

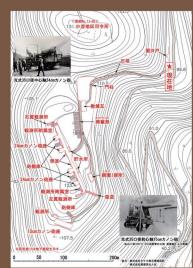
旧陸軍佐世保要塞小首堡塁跡

Remains of the Imperial Japanese Army Sasebo Fortress Kokubi Battery



小首堡塁は佐世保軍港を防備する佐世保要塞に属する砲台として明治33年(1900)に築かれた。北側の丸出山堡塁と同じく接近する敵艦船との長時間の砲戦を想定した砲戦砲台であり、克式35口径中心軸24cmカノン砲4門(日清戦争の戦利砲)を主兵装とし、副兵装として佐世保港口に敷設した機雷を掩護するため、克式35口径前心軸15cmカノン砲2門を装備した。他の砲台と同じく実戦を経験することなく、昭和12年(1937)に24cmカノン砲が廃止撤去されたが、砲台そのものは太平洋戦争開戦後の昭和17年(1942)に15cmカノン砲が撤去されるまで存続した。

Kokubi battery was built in 1900 as a part of Sasebo Fortress to defend Sasebo naval port. Just like Marude-yama battery on the north side, this one was designed to exchange fire with enemy vessels for a long time. Its main guns were four Krupp-model 35-caliber 24cm-center-axis cannons (spoils of the first Sino-Japanese War) and supporting guns were two Krupp-model 35-caliber 15cm-center-axis cannons to protect the mines laid at the entrance of Sasebo Bay. Like other batteries, it was never used in actual fights and the 24cm cannons were removed in 1937. The battery itself was active until the 15cm cannons were removed in 1942 after the outbreak of the Pacific War.



小首堡塁遺構配置図

