

# ADACHI CITY MUSEUM

## Permanent Exhibition Brochure

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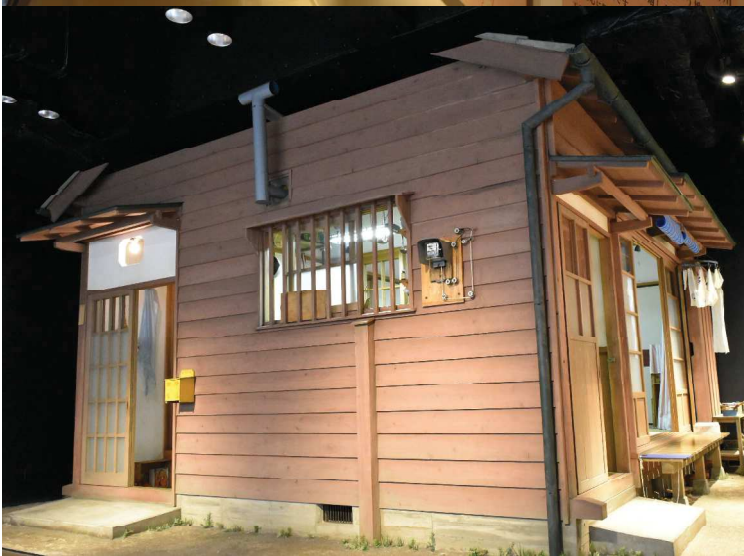
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# Welcome to the Museum

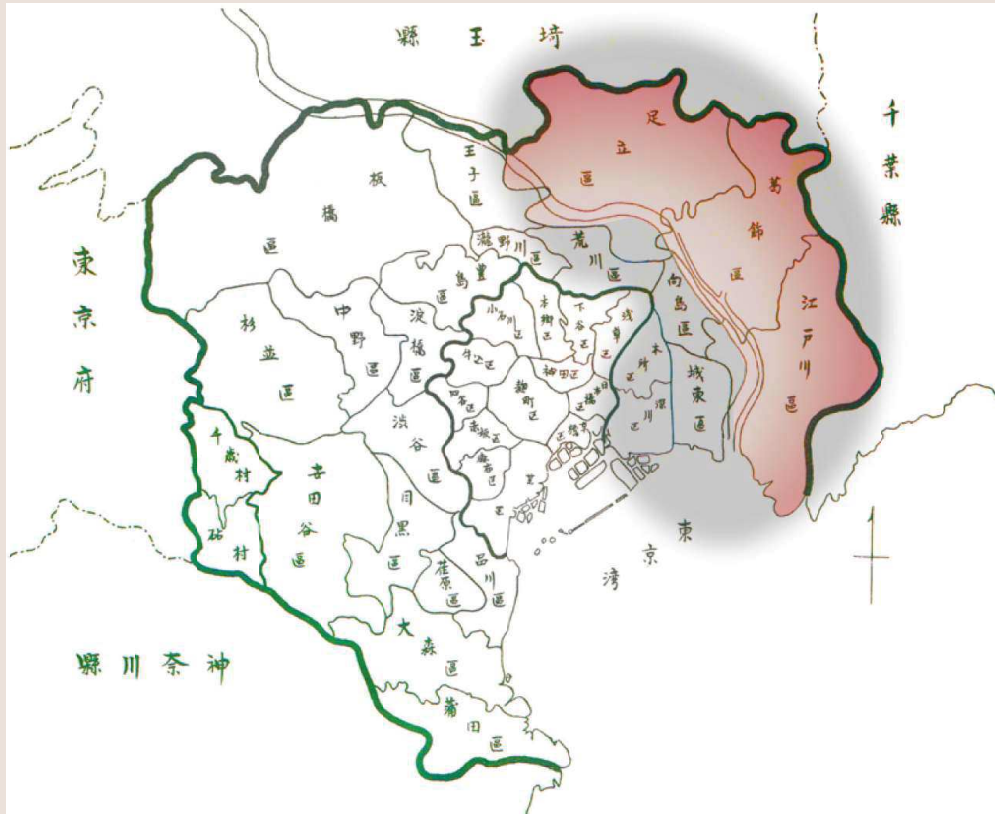
Adachi City Museum is a museum where you can experience, discover, enjoy, learn, and chat as you view the exhibits. We look forward to your visit.

## Adachi City Museum Permanent Exhibition Theme - The Eastern Suburbs of Edo-Tokyo

Adachi's development came with inclusion of the area into the suburban area of the major city known first as Edo then Tokyo.

