



Monitor sightseeing

1. Self-introduction and guide-issue
2. Monitor sightseeing
--- Lecture and guide tour
3. Lecture plan

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M. Kasuga

mkasuga@seagreen.ocn.ne.jp



1. Self-introduction and guide-issue

We are members of
volunteer guide staff
at Kina-saffron Shu brewery,
Settaya town,
5km south from
JR Nagaoka Station.



Kina-Saffran-Shu brewery is a ruins of merchant house, flourished for about 70 years from 120 years ago in Settaya town.



Appearance of the store about 100 years ago

We guide on holidays at the garden and annex house in Saffran-Shu, of course in Japanese.



Among the volunteer guide staff, I am a retired engineer, and someone work full-time on weekdays.



2. Monitor sightseeing --- Lecture and guide tour

Issue

We have been guiding guests about half an hour around the garden and annex every weekends, however we have sometimes felt that time was too short to explain a lot of interesting subjects.



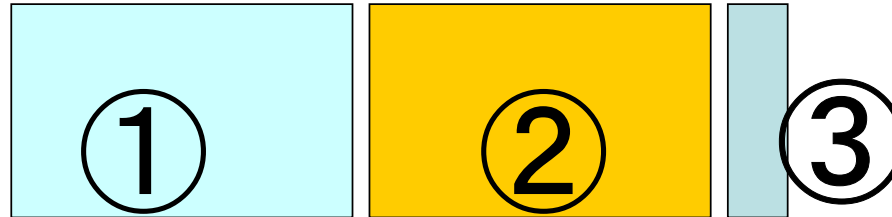
Counter-measure

If we prepared a guide tour with pre-classroom lectute, guests could understand a lot of interesting subjects more detail.

Therefore we are planning a guided tour with pre-classroom lectute in the next few years, not only in Japanese but also in English.

Style

Total 1.0 to 2.0 hours



- ① Pre-classroom Lecture
About 0.5 – 1.0 hour
- ② Guide tour after the pre-classroom lecture
About 1.0 – 2.0 hours
(Local gathering and local disbandment)
- ③ Review and discussion after the guide tour
About 0.5 hour
(Same day or the other day)

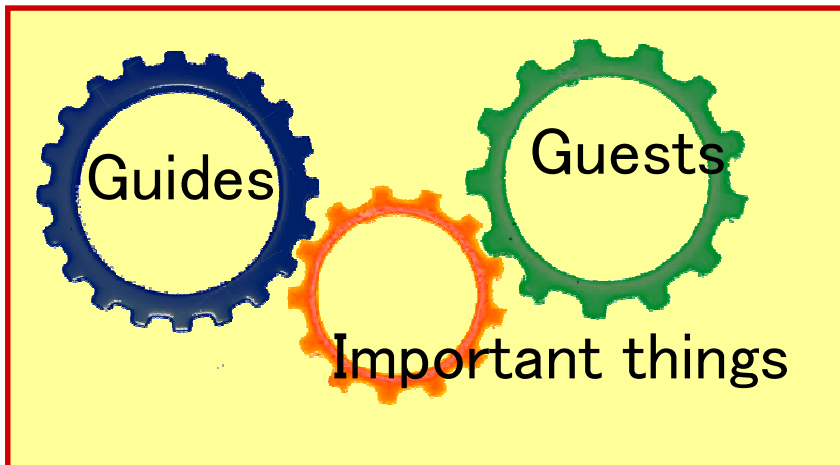


What to ask

I think the most difficult thing for guides is to understand the different **backgrounds**, not only among **domestic people** but also among **people from abroad**.

What to ask

I think the most important thing for guides is first to select interesting subjects for guests, and second explain in an appropriate style.



Please help us
to brush up
our guide contents.



