

Ruins of the Anglo-Satsuma War Coastal Defense Battery

This ruin near the coastal town of Nejime was once a coastal defense battery overlooking Kinkowan Bay. At first it was a simple 3-meter high and 4-meter wide platform along 60 meters of the coast. Following the Namamugi Incident in 1862, when a British subject was killed in Yokohama following a diplomatic misunderstanding caused by a member of the daimyo family of Satsuma (present-day Kagoshima), the platform was quickly expanded. When the daimyo failed to respond to British demands for compensation, the incident devolved into the 1863 Anglo-Satsuma War. Despite the additional fortifications, however, this battery was not used during the conflict.