, such as "Book Drive Pro" and "Book Drive Mini" from ATIZ (U.S.A.)
- To use the prism mechanism (opening angle is 60 degree), such as "Scan Robot" from Treventus Mechatronics (Germany)



Solutions (B)

To unbind these books for digitisation

- 1. To bind these books again after digitisation (to return to original state after digitisation)
- 2. To add boxes or folding cases to these books instead of rebinding them again after digitisation



幸田成友著『番傘・風呂敷・書物』

書物の置き方

和漢書は横に平にして積む。… 洋書は縦に立てゝ並べる。…

和漢書と洋書との置方の差は本箱を 見ても分る。日本風支那風の本箱は 縦に仕切り、西洋風の本箱は横に仕 切つてある。



Bookcase (群書類従)





Bookcase(Sir Geoffrey Keynes Room)





















Man seated in a bookshop (Hedda Morriosn Collection)

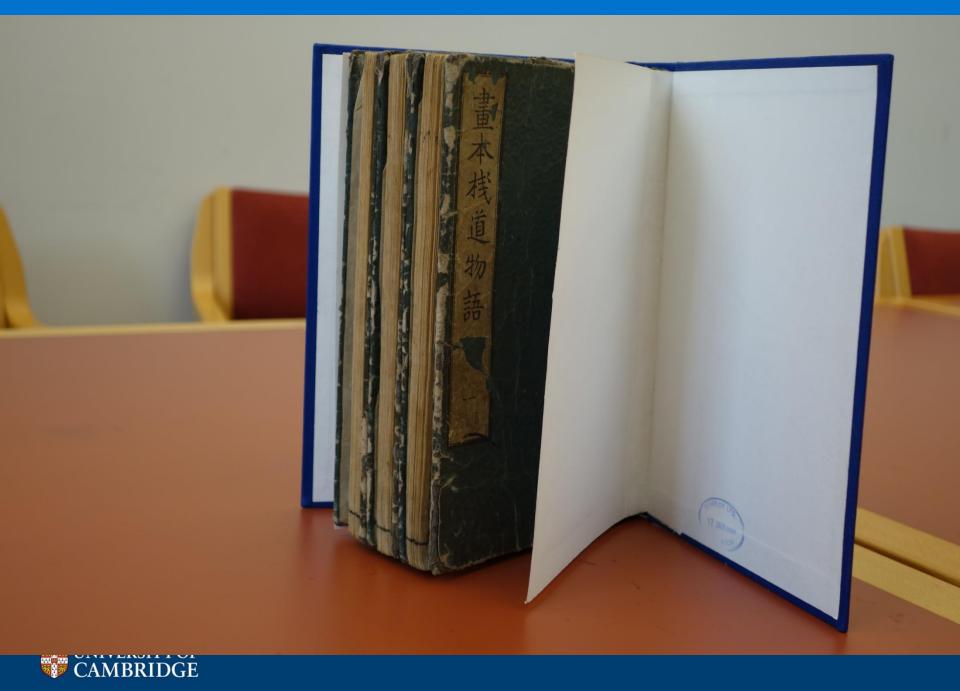






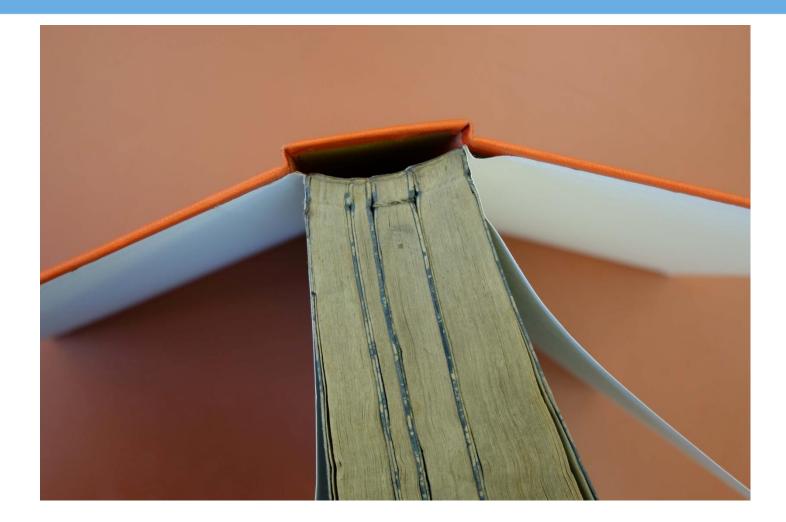














Bindings of Early Japanese Books in the 1960s

- Annual Report of Library Syndicate for the year 1963-67).
- <u>"External binders bound 5,938 volumes and did</u> <u>much repair and miscellaneous work."</u>
- ULIB 11/1/24/42 (Tradesmen P-Z, 1963-1967)('Expenditure accounts ledgers' 1920-72) Remploy Ltd (Freshwater Rd., Dagenham, Essex) bound thousand(5,938?) "Chinese books".



