

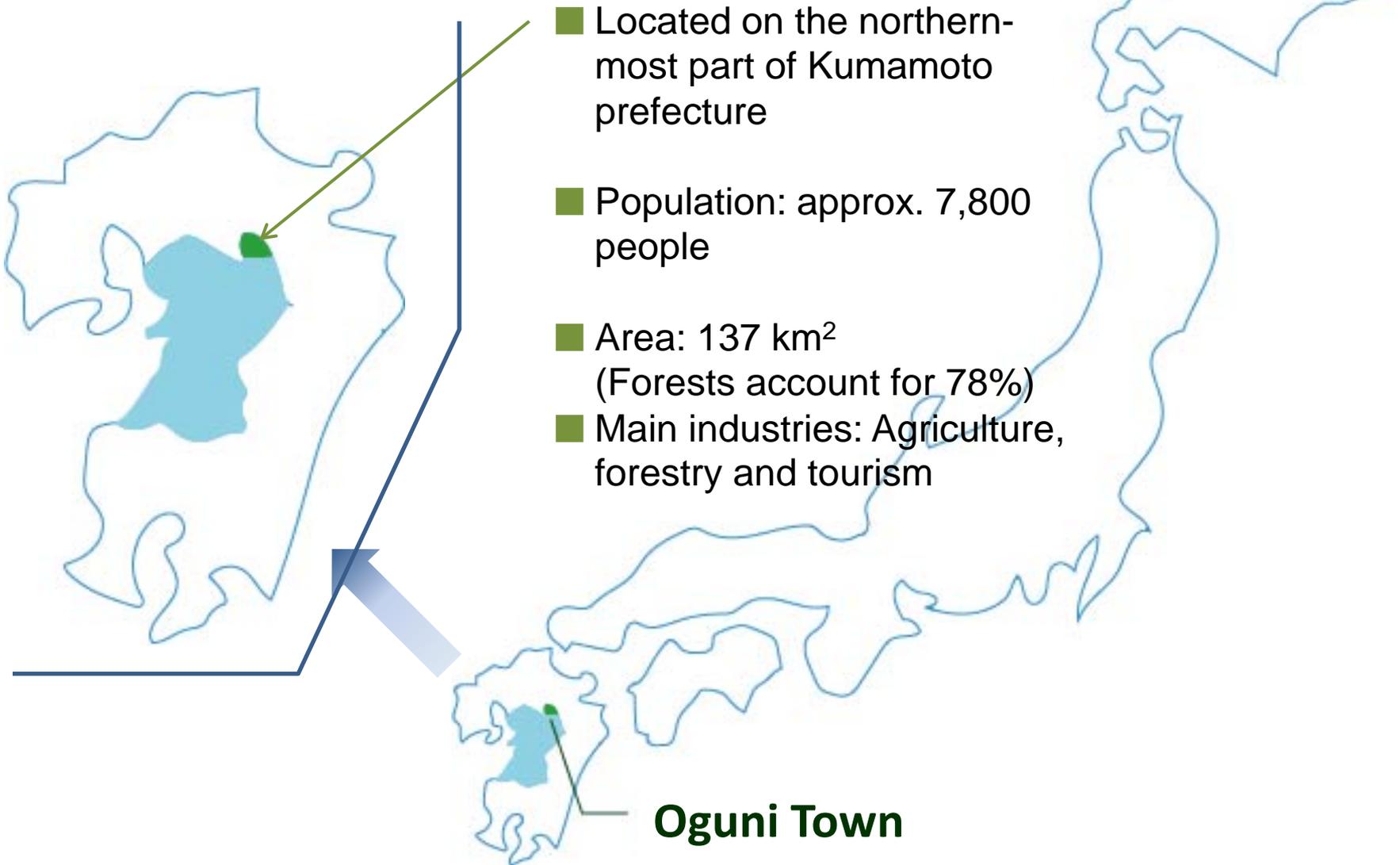
Leveraging Local Natural Resources in Town Development

A concept for a town of agriculture & forestry
that leverages biomass and geothermal
resources



