

Johannes  
Pompe  
van  
Meerdervort



Image of the Nagasaki Naval Training Institute (Partial)  
(Courtesy of the Nabeshima Houkokuai Foundation)

## The Father of Modern Western-style Medical Education in Japan

Johannes Pompe van Meerdervort (1829 - 1908)

Selected by Major Willem Huysen van Kattendijke who was in command of the second instruction brigade of the Nagasaki Naval Training Institute in 1857, Johannes Pompe van Meerdervort came to Japan when he was 28 years old. After his appointment as an instructor, he began to teach medicine to Japanese students with the help of MATSUMOTO Ryojun. Pompe was the first to systematically teach a modern medicine curriculum that was based in the natural sciences which he taught all by himself for five years. In 1858 and 1859, there was a cholera outbreak in Nagasaki. Pompe put his best efforts into the treatment and prevention of the disease.

In 1859, the shogunate approved his long-held desire for a hospital to be constructed and, in 1861, the Nagasaki (Koshima) Yojosho was established as the first modern Western-style hospital in Japan. Pompe provided medical treatment to patients and practical lessons through clinical lectures. His statement that a doctor is "accountable to the suffering, not to himself" lives on as the school motto of the Nagasaki University School of Medicine. In 1862, Pompe completed teaching his curriculum and returned back home to the Netherlands. He is named the "Father of Modern Western-style Medical Education in Japan" due to his cultivation of the many professionals who went on to make major contributions to the development of medicine and medical care during his five year stay in Nagasaki.



Pompe (center-right) and MATSUMOTO Ryojun (center-left)  
(Courtesy of the Nagasaki University Medical Library)

## Information

Open | 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
Closed | Every Monday (open on holidays that fall on Monday),  
December 29 - January 3

Admission | Free

### Getting to the Museum Using Public Transportation

#### o Tram

Get off at Shinchi Chinatown or Shianbashi, then walk 10 minutes.

#### o Bus

Get off at the Nagasaki Bus stop for Nagasaki Shinchi Terminal or Shianbashi, then walk 10 minutes.

\*As there are no on-site parking lots, please use public transportation.



# NAGASAKI (KOSHIMA) YOJOSHO REMAINS MUSEUM



From the right: Koshima Yojosho, Igakusho, Bunseki Kyurisho  
(Courtesy of the Nagasaki University Library)

*Modern Western-style medicine  
in Japan started here in Nagasaki*



A Portrait of Pompe:  
The Father of Modern Western-style Medical Education in Japan  
(Courtesy of the Nagasaki University Library)

## NAGASAKI (KOSHIMA) YOJOSHO REMAINS MUSEUM

1-8-15 Nishikoshima, Nagasaki City, 850-0837  
(next to Nita Sako Municipal Elementary School Gymnasium)  
TEL/FAX: 095-822-7023

The First Modern Western-Style Hospital in Japan  
**Nagasaki (Koshima) Yojosho Remains**  
 (A Municipally Designated Historic Site)



Panorama of Nagasaki (Courtesy of the Nagasaki University Library)

Nagasaki (Koshima) Yojosho was built in 1861 due to Pompe's request for the construction of a hospital. It is the first modern Western-style hospital in Japan. It is built on a sunny, airy hill in a Nagasaki suburb in what was once called Azasako, Koshima-go, Nagasaki Village. The building's design was based on Dutch hospitals and concepts drafted by Pompe and other Dutch people. Western-style facilities were also implemented. The Igakusho was also constructed for medical education. Here, a systematic curriculum of modern Western-style education starting from the fundamentals to clinical lectures were given.

In 1865, the Yojosho and Igakusho were renamed to the Seitokukan, and the Bunseki Kyurisho (Analytical Laboratory) was added as a place for physical and chemical education. After the Meiji Restoration, the name was changed to the Nagasaki Prefectural Medical School, which would be the predecessor of the Nagasaki University School of Medicine.

In a 2015-2017 excavation, the stone walls and a portion of the foundation of the Yojosho northern building were unearthed. In addition, many items from the hospital originating from the end of the shogunate to the early Meiji era were excavated. These include glass pharmaceutical bottles as well as earthenware pots and bottles for boiling herbs.

The site of the gymnasium where the Koshima Yojosho's remains lie were designated as a historic site of Nagasaki City on June 5, 2017 as the first modern Western-style hospital in Japan and its related site. This was due to the value of the Yojosho, the Igakusho, Bunseki Kyurisho, and Seitokukan which were established here at the end of the shogunate.

**Timeline**

- 1861 Yojosho was constructed
- 1865 Yojosho and Igakusho consolidated and renamed to Seitokukan
- 1868 Seitokukan renamed to Nagasaki Prefectural Medical School
- 1881 Yojosho South Building demolished
- 1889 Yojosho North Building demolished
- 1906 Sako Jinjo Upper Elementary School established
- 1957 Gymnasium of Former Sako Elementary School constructed at former site of the Yojosho
- 2017 Designated as a municipal historic site
- 2020 Nagasaki (Koshima) Yojosho Remains Museum opens

**Learn about the historical significance of the Yojosho, Pompe's achievements, and more through remains, excavated items, documents, movies and VR.**

**3 Modern Medicine and the Development of Medicine in Japan**

Learn about the students of Pompe who went on to contribute much to modern medical education and medical care in Japan, such as MATSUMOTO Ryojun and NAGAYO Sensai and discover just how influential Pompe was.

