

Tour the Sites of "Province Robbery Story (Ryotaro Shiba)"

2.5.2017

Sohun

[1] Nagamori Caste Ruins (Flat castle)

Location : Kiridoshi 6 , Gifu City , Gifu Prefecture

Year of construction : 1185 (Landlord · Shibuya Kanamaru King)

Castle lord : Governor of Mino Province , Yorito Toki

Governor of Mino - Owari - Ise Province , Yoriyasu Toki

Remarks : In 1339 , the governor of Mino , Yorito Toki , moved from Otomi Mansion to Nagamori Mansion because it was inconvenient in Tono to govern the whole of Mino. Nagamori Castle is located between the Sakai River and the Arata River. After the transfer of Kawate Castle in 1351 , it became the residence of the deputy governor of Owari , and his younger brother , Naouji Toki entered as the deputy governor of Owari. For generations , close relatives of the governors have become the lords of Nagamori Castle.



【Nagamori Castle Ruins (Kiritoshi Jinya Ruins)】



【Sakai River】

[2] Kawate Castle Ruins (Flat castle)

Location : shohoji Town , Gifu City , Gifu Prefecture (Seibi High School)

Year of construction : 1353

Castle lord : Governor of Mino - Owari - Ise Province , the 3rd governor · Yoriyasu Toki

~ the 11th governor · Yoriaki Toki

Remarks : In 1353 , Yoriyasu Toki moved from Nagamori Castle , which became too small , to Kawate Castle. In 1467 , court nobles who fled from the capital due to the Onin War relied on the Toki clan and moved to Kawate. As a result , the culture of the capital (poetry , Kemari , etc.) came to bloom in Kawate. It was said "Yamaguchi (Ohuchi clan) in the west , Kawate (Toki clan) in the east". Like Nagamori Castle , Kawate Castle is sandwiched between the Sakai River and the Arata River , and is located 8km to the south. In 1532 , Masayori Toki , the governor of Kawate Castle , was attacked by Yoriaki Toki (Masayori's younger brother) of Sagiyama Castle. Masayori fled to Echizen , and Yoriaki assumed the position of governor and moved his residence to Kawate Castle.



【Kawate Castle Ruins Stone Monument】



【Shin-Arata River alongside the Kawate Castle Ruins】

Tour the Sites of "Province Robbery Story (Ryotaro Shiba)"

2.5.2017

Sohun

[3] Fukumitsu Castle Ruins (Flat castle)

Location : Nagara Fukumitsu , Gifu City , Gifu Prefecture

Year of construction : 1509

Castle lord : Governor of Mino Province , Masafusa Toki

Remarks : Until then , the center of Mino was placed in Kawate Castle. However , due to the construction of Fukumitsu Castle , the functions of the place of governor crossed over the Nagara River and moved to the vicinity of the current Nagaragawa Sports Plaza. Masafusa Toki's eldest son , Masayori , fought with his younger brother , Yoriaki. However , Masayori who received military support from the Asakura clan , succeeded to the family headship. However , after Masafusa's death in 1525 , Yoriaki raised an army , occupied Fukumitsu Castle by force , and exiled Masayori. In 1532 , Yoriaki , who took over the family headship , moved to Edahiro Mansion and Fukumitsu Castle short-lived.



【Fukumitsu Castle Ruins Semimaru Park】



【View of Mt.Kinka from Fukumitsu Castle Ruins】

[4] Edahiro Mansion Ruins (Mansion)

Location : Nagara , Gifu City , Gifu Prefecture

Year of construction : 1532

Castle lord : Governor of Mino Province , Yoriaki Toki

Remarks : After Masafusa's death in 1525 , Yoriaki raised an army , occupied Fukumitsu Castle by force , and exiled Masayori. In 1532 , Yoriaki , who took over the family headship , moved to Edahiro Mansion.



【View of Mt.Kinka from Edahiro Mansion Ruins】



【Edahiro Mansion Ruins Gifu Park】

Tour the Sites of "Province Robbery Story (Ryotaro Shiba)"

2.5.2017

Sohun

[5] Sagiyaama Castle Ruins (Mountain castle)

Location : Sagiyaama , Gifu City , Gifu Prefecture

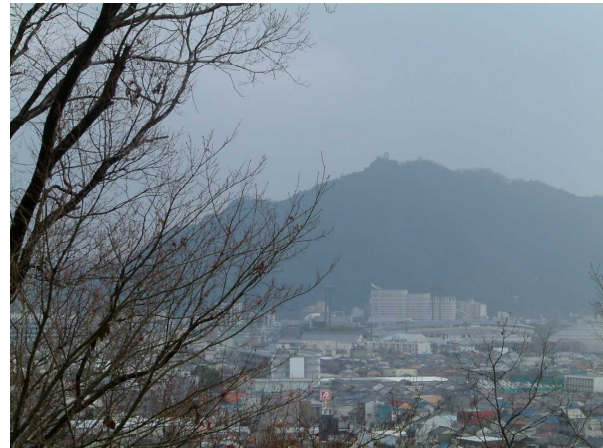
Year of construction : 1185-1190

Castle lord : Yoritake Toki , Yoriaki Toki , Dosan Saito

Remarks : In 1525 , Yoritake's younger brother Yoriaki Toki occupied Sagiyaama Castle. By the following year , Yoritake had recaptured Sagiyaama Castle. This battle lasted until 1530 , but was won by Yoriaki , supported by Nagahiro Nagai and the father of Dosan Saito. Yoritake entered Oga Castle. In 1532 , Yoriaki moved from Sagiyaama Castle to Edahiro Mansion. In 1535 , Nohime was born between Dosan Saito and Omi no Kata. In 1548 , Dosan handed over the family headship to his son Yoshitatsu Saito and retired to Sagiyaama Castle. In 1549 , Nohime married Nobunaga Oda of Owari Province from Sagiyaama Castle , so she was called "sagiyaama - dono".