Remploy Ltd

Remploy Ltd was set up in 1945 to employ disabled ex-servicemen and since then Remploy has been providing employment and support for disabled people, with large network of factories developed in the 1950s and 60s.







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- Donation (£50,000) from Prof. Mikiko Ishii treasures of Japanese collection <u>(selected</u> <u>Items)</u> (we could avoid difficult ones)
 - Digitisation has started





2. Digitisation by Ritsumeikan University ARC (Prof. Akama's Project) comprehensive

- Started from summer 2013
- •156 volumes have been digitised
- Digitised items have been available from Ritsumeikan University ARC website

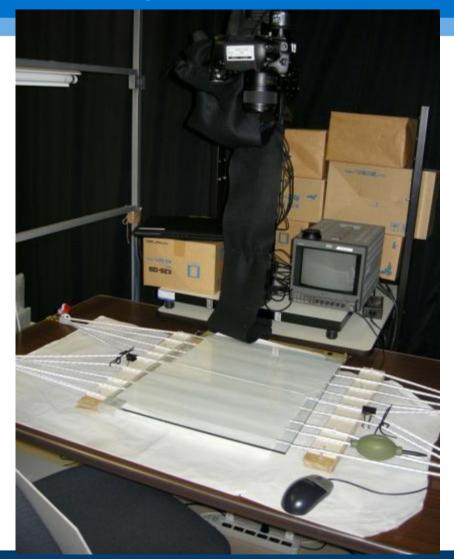


Digitisation at Cambridge University Library (2013)





Ritsumeikan University Art Research Center Bungee Method





Digitisation by Ritsumeikan University ARC (Prof. Akama's Project)

- ・ <ケンブリッジ大学図書館蔵古典籍閲覧システム>
- <u>http://www.dh-jac.net/db1/books/search_cambridge.php</u>

- ID : cam-user
- PW : cambridge2013



ケンブリッジ大学付属図書館蔵日本古典籍閲覧システム



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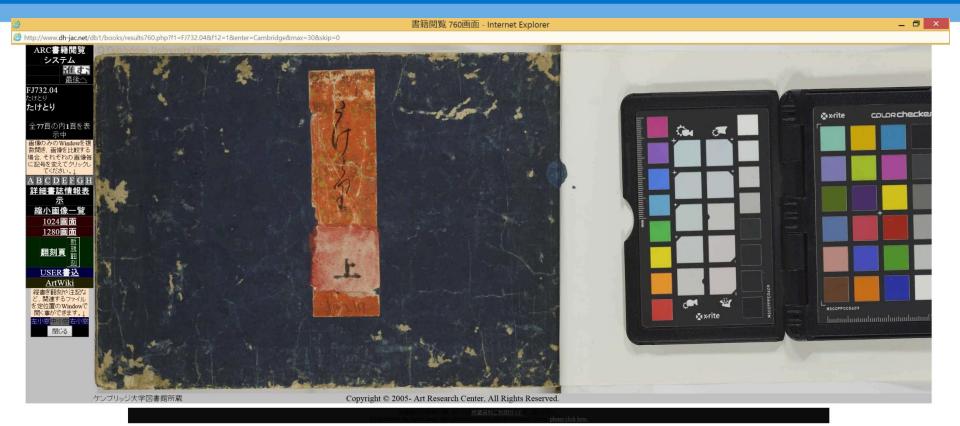


