



# 時代の夜明けを たどる旅

## 幕末外交史跡をゆく

### A Journey through the Dawn of Time (Explore Historic Sites of Diplomacy in the end of Edo period)

On March 3, 1854, the Treaty of Peace and Amity with the United States marked a new era for Japan, which was opening up to the world after more than 200 years of isolation. In 1858, following the aforementioned treaty with the United States, Japan concluded treaties with other Western countries such as, in order, the Netherlands, Russia, Great Britain, France, Portugal, Prussia, Switzerland, Belgium, Italy and Denmark. These treaties agreed, among other things, on a free trade and for the foreign delegates to remain in Edo. The American Consul General Townsend Harris, who was already living in Japan, had been strongly demanding to and negotiated on this last aspect with the shogunate. The Shogunate sought the opinion of its experts in diplomacy - Tadanori Mizuno (commissioner of finance and the Nagasaki magistrate) and Tadanari Iwase (*metsuke*, or inspector). Upon consultation, the matter was finally approved.

The problem was now where to place these foreign diplomatic offices. The foreign legations were established mainly within the temples located in the present-day Minato City for the following reasons: 1) It is located in the southern end of Edo, facing the sea and close to the foreigners' disembarkation point; 2) It lines up a great number of temples with the facilities needed to take in missions that usually consisted of many delegates; 3) Offers the appropriate environment fitting the reception of foreign envoys; 4) Provides enough space that guards can secure. Especially during the years when the movement for the expelling of foreigners became widely accepted, the Shogunate strained its nerves to ensure the security of the missions, by choosing temples with large lots and were shielded from the outside as accommodation for foreigners and legations. Still, attacks on foreigners occurred one after another in Yokohama and Edo, compelling the shogunate to further reinforce security. Among these anti-Western attacks was the assassination of Henry Heusken, an interpreter to the American legation, which occurred on December 5, 1860, near Nakanohashi Bridge (Azabu area) (pages 29, 36), and caused serious diplomatic repercussions. Subsequently, the shogunate further enhanced security for each diplomat by selecting personnel among its *hatamoto* and *gokenin* (direct retainers of lower rank than *hatamoto*), and named daimyo in charge of guarding the overall legation. Despite all these, the anti-foreigners movement became fierce, with episodes like the Tozenji Incident (Assault on the British legation in Tozenji Temple, see page 37) and the setting fire to the British legation in Shinagawa Goten-yama having occurred in the two years following 1861. As a consequence, the foreign ministers moved out to Yokohama where they were offered a more secure and convenient daily life, and used the temples within Minato City's area as accommodations whenever they came to Edo.

# Route / Required time

**Start**

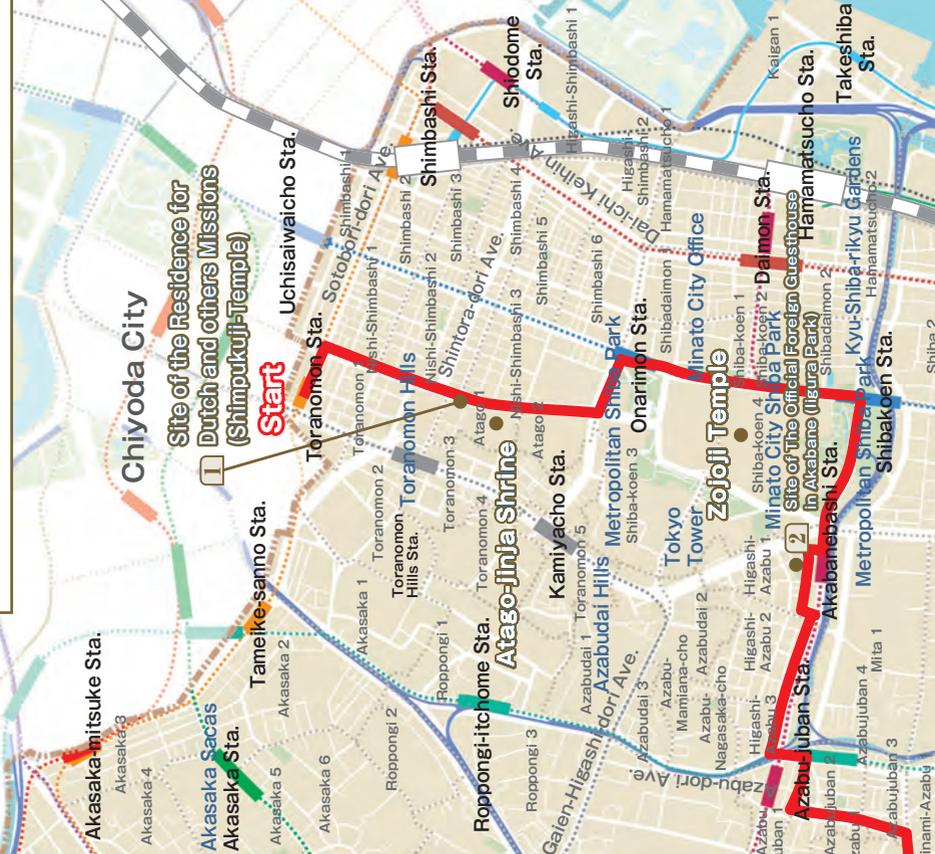
- 1 Site of the Residence for Dutch and others Missions (Shimpukujji Temple) 8 min
- 2 Site of The Official Foreign Guesthouse in Akabane (Iigura Park) 15 min
- 3 Site of the First American Legation (Zempukujji Temple) 10 min
- 4 Azabujuban Shopping District 15 min
- 5 Site of The Official Foreign Guesthouse in Akabane (Iigura Park) 10 min
- 6 Site of the First American Legation (Zempukujji Temple) 20 min
- 7 Artsgawa-no-miya Memorial Park 10 min
- 8 The Graves of Heusken and Denkichi (Korinji Temple) 15 min

**Goal**

- 10 Site of the Conclusion of the Anglo-Japanese Treaty of Amity and Commerce and the Residence of the Dutch Legation (Saijōji Temple) 10 min
- 9 Site of the First French Legation (Saikeiji Temple) 10 min
- 8 Site of the Dutch Diplomatic Office 5 min
- 7 Site of The Official Foreign Guesthouse in Takanawa (Playground in front of Sengakujji Temple) 15 min
- 6 Site of the First British Legation (Tozenji Temple) 8 min
- 5 Site of the Residence for the First Prussian Mission (Kogakujin Temple) 20 min
- 4 JR Tamachi Sta. / Toei Subway Mita Line Mita Sta. 10 min
- 3 Stretch your feet a little bit... 20 min

