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What is the "Nitarou world"

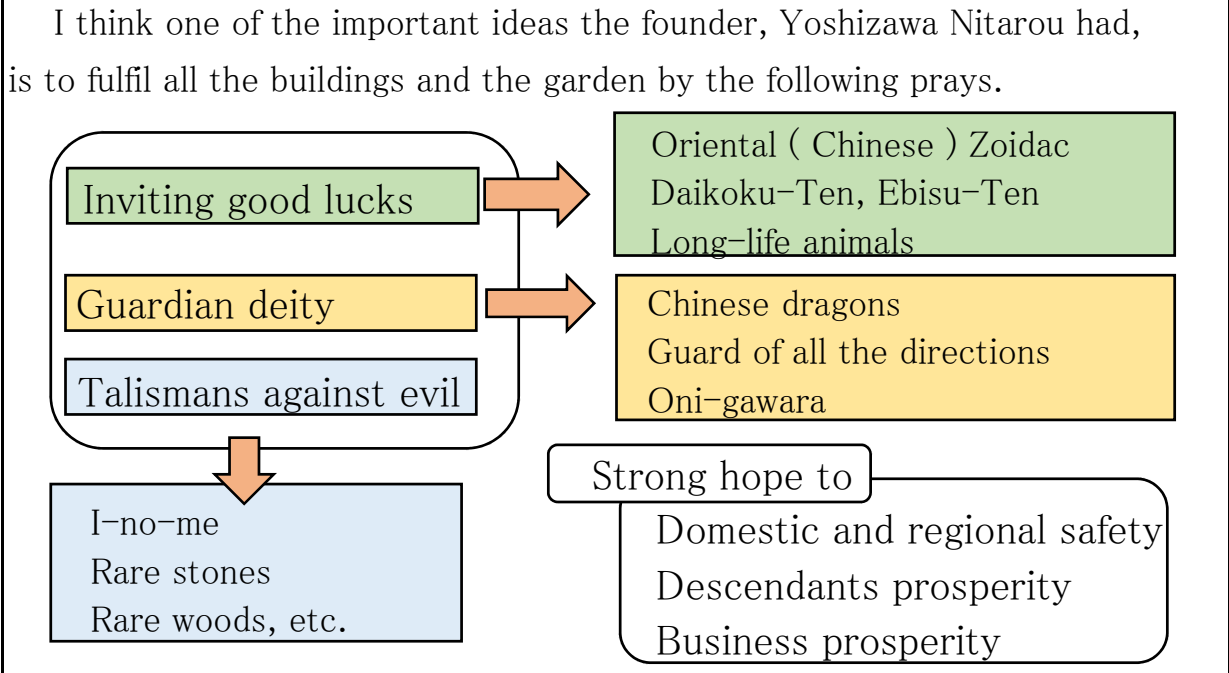
Here are some trial thinkings.

I am pleased if you would enjoy and become convinced of some pieces of new knowledge.

Formulation of 'Nitarou world'

(C) Kasuga

Fulfil all the buildings and the garden by symbols of inviting good lucks and talismans against evil.



A concept table is shown, based on an assumption that Yoshizawa Nitarou thought there is a deep relationship among carp, Chinese dragon, natural stones / woods, and Fudo-Myo-Ou.

- (1) First, carp is basically a fish having strong vitality.
Carp can live not only in clear water stream but also stagnant pond. Then it is thought to be able to overcome all obstacles in any circumstance, symbol fish of strength, courage, and patience.
- (2) And that the legend, carps rising Longmen ('Ryuumon') of the Yellow River would advance to Chinese dragon, has been left.
- (3) Huge power within natural stones, rare woods are overflowed.
- (4) Fudo-Myo-Ou is thought to be a Chinese dragon, liken to animal.

Facility	Dragon	Carp	Nature Power	Fudo-Myo-Ou
Top roof of Kote-E house	○			
East face of Kote-E house	○			
Ishou house	○	○		
Garden	○	(○)	○	○
Reception house (Annex)	○		○	
Collections of the founder	○	○	○

Concept table about "Dragon"

Stones, woods

Introduction to the Kina-saffron-Shu brewery (C)Kasuga

These old buildings had been used as the Kina-saffron-Shu brewery, including headquarters, several brewery plants and warehouses, house of the president's family, and the gorgeous reception facilities with wide Japanese garden. Now a Kote-E house has been designated as an Registered (National) tangible cultural property by the Japanese government, the Cultural Agency.

