

HISTORY OF ARCHITECTURE I
ARC 2313 - SPRING 2022

LECTURE-22
25 MARCH 2022

For Monday, 28 March

Common Landscape—Stilgoe 7-29

EDO JAPAN

Architectural Traditions
of classical Japan

Edo (ed-doe) ***Period***

This refers to the traditions and culture of the period in Japan of roughly 1600-1850. This period was ruled by shogunates and the foreign policy was one of ***isolationism***. Japan was peaceful at this time, culture thrived, and the island nation was cut off from the rest of the world.....

Geographically speaking, ***Edo*** is the old-fashioned word for ***Tokyo***

Japan, after recurring civil wars for several centuries, achieved national unity by the late 16th century under three powerful military generals called *shoguns*.

ODA NOBUNAGA (1534-1582)

(no-BU-na-ga)

TOYOTOMI HIDEYOSHI (1536-1598)

(hid-E-oh-shi)

TOKUGAWA IYASU (1542-1616)

(ee-YEAH-yah-suh)

The *shogun*, a military general, oversaw an administration called a *shogunate*.

The Japanese feudal lords were called the *daimyo* meaning “great names”

The *daimyo* controlled the *samurai*, a distinctive class of swordsmen (military nobility) devoted to protecting the *shogun*

The Emperor was a largely symbolic, (although hereditary), yet conducted affairs of state in a theatrical symbolic fashion, not unlike Louis XIV in France

