

Lectures 10-12

The Playground of the Pleasure Quarters (Founding, Visiting, and Navigating the Yoshiwara)

1. Founding the Yoshiwara: “field of rushes” to “field of prosperity”

(Monday; reading: *Yoshiwara*, chapters 1-2)

- a. Rise of merchants
- b. The link between the theatre & prostitution
- c. The establishment of Edo’s licensed pleasure quarters

2. Visiting the Yoshiwara

(Wednesday; reading: *Yoshiwara*, chapter 3)

(slides from web site)

- a. Typical first visit to tayû/oiran
- b. The cost (based on Saikaku’s advice to first-time “players”)

3. Navigating the Yoshiwara

(Friday; reading: *Yoshiwara*, chapter 4)

Discussion of Yoshiwara protocol via chapter 4 of *Yoshiwara*