The suburban areas around urban Edo-Tokyo can be divided into eastern and western parts with a hilly region in the west and a flat region in the east formed by the downstream basins of several large rivers. Situated in the eastern part, the development, life, and culture of Adachi were influenced by the characteristics of such a region.

The Museum conveys the special attributes of Adachi under the theme "Urban Edo-Tokyo and the Adjacent Eastern Suburban Area—The Eastern Suburbs—."



Schematic drawing: The Eastern Suburbs of Edo-Tokyo



Museum Hall

## Kids' Hall

You'll find shelves with tools from olden times, exhibits in drawers, and boxes with exhibits you can handle and play with.



Exhibit shelves and drawers



# Formation of Farming Villages

The area around Adachi was a low-lying marshy area in the downstream basins of several rivers, and most of it was uncultivated until the Warring States period (late 15th to late 16th century). The Edo Shogunate implemented a policy of creating new villages in this area, which was close to Edo Castle, and opened up new fields by encouraging relocation to the area.

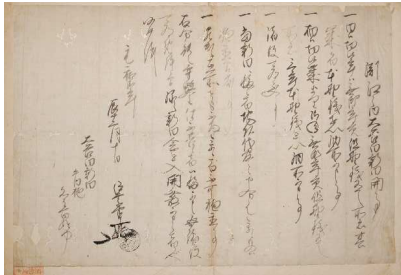
**Rice cultivation and water:** Most of the cultivated land was flat, so it was used for growing rice. Because rice cultivation requires fresh water uncontaminated by seawater, the local farmers built reservoirs (storage ponds) together with the Edo Shogunate, as well as channels to draw water from far off rivers.



**Irrigation water:** Minuma Daiyosui irrigation water, drawn from the Tone River. Near current-day Kojiya-Honcho, Adachi-ku. Around 1969. Photo: Isao Kojima



**Tamei reservoir:** Site where the Ayasegawa River was dammed for rice cultivation



**Development Protocol:** The notice issued in 1616 by Governor Tadaharu Ina urging relocation to and development of the Adachi area.



**Assumed Tomb of Heinai Kawai:** Said to be the tomb of the man who developed Kitasanya-Shinden. Ensho-ji Temple, Towa, Adachi-ku.

## Edo-Tokyo's Rice Bowl

Being so close to the city of Edo-Tokyo, an area with high consumption, Adachi became an important granary area. Rice could be transported to the inner city using river boats. But the vast rice paddy fields began disappearing from around 1965 with the arrival of urbanization.



**A farming village:** Japanese alder trees lining extensive rice paddy fields

# Farmhouses and Cultivated Land

In the early Showa era (1930s), Adachi was an area where farming settlements and fields were expanding. The farmers grew rice on farmland using water brought in through irrigation channels, and on the low-lying marshlands they grew vegetables suitable to the conditions.



**Farmhouses and use of land around them (1/60th model)** Farmhouses were surrounded by hedges and much of the land around the houses was cultivated.



**Harvesting Japanese parsley (1/10th model)** Japanese parsley grown in water was a specialty vegetable of Adachi harvested in winter. Farmers used wooden tubs like boots to harvest the parsley.



**Farmhouses and Cultivated Land (1/300th model.** Around 1935, near Ogi 3-chome)

## Use of Night Soil

Farmers in the farming villages of the Eastern suburbs brought in inner city residents' human manure and used it as night soil (fertilizer). Farming with night soil continued until around 1955, when the use of chemical fertilizers became more widespread. A koedame (night soil reservoir) is a tank for storing and fermenting human manure.



**Koedame** (excreta reservoir) for storing night soil [Reproduced to life size]



Scooping out night soil from a reservoir and spreading it over a rice field



# Renowned Eastern Suburb Vegetables

As the population of inner city Edo-Tokyo grew, the need for vegetables increased greatly and farmers worked hard to grow fresh vegetables. There also emerged specialty vegetables which had their place of cultivation included in their names.