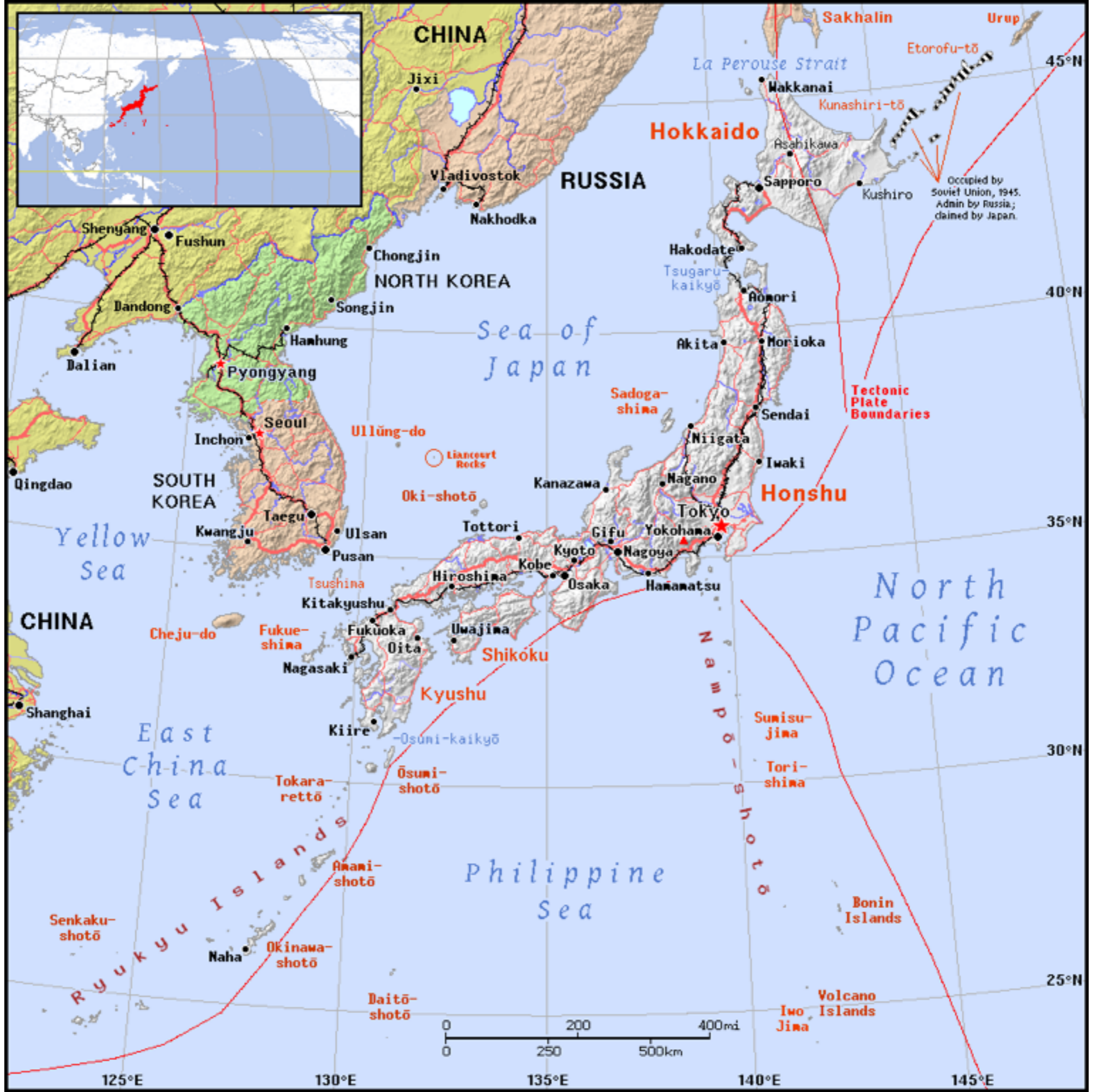


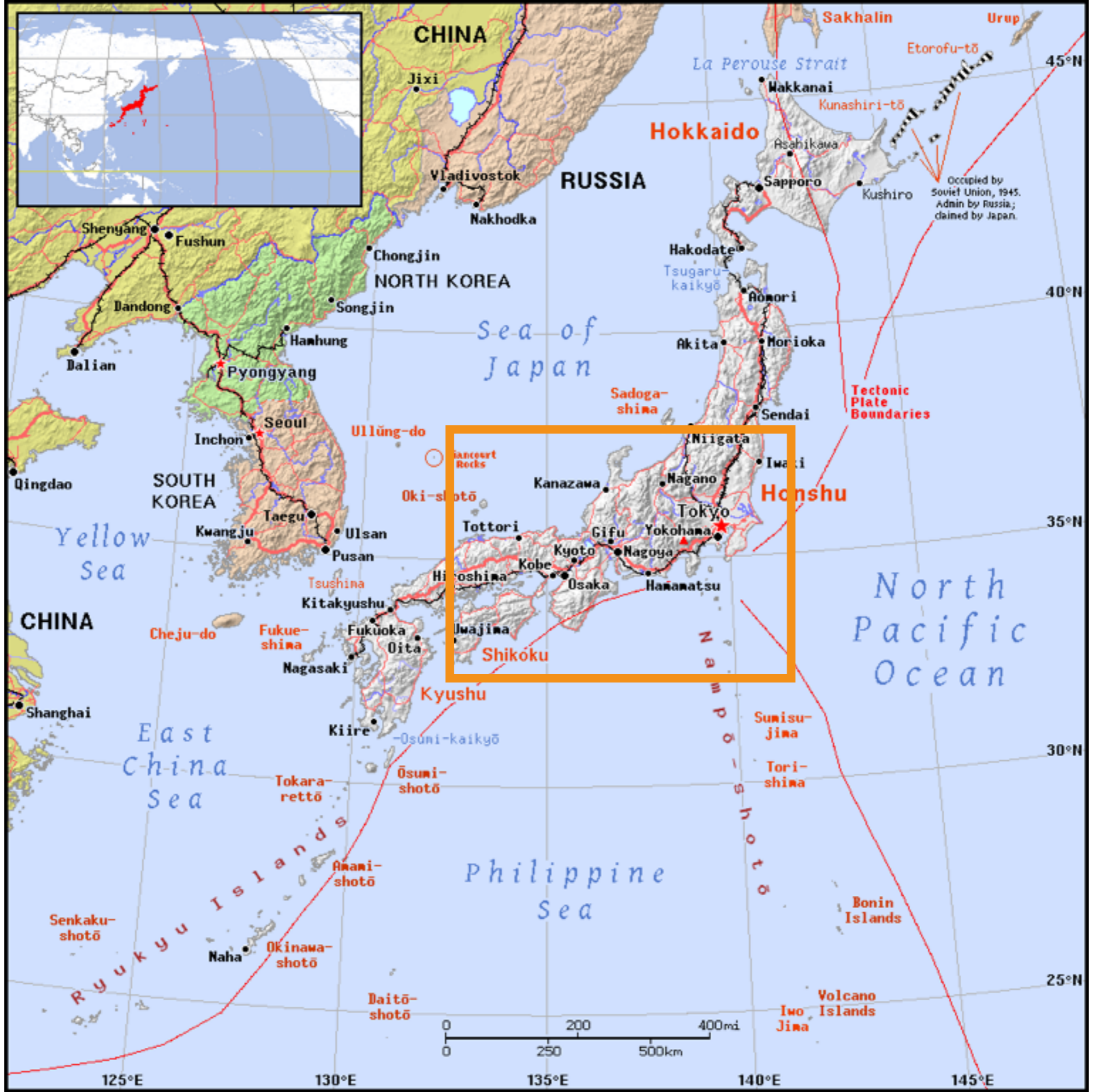
Samurai c **1580**

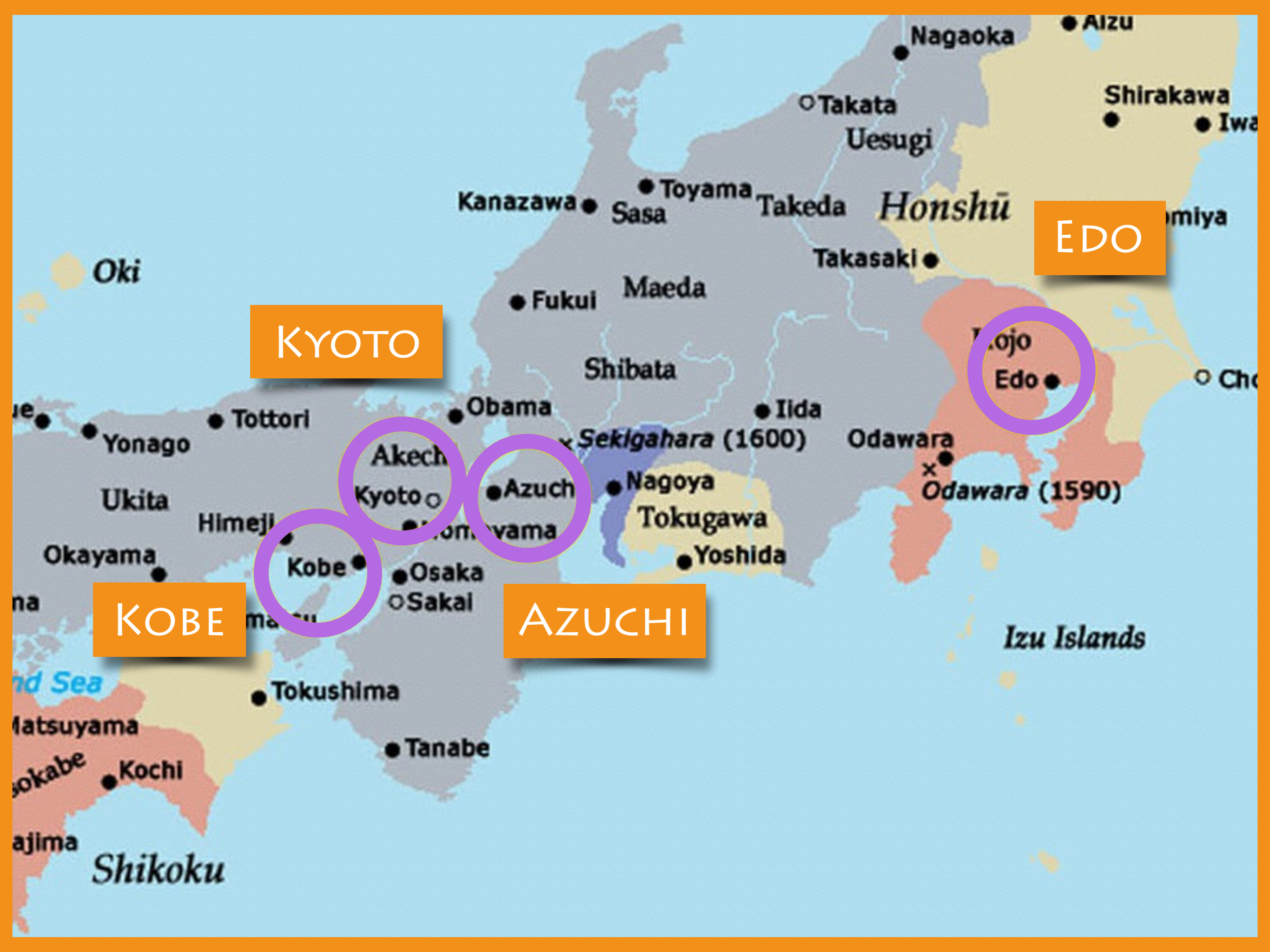


Samurai c **1860**

On the following maps, look for
Edo (Tokyo), **Kyoto**, **Azuchi**, and **Kobe**







EDO

KYOTO



KOBE



AZUCHI



From about 1550 on, the shoguns built permanent castles called *tenshu*, similar in form and type to the castle keep or the donjon.

Tenshu were tall pagoda-like structures — as high as seven stories — with deep eaves shaped concavely on top of a battered drylaid stone foundation walls.

High ground is always the best defense.
These pagodas also were very intimidating.

NOBUNAGA

Nobunaga built the first *tenshu* at **Azuchi (1576)**

(at a strategic high point overlooking **Kyoto**,