3. Lecture plan

Candidates of courses

History of Nagaoka

Art / Literature we can enjoy in Nagaoka

Settaya town (History, Culture)

Kina-Saffron-shu brewery



Among them, we show Settaya area as an example

1) Settaya town and Ohta-gawa river

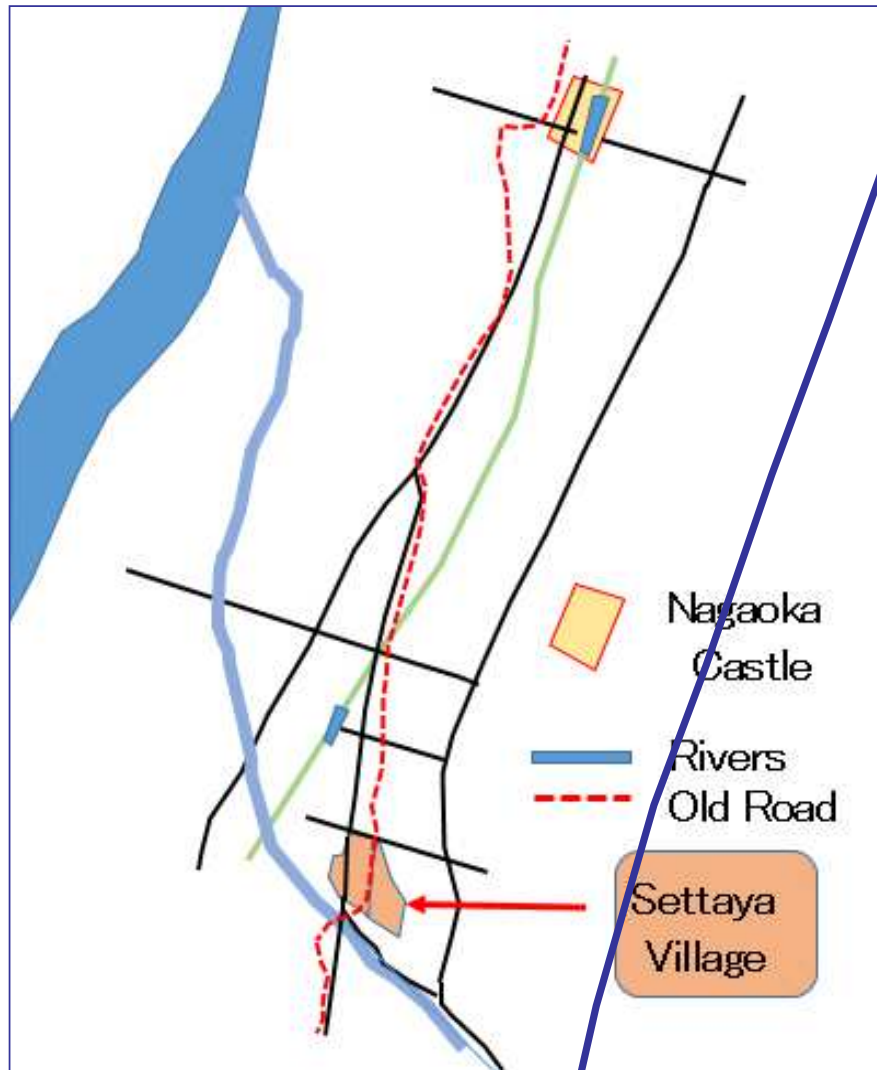
Apart from the usual course walking several fermentation shops, through watching from Ohta-gawa river in Settaya, you can find another story, the more understand Nagaoka, the more enjoy Nagaoka.

