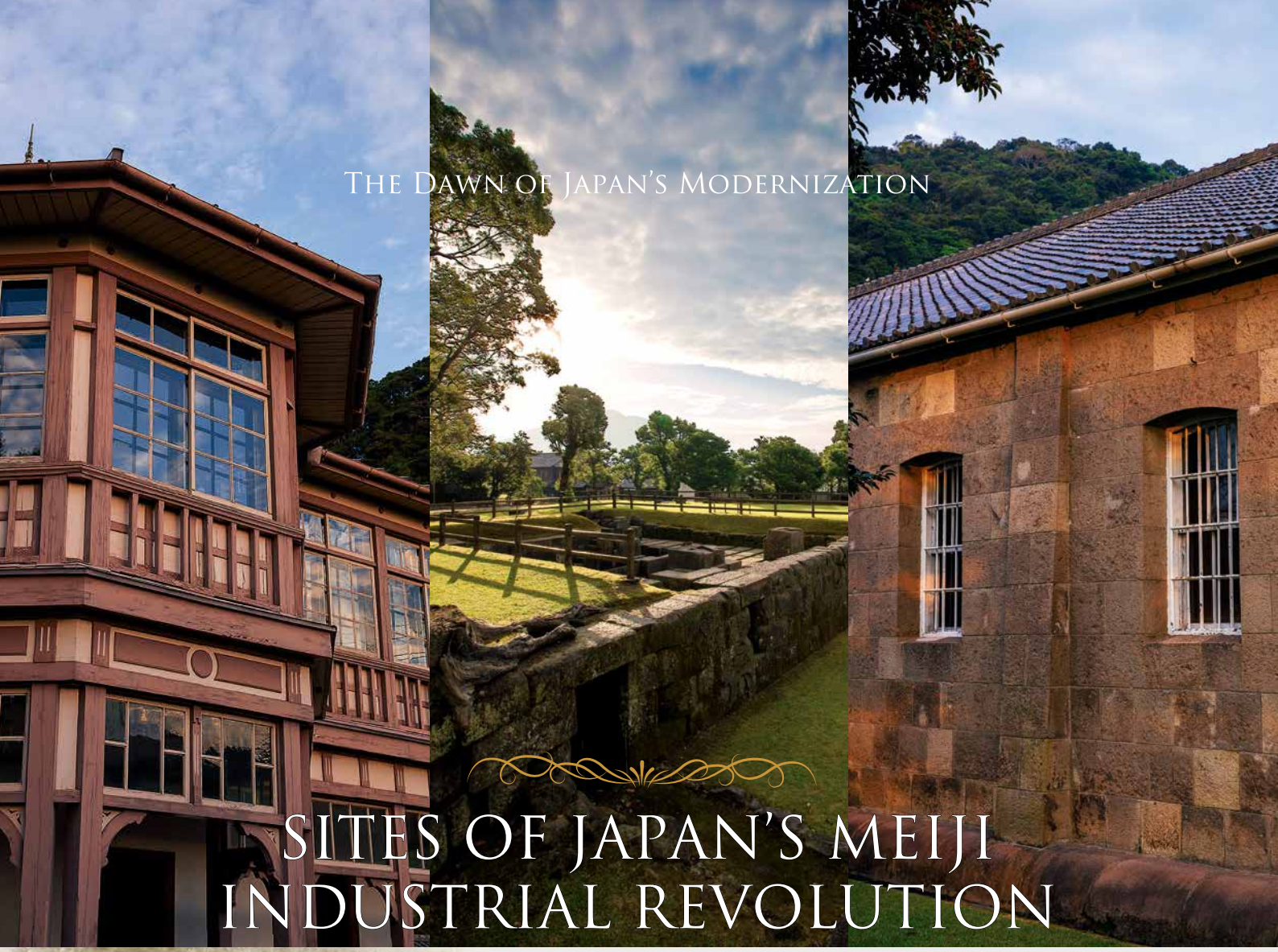
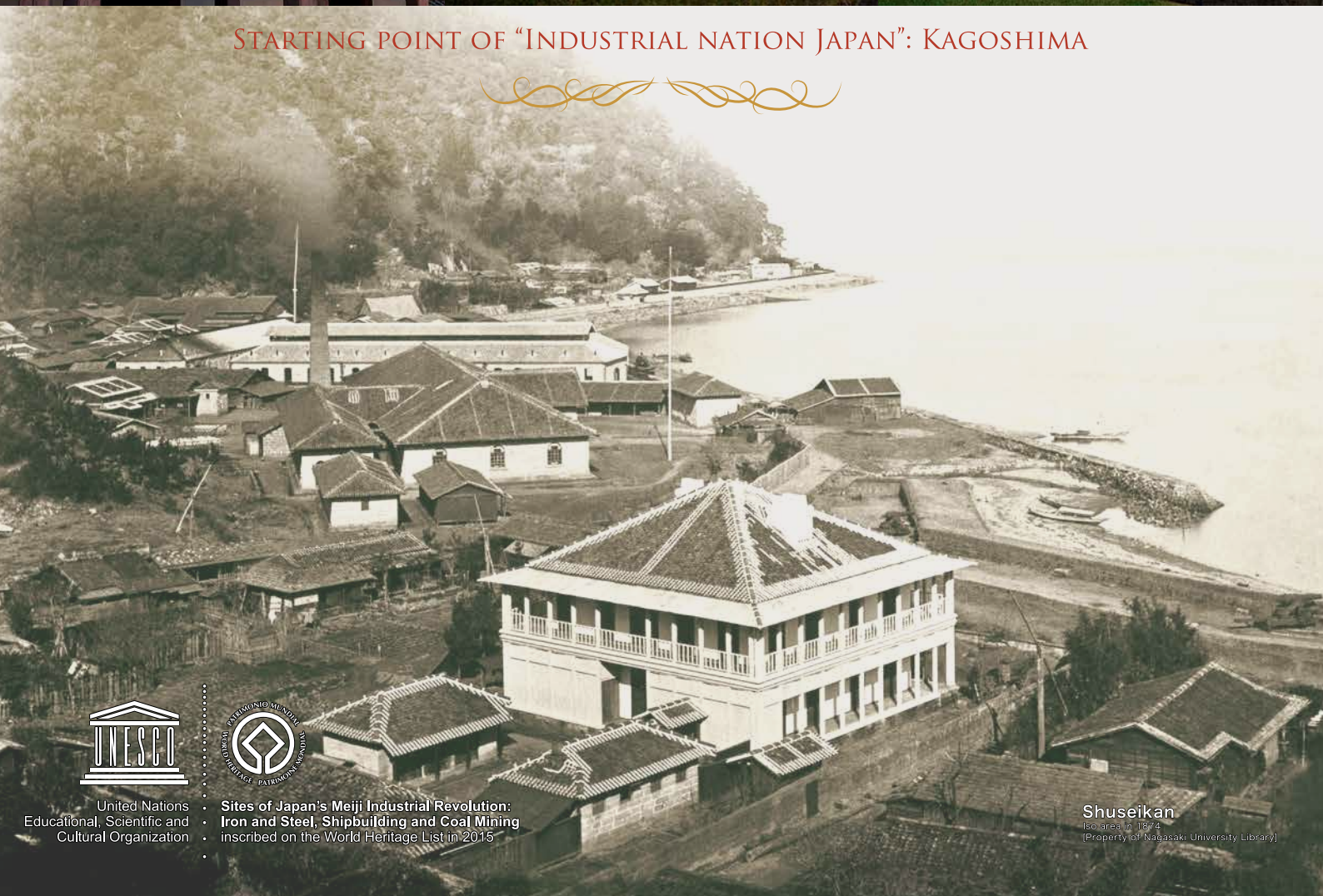


