

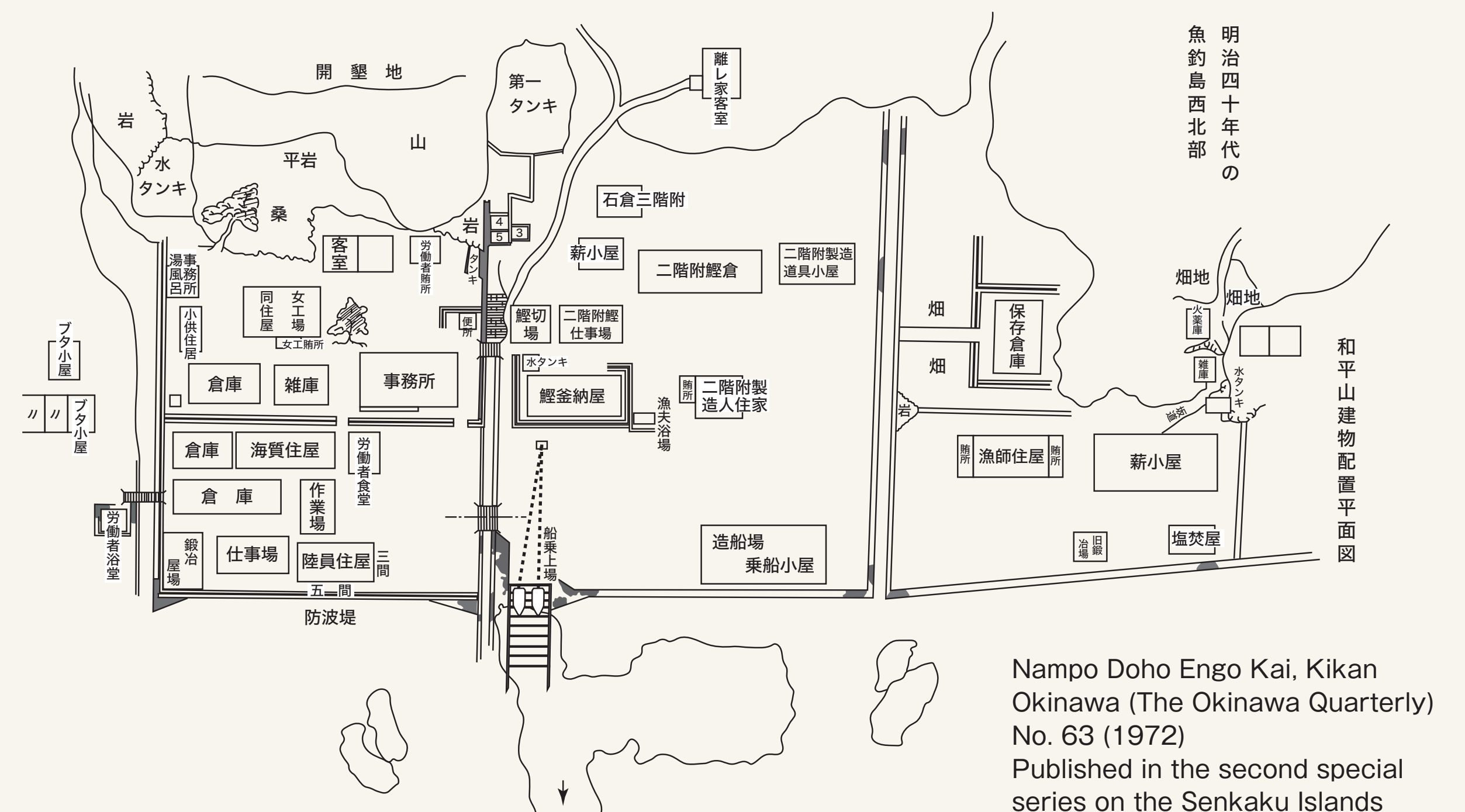
Around 1908 and after

Establishment of a dried bonito factory on Uotsuri Island

Meanwhile, the project of collecting feathers of albatross shrunk, and Tatushiro Koga started the businesses of producing stuffed birds of small-sized sea birds such as sooty terns, and also fishing bonitos and producing dried bonitos. The production of dried bonito was carried out on Uotsuri Island. A factory was built for that purpose and a village developed around it. Photographs taken around 1908 show a complete view of the factory and people working there (including visitors conducting surveys).

Around this time, the dried bonito production business got fully on track as the development of the island advanced. The number of residents on the Senkaku Islands is said to have reached 248 people in 99 households at this time.

Layout of the buildings for the business on
Uotsuri Island (around 1907, produced by Tatsushiro Koga)



Source: Tsukasa Ishizawa



Repository: National Archives of Japan

Dried bonito factory on Uotsuri Island in 1908

Top right Landscape of dried bonito factory in Uotsuri Island

Top left This is believed to be a group photograph taken when welcoming Noritaka Tsuneto and other members of the party conducting a survey for rock phosphate. With a Japanese flag at the center, a group believed to be bonito fishermen wearing headbands is gathered on the right of the photograph while long rods used for bonito fishing are leaned against the stone wall behind the group. The women dressed in kimono on the left may be female workers whom Koga is said to have hired from Kochi Prefecture during this period to carry out the work of shaving dried bonito.

Bottom This is believed to be taken from the elevation behind the dried bonito factory. Small huts have been erected along the coastline, and a steamship is seen out at sea. This ship is believed to be the Kyuyo Maru of Koun Inc., which operated frequently between the Senkaku Islands and Okinawa main island at the time.



Source: Tsukasa Ishizawa