【Sagiyaama Castle Ruins on the Summit】



【View of Gifu Castle from Sagiyaama Castle Ruins】

[6] Oga Castle Ruins (Mountain castle)

Location : Ogabora Kojozan , Yamagata City , Gifu Prefecture

Year of construction : 1250

Castle lord : Matasaburo Oga , Yoritake Toki , Yoriaki Toki

Remarks : In 1535 , the flood of the Nagara River hit Edahiro Massion , the governor's residence. The Toki clan's last governor of Mino , Yoriaki , moved to Oga Castle. In 1543 , Dosan Saito attacked Oga Castle. A peace treaty was established through the mediation of Asakura clan and Oda clan. However , in 1552 , Dosan attacked again. Yoriaki left and the Toki clan perished. Oga Castle was abandoned.



【View from the Main Enclosure of Oga Castle】



【View of Mt. Kajo of Oga Castle Ruins】

Tour the Sites of "Province Robbery Story (Ryotaro Shiba)"

2.5.2017

Sohun

[7] Gifu Castle Ruins (Mountain castle)

Location : Gifu City , Gifu Prefecture (Mt.Kinka)

Year of construction : 1201

Castle lord : Yukimasa Nikaido , Dosan Saito , Yoshitatsu Saito , Tatsuoki Saito , Nobunaga Oda

Remarks : In the middle of the 15th century , Toshinaga Saito , substitute for governor of Mino , restored and resided in the castle. In 1525 , Nagahiro Nagai and Shinzaemon no jo Nagai , the vassals of the Saito clan , rebelled and made the castle a branch of Nagai Clan. In 1535 , Shinkuro Norihide Nagai (Toshimasa Saito , later Dosan Saito) , a son of Shinzaemon no jo , became the lord of the castle. In 1541 , Toshimasa expelled the governor , Yoriaki Toki. In 1547, Nobuhide Oda and his vassals from the Yoriaki faction attacked the castle town , but were severely defeated. In 1554 , Toshimasa handed over the castle and family headship to his legitimate son , Yoshitatsu Saito , and called himself Dosan. In 1556 , Yoshitatsu defeated Dosan in the battle of the Nagara River. Yoshitatsu died suddenly in 1561 , and Tatsuoki Saito took over the family headship at the age of 13 and became the lord of the castle. In June of the same year , Nobunaga Oda , who had won the Battle of Jushijo , attacked Inabayama Castle , but , was severely defeated. In 1564 , Shigeharu Takenaka and Morinari Ando , vassals of the Saito clan , rebelled and raised an army , and attacked Inabayama Castle. Tatsuoki and others abandoned the castle and fled to Ukaiyama Castle , while Takenaka and others occupied the castle for half a year. In 1567 , Nobunaga Oda invaded the town of Inabayama , based on the secret response of the three clans of Nishimino. Tatsuoki abandoned the castle , went down the Nagara River by boat , and escaped to Ise Nagashima. In the same year , Nobunaga moved his base from Mt.Komaki to Mt.Inaba and changed the name of the castle and town to "Gifu". From around this time , Nobunaga used the red seal of "Rule the World with Forth". In 1576 , Nobunaga made his heir , Nobutada Oda, the lord of Gifu Castle , and handed over the family headship of the Oda clan and the two provinces of Mino and Owari.



【View of Nagara River and Sagiya Castle from Gifu Castle】



【Ruins of Nobunaga's Residence at the Foot of Mt. Kinka】



【Gate to Nobunaga Residence Ruins】



【Distant View of Gifu Castle】

Tour the Sites of "Province Robbery Story (Ryotaro Shiba)"

2.5.2017

Sohun

[8] Unuma Castle Ruins (Mountain castle)

Location : 7-23 , Unumaminami Town , Kakamigahara City , Gifu Prefecture

Year of construction : not clear

Castle lord : Harutoshi Osawa , Masashige Osawa , Tsuneoki Ikeda

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 Province and built a castle there. The Osawa clan followed Dosan Saito and others. In 1564 , Nobunaga Oda based Tokichiro Kinoshita to capture Unuma Castle , but Masashige Osawa , the lord of Unuma Castle strongly resisted. Due to Tokichiro's trick , Masashige surrendered. However , Nobunaga , fearing Masashige's change of heart , plotted to kill him. But it is said that Masashige was allowed to escape because of Tokichiro's plan. After that , Unuma Castle was given to Tsuneoki Ikeda ,the lord of Inuyama Castle. During the Battle of Komaki and Nagakute in 1584 , Hideyoshi's Tsuneoki Ikeda pretended to be heading for Higashi-Mino , entered Unuma Castle in his former territory , and captured Inuyama Castle.



**【View from the Inuyama Side
of the Kiso River】**



**【View from the Unuma Side
of the Kiso River】**

[9] Shotokuji Temple Ruins

Location : Tomitaobori 413-5 , Ichinomiya City , Gifu Prefecture

Year of construction : 1517

Founder : Heizen

Remarks : This is the temple where Dosan Saito and Nobunaga Oda met in 1553 (1549 according to one theory). It measures 873m from north to south and 327m from east to west , and is surrounded by a moat. The temple moved here and there due to floods and war damage. Dosan let Nobunaga marry off his daughter Nohime , but wanted to meet with Nobunaga , who was called a big fool. The meeting was held at this temple (Shotokuji Temple) along the Kiso River near the midpoint between Mino Province and Owari Province.