The Dawn of Japan's Modernization

SITES OF JAPAN'S MEIJI INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

Starting point of "Industrial nation Japan": Kagoshima



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Sites of Japan's Meiji Industrial Revolution:
Iron and Steel, Shipbuilding and Coal Mining
inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2015

Shuseikan
Iso area in 1874
[Property of Nagasaki University Library]

SITES OF JAPAN'S MEIJI INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

明治日本の産業革命遺産

Japan's industrialization was realized in a mere 50 years, a unique achievement in the world.

STORY

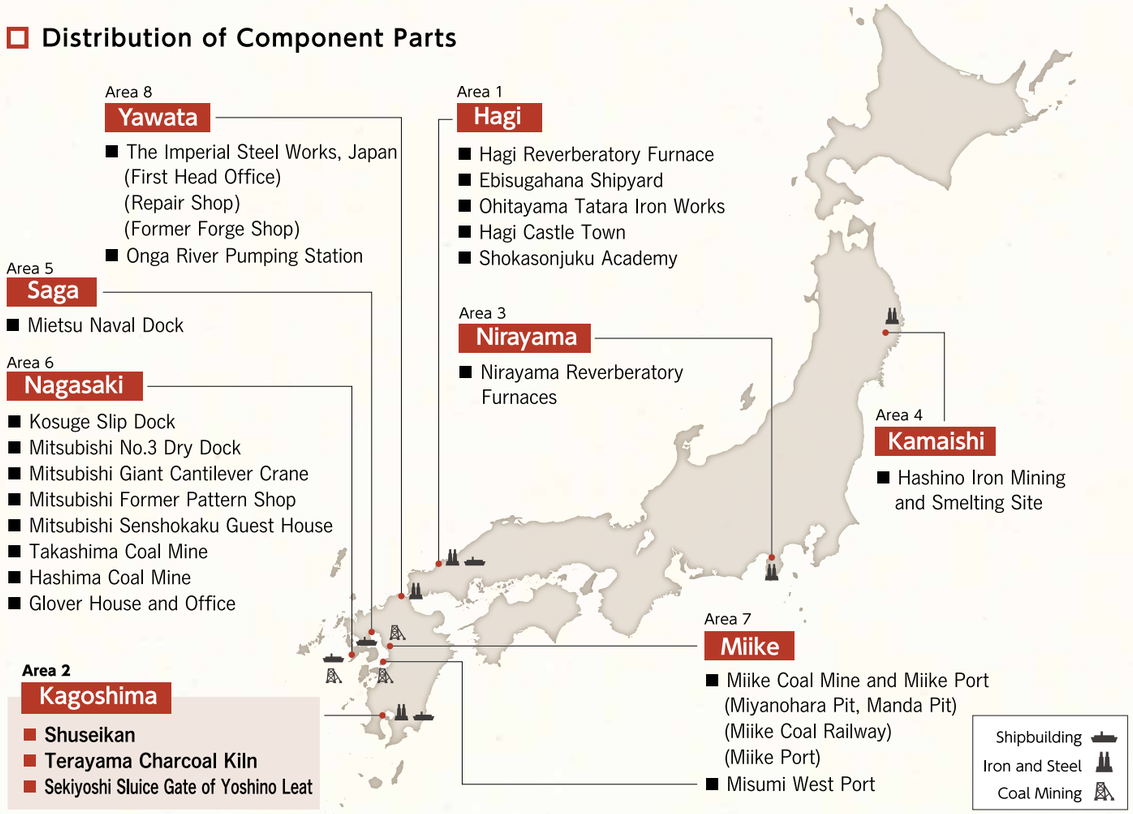
"Sites of Japan's Meiji Industrial Revolution: Iron and Steel, Shipbuilding and Coal Mining" is composed of industrial heritage components representing the successful transfer of industrialization from the West to a non-Western nation.
Japan built the foundation of an industrial nation from the late 19th century to the beginning of the 20th century and rapidly accomplished industrialization in heavy industries such as iron and steel, shipbuilding, and coal mining, becoming a world-renowned industrial nation.
In just 50 years, traditional Japan was rapidly transformed into the first non-Western industrial nation by amalgamating its traditional culture with Western technology. The component sites demonstrate key processes exemplifying this unprecedented event in world history.

Inscribed on the World Heritage List in July 2015

Endeavors towards inscription as a cultural World Heritage Site were initiated by the Kagoshima Declaration at the symposium "The Modern Industrial Heritage Sites in Kyushu", held by Kagoshima Prefecture in 2005.
The component parts are located in 11 cities in 8 prefectures centered on Kyushu (Fukuoka, Saga, Nagasaki, Kumamoto and Kagoshima) and Yamaguchi, together with Izunokuni City in Shizuoka prefecture and Kamaishi City in Iwate prefecture. In July 2015, their close connection was recognized, and these serial properties were inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site possessing a single Oustanding Universal Value.

The Imperial Steel Works, Japan: Photo of the factory when it was established [Property of Yawata Steel Works, NSSMC]

Distribution of Component Parts



Phases of Development in Each Industry (1850s-1910)

Stage	1850s Trial and Error Experimentation Based on Western textbooks and by the copying of Western-style ships by feudal clans and the Tokugawa Shougunate (before the steam engine)	Direct Importation of Western Technology Direct importation of Western technology and the expertise to operate it (Steam Engine)	1910 Full-blown Industrialization Full-blown industrialization through newly acquired domestic expertise and more active adoption and adaptation of Western technology (Beginning of Electrification)
Iron and Steel	Area 2 Kagoshima **2-1 Shuseikan, 2-2 Terayama Charcoal Kiln** **2-3 Sekiyoshi Sluice Gate of Yoshino Leat** Area 3 Nirayama **3-1 Nirayama Reverberatory Furnaces** Area 4 Kamaishi **4-1 Hashino Iron Melting and Smelting Site** Area 1 Hagi **1-1 Hagi Reverberatory Furnace, 1-2 Ebisugahana Shipyard, 1-3 OhitayamaTatara Iron Works, 1- 4 Hagi Castle Town, 1-5 Shokasonjuku Academy**		Area 8 Yawata **8-1 The Imperial Steel Works, Japan** **8-2 Onga River Pumping Station**
Ship - building	Area 2 Kagoshima **2-1 Shuseikan, 2-3 Sekiyoshi Sluice Gate of Yoshino Leat** Area 5 Saga **5-1 Mietsu Naval Dock**	Area 6 Nagasaki **6-1 Kosuge Slip Dock**	Area 6 Nagasaki **Mitsubishi Nagasaki Shipyard** **6-2 Mitsubishi No.3 Dry Dock** **6-3 Mitsubishi Giant Cantilever Crane** **6-4 Mitsubishi Former Pattern Shop** **6-5 Mitsubishi Senshokaku Guest House**
Coal-Mining		Area 6 Nagasaki **6-8 Glover House and Office** Area 6 Nagasaki **6- 6 Takashima Coal Mine** Area 7 Miike **7-2 Misumi West Port**	Area 6 Nagasaki **6-7 Hashima Coal Mine** Area 7 Miike **7-1 Miike Coal Mine and Miike Port**

POINT 1

Satsuma, the Marine State that Promptly Captured the Nature of Contemporary Global Movements

During the Edo period, the Tokugawa shogunate gave special permission to Nagasaki and Ryukyu, a clan then under control of Satsuma, to conduct trade despite the seclusion policy which banned trading with foreign nations. As a result, the Satsuma clan was able to gain direct access to the contemporary global movement through various literature and information brought from China and other nations.

