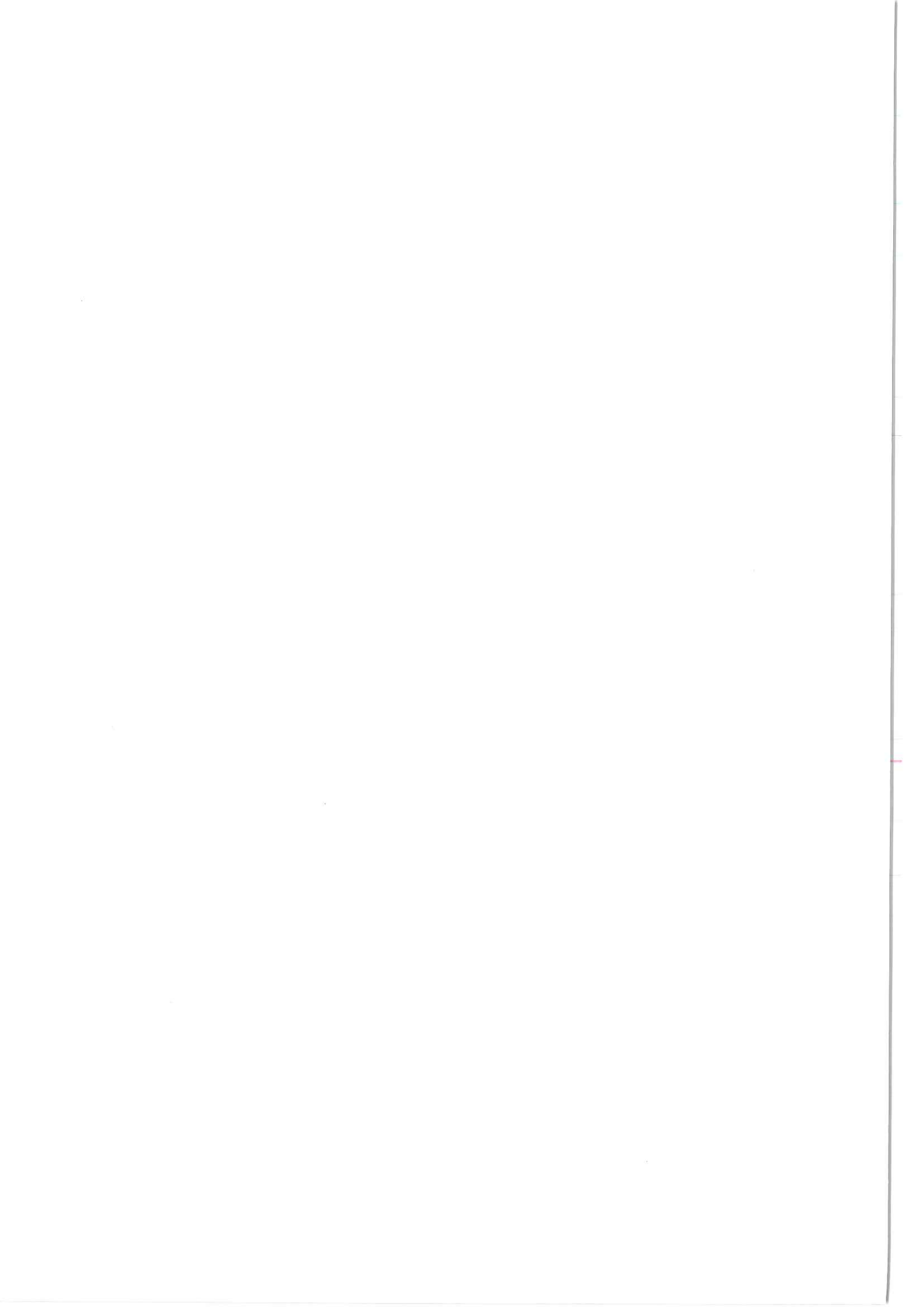


Chapter 4

Road to World Heritage



Until 1995



Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Caring Youth's Club

- 1957 • Establishment of Ōmori Town Cultural Property Preservation Association
- 1969 • Establishment of Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Caring Youth's Club



