

Various Pottery and Lithics



The Jomon pottery unearthed from the Togariishi Site



Various pottery and clay figures



Various kinds of ornament

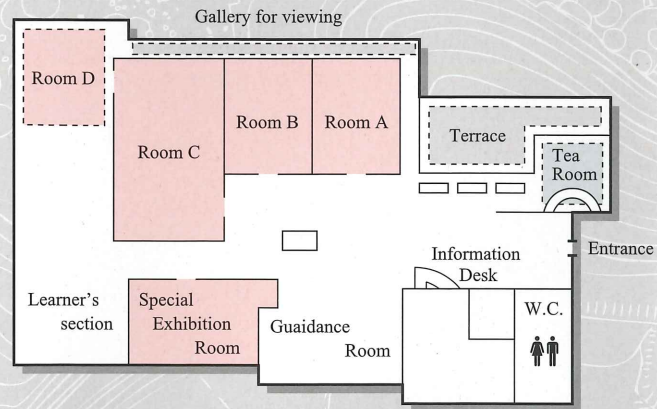


Hunting weapons and chipped stone implements



Various chipped axes and polished axes

Horizontal Illustration of the Togariishi Museum

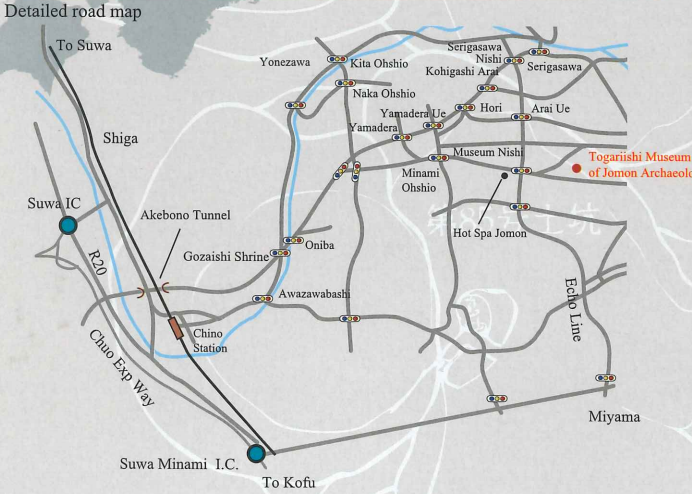
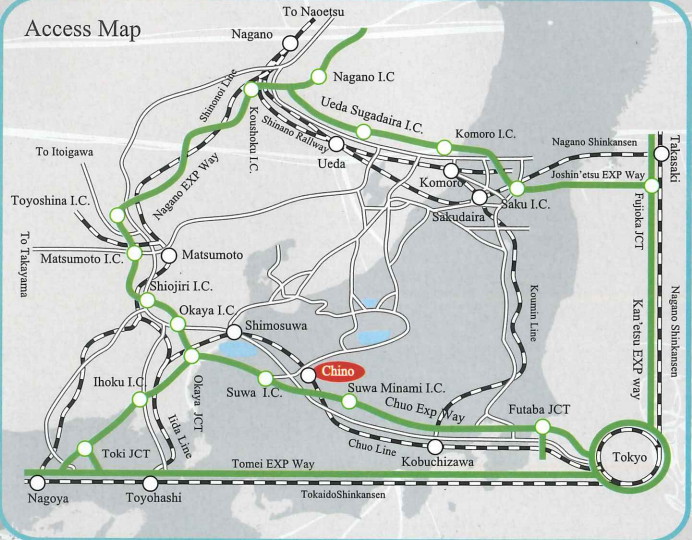


Exhibition Rooms  
 Area for Rest

TOGARIISHI MUSEUM OF  
JOMON ARCHAEOLOGY

Fare for each person	Adult	High-School	JNR High School and Elementary School
Less than 19 people	¥500	¥300	¥200
More than 20 people	¥400	¥200	¥150

Open at 9:00A.M. to 5:00P.M. (please enter before 4:30P.M.)  
 Close on  
 Every Monday(except for the National Holiday), 12/29 to 1/3,  
 the following day of the National Holiday



**Togariishi Museum of Jomon Archaeology**  
 391-0213 4734-132, Toyohira, Chino city, Nagano Pref., Japan  
 TEL +81-266-76-2270/ FAX +81-266-76-2700  
 e-mail togariishi.m@city.chino.lg.jp

## The Clothes, food and houses of the Jomon Age

### Clothes

The cloths made by yarn were used in the Jomon Age. They were called “Angin” (the knit cloths). It is considered that people made their clothes by using these cloths in the Jomon Age. The design on the clothes is not clear, we’ve examined and discussed on the possibility that the design observed on the clay figure expressed those of the clothes.

### Food

The Jomon people lived peacefully with the nature of the forest of the Yatsugatake Mountains. They did their activity in accordance with the season, such as hunting deers and boars, fishing in the river, gathering the nuts. They preserved the food enough to live through the year. In recent study, it can be said that the farming of *fabaceae* and *lagenaria siceraria* was adopted.

