

Game Dev Archaeology: **Unearthing and Preserving Japanese Game History**

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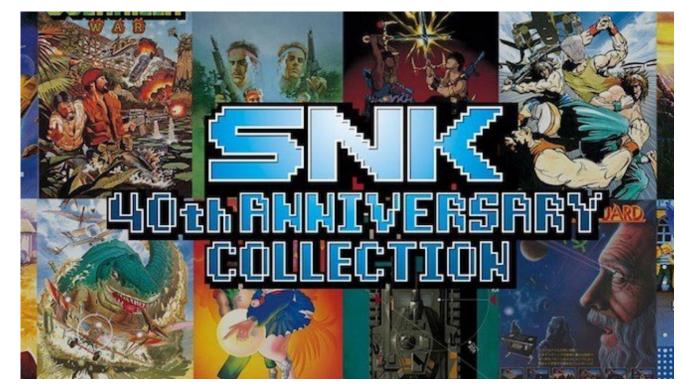




Game Archaeology!

• I get to work on stuff like this:





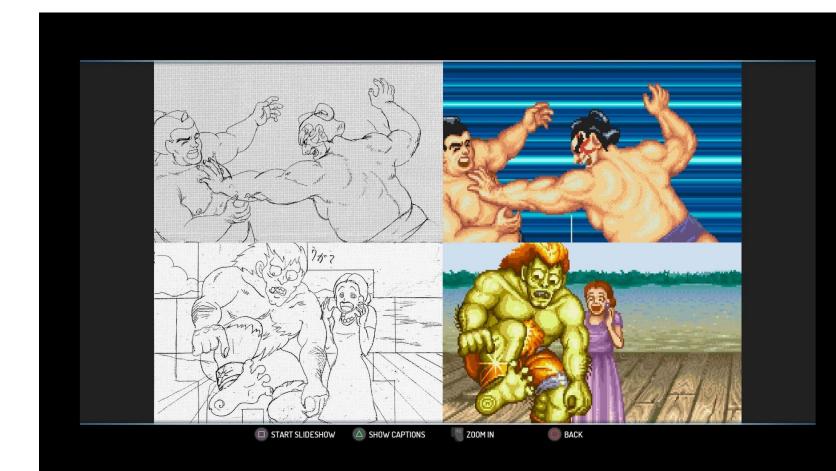


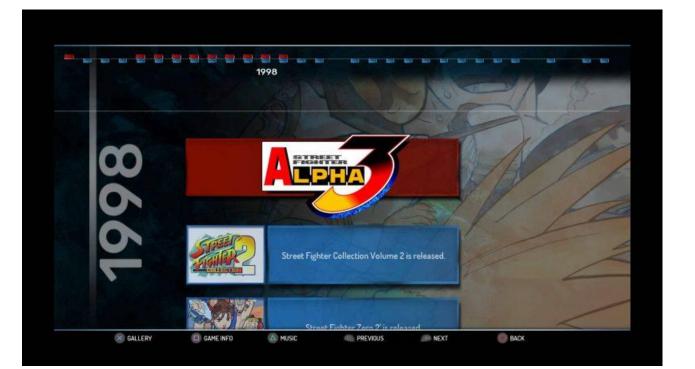


Low access

SUMME

When we can't talk to devs, we get creative!