**【Shotokuji Temple Ruins
Stone Monument】**



**【Name of this Bus Stop IS
"Shotokuji Temple Ruin"】**

Tour the Sites of "Province Robbery Story (Ryotaro Shiba)"

2.5.2017

Sohun

[1 0] Kani Akechi Castle Ruins (Mountain castle)

Location : Setaosayama , Kani City , Gifu Prefecture

Year of construction : 1342

Founder : Yorikane Akechi

Remarks : In 1342 , Yorikane Toki , a descendant of the Mino-Genji , changed the name to Akechi and built this castle. After that , it prospered as the residence of the Akechi clan for about 200 years. Also , it was known as Osayama Castle or Akechi Osayama Castle. Akechi Castle was built by Yorikane , the second son of Yorikiyo , who was the 5th head of Mitsuhiro , the governor of Toki Mino Province. The castle was inhabited until the generation of Mitsuhide Akechi. It is believed to be the birthplace of Mitsuhide. In 1556, the castle was attacked by Yoshitatsu Saito , the lord of Inabayama Castle , and Mitsuyasu Akechi , the substitute for the governor of Akechi Castle , gathered more than 870 people and the castle was besieged. However , Yoshitatsu's army , with more than 3,700 troops , attacked for 2 days. Mitsuyasu entrusted Mitsuhide with the revival of the Akechi family and committed suicide with his younger brother Mitsuhiro. His wife and concubine also committed suicide before the castle fell.



【Akechi Castle Ruins】



【View to the North from Castle Ruins】

[1 1] Naegi Castle Ruins (Mountain castle)

Location : Naegi , Nakatsugawa City , Gifu Prefecture

Year of construction : 1526

Founder : Masatoshi Toyama (Priest)

Remarks : In 1526 , Masatoshi Toyama (Priest , the lord of Koeji Castle) moved his residence from Koeji Castle in Uenaegi , Fukuoka to Naegi , Takamori. In 1560 , Kantaro , the lord of Naegi Castle , took part in the Battle of Okehazama. In 1565 , the daughter of Kantaro , the lord of Naegi Castle (the adopted daughter of Nobunaga Oda) , married Katsuyori Takeda (the second son of Shingen Takeda). Ryotaro Shiba's "Province Robbery Story Vol.4" contains the following description. Even though it is called Mino , there is a castle lord named Kantaro Toyama in Naegi near the Kiso River. Naegi is currentry around Enakyo , a tourist spot. The Toyama clan has been a prominent family since the Northern and Southern Courts , and there is no one who does not know it in neighboring countries. Omit , the younger sister of Omi no Kata (Kani Akechi clan) , the lawful wife of Dosan who died , is married to this Toyama family. She is Kantaro Toyama's wife. She had a daughter named Yukihime. As Nohime's cousin , Nobunaga worked with the Toyama clan in the early days of Mino's strategy , recruited Toyama clan to his side , and took Yukihime to Owari as his adopted daughter.



【Distant View of Takamori with Naegi Castle Ruins】



【Close View of Naegi Castle Ruins】

Tour the Sites of "Province Robbery Story (Ryotaro Shiba)"

2.5.2017

Sohun

[1 2] Kiyosu Castle Ruins (Flat castle)

Location : Ichiba , Kiyosu City , Aichi Prefecture

Year of construction : 1405

Founder : Yoshishige Shiba

Main castle lord : Shiba clan , Oda clan

Remarks : In 1405 , the castle was built by Yoshishige Shiba , the governor of Owari , Totomi , and Echizen. Originally , it was built as a separate castle of Shimozu Castle , which was the residence of the governor of Owari. In 1476 , Shimozu Castle disappeared due to an internal conflict within the Oda family , the substitute of governor. In 1478 , the residence of governor moved to Kiyosu , and Kiyosu became the center of Owari. For a period of time , Nobuhide Oda resided in the castle as Kiyosu magistrate. When Nobuhide Oda moved his base to Furuwatari Castle , Nobutomo Oda , the substitute of governor , entered. In 1555 , Nobutomo was killed by Nobumitsu Oda , who had allied with Nobunaga Oda. After that , Nobunaga moved from Nagono Castle , and after making a major renovation , it became his base. Nobunaga used Kiyosu Castle as his residence for about 10 years , including taking part in the Battle of Okehazama from this castle. In 1562 , an alliance between Nobunaga and Ieyasu Tokugawa (Kiyosu Alliance) was formed at this castle. In 1563 , Nobunaga moved to Komakiyama Castle to prepare for a battle with the Saito clan in Mino Province. After that , Kiyosu Castle became a castle for defense.



【Main Enclosure of Kiyosu Castle Ruins】



【Gojo River , Which Served as the Moat for Kiyosu Castle】

[1 3] Iwakura Castle Ruins (Flat castle)

Location : Shimohonmachi , Iwakura City , Aichi Prefecture

Year of construction : 1479

Founder : Toshihiro Oda

Main castle lord : Oda clan , Iwakura Oda clan

Remarks : The castle was built in 1479 by Toshihiro Oda , the head of the Oda Isenokami family. Based in this castle , the Oda Ise family (Iwakura Oda clan) ruled over the four countries above in Owari. Based in Kiyosu Castle , where the residence of governor of Owari was located , the Oda Yamato family (Kiyosu Oda clan) ruled over the four countries below in Owari. Iwakura Castle was an important castle along with Kiyosu Castle.



【Iwakura Castle Ruins Stone Monument】



【Gojo River , Which Served as the Moat for Iwakura Castle】

Tour the Sites of "Province Robbery Story (Ryotaro Shiba)"

2.5.2017

Sohun

[1 4] Orizu Castle Ruins (Flat castle)

Location : Orizutakado Town , Inazawa City , Aichi Prefecture

Year of construction : Middle Muromachi Period

Founder : Not clear

Main castle lord : Shiba clan , Oda clan

Remarks : Around 1400 , Yoshishige Shiba , who was appointed as governor of Owari , is said to have established the residence of governor of Owari Province at Orizu Castle. In 1432 , the 6th shogun Yoshinori Ashikaga is said to have stayed at this castle during his sightseeing tour of Mt.Fuji. When the Onin War broke out , even in Owari Province , the Oda clan , the substitute of governor , intervened in the Shiba clan's family succession dispute , splitting the clan into two. At the time , Toshihiro Oda , the family head of the "Oda Iisenokami family" , who was the direct descendant of the Oda family and had originally inherited the position of the substitute of governor , entered the castle and resided there. In 1476 , Toshihiro fought against Toshisada Oda , the head of the Oda Yamato no Kami family , a branch of the substitute of governor Oda family , and was defeated. Orizu Castle is said to have been destroyed by fire at that time. After that , the residence of governor of Owari moved to Kiyosu Castle , which was a separate castle. In addition , Toshihiro Oda , who was driven out of Orizu Castle , built Iwakura Castle and resided there.



