

A plaque made of pig iron from the first coke blast furnace in Japan

Registration No.	Number 00074		
Registration Date	September 27, 2011	Registration Category	Category 2

Name (Model, etc.)	The name plaque for Sanjin Shrine
Location	Kamaishi-shi, Iwate Sanjin Shrine
Owner (Custodian)	Nippon Steel Corporation North Nippon Works
Manufacturer (Company)	Kamaishi Mines Tanaka Iron Works
Year Manufactured	1894
Year first appeared	
Reason For Selection	The year 1894 was an epoch-making in the history of iron manufacturing in which the coke blast furnace method was established for the first time in Japan. Charcoal had been used until then, but by using coke, it became possible to reduce large quantities of iron ore stably. Coke production also had the advantage of making it possible to obtain by-products such as coke oven gas. Furthermore, by using coke, operation at high temperatures became possible. Under that condition, with mineral ore that had a large sulfur content such as that in Kamaishi mineral ore, it became possible to desulfurize and refine ore by inserting limestone. Given these state of things, establishment of the coke method was necessary for iron and steel production. The Tanaka Iron Works of the time achieved success through the efforts of Noro Kageyoshi and Koumura Koroku. This is a valuable plaque commemorating the first success in Japan of the coke method of making pig iron.
Registration Standard	1-A (Show an important aspect or stage of the development of science and technology.)

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