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[1] Ikiyama Castle Ruins (Mountain castle)

Location : Koiki 4 , Kakamigahara City , Gifu Prefecture (Downstream mountain on the opposite bank of Inuyama Castle)

Founder : Tadatsugu Iki

Main castle lord : Iki clan

Remarks : The following is written on the signboard at the entrance to the summit of Mt. Iki. Ikiyama Castle (fortress) in Mt. Iki played an important role as a connecting castle between Inuyama Castle on the opposite bank and Unuma Castle. In 1564, Nobunaga Oda attacked this district as a footfold for his attack on Higashi-Mino. However, he faced resistance from the Saito clan led by Jirozaemon Osawa, the lord of Unuma Castle, and struggled. Therefore, Nobunaga ordered his vassal Tokichiro Kinoshita, who was a strategist, to capture Unuma Castle and Ikiyama Castle (lord of the castle, Seibei Iki). Kinoshita's Hachisuka troop headed for Ikiyama Castle along the Kiso River. Koroku Hachisuka, who was close to Seibei Iki, showed him a letter from Tokichiro Kinoshita and succeeded in drawing Iki to Kinoshita's army without a fight. After that, the weakened Osawa forces were attacked by the Kinoshita forces. The Oda side, which controlled this area, used the summit of Mt. Iki as a lookout point for Mino and Owari.



[View of Inuyama Castle and Unuma Castle from Mt.Iki]



【173m to the Summit of Mt.Iki】

[2] Matsukura Castle Ruins (Flat castle)

Location : Kawashima Matsukura Town , Kakamigahara City , Gifu Prefecture (Downstream of the shore on the Inuyama Castle side , 250m along the

Year of construction : 1532 embankment downstream from Kakamigahara Bridge)

Founder : Yorisada Togashi

Main castle lord : Tsubouchi clan

Remarks : The following is written on a signboard along the Kiso River embankment. The land (Matsukura Kaminoshima) is the remains of an old castle owned by the Tsubouci clan. During the Warring Stares Period, Tsubouchi Naitozaemon no Jo Yorisada, a branch of the Togashi clan in Kaga Province (now Ishikawa Prefecture), came to Owari Province. After serving Nobuyasu Oda (Nobunaga's uncle) of Inuyama Castle, he became the first lord of Matsukura Castle in 1547 and made Matsukura his terrritory. Tsubouchi (Kitaro) Genbato Toshisada, the forth lord of the castle, followed Nobunaga Oda and fought many battles, showing brilliant military deeds. However after Nobunaga's death, he fell out with Hideyoshi Hashiba and decided to leave his main territory and temporarily retreated to Kanayama (now Kanayama-cho, Mashita-gun). By chance, in 1590, he was to be welcomed by Iyeyasu Tokugawa. At the battle of Sekigahara in 1600, he joined Naomasa Ii's army and achived outstanding military service. As a result of his achievements, he received a letter of appreciation from Ieyasu. In the following year, 6533-goku were awarded in both Haguri and Kagami countries. After that, Tsubouchi clan was appointed Hatamoto. The Tsubouchi head family went to Edo and occupied an important position in the organization of the shogunate.

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[2] Matsukura Castle Ruins (Flat castle) Continued



[Matsukura Castle Ruins]



[Kiso River Embankment along Matsukura Castle Ruins]

[3] Inuyama Castle Ruins (Flat mountain castle)

Location : Inuyama Kitakomaki 65-2 , Inuyama City , Aichi Prefecture Year of construction : 1537

Founder : Nobuyasu Oda (Uncle of Nobunaga Oda)