Local residents taking part in a fire-fighting drill



Grave of Ōkubo Nagayasu

- Designation of Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Site as a historic site by the Japanese National Government
- 1975 • Implementation of Ginzan Park Project



Iwami Ginzan Museum



Ginzan Park (present-day)

- 1976 • Opening of Iwami Ginzan Museum
- 1983 • Preparation of the Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Comprehensive Work Plan
 - Commencement of excavation of sites and research of historical documents by Ohda City
- 1987 • Ōmori-Ginzan selected as an Important Preservation District for Groups of Historic Buildings by the Japanese National Government
- 1989 • Opening of Ryūgenji Mabu Mine Shaft for public visitation
- 1992 • **Confirmation of the World Heritage Convention by Japan**



Ryūgenji Mabu Mine Shaft

1995

November

- Declaration by Prefectural Governor Nobuyoshi Sumita "Promotion of World Heritage Inscription for Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine"

1996

April

- Formation of Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Investigation Committee

September

- Site Inspection by Dr. Henry Cleere, ICOMOS Member
- Commencement of joint excavation in the Ishigane District by Shimane Prefecture and Ohda City



Site Inspection by Committee for Excavation Survey of Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine

1997

April

- Commencement of Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Comprehensive Investigation



Miyanomae District Explanatory Meeting



Literature Research Group reading historic documents

June

- Establishment of Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Maintenance Promotion Head Office

1998

March

- Publication of Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Comprehensive Investigation Report

2000

November

- Discussions and reporting by Japanese National Government Cultural Properties Protection Committee Special Group regarding placement of Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine on the UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List



Comprehensive Investigation Report (six volumes)

2001



World Heritage Listing Promotion Section Sign

April

- Establishment of World Heritage Inscription Promotion Section in the Cultural Property Division, Shimane Prefectural Government
- Establishment of Iwami Ginzan Division in Ohda City Office
- **Inscription of Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine on the UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List**

June

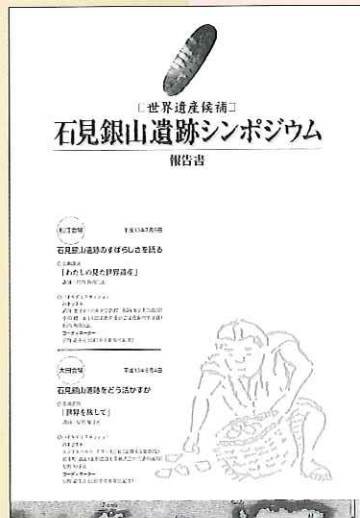
- Formulation of Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Historic Site and Surrounding Area Development Basic Plan



Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Site News (First Issue)

July

- Publication of 'Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Site News' (First Issue)
- Symposium 'Nominated Property: Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Site' (Matsue City)
- Establishment of 'Iwami Ginzan sekaiisan wo mezasu-kai' (Citizen's Group to support the World Heritage Inscription of the Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine)



Symposium Report

August

- Symposium 'Nominated Property: Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Site' (Ohda City)

October

- Event of 'Gin-no-michi' Walk
- House of Kumagai Family Preservation and Utilization Investigation Committee (First Meeting)



Contents Investigation at the House of the Kumagai Family



Walking along Gin-no-michi



House of the Kumagai Family before restoration and repair

November

- Commencement of restoration and repair work at the House of the Kumagai Family

December

- Symposium 'Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine' (featuring *kyōgen* traditional performance)



Speaker at a public lecture



March

- National Historic Site – Additional Designation
- Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Site Conservation Management Planning Committee Meeting (First Meeting)
- Publication of Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Site Research Notes