Why Settaya and the river

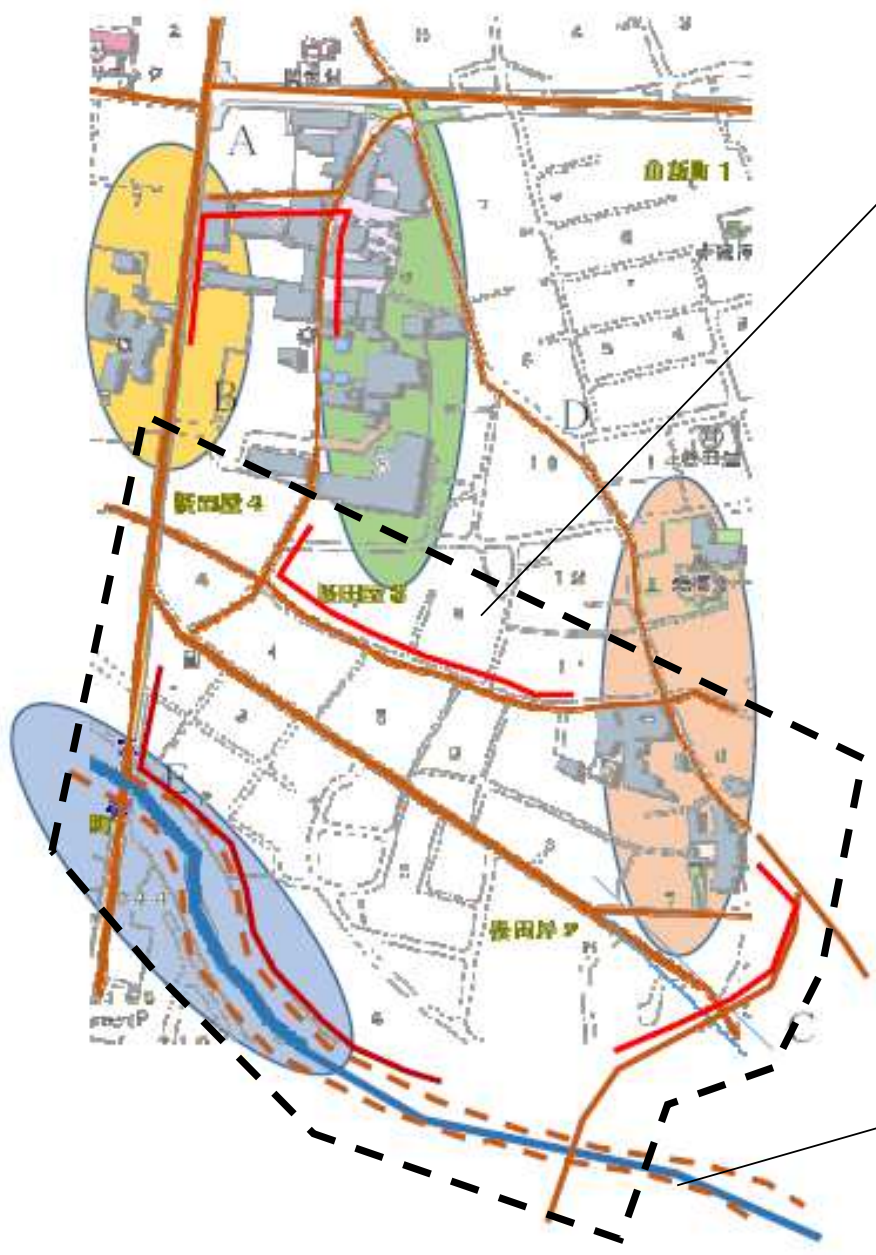
In addition to Settaya town and Saffron-shu brewery, we will also talk about the culture and the history of Nagaoka.

I would like to ask you to point out inadequate explanations and make appropriate comment.

Settaya Location 400 years ago



Since Edo Era, Settaya Village was located near main road and rivers.



(Example route)



Ohta-gawa river

Higashi-yama hills from Ohta-gawa river bank



- Photo point
Crossing point of road and river
in old days

Higashi-yama hills from Ohta-gawa river bank

Water sources area of three rivers

Water source of Ohta-gawa river

Oil digging
about 100
years ago

Discover of earthenware
(5000 years ago)