**2 Pompe's Medical Education**

Learn about the systematic medical education that Pompe provided through lecture records and other documents.

**Theater Zone**

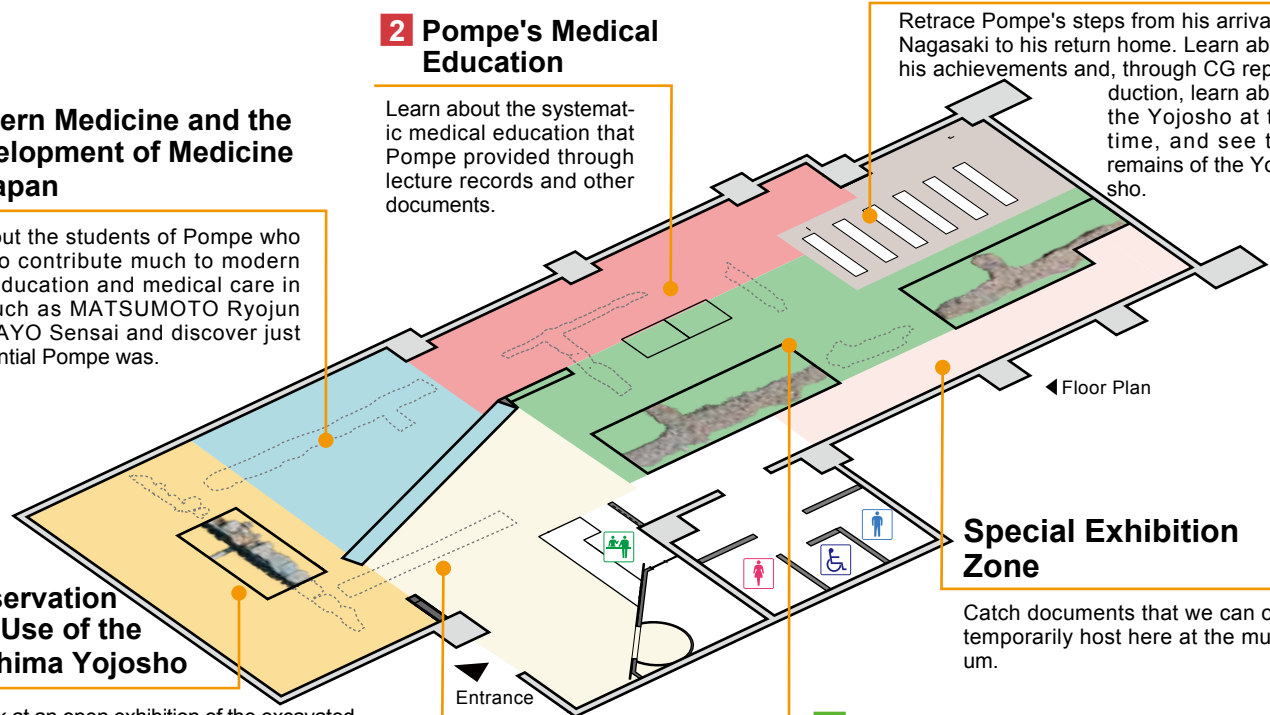
Retrace Pompe's steps from his arrival in Nagasaki to his return home. Learn about his achievements and, through CG reproduction, learn about the Yojosho at the time, and see the remains of the Yojosho.

**4 Preservation and Use of the Koshima Yojosho**

Take a look at an open exhibition of the excavated remains of the Yojosho's stone walls in addition to exhibitions of excavated items and the remains of the Bunseki Kyurisho. The interior and exterior of the building at the time are also reproduced in VR.



Old Photograph of the Koshima Yojosho (from NAGAYO Sensai's memoir Shoko Iko) Courtesy of the Nagasaki University Medical Library



◀ Floor Plan

Entrance

**Special Exhibition Zone**

Catch documents that we can only temporarily host here at the museum.

**1 The Construction of the Nagasaki (Koshima) Yojosho**

Learn about the events and circumstances surrounding the beginning of the Nagasaki Naval Training Institute to the construction of the Yojosho and other buildings. The remains of the foundation of the Yojosho North Building are also on open exhibition.



Yojosho Building Foundation Remains

**Introduction**

Learn about the history of the Yojosho and Japanese medical education with Pompe, the Father of Modern Western-style Medicine in Japan who taught medicine at Nagasaki (Koshima) Yojosho, as your guide.

**Excavated Items**

〈Daily-Use Items〉



Western Plate (made in the Netherlands)



Western Alcohol Bottle (made in Europe)



Bunkyu-Eiho (printed in 1863) \*Currency

〈Medical Items〉



Small Western Medicine Bottle (made in Europe)



Medicine Bottle (made in Europe)



▲ Test tubes, etc. (made in Europe)