### Houses

The houses in the Jomon Age were pit dwellings. The procedure is considered as follows: at first, they made the floor and the wall by digging a large hole in the ground. Then, they dug the small hole to build the pillars and finally, they made the roof on the pillars. The hearths were made on the floor. There were some remarkable houses with altar inside.

### Guidance Room

You can watch the visual program of the National Treasure of “The Jomon Venus” as well as receiving information on the Togariishi Museum and the Togariishi Site Park. This room can be used for some lectures.



### Exhibition Room A: The Special National Site Togariishi Site

This exhibition introduces the Togariishi and Yosukeone sites where the Jomon village landscape was revealed for the first time in Japan. It also introduces the works of Mr. Miyasaka who was commended to Honorable Citizen of Chino for his studies.



### Exhibition Room B: “The Jomon Venus” and “The Venus of Mask”

We exhibit two clay figures. The one is the Jomon Venus that was appointed to the National Treasure for the first time as the Jomon Age artifact. The other is the Important Cultural Property “The Venus of Mask” from the Nakappara Site. Photographs and a diorama showing the progress of excavation of both clay figures are also available.

### Exhibition Room C: The Jomon Culture of the Yatsugatake Mountains

In this room, you can see the various artifacts of the Jomon culture developed around the Yatsugatake Mountains.



### Special Exhibition Room

We hold special exhibitions relating the Jomon culture.


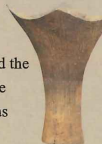




### Exhibition Room D: The Life of the Jomon Age

This is the room where you can experience the food, clothing and housing of the Jomon Age with the visual programming and by simply trying them.

### Learner's Section

You can try pottery making or read the books written about archaeology (Japanese books only).

BC11000		BC8000		BC4000		BC3000		
Palaeolithic Age	Incipient period	Initial period	Early period		Middle period			
	There remain the obsidian source sites around Mt. Tsumetayama.	People began to make pottery. The site with the pottery of this period hasn't been yet found around the Yatsugatake Mountains.	The life with the pit dwellings started around the Yatsugatake Mountains. The pottery with pointed bottom was widely adopted. 	Todonosawa Site The pottery with pointed bottom: simple and less decorated.	The number of the villages increased around the Yatsugatake Mountains and the stable life would begin. The pottery with flat bottom was widely adopted. 	Shimonohara Site Pottery with wave-shaped rim: shows widely opened shape for the edge in contrast with the slender body.	A huge village emerged and the Jomon culture seemed most developed in this period. The pottery beautifully decorated. The shape of pottery developed variation. 	Tanabatake Site The Jomon Venus is a clay figure that stands. The spiral patterns and triangular carvings are seen on it's head. 

### The Togariishi Museum of Jomon Archaeology

The Jomon culture based on the beautiful and plentiful nature of the Yatsugatake Mountains grew gradually and came at its peak approximately 5000 years ago(BC3000).

The Togariishi Museum of Jomon Archaeology exhibits over 2000 splendid archaeological materials excavated from such Jomon sites at the foot of the Yatsugatake Mountains, including the National Treasure of "Clay Figure" (The Jomon Venus), the Important Cultural Property of "Clay Figure" (The Venus of Mask) and the artifacts excavated from the Togariishi site.

We would be grateful if you could put use our service of experiencing Jomon life, or simply visit us and enjoy.

### The Excavation Research of the Togariishi Site by Mr. Fusakazu Miyasaka

Mr. Fusakazu Miyasaka studied archaeology while working as an elementary school teacher. He started an excavation research of the Jomon sites around the Yatsugatake Mountains before the Pacific War. He concentrated on excavating the Togariishi site until finally achieving to reveal the whole structure of the Jomon village for the first time in Japan. Mr. Miyasaka's excavation research of both sites became the great fundamental study of the Jomon village.



### Special National Site: the Togariishi Site

The Togariishi site is located on the foot of the Yatsugatake Mountains and it is dated back to the middle period of the Jomon Age. The excavation research was started in 1930 by Mr. Miyasaka. A number of pit dwellings and hearths were unearthed with the numerous pieces of pottery and lithics, and they revealed the characteristics of the Middle Jomon culture and village that developed around the central highland of Japan. The Togariishi site was appointed as the Special National Site for its value in the archaeology study. In 1998 the Yosukeone site was also added.

#### "TOGARIISHI" Rock

There is a 1m height pyramid-shaped rock on the southern slope of the Togariishi site which is called TOGARIISHI. The Togariishi site is named after this rock. The Jomon people would sharpen their lithics by using this rock as a grindstone.



#### Pottery with Snake-shaped Handle

We can see the clay works possibly expressing a snake with an opened mouth on the rim of this pottery. The pottery is a deep bowl (19.5cm high) with a cord-marked pattern on its surface. This was unearthed in perfect condition. We can say that this is the one of the most eye-catching pottery of all.