Vegetables with Eastern Suburb Village Names in their Names

Area	Vegetable
Adachi	Kurihara Santona (Kurihara Chinese Cabbage), Nishiarai Ozaya (Nishiarai Edamame), Senju Negi (Senju Scallions)
Katsushika	Shimochiba Kokabu (Shimochiba Turnips), Honden Uri (Honden Gourds), Kanamachi Kokabu (Kanamachi Turnips), Mizumoto Ginmakuwauri (Mizumoto Oriental Melon), Magarikane Na (Magarikane Greens)
Edogawa	Komatsu Na (Komatsu Greens)
Arakawa	Mikawashima Ozaya (Mikawashima Edamame), Mikawashima Na (Mikawashima Greens), Shioiri Daikon (Shioiri Daikon Radish), Yanaka Shoga (Yanaka Ginger)
Kita	Takinogawa Gobo (Takinogawa Burdock), Takinogawa Ninjin (Takinogawa Carrot)
Sumida	Terajima Nasu (Terajima Eggplant)
Koto	Sunamura Negi (Sunamura Scallions)



Red shiso shoot growing (Kurihara, Adachi-ku)



Kanamachi Turnips



Tokkuri Maruki edamame [bundle of edamame on the stalk, with leaves]



White cucumber harvest

Mikawashima Edamame growing in Hokima, Adachi-ku

# Senju's Bustling Fruit and Vegetable Markets

Farmers' produce was shipped to Senju's wholesale market (wholesaler district). Lined with its tens of wholesalers dealing mainly in vegetables and fruits, the whole of the Senju-Kawaracho area was well known as Senju's vegetable market. The wholesalers' buildings were sturdy two-story wooden buildings with the first floor given over to a long, narrow space leading to the rear. The vegetables and fruits that farmers brought in would fill the floor area inside the buildings and the stone paved area outside, adjacent to the road, before being auctioned.



Wholesalers' storefront (Reproduced to actual size)



Shipped vegetables (Reproduced)



The market filled with people (1935)



Trading at storefronts (1930s)



# Role and History of Senju Market

Along with Kanda and Komagome, the Senju fruit and vegetable market was one of the three largest fruit and vegetable markets in the Edo period. It was the largest market and had the largest trading volume among the farming villages of the Eastern Suburbs.

**Edo period and Meiji era:** The market emerged at the beginning of the Edo period (1600s). In 1735 it became an "official purveyor of vegetables" to the Edo shogunate, and continued expanding into the Meiji era (from 1868).

**Taisho and Showa eras (pre-World War II):** The volume of vegetable produce trade increased with the opening of a railway. In 1945 it became Adachi Market.

**Showa era (pre- and post-World War II):** The volume of market trade continued to increase, more land was needed for the transportation by motor vehicle, and in 1979 the fruit and vegetable market moved to Iriya, Adachi-ku, while the fresh fish market remained in Senju-Kawaracho.



The fruit and vegetable market in the early Showa period: Current-day Senju-Kawaracho, Adachi-ku



Adachi Market in 1954 (Senju-Hashidocho): Completed in the last year of World War II, this market played a major role in supplying vegetable produce to inner city Tokyo, where the population was growing rapidly.



Monument to the market in Senju-Kawaracho (Inari Jinja Shrine, Senju-Kawaracho)



Yatsukaya, on which the storefront reproduction was modelled [Courtesy of Mr. Yukio Okamoto, Senju-Kawaracho, Adachi-ku]  
At the front of the wholesaler's building was about 5.4 meters stone paving up to the roadway, which provided a place to put vegetables.

# Development of Flower Cultivation

Another area of agricultural production aimed at urban centers was flower cultivation. The Adachi Tulip Frame is a small-scale greenhouse put forward by Mr. Kamoshita of Shimane, Adachi-ku in 1950. It was designed to let in solar heat and enable forcing. It was an excellent invention widely adopted throughout Japan.



Flower cultivation [Ogi, Adachi-ku]



Chrysanthemum growing [Ogi, Adachi-ku]



Adachi Tulip Frame [Hokima, Adachi-ku]



## Supporting Edo-Tokyo Culture

The Eastern Suburbs farming villages were also bustling tourist destinations for people from the inner city. They also played a role in forming Edo-Tokyo culture by producing lucky charms sold at annual events and festivals.

**Developing well-known sightseeing attractions:** People from the city center favored the Adachi area as a leisure destination for its wide open scenery bounded by rivers, distinctive festivals, and historical shrines and temples. The people of the Eastern Suburbs farming villages actively advertised and maintained these sightseeing spots to bring visitors to the area and managed to turn them into well-known sightseeing attractions.

**Festival and annual event staging:** The people of the Eastern Suburbs farming villages played essential roles in the staging of festivals and annual events in the inner city. They provided musical accompaniment at festivals, for example the Kanda Matsuri, and they produced sacred straw rope decorations, Bird Day Fair rake shaped amulets, and other lucky charms.