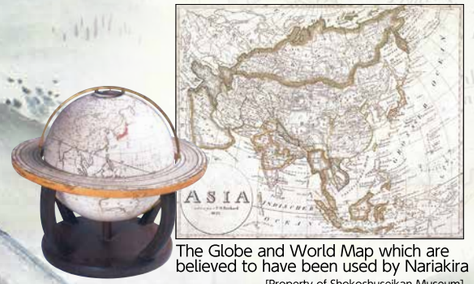
[Property of Shokoshuseikan Museum]

Shimadzu Nariakira: an enlightened lord known as one of the greatest lords at the end of the Edo Period

The 11th lord of the Satsuma clan (1809-1858)

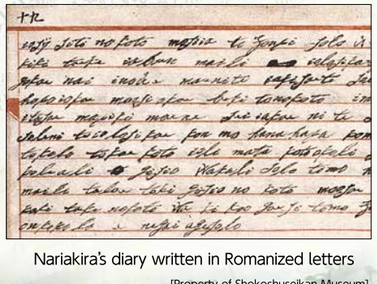
With a long and broad view of the entire nation, Nariakira started the Shuseikan Project, aiming to build a strong and prosperous nation under the concepts of fukoku kyōhei (Enrich the Country, Strengthen the Armed Forces) and industrial growth. When the project found itself facing great setbacks, he inspired his samurai with the words, "Western people are human beings too, just like the Satsuma people." Although Nariakira served as the lord for only seven years, his aspirations were passed down to many influential leaders.

He also recruited talented people, including Saigo Takamori, who had been actively engaged in the Meiji Restoration.



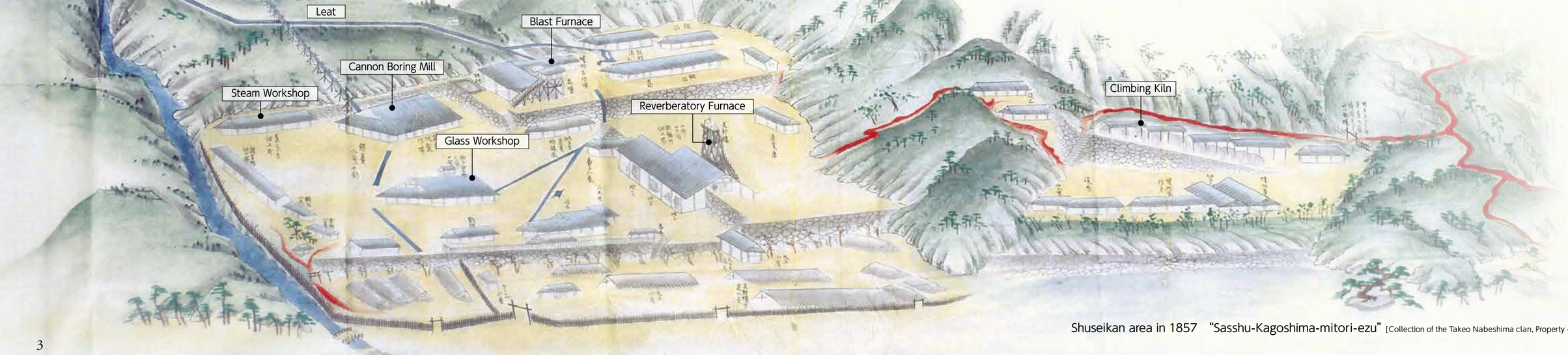
The Globe and World Map which are believed to have been used by Nariakira

[Property of Shokoshuseikan Museum]



Nariakira's diary written in Romanized letters

[Property of Shokoshuseikan Museum]



Shuseikan area in 1857 "Sasshu-Kagoshima-mitori-ezu" [Collection of the Takeo Nabeshima clan, Property of Takeo City]

[Property of Shokoshuseikan Museum]

Kagoshima Port had long been an important trading port with the regular arrival of Ryukyu ships

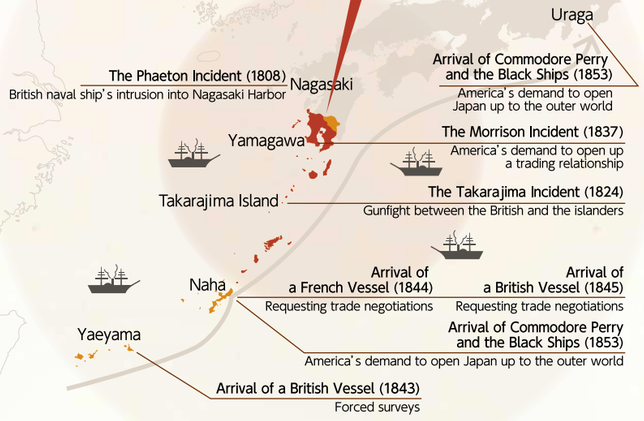
Imminent threat of powerful Western nations

In the 19th century, Western power nations such as Britain, France and the US began to advance towards Asia. The Satsuma clan, located at the southern tip of Japan, came in contact with these nations first and always feared their power. When the Qing Dynasty (China) was defeated by Britain in the Opium War in 1842, the sense of crisis rising vis-à-vis Western powers started to spread among the Tokugawa shogunate and other clans.

It was within this environment that Shimadzu Nariakira became the lord of the Satsuma clan in 1851. Nariakira had shown an interest in overseas cultures from an early age. As he believed that Japan needed to become rich and strong, he started to promote the modernization of various industries such as cannon casting and shipbuilding.

Satsuma Begins Interactions with Foreign Countries

During the Edo period, the Satsuma clan not only governed present-day Kagoshima prefecture, but also a part of Miyazaki prefecture and the entirety of Okinawa prefecture. It was the Satsuma clan that first interacted with foreign ships arriving from the south.