Main castle lord : Oda clan , Ikeda clan , Ishikawa clan , Naruse clan

Remarks : Located on the border of Owari Province and Mino Province , it is a flat mountain castle built on a hill with a height of about 88m along the Kiso River. It is said that Sorai Ogyu named it Hakutei Castle. The appearance of the castle on the hill along the Kiso River is associated with Li Bai's poem about the Hakuteijo Castle on the hill in the Yangtze River basin. Located in the former Niwa District , only the castle tower remains , and it is one of the 12 exsisting castle towers built by the Edo Period. In addition , the castle tower is one of the five castles designated as national treasures. The castle was built by Nobuyasu Oda , uncle of Nobunaga Oda , who repaired the former Iwakura Oda's fort. After that , Tatsuoki Ikeda and Katsunaga Oda entered the castle. During the Toyotomi government , Sadakiyo Ishikawa renovated it to its present form. It became an important base for the Western Army in the Battle of Komaki-Nagakute and the Battle of Sekigahara.



[Inuyama Casle and Kiso River]



[Inuyama Castle]

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[4] Seki Castle Ruins (Mountain castle)

Location : Yamanote, Seki City, Gifu Prefecture (Mt. Asakura)

Year of construction: 1528

Founder : Nagahiro Nagai

Main castle lord : Michitoshi Nagai

Remarks : Seki Castle is a castle where Michitoshi Nagai (Hayato Nagai), a senior vassal of Tatsuoki Saito, served as the lord of the castle. When Nobunaga Oda invaded Higashi Mino (the Dobora-Kajita Battle), both Dobora Castle and Kajita Castle were regarded as the comerstones of Saito's defense. However, when Dobora Castle fell because Kii no Kami Sato, the lord of Kajita Castle, secretaly communicates with the Oda side, Seki Castle was also surrounded. Hayato Nagai, the lord of Seki Castle, withdrew and the castle was abandoned. The following is written on the signboard of the obsevatory installed at the heightest point on the ridge of Mt. Asakura. It is a mountain castle that resisted Nobunaga's invasion of Higashi-Mino. It is said that in 1565, when Nobunaga attacked Dobora Castle, Hayato Nagai, who ruled the Seki area, pitched his camp here. Feature (abbreviation). Although it was a mountain castle with the above four characteristics, it is said that the lord of the castle fled without fighting when it was surrounded by a large army of Oda.





[View from the Observation Deck]

[Observation Deck of Seki Castle Main Enclosure Ruins at the Summit of Mt.Asakura

[5] Dobora Castle Ruins (Flat mountain castle)

Location : Yuta , Tomika Town , Kamo District , Gifu Prefecture

Year of construction : Not clear

Founder : Not clear

Main castle lord : Nobuchika Kishi

Remarks : The following is written on the standing signboard of the ruins of the main closure of Dobora Castle. Dobora Castle is a fort where the lord of Hachiya Castle , Kishi Sado no Kami Nobuchika , shut hinself up. Nobunaga Oda invaded Mino from Owari with the aim of conquering the whole country. In August 1565 , he attacked this fort and forced it to fall. At first , Nobunaga regretted Kageyu's (Nobuchika Kishi's) brabery and advised him to surrender. However , Kageyu valued right eousness with his lord , the Saito clan , and firmly refused this , resulting in a battle. On August 28 , Nobunaga set up his headquarters on Mt.Takahata. Together with Kii no Kami Sato , the lord of Kajita Castle , who had previously communicated with Nobunaga , Nobunaga started attacking Dobora Castle from both sides of Yuta and Hachiya. Kageyu met Nobunaga's forces with the castle soldiars. They fought for eight hours from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. His eldest son , Nobufusa , died in the battle , and the enemy soldiers entered the castle. Kageyu set fire, and he and his wife committed suicide.