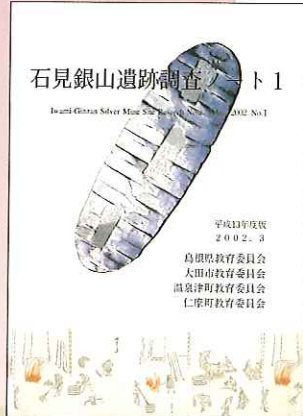
2002

June

- Commencement of investigation regarding *kaidō* (transportation routes)

August

- Iwami Ginzan Lecture Series (Lecture One)



Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Site Research Notes (First Issue)



Conservation Management Plan completed March 2006



Mr. Nishimura speaks at the public lecture



People exploring the site as part of the Iwami Ginzan Lecture Series



Investigating *kaidō* (transportation routes)

September

- Site Inspection by House of Representatives Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Committee

November

- Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Investigation and Maintenance Committee (First Meeting)



Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Investigation and Maintenance Committee at work



House of Representatives Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Committee taking part in a site briefing



Discussions by the panel

February

- Symposium 'Koko made wakatta Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine' (Investigation Results)

March

- Symposium 'Talking about World Heritage'
- Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Site Tour (Tour One)



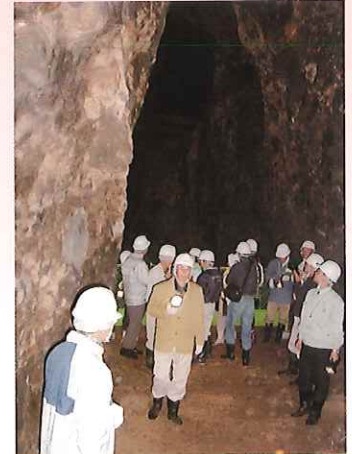
People listening eagerly at the symposium



Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Site Tour, Ginzan Park



Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Site Tour, Hondani Valley



Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Site Tour, Okubo Mabu Mine Shaft

2003

May

- Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Investigation and Maintenance Committee (Second Meeting)
- Symposium 'Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine'

July

- Adventure Tour 'Iwami Ginzan from the sea'



Restoration and repair work

October

- **Proclamation by Mr. Kawamura, Minister of Education, Sports, Science and Technology Committee, "Iwami Ginzan will strive for World Heritage Status as a Cultural Heritage Site in 2007"**
- Open-day at House of the Kumagai Family, opportunity for visitors to see restoration and repair work efforts

October

- Discovery of *kien* (silver-lead alloy) during site excavation work



Kien
(silver-lead alloy)

November

- Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Investigation and Maintenance Committee (Third Meeting)

February

- Symposium 'Let's talk about Iwami Ginzan'



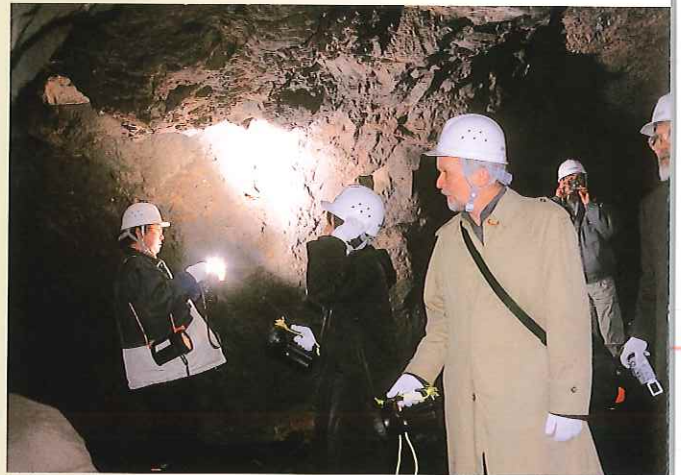
Discussions regarding Iwami Ginzan

March

- Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Site International Symposium
- Formation of Nomination Dossier Preparation Specialist Committee (First Meeting)



Panel Discussion



International Symposium speakers viewing the silver mine site



International Symposium speakers viewing the silver mine site

2004

April

- Commencement of Investigation into Port Town Settlements
- Yunotsu Town selected as an Important Preservation District for Groups of Historic Buildings

May

- Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Investigation and Maintenance Committee (Fourth Meeting)

