

Tomb of Emperor Seinei (Seinei Tennō-ryō Kofun)

The Imperial Household Agency has determined that this burial mound is the tomb of Emperor Seinei. Emperor Seinei is traditionally thought to have lived in the early fifth century and is considered the twenty-second emperor of Japan. He was said to have been born with white hair and is sometimes known as Shiraka Ōji or the “white-haired prince.”

Compared to many of the other *kofun* tombs in Habikino, the tomb of Emperor Seinei is particularly low in profile. It is 2.5 meters high and covers an area of about 1.1 hectares. The keyhole shape and size of the tomb indicate that it was built near the end of the sixth century. The mound is surrounded by a moat, but two earth dams split the moat into a deep and a shallow section. The construction is thought to have been hemmed in by previously built tombs, requiring the builders to improvise and modify their design.