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[5] Dobora Castle Ruins (Flat mountain castle) continued



[The Stone Monument at the Entrance to the Dobora Castle Ruins]



[Dobora Castle Main Enclosure Ruins]

[6] Kajita Castle Ruins (Mountain castle)

Location : Kajita , Tomika Town , Kamo District , Gifu Prefecture

Year of construction : 1558 - 1570

Founder : Tadayoshi Sato , Tadayasu Sato

Main castle lord : Sato clan , Saito clan , Mori clan

Remarks : Kajita Castle is one of the three castles of Chuno along with Seki Castle and Dobora Castle. The castle was called the Rejecting Castle because it had never fallen and had driven away all of its enemies. In chuno , three castles , Seki , Kajita , and Dobora , made an anti - Nobunaga pact. At this time , Nobunaga , who captured Inuyama Castle , increased pressure on the two castles of Kajita and Dobora. Kageyu Kishi , the lord of Dobora Castle , maintained an anti - Nobunaga stance. On the other hand , kii no Kami Tadayoshi Sato , the lord of Kajita Castle , sensed the trend of the times and acceptrd Nobunaga's secret communication. Then , Nobunaga's army invaded Unuma Castle and Sarubami Castle , and surrounded Dobora Castle. Then , Tadayoshi Sato , the lord of Kajita Castle , attacked Dobora Castle with Nobunaga's army and captured it. However , Tadayoshi Sato was killed in the battle , and Nobunaga ordered Toshiharu Saito , the youngest son of Dosan Saito to become the lord of Kajita Castle. After the Honnoji Incident , the territory was integrated with Nagayoshi Mori , who was expanding his power in Tono. After that , Kajita Castle was abandoned by Mori clan.



[Kajita Castle Main Enclosure Ruins]



[View from the Summit of Mt.Kajita]

[7] Sarubami Castle Ruins (Mountain castle)

Location : Katsuyama , Sakahogi Town , Kamo District , Gifu Prefecture

Year of construction : around 1400

Founder : Yoshimasa Nishimura

Main castle lord : Yoshimasa Nishimura , Tahara ckan , Shuri Tajimi , Shigeyoshi Kawajiri

Remarks : In 1547, Shuri Tajimi looted Sarubami Castle from the Tahara clan. In 1565, Nobunaga Oda, with his vassal, Nagahide Niwa as the supreme commander, began the invasion of Higashi - Mino. Shigeyoshi Kawajiri, who was the spearhead of Nagahide Niwa, attacked Sarubami Castle and forced it to fall. Sarubami Castle was renamed Katsuyama Castle by Nobunaga, and Shigeyoshi Kawajiri was ordered to be the lord of the castle. Shuri Tajimi escaped under Kageyu Kishi of Dobora Castle, which belonged to the Saito clan (the Battle of Dobora). After that, when Shigeyoshi Kawajiri moved to Iwamura Castle in 1575, Sarubami Castle was abandoned.



[View from the Summit of Mt. Shiro]

[8] Unuma Castle Ruins (Mountain castle)



[Observation Deck at the Summit of Mt. Shoro]

Location: 7-23, Unuma Minami Town, Kakamigahatra City, Gifu Prefecture

Year of construction : around 1429 - 1441

Founder : Harutoshi Osawa

Main castle lord : Osawa clan , Ikeda ckan , Nakagawa clan

Remarks : It is said to have been built by Harutoshi Osawa between 1429 and 1441. It is said that Harutoshi Osawa moved from Izumi Province to Mino and built a castle there. Osawa clan followed Dosan Saito. In 1564, Nobunaga ordered Tokichiro Kinoshita to capture Unuma Castle, but Masashige Osawa, the lord of Unuma Castle, strongly resisted. Due to Tokichiro's trick, Masashige surrendered, but Nobunaga, fearing that the surrendered Masashige had changed his mind, planned to kill him. However, it is said that Masashige was allowed to escape due to Tokichiro's arrangement. After that, Unuma Castle was given to Tsuneoki Ikeda, the lord of Inuyama Castle. During the Battle of Komaki and Nagakute in 1584, Tsuneoki Ikeda of Hideyoshi's force entered Unuma Castle, which was the former territory, under the pretense of going to Higashi-Mino, and captured Inuyama Castle.



[View from the Inuyama Side of the Kiso River]



[View from the Unuma Side of the Kiso River]

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