● ● ● ● ● Side Trip Course  
— Walk

A Journey through the Dawn of Time  
(Explore Historic Sites of Diplomacy in  
the End of Shogunate)  
時代の夜明けを  
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Shibuya City

Arisugawa-no-miya Memorial Park

Site of the Former Prussian Legation

Site of the Conclusion of the Anglo-Japanese Treaty of Amity and Commerce and the Residence of the Dutch Legation

The Graves of Heusken and Denkichi (Korinji Temple)

Site of the Residence of the Swiss Mission

Site of the First French Legation (Saikaji Temple)

Meguro City

Institute for Nature Study of The National Museum of Nature and Science

Takanawa Fire Station Nihon Enoki Branch Office

Site of the Dutch Diplomatic Office

Sengakuji Sta. Site of The Official Foreign Guesthouse in Takanawa (Playground in front of Sengakuji Temple)

Shinagawa Central Park

Site of the First British Legation (Itozenji Temple)

Shinagawa City

| Rail map |                          |
|----------|--------------------------|
|          | Toei Asakusa Line        |
|          | Toei Mita Line           |
|          | Toei Oedo Line           |
|          | JR Line                  |
|          | Keikyu Line              |
|          | Tokyo Metro Ginza Line   |
|          | Tokyo Metro Hibiya Line  |
|          | Tokyo Metro Chiyoda Line |
|          | Tokyo Metro Nambu Line   |
|          | Yurikamome               |
|          | Tokyo Monorail           |



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Takanawa 3  
Takanawa 4

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Explore Historic Sites of Diplomacy in the End of Shogunate

## Site of the Residence for Dutch and others Missions

### (Shimpukuji-Temple) course ①

1-3-8 Atago

オランダなど使節宿館跡  
(真福寺)

所 愛宕 1-3-8

コース①

From March to June 1858, the Dutch delegate Jan Hendrik Donker Curtius was a guest at Shimpukuji Temple (built in 1605) at the foot of Mt. Atago. Although Curtius was also the Director of the Dutch trade in Japan at Dejima Island in the harbor of Nagasaki, at that time he bore the title of consul for which the shogunate deemed that lodging in the city wasn't appropriate, and thus accommodated him in Shimpukuji Temple. The temple is the closest such establishment to Edo Castle in this area. If you go down Atagoshita-dori Ave. just in front of its gates, after about 500m you'll find the gates of the castle (Atarashi-hashii Bridge) at the end of the avenue. Curtius left the temple before the Dutch-Japanese Treaty of Amity and Commerce was concluded. Still, the place hosted other delegates looking for a treaty of amity with Japan, including Yevfim Putyatin from Russia, and Joseph Auguste Cros from France.



## Site of The Official Foreign Guesthouse in Akabane

### (Iigura Park) course ②

1-21-8 Higashi-azabu

あかばねせつぐうしよ

赤羽接遇所跡  
(飯倉公園)

所 東麻布 1-21-8

コース②

The Official Foreign Guesthouse in Akabane is a lodging and reception house for foreigners, which was built by March 1859 on the site of a military school's training center measuring 2,856 *tsubo*. Besides offering accommodation, it hosted also a station, stable and guard station for shogunate officials beyond its black gates and high board fences. Apart from the Russian consul Iosif Antonovich Goshkevich who lodged in January 1860, the Prussian delegate Friedrich Albrecht zu Eulenburg stayed here in July of the same year and negotiated the conclusion of a treaty of amity and commerce with the shogunate. Count Eulenburg made the following remarks related to this facility in his notes about the expedition to Japan "Eulenburg *Nihon ensei-ki*" (Japanese translation by Akio Nakai): "While the facilities of the entire house may not surpass those of a tent, when the weather is fine, it makes a comfortable living space." This guesthouse was the scene where Japan's foreign politics history in the last years of shogunate was written by having among its guests also figures like Siebol who stayed here from May to October 1861 during his re-visit to Japan and actively served as a political adviser to the shogunate.

City Registered Site



## Site of the First American Legation (Zempukuji-Temple)

1-6-21 Moto-azabu

course ③



In July 1856, the American Consul General Townsend Harris, who had arrived in Shimoda, was negotiating the conclusion of a treaty with Japan. Two years later, on June 19, the Treaty of Amity and Commerce between Japan and the United States was sealed on board of the USS Powhatan ship anchored off the coast of Koshiba (near Kanagawa). In 1859, Harris was promoted to Minister and on June 8, followed by his interpreter, Henry Heusken, he opened the American legation at Zempukuji Temple. At first, the legation used the inner drawing room and reception hall, but ended up using the kitchen (warehouse hall) on the northern side of the main hall, as the original spaces were burned down due to the arson by the retainers of Mito clan in 1863. In the precinct of the temple stands a monument in memory of Harris, which was initiated by Takashi Masuda and erected in 1936. The temple also provides valuable materials for the study of Japan's diplomacy in the last years of shogunate, as the case of the notes in "America Minister *ryoshuku-ki*" (Minato City heritage site not open to the public) written by Zempukuji Temple's senior priest.

Metropolitan Heritage Site



## Site of the Former Prussian Legation

Site of Shuntoin Temple 1-5 Moto-azabu



In March 1866, the Prussian mission, which had lodged in Kogakuin Temple (see page 36), was moved to Shuntoin Temple (founded in 1622 by the name of Jitekian Temple, then changed to its current name). Exactly one year later, the Prussian consul Heinrich von Brandt was promoted to Chargé d'affaires, and lodged in here to advance negotiations with the shogunate. Eventually, he established here the Prussian legation. The Prussian legation used two buildings: a 127 *tsubo* extensive main hall, and a 51 *tsubo*-large one close to the mountain. Shuntoin Temple lasted here through the last years of the Showa period, and then was relocated in Minami-Azabu.