In this Settaya area, there are seven Registered (National) tangible cultural properties designated by the government.

The Kina-saffron-Shu brewery produced various medicated liquors and wines about one hundred years ago.

At that time, import of a lot of foreign-made liquors had begun immediately. Many business entrepreneurs in domestics had entered the liquor-production business, in particular with applying traditional Chinese medicines.

Mr. Yoshizawa Nitarou, the founder of the Kina-saffron-Shu brewery, was just one of them, starting his Saffron liquor business in 21 years old. He extremely worked hard and succeeded in the business and made a great fortune in his lifetime.

The highlights of the buildings are, firstly, "Kote-E".

Japanese Kote-E is decoration method of walls, formed with colored lime plaster "Shikkui" put on the covered white lime plaster on walls directly with trowel, in Japanese "Kote". And "E" means a drawing. This "Kote-E" building is well known as many-Kote-E installation on one building, dazzling colors, and its sincere pray brought in by the founder. Secondly, the uncommon reception house, an annex, and the Japanese garden. Please find a lot of devices that the founder set in order to not only enjoy business customers but also pray business prosperity and consecutive happiness on his family.

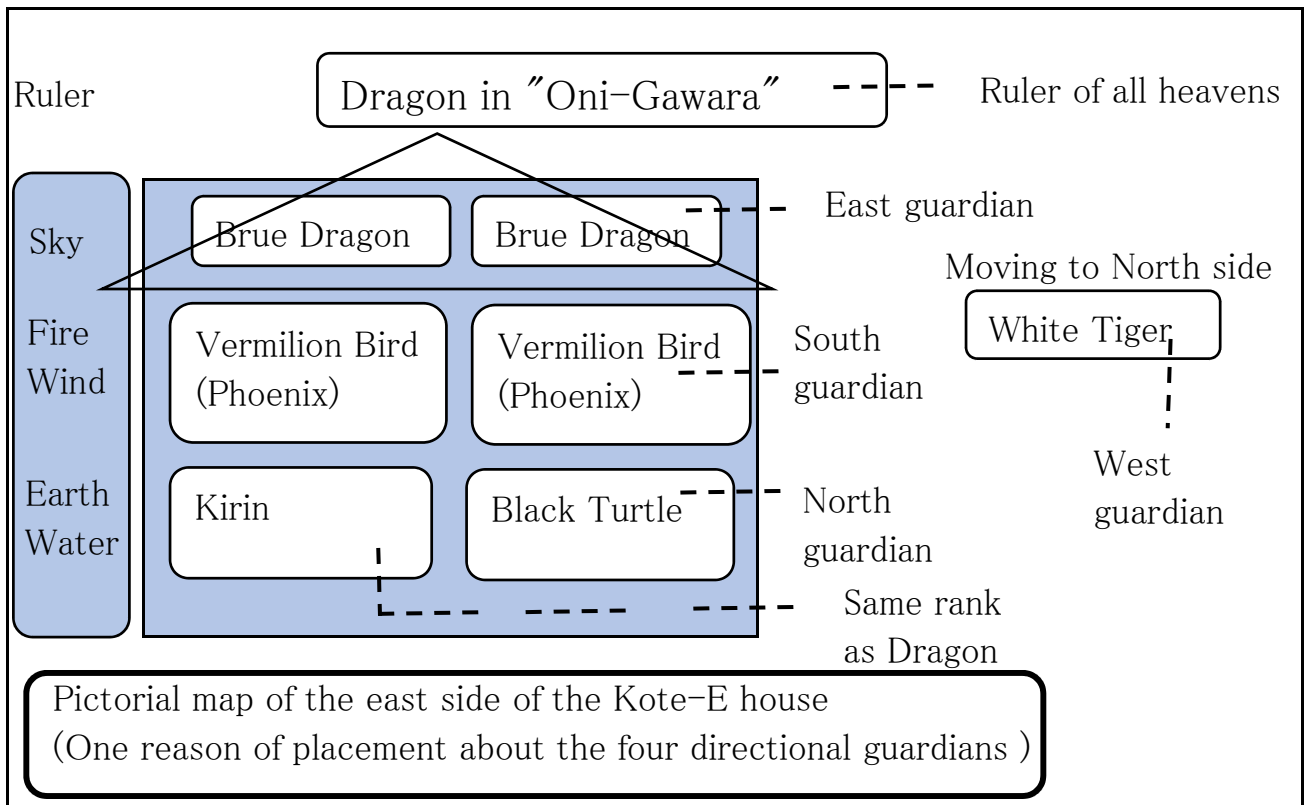
And thirdly, several very rare wooden materials used inside the reception house. Typical examples are black persimmon and "Yakusugi", Japanese cedar. Nowadays both are said impossible to obtain.

