The little-known penicillin development in Japan

Registration No.	Number 00277		
Registration Date	September 10, 2019	Registration Category	Category 2

Name (Model, etc.)	Application for manufacturing Approval of Hekiso	
Location	Chuo-ku, Tokyo	
	Meiji Holdings Co., Ltd.	
Owner (Custodian)	Meiji Holdings Co., Ltd.	
Manufacturer (Company)	Meiji Sangyo Kaisya [the name of Meiji Seika Kaisha, Ltd. from December 15, 1943 to April 29, 1947] (now Meiji Seika Pharma Co., Ltd.)	
Year Manufactured	1945	
Year first appeared		
Reason For Selection	Penicillin was discovered in the U.K. in 1928 and is known as a miracle drug that is effective against many infections. It was used in World War II and saved many lives, however, aside from the U.K. and the U.S.A., Japan was the only country that succeeded in applied use of penicillin at the time. It is said that a penicillin research committee was formed based on a report by Kiese of Germany—of researchers in medicine, science, engineering, pharmacy, and agricultural science—and they accomplished the great feat of mass-producing penicillin through their independent research in less than one year. However, resources regarding production at the time is scarce, and this resource dated April 1945 is valuable as a rare resource exhibiting the fact of success in developing the chemically unstable penicillin (hekiso) and that actual production during wartime was intended.	
Registration Standard	1-B (Show a uniquely Japanese scientific or technological development from an international perspective.)	

