


History and Culture

 Cultural properties  Monuments


Meidi-Ya Kyobashi Bldg. (cultural property of Chuo City)


 2-2-8 Kyobashi

 Meidi-Ya Kyobashi Bldg. was constructed in March 1933 as the headquarters building that housed the office and store of Meidi-Ya Co., Ltd. The steel-framed reinforced concrete building (8-story, 2-basement), with the Italian Renaissance-style exterior, was designed by Sone Chujo Architect Studio. A precious modern architecture that reflects the highly advanced architectural technology in the early Showa era, and also the oldest existing building that integrates a subway station, it is highly valuable both historically and culturally.





Kyobashi Daikogashi Vegetable Market Site

 Off 3-4 Kyobashi

 On the north bank of Kyobashi River, there used to be a riverfront called Daikogashi on the northwestern side of Kyobashi. Since the Edo period, there used to be vegetable markets for stand-up vendors of suburban vegetables at the riverfront, where numbers of unloaded daikon (Japanese white radishes) were piled up. After the Great Kanto Earthquake, the vegetable market in Kyobashi relocated within Tsukiji Market.


Birthplace of Edo Kabuki

 Off 3-4 Kyobashi


 In 1624, Saruwaka-za (the latter-day Nakamura-za) performed the first Kabuki stage. (The theatre relocated to another place in 1632). The kabuki in Edo is said to originate from the play by Nakamura Kanzaburo I of Saruwaka-za. The commemorative monument stands near the site, at the foot of Kyobashi Bridge.




Jan Joosten Memorial Monument

 Yaesu-dori Ave.




 Jan Joosten was a navigator of a Dutch ship that arrived in Bungo (present day Oita Pref.) in 1600. Later he won the confidence of Tokugawa Ieyasu and took charge of foreign affairs, interpretation, and trades, and was granted a house outside Wada-Kuramon Gate. The stone monument commemorates the Japan-Dutch amity since the establishment of the Hirado Dutch Trading Post in 1609.

Ginza Brick Monument


 Off 1-11 Ginza



 A monument that commemorates the history of the brick streets of Ginza, the symbol of civilization and enlightenment. In the early Meiji era in the wake of the great fire in 1872, fireproof brick buildings (of Western-style, two-story brick architecture) were constructed. The bricks tiled at the foot of the stone monument (unearthed bricks from the Meiji era) are recreated in French style brick-laying.

Newels of Kyobashi (cultural property of Chuo City)

 Off 1-2 Ginza / Off 1-11 Ginza / Off 3-5 Kyobashi

 The newels that used to be at both ends of the parapets of Kyobashi Bridge Across Kyobashi River. Three stone newels remain on the sidewalks along Chuo-dori Ave. Among them, the two pillars with giboshi (bridge ornaments) that resemble to those of wooden bridges (engraved with the word "Kyobashi") were from 1875 when the bridge was built as a stone arch bridge. Also, one modern-looking newel equipped with a lighting system is from 1922 when the bridge was rebuilt as the Art-Deco, Western style bridge.