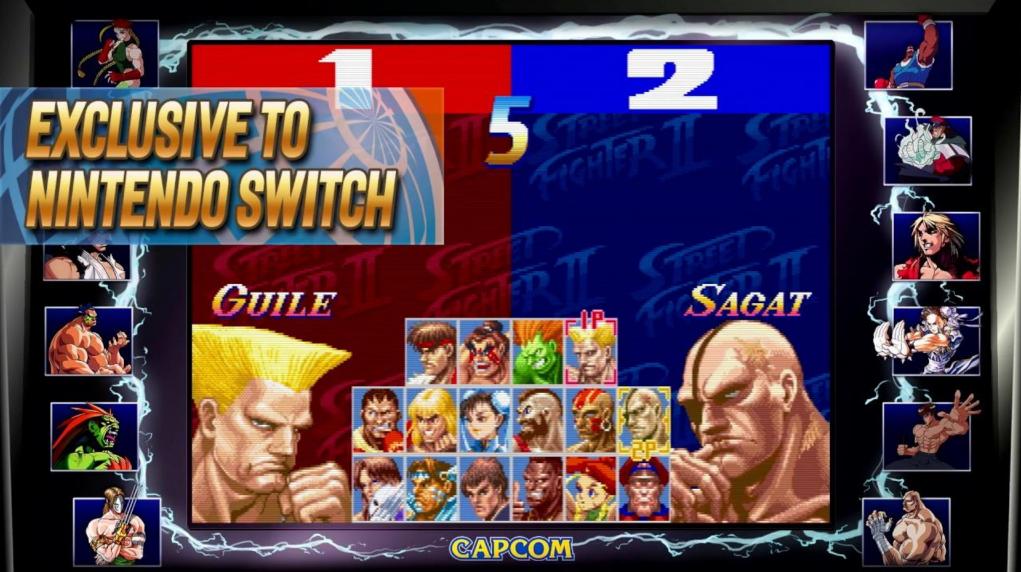






Super Street Fighter II The New Challengers: Tournament Edition







"Grey-area" access.







From "official" to Official.



ART SUBJECT TO CHANGE





"Full" access

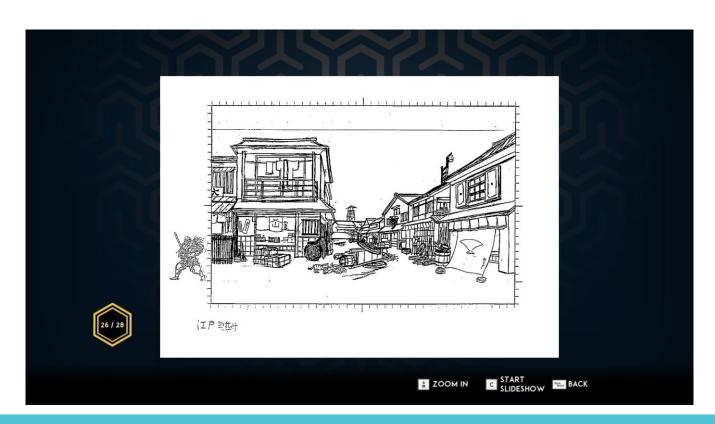






















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Trust and respect







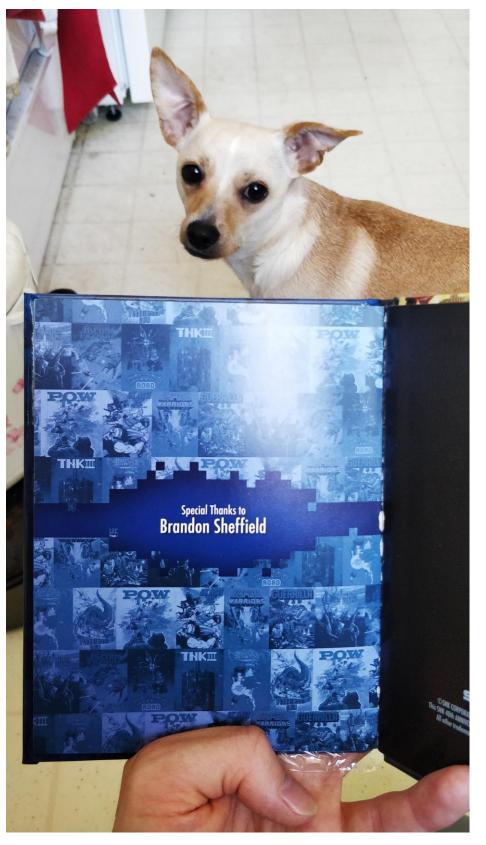


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ART SUBJECT TO CHANGE



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Sometimes nobody wants to talk to you









What do I mean by Archaeology?







