

Japan's first alt-azimuth mount telescope, with the largest domestically manufactured aperture diameter at the time of construction

Registration No.	Number 00392		
Registration Date	18 September 2025	Registration Category	Category 2
Name (Model, etc.)	Institute of Space and Astronautical Science 1.3-meter infrared telescope		
Location	Sagamihara City, Kanagawa, Japan		
	National Research and Development Agency, Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, Institute of Space and Astronautical Science		
Owner (Custodian)	National Research and Development Agency, Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, Institute of Space and Astronautical Science		
Manufacturer (Company)	Mitsubishi Electric Corporation		
Year Manufactured	1988		
Year first appeared	1988		
Reason For Selection	<p>This item was manufactured as a prototype by a team of designers that did not yet have experience developing large-scale optical infrared telescopes, and would later go on to work on the Subaru Telescope. At the time of its construction, this telescope had the first alt-azimuth mount in Japan, and had the largest domestically manufactured aperture. The technology used in this telescope, such as the alt-azimuth mount system and the friction drive system, paved the way for methods to reduce costs for telescopes, such as making domes smaller, and also had a major influence on development concepts for subsequent domestically manufactured large-scale telescopes. It is important because, in addition to its contribution to the Subaru Telescope, it also went on to open the path for a construction boom in one to two meter class telescopes for Japan as a whole in the 2000s.</p>		
Registration Criteria	<p>1-A (Shows an important aspect or stage in the development of science and technology.) 1-B (Shows a uniquely Japanese scientific or technological development from an international perspective.)</p>		
Open/Closed to the Public	Not on public display		
Photos			