Shinano-gawa port
in old days

10KM heavy
snow area

14KM
Earthquake
Center



■ Photo point
Crossing point of road and river
in old days

By Kawakami Shirou (1889-1983)
in his high-school days



View points from Ohta-gawa river bank

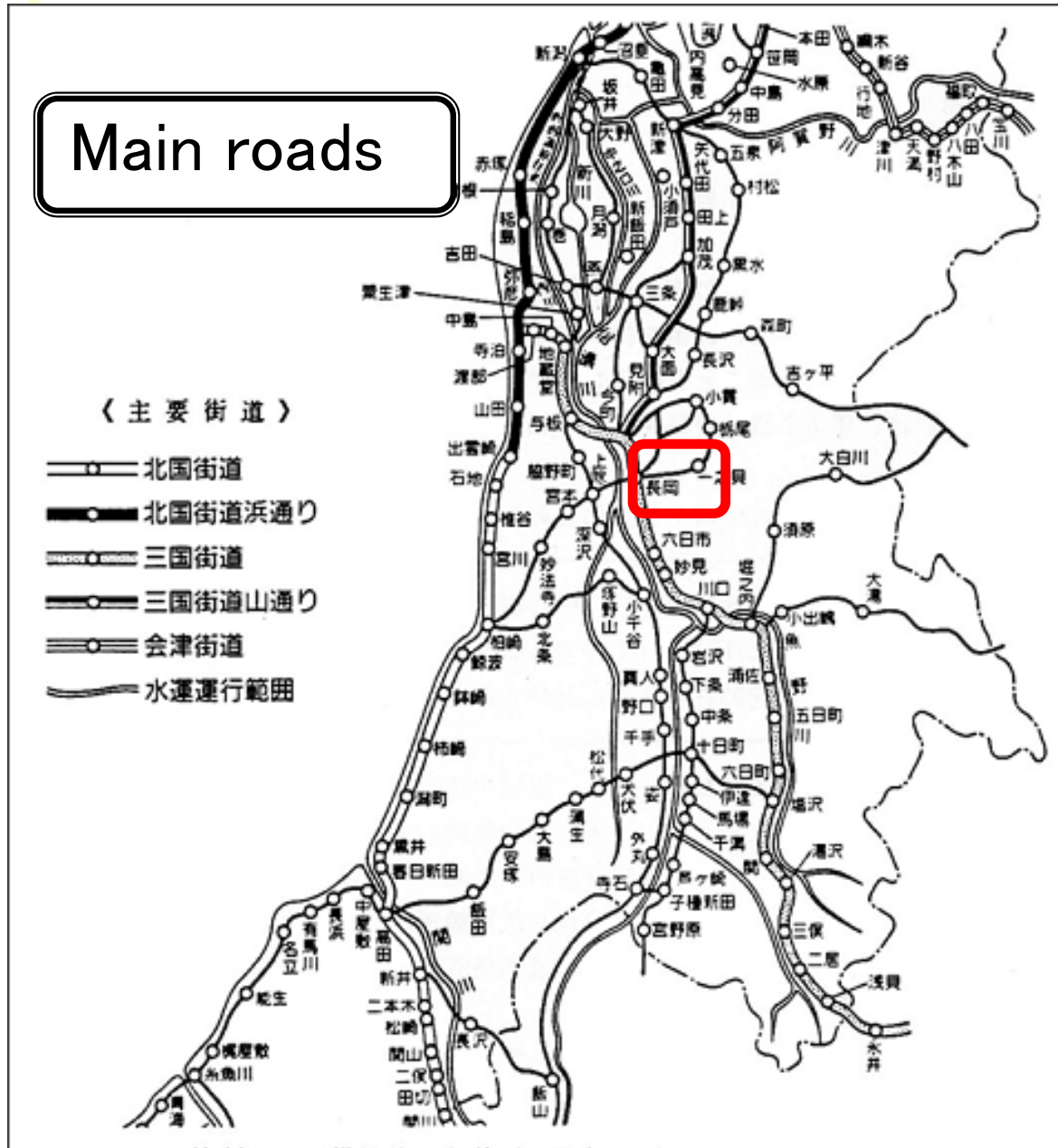
(Nature, crimate)

- ① Nagaoka was once No.1 oil city in Japan, and now No.1 natural gas diging city.
- ② Reason behind heavy snow fall around Niigata.
- ③ Nagaoka has been developed with Shinano-gawa river, flolishing culture.
- ④ Surrounded by the rich nature, sea, mountains and plains.

(History)

- ⑤ Nagaoka was located on an important crossing point of logistic network since old days.
- ⑥ Nagaoka was once an important position for military site of eastern Japan.
- ⑦ Nagaoka has recovered two times from the catastrophic ruins.
You can see the traces at Settaya town.
- ⑧ Two phrases : "Always on the battlefield"
and "One hundred sacks of rice"

Nagaoka's logistic network in old days.