List of Foreign Delegates Staying in Japan during Late Tokugawa Shogunate (One part)

|                |                                |                                                                                                          |
|----------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| America        | Townsend Harris                | Minister Resident, Consul General                                                                        |
|                | Robert Hewson Pruyn            | Minister Resident                                                                                        |
|                | Chauncey Mitchell Depew        | Minister Resident                                                                                        |
|                | Robert Bruce Van Valkenburgh   | Minister Resident                                                                                        |
| United Kingdom | Rutherford Alcock              | Consul General and Diplomatic Agent, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary and Consul General |
|                | Harry Smith Parkes             | Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary and Consul General                                      |
| France         | Gustave Duchesne de Bellecourt | Consul General, Chargé d'affaires and Consul General, Minister plenipotentiary and Consul General        |
|                | Léon Roches                    | Chargé d'affaires and Consul General                                                                     |
| Netherlands    | Jan K. De Wit                  | Consul General                                                                                           |
|                | Dirk de Graeff van Polsbroek*  | Consul General and Diplomatic Agent                                                                      |
| Russia         | Iosif Antonovich Goshkevich    | Consul, Consul General                                                                                   |
|                | Byutsov Evgeny Karlovich       | Consul                                                                                                   |

\*-Because of limited space, the list only includes the countries that Japan had signed treaties of amity and commerce with in 1858 (Ansei Five-Power Treaties).

-Polsbroek concurrently held the posts of Swiss Consul General and Denmark's government representative.

-The list was prepared based on records of "Kaikoku 150-shunen kinen shiryoshu. Edo no gaikoku koshikan" (2005, from the collection of Minato City Local History Museum) compiled for the 150th anniversary of the opening of Japan.

Explore Historic Sites of Diplomacy in the End of Shogunate

## The Graves of Heusken and Denkichi (Korinji Temple)

4-11-25 Minami-azabu

course 4

ヒュースケン墓・伝吉墓  
(光林寺)

所 南麻布4-11-25

コース4

The grave of Henry Heusken, an interpreter who came to Japan accompanying the American Consul General Townsend Harris (later, the Minister), is located on the grounds of Korinji Temple (founded in 1623). Henry Heusken was cut short and killed by the *roshi* supporting the anti-foreigners movement on the night of December 5, 1860, on his way back from the Official Foreign Guesthouse in Akabane to the legation in Azabu's Zempukuji Temple (see page 29). His funeral was held three days later, and ministers, consultants and delegates from various countries, such as Townsend Harris, Rutherford Alcock (British Minister), Gustave Duchesne de Bellecourt (French Chargé d'affaires), Jan K. De Wit (Dutch Consul General), and Count Eulenburg (Prussian delegate), participated in the funeral procession to pay their respects. Heusken was Christian. That is why he was buried outside Tokyo's prefecture in Korinji Temple, where burials were permitted. Here you may find also the grave of Denkichi, a Japanese interpreter for the British Consul General, who was murdered near Tozenji Temple on January 7 the same year as Heusken.

City Heritage Site



## Site of the Residence for the First Prussian Mission (Kogakuin Temple)

1-24-6 Takanawa

course 5

最初のプロイセン使節  
宿所跡(広岳院)

所 高輪1-24-6

コース5

On December 14, 1860, the shogunate and the Prussian delegation concluded a mutual Treaty of Amity and Commerce at the Official Foreign Guesthouse in Akabane. Four days later, the Prussian delegate Eulenburg left the guesthouse in Akabane and returned home for a short time. On April 3, 1865, the shogunate established the residence of the Prussian delegates here at Kogakuin Temple (founded in 1594 by the name of Soeiji Temple, then changed to its current name). The Prussian consul Heinrich von Brandt was accommodated in here, but actually spent a short time only, as two years later in February the Prussian residence was transferred to Shuntoin Temple in Azabu (see page 35).



## Site of the First British Legation (Tozenji Temple)

3-16-16 Takanawa

course 6

### 最初のイギリス公使館跡 (東禅寺)

所 高輪3-16-16

コース6

On June 4, 1859, a year after the Anglo-Japanese Treaty of Amity and Commerce was concluded, the British Consul General Rutherford Alcock (later, the Minister) lodged at Tozenji Temple (founded in 1610 by the name of Reinan-an Temple, then changed in 1636 to its current name) and established here the British Consulate General (later, the British Legation). At that time, it was a place closely facing the sea and was therefore a good spot to easily communicate and exchange information. Tozenji Temple is "one of the biggest and best temples in Edo," "I was lucky enough to choose such a beautiful thatched hut," are some remarks Sir Alcock left in his book "Taikun no miyako" (Japanese translation by Kosaku Yamaguchi) that expresses how much he actually liked this place. Tozenji Temple was also the scene for some bloody episodes occurring one after another.

Ten samurai that left the Mito Domain and were supporters of the anti-foreigners movement attacked the temple on the night of May 28, 1861. The guards consisting of officers especially designated by the shogunate for the foreign residents and samurai from various feudal domains desperately fought back and managed to repel the attackers. Minister Alcock barely escaped from the attack, while Secretary Laurence Oliphant and George S. Morrison, who was Consul at Nagasaki, were seriously injured. A year later, on May 29, the samurai of Matsumoto Domain in charge of guarding, killed a British corporal and wounded a sentry. The next day, the

attackers committed *seppuku* at their master's residence. The British claimed an indemnity to the shogunate, which together with the Namamugi Incident (Tozenji Temple Incident) that followed, troubled them. After the incident, the British moved their legation to Yokohama and thereafter barely used Tozenji Temple as a legation. Starting with 1865, the Official Foreign Guesthouse in Takanawa (see page 38) served primarily as the British Legation. Today, the inner drawing room (called Sengentei) that was used as a part of the legation has been preserved, while a monument of the site of the residence for the legation stands in front of its main gate.