【Orizu Castle Ruins Stone Monument】



【Aoki River , Which Served as the Moat for Orizu Castle】

[1 5] Komaki Castle Ruins (Flat mountain castle)

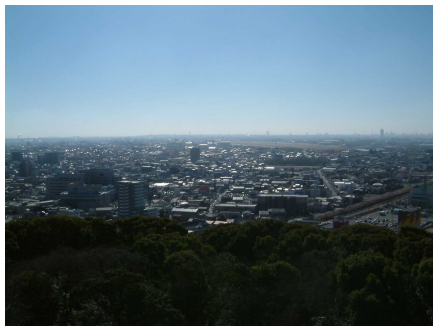
Location : Horinouchi 1-1 , Komaki City , Aichi Prefecture

Year of construction : 1563

Founder : Nobunaga Oda

Main castle lord : Oda clan , Tokugawa clan

Remarks : After winning the Battle of Okehazama in 1560 , Nobunaga Oda launched his attack on Mino three months later. In 1562 , he formed the Kiyosu Alliance with Ieyasu Tokugawa at Kiyosu Castle , eliminating the threat from the eastern side of Owari Province. This made it possible for Nobunaga to relocate his base to Mt.Komaki in the north of Owari , which is close to Mino Province , in order to prepare a system to attack Mino Province with all his might. Immediately , with Nagahide Niwa as magistrate , he built a castle on the summit of Mt.Komaki , a solitary peak in the vast Nobi Plain , and in 1563 moved the main force to Komakiyama Castle.



【View from the Summit of Mt. Komaki】



【Ruins of Nobunaga's Mansion at the Foot of the Mountain】

Tour the Sites of "Province Robbery Story (Ryotaro Shiba)"

3.1.2017

Sohun

[1 6] Jozai-ji Temple

Location : 9 , Kajigawa Town , Gifu City , Gifu Prefecture

Year of construction : 1450

Founder : Myochin Saito

Denomination : Nichiren sect

Remarks : It's the family temple of the Saito family. Dosan Saito and his father , Shinzaemon-no-jo , Nagai , used this temple as a base to control Mino Province for two generations. The official name is Jyurinzan Jozaiji Temple. It belongs to the Nichiren sect and is a branch temple of Myokakuji Temple in Kyoto. It was built by Myochin Saito , who was the defacto ruler of Mino at the time. In 1450 , during the Muromachi Period , he came to power as substitute of the governor of the Toki family. Later , Dosan made it a family temple , and after Dosan , it became a family temple for three generations. In Ryotaro Shiba's "Province Robbery Story" , the robbery of Mino begins when Dosan (Horenbo) visits the chief priest (Nanyobo) of Jozaiji Temple , a friend with whom he trained at Myokakuji Temple in Kyoto.



【Jozaiji Temple】



【View of Mt. Kinka
from Jozaiji Temple】

[1 7] Sofuku-ji Temple

Location : Nagarafukumitsu 2403-1 , Gifu City , Gifu Prefecture

Year of construction : 1469

Founder : Nariyori Toki , Nagahiro Saito

Denomination : Rinzai Myoshinji sect

Remarks : In 1567 , Nobunaga Oda destroyed Tatsuoki Saito and entered Mino , protecting Sofukuji Temple as the family temple of the Oda family. In 1582 , Nobunaga Oda and Nobutada Oda died due to the Honnoji incident. At that time , the relics of the two were brought from Gifu Castle to Sofukuji Temple by Onabe , Nobunaga's concubine. It is said that they were buried in the mausoleum of Nobunaga and Nobutada. In addition , it is a temple with a long history , where Shoki Kaisen , who is famous for saying "If you extinguish your mind , the fire will naturally cool down" , once served as the chief priest.



【Sofuku-ji Temple】



【View of Mt. Kinka
from Sofuku-ji Temple】

Tour the Sites of "Province Robbery Story (Ryotaro Shiba)"

3.3.2017
Sohun

[1 8] Dosan Mound

Location : Dosan Town , Gifu City , Gifu Prefecture

Year of construction : 1837

Founder : Jozai-ji Temple , 27th Hitsubaki Shonin

Remarks : Dosan Saito fought his heir , Yoshitatsu Saito , in 1556 (Battle of the Nagara River), but Dosan , who was outnumbered , was defeated and was killed while trying to escape to Kidai-ji Temple. Dosan of Sagiyama Castle gathered an army , but most of them joined Yoshitatsu's side. However , after being defeated in one battle , Dosan returned to Kidai-ji Castle , and barricaded himself. Dosan , who attacked from Kidai-ji Castle , died in battle on the banks of the Nagara River. Dosan's body was burried in the southwest of Sofuku-ji Temple , but it was often swept away by the flood of the Nagara River. After that , in 1837 , the 27th priest of Jozai-ji Temple , Hitsubaki Shonin , moved the mound to this place and erected the current stone monument.