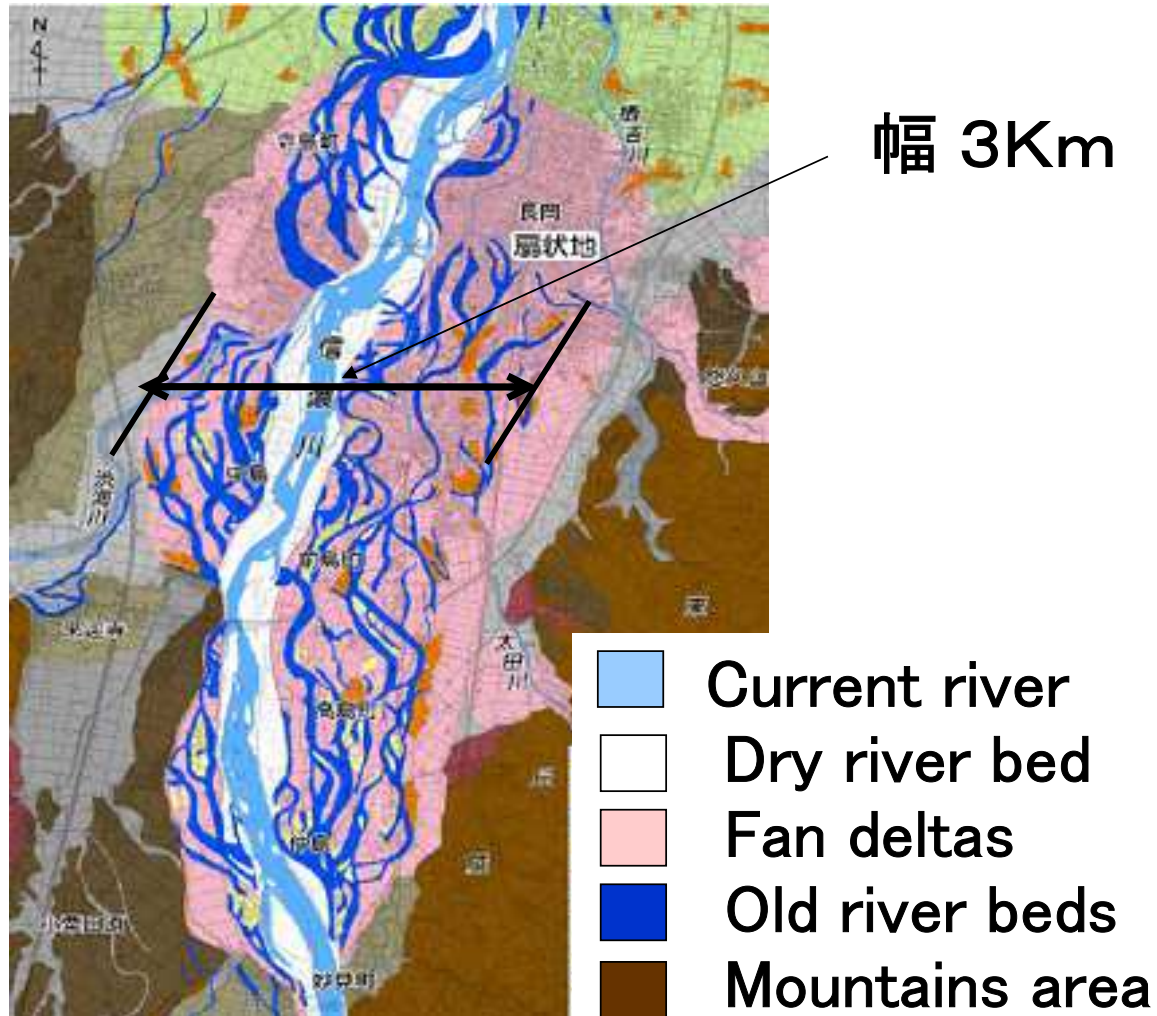
Main water routes

These routes on land and water connect Nagaoka to Tokyo and Osaka directly since 400 years ago.

Niigata–Minato port had played a major role in Nagaoka’s distribution network, supported by both land and river traffic.

Ohta–gawa river and the Mikuni–kaidoh road have run near Settaya, therefore Settaya had kept logistics network not only to Nagaoka town but also to Tokyo or Osaka with the rivers and the roads.

Changes of river beds of the Shinano-Gawa River around Nagaoka



By 国土交通省・信濃川水系流域及び河川の概要

Japanese green pheasant
in the grass from
Ohta-gawa river bank



At least three couples of Japanese pheasant live in the grass near the Ohta-bashi bridge. It is the national bird of Japan, very beautiful body like Chinese phoenix drawn on the Kote-E in the Kina-saffron-shu brewery.