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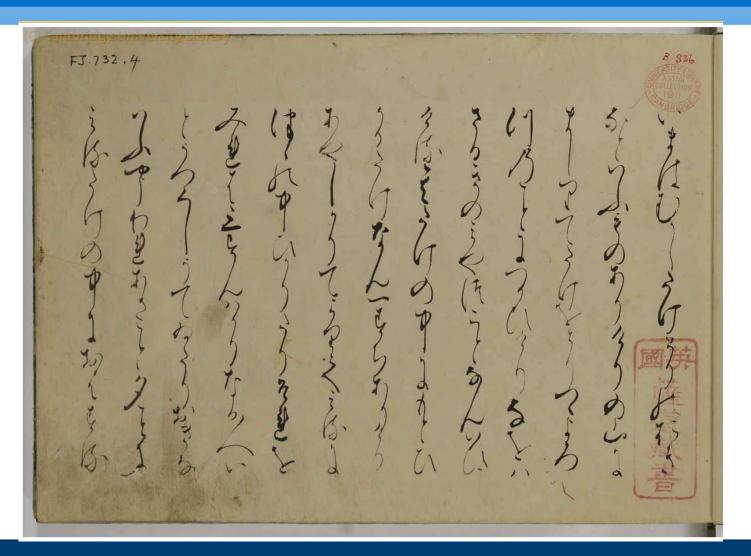
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- Keio University Library (Tokyo)
- Waseda University Library (Tokyo)
- *Kansai University (Center of Study of Asian Cultures and University Library) (Suita-shi in Osaka Prefecture)
- Ritsumeikan University (Art Research Center)(Kyoto)
- * Kyoto University Library (Kyoto)
- National Diet Library Kansaikan (Kansai Branch) (in Kyoto Prefecture)
- * Kyoto Prefectural Library and Archives (Kyoto)
- National Diet Library (Tokyo)
- Sugiura Laboratory (Tokyo)



"Book Drive Mini" from ATIZ





"Book Drive Pro" from ATIZ









"Scan Robot" from Treventus Mechatronics







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VE CAMBRIDGE







Trace of Removal





Trace of Removal

















There are multiple methods for the digitisation of early Japanese books available to us.

These methods give us access to a broader and longer-term view about the conservation of these books.



The problem about how to digitise these early Japanese books which cannot be opened fully is a result of the binding problems, and we can consider the issues of both digitisation and conservation of early Japanese books together. Since the current state of our early Japanese books that have Western bindings is not ideal from the point of view of their long-term conservation, one possibility is to unbind the additional Western bindings and then, instead of rebinding them after digitisation, to store the books either in boxes or folding cases (chitsu).





Early Japanese Books in Cambridge University Library: a Catalogue of the Aston, Satow and Von Siebold Collections (Hayashi Nozomu & Peter Kornicki)

"Introduction"

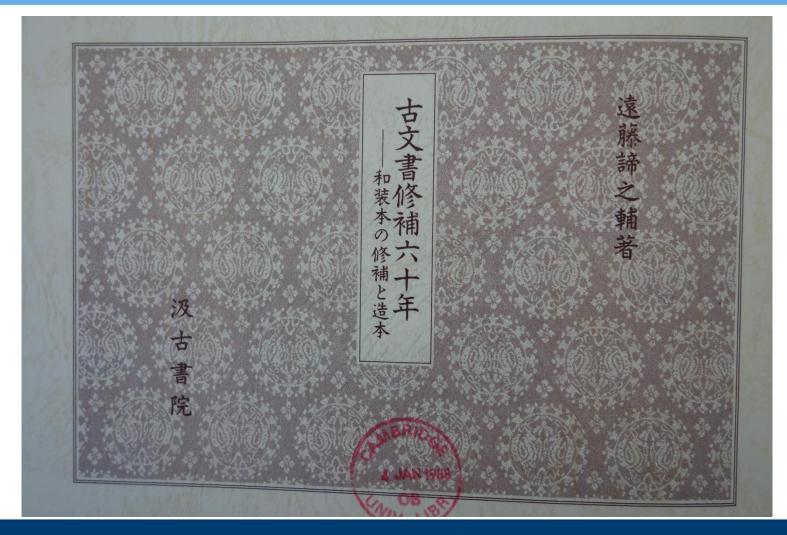
For digitisation and conservation of early Japanese materials in Europe, we need external help and support.

Cambridge

Digitisation: Prof. Ishii and Ritsumeikan University ARC

Conservation : Dispatching Specialist(s) from Japan by Cultural and Funding Organisations







『古文書修補六十年』(遠藤諦之輔)

当時ルーベン国際事業委員会(会長は和田萬吉博士)という機関が肝りとなっ て行なわれた、外国の図書館への和本の寄贈事業が私に千載一遇のチャンス を与えてくれました。およそ三千冊という書物を寄贈する前に、帙を制作するこ とになったのです。

池上の主人と二人でボール紙を持参して上野美術学校に行き寸法を取って裁ち、家に持ち帰っては下地を造り、またそれを持っていって本を実際に入れて確かめてみてから仕上げる(だからひとつとして失敗はありませんでした)という方法で、一カ月に三百個の帙を制作するという、相当に忙しい仕事でした。まだ満足に包丁を使えない頃で、私にとっては佳い勉強となりました。