June

- Site Explanation and Information Sign Workshop



At the Site Explanation and Information Sign Workshop





Site Inspection being carried out by the Landscape Preservation Council

July

- Enforcement of Landscape Preservation Ordinance in Ohda City, Yunotsu Town, Nima Town
- Formation of Ohda City Landscape Preservation Council

August

- Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Site Support Project Investigation Meeting
- Iwami Ginzan Lecture Series (Lecture Three)



Iwami Ginzan Lecture

October

- Site Inspection by Mr. Matsuura, UNESCO Director-General

Mr. Matsuura, UNESCO Director-General visiting the silver mine site



Mr. Sumita, Shimane Prefectural Governor and Mr. Nakamura, Shimane Prefectural Board of Education Chairperson with colleagues



Mr. Matsuura, UNESCO Director-General being interviewed by journalists

シンポジウム
石見銀山遺跡…世界遺産として

平成 17 年 2 月 11 日 (金・祝) 10:00~16:00
【大田商工会館 3 階ホール】

《第 1 部》10:00~12:00
《第 2 部》13:00~16:00

標榜「ここまでわかった石見銀山遺跡」
- 世界遺産の立地
- 発掘調査
- 史料調査
- 科学調査
- 世界遺産登録の経緯

シンポジウム「石見銀山遺跡…世界遺産として」
コメンタリー
村上 隆 氏
(伊弉文化財研究所 主任研究員)
藤原 昭 氏
(石見銀山国史型遺跡調査員)

主催 大田市外と町内地区協議会
協賛 伊弉町 伊弉町青年会議所 大田市 大田市教育委員会 湯原町 湯原町教育委員会 仁保町 仁保町教育委員会 大田科学会 大田科学会環境文化財研究部「江戸のモノづくり」

Flyer prepared for the symposium

November

- Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Investigation and Maintenance Committee (Fifth Meeting)
- Resolution of Mining Rights Issue

January

- Decision to prohibit mining in the Iwami Ginzan area

February

- Symposium 'Iwami Ginzan...as a World Heritage Site'

March

- National Historic Site - Additional Designation

June

- International Specialist Seminar Concerning the Outstanding Universal Value And Conservation Management of Mine Sites
- Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Collaboration Meeting (First Meeting)

July

- National Historic Site – Additional Designation



At a meeting



Taking a commemorative photograph together



Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Investigation and Maintenance Committee Chairperson Mr. Tanaka and Dr. Henry Cleere



At the Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Collaboration Meeting

- **Approval granted by Cultural Property Committee, Cultural Council, Japanese National Government for Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Site to be nominated to the World Heritage List**

- Revision of plan for Ōmori-Ginzan as an Important Preservation District for Groups of Historic Buildings

August

- Handover of mining rights from Dowa Holdings Co., Ltd. to Shimane Prefecture
- Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Investigation and Maintenance Committee (Sixth Meeting)

September

- **Decision by the Japanese National Government to nominate Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine as a World Heritage**

- Nomination Dossier presented to the UNESCO World Heritage Center by the Japanese National Government

October

- Merger of Ohda City, Yunotsu Town and Nima Town to form the new 'Ohda City'
- Enforcement of Ohda City Iwami Ginzan Landscape Preservation Ordinance

November

- Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Site Inspection carried out by Cultural Property Committee, Cultural Council, Japanese National Government



International Mining Site Experts inspecting the site as part of their visit



Nomination Dossier presented to the UNESCO World Heritage Center

January

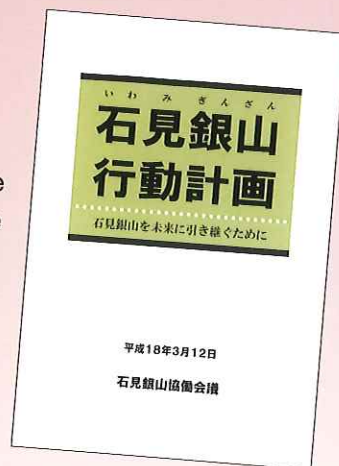
- Official acceptance of World Heritage Listing Nomination Dossier by UNESCO World Heritage Center

