

Honjo Castle Town Explanation board 3

“Daimon gate”(Main gate) , boundary between Choninmachi (merchant town) and Bukemachi (samurai town)

Throughout the Edo period (1603-1868), there was a "Daimon gate" in this area, which was a facility of Honjo Castle Town.

From this location to the eastern side is the Bukemachi and the northwest is the Choninmachi which are called Detomachi and Furuyukimachi. The Daimon gate is the border between the Bukemachi and Choninmachi.

At that time, entry to the center of Honjo Castle Town was from the southern part of Yuri Country Coast of Ushuhama Road (also known as Sakata Road or Hokkoku Road), which passed along the coast of the Sea of Japan and Ishiwaki (Kameda domain), which is at the opposite of Koyoshi River. It was necessary to pass through Yokomachi, which runs in a north-south direction both ways and through the Daimon gate. For this reason, the entrances and exits of Yokomachi were intentionally designed as cranked-shaped hooked roads, guardhouses with fences around them, and Daimon gate to control the flow of people in and out of the area.

In the illustration of the castle town, there are Ashigaru (foot soldiers) residences and a prison inside the fence on the west side of Daimon gate. Daimon gate was an important place for managing the town and other activities throughout the Edo period. In the Honjo Castle Town, where residence areas were determined based on social status, the Daimon gate was a key location for many people and various goods.

This explanation board is was founded by the East Japan Railway Culture Foundation for local cultural activities.