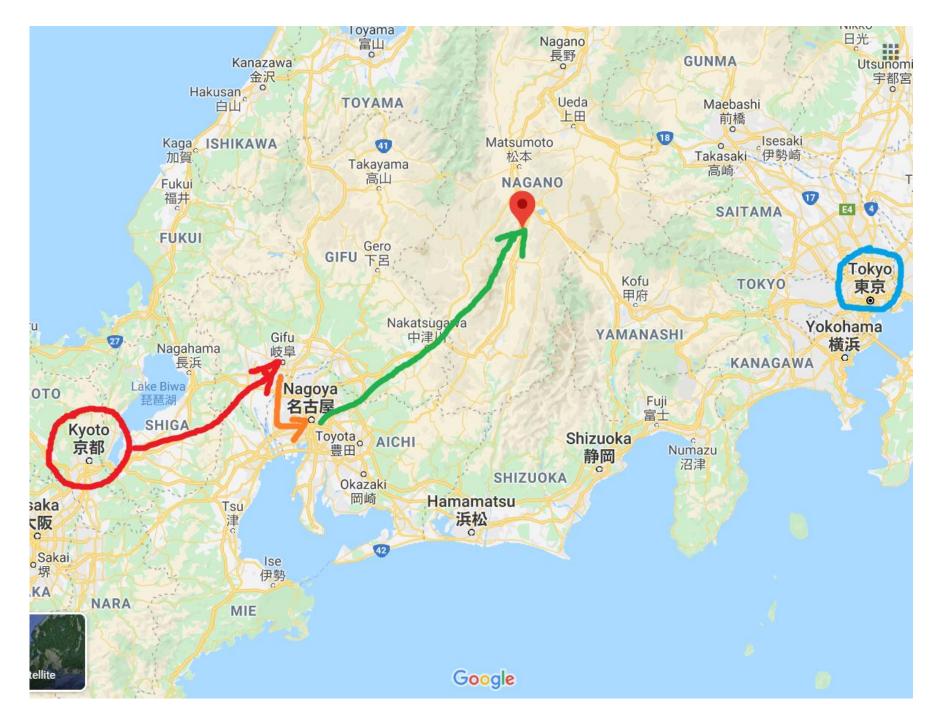
Let's go to Tatsuno!

