

38. From Kanagawa-ken to Tokyo-fu

38.1 From Nirayama-ken and Shinagawa-ken to Kanagawa-ken

The new Meiji Government replaced the *daikan* (magistrate)-dominated fiefdom entity with the *ken* (prefectural) entity, reappointing former Tokugawa shogunate vassals (*daikan* magistrates) as new prefectural governors. Nirayama-ken succeeded former *daikan* magistrate EGAWA Tarozaemon's fiefdom, and Shinagawa-ken succeeded *daikan* magistrate MATSUMURA Chushiro's fiefdom. Thus Nirayama-ken absorbed Fussa Village and Tokugawa shogunate fiefdom of Kumagawa village while Shinagawa-ken absorbed the Hatamoto retainer's fiefdom of Kumagawa Village. The former shogunate fiefdom of Kumagawa Village was reassigned to Shinagawa-ken in 1896 (Meiji 2) to revoke regional complications arising between the two new prefectures and newer boundaries (illustrated at Fig. 236) were laid down. Two years later, under the *Haihanchiken* policy of July 1871 (Meiji 4), most of the western Tama region, including Fussa and Kumagawa villages, would be absorbed into Iruma-ken. However, to fulfill a Kanagawa-ken governor's appeal, Kanagawa-ken gained the western Tama region.

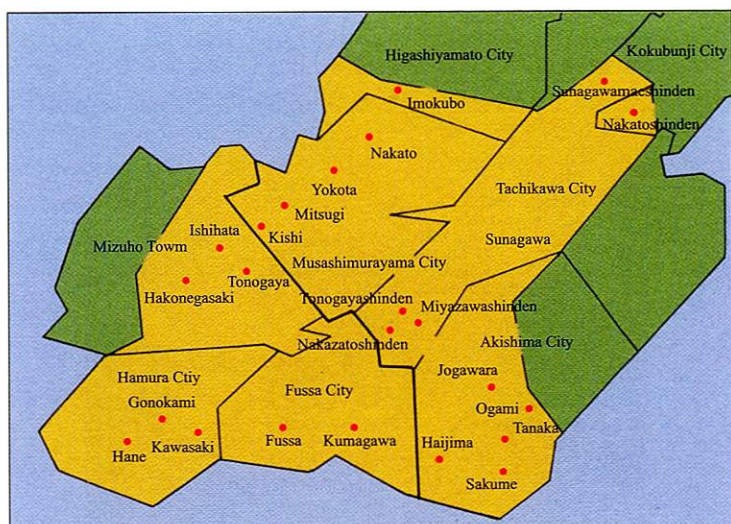


Fig.235 Haijima Yoseba Union map. Fussa and Kumagawa villages belonged to Haijima Yoseba Union, one of the yoseba Union enacted over the entire Kanto region in the late Tokugawa Period. The yoseba Union system was reorganized in July, 1869 (Meiji 2), then abolished in December same year. When the system began, its function was limited to the arrest of criminals and escort of prisoners. However, it grew into a kind of administrative division.

38.2 Issues occurring during the transfer to Tokyo-fu

In the middle Meiji Period, a Tokyo-based city and ward revision was enacted. Waterworks improvement was becoming a decisive issue. In 1893 (Meiji 26), "A Draft of the Tokyo-fu and Kanagawa-ken Prefectural Boundary Alteration Law" was submitted to the fourth Imperial Assembly toward adjusting Tokyo-fu and Kanagawa-ken border. The basis for reassigning a part of Kanagawa-ken to Tokyo-fu was to bring the Tamagawajosui Aqueduct and the Tama River area under Tokyo-fu control, better ensuring water quality and volume. Inevitably this draft involved the transfer of some Minamitama-gun not directly linked to the Tamagawajosui Aqueduct.

The transfer (intensely opposed by the Santama-Jiyuto Party) of the Minamitama-gun region to Tokyo-fu, sought to reduce the political power of the Santama-Jiyuto, the main Kanagawa-ken Jiyuto Party authority. Villages strongly influenced by the Jiyuto Party keenly resisted the transfer to Tokyo-fu, while proponents held significant power, mainly in Kitatama-gun and Hachioji-machi. With strong Tokyo-fu Assembly member support, the Kaisinto Party, advocates of Minamitama-gun's transfer to Tokyo-fu, overcame the Jiyuto Party resistance. The draft was passed only after ten days dialogue and the transfer was implemented on April 1.

