

Special Exhibition Commemorating the 75th Year of the Bombing

History of the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum  
**Part 1: Building the Foundation**  
—Footsteps of the First Director, Shogo Nagaoka

July 22, 2020  
– February 23, 2021

Special Exhibition Room  
East Building 1F  
Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum

Free Admission







Shogo Nagaoka (right) in the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum Director's office 1955 to 1957 Courtesy of Seinosuke Arata

The Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum recognizes its 65th anniversary this year. Since it opened, the Museum has exhibited materials with traces of the atomic bombing and conveyed the reality of the damage caused by the bombing. The museum's exhibition was founded with materials collected by one person. He entered Hiroshima City directly after the bombing and collected materials from the ashes. That person, whose name is Shogo Nagaoka, later became the first director of the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum. Mr. Nagaoka did not only collect materials but also carried out research and surveys on the atomic bombing, striving over his entire life to achieve a clear understanding of the reality of the bombing.

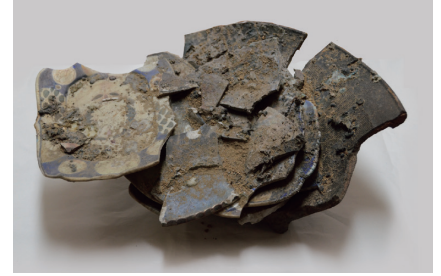
In this special exhibition we trace the footsteps of Mr. Nagaoka based on materials recently donated to the Museum by his family members, thereby introduce the path to the Museum's opening and what it was like in its early stages.

## Contents

- Walking Over the Scorched Earth
- Displaying the Collected Materials to the Public
- Opening the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum
- Unflinching Passion



Nagaoka pointing at a shadow on the stone steps of the bank  
Courtesy of Shizuko Fukushima



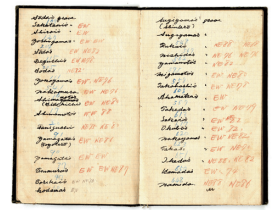
Lump of melted plates  
Shogo Nagaoka Collection



Collecting metal samples that were exposed to the atomic bombing  
Shogo Nagaoka Collection

“The damage from the atomic bomb continues unabated. Our research and efforts will be continued and broadened.”

—HIROSHIMA  
Shogo Nagaoka's remarks from a publication



Clinometer that was used for the surveys (left)  
Notebook of the measurement records (right)  
Shogo Nagaoka Collection



Exhibition room when the museum was opened 1955  
Courtesy of Obayashi Corporation



Nagaoka describing a gravestone that was exposed to the heat rays  
October 26, 1957  
Courtesy of The Chugoku Shimbun



Panoramic model of Hiroshima City center after the atomic bombing that was set up in the Atomic Bomb Memorial Hall September 26, 1953  
Photo by Yuichiro Sasaki  
Courtesy of Yugo Shioura

- ⟨Photos on the front side⟩
- Upper right: Storage of the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum  
Courtesy of Shizuko Fukushima
  - Lower left: Nagaoka gazing at the gravel at Hiroshima Gokoku Shrine  
Shogo Nagaoka Collection

HIROSHIMA  
Shogo Nagaoka Collection