【Dosan Mound】



【View of Jogamine Where
Kidai-ji Castle Used to Be】

[1 9] Okehazama Ancient Battlefield Legendary Site

(nationally designated historic site)

Location : Minamiyakata 11 , Sakae Town , Toyoake City , Aichi Prefecture

Remarks : Yoshimoto Imagawa left Sunpu in 1560 with an army of about 25000 men. They entered Okazaki , then Kutsukake Castle , and prepared to attack Owari. Nobunaga Oda left Kiyosu Castle in the early hours of the morning and performed Kowakamai on that occasion. When leaving Kiyosu Castle , there were only six master and servants , and they waited for the number of people on the way. By the time they prayed for victory at Atsuta Shrine , the number had grown to over 1000. And at the time of the battle , the army had grown to about 3000 men. The Imagawa army easily captured the Marune and Washizu forts. The headquarters took a break in the pine forest between Okehazama and had lunch while listening to the progress of the war. At that time , the weather suddenly changed and it was raining. Aiming at the dismayed Yoshimoto forces , Nobunaga cut into the main camp at once. The death toll in the battle was 2500 for the Imagawa army and 830 for the Oda army , and it took only 2 hours.



【Okehazama Ancient
Battlefield Ruins】



【The Hill That
Nobunaga Ran Down】

Tour the Sites of "Province Robbery Story (Ryotaro Shiba)"

3.5.2017

Sohun

[2 0] Ukaiyama Castle Ruins (Mountain castle)

Location : Gomomurayama , Gifu City , Gifu Prefecture

Year of construction : Sengoku Period

Founder : Akishige Murayama

Remarks : Mt.Gomo , where the Ukaiyama Castle was built , is located behind the old Ukai Village. Today , there are no remains of the castle. It is a castle that appeared in the conflict between Dosan Saito and the Toki clan senior vassal , Akishige Murayama. It is also the castle where Tatsuoki Saito , who was driven out of Inabayama Castle by Hanbei Takenaka , first escaped. As mentioned above , it is a castle whose name often appears in history.



**【Mt. Gomo Where
Ukaiyama Castle Was Located】**



**【View of Mt. Gomo from
Gifu University Hospital】**

[2 1] Furuwatari Castle Ruins (Flat castle)

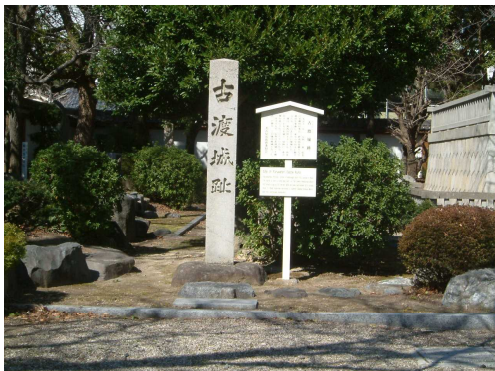
Location : Nakakutachibana 2-8 , Nagoya City , Aichi Prefecture

Year of construction : 1534

Founder : Nobuhide Oda

Main castle lord : Nobuhide Oda

Remarks : Furuwatari Castle was built in 1534 by Nobuhide Oda as a preparation for the southeast direction. Nobuhide transferred Nagono Castle , which he had stolen from Ujitoyo Imagawa (younger brother of Yoshimoto Imagawa) , to his eldest son Kipposhi (Nobunaga Oda) and made Furuwatari Castle his base. Furuwatari was an important location for the preparation of Nagono Castle because of its proximity to the sea and convenient transportation. It was a flat castle measuring 140m from east to west and 100m from north to south , and was surrounded on all sides by a double moat. In 1546 , Nobunaga celebrated his coming-of-age ceremony at Furuwatari Castle. There is a theory that Oichi , Nobunaga's younger sister , was born in Furuwatari Castle. In 1548 , Nobuhide built Suemori Castle and moved there , so Furuwatari Castle was abandoned after only 14 years.



**【Furuwatari Castle Ruins
Stone Monument】**



**【Adjacent Shinshu Otani Sect
Nagoya Betsuin】**

Tour the Sites of "Province Robbery Story (Ryotaro Shiba)"

3.11.2017

Sohun

[2 2] Suemori Castle Ruins (Flat mountain castle)

Location : 2 , Shiroyama Town , Chikusa Ward , Nagoya City , Aichi Prefecture

Year of construction : 1548

Founder : Nobuhide Oda (Nobunaga's father)

Main castle lord : Nobuhide Oda , Nobuyuki Oda (Nobunaga's younger brother)

Remarks : It was built in 1548 by Nobuhide Oda. It prepared for the invasion of the Matsudaira clan in Mikawa Province and the Imagawa clan in Suruga Province , and defended it in cooperation with Moriyama Castle of Nobumitsu Oda (Nobuhide's younger brother). Nobuhide appointed Nobuyuki Oda (Nobunaga's younger brother) as the lord of Suemori Castle. However , it is said that Nobuhide himself moved from Furuwatari Castle to Suemori Castle and died there in 1551. In 1556 , Nobuyuki , together with Michikatsu Hayashi and Katsuei Shibata , rebelled against Nobunaga , but were defeated. In 1557 , Nobuyuki plotted a rebellion again and was murdered by Nobunaga at Kiyosu Castle. Suemori Castle is a flat mountain castle measuring 200m from east to west and 160m from north to south , surrounded by a double moat. Even now , the ruins of the dry moat remain well and are worth seeing.



**【Suemori Castle Ruins
Stone Monument】**



【Ruin of Moat】

[2 3] Nagono Castle Ruins (Flat castle)

Location : Ninomaru 1 , Naka Ward , Nagoya City , Aichi Prefecture

Year of construction : 1517

Founder : Ujichika Imagawa (Yoshimoto Imagawa's father)

Main castle lord : Ujitoyo Imagawa (Yoshimoto Imagawa's younger brother) , Nobuhide Oda , Nobunaga Oda

Remarks : In 1532 , Nobuhide Oda took this castle from Ujitoyo Imagawa. In 1534 , Nobuhide entrusted this castle to Nobunaga and moved to Furuwatari Castle. Nobunaga was born in this castle and became the first lord of the castle. Nobunaga lived in this castle until he moved to Kiyosu in 1555. The second enclosure of Nagoya Castle is said to be the former site of Nagono Castle , but few remains remain.



