

Fujimi Yagura Turret

Yagura turrets were built at strategic corners of the castle for the wide firing arcs they provided. *Yagura* served as defensive turrets in wartime and as weapon stores in peacetime. Edo Castle once had many *yagura* towers. The Fujimi Yagura is located on the southern corner of the *honmaru* main compound of Edo Castle, and probably dates from 1659, after the 1657 Great Fire of Meireki destroyed much of Edo, including the castle. Towering 16 metres above a 15-metre-high rampart, it became the symbol of Edo Castle after the loss of the main keep tower. The name “Fujimi” derives from the view of Mount Fuji, 100 kilometres away, which was once enjoyed from this *yagura*.

PHOTO CAPTIONS

View of the turret

View from the turret