Laying out of Kote-Es on the east-wall of the house (C)Kasuga

Main theme : Guardian deities for directions north, south, east and west
Background theme : The five elements philosophy in ancient China

With considering themes mentioned above, I think that this layout might be only one chosen.

Under the roofs, two Chinese dragons exist, moving in the sky.
In the windows in the second story, two phoenixes exist, flying within wind.
In the windows in the first story, Quirin running on the land and Genbu swimming in the water.



"Oni-Gawara" is also guardian living on the ridge to keep off evil spirits

Fulfil all the buildings and the garden by symbols of inviting good lucks and talismans against evil. (C)Kasuga

I think one of the important ideas the founder, Yoshizawa Nitarou had, is to fulfil all the buildings and the garden by symbols of inviting good lucks and talismans against evil.

The typical symbols in the Kina-saffron-Shu Brewery are Chinese dragons and I-no-me. Both are considered as guardian deity or talismans against evil.

You can find several Chinese dragons on the walls of buildings, Byou-bu, and Ramma in the buildings including the reception house. In particular, the Chinese dragons are guardian for Buddhism.

You can find a lot of I-no-me pattern inside the reception house, decorating all the corners of window-glass.

I-no-me pattern is one of the oldest patterns in Japan, eyes-pattern of wild-pig. It is thought as behaving as talismans against evil.

Deep relationship among two houses, the garten, and the collection of the founder, Yoshizawa Nitarou

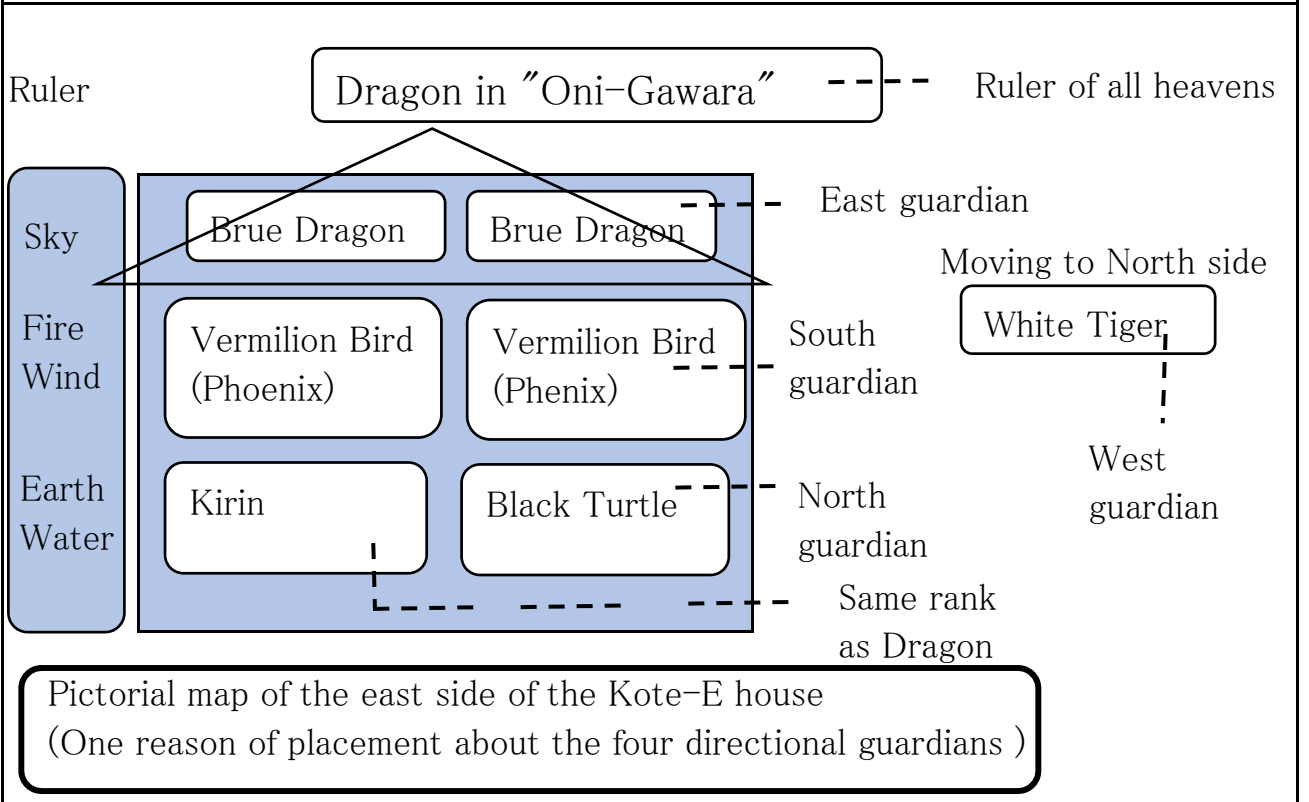
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- (2) And that the legend, carps rising Longmen ('Ryuu-Mon') of the Yellow River would advance to Chinese dragon, has been left.
- (3) Fudo-Myo-O is thought to be a Chinese dragon in case of animals.