National Heritage Site



Hiroshige: "British House at Takanawa" from Illustrated Guide to Famous Sights in Tokyo



Explore Historic Sites of Diplomacy in the End of Shogunate

## Site of The Official Foreign Guesthouse in Takanawa

(Playground in front of Sengakuji Temple)

2-15-37 Takanawa course ⑦



A guesthouse is a lodging and reception house for foreigners. However, The Official Foreign Guesthouse in Takanawa served primarily as the British Legation. Due to repeated raids on their legation such as the Tozenji Temple Incident (see page 37), the British moved to Yokohama. In February 1865, Chargé d'affaires Alexander Winchester asked the shogunate to establish the British Legation at Sengakuji Temple. The new Minister to Japan, Harry Smith Parkes, appointed in May the same year, demanded that the legation to be built on the grounds in front of the temple's *chumon* gate (inner gate). With the pressing demands of the British, the government acceded to build the British Legation on an area of 2,659 *tsubo* originally owned by the temple, and named the construction "The Official Foreign Guesthouse in Takanawa" to avoid fire attacks by the anti-foreigners faction. Within its premises, the legation was provided with two single-story houses, one for Minister Parkes and another one to be used by the legation staff. The interpreter to the British legation, Sir Ernest Mason Satow, also lived here for a while. Since Meiji period, the house has been adopted as a new famous place in the *nishiki-e* colored prints.



## Site of the Dutch Diplomatic Office course ⑧

Site of Chooji Temple, 2-1-11 Takanawa



The Netherlands is the only Western country that maintained trade relations with Japan under the national isolation policy enforced by the Tokugawa shogunate during the Edo period. Upon conclusion of a treaty of amity and commerce with Japan, the Netherlands established its trading base in Dejima Island in the harbor of Nagasaki, without placing any delegates in Edo. Whenever the consul general came to Edo, he used to stay at Chooji Temple. In 1863, Dirk de Graeff van Polsbroek who took over the Consul General position transferred the Dutch base from Dejima Island to Yokohama, but continued using Chooji Temple as a legation in Edo. Polsbroek actively mediated treaties for other countries with Japan, such as Switzerland, Belgium and Denmark to mention a few. It was this place, the Chooji Temple, where these diplomatic negotiations between Japan and other countries took place.

List of Daimyo Guarding the Foreign Legations

| Name of Domain/<br>Province | Feudal Lord                         | Diplomatic Official Residences<br>(Guarding Temples)             |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Yoita/ Echigo               | Ii Naomitsu & Naoyasu               | Chooji Temple/<br>Zempukuji Temple                               |
| Shimabara/ Hizen            | Matsudaira Tadachika                | Zempukuji Temple                                                 |
| Nishio/ Mikawa              | Matsudaira Noriyasu                 | Chooji Temple/<br>Tozenji Temple                                 |
| Fukuyama/ Echigo            | Abe Masanori                        | Tozenji Temple                                                   |
| Ise-Kameyama/ Ise           | Ishikawa Fusayoshi                  | Saikaji Temple                                                   |
| Amagasaki/ Settsu           | Matsudaira Tadanaga                 | Saikaji Temple                                                   |
| Shinjo/ Dewa                | Tozawa Masazane                     | The Official Foreign Guesthouse<br>in Akabane                    |
| Kishiwada/ Izumi            | Okabe Nagahiro                      | Tozenji Temple                                                   |
| Takasaki/ Kozuke            | Matsudaira Teruna                   | Zempukuji Temple                                                 |
| Koriyama/ Yamato            | Matsudaira (Yanagisawa)<br>Yasunobu | Tozenji Temple                                                   |
| Numata/ Kozuke              | Toki Yoriyuki                       | The Official Foreign Guesthouse<br>in Akabane                    |
| Iwamura/ Mino               | Matsudaira Noritoshi                | The Official Foreign Guesthouse<br>in Akabane/<br>Tozenji Temple |
| Takatsuki/ Settsu           | Nagai Naoteru & Naotsura            | Zempukuji Temple                                                 |
| Kano/ Mino                  | Nagai Naonori                       | Zempukuji Temple                                                 |
| Tatebayashi/ Kozuke         | Akimoto Yukitomo                    | Zempukuji Temple                                                 |
| Takada/ Echigo              | Sakakibara Masachika                | Tozenji Temple                                                   |
| Tanabe/ Tango               | Masano Takashige                    | Saikaji Temple                                                   |
| Matsumoto/ Shinano          | Matsudaira (Toda) Mitsuhsa          | Saikaji Temple/<br>Tozenji Temple                                |
| Utsunomiya/ Shimotsuke      | Toda Tadayuki                       | Zempukuji Temple                                                 |

## Site of the Residence of the Swiss Mission

Site of Shosenji-Temple, 4-8 Mita



On December 29, 1863, the Swiss signed a treaty of amity and commerce with Japan. The following year, 1864, the Swiss Consul Rudolph Lindau was looking for a lodging facility near the French and Dutch legations. To comply with his demand, the shogunate designated this residence, Shosenji Temple, for the Swiss delegates' accommodation. The image of the temple's precinct in that time indicates that the place was strictly guarded having a total of eight watch houses. Lindau also happened to be a writer and a co-founder of "The Japan Times," the oldest English newspaper in Japan. Also Lindau's successor, Consul General Caspar Brennwald is one of the founders of DKSH Japan K.K. (former Siber Hegner & Co) with a long story as a foreign company in Japan.

## Site of the First French Legation (Saikaiji Temple)

4-16-23 Mita

course 9



On September 3, 1858, the French signed a treaty of amity and commerce with Japan. The following year on August 10, the first French Consul General in Japan, Gustave de Bellecourt, arrived at Shinagawa, lodged at Saikai-ji Temple (founded in 1621) and established the French legation there. When the new Minister to Japan Léon Roches arrived in 1863, he actively pushed forward the French diplomatic missions. Despite the fact that Great Britain and France were two of the most powerful countries in Europe at that time, the British supported the powerful domains in western Japan such as Satsuma, opposite to the French who took the side of the shogunate, and helped the shogunate reform its military system. Tozenji Temple was used as the French legation until 1870, when this place was vacated. This is a historic site indispensable for the understanding of diplomacy during the end of the Edo period through the Meiji period.