Kosuke Kitazato
Mayor of Oguni Town, Kumamoto Prefecture

Oguni Town Overview



A town with rich geothermal and forest resources



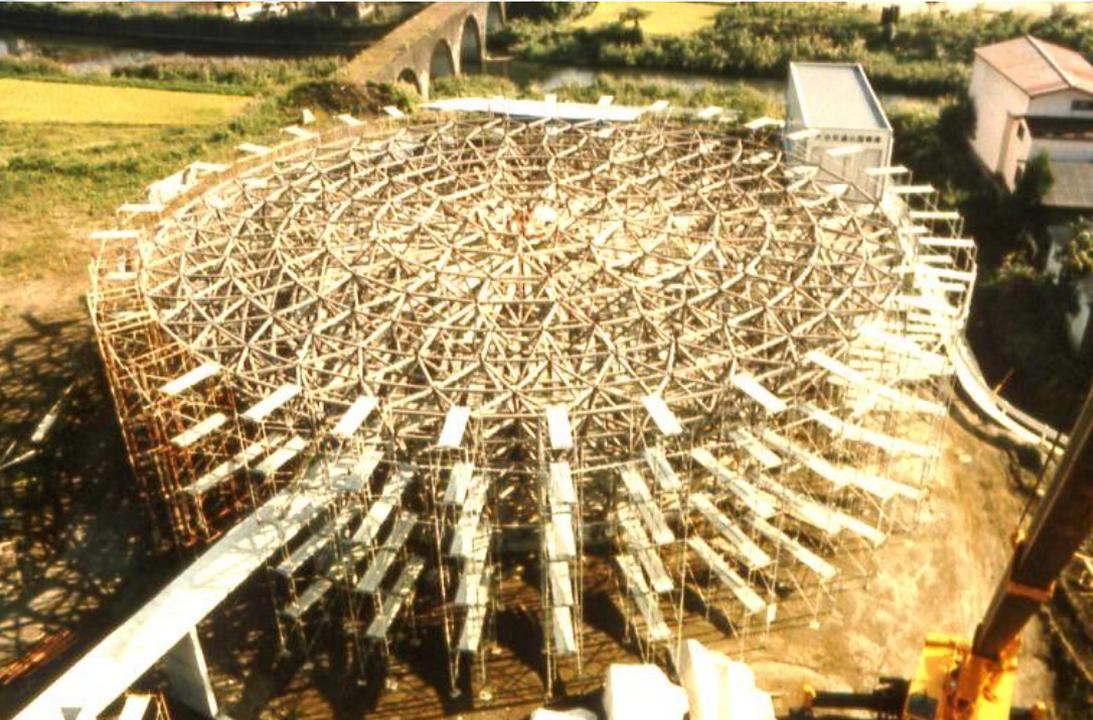
Thermal vapors rise from every corner
of settlement areas
(Tsuetate spa village)

