The relation between Taikoryo and Kotaro Oshima



Nagakuni Ogasawara, the last landlord of the Karatsu clan, established Taikoryo in 1870. It was more advanced school than the other clans, because it adapted English as a curriculum. Korekiyo Takahashi was invited as an English teacher for this school when he was at the age of 18. He

was paid three-fold salary as the prefectural governor and it shows how high expectations of him from the clan were.

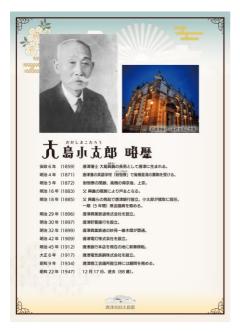
It's only 15 months since Korekiyo Takahashi taught in Taikoryo, but there were many students who contributed to the industrialization of Japan in the Meiji era. Kotaro Oshima is the one of the students. This building was built around 1893 as the residence of Kotaro Oshima, and it is accessible to the public. Kotaro was born in Karatsu as a son of the senior vassal of the Karatsu



clan. He greatly contributed to modernization in Karatsu.

This building shows the characteristics of traditional Japanese houses, with Japanese gardens and finely detailed design. It was relocated 300 meters away to this place in 2017, it's because a new school building was going to be built on the old property.

The biography of Kotaro Oshima



- 1859 Born in Karatsu as the eldest son of Okiyoshi Oshima, the senior vassal of the Karatsu clan.
- 1870 Studied under the tutelage of Korekiyo Takahashi in Taikoryo, the first English school of the Karatsu clan.
- 1872 Went to Tokyo with Takahashi to study because Taikoryo was closed.
- 1883 Became the head of the Oshima family after his father's retirement.
- 1885 Established Karatsu Bank with the backing of his father and his associates. Then Kotaro took office as its first president.

- 1885 Served as a prefectural council member for 5 years.
- 1896 Established Karatsu Industrial Railroad Company.
- 1897 Established Karatsu savings bank.
- 1899 The railroad had launched between Myoken to Kyuragi.
- 1909 Established Karatsu Electric Company.
- 1912 Relocated Karatsu bank to Honmachi.
- 1917 Established Karatsu electric and steel company.
- 1934 Served as the first head when Karatsu Chamber of Commerce was established.
- 1947 Passed away on December 17th at the age of 88.

Oshima family and Souhen school



Tadatomo Ogasawara, the feudal lord of Aichi prefecture, engaged Souhen Yamada in 1655. Souhen Yamada was one of the disciples of *Sen no soutan, and he recommended that Tadatomo should engage Souhen. Then Tadatomo decided to engage him as his mentor at the tea ceremony.

*Sen no soutan...The grandson of

Sen no rikyu.

Later, Sousyun, the fifth generation of Souhen school, removed Karatsu in 1817. Because his master, named Nagamasa Ogasawara let moved his domain from Fukushima prefecture to Karatsu. In line with that, Souhen school is rooted in Karatsu.

When the tea ceremony was almost abolished due to the Meiji Restoration, Okiyoshi Oshima, tea master of Souhen school, and Soumin Nakamura as a tea-server tried to help their school. They worked hard and supported Soujuni, the seventh generation of Souhen school, but she had to move to Tokyo in 1880. She entrusted her mind to Okiyoshi and Soumin, thereafter, Soujuni gave the name of "Keijitsuan" to Okiyoshi as a token of thanks.

Later, Kotaro Oshima, the son of Okiyoshi, and Koreyoshi Takatori, the businessman in the Meiji era, tried to support Soumin to preserve their school and they spread the teachings of Souhen school in Karatsu. As a result of their great effort, Souhen school has been popular in Karatsu until today.

Meitaro Takenouchi



There was a Meitaro Takenouchi's house from 1886 to 1922 here.

Meitaro was born as the eldest son of Tsuna Takenouchi, served as a superintendent officer in the feudal in the Kouchi prefecture. (He is the older brother of Shigeru Yoshida, one of the presidents in Japan.)

Tsuna acquired the right of

management of the Yoshinotani coal mine with Koreyoshi Takatori in 1885. Meitaro came to Karatsu next year, because he had taken over the management of the coal mine from his father. Then, Meitaro began the latest mine construction.

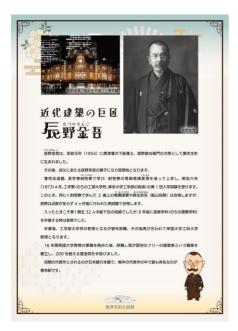
In 1909, Yoshinotani coal mine corporation was established in Karatsu. Moreover, it had been establishing the name of one of the leading precision machinery companies.

In addition, Meitaro put in the effort for establishment of a science and engineering department of Waseda University and Kouchi Technic High School.

Ten years after the establishment of Yoshinotani coal mine corporation, Meitaro established Komatsu Iron Foundry as one of the facilities of his copper mine. Besides that, he supported development of the first domestic car, the DAT, with Kenjiro Den and Rokurou Aoyama. The DAT is named after their initial letters.

Kingo Tatsuno

~A great master of modern architecture~



Kingo Tatsuno was born in 1854, as a second son of Kuraemon Himeno who a minor clansman of the Karatsu clan. Then, he was adopted by his uncle Souan Tatsuno, then he got "Tatsuno" as a last name.

He studied in Shidokan (the clan school) and Taikoryo when he was young.

After Taikoryo closed, he went to Tokyo with Korekiyo Takahashi and took the entrance exam of Kogakuryo (used in the foreground of the University of Tokyo) in 1873. Unfortunately, he dropped the exam at that time, but the other schoolmates passed it. Then, Kingo studied hard for four months and managed to pass the retry.

When he entered the school, his grade was the lowest. But he'd studied a lot during six years, he graduated at the top of his class.

After graduating, he served as a professor of Kogakuryo twice, for 16 years. Thereafter, he quit the job and established the first occupation in Japan as a self-employed architect. He has built over 200 buildings during his lifetime.

It says that the main building of Bank of Japan is his masterpiece in his early days. Also, Tokyo station is the most famous classic in his later-year works.