



# Winter Sports and Architecture in 20th Century Japan

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# Introduction

## Historical fact in Japan

Russo-Japanese War

1904-1905

1911

1930s

Second Sino-Japanese War

1937-1940

Pacific War

-1945

1947

Tokyo Olympics

1964

Japan World Exposition  
Osaka 1970

1970

Collapse of bubble  
economy

1972

1990s

1998

## Events related to winter sports

First ski instruction in Japan

International Tourist Hotel  
Development Project

Return of Sapporo Olympic Bid

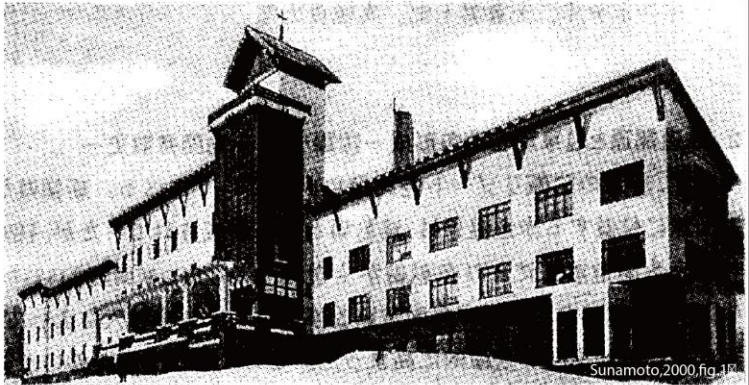
Introduction of Ski Lift by U.S.  
Forces in Japan

Sapporo Olympic

Nagano Olympic



Ski training (5th from left is Lerch)



International Tourist Hotel in Akakura



Sapporo Olympic Village

# Formation of ski settlements (prewar)

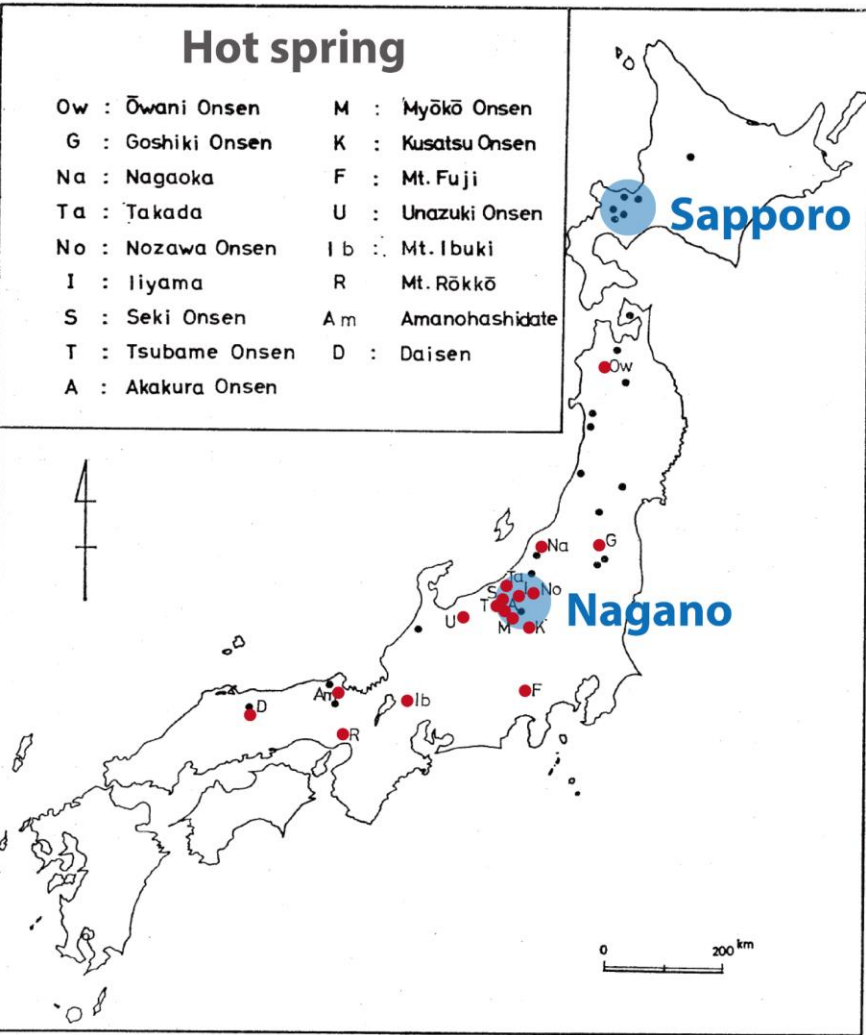


Figure 1. Distribution of major skiing grounds in Japan, 1923.  
Source: *Skiing and Skating*, Railroad Ministry, 1924.

Table 2. Types of skiing settlements in Japan

Origin of settlements			Location
Developed from existing settlements	Agricultural and forestry settlements	Paddy farming settlements	Happō, Sanosaka, Nakatsuna, Ishiuchi, Muikamachi, Urasa, and Togari
		Non-paddy farming settlements	Sugadaira, and Bandoko (Norikura Kōgen)
		Forestry settlements	Asagai (Naeba Skiing Ground)
	Spa settlements	Permanent spa settlements*	Zaō, Akakura, Kusatsu, Yuzawa, and Nozawa Onsen
		Seasonal spa settlements**	Hoppo, Kumanoyu, Manza, and Shirahone
Newly developed	Religious settlements		Togakushi and Ōtaki
	For tourism	By local inhabitants	Ichinose, Suzurikawa, Tsugaike, Suzuran, and Kowashimizu
		By outside entrepreneurs	Maruike and Madarao

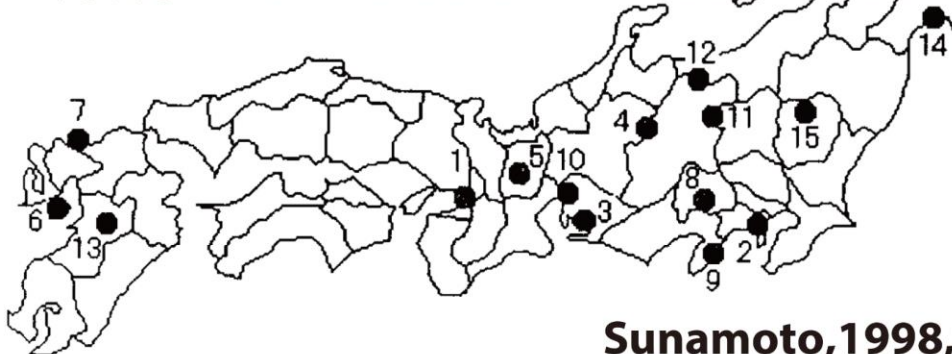
\* These were already permanent settlements even before the establishment of the skiing grounds.  
\*\* These became permanent settlements only after the establishment of the skiing grounds.