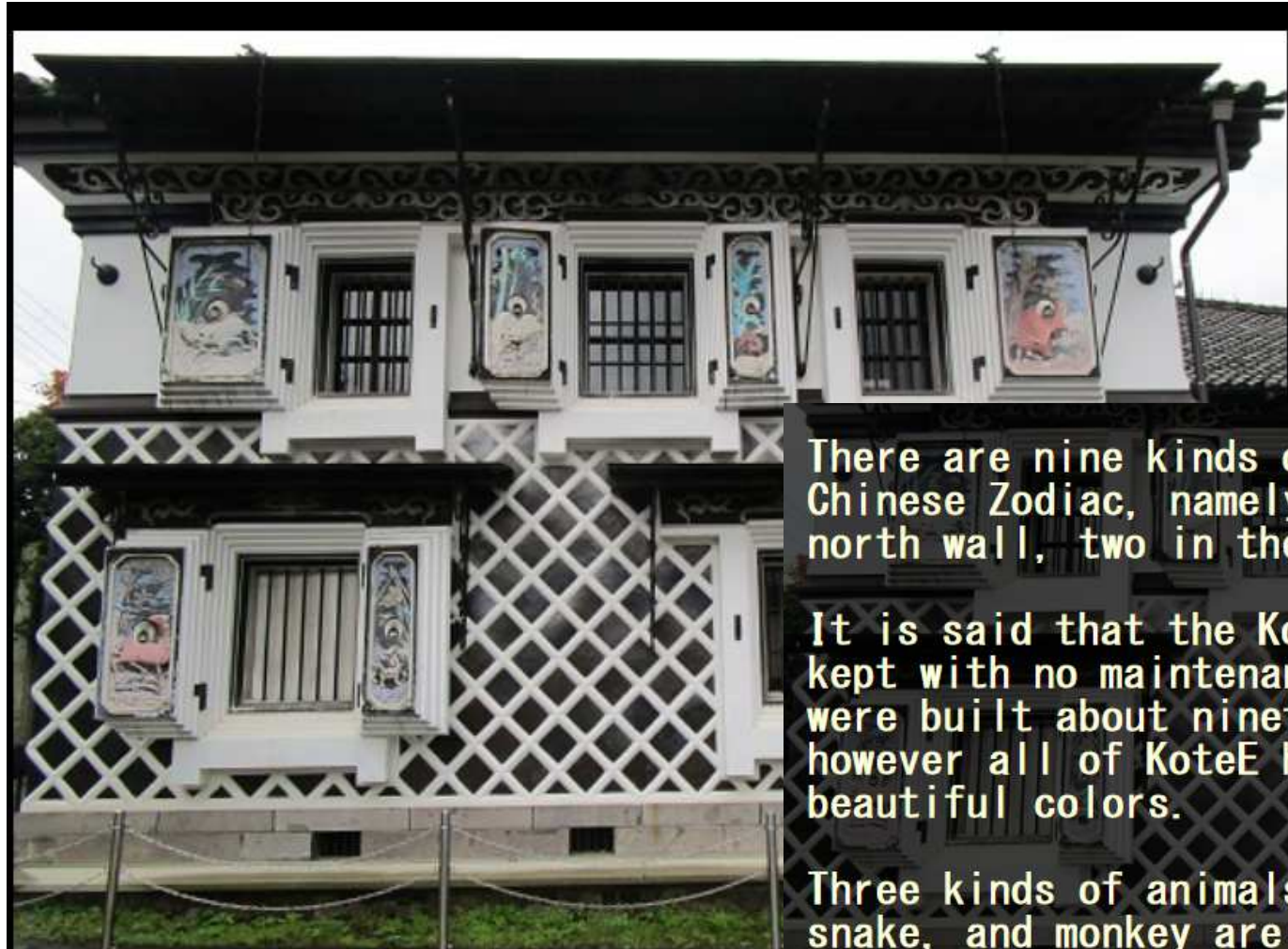
In Hoshino-Honten, you find several characters "Kanji" on the surface of inside door installed in "Kabuki-mon gate". This warehouse had built in 1883 by a householder of merchant.



The phrase were excerpted from the famous large collection of books edited by an emperor of the Qing dynasty in the early 18th century.

We guess the phrase was one of the phrases, popular in merchants who liked to read books regarding art of managing in society.