Facility	Dragon	Carp	Nature Powe	Fudo-Myo-Ou
Top roof of Kote-E house	○			
East face of Kote-E house	○			
Ishou house	○	○		
Garden		○	○	○
Reception house (Annex)	○		○	
Collections of the founder		○	○	○

Concept table about "Dragon"

Stones, woods



"Oni-Gawara" is a guardian living on the ridge to keep off evil spirits

猪目入門_E_I-no-me pattern

(Biyou-bu, Folding screens)

(Ramma, Open ornamental work over the screens which form the partitions in the house. Morse's definition)

You can find a lot of I-no-me pattern inside the receptio house, decorating all the corners of window-glass.

I-no-me pattern is one of the oldest patterns in Japan, eyes-pattern of wild-pig . it has been used as ornaments in various instruments, a handguards of Japanese swords, bells installing in front of main halls of temples or shrines.

It is thought behaving as talismans against evil (charm against evil)

talismans = object which you believe has magic powers to protect you or bring you luck

= charm, lucky charm, fetish

飾り

fetish = in some culture, carved object which is considered to have religious importance or magical powers

飾り embellishment、garnish、garnishment、ornament、trim

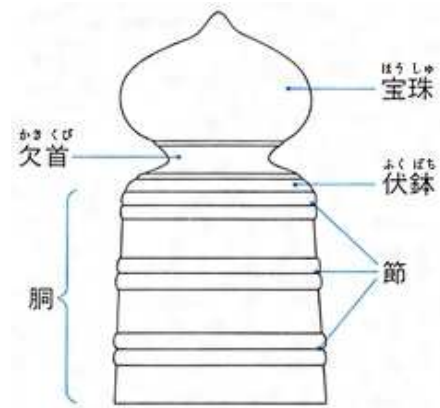
擬宝珠 ぎぼうし [龍神の頭の中から出てきたという珠]という説もある。

伝統的な建築物の装飾で橋や神社、寺院の階段、廻縁の高欄(手すり、欄干)の柱の上に設けられている飾りである。ネギの花に似ていることから「葱台(そうだい)」とも呼ばれる。

起源は諸説あり、一つは仏教における宝珠から来ているとするものである。宝珠は釈迦の骨壺(舍利壺)の形とも、龍神の頭の中から出て

きたという珠のこととも言われ、
地蔵菩薩などの仏像が手のひら
に乗せているものである。

この宝珠を模した形から模擬の
宝珠という意味で擬宝珠と
つけられた というもの。
紛らわしいものとしては五重塔、
五輪塔などの仏塔の先端に飾
られるもので、これは擬宝珠では
なく宝珠である



宝珠
sacred gem

sacred = holy, blessed, divine
religious

縁起物 luck, fortune, good fortune

I-no-me pattern appeared in bells