- **1) I period: 1911-1945**  
Attracting customers during the snowy season at hot-spring resorts
- 2) II period: 1945-1955**  
The Beginning of Slope Skiing
- 3) III period: 1955-(1990s)**  
Ski resort development by large capital
- 4) 1990s-2020**  
Collapse of the bubble economy
- 5) 2020-**  
Covid19 and historic yen depreciation

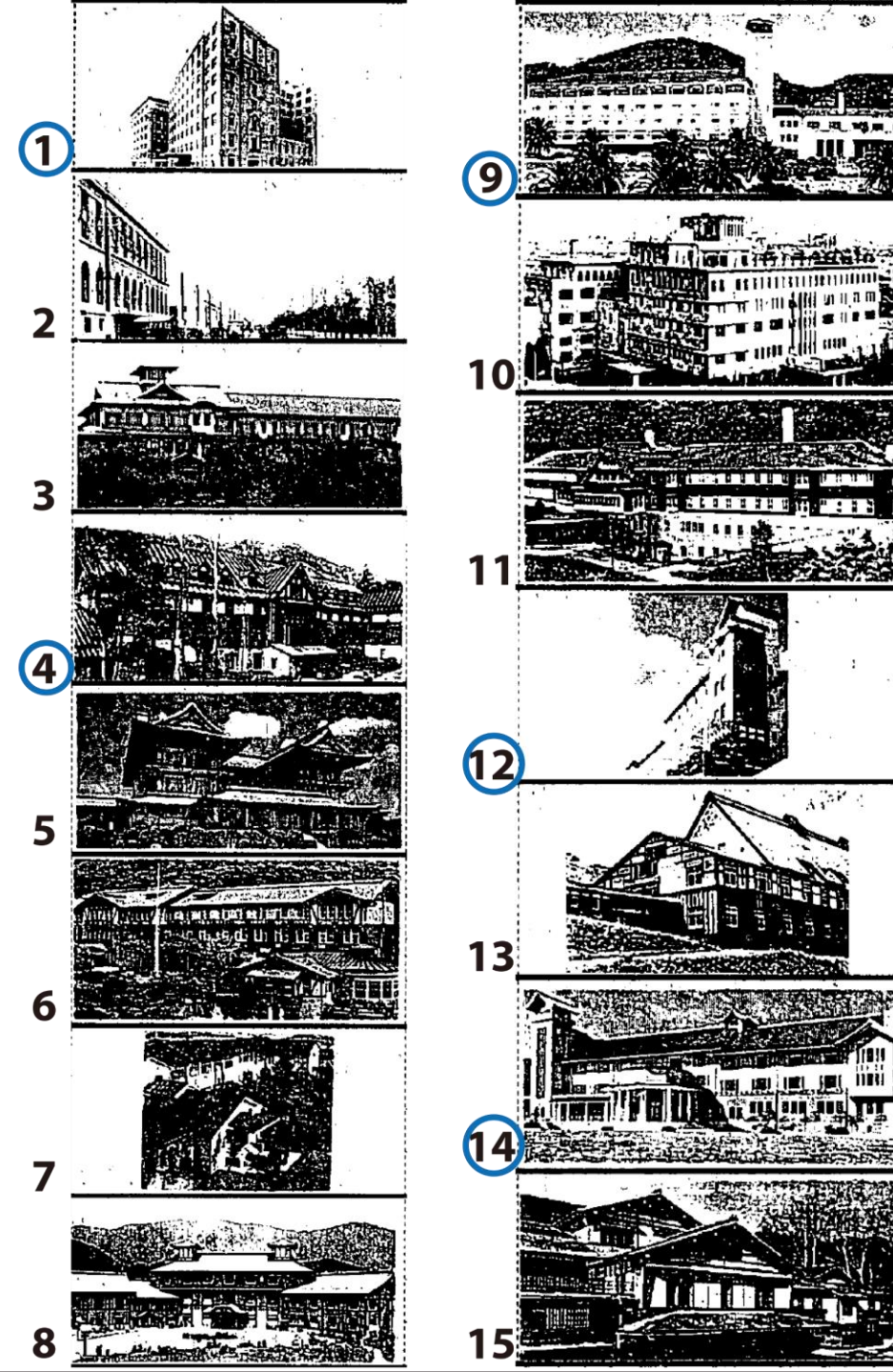


# International Tourist Hotel Constructed in the Polycy of Tourist Industry during 1930s

1. 新大阪ホテル - Shin-Osaka Hotel: Urban Accommodation
2. ホテル・ニューグランド - Hotel New Grand: Accommodation for Foreign Visitors
3. 蒲郡ホテル - Gamagori Hotel: Summer Retreat, Seaside, Lakeside
4. 上高地ホテル - Kamikochi Hotel: Mountain Climbing, Mountainous Area
5. 琵琶湖ホテル - Biwako Hotel: Summer Retreat, Lakeside
6. 雲仙観光ホテル - Unzen Kanko Hotel: Summer Retreat, Hot Springs, Golf, Plateau
7. 唐津シーサイドホテル - Karatsu Seaside Hotel: Summer Retreat, Seaside, Beach
8. 富士ビューホテル - Fuji View Hotel: Summer Retreat, Skating, Lakeside
9. 川奈ホテル - Kawana Hotel: Golf, Plateau
10. 名古屋観光ホテル - Nagoya Kanko Hotel: Urban Accommodation
11. 志賀高原温泉ホテル - Shiga Kogen Onsen Hotel: Skiing, Hot Springs, Urban
12. 赤倉観光ホテル - Akakura Kanko Hotel: Skiing, Plateau
13. 阿蘇観光ホテル - Aso Kanko Hotel: Summer Retreat, Hot Springs, Plateau
14. ニューパークホテル - New Park Hotel: Summer Retreat, Beach
15. 日光観光ホテル - Nikko Kanko Hotel: Summer Retreat, Lakeside

