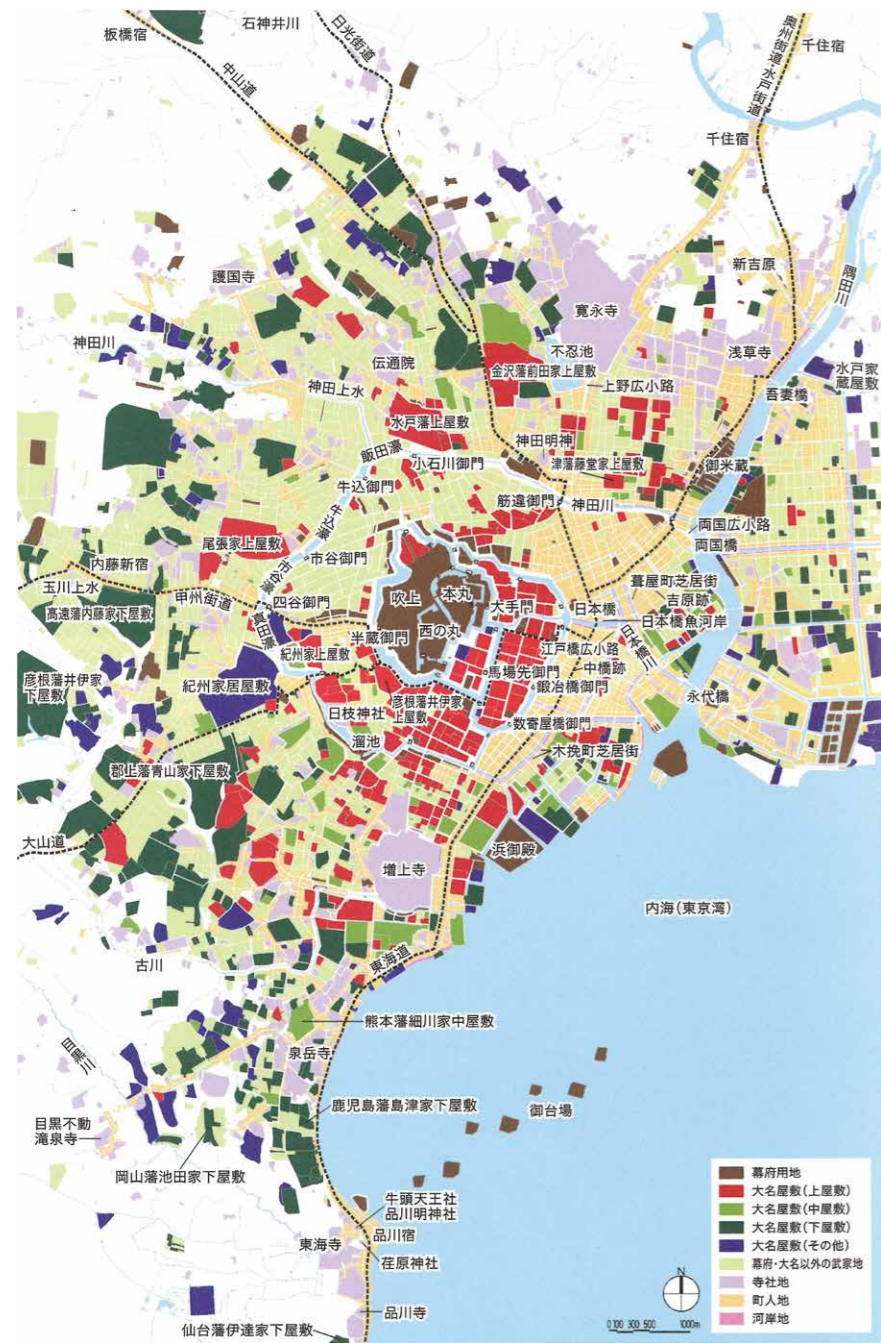


04 Land use in Edo

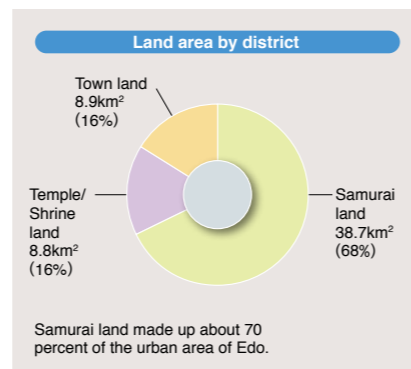
Urban space during the Edo period was mainly divided into three districts: land where the samurai had their residences, temple and shrine land, and town land where the merchants and artisans lived. In Edo, the area of land occupied by the samurai made up about 70 percent of the total area.

The expansive land occupied by samurai residences were an important element creating Tokyo's urban space, having been carried on to the present day as the locations of public facilities and parks.