Kuramaguchi-area Kyoto -->





One local train, one bullet train, and a charter bus







Two trains to-->Nagoya













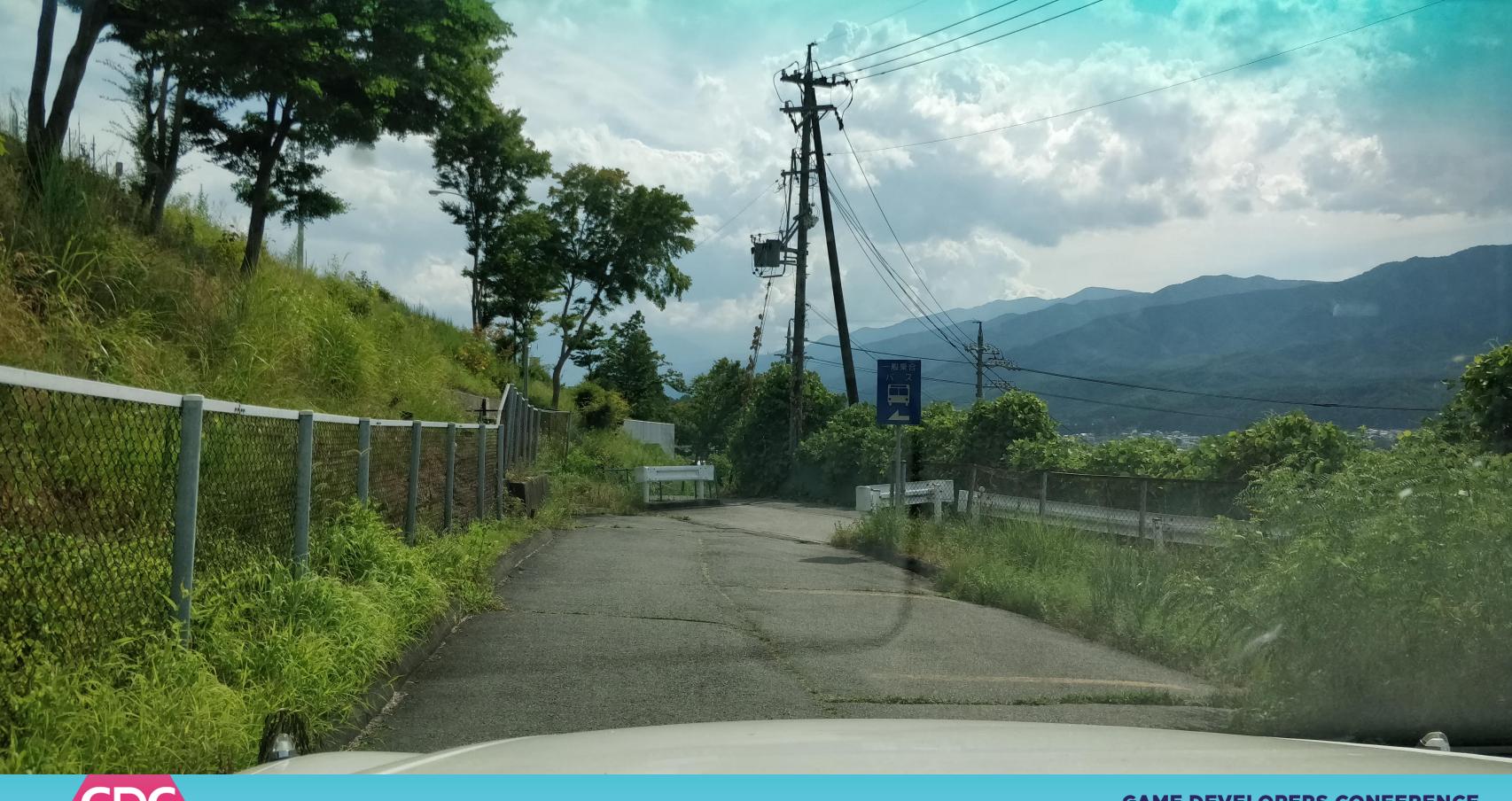
































