

VI. 英 文

FUSSA FUDOSON SITE

Résumé

The Fussa Fudōson Site is located at 2143-1 Fussa, Fussa-shi, in the western suburbs of Tokyo (Fig. 1). The site sits on a bluff on the Tachikawa Terrace, looking west across the Tama River toward the Kusabana Hills and the Hirai River. Below the site is the terminal Pleistocene flood plain (Haijima Terrace) of the Tama River.

Relocation of the Fudōson temple in connection with city-sponsored land development necessitated excavation. Earlier surface collection in the adjacent field to the north, and material unearthed during the erection of a temple gate, helped substantiate the existence of a prehistoric site. Test excavation from January 17 to January 23, 1977, confirmed the general distribution of artifacts. The most significant areas were then more fully excavated between February 14 and March 9, 1977. A total of about 340 m² was excavated (Fig. 3).

The excavation was carried out under the auspices of the Fussa Education Committee and supported by the Fussa City Planning Section. The project was directed by Charles T. Keally (instructor, Sophia University) and supervised by Bruce Bourne (graduate, Sophia University), Deborah Schwartz (graduate, Ohio State University) and Kodama Katsushi (Nihon University). Miyata Mitsuru (Fussa Social Education Section) and Hashimoto Makio (Nihon University) assisted in the work. Other participants included several workers and volunteers.

The four geological strata were numbered according to the standard sequence used in most recent excavations in Tokyo (Fig. 2). The two upper layers (I-II) were Recent humus. Below these were two layers (III-IV) of Late Pleistocene aeolian tephra or loam. Fluvial gravel about 2m below the surface marked the base of the site. Cultural remains were found only in Stratum II.

These remains included some Earliest Jomon Yoriitomon type potsherds (Fig. 5 upper), several of which were refittable, two Late Jomon potsherds (Fig. 5 lower), an arrowhead, a few other stone implements and utilized pebbles

(Fig. 6), and a number of pieces of what appear to be flaking debitage. In addition, there were over 5,000 fire-reddened pebbles.

Three Jomon stone-heating pits were located around Grid K-6 (Fig. 4). The two that were fully exposed had bowl-shaped inlays of large pebbles. Considerable quantities of charcoal were found between the inlays and the fire-cracked pebbles which filled the pits. In Pit 2 the small, charred logs were relatively intact atop the bowl-shaped inlay. Heaps of fire-reddened and cracked pebbles were scattered around these pits (Fig. 7 upper), and another heap was unearthed in Grids 0-4 and 0-5 (Fig. 7 lower).

Two small pits were found in Grids L-7 and L-8. However, no material was associated with them, so their usage and age are unknown.

Eight pollen samples were obtained from Strata I to IV (Fig. 9). These were processed by S. Tokunaga and associates at the Nihon Hiryo Co., Tokyo. Four zones were recognized (Fig. 10).

Zone A (Stratum I) reflects a recent plant community near the site; a mixed forest of chestnut, alder, deciduous oak, cedar and pine. The groundcover was mostly wormwood weeds.

Zone B (Stratum II Upper) represents the conditions roughly contemporary with the later Jomon occupations. The very few trees were cypress or yew, and deciduous oak; the ground was thickly covered with dandelions. The extreme rarity of trees is perhaps due to human activity at the site, for example, the cutting and burning of logs for the stone-heating pits.

Zone C (Strata II Lower and III Upper) represents a forest of deciduous oak mixed with some hazel, cypress and yew, and a groundcover of wormwood and other weeds. This was the forest during the earliest Jomon occupations and the terminal Pleistocene.

Zone D (Strata III Middle to IV), the late Pleistocene, appears to have had more conifers and ferns than the later plant communities. However, pollen and spore grains were rare, and the conditions cannot be reliably inferred.

The significance of the Jomon material is unknown. Earliest and Late Jomon occupations of the site are represented in the excavated potsherds, and Middle and Late Jomon in the surface-collected potsherds. The age of the stone-heating

pits appears to be Middle or Late Jomon, judging from their stratigraphic position, while the radiocarbon age fits Early or Middle Jomon. No dwellings or indications of a nearby dwelling site were found. The nearest Earliest Jomon dwelling site is several kilometers to the south on the same terrace. However, Middle and Late Jomon dwelling sites are located not far away, but they are on lower terraces. The remains at the site perhaps reflect specialized activities carried out some distance from the dwelling area.

Postscript:

A charcoal sample from Stone-heating Pit 2 was sent to Professor Kigoshi Kunihiko, Gakushuin University, for radiocarbon age determination:

Gak-6857 5,340 ± 120 years B.P.

3,390 B.C.

The age falls within the range of ages associated with Early Jomon pottery types in other Kanto sites. However, it fits the expected age of the Middle Jomon occupation at the Fussa Fudōson site if the statistical error is considered.

Another charcoal sample from Stone-heating Pit 2 was sent to Chiura Michiko, I C U Archaeology Research Center, for species identification. The sample was divided into three parts and each part was examined in transverse, tangential and radial sections. The identification was confirmed as chestnut (*Castanea*) wood.

List of Figures

1. Location of Fussa Fudōson Site
2. Grid Plan Showing Test Excavation(dotted), Main Excavation (heavy outline), and Buildings
3. Columnar Stratigraphic Section from Grid M-7
4. Plans and Sections of Stone-heating Pits (1-brown humus; 2a-dark brown humus; 2b-dark brown humus with charcoal flecks; 3-black humus with charcoal fragments)
5. Jomon Potsherds (upper-Incipient Jomon; lower-Late Jomon)
6. Jomon Stone Tools
7. Artifact and Feature Distribution Plan (upper-Grids K~L-5~6, lower-Grids 0-4~5)
8. Artifact and Feature Distribution Plan
9. Pollen Sampling Locations in Grid M-7
10. Diagram of Major Pollen and Spore Types

List of Tables

1. Pollen Quantities by Sample
2. Pollen Analysis Results

List of Plates

1. A. View of Site Looking West B. View of Site Looking East
2. Excavation Processes
3. Stone-heating Pit 2
4. A. Stone-heating Pit 1 B. Stone-heating Pit 3
5. A. Pebble Heap in Grid 0-5 B. Unusual Disturbance in Grid L-7
6. A. Jomon Potsherds B. Jomon Stone Tools
7. Pollen Photographs
8. Microscopic Sections of Wood Charcoal