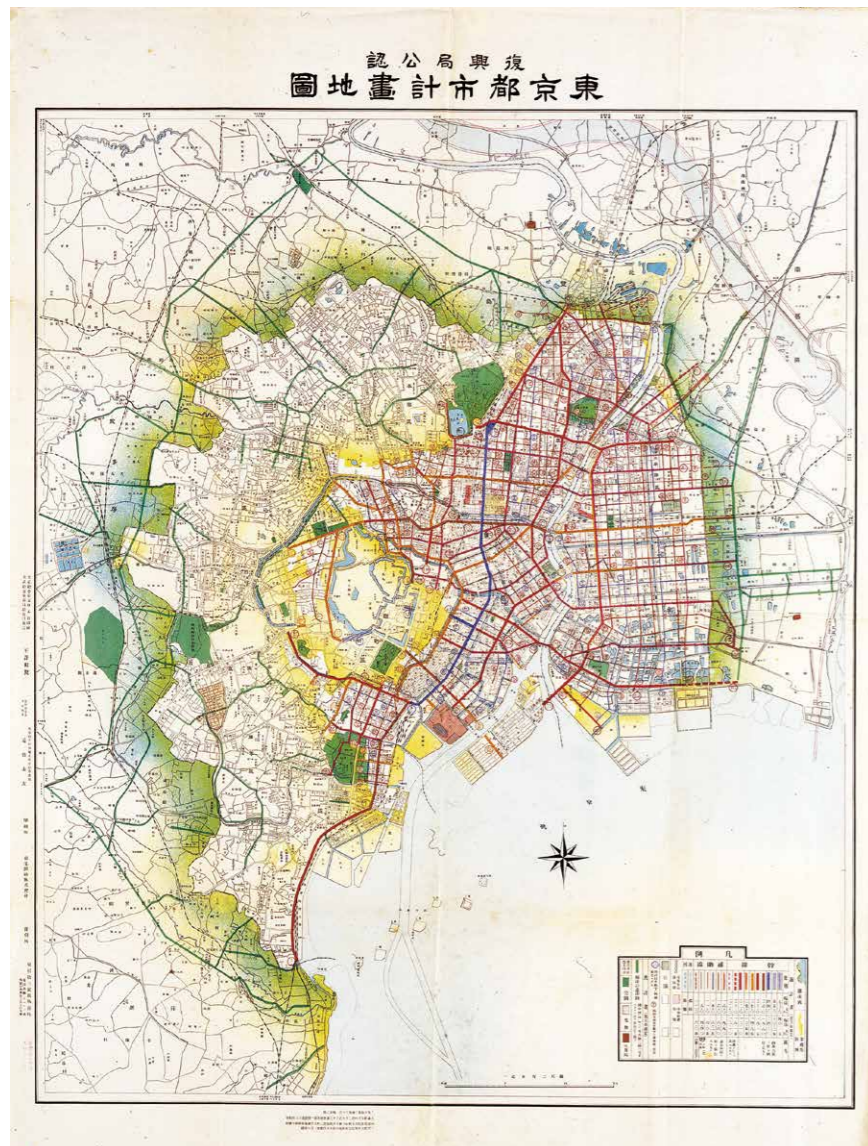


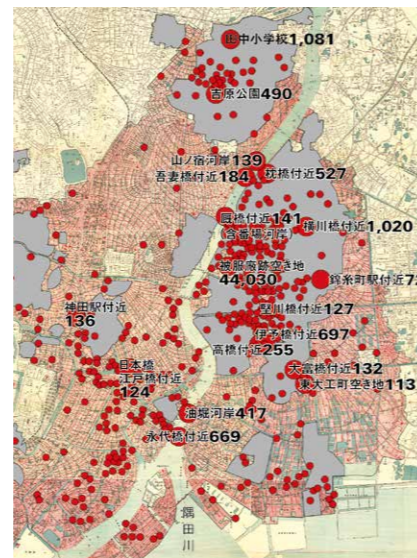
02 Reconstruction following the Great Kanto Earthquake

On September 1, 1923, a magnitude 7.9 earthquake struck the Kanto region. The following day, the Cabinet of Prime Minister Gonbee Yamamoto was formed, and the Bureau for Reconstruction of the Imperial Capital, an organization under direct control of the Prime Minister was established. Minister of Home Affairs and former Mayor of Tokyo Shinpei Goto was appointed as President of the Bureau for Reconstruction of the Imperial Capital. Goto led creation of the reconstruction plan. Although the budget for the government plan, which originally

called for 1.5 billion yen, was cut to 468.44 million yen, the plan achieved results such as being the first to incorporate modern city planning methods. Years later, it even had an impact on Japan's postwar reconstruction plan. In accordance with the reconstruction plan, roads, bridges, rivers, canals, and parks were developed and land readjustment projects were carried out mainly in the areas that were ravaged by fire to create infrastructure that still contributes to the Tokyo of today.



Tokyo City Planning Map approved by the Bureau of Reconstruction (1924) From the collection of the Edo-Tokyo Museum. About 73.4 percent of households in the city of Tokyo were affected by the disaster, and approximately 3,465 hectares, or 44 percent of the city's area, was destroyed by the great fires triggered by the quake. The project for reconstruction of the imperial capital was revised and downsized following deliberation on road plans and the scale of the budget. This map shows the draft that was ultimately decided upon. While receiving opposition from some, land readjustment put into motion by the reconstruction project was carried out extensively by the national government and the city of Tokyo over approximately 90 percent of the area destroyed by fire in Tokyo, or just over 3,117 hectares of land.