**【Nagono Castle Ruins
Stone Monument】**



**【Nagono Castle Ruins at Second
Enclosure of Nagoya Castle】**

Tour the Sites of "Province Robbery Story (Ryotaro Shiba)"

3.20.2017

Sohun

[2 4] Kano Castle Ruins (Kutsui Castle) (Flat castle)

Location : kanomaruouchi , Gifu City , Gifu Prefecture

Year of construction : 1445

Founder : Toshinaga Saito (substitute of governor of Mino)

Main castle lord : Toshinaga Saito

Remarks : In 1445 , the substitute of governor Toshinaga Saito built a castle in this area about 500m northwest of Kawate Castle. This is the Middle Ages Kano Castle. By building a castle near Kawate Castle in the hall of governor , it promoted that it was a close-up of the governor Toki , and was responsible for its defense. The form of the castle was a square , a residential castle surrounded by moat and earthworks. After that , Saito clan made it a residential castle for generations. However , Dosan Saito has set Gifu Castle as a residence. In 1542 , when Dosan expelled the governor Yoriaki Toki from Mino , this Kano Castle became like an abandoned castle. The location of this middle ages Kano Castle is probably consistent with the current Kano Castle main enclosure site.



【Kano Castle Main Enclosure Ruins】



【Shin-Arata River along the Side of Kano Castle Ruins】

[2 5] Funada Castle Ruins (Flat castle)

Location : Kakomachi 1 , Gifu City , Gifu Prefecture

Year of construction : Muromachi Prefecture

Founder : Not clear

Main castle lord : Toshimitsu Ishimaru (Serving Saito clan , substitute of governor of Mino Prefecture)

Remarks : Funada Castle was a branch castle , Kawate Castle of the Toki clan , the governor of Mino Province , and was the residence of Toshimitsu Ishimaru. Governor , Nariyori Toki conspired with Toshimitsu Ishimaru to abolish his eldest son Masafusa and make Motoyori , the youngest son of a concubine , his successor. Toshimitsu Ishimaru tried to kill the substitute of governor Toshikuni Saito to proceed with the plot , but Toshikuni Saito discovered it. Before long , a battle broke out between Kano Castle , the residence of Toshikuni Saito , and Funada Castle , the residence of Toshimitsu Ishimaru. Toshimitsu Ishimaru was defeated , burned Funada Castle , and fled to the Rokkaku clan in Omi.



【Funada Castle Ruins】



【Shin-Arata River along the Side of Funada Castle Ruins】

Tour the Sites of "Province Robbery Story (Ryotaro Shiba)"

3.20.2017

Sohun

[2 6] Shobata Castle Ruins (Flat castle)

Location : Jhonouchi , Heiwa Town , Inazawa City , Aichi Prefecture

Year of construction : 1504

Founder : Nobusada Oda (Nobunaga Oda's grandfather)

Main castle lord : Nobusada Oda , Nobuhide Oda

Remarks : Nobusada Oda (Nobunaga Oda's grandfather) built Shobata Castle and controlled Tsushima , which was prospering as a temple town of Tsushima Shrine. The eldest son Nobuhide (Nobunaga Oda's father) , took over the family headship around 1532 and expanded his power backed by abundant economic power. Around 1532 , he captured and moved to Nagono Castle , which was the residence of Ujitoyo Imagawa. And Shobata Castle was assigned a castle keeper. In 1534 , Nobunaga Oda was born in Shobata Castle , which is recorded in the Bishu Kojoshi. There is also a theory that it is Nagono Castle , but in recent years , among researchers , Shobata Castle has become influential. Shobata Castle was a castle surrounded by a double moat , and the Miyake River served as the outer moat.



【Shobata Castle Ruins Stone Monument】



【Shobata Castle Ruins】

[2 7] Moriyama Castle Ruins (Flat mountain castle)

Location : Ichiba , Moriyama Ward , Nagoya City , Aichi Prefecture (Hoshoji Temple)

Year of construction : 1521

Founder : Nobusada Matsudaira

Main castle lord : Nobusada Matsudaira , Nobumitsu Oda (Nobuhide Oda's younger brother)

Remarks : It was a flat mountain castle measuring about 58m from east to west and about 51m from north to south , and was surrounded by the moats on all four sides. Nobumitsu Oda (Nobuhide Oda's younger brother) resided in the castle. In 1535 , Kiyoyasu Matsudaira (Ieyasu Tokugawa's grandfather) led a large army to capture Owari and marched around Moriyama Castle. However , Kiyoyasu was killed by a vassal in the camp. At the age of 13 , Kiyoyasu became the head of the family and quickly distinguished himself. In the blink of an eye , he achieved the unification of Mikawa. However , he died here in Moriyama at the early age of 25. Moriyama Castle was abandoned after the Battle of Okehazama.



【Moriyama Castle Ruins
Stone Monument】



【Moriyama Castle Ruins】

Tour the Sites of "Province Robbery Story (Ryotaro Shiba)"

8.7.2017

Sohun

[2 8] Ichijodani Asakura Clan Ruins (Mountain castle)

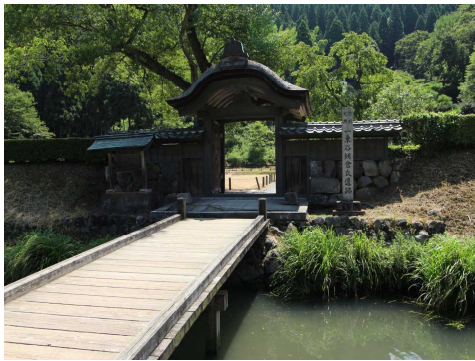
Location : 28-37 , Kidonouchi Town , Fukui City , Fukui Prefecture

Year of construction : Nanbokucho Period

Founder : Asakura clan

Main castle lord : Asakura clan , Nagatoshi Katsurada

Remarks : These are the ruins of the Asakura clan , that ruled Echizen Province around Ichijodani Castle during the Warring States Period. It consists of Ichijodani Castle (mountain castle) and the castle town at the foot of the mountain (the residence of the Asakura clan and their vassals). Castle gates were built in the north and south of Ichijodani. In the 1.7km-long Kido no Uchi , there were Asakura residences , samurai residences , temples , and townhouses. They were lined up on both sides of the planned road. Ichijodani Castle is a medieval mountain castle built by the Asakura clan on Mt. Ichijoshiroyama. At an altitude of 473m , you can see the Fukui Plain to the west. It is believed to have been built in the first half of the 15th centry. The castle was abandoned without ever being used in battle.



