

The drawing room

This room was the location of the important political meetings before the war, including the “Ogikubo Conference”* held on July 19, 1940, where the Second Konoe Cabinet was formed. The press reported what happened in the conference through photography and newsreels. KONOE Fumimaro, who acquired Futekiso (as Tekigaiso was originally known), used this room maintaining the original appearance.

The drawing room was equipped with heating and air-conditioning, which was very rare at the time. The colors and patterns of the wallpaper and rug were restored based on color analysis estimations using the old photographs of this room. Thereby, it was concluded that the patterns of the wainscoting wallpaper was decorated with a combination of grapevine arabesque, honeysuckle, Indian chintz and other patterns, while the wallpaper above the nageshi beam featured a continuous animal pattern. This kind of animal pattern is often seen in the designs of stone tombs from the Han dynasty in Shandong Province, China.

*The “Ogikubo Conference”: The basic policies of the second Konoe Cabinet, including strengthening ties with Germany and Italy, were discussed, leading to the conclusion of the Tripartite Pact between Japan, Germany and Italy on September 27th, 1940, the same year the conference was held.



The drawing room (original appearance)



The “Ogikubo Conference”

July 19, 1940 Provided by The Asahi Shimbun Company



The drawing room (restored appearance)



The wallpaper (restored appearance)