

Before, At the height, After the Tsunami and Now of Ogatsu Inkstone Museum: a case study in the seashore area of Ishinomaki

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Abstract

In March 2001, Ogatsu Inkstone Museum was built by Arch. K.ITO & J. MATSUMOTO in the center of Ogatsu town close to Ogatsu Bay in Miyagi Prefecture. When the big Tsunami attacked the town on March 11, 2011, this building withstood against its strong water pressure and secured goods in the treasury which was elevated 7 meters above sea level. As the lobby space of ground level has been surrounded by large glass panes, this building could slide by the strong torrents allowing the panes to be broken and water to rush through it, instead of sweeping it away by Tsunami. Furthermore the building style with conically sharpened figure was effective to mitigate the water pressure of the drawing wave. The roof facing the mountains was covered by Ogatsu slate-stone as the symbol of Ogatsu products and in contrast to it, the roof facing the bay was covered by Titanium as the easily recognized landmark like a light house. Titanium looks softer than stainless steel and is durable even near the sea. Even after more than ten years, the roof of Ogatsu Inkstone Museum had been looked as clean and beautiful as it was opened. But now this building vanished by the making a large sea wall.



Light house at the end of the bay



Symbol of the town



In the highest water level



Withstanding the drawback wave



Without damage of structure



Vanished by the new sea walls

References

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