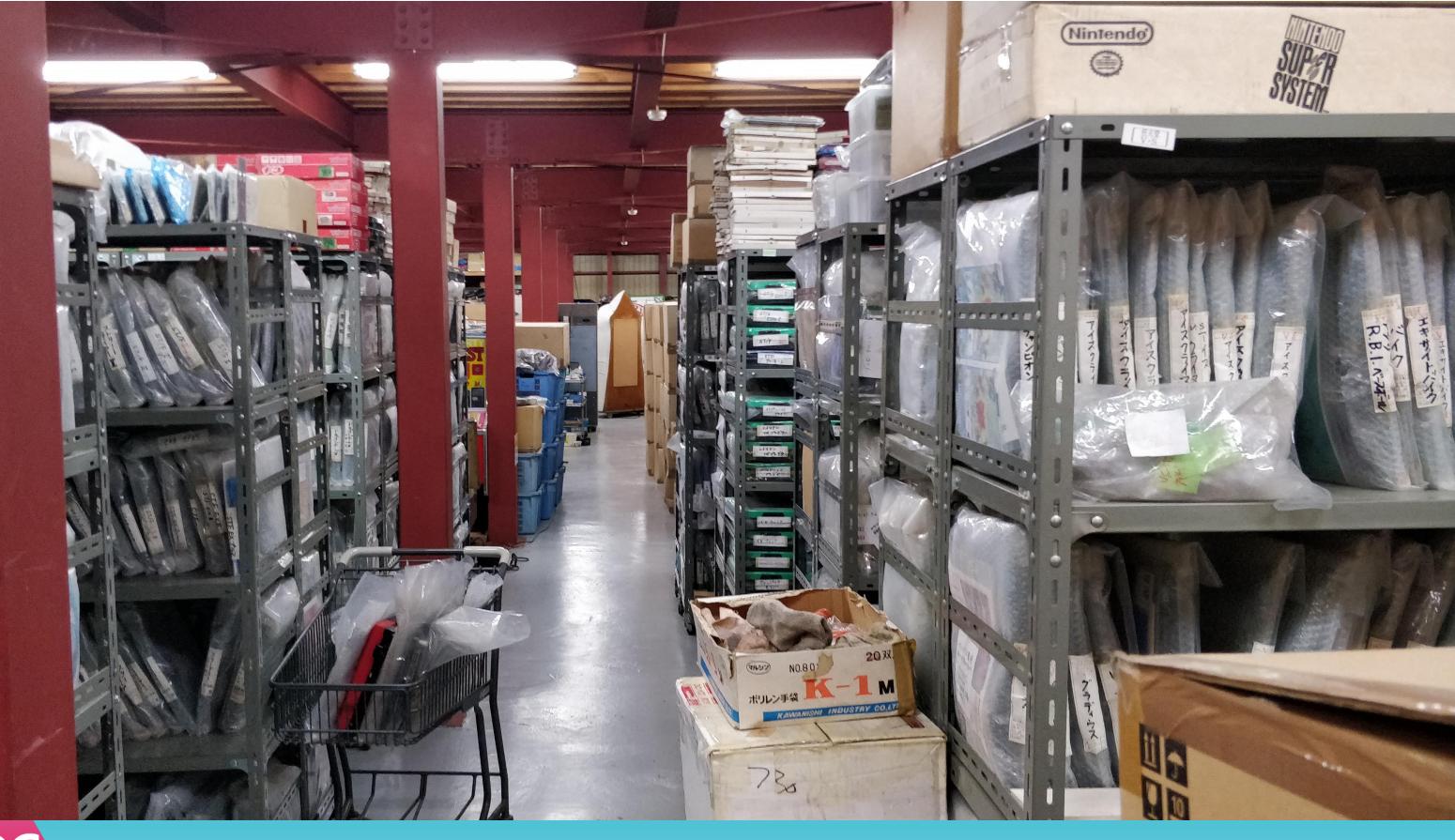




GDC S U M M E R

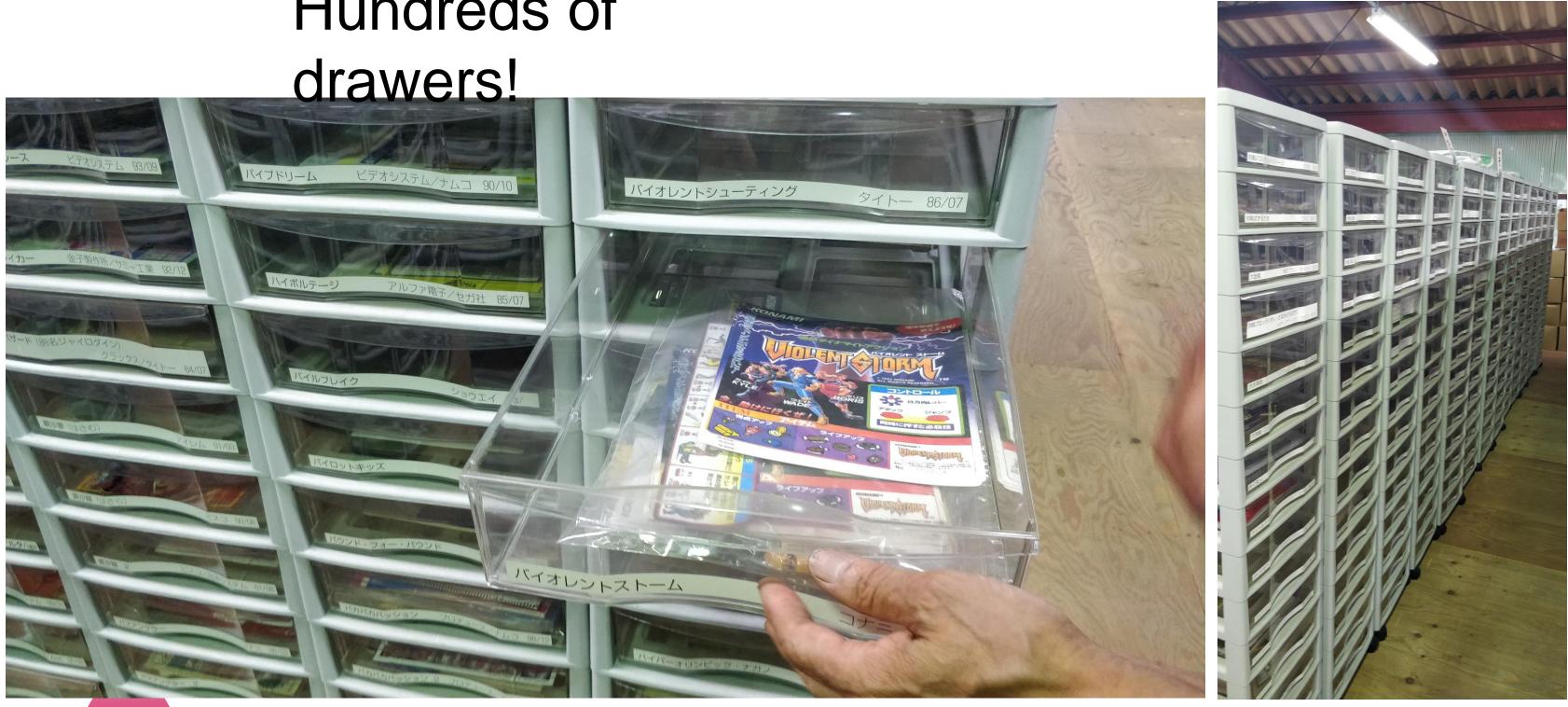








Hundreds of









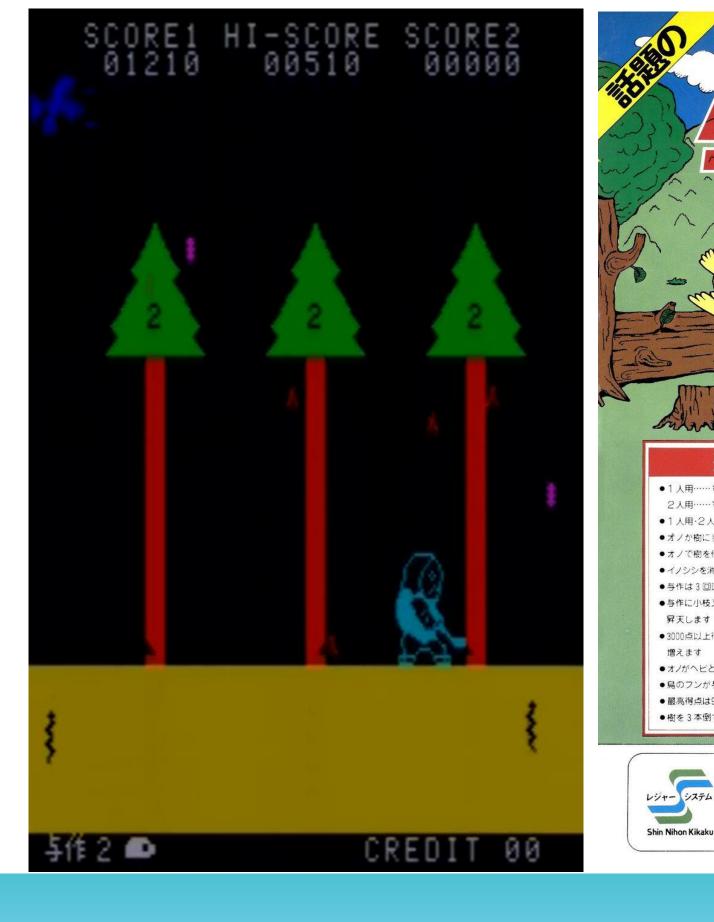
Micon Kits allowed arcade operators to change to new game variants by simply replacing the board inside of a special harness in the cabinet much like changing cartridges on home systems.