which was the capital city at the time)



Contemporary painting of
Nobunaga c **1590**
(after his death) by
Giovanni Niccolò

by Motohide 16th century





Nobunaga's armour in
a museum



Nobunanga as a video-gaming character



Azuchi tenshu (castle) 1576



ONLY RUINS REMAIN OF AZUCHI



Reconstruction of **Azuchi tenshu** c 2000
approximately 72 feet high



HIDEYOSHI

Ruled **1585-1598**

Succeeded Nobunaga
in 1585

Hideyoshi built a luxurious palace in Kyoto called Jurakudai... ***blurring the separation between art and life...***

Noh Theater - was the classical Japanese musical theater since 1400 - very scripted, traditional, and it reinforced the cultural stories

chanoyu - The ritualistic *Tea Ceremony* (chan-O-yuh) — Zen Buddhist chanoyu was performed by a *Tea Master* in a special *Tea House*

wabi-sabi - rustic simplicity of design that celebrated heightened consciousness. Aesthetic of the *wabi-sabi*: **imperfect, impermanent, incomplete**

Tea House - where the *chanoyu tea ceremony* was performed by a *Tea Master*, therefore *tea house* reflected that simplicity: planar, minimal, rustic, self-effacing

zen - buddhist meditation: **The river flows on without cease yet its waters are never the same**

- wabi-sabi aesthetic
- contemplation of nature or miniaturized nature



French Exposition of 1867 - **Japanese Tea House**



I EYASU

(ee-YEAH-yah-suh)

Third Shogun to
complete unification
of Japan

Ruled **1598-1616**

Tokugawa *Iemitsu*, the son of *Ieyasu*, executed a series of edicts between 1633 - 1639 called:

Sakoku

~ the foreign policy of the Tokugawa Shogunate ~

This policy severely limited people coming into Japan and people going out

If you were caught entering Japan -
you received a sentence of death

Japan's isolation lasted from 1630-1853



Ieyasu's castle west of Kobe:
Himeji tenshu called the White Heron



Himeji tenshu called the White Heron



Himeji tenshu called the White Heron

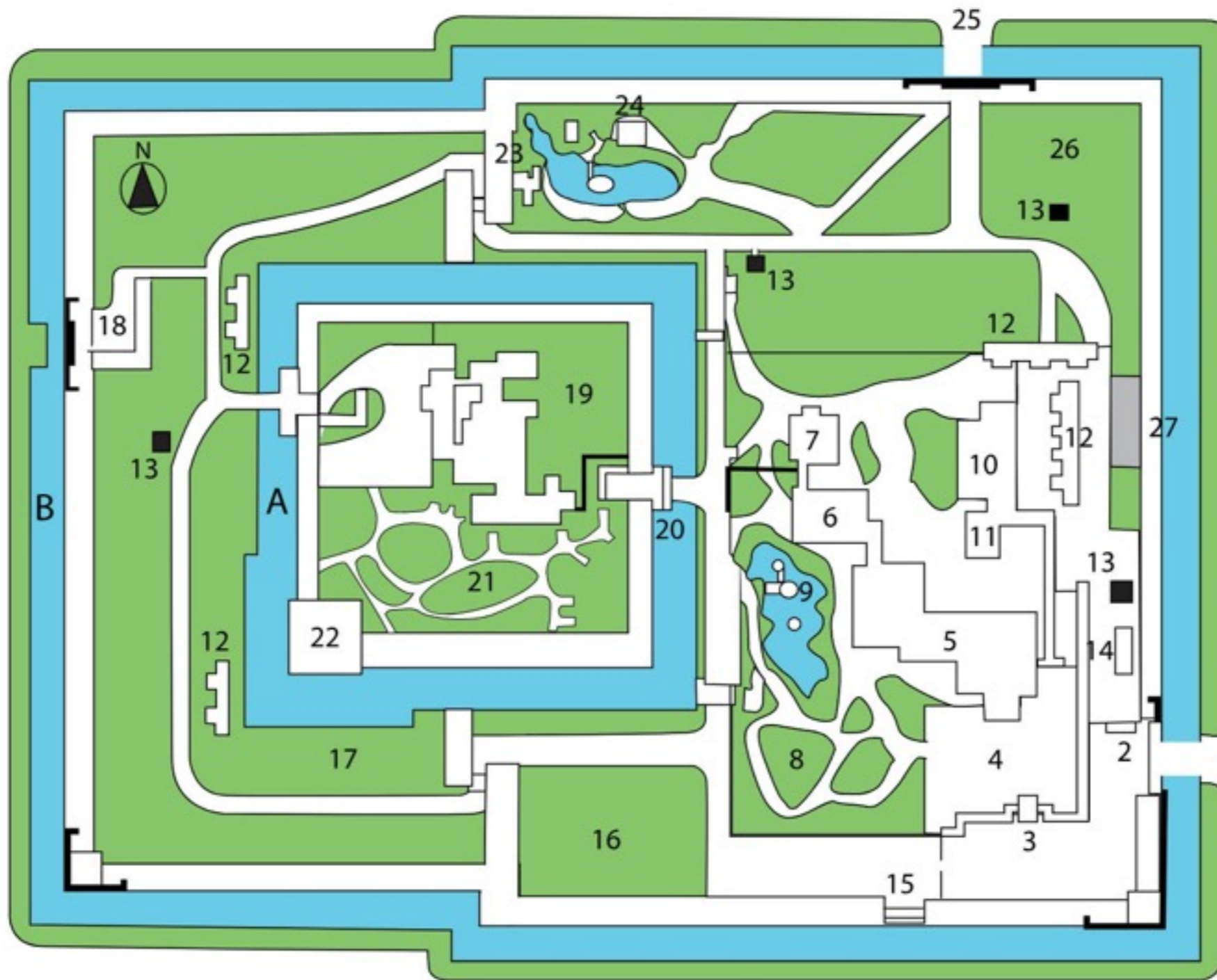


Himeji tenshu called the White Heron



Ieyasu's tenshu in ***Edo***

As depicted on the ***Edo-ku byōbu***

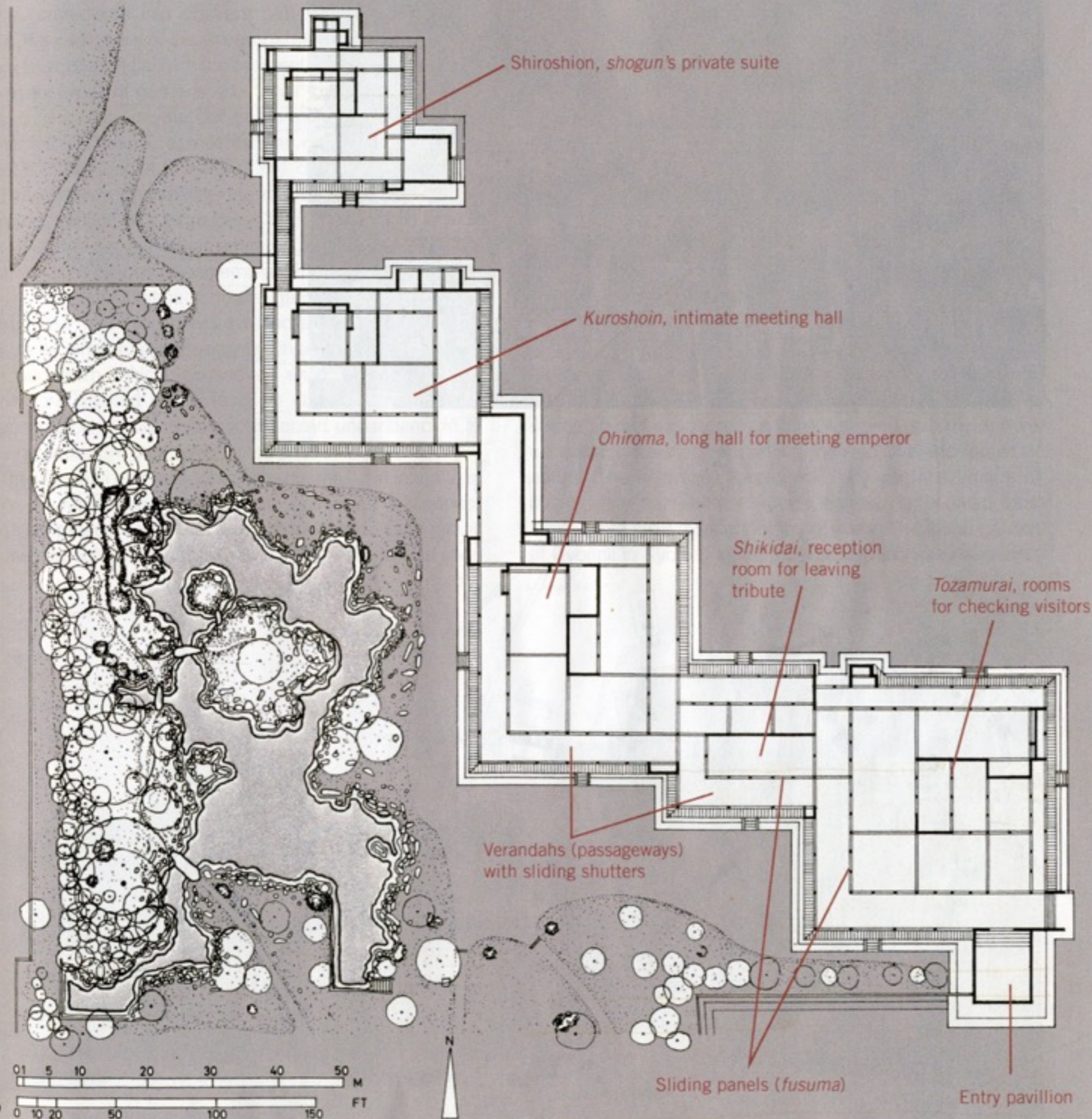


Ieyasu's palace in Kyoto was of the new *shoin* type followed the plan of a *flock of wild geese* on an oblique axis

Ieyasu's palace near Kyoto

Shoin type

Flock of Wild Geese



tokonoma - formal alcove with painted scene in this case a twisted solitary pine (symbol of enduring authority) (to-KO-no-ma)

shoji screen - translucent screen of rice paper

tatami mats - The classical Japanese modular system based on the proportion of a sleeping person. It's a double square: (one meter) x (two meters).



Ohroma Hall - the *tokonoma*

Shomei

The classical Japanese architectural treatise was called the *Shomei* - indicating proportions, joinery, and other rules - similar to *Yingzao Fashi* of China

Japanese Gardens :: Artificial recreations
of nature

DRY GARDEN

STROLL GARDEN



DRY GARDEN - ZEN GARDEN

Ideas behind the gardens (the content)

- Frequently changing points of view
- Symbolic - miniaturized
- Poetic - metaphorical artifact of nature
- Enlightenment through meditation
- Time's unstoppable advance

Architecture of the gardens

(the forms)

- avoided formality such as axis and symmetry
- raked white gravel was symbolic of water
- **shakkei** - *borrowed landscapes* in background
- **wabi-sabi** rustication, impermanence, etc
- **bonzai** trees and worn materials
- **moon-viewing platform**



Dry Garden
Zen Garden



DRY GARDEN - ZEN GARDEN

Stroll Garden - similar to Scholars' Gardens of Suzhou



STROLL GARDEN

end