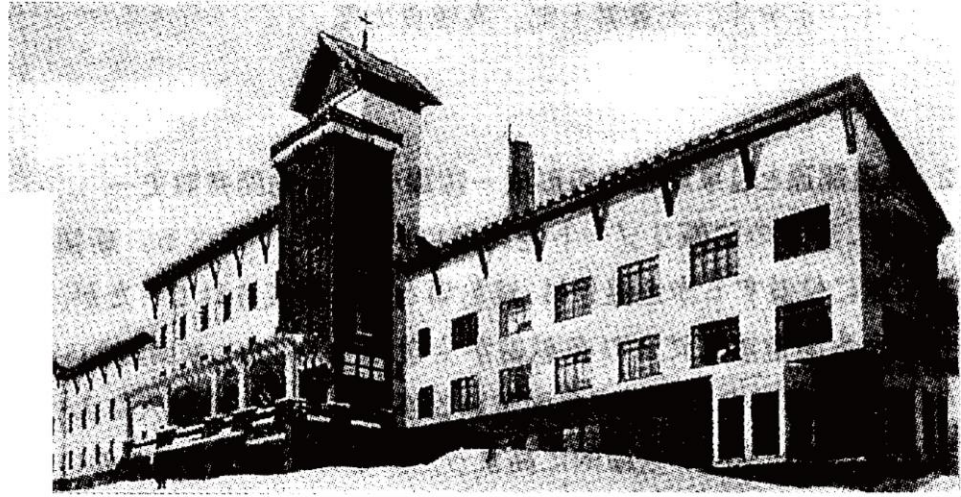


Sunamoto, 1998, fig. 1

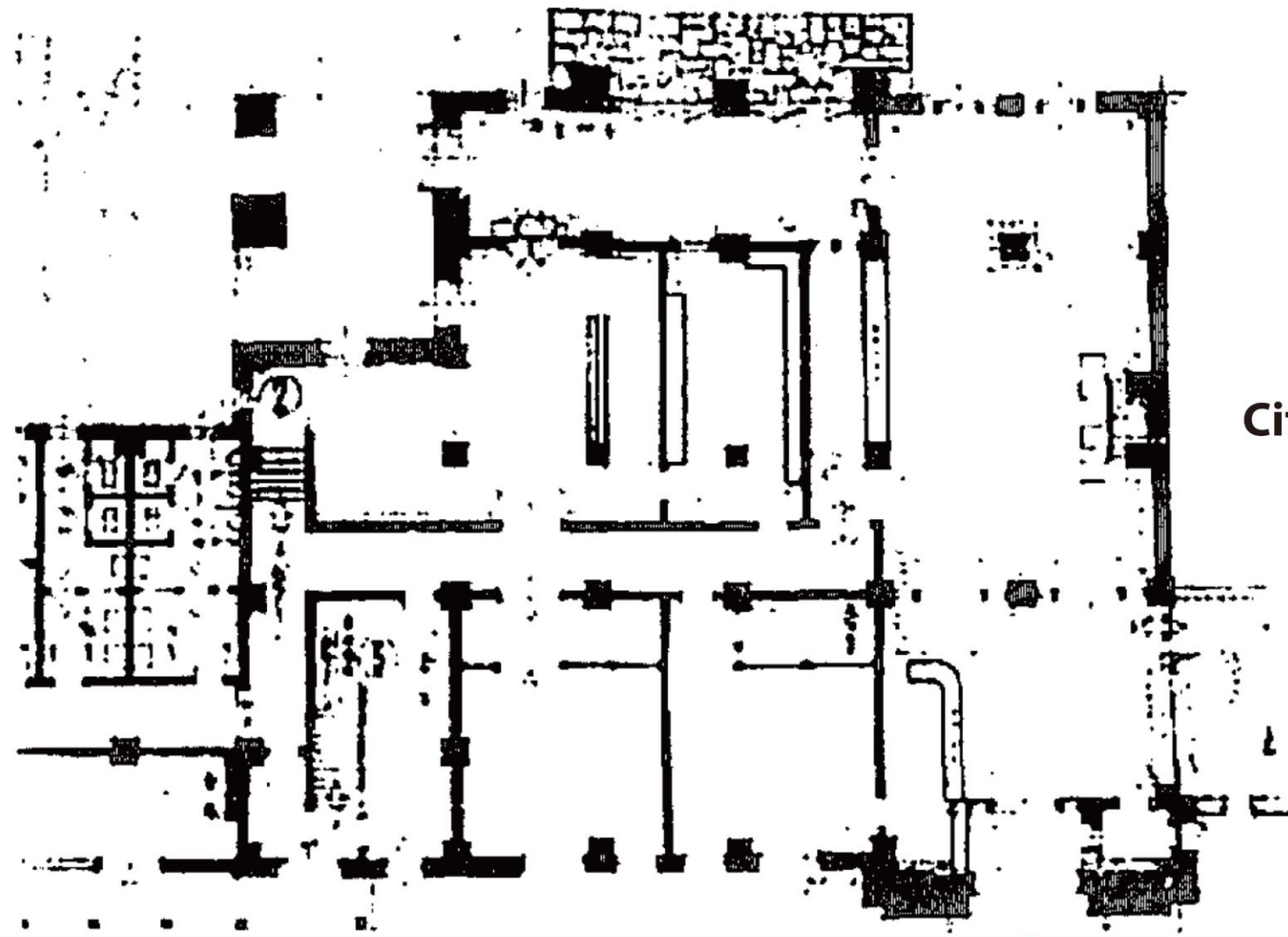




# International Tourist Hotel in Akakura hot spring



Sunamoto,2000,fig.1



Schematic view of the entrance area

Sunamoto,2000,fig.4

## Citizens who promoted the construction of the "International Tourist Hotel"



大倉喜七郎

**Okura  
Kishichiro**



犬丸徹三

**Inumaru  
Testuzo**



高橋貞太郎

**Takahashi  
Teitaro**



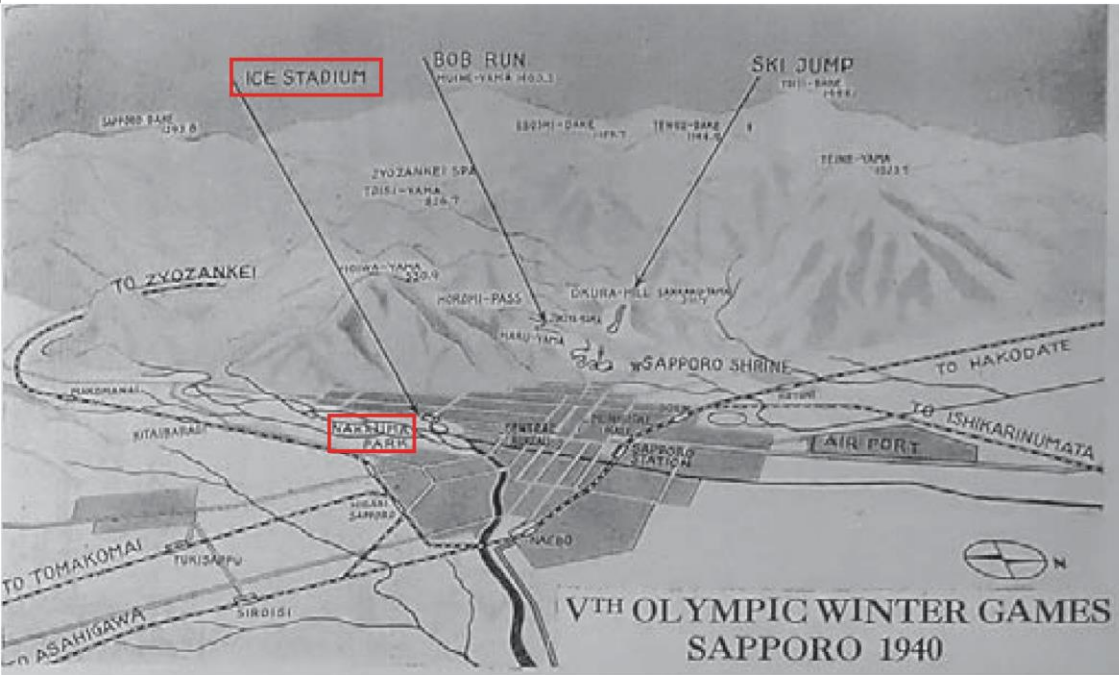


IMPERIAL HOTEL, TOKYO, JAPAN.

