

# Outline of the *Tojin-Yashiki*

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The *Tojin-Yashiki* was built in 1689 to accommodate Nagasaki's Chinese residents. Its 179 year long history lasted until 1868. The site was 140m wide by 250m long, and 22,480m<sup>2</sup> (later expanded to 31,070m<sup>2</sup>), and was surrounded by perimeter fences. As at Dejima, the residents of the *Tojin-Yashiki* were not allowed to leave the compound without permission. Entry to the quarters was limited to Chinese interpreters and courtesans. It is thought that their contact with Japanese nationals was restricted in order to impede the propagation of Christianity, and to prevent smuggling.

There was a guardhouse beyond the “*Dai-mon*” (main gate) where the *otona* (senior official) kept watch, and where Chinese translators were stationed. Licensed merchants would come to the square to sell produce such as vegetables, fish, and daily necessities. Further inside the compound was the “*Ni-no-mon*” (second gate). The Chinese residents lived beyond this gate, and the entry of Nagasaki officials was restricted. The buildings which housed the Chinese residents were called “*Hon-beya*”, and one was allocated to each ship. The 2<sup>nd</sup> floor was reserved for ship owners and senior sailors. The 1<sup>st</sup> floor was given over to the junior sailors.

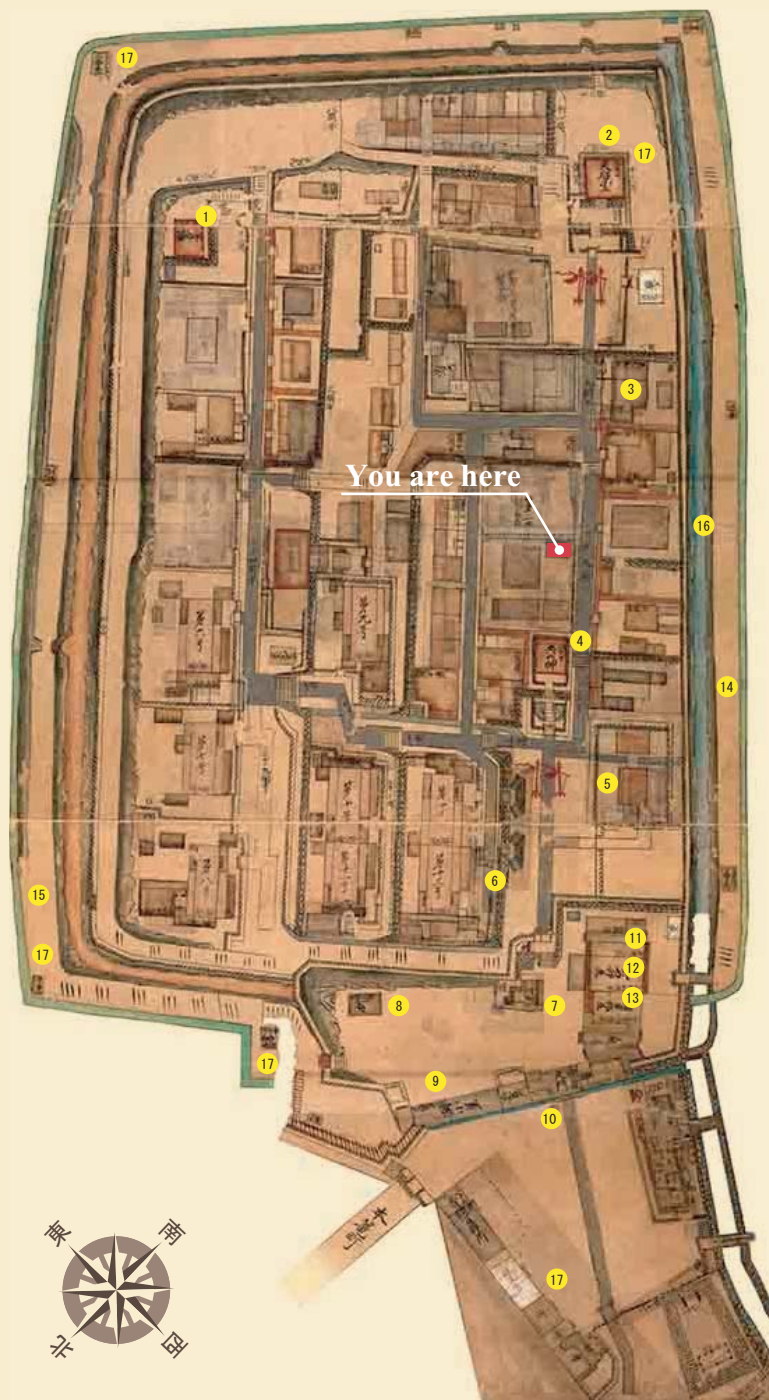
The original *Hon-beya* were Japanese-style longhouses constructed by Japanese artisans. However, they were later rebuilt in the Chinese-style after a great fire in 1784. The quarters were transformed into a Chinese town decorated with vermilion lattice doors and folding screens. Besides religious buildings such as the *Dojindo* shrine, *Kannondo* shrine, and the *Tenkodo* shrine, the Chinese residents also established shops which were called “*Shiten*”. At their peak, there were 107 such shops, which sold goods such as alcohol, tea and confectionaries.

