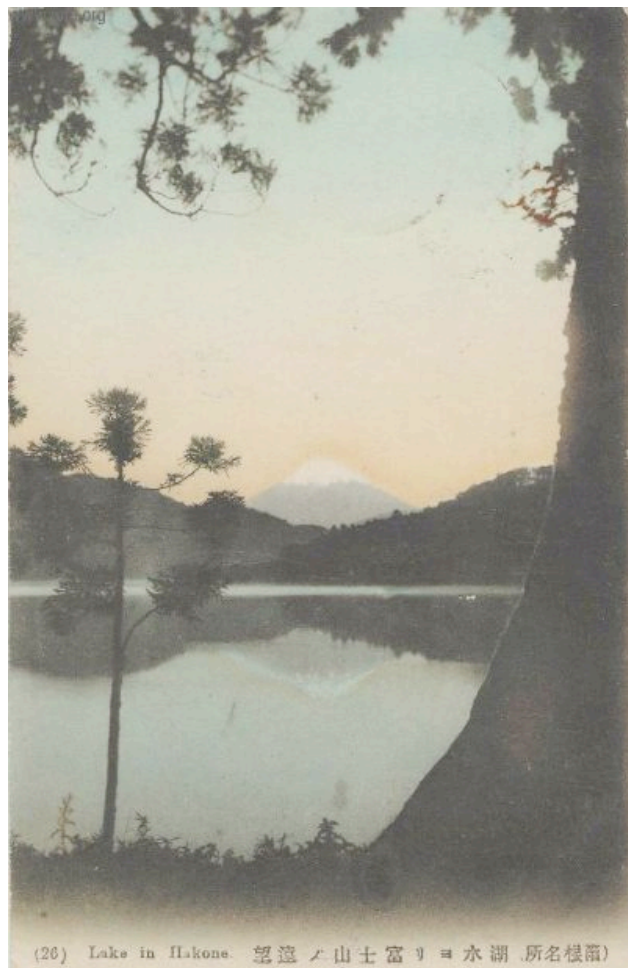


DISCOVERING TRADITIONS OF TOURISM IN JAPAN

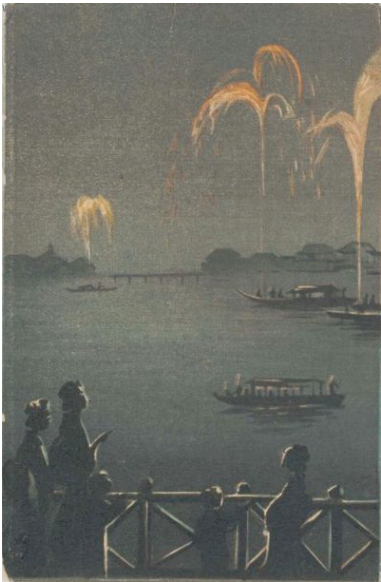
**Through a study of Leonardo Lauder's late Meiji Era
postcards**

James Ira Winder

The Lauder
collection contains
many of Japan's
famous places
seen during the late
Meiji Era. These
images served as
memorabilia for
tourists and
contributed to the
itinerary of expectant
travelers. The history of these sights, along with



the juxtaposition of century-old postcards with modern images, reveals much about the past and present approaches that Japanese have had for presenting and preserving national landmarks.



Fireworks in the River – late Meiji Zushi Fireworks – 2006
(26) Lake in Hakone – late Meiji

ANCIENT PLACES . . .

Kamakura Daibutsu





Beato 1870

1905

2006

Lauder's

Located close to Edo,
Kamakura was one
of the first places
visited by many tourists,



including the pioneer Italian photographer Felice Beato. Over the years, the surroundings of the daibutsu have changed, specifically the lotus flowers and lanterns at its base.

Lotus Sculpture 2006

Todaiji Temple



Todaiji Temple, Nara - late Meiji

Todaiji Temple, Nara - 2006

The current form of Todaiji temple is actually the third incarnation of a building first constructed in 784. After war and inferno, the present day structure is a 1692 reproduction about sixty percent of its original size.



Wonderful Passage Way at the Foot

Busy

Western passageway 2006

of a Column at Todaiji Temple

While this nostril still exists today, it is doubtful that a monk will aid you through.

Kinkakuji Shrine “The Golden Palace”



Kinkakuji Shrine, Kyoto – late Meiji

Kinkakuji Shrine, Kyoto – 2006

After surviving centuries of natural disasters, the building was finally destroyed in 1950, after a monk willfully set it to flame. A tourist passing through could easily mistake *Kinkakuji* for a truly ancient place if not otherwise informed.

Nara Park



Nara in Early Autumn – late Meiji
Principal Avenue to the Kasuga

Shrine in a Bright Morning, Nara

Lauder's images, absent of any
people, emphasize
the Solitude, and even piety, of
these deer.



