

Daimyo Estate and Hawking Grounds

The Hosokawa Clan Estate

In 1662, the Hosokawa Clan of the Kumamoto Domain (the present-day Kumamoto City area of Kumamoto Prefecture) received land from the shogunate government and built its residence. The estate was divided



into the east garden for pleasant views to people in the residence and the west garden for walking enjoyment along garden paths, split by the horse grounds. The estate was completed in 1671. This model is a reproduction of the east garden, covering an area of approximately 110,000 square meters, including what is today Togoshi Park (Yutakacho 2-1, Shinagawa City, Tokyo).

Hawking Grounds Around Edo

During the Edo Period, the shogun's hawking grounds were located in the Shinagawa region. Hawking, which involved releasing a hawk to hunt small birds and small animals, was popular throughout the Edo Period except for the time during the Edicts on Compassion for Living Things*. In 1725, hawking grounds were prepared again around Edo, and the villages within 20 kilometers of Edo were divided into six districts. The villages in the Shinagawa region were assigned to the Meguro district.

* Edicts on Compassion for Living Things: Edicts issued in 1687 by the fifth shogun, Tokugawa Tsunayoshi. Tsunayoshi ordered that living things be treated with compassion.

Kofun Ancient Burial Mound Artifacts Passed Down to Tokai-ji Temple

Gotenyama is a plateau, and several kofun ancient burial mounds were discovered on the site, where many estates of *daimyo* military lords were previously located. According to the records of Tokai-ji Temple,



during the construction of the Shinagawa battery in 1854, many artifacts were discovered as

dirt was excavated to provide rubble to create the man-made island, and stone chambers, tombs and human bones were uncovered during the construction of the British Embassy in 1862. While the origin of these artifacts is unclear, it is believed they are related to the aforementioned excavations.

*Oo Ema** Horse Plaques

The custom to offer massive *oo ema* horse plaques painted by famous masters to temples and shrines arose in the middle of the Muromachi Period (the mid-15th century). Until the beginning of the Edo Period (the early 17th century), only wealthy merchants offered *oo ema* plaques, but from the middle of the Edo Period (the early 18th century) this practice spread among the common people. Many *oo ema* horse plaques still remain at several temples and shrines throughout Shinagawa City, including Hatagaoka Hachiman Shrine, Togoshi Hachiman Shrine, and the Kaiun-ji Temple.

* *Oo ema* Horse Plaques: Wooden boards painted with a horse that were offered to temples and shrines. The horse was considered a holy animal, and while there was an ancient tradition of offering actual horses, this eventually evolved into offering models of horses, and then further into offering *ema* horse plaques.

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Skeleton of a Western Dog

Circa 1660 – 1711

Excavated at the Sendaizaka archaeological site (Higashi-Oi) in 1987

One of the Western dogs found buried at the estate (Higashi-Oi 4-chome, Shinagawa City, Tokyo) of the Date clan from the Sendai Domain (today, the area around Sendai City in Miyagi Prefecture). The male dog is slightly larger than a shepherd.

The skeleton is believed to be from the time when Date Tsunamune, the third *daimyo* feudal lord of the Sendai Domain, went into retirement at the estate. The skeleton is of an adult dog, and because there is no excessive wear on the teeth, it is believed to have received soft food to eat and have been well cared for. The bones of Western dogs have also been found at another estate (the Shiodome archeological site, Minato City, Tokyo) of the Sendai Domain.

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Sue Stoneware Footed Vessel

The early 6th Century

Tokai-ji Temple collection, housed at the Shinagawa Historical Museum

It is believed to have been used to serve food.

1_06_03



Cylindrical *Haniwa* Unglazed Pottery

The late 6th Century

Tokai-ji Temple collection, housed at the
Shinagawa Historical Museum

Cylindrical *Haniwa* pottery were arranged
around *kofun* ancient burial mounds.

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Sue Stoneware Portable Flask

The mid-6th Century

Tokai-ji Temple collection, housed at the
Shinagawa Historical Museum

This flask was used to carry liquids.

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Boundary Stone of Tokai-ji Temple

The 17th Century or later

The third shogun Tokugawa Iemitsu invited the Zen sect* priest Takuan Soho to establish the Tokai-ji Temple. This pyramid-shaped monument was placed at the temple. It is made of andesite, often used for stone walls, shaped in four-sided pyramid like this. During the Edo Period, Tokai-ji Temple placed these stones on borders of its expansive grounds.

* Zen Sect: The Zen sect of Buddhism seeks to attain enlightenment through *zazen* meditation.

1_06_06



Oo Ema Plaque of Hatagaoka Hachiman Shrine (Reproduction)

Original: Hatagaoka Hachiman Shrine collection

Shinagawa City Designated Cultural Property

An *oo ema* plaque offered by Takeya Kichijiro from Nakanobu Village in October, 1864. The plaque, painted by the illustrator Kangaku Oki from Tosa Province (today, Kochi Prefecture), depicts a monkey leading a horse to be offered at the shrine.