Ukiyo-e paintings of sightseeing attractions that have endured since the Edo period



Ukiyo-e painting of Nishiarai Daishi temple, which became a sightseeing attraction (*Edo Meisho Zue [Guide to Famous Edo Sights]*)



*Horikiri no Hanashobu [Irises at Horikiri] [Meisho Edo Hyakkei [One Hundred Famous Views of Edo]]*



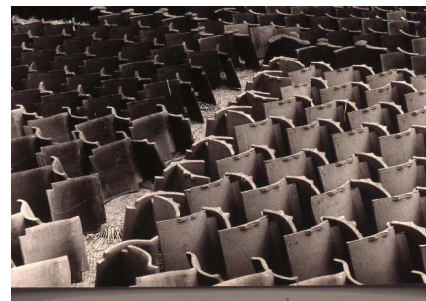
Making a rake shaped amulet (Motoki, Adachi-ku)

## Emergence of Modern Industries

In the 1800s, industries included papermaking, roof tile making, and textile dyeing, which made use of the river water, boats for transportation, and the extensive flat lands.



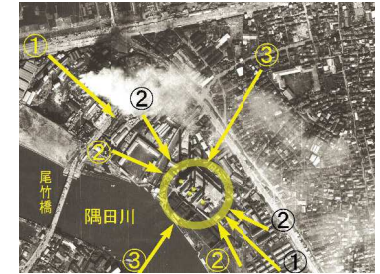
Recycled paper



Roof tile making

## Four Obake Entotsu (Phantom Chimneys) and Industrialization

From 1922 to 1964, the four chimneys of the Senju Thermal Power Station, commonly known as "The Phantom Chimneys", stood in Senju, Adachi-ku. Their intriguing design made the number of chimneys appear to change depending on the angle of view. After the Great Kanto Earthquake of 1923, the number of small factories and houses in the Senju area grew, giving rise to a "new downtown area." The chimneys were a symbol of this downtown area.



The numbers of chimneys visible from various directions  
The numbers ① to ③ are the numbers of chimneys visible from that direction.  
The four chimneys are visible from locations other than ① to ③.



Senju Thermal Power Station (1/200th model)

## Modern Industries in the Eastern Suburbs

Industrialization progressed in the Eastern Suburb region thanks to favorable conditions: its rivers, groundwater, and extensive land.

Factory construction began in Sumida and Koto, nearer the inner city, then expanded into Adachi, Katsushika, and Edogawa to form an industrial zone on the east side of Tokyo.



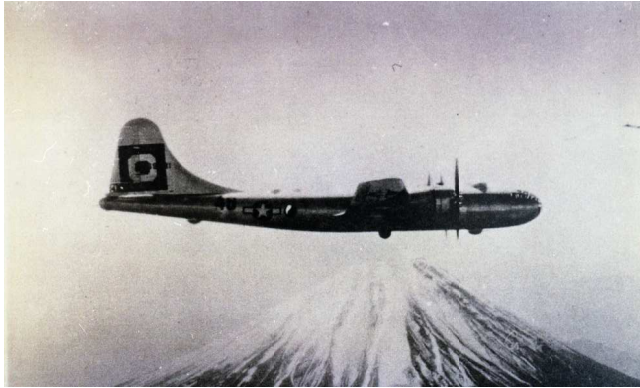
Shinden factory zone bordered by Sumida River (left) and Arakawa River (right) 1971



Inside a shoe factory

## Eastern Suburb Factory Area Targeted in WWII

Towards the end of World War II, the factory area in the Eastern Suburbs became a target for air raids by US Air Force B29 bombers. Air raids from March to May 1945 destroyed the factory area along the Arakawa and Sumida Rivers. Four anti-aircraft gun positions were built in Adachi to fire on the bombers.



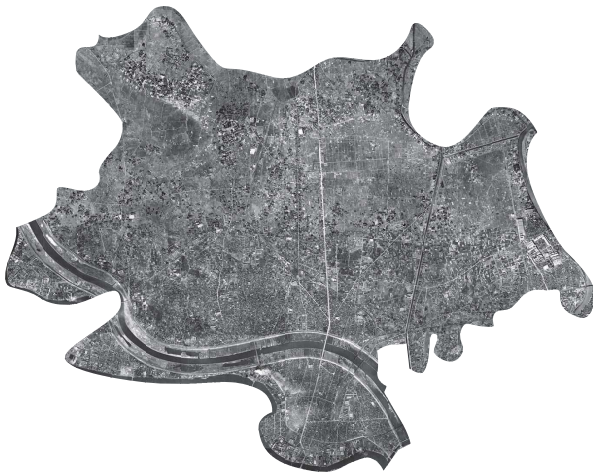
US Air Force B29 bomber



Anti-aircraft gun position at Hokima

## Aerial View of Adachi in the Showa Era

The aerial photographs from 1958 show how Adachi was changing from a farming village area into a built-up suburban area.



