

Hiji Castle was built in the early seventeenth century by Hosokawa Tadaoki (1563–1646) for his relative Kinoshita Nobutoshi (1577–1642), who relocated to Hiji from Himeji in western Honshu. Today, an elementary school has been built on the fortifications where the castle originally stood. As a nod to the site's historical significance, the school's design incorporates elements of the castle's architecture.