

This stone monument celebrates the completion of the Silver Mine Carriage Road (the Ikuno Kozanryo Bashamichi, now known as the Gin no Bashamichi) in 1876. The road connected the mines of northern Hyogo to the Shikamatsu Loading Wharf (now part of Himeji Port). It took Asakura Moriaki (1843–1925), a member of the 1865 Satsuma delegation, and French engineer Leon Sisley (1847–1878) three years to complete. One challenging aspect was the bridges—more than twenty for a forty-nine49-kilometer road. Of these, most difficult was the Yabutabashi Bridge, renamed the Ikunobashi Bridge when construction was finished. This monument was erected nearby to commemorate the greatest hurdle of the new road’s completion.