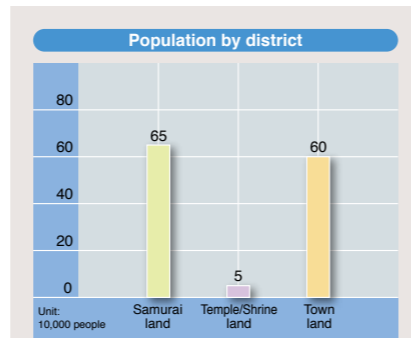


Land use map in the late Edo period

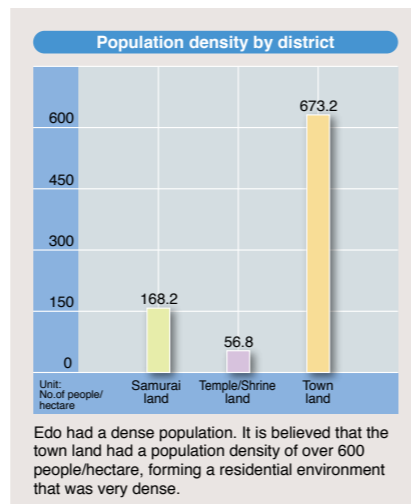
Source: Satoshi Okamoto. *Edo→Tokyo naritachi no kyokasho: Issatsu de tsukamu Tokyo no toshi keiseishi* (How Edo became Tokyo. All you need to understand Tokyo's formative history). Tankosha Publishing.



Samurai land made up about 70 percent of the urban area of Edo.



The samurai land and town land populations were nearly the same, and Edo was a huge city with a total population of 1.3 million.



Edo had a dense population. It is believed that the town land had a population density of over 600 people/hectare, forming a residential environment that was very dense.

Area and population by district Prepared from *Edo to Edo-jo* (Edo and Edo Castle) by Akira Naito, Kodansha.

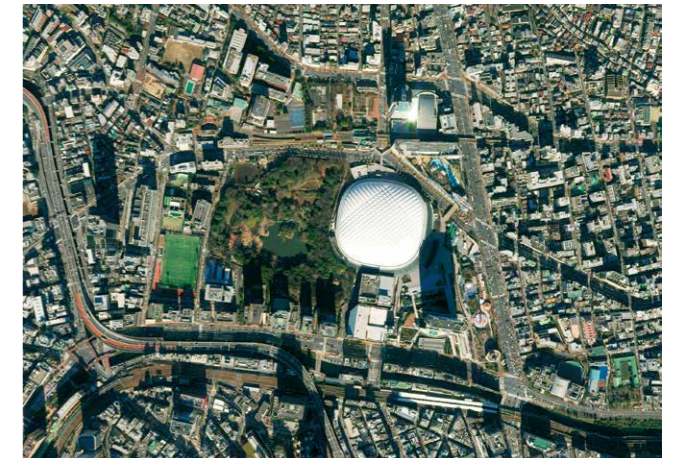


Area around the Edo residence of the Mito Tokugawa family in the Edo period (top of the map points west). *Koishikawa Yanaka Hongo ezu* (Illustrated map of Koishikawa, Yanaka, Hongo) From the collection of the Tokyo Metropolitan Central Library.

The area near the Mito residence at the upper left of the map is where Koishikawa Korakuen Gardens is located today.



Koishikawa Korakuen Gardens in the early Showa era, from the collection of the Tokyo Metropolitan Central Library.



Koishikawa Korakuen Gardens in 2009 (top of the map points north). Source: Bureau of Construction, Tokyo Metropolitan Government.



Koishikawa Korakuen Gardens today.

Transformation of the Koishikawa Korakuen Gardens

The present day Koishikawa Korakuen Gardens was originally the Edo residence of the Mito Tokugawa family in the Edo period. The garden was a strolling garden with a miniature mountain and pond, which was created by drawing water from the Kanda Josui Canal. Entering the Meiji era, it came under the jurisdiction of the Army Ministry, but following its 1923 designation as a national historic site and place of scenic beauty, in 1938 it came under the management of Tokyo City (today's Tokyo Metropolitan Government), and was opened to the public.



Map with red line



Edo shubiki uchi zu (Map of Edo with red line) From the collection of the Tokyo Metropolitan Archives.

- A red line was drawn on a map of Edo in the Bunsei era to show the boundaries of the Edo castle town.

- Although the population of Edo had been growing since Tokugawa Ieyasu entered Edo in 1590, with its built-up area expanding, the boundaries of Edo were not clearly established. So, at the start of the Bunsei era (1818) in the latter half of the Edo period, the government prepared this map, delineating in red what it considered to be the border of Edo's urban area.

The built-up area of Edo was mainly managed by the town magistrate, the commissioner of temple and shrines, and government inspector generals and inspectors. Here, the black line shows the area under the jurisdiction of the town magistrate.