Symbolic landscape of Oguni
Town is the cedar forests



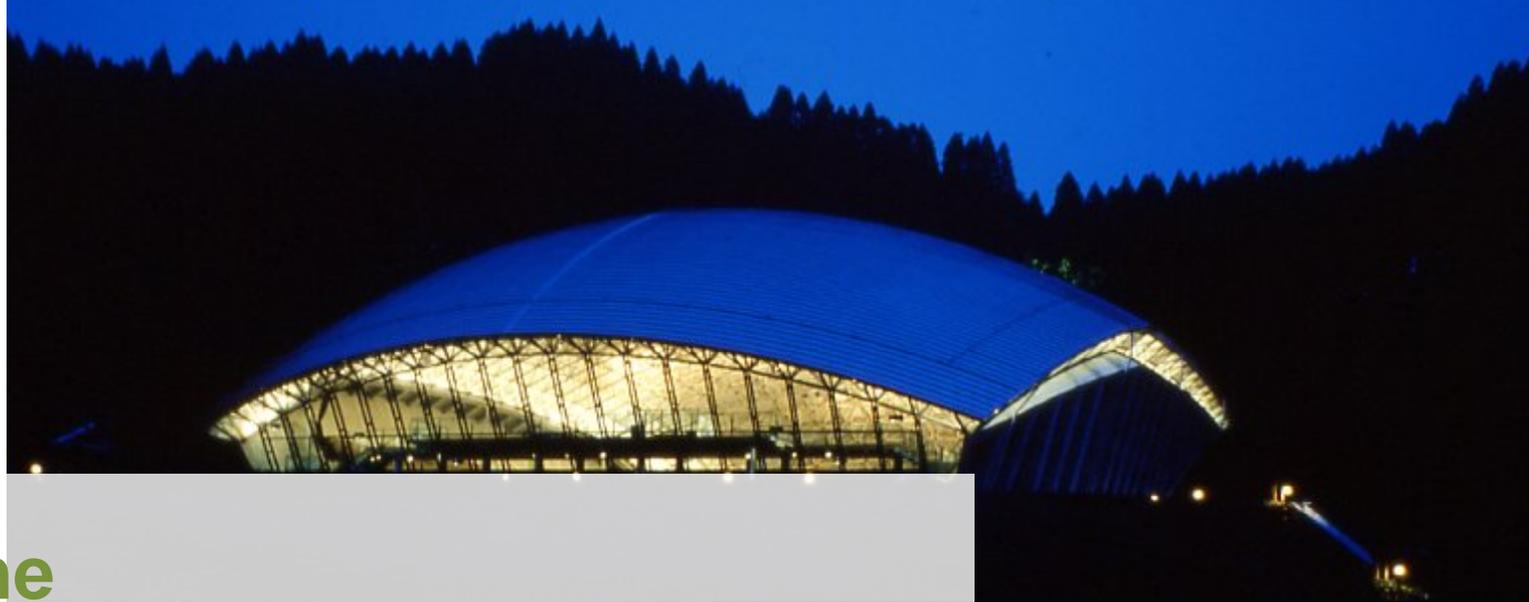
Use of forest resources





Michi no eki (Road station) Yu Station

Established in 1988
Japan's first example of a 3-dimensional
timber truss structure.



Oguni Dome

Opened in 1988. At completion, it was the largest public facility made of a timber structure in Japan.

The dome has 5,602 truss members made of local Oguni cedars.



Use of geothermal resources



Waita thermal spa village



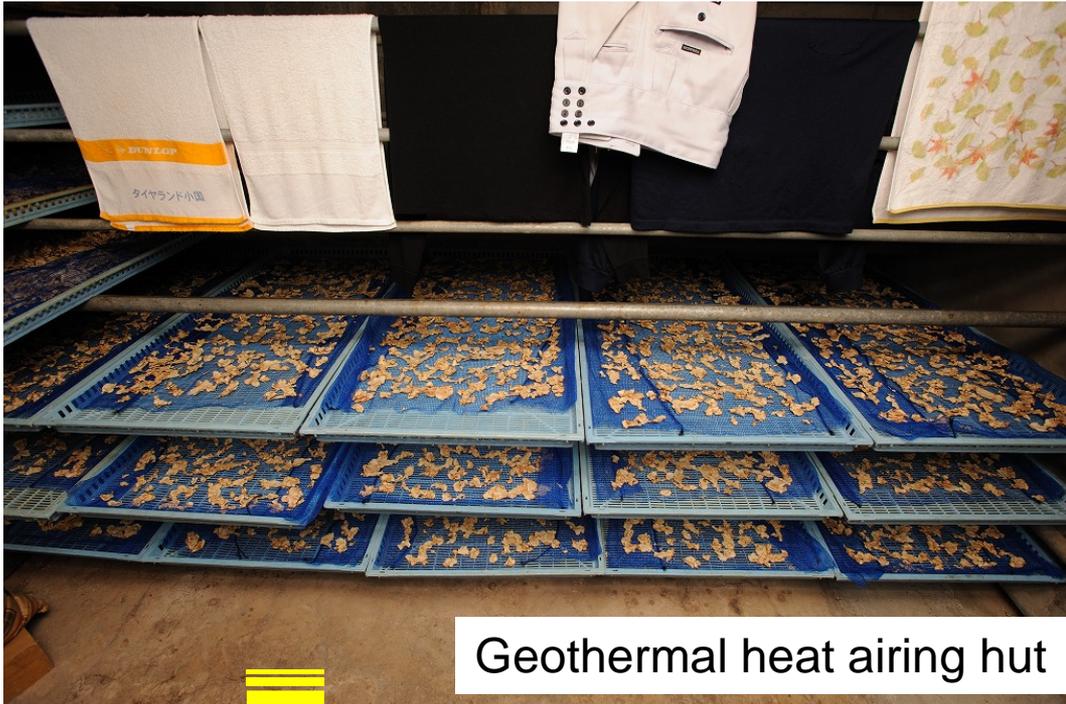
The area has made **best use** of **geothermal heat** since before the world wars