### Bibliography

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### ① The *Kannondo* Shrine

It is said that the *Kannondo* shrine was originally constructed in 1737 by a ship owner from Fujian province. There were no such religious facilities as this on Dejima. However, these religious buildings were a source of mental support to the inhabitants who were isolated within the quarters, and lessened the discord of their long and restricted residencies.

The *Kannondo* shrine was repaired many times, and was finally rebuilt in 1917. However, it is thought that the stone arch over the entrance is the original arch.

### ② The *Tenkodo* Shrine

The *Tenkodo* shrine was constructed by citizens of Nanking in 1736 in order to pray for safe voyages, and to enshrine the goddess Mazu. Repairs were carried out in 1790.

The current building was constructed in 1906 from donations given by Chinese nationals living all over Japan.

Guan Yu is also worshipped at the *Tenkodo* shrine and it is therefore also known as the “Guan Yu Shrine”.

### ③ *Sodai-beya*

The *Sodai-beya* housed the trade representatives (owners of the Chinese ships).

### ④ *Dojindo* Shrine

It is thought that the *Dojindo* shrine was built in 1691 after permission for its construction was granted to the Chinese residents. A stage was raised annually on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of the 2<sup>nd</sup> month for the Earth god's birthday. The celebration included performances of Chinese musical instruments, and it is said that even the Nagasaki Magistrate came to watch. The shrine was restored after a great fire which broke out in 1784. Chinese residents continued to repair and maintain the shrine. The shrine fell into disrepair and was dismantled in 1950, with only the small stone shrine left standing. However, Nagasaki City rebuilt the *Dojindo* shrine in 1977.

### ⑤ *Reikon* Hall (*Yurei* Hall)

Chinese nationals who passed away in Nagasaki were buried in one of the three Chinese temples (Kofukuji, Sofukuji, Fukusaiji). However, ship owners' and sailors' remains were repatriated to China on the next available ship. Whilst awaiting return, their bodies were held in the *Reikon* Hall (hall for the dead). Memorial tablets to Chinese nationals who died within the *Tojin-Yashiki* were also enshrined here.

### ⑥ *Ni-no-mon* Gate

The Chinese residents of the *Tojin-Yashiki* lived beyond the *Ni-no-mon* (second) gate. Of the Japanese, only courtesans were permitted to pass beyond the *Ni-no-mon*; access was restricted even for government officials.

### ⑦ *Ni-no-mon* Guardhouse

The *Tojin-ban* guards were in charge of security at the *Tojin-Yashiki*. They were stationed at the *Dai-mon* and *Ni-no-mon* gates and examined entry permits and those who passed in and out of the quarters. The *Tojin-ban* was a hereditary post.

There were also guards known as *Saguri-ban*, who performed body searches on Chinese nationals, and even upon the Japanese merchants who came and went from the *Tojin-Yashiki*. Originally the *Saguri-ban* were only stationed at the *Ni-no-mon* guardhouse. However, 4 guards were stationed at the *Dai-mon* gate and another 4 at the *Ni-no-mon* gate after 1717.

### ⑧ Prison

There was a prison located a little east of the *Dai-mon* and *Ni-no-mon* gates. It measured around 79m<sup>2</sup>.

### ⑨ *Ami-goya* Hut

The 5.91m x 23.64m *Ami-goya* hut was just inside to the east of the *Dai-mon* gate. This hut is where property belonging to the Chinese was inspected, and is also where netting for the Chinese ships was stored.

### ⑩ *Dai-mon* Gate

The entrance to the *Tojin-Yashiki* was a gate in the north-side of the compound facing the port. It was situated along a building which measured 59.1m wide and the gate had a depth of 5.91m. Local officials, such as the *Tojin-ban* and *Saguri-ban* guards, kept a strict watch from this gate. There was about 2,000m<sup>2</sup> between the *Dai-mon* and *Ni-no-mon* gates. There was a notice board on the south side of the *Dai-mon*, and an office for the *otona* officials and one for the interpreters. Merchants who had received a gate permit from the *Tojin-Yashiki ontona* set up stalls within the square beyond the *Dai-mon* gate.

### ⑪ Senior Officials' Office

The post of *otona* (senior official) was created in 1689 with the founding of the *Tojin-Yashiki*. Besides their main role which was surveillance of the quarters, they also carried out building maintenance, and were good counsellors and advisors to the Chinese.

### ⑫ Interpreters' Office

The Chinese-speaking interpreters were called “*To-tsujii*”. However, besides interpreting they were also deeply involved in trade and taking care of the residents' personal needs.

### ⑬ Mud and Tile Wall

### ⑭ Bamboo Fence

### ⑮ Dry Moat

### ⑯ Moat

The *Tojin-Yashiki* was constructed to prevent smuggling and the propagation of Christianity, and the movements of the Chinese residents were therefore watched closely. The quarters were roughly 31,070m<sup>2</sup>, which is almost the same size as the present-day Kannai-machi. In order to completely cut the *Tojin-Yashiki* off from the outside world it was surrounded first by a mud and tile wall, then a moat which was partly filled with water and partly dry, and finally a stretch of empty land was enclosed by a bamboo fence.

### ⑰ Guardhouse

The guardhouse is where the guards of the *Tojin-Yashiki* checked entry permits and inspected and guarded those entering and leaving the quarters.