> START SLIDESHOW

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± ZOOM IN

The search for Yosaku







昇天します● 3000点以上得点するとボーナスとして与作が一回

オノがヘビとイノシシに当ると昇天します
鳥のフンが与作に当たると 与作はしびれます
最高得点は99.990点です
樹を3本倒すと、パターンが新たに現われます







1A CN 2 5 5 17 5









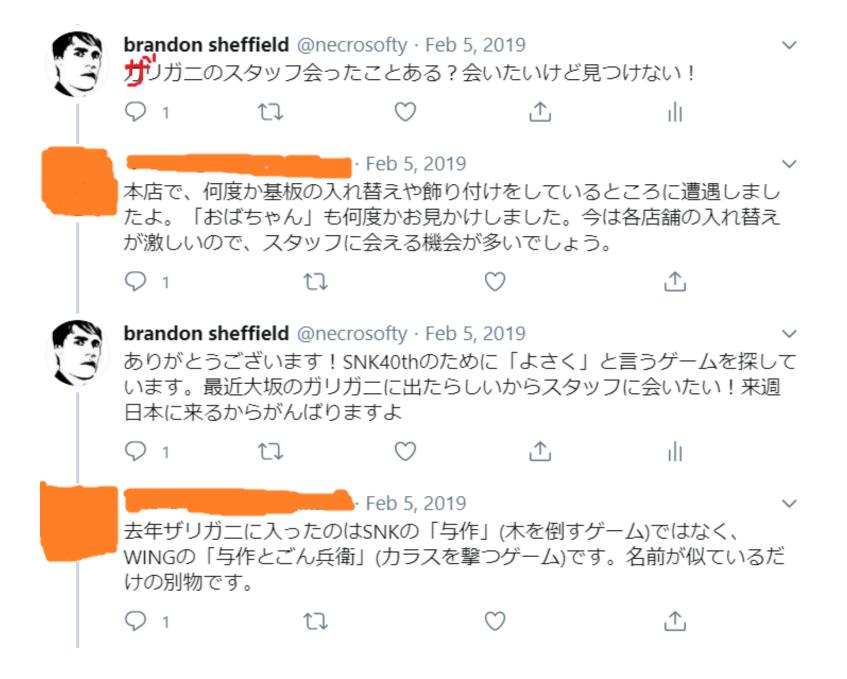






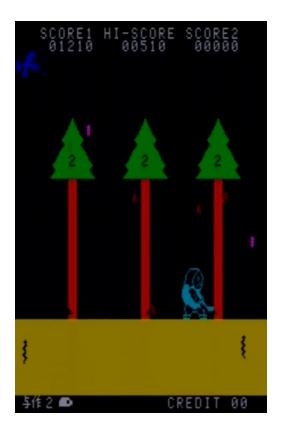


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^ cassette vision (unlicensed, 1981)

<-- Who owns this!?

