


# History and Culture

 Cultural properties  Monuments

## Bank of Japan Head Office Building (national important cultural property)

 2-1-1 Nihonbashi-Hongokuchō




 The Bank of Japan Head Office Building was built in 1896 as the new facility for the central bank operations. Designed by Tatsuno Kingo who studied under Josiah Conder, it is a three-story, one-basement stone-and-brick (with exterior stones stacked on interior bricks) building. It is said that the design was inspired by the National Bank of Belgium, and is characterized by the massive stones covering the entire building and the robust structure surrounded by other buildings. Although its style of the architecture is mainly Neo-Baroque, the walls also add the Renaissance-style design.

## Ruins of Tokiwabashi Gate (national historic site)

 2/3 Nihonbashi-Hongokuchō~2 Otemachi, Chiyoda City




 The Tokiwabashi Gate, the main point of entry of the outer wall of Edo Castle, existed from the Edo period until 1873. It was taken away after the Meiji Restoration but the ruins of the Gate still features the bushel-shaped stone walls built in 1629 as well as the stone walls along the moat. The stone-made double-arch bridge (Tokiwa Bridge), reconstructed in 1877, also has a distinctive design.

## Mitsukoshi Main Store (national important cultural property)

 1-4-1 Nihonbashi-Muromachi



 Mitsukoshi Main Store has been extended repeatedly around WWII, based on the original steel-framed reinforced concrete building (7-story, one-basement) completed in 1927. The high-quality design features the exterior that takes the classical Western style, and the interior such as the richly-colored Mitsukoshi Hall and the Art-Deco style hall.

## Mitsui Main Building (national important cultural property)

 2-1-1 Nihonbashi-Muromachi




 Completed in 1929, Mitsui Main Building opened as the headquarter office building of Mitsui Gomei Kaisha, Mitsui Bank, Mitsui Trust, and Mitsui Mining to name a few. The steel-framed reinforced concrete building (7-story, 2-basement) features the Corinthian order and the Doric order pillars lining up at the soaring interior lobby.

## Birthplace of Nihonbashi Fish Market

 Off 1-8 Nihonbashi-Muromachi




 The north bank from Nihonbashi to Edobashi bridges (so-called Uogashi) used to hold fish markets from the Edo period until 1923, where fishery products and dried-salted fish from nearby waters were unloaded and sold. The Nihonbashi Fish Market originates back to the early Edo period when fishermen from Tsukuda Island sold the remainders of the fish dedicated to the shogun and feudal lords.

## Nihonbashi Bridge (national important cultural property)

 Nihonbashi 1~Nihonbashi-Muromachi 1



 Nihonbashi Bridge was first built in 1603 and has been rebuilt almost 20 times between the Edo period and the late Meiji era. The present one is a stone double-arch bridge completed in 1911; it is one of the few stone bridges in Tokyo representing the Meiji era. The bridge pillar and the four corners of the bridge feature bronze statues of qilin that symbolize the prosperity of the Tokyo City, and guardian lions. The exquisite ornaments that blend Japanese, Chinese and Western styles also brilliantly harmonize with the bridge. This bridge is the framework of the historical aspects of Nihonbashi district.