

The founder of Japan's Liberal Party, Itagaki Taisuke, was almost assassinated near this spot, on April 6, 1882. As he was leaving the hall where he had given a speech, Itagaki was attacked by Aihara Shoukei (1854–unknown), a right-wing militant armed with a 27 cm dagger. Shoukei stabbed Taisuke in the left side of his chest. Taisuke fought back but was stabbed once more in the right side of his chest. Taisuke received further injuries to his hands and left cheek before the police were able to subdue and arrest the assailant. During the attack, Taisuke is said to have shouted, "Taisuke may die, but freedom shall never die!"