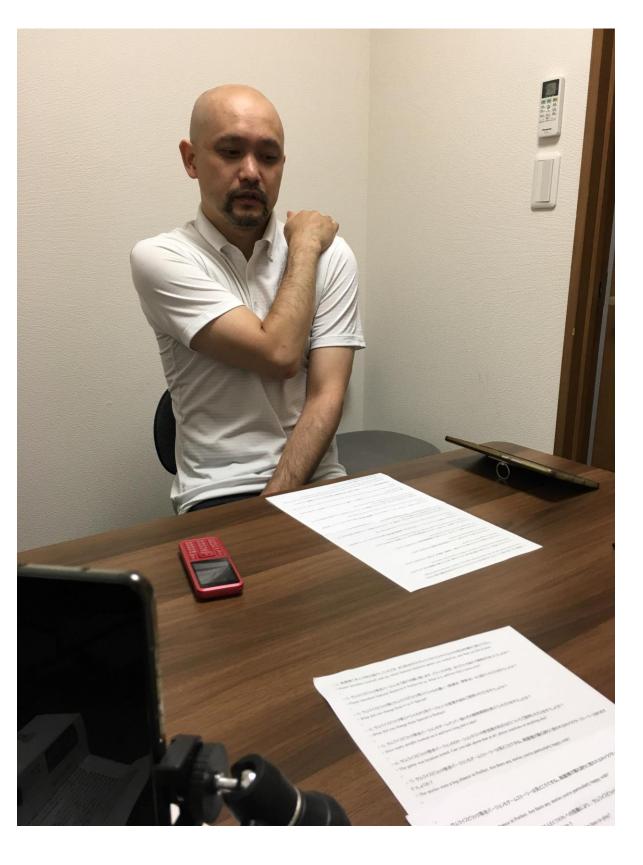
Neo Geo Pocket minigame, 2000 -







Paydirt!



























Preservation takes time, and often fails

- You need to get people to talk
- You need to find people's hidden stuff
- You need permission from the rights holder to get it from them
- You need to have money behind it

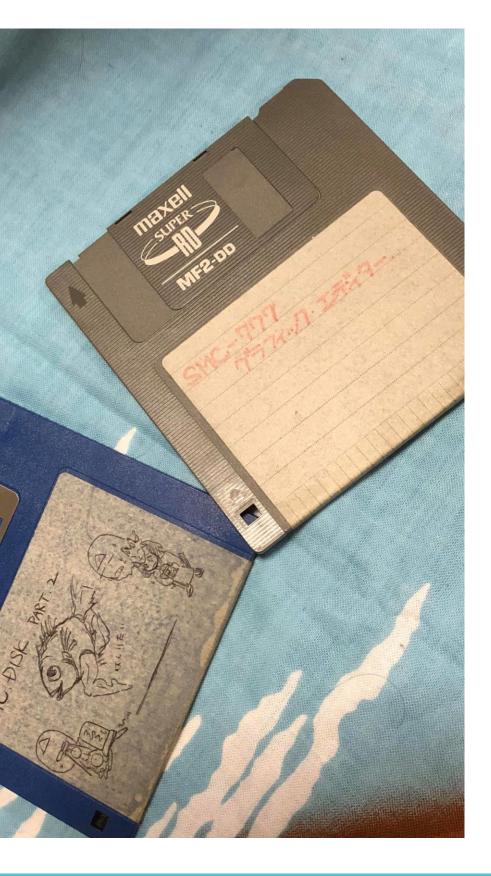


stuff hts holder to

We don't have the data for Famicom Guevara/Guerilla War, but we know where it is.







Unreleased Super Famicom RPG

- Stars a popular character from a big company
- Former employee has the data
- Not even the current employees remembered it existed
- There's no funding, so...
- We can't get it



big company remembered

What can you do?

- Devs, save everything
- Donate to the Video Game History Foundation
- (gamehistory.org)
- Buy these collections and convince companies they should make more of them



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Thanks!

- Check out our game gunsport which just came out (gunsport.tv)
- My podcast, insert credit! patreon.com/insertcredit
- forums.insertcredit.com
- necrosoftgames.com
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