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]

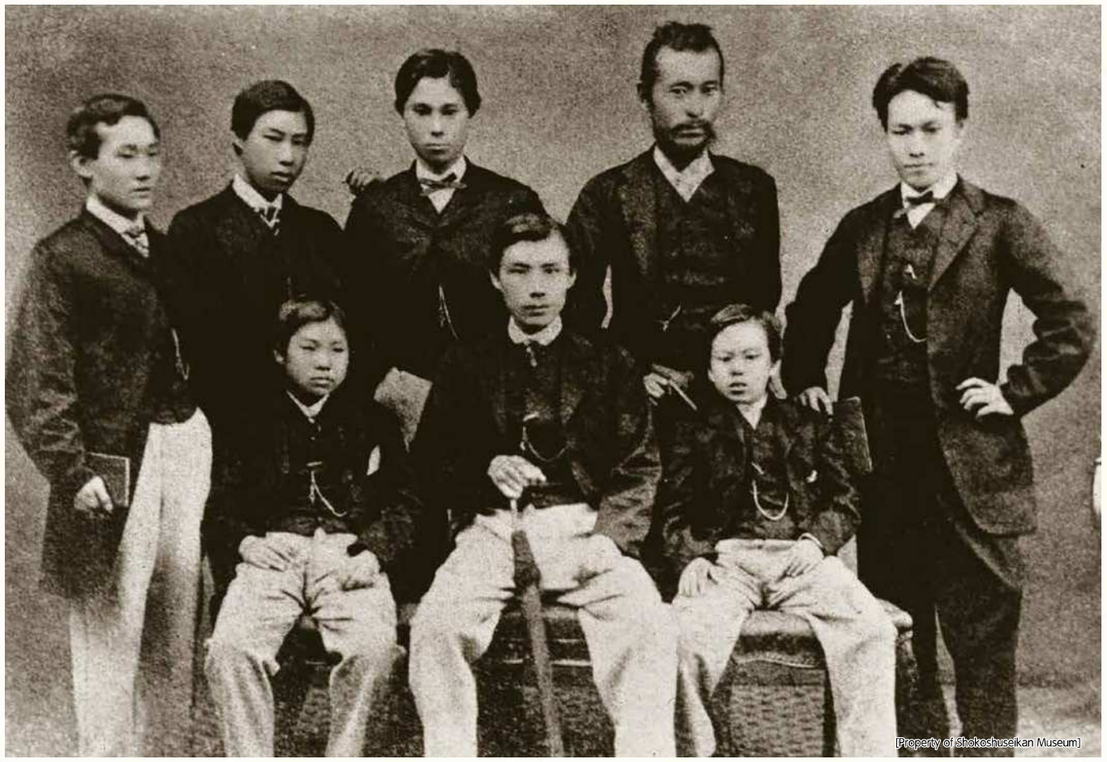
Picture scroll of the Anglo-Satsuma War

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.

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.

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.

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)

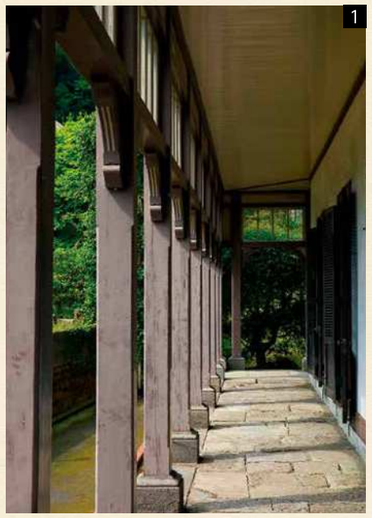
[Photo: below] Foreign Engineers' Residence built in 1867

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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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)

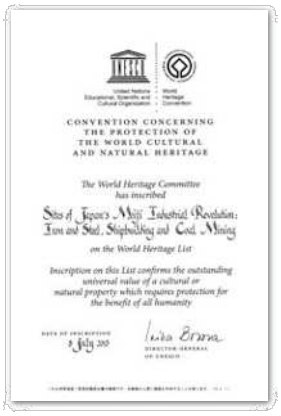
- Address: 10710-68 Yoshino-cho, Kagoshima City
- Can be reached from Kagoshima Chuo Station by the Nangoku Kotsu Bus on the Miyanoura-danch line (35 min). 20 minutes' walk from Sanshubaru gakuen-mae bus stop.
- Inquiries: Cultural Properties Division, Kagoshima City Board of Education 099-227-1940

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.



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]
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10-1 Kamoikeshinmachi, Kagoshima City, 890-8577 TEL.099-286-2364 FAX.099-286-5590
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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