<https://takearch1894.com/imperial-hotel-frank-lloyd-wright/>



# Sapporo Olympic bid in 1940, and...



**Location map of the 5th Games facilities**

Mori and Nakajima, 2021, fig.1

- 1924: Chamonix-Mont-Blanc
- 1928: St. Moritz
- 1932: Lake Placid
- 1936: Garmisch-Partenkirchen
- ▶ 1940: Sapporo → St. Moritz → Garmisch
- 1944: Cortina d'Ampezzo
- 1948: St. Moritz
- 1952: Oslo
- 1956: Cortina d'Ampezzo
- 1960: Squaw Valley
- 1964: Innsbruck
- 1968: Grenoble
- ▶ 1972: Sapporo
- 1976: Denver → Innsbruck
- 1980: Lake Placid
- 1984: Sarajevo
- 1988: Calgary
- 1992: Albertville
- 1994: Lillehammer
- ▶ 1998: Nagano
- 2002: Salt Lake City
- 2006: Turin
- 2010: Vancouver
- 2014: Sochi
- 2018: Pyeongchang
- 2022: Beijing
- 2026: Milan-Cortina d'Ampezzo





**First lift in Japan (Maruike ski resort, Shiga)**

<https://www.shinshu-tabi.com/ski100/rekisi.html>



# Formation of ski settlements (postwar)

## 1) I period: 1911-1945

Attracting customers during the snowy season at hot-spring resorts

## ▶ 2) II period: 1945-1955

The Beginning of Slope Skiing

## 3) III period: 1955-(1990s)

Ski resort development by large capital

## 4) 1990s-2020

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## 5) 2020-

Covid19 and historic yen depreciation



<https://www.shinshu-tabi.com/ski100/rekisi.html>

**Crowded Nozawa Onsen ski resort (circa 1958)**

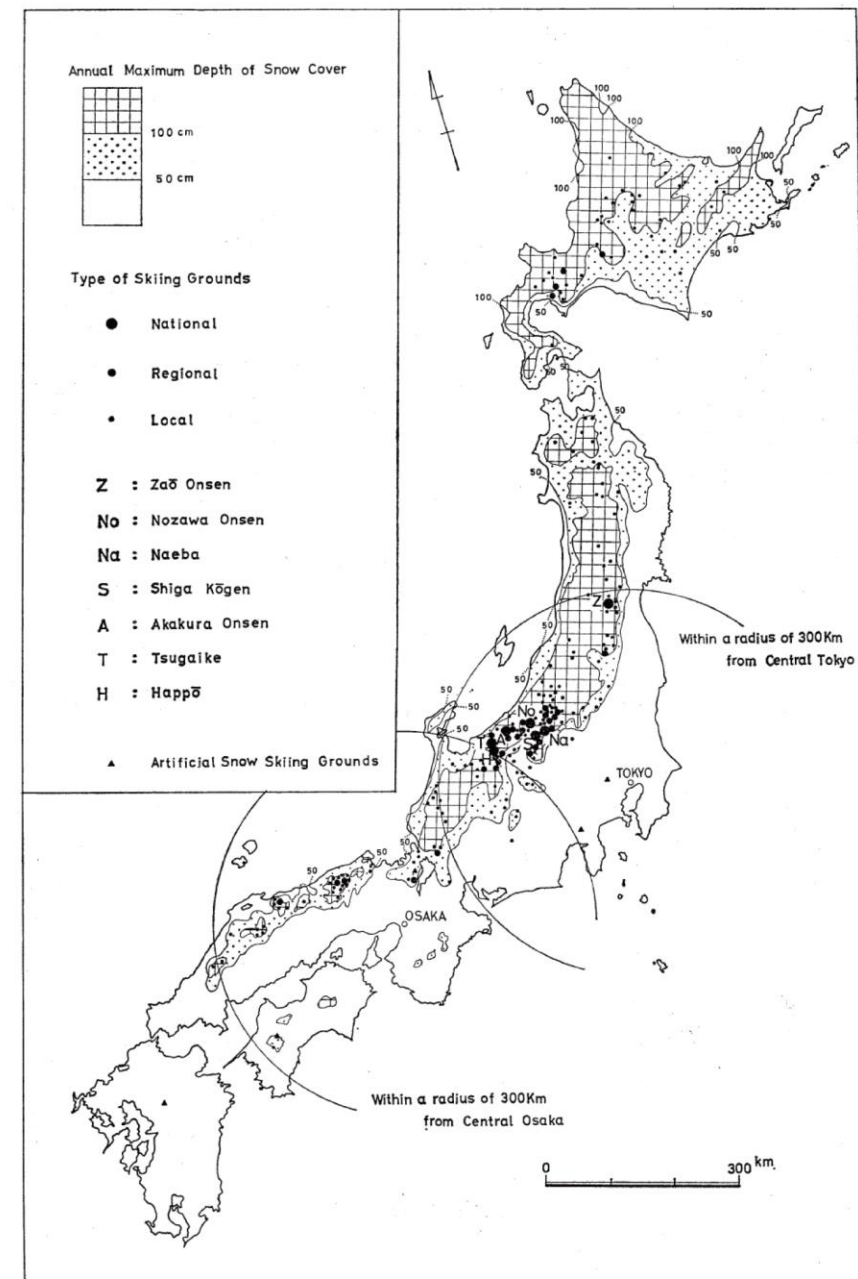


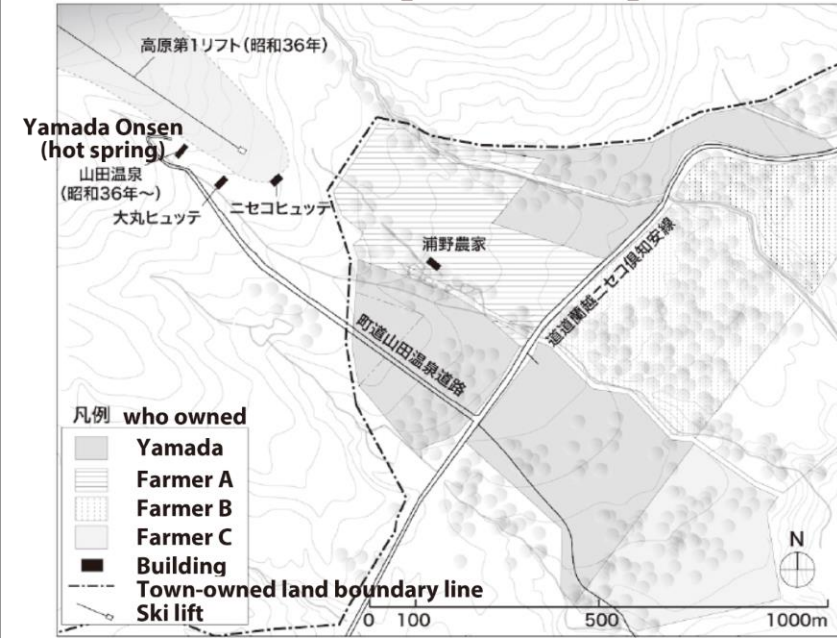
Figure 2. The relationship between annual maximum depth of snow cover and the distribution of skiing grounds in Japan.