Metropolitan Heritage Site

| Name of Domain/<br>Province | Feudal Lord         | Diplomatic Official<br>Residences (Guarding<br>Temples) |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Fukushima/ Mutsu            | Itakura Katsuaki    | Zempukuji Temple                                        |
| Miharu/ Mutsu               | Akita Tomosue       | Zempukuji Temple                                        |
| Yokosuka/ Totomi            | Nishio Tadaatsu     | Zempukuji Temple                                        |
| Ogaki/ Mino                 | Toda Ujjakira       | Tozenji Temple                                          |
| Tanaka/ Suruga              | Honda Masamori      | Saikaiji Temple/ Tozenji Temple                         |
| Murakami/ Echigo            | Naito Nobukoto      | Tozenji Temple                                          |
| Sasayama/ Tamba             | Aoyama Tadayuki     | Saikaiji Temple                                         |
| Ueda/ Shinano               | Matsudaira Tadayuki | Zempukuji Temple                                        |
| Minakuchi/ Omi              | Kato Akinori        | Zempukuji Temple                                        |
| Katsuyama/ Echizen          | Ogasawara Nagamori  | Zempukuji Temple                                        |
| Obama/ Wakasa               | Sakai Tadauji       | Saikaiji Temple/ Zempukuji Temple                       |
| Kasama/ Hitachi             | Makino Sadanao      | Zempukuji Temple                                        |
| Maruoka/ Echizen            | Arima Michizumi     | Zempukuji Temple/<br>Chooji Temple                      |
| Shirakawa/ Mutsu            | Abe Masato          | Zempukuji Temple                                        |
| Gujo (Hachiman)/ Mino       | Aoyama Yuki Yoshi   | Zempukuji Temple                                        |

The list was prepared based on records of "Kaikoku 150-shunen kinen shiryoshu. Edo no gaikoku koshikan" (2005, from the collection of Minato City Local History Museum).

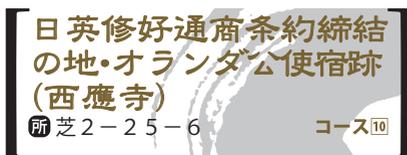


Explore Historic Sites of Diplomacy in the End of Shogunate

## Site of the Conclusion of the Anglo-Japanese Treaty of Amity and Commerce and the Residence of Dutch Legation (Saioji Temple)

2-25-6 Shiba

course 10



On July 8, 1858, British Lord Elgin and his party landed in Edo in order to sign a treaty of amity and commerce with Japan. They were housed here, at the Saioji Temple (founded in 1368). Elgin was determined to conclude a treaty similar to the Treaty of Amity and Commerce between Japan and the United States, thus negotiations with the shogunate went smoothly resulting in a treaty signed ten days later, on July 18, at Saioji Temple. This British mission even had Chinese and pets on board, and hung a mosquito net over the bed when sleeping. Elgin wrote about his stay in Japan that: "This pleasant retreat was sealed off from the outside world behind a temple on one side and high banks flanking on all other sides." Likewise, Laurence Oliphant, accompanying Lord Elgin on his mission to Japan, noted: "Our rooms were facing the Starting from September 1, 1859, this place served as residence for the Dutch legation headed up by the first mission of Jan Hendrik Donker Curtius, which made use of the drawing room and kitchen on the second floor. Still, when Satsuma Domain's residence in Edo was set to fire (see page 30) on December 25, 1867, the neighboring

Saioji Temple was also burned down by gunfire and valuable materials such as the Dutch legation's diaries were lost. courtyard with a lawn garden and a pond covered with lotus in the middle. There, across a rustic bridge, was a small island and big goldfish floated languidly underneath broad lotus leaves" (both comments are included in "*Erugin kyo kennichi shisetsu roku*," Japanese translation by Okada Akio).

Metropolitan Heritage Site





# 時代の夜明けを たどる旅

## 近代史跡

### A Journey through the Dawn of Time (Modern Historic Sites)

At the dawn of the Meiji period, Japan was starting its journey toward a new era of industrialization. At the same time, a tide of a hasty modernization was unleashed. In Minato City, there are many important historic sites that recall Japan's modernization. We have divided this subject into the following three categories: (1) Industry/Transportation/Telecommunications, (2) Medical Care/Education, and (3) Local Administration. Regarding (1), it is worth mentioning first that the Old Shimbashi Station national heritage site (see page 51) recalls the launch of Japan's first railway service in 1872. In telecommunications, radio broadcasting services started in Japan when the Tokyo Broadcasting Station established its headquarters and provisional studio (see pages 45, 48). In addition, the site where a third gas-lighting project was inaugurated for Yokohama and Hyogo (see page 44), the birthplace of Japan's national newspaper "Yomiuri Shimbun" (see page 52), are just a few more examples.

Next come the fields included in (2), which are most represented in the modern historic sites. The Birthplace of Japanese Nursing Education (see page 49), the Birthplace of Japanese Dental Education (see page 46), the Institute of Medical Science of The University of Tokyo (see page 46), or the Kitasato Institute Hospital (see page 47) are just some of the research institutes and educational institutions that have supported the development of the country's modern medical care. With respect to educational institutions, the development of the country's modern medical care. With respect to educational institutions, you may find the site where the first elementary school was established, thus marking the dawn of modern elementary education in Japan (see page 49). Keio University (see pages 50, 60), which is a leading private university in Japan, Meiji Gakuin University (see page 61), which is Japan's oldest missionary school, and the Site of Kogyokusha (see page 50), which played a special role as the training school of the Imperial Japanese Naval Academy, are some other representative educational institutions.

Finally, as for (3), you may find the historic sites of Azabu's, Shiba's and Akasaka's respective City Offices (see pages 47, 50, 52) established under the Law for Reorganization of Counties, Wards, Towns and Villages, which was promulgated on July 22, 1878.

In addition, the Monument of the Japanese Antarctic Research Expedition (see page 44) and the Origin Point for Japanese Horizontal Datum (see page 48) are some other historic sites that played an important role in the modernization of Japan.





## Modern Historic Sites

## Site of Tokyo Gas Original

Location [course 1](#)

Tokyo Gas, 1-5-20 Kaigan

ガス創業の地

所 海岸 1-5-20

東京ガス

コース1

In November 1873, the Tokyo Chamber applied to Tokyo Prefecture for the construction of a gas-lighting system. On December 12, the application was approved and full-scale operation started for Tokyo's gas business. The next day, a 11,300m<sup>2</sup> area on 3 Shibahamasaki-cho (now 1-5 Kaigan), was lent to be used as industrial district. In January 1874, the French engineer Henri Auguste Pelegrin was invited and the construction of a plant and gas lamps was launched. From Kanasugi Bridge through Kyobashi via Shiba and Ginza, a total of 85 gas lamps were installed. On December 15, a lamp lighting test was performed, followed on December 18 by illumination by gas lamps over the distance between Shimbashi and Kyobashi. At the same time, a third gas-lighting project launched for Yokohama and Hyogo. One gas lamp was quite expensive: 3,55.5 yen (approx. 2 bales of rice) per month. City Registered Site