February

- Formation of Iwami Ginzan Exhibition Executive Committee (First Meeting)
- Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Investigation and Maintenance Committee (Seventh Meeting)

March

- Ōmori Town Transport Experimental Work
- Formulation of Iwami Ginzan Action Plan



Formulating the Iwami Ginzan Action Plan formulated at the Collaboration Meeting

2006

May

- 'Gold, Silver and Bronze' Summit
- 'Cultural Landscape of Mining Sites' International Symposium

July

- Information provided about Iwami Ginzan at the Association of Prefectural Governors National Meeting



'Gold, Silver and Bronze' Summit



Panel Discussion with many people listening carefully to expert comments



Panelists Mr. Roger and Mr. Dettmer



Establishment of an Iwami Ginzan Corner at the Association of Prefectural Governors Meeting



September

- Performance of 'Fictional No Iwami Ginzan' (Traditional Japanese Theater)
- Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Maintenance Review Committee (First Meeting)

October

- On-site Evaluation Mission by ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites) Researcher



Meeting Time



ICOMOS Experts inspecting the site

January

- Ōkubo Mabu Mine Shaft Utilization Investigation Committee Meeting

February

- Symposium 'Koko made wakatta Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine' (Investigation Results)
- Completion of restoration and maintenance work at Ryūgenji Mabu Mine Shaft, re-opened to the public

March

- Re-opening of Iwami Ginzan Museum

2007

April

- Establishment of Iwami Ginzan Park & Ride Transportation System

May

- **Recommendation for "deferral" given by ICOMOS.**



Ambassador Kondo, being interviewed by journalists

May

- Site Inspection by Mr. Seiichi Kondo, Ambassador, Permanent Delegation of Japan to UNESCO
- Request from Mr. Mizoguchi, Shimane Prefectural Governor, to Mr. Aoki, Agency for Cultural Affairs Chief, asking for increased efforts towards inscription

June

- Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Site Inspection by Mr. Tsuchiya, Cultural Properties Department Director, Agency for Cultural Affairs



Ambassador Kondo visiting the site



Inside the World Heritage Committee Meeting (New Zealand)



Outside the World Heritage Committee Meeting Venue

June

- Decision to “inscribe” Iwami Ginzan at the UNESCO 31st World Heritage Committee (Christchurch, New Zealand)

July

- Official Inscription of ‘Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine and its Cultural Landscape’ on the World Heritage List (World Heritage Committee)



Journalists surrounding Councilor Nomura, waiting to hear news of inscription

July

- World Heritage Inscription Explanatory Meeting for residents of Ohda City
- World Heritage Inscription Commemorative Exhibition ‘Silver Shines on Iwami Ginzan’



Iwami Ginzan Exhibition Poster



Inside the Iwami Ginzan Exhibition Hall



Sign displayed inside the Shimane Prefectural Building celebrating successful inscription

August

- Completion of Iwami Ginzan Car Park (Parking Area Three)

October

- Opening of Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine World Heritage Center Information Office to the public
- Decision made by Cultural Council, Japanese National Government to allow an additional area of Ōmori-Ginzan to be added to the Important Preservation District for Groups of Historic Buildings

November

- World Heritage Inscription Commemorative Ceremony (ASUTERASU Hall, Ohda City)

Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine World Heritage Center Information Office