Source: (1) Writer's investigation, 1978.  
(2) *Climatic Atlas of Japan*, Vol. 2. Japan Meteorological Agency, 1972.

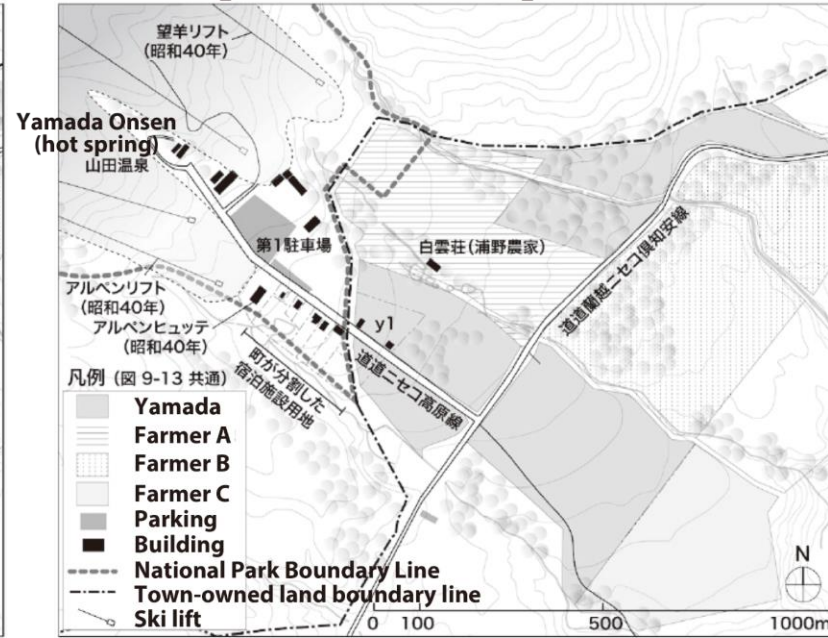
**Shirasaka, 1984**



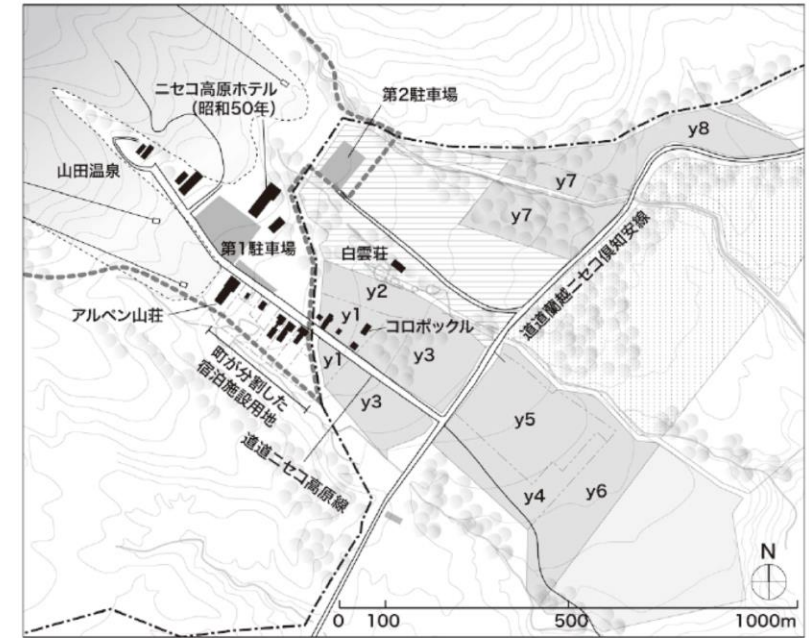
# Ex. Development process and space composition in Niseko Hirafu district



