1 Bricks of the world

The history of bricks is said to have started about 10,000 years ago. They were used as early as in the four great civilizations of the world: ancient Egyptian, Mesopotamian, Indus and Chinese civilizations.



Model of archaeological ruins at Moenjodaro in the Indus valley



Brick with Cuneiform characters Lagash, Mesopotamian (ca.22nd century B.C.)



Brick from the ruins of Kom El-Samak at Malgata South, Egypt (ca. 1400 B.C.)

Bricks have been used as building material worldwide. Famous buildings built of brick in China and the Roman Empire are shown.



Brick from the Great Wall of China (end of A.D. 14th century)

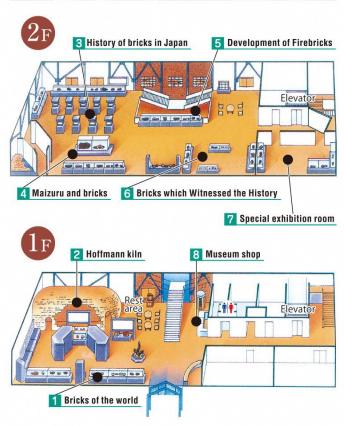


2 Hoffmann kiln

The inside of Hoffmann kiln is reproduced. It used to be the very popular kiln for producing brick. Here the brick making process is shown.



2F Exhibition Room





2nd Floor 2F Exhibition Room

3 History of Bricks in Japan

Originally, bricks were introduced to Japan as material for Buddhism architecture through the Chinese continent and the Korean peninsula. Many modern brick buildings were built because of the Westernization movement following the Meiji Restoration.



Tempyo Period Brick (8th century)



Model of Tokyo Station

4 Maizuru and bricks

Many structures of red bricks still remain in Maizuru. They are mainly warehouses and factories which used to belong to the Navy. Some are forts and railroad facilities.



Model of torpedo storage

One of four Hoffmann kilns which remain in Japan is also included. Because of the large number and variety of red brick structures, Maizuru is known as a town of red bricks in Japan.

5 Development of Firebricks

6 Bricks which Witnessed the History



Brick from Hiroshima Peace Memorial (Genbaku Dome)

Special exhibition room

8 Museum shop