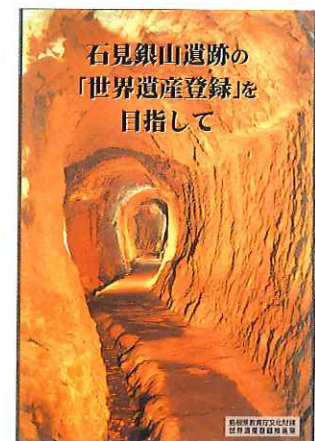
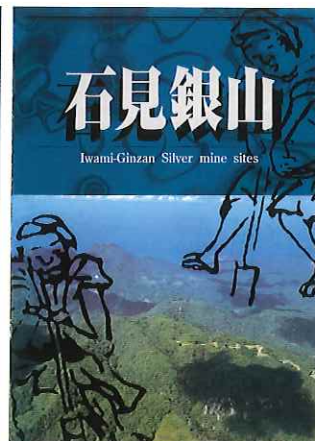
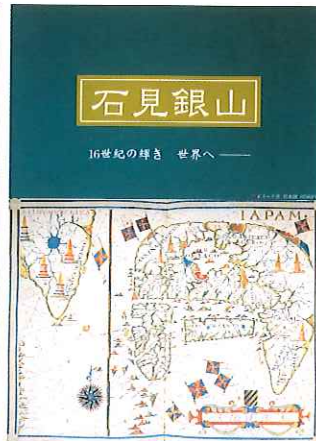
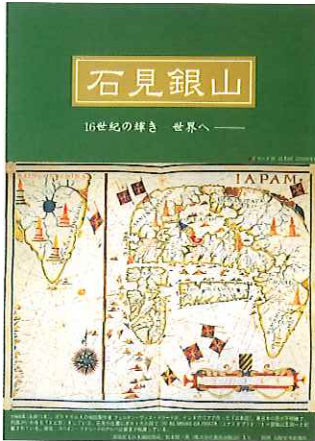
Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Exhibition Shuttle Bus



Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine World Heritage Center Information Office Opening Ceremony

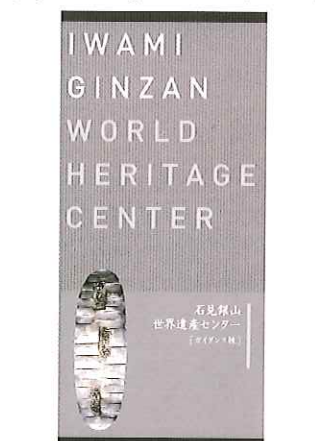
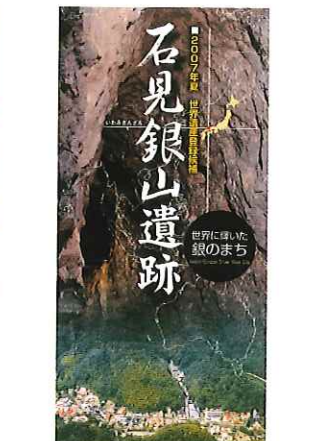
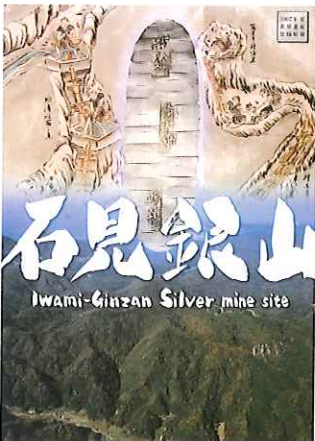


Related Documents



(Japanese, English)

(Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean)



(Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean)





UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL,
SCIENTIFIC AND
CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

CONVENTION CONCERNING
THE PROTECTION OF THE WORLD
CULTURAL AND NATURAL
HERITAGE

*The World Heritage Committee
has inscribed*

Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine

on the World Heritage List

*Inscription on this List confirms the exceptional
and universal value of a cultural or
natural site which requires protection for the benefit
of all humanity*

DATE OF INSCRIPTION

2 July 2007

A handwritten signature in blue ink, likely belonging to the Director-General of UNESCO at the time.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL
OF UNESCO

— World Heritage —
**Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine
and its Cultural Landscape**
Official Record

Publisher Shimane Prefectural Board of Education
(World Heritage Inscription Promotion Section)
1 Tonomachi, Matsue-shi, Shimane-ken 690-8502
TEL +81-852-22-6387

Date 31 January 2008

Editors Shimane Prefectural Board of Education
Imai Print Co., Ltd.

Printing Company Imai Print Co., Ltd.

