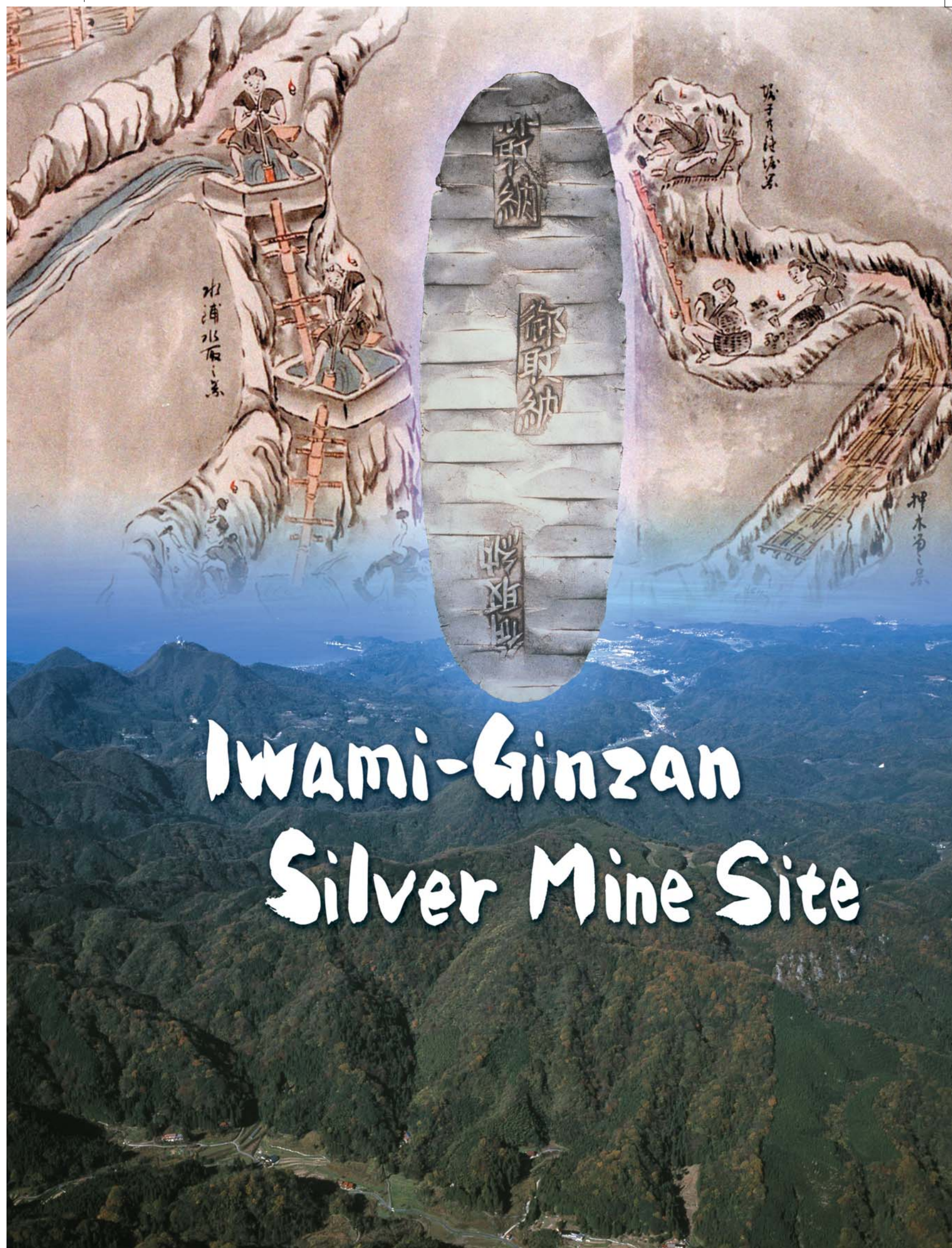


Chronology of the Iwami-Ginzan Silver Mine

Period	Year	Events
Kamakura	1309	Iwami-Ginzan reportedly discovered (Ginzan Kyuki)
	1526	Merchant Kamiya Jutei of Hakata re-discovers Iwami-Ginzan (Ginzan Kyuki)
Warring States Muromachi	1531	Ogasawara clan of Kawamoto takes possession of the mine
	1533	Cupellation refining method implemented for the first time in Japan at Iwami-Ginzan Silver Mine. Ouchi clan captures the mine.
	1556~1562	Struggle over the mine develops between the Mohri and Amako clans, which eventually ends in favor of the Mohri clan
	1568	"Silver Mine Kingdom" on a map by Portuguese cartographer Fernan Buez Drad
Azuchi-Momoyama	1585	Joint control by the Mohri and Toyotomi clans
	1600	Tokugawa shogunate gains possession after the battle of Sekigahara
	1601	Okubo Nagayasu appointed the first commissioner
Edo	1602	Annual silver production reaches 15 tons
	1603	Yasuhara Bicchu pays 13.5 tons of silver as annual business taxes and is granted an audience with Tokugawa Ieyasu
	1624	Total silver output begins to fall to 4.5 tons per year
	1673~1682	Total silver output further decreases (10-year average: 980 kilos)
	1675	Iwami-Ginzan downgraded to become subject to governance by the intendant
	1731	Ido Heizaemon assumes post of intendant
Meiji	1733	Sweet potato growing encouraged. Ido Heizaemon passes away
	1800	Great Fire in Omori. Most of the mine lost
	1869	Omori Prefecture established (Aug 1869 - Jan 1870)
Taisho	1887	Management by Fujita-gumi of Osaka starts
	1895	Shimizudani Refinery completed
Showa	1923	Omori mine closed due to slumping business
	1942~1943	Copper mining attempted, only to cause flooding. Mine closed
	1956	Omori Town merged with Ohda City
	1967	Iwami-Ginzan Silver Mine Ruins designated a historic site by the Prefectural Government
	1969	Fourteen sites (Former Intendant's Office, Ryugenji Mabu, etc.) designated historic sites by the National Government
Heisei	1987	Streets of Omori and Ginzan selected Important Preservation District for Groups of Historic Buildings by the National Government
	1993	Ohda City starts excavation of the Ishigane district. Remains of mining/refining and other remnants discovered
	1996	Joint study of the Ishigane district by Shimane Prefecture and Ohda City started
	2001	Inscribed on Tentative List of UNESCO World Heritage (April)
	2002	Sakunouchi Area, ruins of castles, two ports designated historic sites by the National Government (March)
	2004	Iwami-Ginzan Site designated a mining prohibited zone (January)
	2004	Landscape conservation regulations established in Ohda City, Yunotsu Town and Nima Town (July)
	2004	"Streets of Yunotsu selected as a Important Preservation District for Groups of Historic Buildings by the National Government (July)"
	2005	Iwami-Ginzan Site designated a mining prohibited zone (January)
	2005	Gohyakurakan, Rakanji Temple, Tomogaura settlement and Okidomari settlement of the Iwami-Ginzan Site to be applied for national historic sites in January
2005	Iwami-Ginzan Silver Mine Roads (Tomogaura Route, Yunotsu-Okidomari Route), Miyanomae district of Omori Town designated historic sites by the National Government (March)	
2006	Letter of recommendation for inscription of Iwami-Ginzan on the List of World Heritage Sites to be submitted to UNESCO in September	
2006	On-site survey by ICOMOS (plan)	
2006	Iwami-Ginzan Site to be inscribed on the List of World Heritage Sites in July	



Iwami-Ginzan Silver Mine Site

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