

The *omoya zashiki* is the reception suite of the main residential building and an early example of the *sukiya zukuri* style of Japanese residential architecture. The term *sukiya* originally referred to buildings that were used for tea ceremonies and evoked its refined tastes. The term *sukiya zukuri* has since come to denote an informal variant of the *shoin* style that incorporates teahouse aesthetics and has been used in the homes of the wealthy beginning in the Edo period. The family's main business was conducted in the *choba*, literally the "ledger room," and the *doma* (the "earth space"). The compacted earth floor of the *doma* serves as a transitional area between the indoor and outdoor spaces of a traditional Japanese home.