Major Events of Kagoshima

- 1851 Inauguration of Shuseikan Project / Construction of reverberatory furnace began
- 1852 Sekiyoshi Sluice Gate of Yoshino Leat / Water supply began
- 1857 Completion of the reverberatory furnace
- 1858 Completion of Terayama Charcoal Kiln
- 1863 The Anglo-Satsuma War
- 1865 Dispatch of Satsuma students to Britain / Completion of Shuseikan Machinery Factory
- 1867 Completion of Kagoshima Spinning Mill / Completion of Foreign Engineers' Residence
- 1877 The Satsuma Rebellion

Major Events of Japan

- 1853 Arrival of Commodore Perry and the Black Ships at Uraga
- 1862 The Namamugi Incident
- 1868 Birth of the Meiji Government
- 1872 Completion of Tomioka Silk Mill

SINCE 1851

Shuseikan Reverberatory Furnace

Located within Sengan-en

Shuseikan, the birthplace of Japan's modern industries

POINT 2

The Shuseikan Project,
the Predecessor of Japan's Industrialization

Shimadzu Nariakira, after having become the feudal lord of the Satsuma clan in 1851, thought it necessary not only to enforce military power but also to allow the general public to lead a good life in order to build a wealthy and strong Japan. Guided by this concept, Nariakira constructed Japan's first Western-style factory complex known as the "Shuseikan" in Iso area in Kagoshima City.
Based on Western literature and traditional technology, he succeeded in constructing a reverberatory furnace through a self-determined strategy in order to produce iron cannons.
The Shuseikan Project covered various areas including iron manufacturing, shipbuilding, spinning, gas lights, printing and development of Satsuma pottery for export and Satsuma kiriko cut glass. At its peak, as many as 1,200 people were working there. However, following the sudden death of Shimadzu Nariakira, the project was temporarily reduced in scale.

Western Frigate "Shohei-Maru"
[Property of Shokoshuseikan Museum]

Restored 150-pound cannon
[Property of Shokoshuseikan Museum]

Satsuma pottery
[Property of Shokoshuseikan Museum]

Check Point

The Satsuma craftsmanship which supported the Shuseikan Project

1. Exquisitely precise masonry technology which would not even allow a razor blade to pass through the linked stones.
2. Ventilation holes located in the central part to prevent moisture
3. Fireproof bricks used for the reverberatory furnace (technology used for Satsuma pottery)

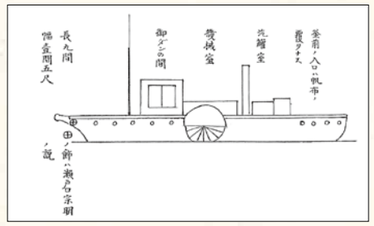
[Property of Shokoshuseikan Museum]

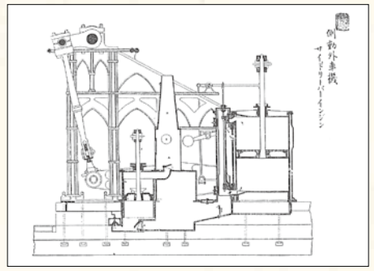
*You can see a 360-degree VR image of the site through smart phones and other devices. No entry into the reverberatory furnace is allowed.

Japan's first steamship "Unko-Maru" (upper right)
[History of Satsuma Clan Navy]

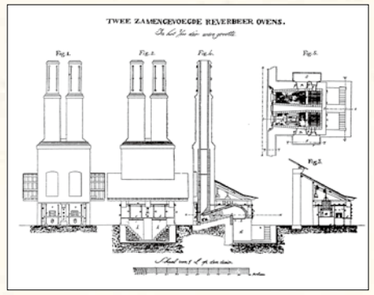
Drawing of "Unko-Maru" (lower right) [History of Satsuma Clan Navy]

When seeing the Unko-Maru, Kattendijke, an officer of the Royal Dutch Navy, praised the work by saying "I must take my hat off to the talent of those who built this without actually having seen the real ship but only with simple drawings."





Satsuma kiriko cut glass
[Property of Shokoshuseikan Museum]



Drawing of a reverberatory furnace made by a Dutch army general, Huguenin
[Property of Shokoshuseikan Museum]

A reverberatory furnace produces cannons by melting the iron. Before the furnace was finally completed, experimentations with reference to translated Western books were repeated and improved upon through trial and error.

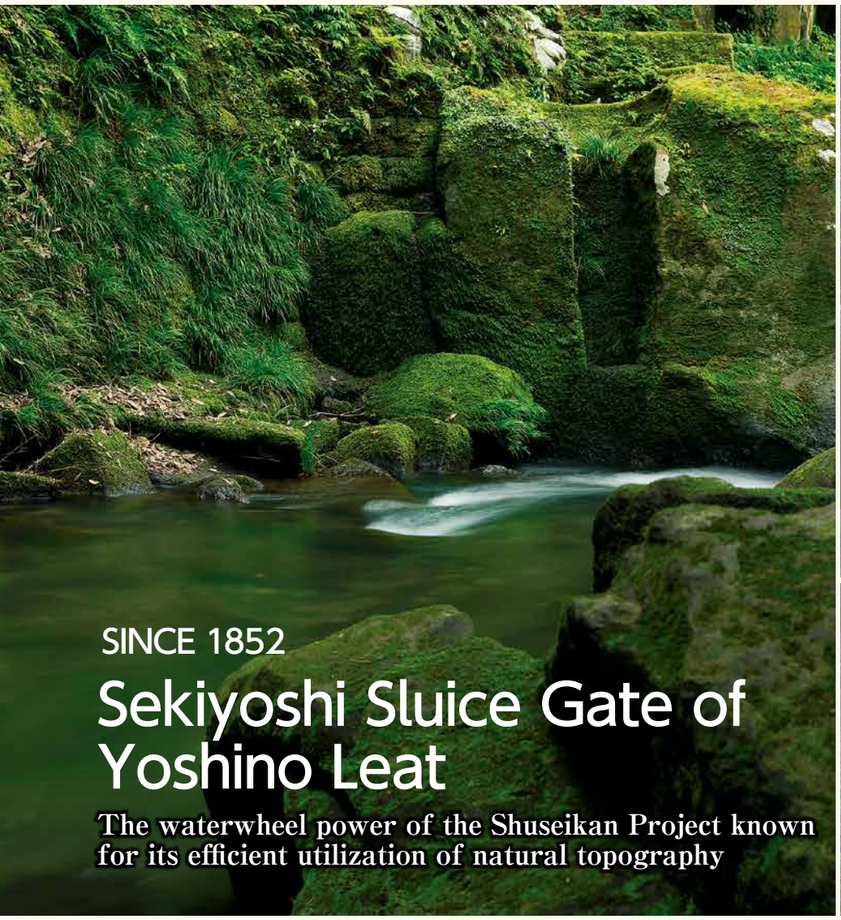
Column 01

The steelmaking technology of the Shuseikan Project which was later transferred to Kamaishi

Takeshita Seiemon was an engineer who learned Dutch studies and was involved in the construction of the reverberatory furnace and the machinery factory of the Shuseikan. During his study period in Edo, he was dispatched to Mito under the order of Nariakira where he contributed to the construction of the Nakaminato reverberatory furnace. He was joined during the construction of the Nakaminato furnace by Oshima Takato, who later constructed the Hashino blast furnace. In this way, the technology used for the reverberatory furnace and Western-style blast furnace of the Shuseikan was transferred to Nakaminato in Mito and to Hashino in Kamaishi.