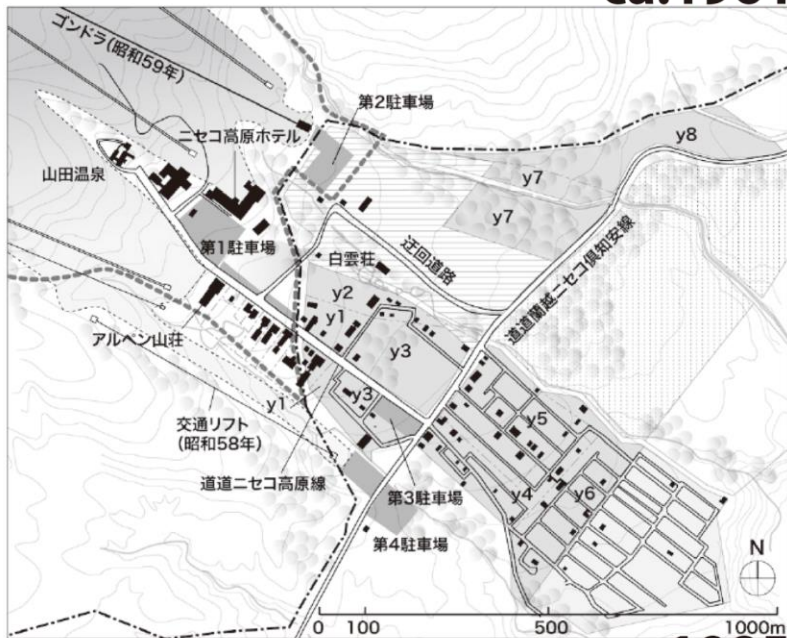
ca.1961



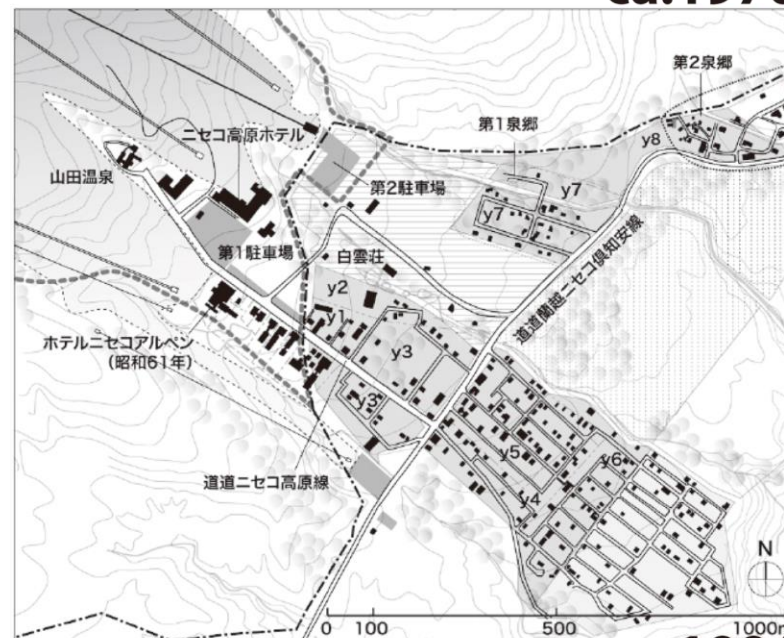
ca.1970



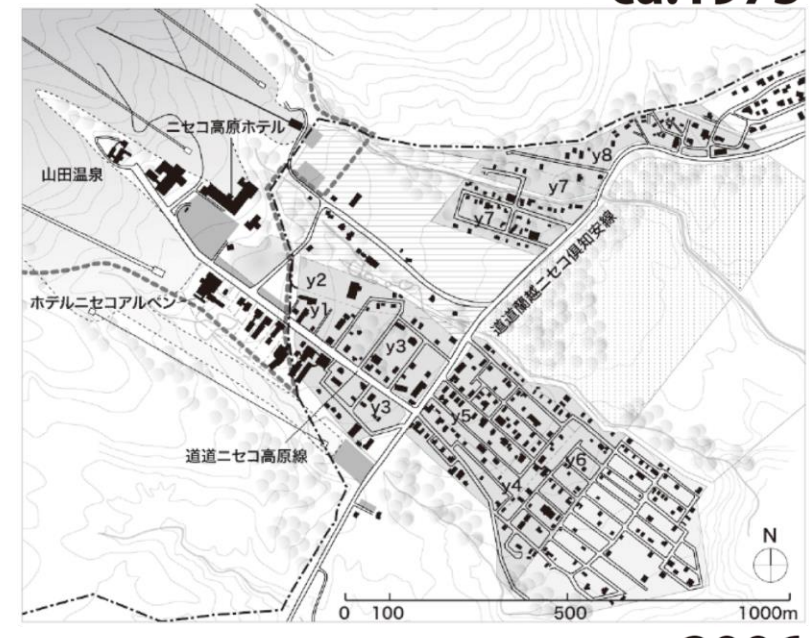
ca.1975



ca.1985



ca.1994



ca.2006



# Sapporo Olympic in 1972





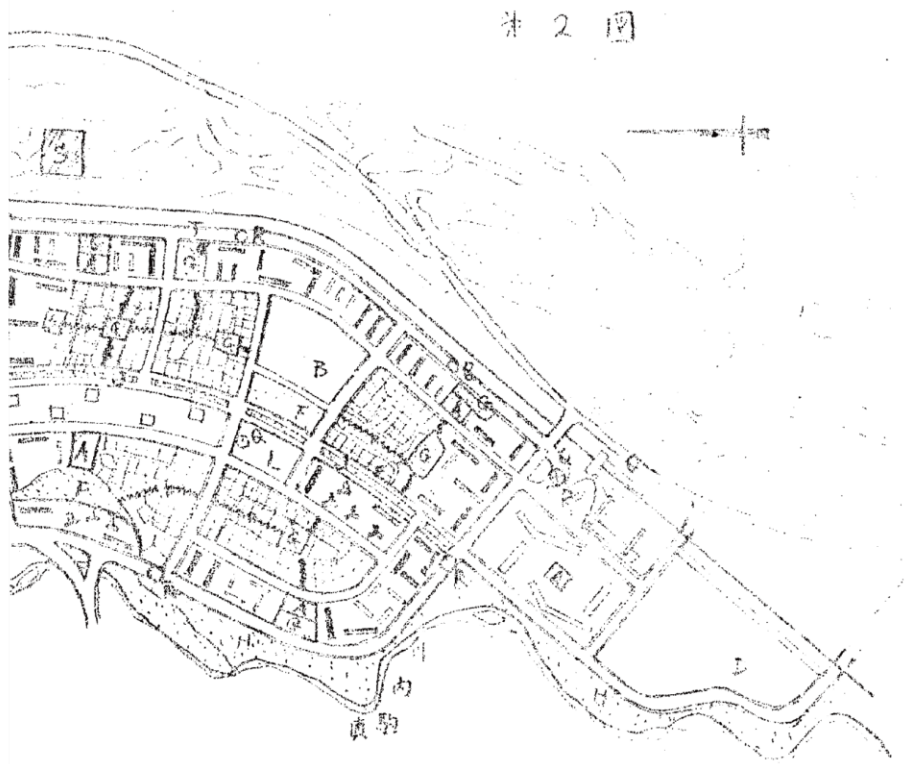
# Sapporo Olympic in 1972

Replaced later



Sapporo in 1960, before olympic

Miyata and Miyawaki, 1960



主要施設	施設必要面積	施設数	全面積 m <sup>2</sup>
文教施設			
幼稚園	1,500 m <sup>2</sup>	4	6,400
小学校	27,000	1	27,000
商店	100	60	6,000
