



Eleven years have passed (2017) since the reburial graves containing jars with human faces were discovered by an archeological dig. The Izumisakashita Site has been designated a National Historic Site and the jars, including Izumi, and other unearthed artifacts have become Important Cultural Properties.

The archeological dig has continued in Hitachi Omiya City to confirm the characteristics and size of the Izumisakashita Site. As a result, it has been found that the Yayoi period reburial graves are in good condition. The site also contains remains from various other historical periods. Late Jomon period pit dwellings have been found, as well as ancient, medieval, and early modern remains.

To get a clear picture of Yayoi culture in the northern Kanto area, it will be important to investigate the surroundings of the site further to see if there are any related remains. It will be necessary to continue to search carefully to see what remains there are and what area they cover. It will also be necessary to use various methods to continue to research the remains and artifacts that have already been discovered.

The Izumisakashita Site is a very important site for considering Japan's Yayoi period. We hope that everyone will cooperate to protect this site.

An image of the burial of Jar 1 (Izumi) in Pit No.1. The large space in the foreground was perhaps for including offerings for the deceased people.
How was the grave dug, and using what kind of tools? The time when we can reconstruct the real Izumisakashita Site in a drawing is still in the future.

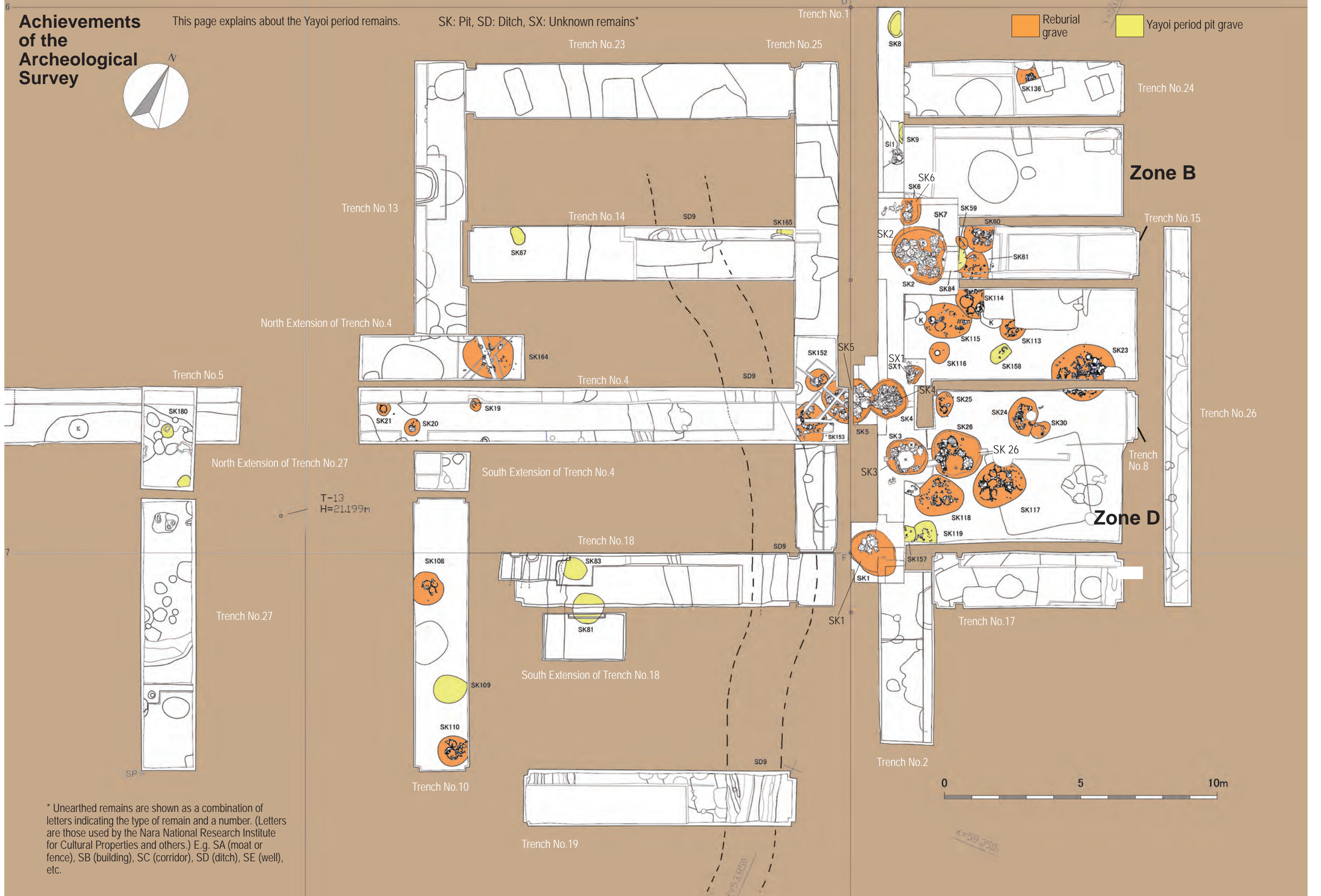
Achievements of the Archeological Survey