【Karamon Gate of
Yosikage Asakura Mansion Ruins】



【Moats and Earthworks of
Yoshikage Asakura Mansion Ruins】

[2 9] Kanagasaki Castle Ruins (Mountain castle)

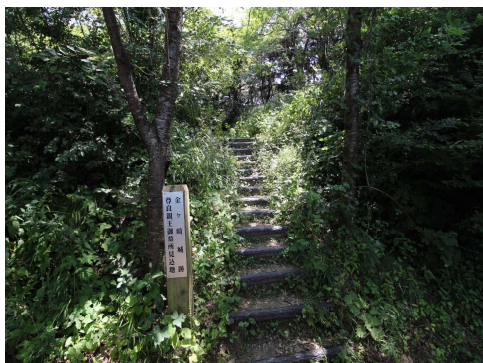
Location : Kanagasaki Town , Tsuruga City , Fukui Prefecture

Year of construction : Genpei Battle era

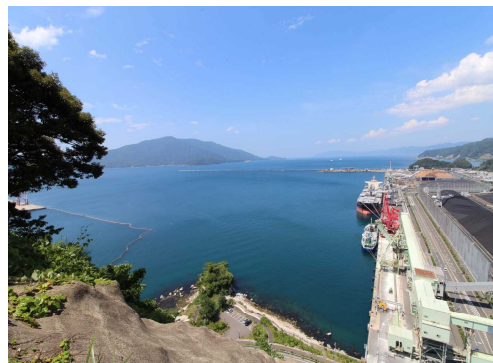
Founder : Michimori Taira

Main castle lord : Kihi clan , Kai clan , Asakura clan

Remarks : It is a mountain castle built on a small hill (Mt. Kanagasaki) , 86m above sea level , which rushed to Tsuruga Bay , northeastern Tsuruga City. It is said that during the Genpei Battle , Michimori Taira built the first castle here for the battle with Yoshinaka Kiso. Even now , the site of tsukimi Goten (main enclosure), kido , Horikiri , etc. remain. The Province Robbery Story depicts the state of Mitsuhide Akechi who travels between Yoshiaki Ashikaga and Yoshikage Asakura . Yoshiaki Ashikaga relied on Kanagasaki Castle , relying on Yoshikage Asakura in Ichijodani.



【Kanagasaki Castle Ruins】



【View from Tsukimi Goten】

Tour the Sites of "Province Robbery Story (Ryotaro Shiba)"

8.15.2017

[3 0] Takeda Clan Mansion Ruins (Flat castle)

Sohun

Location : 2611 , Kofunaka Town , Kofu City , Yamanashi Prefecture

Year of construction : 1519

Founder : Nobutora Takeda

Main castle lord : Takeda clan , Tokugawa clan , Hidekatsu Toyotomi , Nagamasa Asano

Remarks : The residence of the Takeda clan , the governor of Kai Province , we called "Tsutsujigasaki mansion" , was the center of the territory management of the Takeda clan , a feudal lord of the Sengoku Period. At present , there is Takeda Shrine on the site , and it is designated as a national historic site as "Takeda Mansion Ruins". Built during the Warring States Period , it is the headquarters of the Takeda clan , Minamoto clan of Kai Province , and the residence , the mansion of the vassals , and the castle town are integrated. It functioned as the center of Kai Province for more than 60 years with three generations , Nobutora , Shingen , and Katsuyori. Shingen greatly expanded the territory of the Takeda clan and ruled Shinano , Ueno , Totomi , Mikawa , and other areas under his influence. However , the home base was consistently "Tsutsujigasaki Mansion" , including the fortress mountain castle.



【Takeda Shrine at the Site of Takeda Mansion】



【Earthworks and Water Moats of Takeda Mansion Ruins】

[3 1] Sakamoto Castle Ruins (Flat castle、Water castle)

Location : Shimosakamoto 3 , Otsu City , Shiga Prefecture

Year of construction : 1571

Founder : Mitsuhide Akechi

Main castle lord : Mitsuhide Akechi , Nagahide Niwa , Nagamasa Asano

Remarks : Sakamoto Castle was located on the west side of the South Lake of Lake Biwa , in the northern suburbs of Otsu city. On the west side is the mountain range of Mt. Hiei , and on the east side faces Lake Biwa. It was a land of natural fortifications. Sakamoto was a key transportation point for the transportation of goods on Mt. Hiei , and prospered as a port town. In 1571 , after burning Mt. Hiei , Nobunaga Oda gave Mitsuhide Akechi Shiga Country , Omi Province , and ordered the construction of Sakamoto Castle as a restraint on Kyoto and Mt. Hiei. Luis Frois , a missionary , wrote in his book "History of Japan" that it is "a splendid castle second only to Azuchi Castle".