文化施設	—	—	4,000
保健衛生施設			
浴場	1,000	2	2,000
診療所	1,000	1	1,000
緑地			
近隣公園	20,000	1	20,000
児童公園	2,500	4	10,000
計			(A) 76,400

A	幼稚園	H	河原公園	C	住居区	V	商業区
B	小学校	I	30m大緑地	F	駅前地区	W	日産工場
C	中学校	J	中心商業地区	G	バスターミナル	X	住居区
D	高等学校	L	公園	R	バスターミナル	Y	工場
E	中央公園	M	小売店	S	水道取水口		
F	児童公園	N	カーニバル	T	緑地		
G	児童公園			U	自転車		

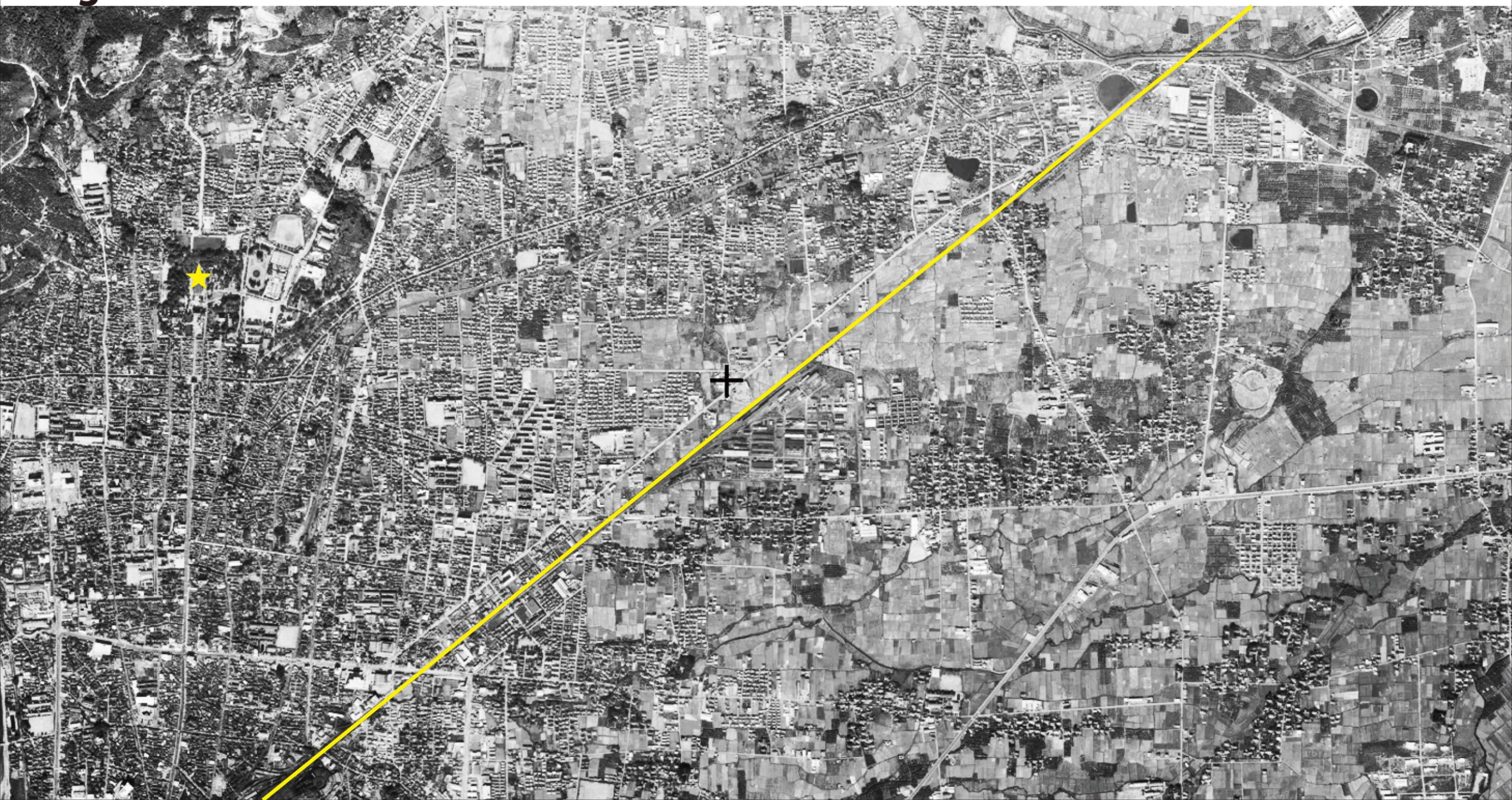
1階建て住宅	2階建て住宅	3階建て住宅	4階建て住宅	5階建て住宅	人口密度
4階建て共同住宅	65	130,000	18%	27.8%	360
2階建てテラスハウス	80	160,000	22%	32.6%	500
独立住宅	300	600,000	24%	37.5%	702