## Township History Gallery

This gallery presents the history of the town centers. It features the streetcars that ran along the streets of Senju until 1968. They were used by people going to and from the inner city but were discontinued because of the increasing numbers of cars on the roads.

## Eastern Suburbs Food

With the large number of people living in Tokyo, all kinds of foods and cuisines are available. Some widely consumed foods have their origin in the Eastern Suburbs.

**Farmers' food:** Simple dishes using homegrown seasonal vegetables. Miso soup with scallions, Komatsuna greens, eggplant, etc. and pickles such as Santona (Chinese cabbage), eggplants, and small turnips.

**Traditional feasts:** For feasts eaten on special days such as Obon and festivals, people in the Eastern Suburbs prepared dishes such as white rice without wheat, rice mixed with vegetables and meat, nori rolls, and red bean rice. Feasts also included *bota mochi* (sweets made of rice and red beans) and *kusa mochi* (rice cake with mugwort). For festivals, many kinds of dishes were prepared, such as vegetable tempura, *inarizushi* (sushi in fried tofu), and stewed dishes.

**Specialty foods of the Eastern Suburbs:** These include popular souvenirs and some nostalgic foods now being featured on TV and in magazines. They have joined the ranks of Tokyo's specialty foods.

**Workers' food:** The numbers of housing complex homes for factory and office workers increased around 1955, but their kitchens were small with few cooking utensils. Housewives often had side jobs, so the use of readily available pre-prepared dishes grew. The advent of shop-lined streets around that time proved convenient for shoppers and they flourished.



*Kusa dango* [mugwort rice dumplings], a renowned souvenir (1954)



Development of shop-lined streets, providing easy daily shopping (Aoi Heiwa-dori, 1974)



Festival feast



Specialties: *Kusa dango* [mugwort rice dumplings] and *suzumeyaki* [grilled young crucian carp]



An evening meal [around 1965]



# Life in the New Communities

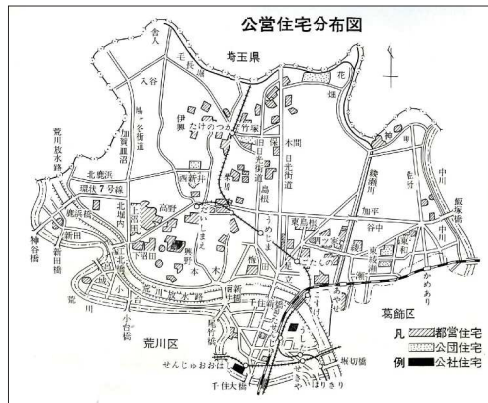
The number of people moving into the Eastern Suburbs increased greatly after the Great Kanto Earthquake in 1923 and the residential areas expanded. The population increase was most dramatic from immediately after World War II to the period of high economic growth (1945-1970), when farmland was rapidly converted into residential land, transforming it into a dense built-up area.

This transformation rivalled the Shinden Development of the early Edo period (1620s), which converted uncultivated land into villages and arable land.

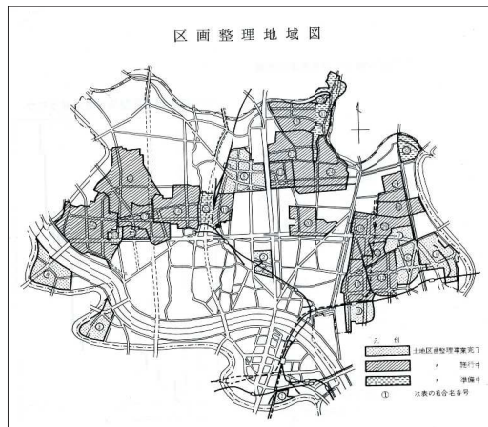
**Adachi's transformation into a residential area:** Adachi's population was about 31,500 in 1874. In 1975, 100 years later, that number had increased 20 times to about 609,500. With the start of the Showa era in 1926, the number of people moving to Adachi increased rapidly. To convert what had been farming villages into residential areas, new communities were created using three main methods: house construction, apartment complex construction, and land readjustment.