## Monument of the Japanese Antarctic Research Expedition

3-14-34 Kaigan

[course 2](#)

南極探検隊記念碑

所 海岸 3-14-34

コース2

On November 29, 1910, First Lieutenant Shirase Nobu (1861-1946) and his team set sail from Shibaura-futo aboard a wooden ship called Kainan Maru (204t), on Japan's first expedition to the Antarctic Pole. On their way, they stopped in Wellington (New Zealand) and Sydney (Australia), where they loaded supplies. Finally, on January 16, 1912, they reached Antarctica. The very next day, British Captain Robert Scott arrived at the South Pole and Shirase gave up the idea of getting there too. In exchange, he pursued academic investigations and claiming the land. On January 28, Shirase and his team reached the point of latitude S80°05' and longitude W156°37', and named the entire place "Yamato Yukihara" (yurihara means snowfield in Japanese) because of the extremely harsh conditions found there. They raised the national flag and declared the land Japan's territory. In commemoration of this episode a monument stands here which was erected on December 20, 1936. The penguin statue representing Japan is a work by the sculptor Asakura Fumio.



## Monument of the Japan's First Radio Broadcast course 3

JR Tamachi Station (Shibaura Exit rotary side),3-3 Shibaura

### 放送記念碑

所 芝浦 3-3 JR田町駅芝浦口ロータリー脇  
コース 3

On July 22, 1925, The Tokyo Broadcasting Station at Mt. Atago transmitted Japan's first radio broadcast (see page 48), as a year earlier, on November 29, 1924, it had established a provisional studio on the grounds of the Tokyo High School of Arts & Technology of that time. Test broadcasting started on March 1, 1925, and then began temporary broadcasting on the 22nd. The first words of announcer Kyoda Takeo were: "Ah! Ah Can you hear me? J-O-A-K, J-O-A-K, Tokyo Broadcasting Station speaking. Good morning! We will now start broadcasting." This day may be regarded as the birthday of Japanese radio broadcasting. The provisional studio built here continued broadcasting until the official broadcasting station at Mt. Atago was completed. At that time, the radio had a wavelength of 375m (800 Hz frequency) and an output of about 220W. Because the output was weak compared to a receiver performance, it is thought that one would not have been able to hear it outside of Tokyo City.



## Former Kyodo Kaikan Hall (Minato City Center for Traditional Culture)

1-11-15 Shibaura

### 旧協働会館 (伝統文化交流館)

所 芝浦 1-11-15

The Minato City Center for Traditional Culture opened in 2020, making use of the Former Kyodo Kaikan Hall, a city-designated tangible cultural property, as a facility for sharing traditional culture, community activities, and social exchange. In what used to be the pleasure quarters, this two-story building was built in 1936 as an entertainment space for nearby geisha establishments. The head carpenter was Kyugoro Sakai, who also led other major projects including work at Meguro Gajoen. From impressive features, such as the cuffed gable over the entrance and the wide space of the 100-tatami room on the second floor, you can appreciate the lavish splendor of the heyday of the Shibaura pleasure quarters. The pleasure quarters were evacuated during the war, and the building then provided accommodation for harbor workers and was known as the Kyodo Kaikan Hall until the year 2000. Owing to deterioration, however, the building was closed in 2000. Today, this geisha call station is preserved as the only remaining wooden structure in Metropolitan Tokyo.

City Heritage Site

Opening Hours : 10am to 9pm

Closed : Dec. 29 to Jan. 3, and irregular closures.

Admission : Free

Contact: 03-3455-8451



## Modern Historic Sites

## Birthplace of Japanese Dental Education course 4

4-18 Mita


 歯科医学教育発祥の地跡

所 三田4-18

コース4

On this site Takayama Kisai (1851-1933) founded Takayama Dental School (the predecessor of Tokyo Dental College) in 1890. After fighting on the government side in the Boshin War, Takayama Kisai moved from Okayama Domain to Edo where he entered Keio University in 1870 and studied dentistry in America (1872). In 1878, he returned to Japan and opened a dental clinic in Ginza. Kisai felt that progress was required in Japanese dental medicine and training of the young, and thus established here a medical center. He also founded the Japanese Association for Dental Science (JADS) and served as its first president. He was succeeded by Chiwaki Morinosuke (1870-1947) at the dental school. Also known as Noguchi Hideyo's patron, Chiwaki was a dentist who was committed to establishing of a modern dental care system in Japan. In 1900, he had the dental school relocated in Ogawacho, Kanda. Today, a memorial monument stands in front of Isarago Crossing.



## The Institute of Medical Science of The University of Tokyo

4-6-1 Shirokanedai

course 5

 東京大学医科学研究所

所 白金台4-6-1

コース5

The Institute of Medical Science of the University of Tokyo (IMSUT) evolved from its origin, the Institute for Infectious Diseases, which was founded by Fukuzawa Yukichi at his own expense for Dr. Kitasato Shibasaburo who returned to Japan in 1892 from his studies in Germany. In 1899, the institute became the National Institute for Infectious Diseases, under the control of the Ministry of the Interior. This reorganization shared Dr. Kitasato's vision of IMSUT as an institution that would work in close cooperation with public health administration. However, the government passed the control over the institute to the Ministry of Education in 1914, without even consulting Dr. Kitasato, and announced its plan to incorporate IMSUT into Tokyo Imperial University. As a result, Dr. Kitasato left the institute, and established the Kitasato Institute (see page 47). Today, IMSUT preserves the Research Building designed by Uchida Yoshikazu (now First Building, built in 1937). Close to the main gate, you can find the Modern Medical Science Museum.

