

TOKORO FOREST PARK OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES opened as a historical park in 1994. The park is located in the western part of the “Tokoro Site” , a National Historic Site of Japan. It covers 12 hectares, contains the archaeological village sites of Jomon, Epi-Jomon and Satsumon period.

At these village site, a lot of pit-dwelling ruins are found. These ruins are preserved very well, so the pits of pit-dwellings are not fully infilled with sediments and remain depressed even to this day although many of them were constructed more than 1000 years ago, or some of them several thousand years ago.

In addition, the archaeological museum, gallery and research center in the park collect, house, exhibit the archaeological finds of Tokoro region and conduct investigations about them.

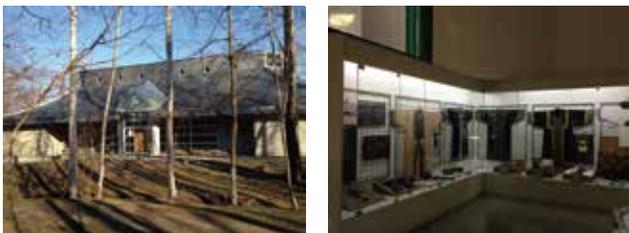
1 TOKORO ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM

Tokoro Archaeological Museum exhibits the archaeological finds, some architectural models of dwellings, and a diorama of the village sites.



2 TOKORO BURIED CULTURAL PROPERTY CENTER

Tokoro Buried Cultural Property Center collects and houses the archaeological finds excavated from Tokoro region and additionally displays some traditional utensils and clothes of Ainu people.



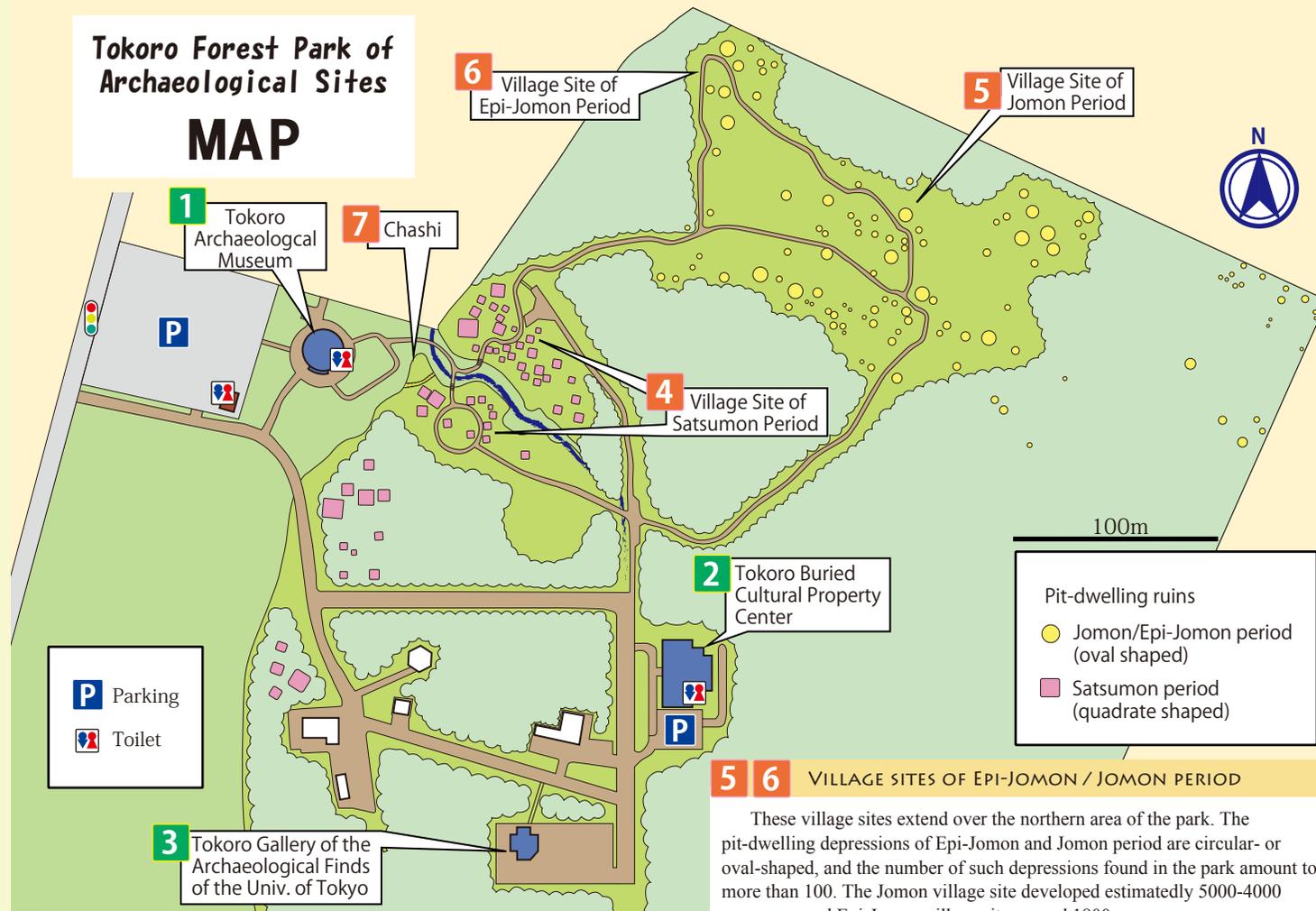
3 TOKORO GALLERY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS

Tokoro Gallery of Archaeological Finds is attached to the Tokoro Research Laboratory of the University of Tokyo. The findings accumulated from excavations and research related to the Tokoro region are exhibited.



Tokoro Forest Park of Archaeological Sites

MAP



4 VILLAGE SITES OF SATSUMON PERIOD

Village site of Satsumon period is located in the west side of the park, surrounding a small valley and a stream.

The pit-dwellings of Satsumon period are quadrate shaped, and about 40 quadrate depressions are found in the site. These are the ruins of the pit-dwellings about 1000 years ago.



Reconstructed pit-dwellings



Pit-dwelling depressions

5 6 VILLAGE SITES OF EPI-JOMON / JOMON PERIOD

These village sites extend over the northern area of the park. The pit-dwelling depressions of Epi-Jomon and Jomon period are circular- or oval-shaped, and the number of such depressions found in the park amount to more than 100. The Jomon village site developed estimatedly 5000-4000 years ago, and Epi-Jomon village site around 1800 years ago.



Reconstructed pit-dwellings (Epi-Jomon)



Pit-dwelling depressions (Epi-Jomon)

7 CHASHI

“Chashi” is a kind of fortification constructed by Ainu people. It would function as a place of ritual or a lookout. This small chashi has a very simple structure: the brow of the hill is divided by a moat.