Satsuma retainer
Takeshita Seiemon
Seiemon Takeshita
1821-1898
Born in Kagoshima, he transferred the steelmaking technology to Mito and Kamaishi.

Site of Hashino Blast Furnace
The site of the Western-style blast furnace where successful, continuous tapping of molten pig iron was made for the first time in Japan.
(A component of this site)



SINCE 1852

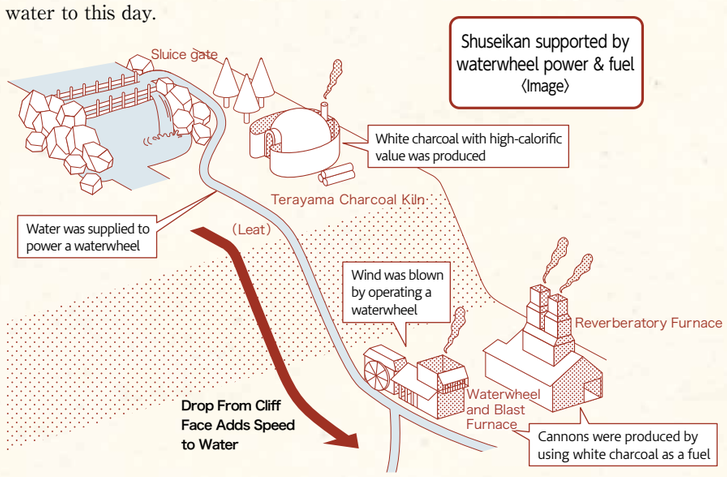
Sekiyoshi Sluice Gate of Yoshino Leat

The waterwheel power of the Shuseikan Project known for its efficient utilization of natural topography

[Photo: below] Site of the sluice gate on the right bank of the river Currently plugged by a stone wall. Wedge marks are visible in the surrounding area.

The high-level civil engineering technology of the Satsuma clan which built the leat (waterway) running approximately 7 km

Waterwheels were used as power to drive the blast furnace of the Shuseikan Project. As there are no big rivers in the Iso area, water was drawn through the leat by blocking water in the upstream of the Inari River running through the Yoshino plateau located at the back of Iso area. Using the geological gradient, the leat runs for approximately 7 km from the Sekiyoshi sluice gate.
The waterway continues to play an important role in supplying agricultural water to this day.



Check Point

The water wheel was the power source before the introduction of a steam engine.

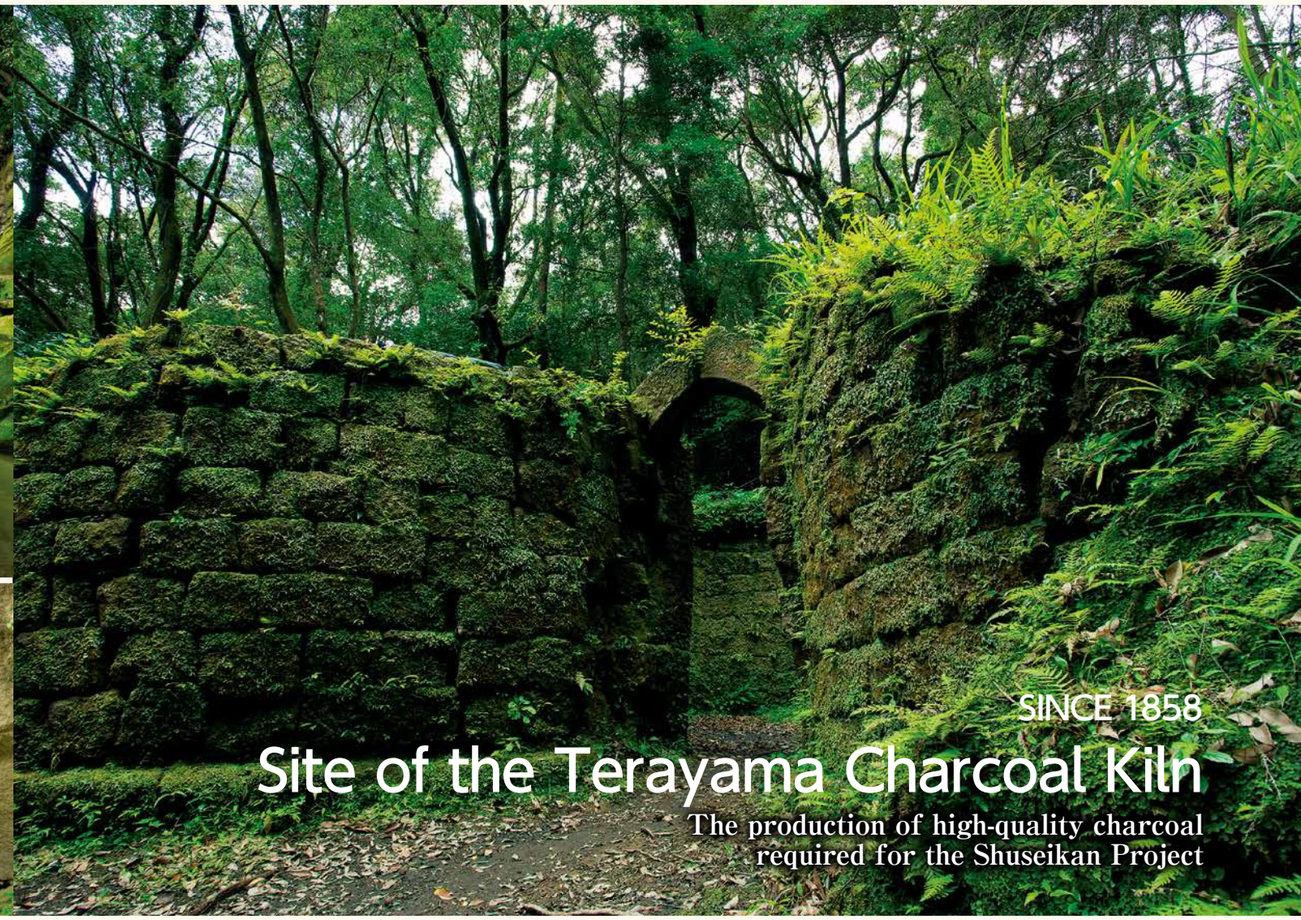
During the early phase of the Shuseikan Project, waterwheels were mainly used as mechanical power due to the lack of large steam engine. The long furrow remaining on the bedrock on the left bank of the lower reaches is considered to have been part of the dam. The water dammed there was supplied from the sluice gate on its left.

VIDEO

Video image

*The video can be viewed using smart phones and other devices. No entry is allowed beyond the sluice gate.

Image of the restored status



SINCE 1858

Site of the Terayama Charcoal Kiln

The production of high-quality charcoal required for the Shuseikan Project

A huge charcoal kiln that supplied quality charcoal

The Satsuma clan, which did not produce coal, needed a large amount of charcoal as fuel for the reverberatory furnace. A large charcoal masonry kiln was made at Terayama near Iso where there are abundant shii (Japanese chinquapin) and oak trees highly suited for charcoal production. White charcoal, with its higher calorific value, was used.