Medical Science Museum  
 Opening Hours: 10am to 12pm, 1pm to 4pm  
 Closed: Saturdays and Sundays, During the summer break, New Year holidays (December 28-January 4)  
 The museum may be closed temporarily.  
 Please contact the following phone before visiting.  
 Contact: 03-5449-5470 (direct)



## Kitasato Institute Hospital

course 6

5-9-1 Shirokane



This is the Kitasato Institute founded in 1914 by Dr. Kitasato Shibasaburo, known as the "Father of Japanese Bacteriology." Dr. Kitasato continued his studies at Tokyo Medical School (now Faculty of Medicine of the University of Tokyo) in 1875, and starting from 1885, he studied abroad at the University of Berlin under Dr. Robert Koch. In 1889, he was the first person to successfully grow the tetanus bacteria in pure culture, and subsequently, in 1890, he developed a serum therapy. He returned to Japan in 1892, but no institution accepted him, so he joined the Institute for Infectious Diseases, a private institute founded by Fukuzawa Yukichi (see page 46). Due to friction with the government, he left the institute in 1914, and established the Kitasato Institute on November 5 at his own expense. Ever since, the institute has been playing a major role in the progress of fields such as bacteriology and infectious diseases in Japan. Here you will also find the Kitasato Memorial Museum, which showcases Kitasato's life and achievements together with valuable materials and photos.

Kitasato Memorial Museum  
Opening Hours: 10am to 5pm  
Closed: Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, year end  
selected other days. Admission free.  
Contact: 03-5791-6103



## Site of the First Azabu City Office (Ryutakuji Temple)

3-10-5 Moto-azabu



According to the Law for Reorganization of Counties, Wards, Towns and Villages promulgated on July 22, 1878, present-day Minato District was comprised of the cities of Azabu, Shiba and Akasaka. The extent of Azabu City mainly corresponds to present-day Azabu and Roppongi areas. Here in Ryutakuji Temple the office for the 12th subdivision of 2nd division (as provided by the *daiiku-shoku* administrative district system) was placed in December 1873. However, the institution was opened as Azabu City Office on November 11, 1878. The first mayor to be appointed was Maeda Toshimitsu. At the time of the opening, the city counted 7,813 houses and a population of over 26,000 people. March 15, 1947 marks the foundation of Minato City with the merger of Akasaka, Azabu and Shiba cities.



## Modern Historic Sites

## Origin of the Japanese Horizontal Datum course ⑦

2-18-1 Azabudai



The origin of the Japanese Horizontal Datum is the reference used for determining the longitude and latitude of Japan. According to the Order for Enforcement of Surveys established in 1949, the values of the origin of the Japanese Horizontal Datum were set at longitude E139°44'40"5020 and latitude N35°39'17"5148. The amended Survey Act effective from 2001 recalculated its values to longitude E139°44'28"8759 and latitude N35°39'29"1572, using the latest space geodetic techniques. Furthermore, large crustal movements caused by the earthquake off the Pacific coast of Tohoku happened on March 11, 2011, demanded a resurvey that resulted in the revision of Japan's origin for longitude at E139°44'28"8869. From 1874, this place served as the Marine Meteorological Observatory, while in 1888, upon the merger of the astronomical observatories of the Geographical Agency (Ministry of the Interior) and Tokyo University of Science (Tokyo Imperial University), the National Astronomical Observatory of Japan affiliated with the Tokyo Imperial University was inaugurated here. However, due to revitalization of city centers following the Great Kanto Earthquake, which made this location unsuitable for observation, the National Astronomical Observatory was relocated to Mitaka.

City Heritage Site



## Site of Tokyo Broadcasting Station (NHK Museum of Broadcasting)

2-1-1 Atago

course ⑧



On July 12, 1925, a studio for Tokyo Broadcasting Station (JOAK) was completed on the site of the Atago Tower and Atago Hall which collapsed and burned down in the Great Kanto Earthquake, marking the start of Japanese radio broadcasting. There had been several places, including Ueno, nominated for the location of the studio, but eventually from among all these sites on high ground, which enabled wide radio wave transmission, it was constructed at Mt. Atago. Tachu Naito, also the architect of Tokyo Tower, designed the two steel towers featuring 45m each in height, 32.7m across, with an output of 1kw and 800 kc frequency. Upon opening, various broadcasts aired from here, including the appeal for surrender addressed to the young rebel officers in the February 26 Incident (1936). On May 13, 1939, Tokyo Broadcasting Hall was completed in Uchisaiwai-cho (Chiyoda City), ending the role for the Tokyo Broadcasting Station at Mt. Atago. In March 1956, this opened as world's first broadcasting museum. It reopened after renovation in January, 2016. You can enjoy seeing 8K Ultra-high-definition television.



## Birthplace of Japanese Nursing Education (Tokyo Jikei University School of Medicine)

3-25-8 Nishi-shimbashi

看護婦教育発祥の地  
(東京慈恵会医科大学)

所 西新橋 3-25-8

Nursing education in Japan started with the establishment of a nurse training school at the Tokyo Charity Hospital (the predecessor of the Jikei University School of Medicine Hospital) taking Nightingale Training School for Nurses as a model. The founder of the Jikei University School of Medicine, Takagi Kanehiro, was deeply impressed by the school he had visited when studying abroad. On October 17, 1884, he invited the American nurse, Ms. Mary E. Reade, to be the instructor for Japanese nurses and launched a nursing education program every Friday and Saturday. Among the 13 students who entered in autumn 1885, only five graduated the next year. The training lasted for two years and its classes consisted of lectures on dissection, menstruation and nursing, and practical training in dissection, bandaging and fabrication of compresses. The training for nurses continues the tradition begun over a century ago, as cutting edge medical care. Today, a monument stands beside the entrance of Takagi Nigo-kan.

City Heritage Site



## Birthplace of Japanese Modern Elementary Education

1-1 Shibakoen

日本近代初等教育発祥  
の地跡

所 芝公園 1-1

Elementary teaching in Japan started with the proclamation of the national plan for education on August 3, 1872. Prior to this, by 1870 there were already six elementary schools opened in Tokyo City under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Education. The first school was established at Genryu-in Temple, a sub-temple of Zojoji Temple, and inaugurated on June 12 that same year. Murakami Chinkyu was the schoolmaster and gave lessons to about 30 students between ages 8 and 15 for boys, and ages 8 and 12 for girls. They were taught three subjects - recitation, calligraphy and arithmetic, over 5 hours every day. The school tuition was to be paid in two installments each month, and the students had to bring their own desk, inkstone and meal. Once the education system was proclaimed in 1872, Elementary School No. 1 of the 2nd unit of secondary schools and 1st unit of universities was placed under Tokyo's jurisdiction, causing the relocation of the school land to Nishi-Kubo-cho. Later, its name changed to Tomoe Elementary School. In 1991, the school merged with Sakura Elementary School and Sakurada Elementary School, resulting in the opening of Onarimon Elementary School.