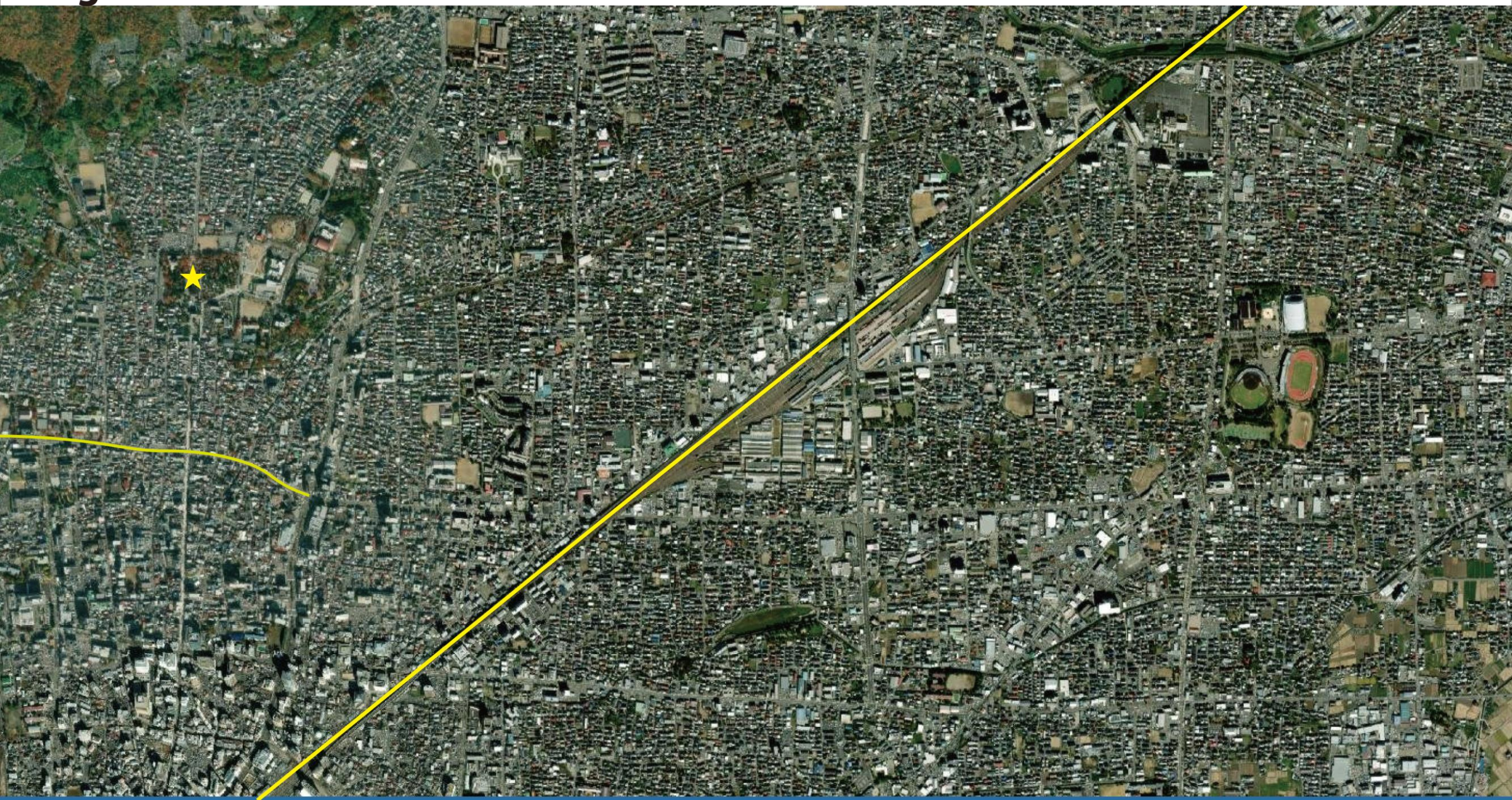


# Nagano in 1960s



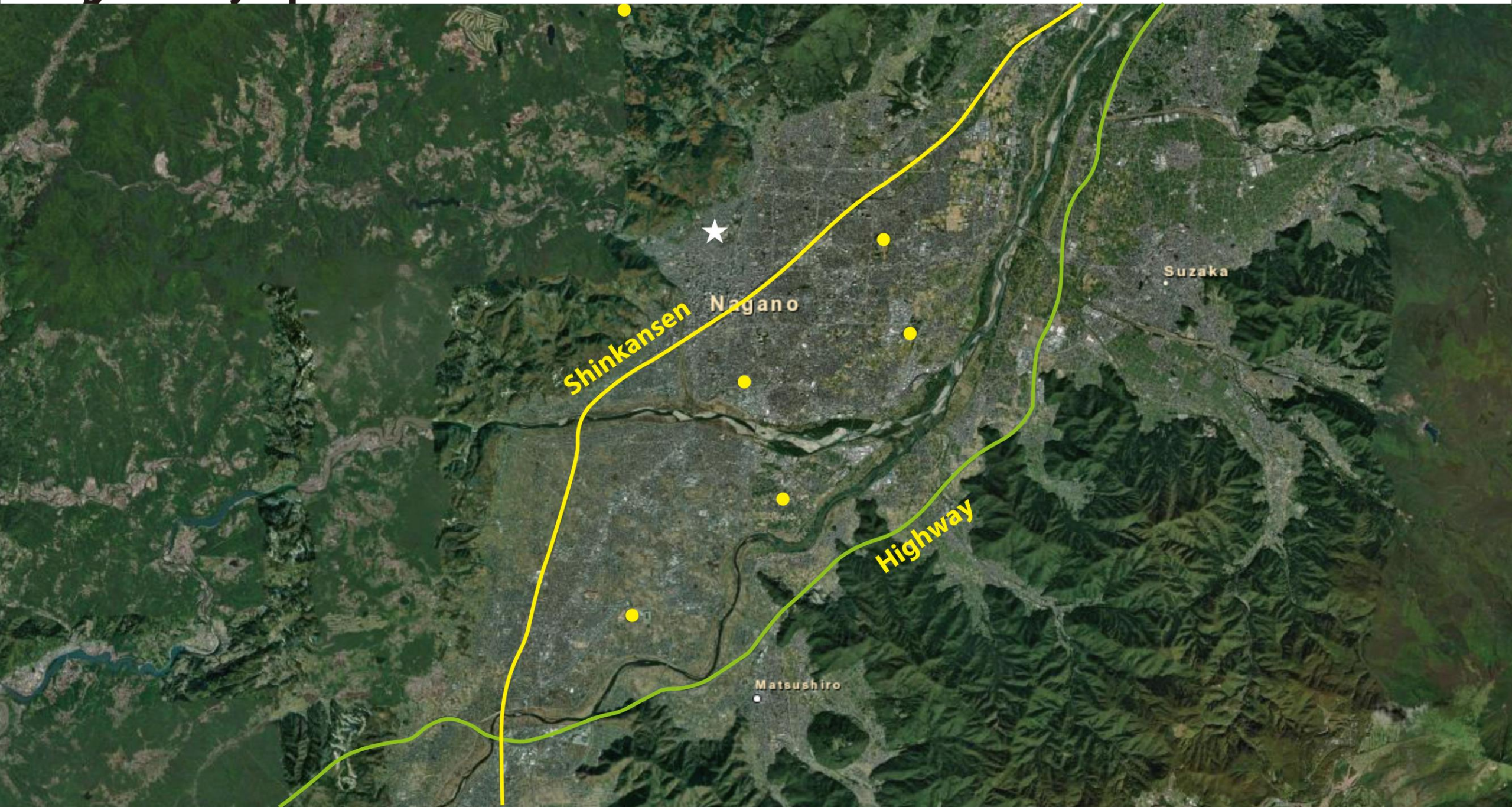


# Nagano in 2020s





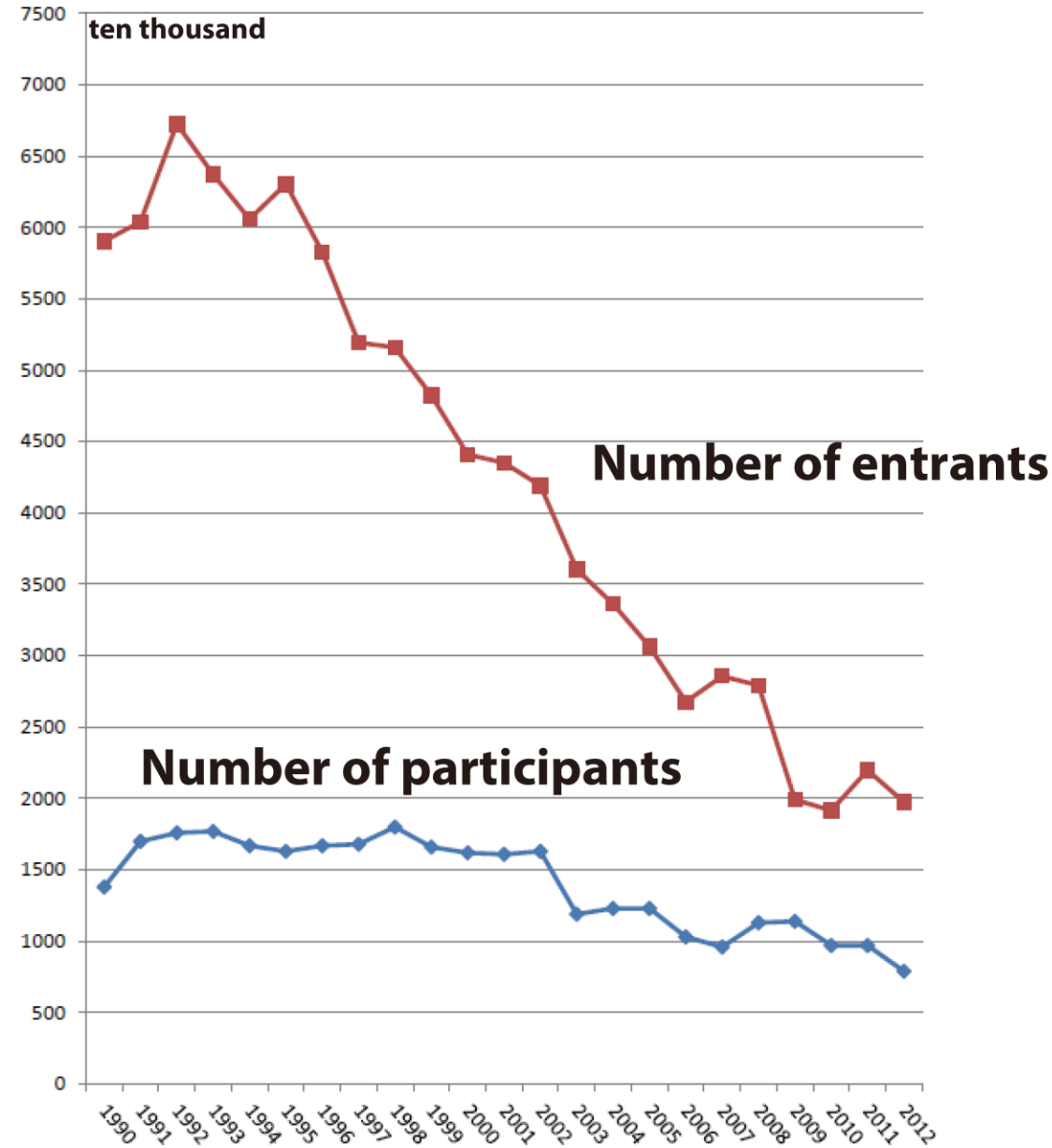
# Nagano Olympic in 1998





# Post 20th Century

## Trend in the number of enrolments, 1990-2012



### Changes in operating entities

**Total number in 1992, 627**

No change in management entity,  
213

privatisation of public facilities,  
79

Sold from private sector to private sector,  
115

Nationalisation and public management,  
7

Closure or closure of business,  
213



Thank you for listening