The kiln walls were made of welded tuff

*The area surrounding the Terayama Charcoal Kiln is off limits due to disaster recovery work.

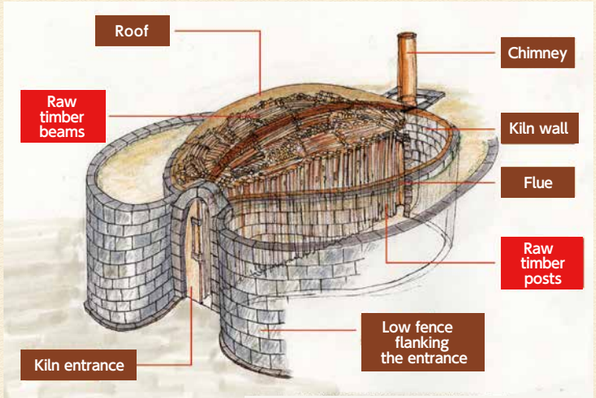
Check Point

The charcoal kiln was built with reference to those in Kumano (present day Wakayama).

360° VR

This is the site of an extraordinarily large charcoal kiln built by scraping the slope of Terayama mountain. The kiln features a 6-by-5 meter fig-shaped masonry formed of welded tuff. When building this charcoal kiln, contemporary ones in Kumano (present day Wakayama) were used as reference.

*You can see a 360 degree VR image of the site through smart phones and other devices. No entry is allowed inside the charcoal kiln.



Creative sketch reconstruction of the charcoal kiln in operation (perspective view)
*This illustration represents current assumptions.

Illustration by Koki Sunada

POINT 3

Anglo-Satsuma War

– The power disparity between Western nations and Japan was learned through battle –

After the death of Nariakira in 1858, the Shuseikan Project was drastically scaled down. Following the Namamugi Incident of 1862, the Anglo-Satsuma War broke out between the Satsuma clan and the British fleet in 1863. After the war, the Satsuma clan came to the understanding of the disparity between Japan and Western nations. Consequently, the Satsuma leaders realized anew the importance of modernization, which had long before been advocated by Nariakira.


[Property of Shokoshuseikan Museum]

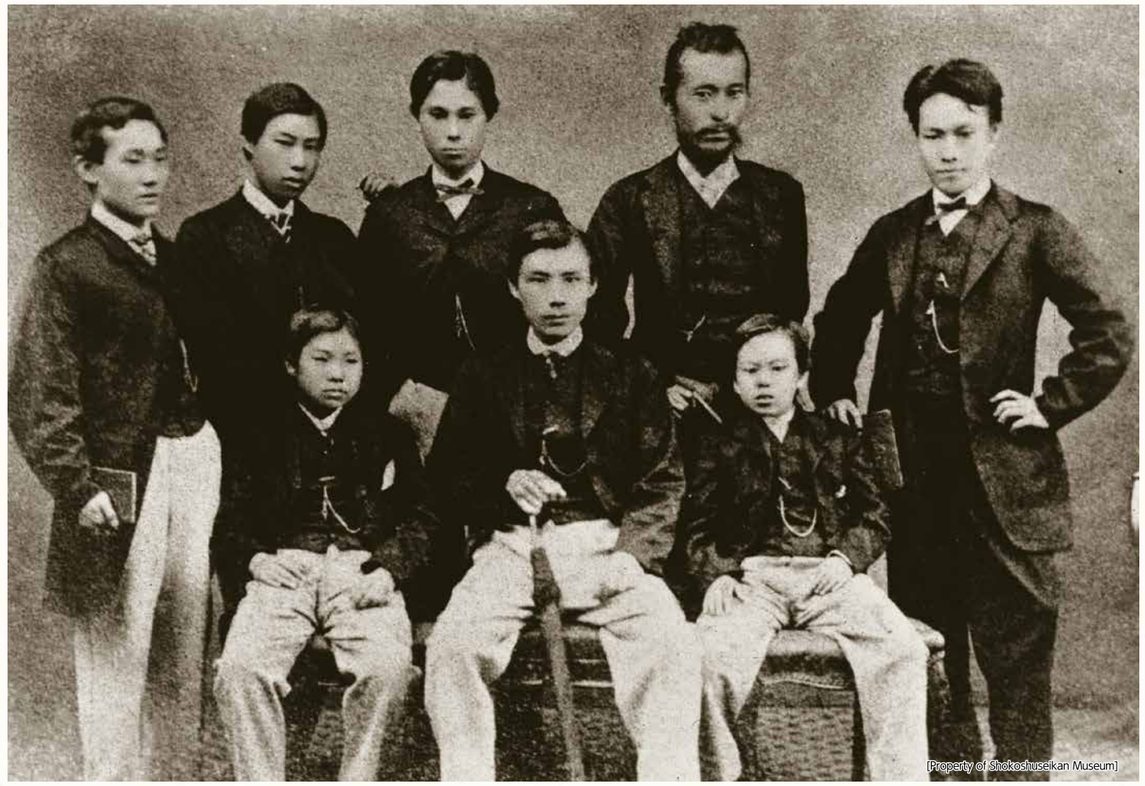
Picture scroll of the Anglo-Satsuma War

The power of the latest cannon razed the Shuseikan industrial complex and castle town.

Satsuma caused great damage to the British fleet by attacking with artillery batteries and cannons which had been made by order of Nariakira. However, the British fleet fought back with the latest Armstrong cannons, which resulted in the devastation of Satsuma batteries and great damage to the Shuseikan complex and the castle town.

Site of Shinhato Battery

This was the main battery protecting the front side of the Tsurumaru Castle. During the Anglo-Satsuma War, 11 cannons, including the 150-pound cannon, were equipped at the site.

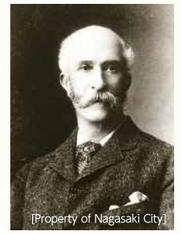

[Property of Shokoshuseikan Museum]

Satsuma Students

Back row (from left)
Tanaka Moriaki, Machida Sanetsumi, Sameshima Naonobu, Matsuki Koan (Terashima Munenori), Yoshida Kiyonari
Front row (from left)
Machida Seijiro, Machida Hisanari, Isonaga Hikosuke (Nagasawa Kanae)

Young Satsuma samurai went to Europe to study, a mere one and a half years after the Anglo-Satsuma War.

In 1865, several young students were dispatched from Satsuma to Britain to learn Western technology. In those days, travelling overseas was forbidden. After having left Kushikino, they boarded the ship secretly prepared by a British merchant named Glover and traveled to Europe. After they returned to Japan, they played active roles in different fields. Godai Tomoatsu, who had accompanied the students, purchased spinning machines and negotiated the dispatch of engineers.


[Property of Nagasaki City]

Thomas Glover

Departure point of the Satsuma students: Hashima, Ichikikushikino City

Departure point of the Satsuma students

Satsuma Students Museum

Opened in July 2014, the museum introduces the story of the Satsuma students' travel to Europe and their respective lives after returning to Japan. The purpose of the museum is to pass on their achievements to the future generations.

■ 4930, Hashima, Ichikikushikino City
■ TEL 0996-35-1865

Column 02

Dispatch of Satsuma students to Britain was made possible through interactions with Glover.

