

**1951 POSTCARD HONORING SAI ON THROUGH RYUKYU STAMPS AND CANCELS
ON THE BACK OF THE POSTCARD**



**A SMALL SIGN TO THE TOP
RIGHT OF THE LEFT HAND
DOOR SAYS:**

“RYUKYU FORESTRY AGENCY”



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SCOTT #15 ISSUED IN COMMEMORATION OF THE FIRST ARBOR WEEK (FEB 18 -25, 1951) AND THE SCHOLAR-STATESMAN SAION (BORN 1682).

Sai On (蔡温?)(1682-1761), also known as Gushi-chan Bunjaku (具志頭 文若, lit. Bunjaku, head of Gushi?) was a scholar-bureaucrat official of the Ryūkyū Kingdom, serving as regent, instructor, and advisor to King Shō Kei. He is renowned for the many reforms he initiated and oversaw, and is among the most famous figures in Okinawan history.

Okinawa's demand for wood outstripped the ability of the forests to renew themselves on their own, naturally, and the combination of deforestation and rainy weather including regular typhoon seasons led to extensive erosion and landslides. Sai On is particularly known for the forestry and soil conservation efforts undertaken under his guidance to combat these problems. Particular trees and sections of forest throughout the islands are still today called "Sai On pines" (蔡温松, Sai On matsu; 蔡温並木, Sai On namiki), and his essays on the subject of forestry and conservation remained so valued that the post-war United States Civil Administration of the Ryukyu Islands translated, published, and distributed them abroad in 1952.

Arbor Week:

The Ryukyu Arbor Week, inaugurated in 1951, has resulted in the planting of slightly over a million seedlings, or 1.1 seedlings per head of the total population

In April 1952 the Ryukyu Forestry Agency became the Forestry Bureau of the Government of the Ryukyu Islands



SCOTT # 15 ARBOR DAY
ISSUED 19 FEB 1951



BUBBLE VARIETY SCOTT #15d ON POSITION 22



**COMMEMORATIVE CANCEL CC-5 ARBOR WEEK
DATES OF USE 18 TO 25 FEB. 1951**

THE NAHA CC CANCEL WAS USED AT THE NAHA RYUKYU-AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER ON 19 TO 22 FEB. 1951 AND AT THE NAHA CENTRAL POST OFFICE ON THE OTHER DATES.



**NAHA CIRCULAR DATE CANCEL (L-2B)
19 FEB. 1951 FIRST DAY OF ISSUE FOR SCOTT #15 ARBOR DAY**