Local lifestyle in Waita thermal spa village



Steamer (using natural thermal vapor)

Local lifestyle in Waita thermal spa village



Geothermal heat airing hut

Geothermal heat airing hut

A facility for drying vegetables, clothes, etc. by passing the thermal vapor through installed piping and keeping the internal temperature high.



Dried Jerusalem artichoke



Sold as a local delicacy

Other use of this system



Timber-drying kiln



Eco-friendly facility and good
for timbers

Another resource: Human resources



Magazine for immigrating people

Mokkonkan, an education center

Opened in 1988.



Manabiya no Sato

The organization was inaugurated in February 1996, following and perpetuating the philosophy of “**learning and exchange**”, promoted by Shibasaburo Kitasato, a famous bacteriologist from this Town.



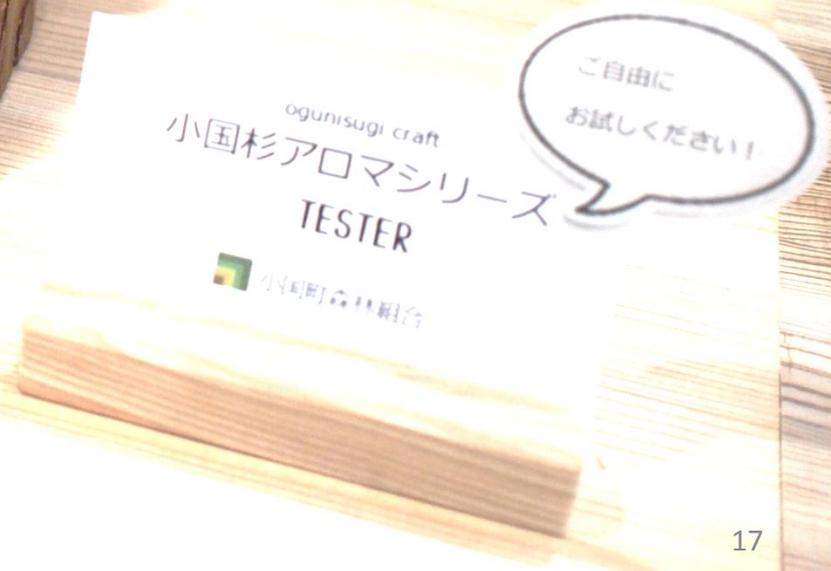
Dr. Shibasaburo Kitasato

Contributions by transplant residents

- Rika Irimajiri
 - Born in Kochi prefecture
 - Moved to Oguni in April 2012
- Planning and Sales staff member at Forestry Association of Oguni



Natural resources also produce daily commodities such as aroma oil, air refreshers and hand cream.



Oguni Town support center for families with young children Kangaroo's Pocket





She married a local young man in Oguni Town in December 2015

Eco-model City Oguni Town

Revolving around the effective use of local natural resources, Oguni provides various local people as well as those from outside the Town with opportunities to make contributions to the local community



Last but not least...



For the happiness of our younger generations

Kosuke Kitazato, Mayor of Oguni Town