This page explains about the Yayoi period remains.

SK: Pit, SD: Ditch, SX: Unknown remains*

Reburial grave (orange circle) Yayoi period pit grave (yellow circle)



* Unearthed remains are shown as a combination of letters indicating the type of remain and a number. (Letters are those used by the Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties and others.) E.g. SA (moat or fence), SB (building), SC (corridor), SD (ditch), SE (well), etc.

An Izumisakashita Timeline

- C. 1980 Mr. Ei'ichi Kikuchi discovers a jar (specimen K) and a stone implement while transplanting a tree.
- 1995 Mr. Kikuchi donates the jar and stone implement to the Omiya Town History and Folk Materials Museum (as it was at the time). These were exhibited at an exhibition entitled Archeological Remains of Omiya.
- May 2005 Mr. Motoyuki Suzuki visits the site, guided by Mr. Kikuchi, to see the location where the jar was discovered.
- Jan 2006 Investigatory dig at Izumisakashita Site (Jan. 15 to Feb. 19)
- Feb Special Exhibition entitled New Discovery! Earthenware Jar with Human Face Unearthed at Izumisakashita Site held from Feb. 18 to April 9
- Nov 2009 Unearthed relics transferred to Hitachi Omiya City Education Committee Exhibition entitled The Wonder of the Reburial Graves and Earthenware Jars with Human Faces held from Dec.15 to Feb. 7
- Jan 2010 A symposium entitled The Wonder of the Reburial Graves and Earthenware Jars with Human Faces was held on Jan. 31.
- Mar Unearthed artifacts designated as City-designated Cultural Properties.
- Oct The Izumisakashita Site Preservation Committee established.
- Aug 2011 Research on the Izumisakashita Site published. The Izumisakashita Site of Hitachi Omiya City, Ibaraki Ken published. Renovation of Izumi and production of a replica carried out with funding from the Asahi Shimbun Foundation.
- Mar 2012 Illustrated Report: Izumisakashita Site – Middle Yayoi Period Reburial Grave Group Containing a Jar with Human Face published. Izumi goes on nationwide tour with the Agency for Cultural Affairs' "Exhibition of Excavations in the Japanese Archipelago: Bulletin of Archaeological Discovery"
- First confirmatory investigation for the site preservation and improvement project (Oct. 1 to Nov. 15).
- Jul 2013 Izumisakashita Site II report published.
- Aug Second confirmatory investigation (Aug. 1 to Oct. 11).
- Jan 2014 Unearthed artifacts become Prefecture-designated Cultural Properties. Izumi goes on second nationwide tour with the Agency for Cultural Affairs' "Exhibition of Excavations in the Japanese Archipelago: Bulletin of Archaeological Discovery 20th Anniversary Exhibition".
- Jul Izumisakashita Site III report published.
- Sep Third confirmatory investigation (Sep. 1 to Dec. 27). (Pit No.26 investigated)
- Oct Mini-course in Cultural Property Photographic Technique in Ibaraki held at the Izumisakashita Site. Mission!! Clarify the Eastern Japan Yayoi Period! exhibition held (Oct. 14 to Nov. 24)
- Nov I see! How to Preserve Izumisakashita? Onsite explanatory meeting and symposium held on Nov. 9.
- May 2015 Ground-penetrating radar exploration (May 25 to 27)
- Jul Izumisakashita Site IV report published.
- Sep Fourth confirmatory investigation (Sep. 1 to Oct. 27). Start of Pottery Course Learning from the Izumisakashita Site as a Community Center course.
- Dec 2016 Izumisakashita Site V report published.
- 2017 Unearthed artifacts designated as National Important Cultural Properties, and the site designated as a National Historic Site.
- Oct Association to Preserve the Izumisakashita Site established.
- Dec What is Izumisakashita? symposium held (Dec. 2 and 3)

Finally... (Please read from right to left)



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