Saffron-Shu brewery Kote-E (1)



There are nine kinds of animals in Chinese Zodiac, namely seven in the north wall, two in the south wall.

It is said that the KoteE part has kept with no maintenance since that were built about ninety years ago, however all of KoteE have kept beautiful colors.

Three kinds of animals, dragon, snake, and monkey are not found in KoteE.

I would like to give you a question where they hide.

Saffron-Shu brewery Kote-E (2)



In the Chinese Five elements philosophy spreading in ancient age, several holy animals sometimes have been grouped into four-animal team. Members of them are called the sacred beasts, Blue dragon, White tiger, Vermilion bird, and Black turtle, meaning guardian deity for four directions, east, west, south, and north respectively. And members of other group are called the four auspicious beasts, governing a country well, or all the animals in the world. Member of the four auspicious beasts replaces tiger with Kirin among the sacred beasts.

In Saffron-shu brewery office entrance, you find gorgeous door and counter decorated with plaster art. The “Kabuki-mon gate” is gorgeous.



These gorgeous doors were usually installed on the large stone gates, named "Kabuki-mon gate".

"Kabuki-mon gate" is considered as a symbol of wealthy merchants.

In Settaya, there are several merchants having the great gates, built about 100–150 years ago.

We think it is one of the proofs that the Settaya district had been rather wealthy in that age, compared with central area of Nagaoka town.



Information for other courses

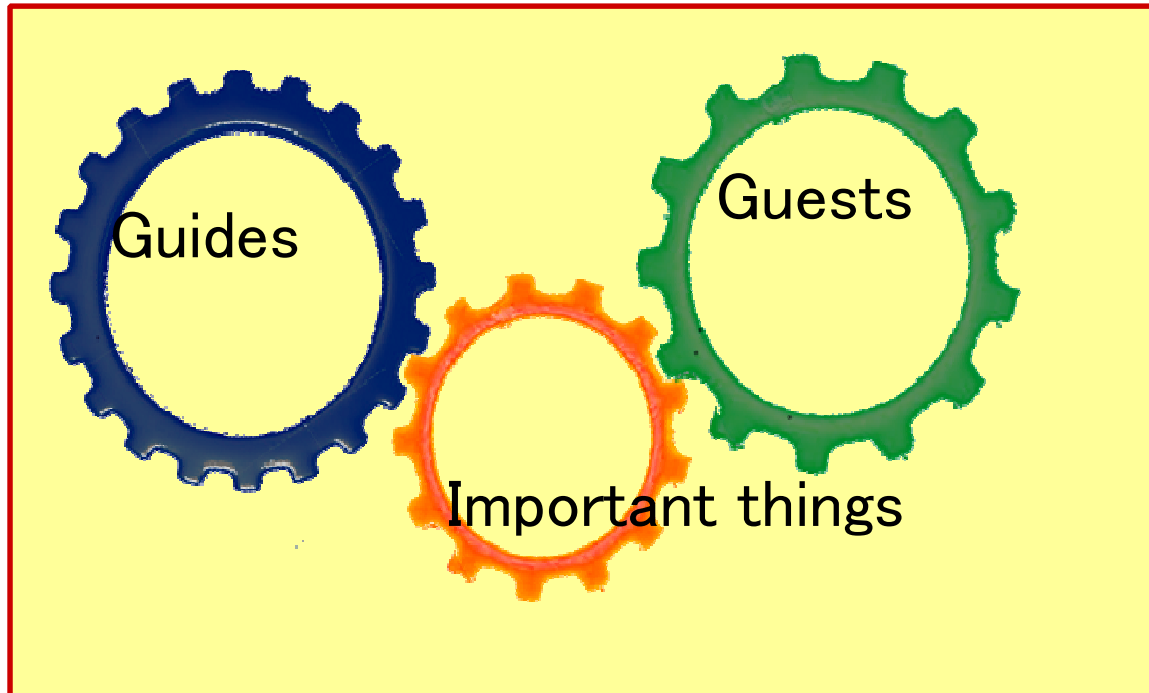
You can find a lot of information from the Web site of "Saffron-shu brewery", including WIFI guide.



http://kina-saffron.com/index_english.html

http://kina-saffron.com/mfg_E_lists.html

Key Note



I would be grateful if you could help me with improving this part.



THANK YOU

Please ask me anything.

M. Kasuga

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