Godai Tomoatsu studied navigation, gunnery and surveying techniques in Nagasaki.
After proposing the dispatch of Satsuma students to Britain, he personally led them in their inspection of Europe. He was engaged in purchasing steamships and textile machines. After the Meiji Restoration, he established the Osaka Stock Exchange, a predecessor of the Osaka Securities Exchange, as well as the Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry. He played an active role in the economic field as the first chairman of the Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry.


[Property of National Diet Library, Japan]

Satsuma retainer
Godai Tomoatsu
Tomoatsu Godai
1835-1885
A Satsuma retainer born in Kagoshima who contributed to the development of the commercial metropolis of Osaka

SINCE 1865

Former Shuseikan Machinery Factory

Current Shokoshuseikan Museum, main building

Oldest Western style machinery building currently existing in Japan

POINT 4

Revival of the Shuseikan Project

After the death of Shimadzu Nariakira, Shimadzu Hisamitsu became the guardian of the next lord in line, Shimadzu Tadayoshi, and started the revival of the Shuseikan Project, which had been initiated by his brother Nariakira.
The Satsuma clan had already started to positively absorb the advanced Western technology and knowledge by sending Satsuma students to Britain. It also directly purchased superior machinery from the West, thus accelerating its modernization.
In addition to conventional projects, textile spinning, repairs of ships and steam engines using western machinery also came to be conducted in the Shuseikan. These projects were realized by the wisdom and efforts of many people who inherited the ambition of modernization proffered by Nariakira, who had dreamed of forging a wealthy and strong Japan.
The current building of the former Shuseikan Machinery Factory was built in 1865 after the Anglo-Satsuma War, by lord Shimadzu Tadayoshi, who carried on the dream of Nariakira. This site conveys to us the state of days past, by virtue of its status as the oldest Western style machinery building currently existing in Japan.


[Property of Shokoshuseikan Museum]

The steam engine was used as a power source for the factory. A large steam engine gear (flywheel), which conveyed the power to a shaper and other machinery in the factory, is displayed in the center of the museum.


[Property of Shokoshuseikan Museum]

Dutch shaper of 1863

CHECK POINT

Western-style stone home constructed by Satsuma craftsmen.

1 A shaft to convey the power of the steam engine to various machines (attic)
2 Kamebaraishi often seen at Shinto shrines.
3 Local stone materials were used instead of bricks.


1


2


3

Column 03

Persons of merit during the Meiji Restoration who played central roles in the Satsuma clan.

Komatsu Tatewaki was the third son of Kimotsuki Kaneyoshi and later became a central figure in the Satsuma clan, where he supported Shimadzu Hisamitsu with the reform of the clan administration by recruiting talented men such as Okubo Toshimichi. At the age of 28, he became the chief retainer of the Satsuma clan. In 1866, he established the Satsuma-Choshu Alliance at Komatsu's residence in Kyoto. The forming of the alliance was witnessed by Sakamoto Ryoma.
Komatsu experienced the Anglo-Satsuma War. And he played a leading role in dispatching the Satsuma students to Britain and in constructing the machinery factory.


[Property of Shokoshuseikan Museum]

Chief retainer of the Satsuma clan

Komatsu Tatewaki

Tatewaki Komatsu

1835-1870
Born in Kagoshima, Komatsu was the chief retainer of the Satsuma clan, the driving force behind the Meiji Restoration.

SINCE 1867

Foreign Engineers' Residence

Ijinkan

Residence of British engineers who transferred modern spinning technology to Satsuma

POINT 5

Satsuma Technology, Transferred Nationwide

The modern spinning industry became Japan's key industry during the Meiji period. Shimadzu Nariakira focused on the spinning mill project to produce sailcloth for Western-styled sailing ships.
The following lord Shimadzu Tadayoshi, in an attempt to introduce modern spinning technology directly, dispatched Godai Tomoatsu and others to Britain to have them invite engineers and purchase spinning machines.
In 1867, Kagoshima Spinning Mill, Japan's first Western style spinning mill, was completed along with the lodging for British engineers (Foreign Engineers' Residence). The British engineers provided technical guidance to local craftsmen.
The Satsuma craftsmen were quickly able to acquire enough skill in Western steam-powered spinning techniques, doing so within a year. The reason for the quick uptake was that they already had their own technology for production of large looms even prior to the arrival of the British engineers. During the Meiji period, their technology and knowledge was spread to the Tomioka Silk Mill (inscribed as a Cultual World Heritage Site in 2014) and other spinning mills located all over Japan.

Nariakira's slogan of fukoku kyōhei (Enrich the Country, Strengthen the Armed Forces) and industrial growth, as well as the iron manufacturing and spinning technology fostered under this slogan, played a pivotal role in the modernization of Japan.


[Property of Nagasaki University Library]


[Property of Nagasaki University]


[Property of Shokoshuseikan Museum]

[Photo: above] Kagoshima Spinning Mill in operation (circa 1874)

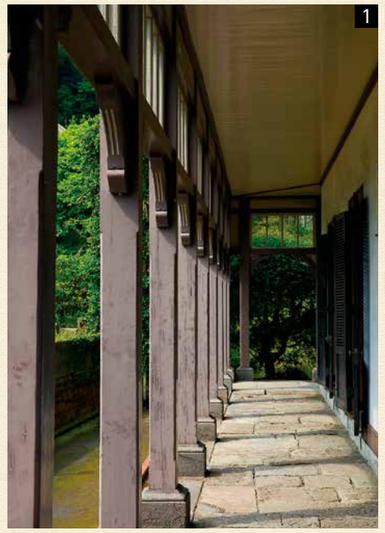
[Photo: below] Foreign Engineers' Residence built in 1867

Satsuma clan employed seven British engineers for the construction of Kagoshima Spinning Mill.

Check Point

One of Japan's early examples of Western architecture Featuring a blend of Japanese and Western architectural styles

1 The columns were designed using the traditional Japanese measurement units.
2 A colonial style veranda which was popular in Britain during the period
3 A doorknob attached at a position lower than normal


1


2


3

Column 04

After having inherited the dreams of Nariakira, Satsuma contributed to the disseminating technology nationwide

Ishikawa Kakutaro learned rangaku (Dutch studies) in Edo and Nagasaki and was in charge of the construction of the reverberatory furnace promoted by Shimadzu Nariakira. After Nariakira's death, he explained the importance of spinning industry to the lord Shimadzu Tadayoshi and appealed for the purchase of spinning machinery from Britain. After the Meiji Restoration, he was involved in the establishment of government-operated spinning mills throughout Japan. At the Tomioka Silk Mill, completed in 1872, he installed 300 silk-reeling machines, thus contributing to the development of spinning technology in Japan.


