

## The Creation of Dejima and the Exchange Between Japan and Holland

In 1636 under the orders of the Tokugawa Shogunate, Dejima was constructed by the efforts of 25 influential merchants at the tip of the cape of Nagasaki. The Portuguese who were living in the town were housed in Dejima and the system of seizing control of trade there and stopping the spread of Christianity was complete. However, the Shimabara Rebellion occurred the next year and in 1639 Portuguese ships were banned from coming to the harbor. Later, the Dutch trading post in Hirado at the time, was moved to Dejima and the exchange between Japan and Holland continued until the end of the Edo period. As a result, Dejima fulfilled an important role as the only trading port between Japan and Europe, the center for Dutch study, and the source for necessary information towards the modernization of Japan.

## The Transition of Dejima

From 1859, other places such as Yokohama and Hakodate started trading with other countries based on a treaty of commerce and the main location of trade in Nagasaki moved from Dejima to foreign settlements such as the present day Glover Garden where Thomas Glover and Frederick Ringer resided. Having fulfilled its role in history, Dejima lost its fan shape with the reclamation of the surrounding land and the rerouting of the Nakashima River. As the time period shifted into the Taisho era, in 1922 Dejima became a nationally designated historical site as the Former Dutch Trading Post.

## The Restoration of Dejima

Just after the end of World War II, in 1951 the plan to restore Dejima was made. Originally constructed by the merchants in the town, Dejima was in private possession. Nagasaki City took a period of 50 years to transfer the ownership rights to the city. The restoration of five buildings including the Deputy Factor's Quarters was completed in 2000 as the phase I restoration project. The restoration of five more buildings including the Chief Factor's Residence was completed in 2006 as phase II, and as part of phase III, six more buildings were built. As of 2016, the landscape of 16 buildings from the early 19th century have come back to life in Dejima.

### Excavation Investigation

No. 14 Warehouse Cornerstone



A gradual excavation was conducted at Dejima for approximately half a century, which led to a variety of discoveries.

In the beginning, the goal of the excavation was to uncover Dejima's reclaimed surrounding areas and starting in 1996, basic research was set for the restoration of the buildings. Foundation stones of the warehouses and residence buildings for the Dutch Trading Post officials were excavated. Those research results led to a successful renovation of the buildings. Further, stone embankments were discovered, which made it clear that Dejima was an island floating in the ocean.

### Discovered Remains

Blue and White Dish With Flower and Bird Design With VOC Monogram (Excavated in the site of Dejima)



Many relics were discovered within the layers of the earth and in the holes where trash was thrown away. Fragments of artifacts that were being exported at the time such as Imari ware (Hizen porcelain), western glass and pottery, Asian porcelain that was carried by Dutch ships, and other artifacts related to trade were excavated. It has also become possible to see and understand the way of life in Dejima through the many excavated remains such as building roof tiles, bricks, clay pipes, alcohol containers, bones of the animals that were thrown away after being eaten, seashells, and more. Some of these remains are exhibited in the former stone warehouse.

### Restored Buildings

Chief Factor's Residence Exterior



The residences of the Dutch officials, the warehouses that stored trading goods, and the offices of the Japanese officials from the early 19th century have been restored.

These buildings have been rebuilt on the exact positions suggested by the excavation investigations using traditional methods based on items that remain in the National Museum of Ethnology in Leiden, Holland such as building models, illustrations, old photographs, literature, and paintings. It is as if the Edo Period Dejima has come back to life here.