38.3 Issues occurring during the transfer to Metropolitan Tokyo

The term *Tokyo-to* has been in use since 1943 (Showa 18), following the *To*-system's enactment. Till then, Tokyo-fu consisted of Tokyo-shi, Hachioji-shi and other municipalities, akin to present-day Kyoto-fu

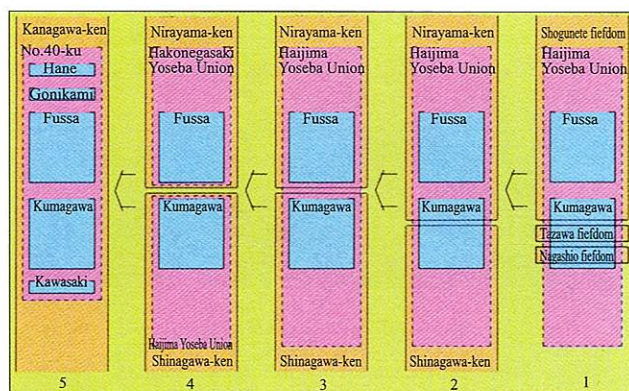


Fig.236 Prefectural boundary adjustment and yoseba union.

and Osaka-fu. A debate as to whether the capital should have its own special system, to contrast to other cities or towns, had continued since the Meiji Period. This issue was earnestly discussed from the Taisho 10s. To smooth the capital's administration, a "fu" and "shi" integrated system (To-system) was submitted.

But agreement could not be met. One reason was the area under the To-system. Tokyo-shi insisted on, excluding Santama, while Santama's assembly demanded its total inclusion in Tokyo-fu. In 1923 (Taisho 12), the *Teitosei-an* (Metropolitan System Enactment Law) was submitted to the House of Representatives, proposing Santama's return to Kanagawa Prefecture, opposed by the Santama assembly. An outward ground for opposition was the perceived erosion of Santama's autonomy. But under the situation ever decided transfer from Kanagawa-ken to Tokyo-fu, an underlying motive may have been a vested interest in regional economic development.

Santama foresaw its attachment to metropolitan Tokyo-to advancing its own regional development. However, Santama did not need to stick to the Tokyo-to incorporation, if its regional development could be possible. At that time the Department of Interior examined the idea of 'Musashi-ken'. Santama mulled this idea with two conditions: Santama would be part of a To-ken union to generate economic support and the prefectural office would be sited in Hachioji. The proposed Musashi-ken consisted of Santama and Tokyo-shi's five neighboring *guns* (counties). A concurrent proposal that Santama be set up as the independent prefecture, Tama-ken, was also raised. Opinion gravitated toward the to-system transfer in pursuit of regional development.

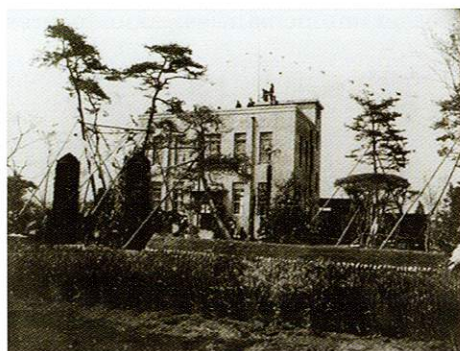


Fig.237 Completion of Fussa and Kumagawa villages Union's Hall building. In 1889 (Meiji 22) the Fussa and Kumagawa villages Union took effect at Fussa 469 (near the Seigan'in Temple). Function was transferred to a new building on the present City Hall site, March 1926(Taisho 15).

Nishitama-gun, in particular, persevered with the “transfer to Tokyo-to” proposal because its regional development plans would be best met by transfer to Tokyo-fu. When the Pacific War broke out and metropolitan defense took precedence, the To-system draft progressed rapidly and in 1943 (Showa 18) To-system was enacted. The ever called Tokyo-fu, Nishitama-gun, Fussa-machi were renamed Tokyo-to, Nishitama-gun, Fussa-machi.