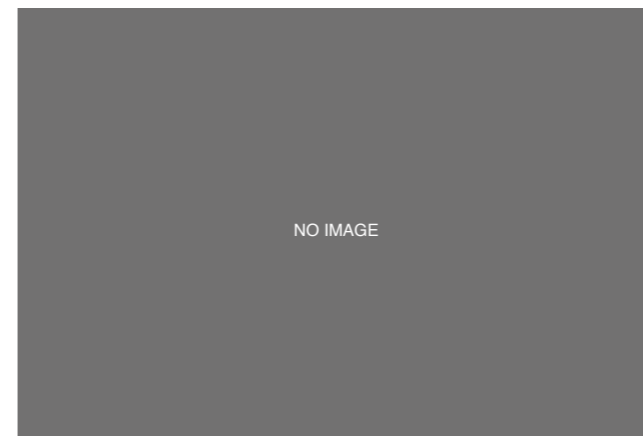
Distribution of the areas burnt down to ashes by fires following the Great Kanto Earthquake and the number of death-rolls
Created based on *Kasai ni yoru butteki, jinteki higai* (Material and Human Losses due to Fire) by Yukio Nishida, (Report on the Great Kanto Earthquake, Volume 1, Central Disaster Prevention Council of the Cabinet Office, 2006), partially revised using *Kanto Daishinsai wo Aruku* (Walking through the history of the Great Kanto Earthquake) by Masayuki Takemura, Yoshikawa Kobunkan, 2012.
Source: Kajima Corporation.



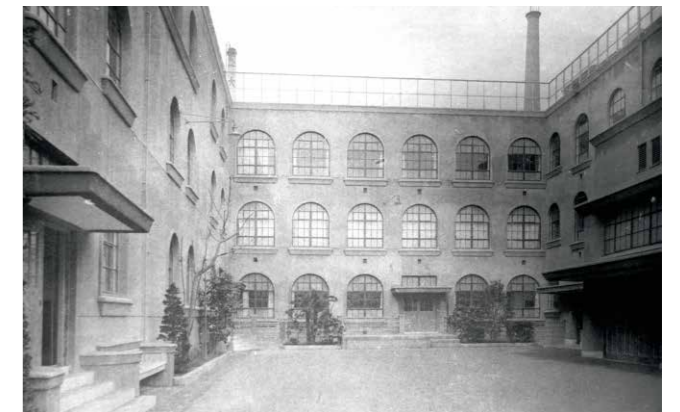
Construction of arterial roads (1930)
From *Teito Fukko Kinencho* (Imperial Capital Reconstruction Commemorative Album), aerial view of Arterial Road No. 1, from the collection of the Edo-Tokyo Museum. Aerial photograph of the area near present day Nihombashi 2-chome, Chuo-ku. Construction progresses on Arterial Road No. 1 (Showa-dori Avenue), road running vertically in the photograph, and Arterial Road No. 3 (Eitai-dori Avenue), road running horizontally near the center of the photograph.



Large disaster recovery parks
Sumida Park, Hamacho Park, and Kinshi Park were all constructed as "disaster recovery parks" through land acquisition. The parks continue to serve as valuable infrastructure in present day Tokyo.
Source: "The Reconstruction of Tokyo" published by the City of Tokyo.



Reconstructed bridges
To replace the many wooden bridges over the Sumida River that collapsed due to the quake, nine iron bridges called "earthquake reconstruction bridges," were built. Of these bridges, the Ryogoku, Umay, and Azuma bridges were built by the national government, while the City of Tokyo constructed the Aioi, Eitai, Kiyosu, Kuramae, Komagata, and Kototoi bridges. Other bridges constructed as part of reconstruction from the disaster, including Shohei, Mansei, and Hijiri bridges, are still being used today.
Photograph: Kiyosu Bridge (Total length: 186m, Width: 22m), from the collection of the Tokyo Metropolitan Central Library.



Construction of "recovery elementary schools" and small parks (1930), *Fukko Kosha Rakusei Kinen Shashincho* (Album commemorating completion of reconstructed school buildings), Izumi Elementary School, from the collection of the Edo-Tokyo Museum. As part of reconstruction projects, modern, fireproof reinforced concrete elementary school buildings equipped with gas, electric lighting, water supply, and other facilities were built. Next to most of the "recovery elementary schools" small parks were also constructed to serve as evacuation areas.

Dojunkai Aoyama Apartments of the early Showa era
Through the use of donations, the Dojunkai Foundation was established in 1923 as an extra-governmental organization affiliated with the Ministry of Home Affairs for the purpose of reconstructing housing after the Great Kanto Earthquake. To supplement the housing shortage at the time, Dojunkai immediately started building wood-frame houses. In 1926, Japan's earliest modern, earthquake and fire resistant, steel reinforced concrete apartment buildings were constructed and residents began to move in. In addition to reinforced concrete construction, which was unusual at the time, the Dojunkai apartments, despite the small size of the units, presented a new way of life as rental housing equipped with gas, water, and flush toilets. For the ten-year period up to 1933, Dojunkai apartments were built at 16 locations in the Tokyo Metropolis and the City of Yokohama, supplying about 2,800 units.
Source: The Mainichi Newspapers Co., Ltd.