

### **【Three-story Turret (*Sanjū Yagura*)】**

From the top floor of the three-story turret in the west bailey, watchmen could observe traffic in the direction of Lake Biwa to the northwest, the access routes to the Yamazaki-guruwa Bailey to the north, or any activity at the back gates to the south and southeast. Looking straight down, they could surveil the dry moat below. The third-story windows face in every direction to facilitate a wide view, but the second- and first-floor windows look only outward, away from the castle, to create a line of fire on attacking enemies. In order to withstand bullets from attacking arquebusiers and flaming arrows, the outward-facing walls of the turret are double-layered and thickly lacquered for fire-resistance. The three-story turret was heavily repaired in 1853, and as much as 80 percent of the beams and columns were replaced.