38.4 Fussa's first steps toward city status

In 1873 (Meiji 6), Kanagawa-ken divided itself into 20 *ku* (districts). Several villages were combined under a *Bangumi*-system. The system was called the *Daiku-shoku* system. The following year, 1874 (Meiji 7), ‘Ku’ was renamed ‘Daiku’ (Big ku) and ‘Bangumi’ renamed ‘Shoku’ (Small ku). Fussa and Kumagawa villages merged along with Hamura, Gonokami and Kawasaki villages into No. 6 Shoku of No. 12 Ku. During a nationwide trend toward municipal mergers, a new entity, consisting of these five former villages was named Tama Village in 1875 (Meiji 8). However, in 1882 (Meiji 15), the five-village merger was revoked to the the original villages due to flood control expense issues.

However, in 1884 (Meiji 17), the government substantially changed its regional system and the Hamura and Fussa areas again integrated to one administrative unit called Kawasaki and Four-villages Village. Then in 1888 (Meiji 21), the Municipality Enactment Law passed and the regional system underwent drastic change, municipal ties tightening from the union to the consolidation status. Fussa and Kumagawa villages pondered consolidation without reaching full agreement, then defining themselves Fussa-mura-Kumagawa-mura-Kumiai (Fussa and Kumagawa villages Unon), the first step toward the present Fussa City.

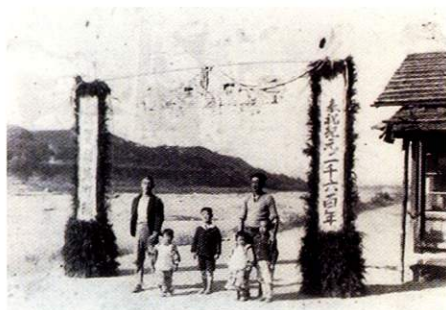


Fig.238 Fussa Town system enactment and the 2600 era memorial arch (near Nagata ferry, Fussa City, November, 1940 (Showa 15)).

From the late Taisho to early Showa Period, municipal consolidation was enacted as regional development policy. Fussa Village tried to encourage industrial facilities development, in furtherance of consolidation goals, however, these attempts failed.

In 1930 (Showa 5), the Tachikawa Aircraft Company set up in Tachikawa, the Showa Aircraft Company set up in Showa-machi (Akishima City), and the Hitachi Aircraft Company set up in Yamato Village (Higashiyamato City). The entire region became an industrial zone centering on military hardware. Hence, Fussa became a part of a transportation and economic hub, its urban planning tied to Tachikawa.

The Japanese-Chinese War broke out in July 1937 (Showa 12). The municipal consolidation movement gained vigor, coupled with national mobilization under the pretext "soshinwa" (Total harmony). Progress would not be smooth. Finally, in 1940 (Showa 15), consolidated leadership of Tokyo-fu was enacted on a national holiday honoring the Imperial calendar's year 2600. Fussa-mura-Kumagawa-mura-Kumiai reemerged Fussa-machi.

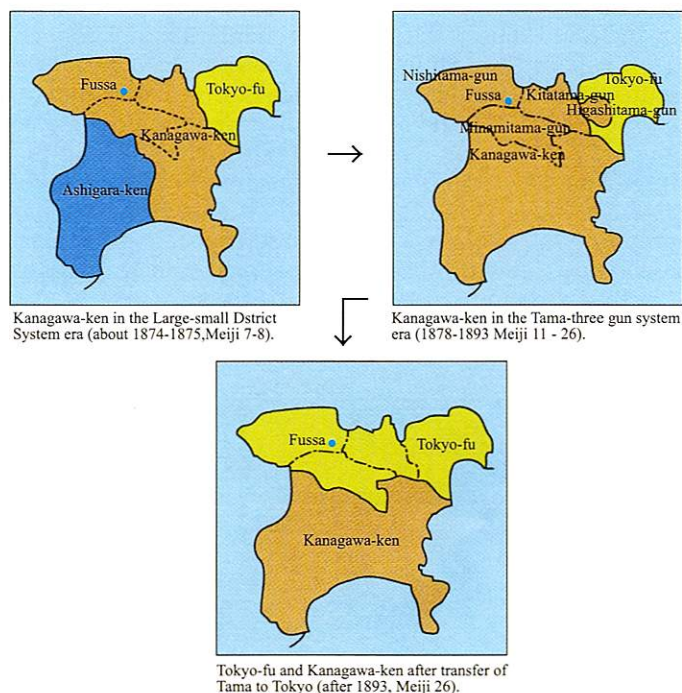


Fig. 239 Regional zone at pre/post Tokyo-to transfer.