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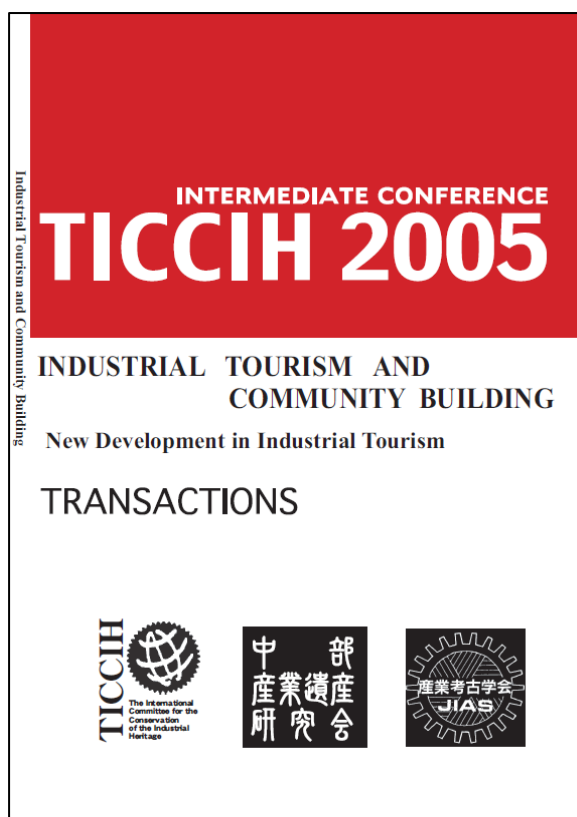
Intermediate Conference 2005 & International Forum for Industrial Tourism, Nagoya/Aichi, 6.-8. July 2005

After the Meiji Restoration (1868) the Chubu region, especially Nagoya (City)/Aichi (Prefecture) has led Japan's industrial revolution and from the mid 1990's it promotes tours of museums offering industrial cultural assets and of factories (Industrial Tourism) on Mr. Hiroshi Suda's own initiative, who was the JR Tokai Advisor of those days. In the autumn of 2002, an arrangements committee for establishing International Industrial Tourism was set up under TICCIH Japan Committee and Nagoya CCI (=Nagoya Chamber of Commerce and Industry).

In 2003 at the last XII TICCIH Congress Moscow – Ekaterinburg - Nizhny Tagil, the Japanese Conference Organization Committee which consisted of TICCIH Japan Committee, JIAS (=Japan Industrial Archaeology Society), CSIH(=the Chubu Society for Industrial Heritage), Aichi Prefecture, Nagoya City and Nagoya CCI, was recognized to hold the intermediate conference 2005 in Nagoya/Aichi, Japan. It was the first time a TICCIH conference had been held in Asia and also was a landmark conference which will surely lead to many more conferences in this dramatic region, Nagoya/Aichi.

This conference, together with EXPO 2005 Aichi (world's fair, from March to September) got excellent results. One of them you can read in our publication, that is: "*Intermediate Conference TICCIH 2005, Industrial Tourism and Community Building; New Development in Industrial Tourism. Transactions*", ed. by Akira Oita, Shoji Ishida and the editorial committee, Nagoya 2005 (ISBN 4-901730-59-2).

To our regret TICCIH Japan Committee is not yet well concerned with the assessment and evaluation of



industrial remains, and that is the key to Japanese Industrial Heritage and Industrial Tourism in the years ahead.

Initiatives in Kyushu

We have many affairs of cultural heritage, particularly in Kyushu to report. In the first place, in October 2005, the “Kyushu National Museum” opened in Dazaifu /Fukuoka (Prefecture). You can now refer for information about the museum to URL: <http://www.kyuhaku.jp>.

At the end of 2005 Kagoshima Prefecture put others (6 Prefectures in Kyushu) together and called to organize the “Investigation Committee into Industrial Modernization Heritage in Kyushu”. The leading museum of this (study) society for Industrial Heritages in Kyushu is Shoko Shuseikan Museum. (Fig. 1)

From the 2003 fiscal year Ministry of Education, Science and Culture subsidized the Research Fund for specified province “Edo-no-monozukuri (Manufacturing and Technology in the Edo era, 1603 ~ 1867)” One of the researches headed by Prof. Masayasu Hasegawa titles “*A Research on the Manufacturing Activities in the Satsuma Domain*”.

In addition to national and academic approaches, 3 Prefectures there in southern Kyushu have and work over their plan for Industrial Tourism including of Industrial Heritage. One of the advisers is our TICCIH General Secretary Stuart Smith.

Iwami Silver Mine and its Cultural Landscape, Shimane

A brief outline:

- 2001 Iwami Silver Mine registered itself Japan’s tentative list of UNESCO World Heritage.
- 2005 The Japanese Government decided to recommend Iwami Silver Mine to UNESCO World Heritage Committee as registrable World Cultural Heritage.
- 2006 The letter of recommendation was submitted.
- 2007 At the 31st World Heritage Committee Meeting (UNESCO and ICOMOS) will judge whether Iwami Silver Mine is suited to World Cultural Heritage or not.

If Iwami Silver Mine would be registered as the World Cultural Heritage, it would be **the first Industrial Heritage** of Japan’s World Cultural Heritages.

Iwami Silver Mine was exploited in the early 16th century. The some output of Iwami silver (gained by the way of “Hai-Fuki-Ho”, which is a means of producing

silver like the “Seiger-way” in medieval Germany) flowed out into East Asia. And afterwards Iwami silver together with Besshi copper made its first appearance on the stage of world economy. (Fig.2)

At the first half of the 17th century Iwami Silver Mine was at its peak. Then Iwami was under the Tokugawa Shogunate control. The highway which linked systematically Iwami Silver Mine, Ohmori(a silver mining town in the Edo period)/Shimane with port of Onomichi(a port at the Seto Inland Sea)/Hiroshima, brought production and management of Iwami silver to complete mining complex. And Iwami Silver Mine was declining throughout the 18th century.

Other Movements to make an entry of World Cultural/Industrial Heritages

We have many other national movements as a local residents’ campaign, i.e. in Sado Island/Niigata, Besshi/Ehime, Ikuno/Hyogo, Gunkan Island/Nagasaki, Tomioka/Gunma, Kagoshima (Shoko Shuseikan Museum)/Kagoshima as well etc., where Industrial Heritages bring themselves into public notice.

Especially Tomioka Silk Mill (the National Tomioka Filature Mill, designed by French engineer Paul Brunat and built in 1872) would be soon (within the year 2006) designated as important cultural assets of Japan. This is the first step to register it on the Japan’s tentative list of UNESCO World Heritage. (Fig. 3)

Fig. 1 The Shoko Shuseikan (a part, the former machinery factory: now an industrial museum), Kagoshima / Kagoshima
(Photograph provided by Shoko Shuseikan Museum)



Fig. 2-1, 2-2

Silver furnace of Iwami Silver Mine, Iwami/Shimane Prefecture 2004
(Photograph by Shoji Ishida)



Fig. 2-2



Fig. 3 Entrance gate(East) of Tomioka Silk Mill
(Photograph provided by Gunma Prefecture, Department of New Policy)



Location Map