Worshipping Sacred Deer – 2006

Nara Lanterns – 2006

However, today's tourists are mostly interested in feeding them a tasty treat, conveniently bought from vendors throughout the park. Indeed, an unknowing foreigner might now mistake the place for a petting zoo, echoing a shift in how Nara Park is valued.

Horyuji Temple



Horyuji Temple – 2006

Of the thousands of Postcards in Lauder's collection, one important place fails to show itself. Horyuji temple complex in Nara contains some the oldest wooden structures on Earth, dating back to the 700's, but has no presence in the collection.

PLACES OF ACCOMMODATION

• • •

Asakusa



Asakusa Kannon, Tokyo – late Meiji

Crowds Welcoming the American Troops at

the

Kaminari-mon Gate, Asakusa – late Meiji

At the time the postcard was collected, Asakusa boasted operas, vaudeville shows, music, and even the first continuous silent movie theatre in Japan.

Today's Nakamura primarily sell souvenirs and food, contrary to the questionable entertainment of past times.

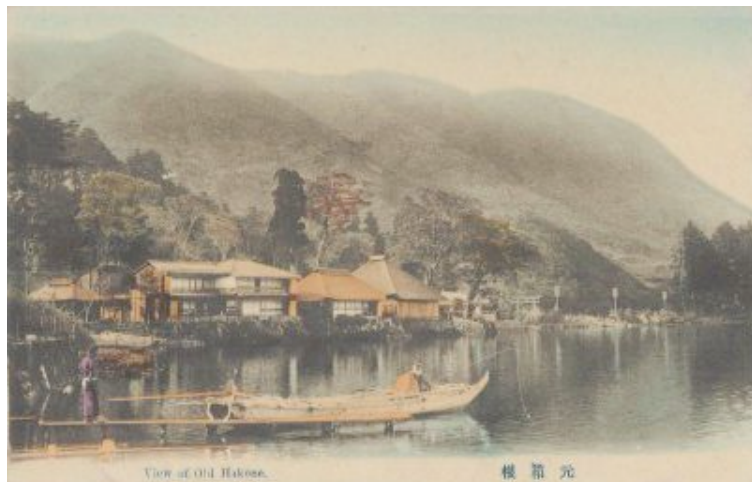


Nakamura – 2006

Kaminari-mon Gate - 2006

After burning down in 1865, the “Gate of Thunder and Wind” was left demolished for nearly one hundred years. The postcard captures Asakusa while the gate is still absent.

Hakone



Owakidani, Hakone – late Meiji

View of Old Hakone – late Meiji

Hakone is a resort area famous for volcanic springs and scenic views. Since the late Meiji era, additional Western gimmicks have come to

decorate the landscape. At a certain lake shadowed by mount Fuji, Mississippi-style paddleboats and pirate ships cruise the waterways in search of passengers.

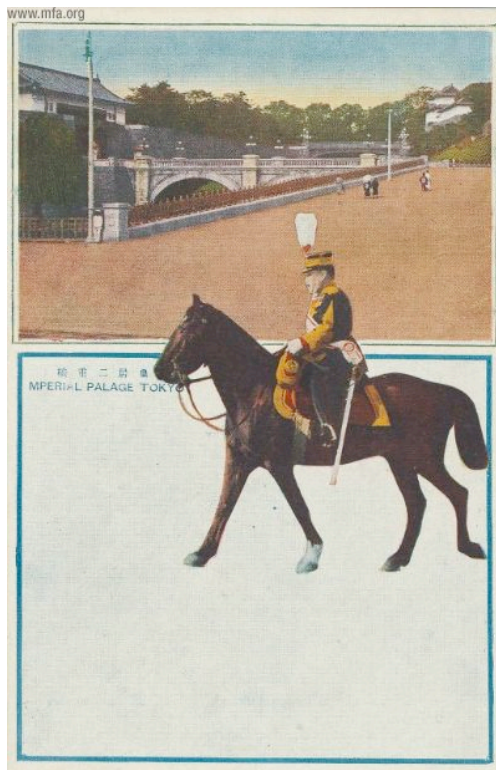


River Boats – 2006

River Boats - 2006

PLACES OF POLITICS. . .

Imperial Palace



*Captured Russian Artillery Displayed at the Imperial Palace Garden – late Meiji
Tokyo Imperial Palace – late Meiji*

During the Russo-Japanese war, Japan began to realize the political uses for tourism. In 1905, a

captured Soviet artillery cannon was proudly
displayed on the Tokyo Imperial Palace grounds.
This was an important object viewed by both
foreigners and Japanese.



Tokyo Imperial Palace – 2006

Modern Imperial Guard - 2006

The Imperial Guard also had a place in Lauder's collection. Riding high is an officer dressed in Western military garb. Imperial Guards now wear blue outfits functionally similar to a modern security guard. All this suggests that Japan used a military presence on the home front to amaze domestic and international viewers.