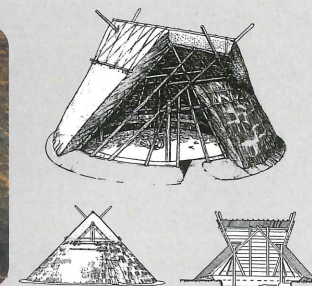
Togariishi Site, the middle period

### The Reconstructed Jomon Houses of the Yosukeone Site



The Yosukeone site was excavated by Mr. Miyasaka during the years 1946 to 1952. As a result, 28 pit dwellings of the middle period of the Jomon Age were found. We tried to show the Jomon village landscape by reconstructing the houses on the 6 pit dwellings that possibly existed with each other for a certain period.

There is a water spring spot at the south of the village. It is considered as where the Jomon people obtained the water. There grows the broad-leaved deciduous trees, such as *Quercus* and *Castanea* that bring abundant nuts.



Togariishi Site  
The clay ridge vertically runs from the snake-shaped handle to the bottom.



Tanabatake Site  
Many clay ridges run smoothly on the surface and they gather to make up the handles.

The number of sites gradually decreases around the Yatsugatake Mountains and the Jomon culture began to decline from this period. And the decoration on the pottery got simplified.



Late period

Nakappara Site  
The Masked Goddess: the spiral patterns on the arms, belly and back with incised line and the minute cord-marks.



Spouted pot: this pottery has the bag-like body and the long lip for pouring.

It is clear that the Jomon culture around the Yatsugatake Mountains declined at this period. The sites of this period are known to be very few.

Final period



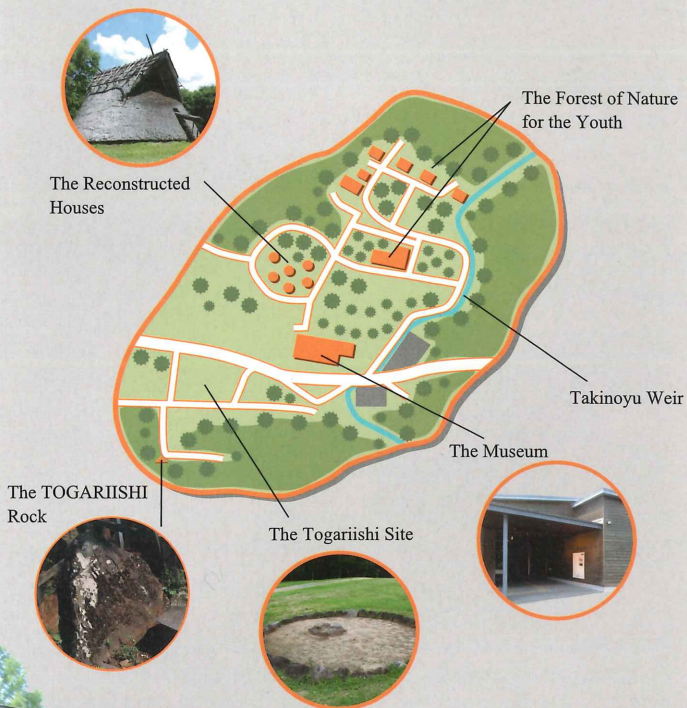
Mishaguji Site  
This pottery has a linear net-like pattern that was possibly established under the influences from the Tohoku region.

Yayoi Age

The villages were managed on an alluvial land around the Suwako Lake. The use of metal tools and the rice farming were started.

### The Map of the Togariishi Site Park

We have arranged the area of the Togariishi site for 10 years in order to experience the Jomon life for the visitors. The museum is settled at the center of the park. We also set up the institution of "The Forest of Nature for the Youth". It serves to give experiences of nature to the next generation.



### The Jomon Venus from the Tanabatake Site

The Jomon Venus was unearthed from the small pit located at the center of the site. Surprisingly, it was found as if cemented in concrete pit and had remained almost complete. We are able to see the common features used on clay figures of the middle period of Jomon Age on the Venus. This clay figure was appointed to the National Treasure in 1995 because of its beautiful form and the context of excavation.



The figure was formed as follows: firstly, the main frame was built up with clay. After that, it was modeled whole by the finer clay and finally finished with a stable proportion. Its surface was well polished as if to reflect light and we can also see the mica shining. We can recognize its humane or heart-warming form from the pregnant expression and the wide open arms etc.



Tanabatake Site, the middle period  
Height: 27cm, Weight: 2.1kg

### The Masked Goddess from the Nakappara Site

This is the clay figure expressed mask in the late period of Jomon Age. The designs marked on its surface were made very carefully and the form is highly splendid. Another remarkable feature is also pointed out on this clay figure, i.e. it was unearthed from a burial pit. So we can say that this clay figure is the one of the rare artifacts associated with burial pits. In addition, this was found almost complete similar to the Jomon Venus. These features made the Masked Goddess designated as a National Treasure of Japan in 2014.



This clay figure was made by piling up the circular clay strings. So it is hollowed inside. The surface was so polished that gloss appeared and it was burnt to be black. This figure holds an almost godly atmosphere with upside-down triangular masked face.



Nakappara Site, the late period  
Height: 34cm, Weight: 2.7kg