【Sakamoto Castle Ruins】



【View of Lake Biwa from Sakamoto Castle Ruins】

Tour the Sites of "Province Robbery Story (Ryotaro Shiba)"

8.20.2017

Sohun

[3 2] Odani Castle Ruins (Mountain castle)

Location : Ibe , Kohoku Town , Nagahama City , Shiga Prefecture

Year of construction : 1516

Founder : Ryosei Azai

Main castle lord : Azai clan , Hideyoshi Hashiba

Remarks : The castle ruin is designated as a national historic site. It is counted as one of Japanese five great mountain castles. This castle is said to be the stage of the tragedy between Nagamasa Azai and Oichi no kata. It is the residence of the Azai clan , a feudal lord of the Sengoku Period. It was known as a strong mountain castle , but was attacked by Nobunaga Oda for 4 years and fell. After that , the base in Kitaomi was moved to Nagahama Castle , and Odani Castle was abandoned. In 1570 , the battle of Anegawa was fought about 5km south of Odani Castle. The Azai/Asakura Allied Forces and the Oda/Tokugawa Allied Forces clashed. The Oda army was victorious , but Nobunaga Oda gave up attacking Odani Castle . considering its sturdiness. Nobunaga built Yokoyama Castle on the south bank of the Ane River , stationed Hideyoshi Kinoshita , a powerful military commander , and made it a frontline base against Azai clan.



【The Mountain Where
Odani Castle Was Built】



【The Mountain Where
Odani Castle Was Built】

[3 3] Kannonji Castle Ruins (Mountain castle)

Location : Azuchi Town , Omihachiman City , Shiga Prefecture

Year of construction : 1467-1487

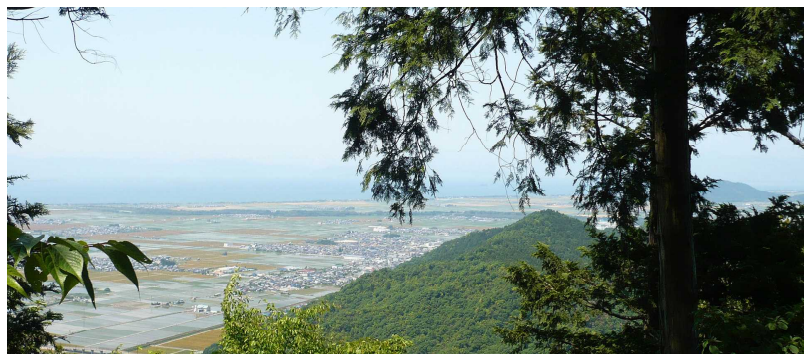
Founder : Ujijori Rokkaku

Main castle lord : Sasaki clan , Rokkaku clan

Remarks : The castle ruins are designated as a national historic site. It is the residence of the Sasaki clan of Omi Genji and the Rokkaku clan of Omi governor later. It is a total stone wall , and is considered to be a unique point in medieval castles before Azuchi Castle. In the surrounding area , there were Lake Biwa , large and small lakes , Tosando from Mino to Kyoto , and Happu Kaido from Chokoji village to Ise. It was located at a key point where they were controled. During the Onin War , Kannonji Castle was attacked three times. In 1568 , when Nobunaga Oda led Yoshiaki Ashikaga and raised a large army to go to Kyoto , the Rokkaku clan became hostile. However , Yoshikata Rokkaku and his son Yoshiharu escaped from Kannonji Castle and surrendered without flood. In 2006 , it was selected as one of Japan's Top 100 Castles.



【Kannonji Castle Doorway Ruins】



【View from the Summit of
Kannonji Castle Ruins】

Tour the Sites of "Province Robbery Story (Ryotaro Shiba)"

8.15.2017

Sohun

[3 4] Azuchi Castle Ruins (Mountain castle)

Location : Shimotoyoura , Azuchi Town , Omihachiman City , Shiga Prefecture

Year of construction : 1576

Founder : Nobunaga Oda

Main castle lord : Oda clan , Akechi clan

Remarks : There are two possible reasons for building this castle. ① It is closer to Kyoto than Gifu Castle , and it is convenient to use the water transport of Lake Biwa. ② Because it was located at a strategic point from the Hokuriku Highway to Kyoto , it was "to prepare for the Ikko ikki in Echizen and Kaga and "to guard against Kenshin Uesugi". The scale and appearance of the castle symbolized "rule the world by force " or "tenkafubu" and made its existence known to people at a glance. It is said that Nobunaga lived in the castle tower on the top of the mountain , his family lived near the main enclosure , and his vassals lived in mansions on the hillside or in the castle town.



【Azuchi Castle Main Enclosure Ruins】



【Stone Steps to
Azuchi Castle Main Enclosure】

[3 5] Nagahama Castle Ruins (Flat castle)

Location : Koen Town , Nagahama City ,
Shiga Prefecture

Year of construction : 1573

Founder : Hideyoshi Hashiba

Main castle lord : Hashiba clan , Shibata clan , Yamauchi clan

Remarks : In 1573 , Hideyoshi Hashiba received the former territory of the Azai clan from Nobunaga Oda for his achievements in attacking Nagamasa Azai. Hideyoshi disliked Odani Castle , which was far from Lake Biwa , and changed the name of this place , which was called Imahama at that time , to Nagahama. This is a letter received from Nobunaga's name. The castle was built using the materials used in Odani Castle and the lumber secretly hidden on Chikubu Island. The stone wall was immersed in the lake water , and boats could enter and exit directly from the water gate inside the castle. The castle town was moved from Odani Castle town. This place is the first castle built by Hideyoshi , and the foundation of Hideyoshi's management of the castle town.



【Nagahama Castle Ruins】



【View of Lake Biwa
from Nagahama Castle】

Tour the Sites of "Province Robbery Story (Ryotaro Shiba)"

9.2.2018

Sohun

[3 6] Ryushoji Temple

Location : Seiso 3-7-11 , Gifu City , Gifu Prefecture

Founding year : 1354

Founder : Mitsui Tomotsu

MDenomination : Jodo sect Nishiyama school

Remarks : This temple prospered as a major center of Jodo sect in in the Middle Ages in the Tokai region such as Mino Province. Through the mediation of Mitsuhide Akechi and Fujitaka Hosokawa , the temple became an important stage in history when Nobunaga Oda welcomed Yoshiaki Ashikaga , who became the last shogun of the Muromachi Period. The temple has many old paintaings , such as the image of Amida Nyorai.



【Ryushoji Temple Gate】



【Ryushoji Temple Grounds】