City Heritage Site



## Modern Historic Sites

## Site of the First Shiba City Office (Anyoin Temple)

2-3-2 Shibakoen



Between 1878 and 1926, this place served as the Shiba City Office. On July 22, 1878, the Law for Reorganization of Counties, Wards, Towns and Villages was promulgated as one of the so-called three bills and Tokyo was organized into 15 wards and 6 counties. Present day Minato District was inaugurated on November 2, while comprising the cities of Akasaka, Azabu and Shiba. The extent of Shiba City mainly corresponded to Sakurada, Mita, Shirokane and Takanawa areas. It counted 14,757 houses and a population of over 58,861 people. The city office was hosted here by the Anyoin Temple and opened on November 4. The first mayor to be appointed was Aihara Yasujiro. Later, it was moved to Atago-cho and then, in 1926, to the current location of the Minato City Office. On March 15, 1947, Akasaka, Azabu and Shiba cities merged and formed present-day Minato City.



## Site of Keio Gijuku and Kogyokusha

1-13-1 Hamamatsucho



In 1868, Lord Fukuzawa Yukichi moved the *rangakujuku* school to Shinsenza in Shiba. Previously, in 1858, he had opened this private school for Western studies at the Nakatsu clan's residence in Tsukiji Tepposhu (now Akashi-cho, Chuo City). He then named it "Keio Gijuku" from the name of the era at the time. Later, in 1871, the school finally settled at its present location, today the site of the Shimabara clan's residence in Mita. It is said that Kondo Makoto, who ran Kogyokusha school on this site, appealed to Fukuzawa and handed it over to him for 300 yen. The origin of Kogyokusha stands in the *rangakujuku* opened by Kondo at the Toba clan's residence in 1863. It was unique because of the training provided to the Imperial Japanese Naval Academy. Fifteen admirals were former alumni of Kogyokusha, including Suzuki Kantaro (later, the 42nd Prime Minister of Japan). Lieutenant Colonel Hirose Takeo, who sacrificed in the siege of Port Arthur, also graduated this school. In 1925, Kogyokusha was relocated in Nishi-Gotanda. In front of the current Eco-Plaza stands a monument, but the actual site of the school (1-6 Hamamatsucho) extended along the east side that cuts the street off.

Metropolitan Heritage Site



## Site of the Old Shimbashi Station course 9

1-5 Higashi-shimbashi



Japan's first railway service was launched in 1872 and covered a 28.8km distance between Shimbashi and Yokohama (duration: 53min). The construction of this railway was decided in 1869, but it wasn't until the following year when it started under the guidance of the British railroad engineer, Edmund Morel, who was invited to Japan. Upon passing the test run, the line opened entirely on September 12, 1872. The opening ceremony took place at Shimbashi Railway Hall in the presence of Emperor Meiji. At that time, fares were quite expensive: 1.125 yen (1st class), 0.75 yen (2nd class), and 0.375 yen (3rd class) for one adult (back then 1.5kg of rice were worth approx. 0.4 yen). Figures after one year since the opening of the line were quite favorable, with an average of 4,347 passengers per day, which boosted the popularization of railroads. In 1914, Shimbashi Station was converted into the freight terminal of Shiodome Station, and closed on November 1, 1986, due to a timetable revision subject to privatization of Japan National Railways.

During excavations and research started in 1991, the original station building and

platforms were found and designated national historic sites in 1996. Upon these excavations and research, the place was backfilled in order to preserve its current condition, and today the station building was externally restored on top to its state at the time of foundation. Here you will also find Old Shimbashi Station Railway History Exhibition Hall.

National Heritage Site

The Old Shimbashi Station Railway History Exhibition Hall  
Opening Hours: 10am to 5pm  
Closed: Mondays (if national holiday, then the next day), year-end/New Year, During the period of exhibition replacement and facility inspections.  
Admission: free.  
Contact: 03-3572-1872



Sadahide Gountei: "Shimbashi Railway Hall" from Views of the Entrance from Shiodome Station



## Modern Historic Sites

## Site of the First Newspaper Publication

1-2 Toranomom

### 新聞倉刊りの地跡

所 虎ノ門1-2

On November 2, 1874, Koyasu Takashi, Motono Morimichi, Shibata Masakichi issued Japan's first regular newspaper - the "Yomiuri Shimbun" that covered foreign and domestic news. The publisher, Nisshusha company, was established outside Toranomom, in a former samurai tenement house by Kotohira-cho 1-banchi. The title for this newspaper came from the name of "Kawara-ban yomiuri" (literally "sellers by reading tile-block informative papers") years back in the Edo period. In the beginning, the newspaper had Japanese syllabaries attached to Chinese characters and was regarded as a simple lowbrow newspaper. At the time of its first issue, the newspaper was received by citizens who hadn't been taught Chinese characters as "*Senri wo hashiru Toranomom, koto ni hiragana wa ichiban nari* (Kotohira 1-ban)," which is a word play associated with town names and house numbers, especially praising its novelty and use of the hiragana syllabary. On December 1, 1917, its publisher's name changed into the current Yomiuri Shimbunsha. There is no other newspaper issued in Tokyo that has so far developed into a national paper without changing its title since early Meiji period until today (although "Yomiuri Hochi" was used temporarily). Today, a monument celebrating its first issue stands at the side of Mitsui Bldg. in Toranomom Crossing.



## Site of the First Akasaka City Office (Takahashi Korekiyo-o Memorial Park)

7-3-39 Akasaka

### 最初の赤坂区役所跡 (高橋是清翁記念公園)

所 赤坂7-3-39

According to the Law for Reorganization of Counties, Wards, Towns and Villages promulgated on July 22, 1878, the present-day Minato District comprised the cities of Azabu, Shiba and Akasaka. The extent of Akasaka City mainly corresponds to present-day Akasaka and Aoyama areas. The first city office was placed in 3-5 Omote-cho, Akasaka (now Sogetsu Kaikan, 7-2 Akasaka) and inaugurated on November 4. The first mayor to be appointed was Shimazu Takaakira. Later, it was moved to 1 Omote-cho, Akasaka, and then to its current location within the Akasaka Regional City Office in Minato City Office. On March 15, 1947, the city of Akasaka merged with Azabu and Shiba cities and formed the present-day Minato City.