[Property of Shokoshuseikan Museum]

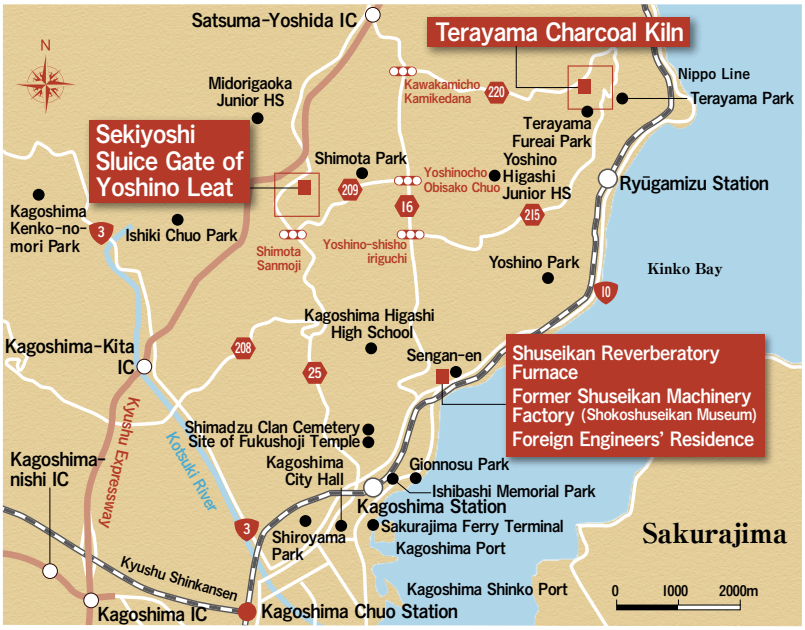
Dutch scholar

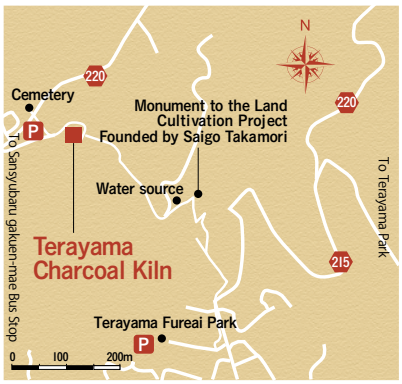
Ishikawa Kakutaro

Kakutarou Ishikawa

1826-1895
Ishikawa was born in Yamato (present day Nara prefecture). He was a Dutch scholar who was engaged in the Shuseikan Project.

ACCESS MAP





Scenic Beauty Spot: Sengan-en

Former Shuseikan Machinery Factory / Shuseikan

(Remains of the Reverberatory Furnace are located inside Sengan-en)

- Address: 9698-1 / 9700-1 Yoshino-cho, Kagoshima City
- Can be reached from Kagoshima Chuo Station by the Kagoshima City View Bus or Machi Meguri Bus (30 min). Get off at the Sengan-en-mae bus stop.
- Inquiries: Shokoshuseikan Museum 099-247-1511/ Sengan-en 099-247-1551

Foreign Engineers'Residence

- Address: 9685-15 Yoshino-cho, Kagoshima City
- Can be reached from Kagoshima Chuo Station by the Kagoshima City View Bus or Machi Meguri Bus (30 min). Two minutes' walk from the Sengan-en-mae bus stop.
- Inquiries: Foreign Engineers' Residence 099-247-3401

Terayama Charcoal Kiln (Currently off limits)

- Address: 10710-68 Yoshino-cho, Kagoshima City
- Can be reached from Kagoshima Chuo Station by the Nangoku Kotsu Bus on the Miyanoura-danch line (35 min). 20 minutes' walk from Sanshubaru gakuen-mae bus stop.
- Inquiries: Cultural Properties Division, Kagoshima City Board of Education 099-227-1940

Sekiyoshi Sluice Gate of Yoshino Leat

- Address: 1263 Shimota-cho, Kagoshima City
- Can be reached from Kagoshima Chuo Station by the Nangoku Kotsu Bus on the ishiki-danch line, Midorigaoka line, or Honjo line (30 min). 8 minutes' walk from the Sekiyoshi-no-sosuiko-iriguchi bus stop.
- Inquiries: Cultural Properties Division, Kagoshima City Board of Education 099-227-1940

Steps towards the inscription as a UNESCO World Heritage Site

"Sites of Japan's Meiji Industrial Revolution: Iron and Steel, Shipbuilding and Coal Mining" was inscribed as a cultural World Heritage Site on 8th July 2015.
In Kagoshima Prefecture, Yakushima was inscribed as Japan's first natural World Heritage Site in 1993.
World Heritage Sites are sites that transcend national borders and are shared by all mankind and worthy of transmission to future generations.


CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

The World Heritage Committee has inscribed

Sites of Japan's Meiji Industrial Revolution: Iron and Steel, Shipbuilding and Coal Mining

on the World Heritage List

Inscription on this List confirms the outstanding universal value of a cultural or natural property which requires protection for the benefit of all humanity

World Heritage Certificate

July 2005	Kagoshima prefectural government hosted "The Modern Industrial Heritage Sites in Kyushu" symposium (The " Kagoshima Declaration" was adopted)
June 2006	Kyushu Prefectural Governors Conference adopted the preservation and practical use of "The Modern Industrial Heritage Sites in Kyushu" as a policy objective.
September 2008	The Agency for Cultural Affairs announced that the post entry of "The Modern Industrial Heritage Sites in Kyushu and Yamaguchi" to the World Heritage tentative list was appropriate.
October 2008	Consortium for the Promotion of the Modern Industrial Heritage (Kyushu-Yamaguchi) to Inscription on the World Heritage was established (Chairman: Governor of Kagoshima Prefecture)
January 2009	UNESCO added the site to the World Heritage Tentative List.
May 2012	Cabinet made the decision about the nomination scheme of the industrial heritages including working properties to the World Heritage list.
April 2013	Draft of the nomination document was submitted to the Cabinet Secretariat.
January 2014	Japanese government submitted the Nomination to UNESCO.
May 2015	ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites) recommended inscription on the World Heritage List.
July 2015	World Heritage Committee has inscribed the site on the List of World Cultural Heritage.

The Birthplace of Industrial Japan is Kagoshima's Contribution to Wolrd Heritage.

Use the QR code to access the video.

Sites of Japan's Meiji Industrial Revolution

Watch the video with explanations. YouTube 〈 Full version 〉 〈 Short version 〉

Enjoy your journey even more through discovering local history!
"Sites of Japan's Meiji Industrial Revolution" in Kagoshima

Check out influencer Yukosu and her official travel page "Tavision"!

Watch the video to explore Kagoshima with a Japanese influencer!

YouTube 〈 Vol.1 〉 〈 Vol.2 〉

Official website

[Planned and issued by]
World Cultural Heritage Office, Tourism, Culture and Sports Department, Kagoshima Prefecture
10-1 Kamoikeshinmachi, Kagoshima City, 890-8577 TEL.099-286-2364 FAX.099-286-5590
[Produced by] Try-sha Co., Ltd. [Printed in] November 2021.

See the Shuseikan Project as it used to be using the VR/AR smartphone app.

Download the free app "STREET MUSEUM" and open "The Modernization of Satsuma (Shuseikan 1st Phase, 2nd Phase)". (Runs on iOS/Android)

Open the guide app "Sites of Japan's Meiji Industrial Revolution".

You can find out more about each areas related to Sites of Japan's Meiji Industrial Revolution.

Runs on iOS Runs on Android