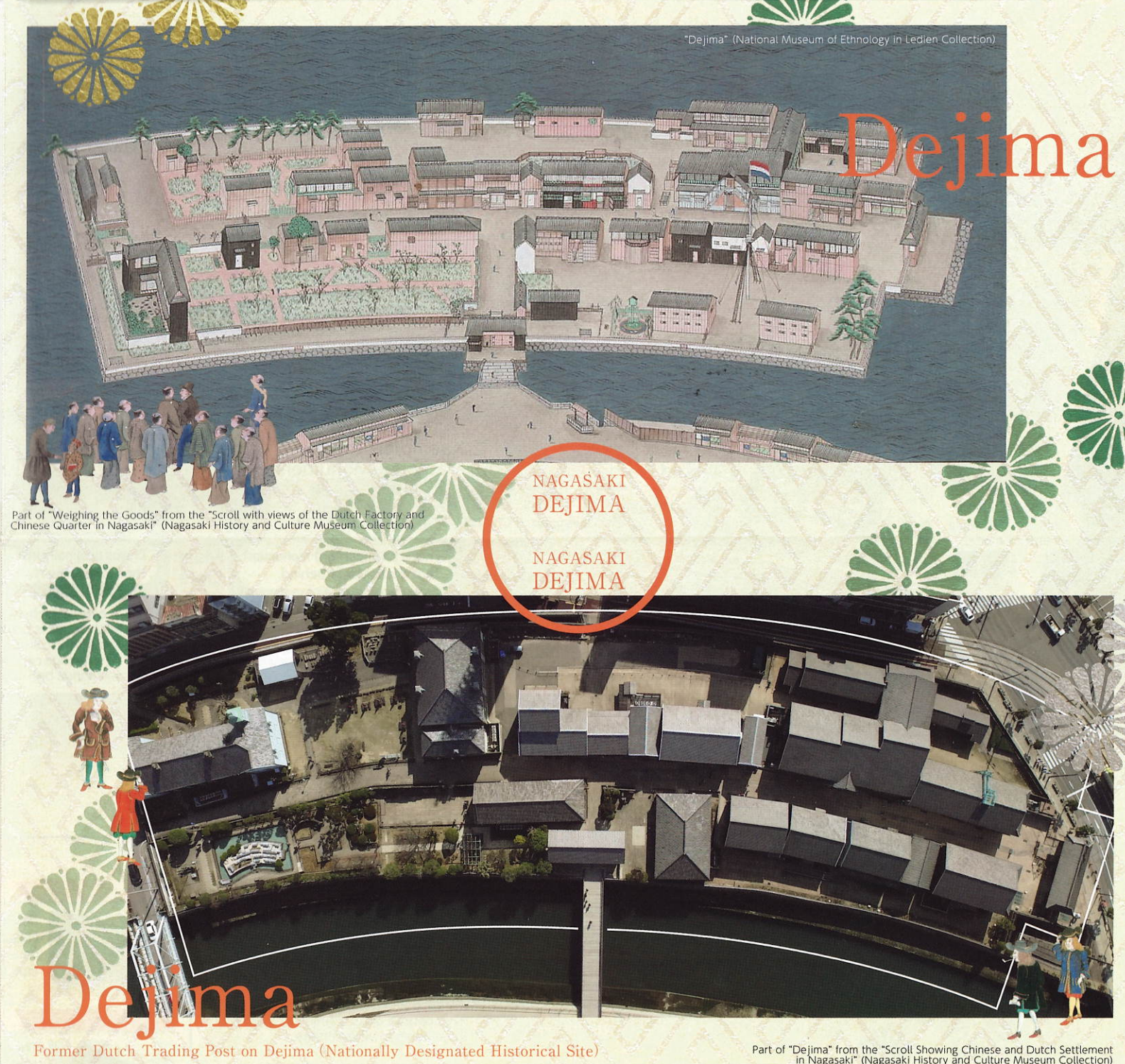
### Lifestyle Exhibit

Chief Factor's Residence Interior



The lifestyle of the Dutch officials is exhibited. The chief factor's residence, the first ship captain's quarters, and the kitchen have been replicated based on literature and paintings to resemble the interior of the rooms from the early 19th century.

The Dutch officials gathered furniture and supplies essentials to everyday life themselves and carried them on Dutch ships from Batavia to use them. The items on display such as furniture, furnishings, and supplies were purchased in Japan and Holland, or were created based on museum artifacts.



## Access from JR Nagasaki Station

### By Streetcar

From Nagasaki Station, take the street-car bound for "Sofukuji Temple"  
 •Central Gate (Main Gate)  
 Get off at "Dejima" (third stop, 4 minute walk).  
 •West Gate (Sea Gate)  
 Get off at "Dejima" (third stop, 1 minute walk).  
 •East Gate (Meiji Gate)  
 Get off at "Shinchi Chinatown" (fourth stop, 2 minute walk).

### By Bus

Nagasaki Bus: From Nagasaki Eki-mae Minamiguchi bus stop, take the number 20 bus bound for "Shinchi Terminal" or "Chuobashi" (excluding buses going to "Motohara"). Get off at "Chuobashi" or "Dejima-omotemon-bashi" (third stop, 1-2 minutes walk).  
 Nagasaki Kenel Bus: From Nagasaki Eki-mae Minamiguchi bus stop, take the bus via "Ohato". Get off at "Dejima-omotemon-bashi" (1 minute walk).

### By Car

About 6 minutes from JR Nagasaki Station  
 (1 minute from Nagasaki Expressway  
 Nagasaki IC/Nagasaki Dejima Road)  
 \*Please use the nearby commercial parking lots.

● Hours of Operation: 8:00-21:00 (Admission ends 20 minutes before closing.) Open year round.  
 ○ Baby strollers and wheel chairs are available.

## Inquiries

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Dejima Official Website  
<http://nagasakidejima.jp/>