## Three methods of creating new communities

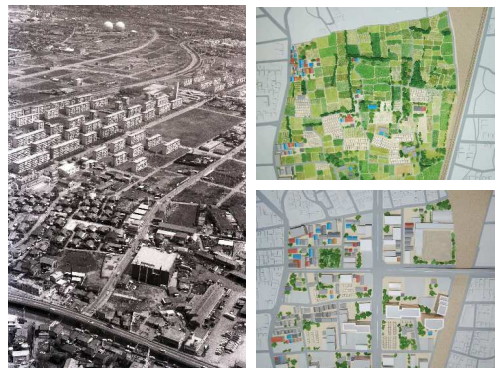
- (1) Mass construction of houses: Construction of Tokyo metropolitan housing, etc.
- (2) Construction of apartment complexes: New communities were created with the construction of commercial areas, parks, and so on, in addition to housing.
- (3) Land readjustment: Lots were created on farmland, agricultural roads, etc., and residential areas were provided with water supply and sewerage.



Public housing distribution map (1961)



Adachi's land readjustment zone



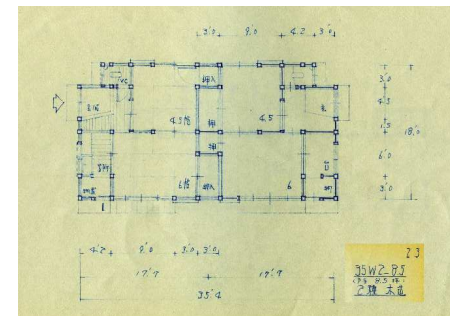
Apartment complex, land readjustment area, and government housing



Before land readjustment in the Kurihara 4-chome, Adachi-ku area (top) and after (bottom) (1/1200th Half mirror image)

# Tokyo Metropolitan Housing and Everyday Life

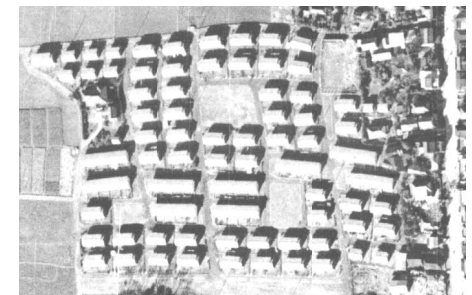
In the era of rapid population growth in Adachi (1960-64), the typical rental house was a single-story, partitioned building with one roof under which two or three households lived. Typical of those was Tokyo metropolitan housing, which was built in large quantities in Adachi and the Eastern Suburbs. The new residents created new lifestyles.



Plan of a wooden 2-8.5-type Tokyo metropolitan house: Original drawing: Constructed in 1960. Property of Tokyo Metropolitan Government. The numbers on the drawing are a traditional Japanese measure called "shaku" (1 shaku is about 33 cm).



Tokyo metropolitan housing under construction (1960, current-day Aoi, Adachi-ku)



Tokyo metropolitan housing in Rokugatsucho Aerial view [1958]



Immediately before demolition (Takenotsuka, Adachi-ku)



The wooden one-story Tokyo metropolitan house in the exhibition room is a reproduction of a house plan from 1960 and appears here as it did four years after construction.



## Visitor Guide

■ **Open** 9:00 to 17:00 (Last admission: 16:30)

■ **Closed** Mondays (If Monday is a national holiday, closed the following weekday)  
Year-end and New Year holidays, exhibition change over, building fumigation.

■ **Admission** 200 yen (high school students and above)

Half price for groups (20 people or more). Free for over 70s.

Disability certificate holders with one accompanying caregiver

**Free Admission:** 2nd and 3rd Saturday

May 5, May 18 (ICOM International Museum Day)

October 1, November 3

■ **Access** JR Kameari Station North Exit - Tobu Bus

- Take the bus for Yashio Station South Exit, get off at Adachi City Museum, then walk 1 minute.

- Take the bus for Mutsugi Toju, get off at Higashi-Fuchie Garden, then walk 4 minutes

JR Line and Tokyo Metro Chiyoda Line - Ayase Station West Exit - Tobu Bus

- Take the bus for Mutsugi Toju, get off at Higashi-Fuchie Garden, then walk 4 minutes

**Free parking available**



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