



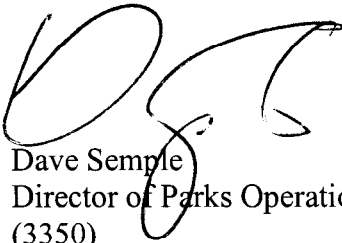
City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee
From: Dave Semple
Director of Parks Operations
Date: January 5, 2006
File: 06-2345-00/Vol 01
Re: **Suian Maru Centennial Committee Request for the renaming of Don and Lion Islands**

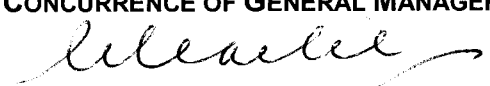

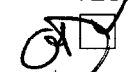
Staff Recommendation

1. That the City of Richmond prepare an official letter to the Suian Maru Centennial Committee in support of their efforts to initiate a re-naming/dedication of Don and Lion Islands to Oikawa and Sato Islands.
2. That staff be directed to work with the Suian Maru Centennial Committee to develop a commemorative/interpretive sign/plaque to be installed in a mutually agreed upon location prior to the Suian Maru Centennial celebrations planned for the fall of 2006.



Dave Semple
Director of Parks Operations
(3350)

Att. 1

FOR ORIGINATING DIVISION USE ONLY		
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER		
		
REVIEWED BY TAG	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
REVIEWED BY CAO	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 	NO <input type="checkbox"/>

Staff Report

Origin

At the September 27, 2005 Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee meeting, a proposal was received from the Suian Maru Centennial Committee to rename Don and Lion Islands after a group of settlers that arrived in 1906 (see attachment #1). Staff were directed by Council to investigate the following recommendation;

“That the City of Richmond take appropriate steps and work with the GVRD to re-name Don and Lion Islands to their local historical names, Oikawa and Sato Islands.”

The purpose of this report is in response to the above referral and to recommend potential next steps.

Analysis

Enquiries to the GVRD and the Province have yielded the following information:

Enabling Legislation

1. Geographical place names are the responsibility of the Province.

Responsibility for the naming of geographical places is under the Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management. Under British Columbia's Geographical Naming Principles, proposals for changes to existing names must demonstrate that;

- the proposed name is acceptable to the public,
- a commemorative name has significance that is recognized by the general public,
- the First Nation, in whose territory the place falls, has been consulted, and
- the history and heritage of the place has been researched in order to demonstrate that the proposal is acceptable beyond a single or special interest group.

The Province has indicated that well established names are not usually changed unless there is a compelling reason to do so (i.e. the existing name is derogatory or no longer suitable).

2. The GVRD is responsible for the management of the islands as part of the Fraser River Islands Regional Park.

Don and Lion Islands, along with Douglas Island which is located up river near Surrey Bend, are currently managed by the GVRD for their ecological value. The islands offer only limited access and are not generally open to the public. The GVRD is currently undertaking habitat compensation work on the foreshore of the islands.

The Suian Maru Centennial Committee is planning for the centennial celebration of the voyage of the Suian Maru in October of 2006. The committee would like to have some form of commemoration in place in time for their celebration. There are several options that could be explored to address the request from the Suian Maru Centennial Committee.

Options for Consideration:

In response to the request to the City by the Suian Maru Centennial Committee, four options are presented for consideration. At this time, options 1 and 2 are recommended by staff as a potential approach in support of the community committee's request:

Option 1 - Council supports the Suian Maru Centennial Committee's renaming proposal. - Recommended

Council could provide formal endorsement, in the form of a letter, for the renaming of Don and Lion Islands thereby satisfying one of the conditions stipulated under the naming principles. The City could further assist the committee with their proposal by providing any required documentation such as maps and continued support in their application.

Option 2 - Placement of a commemorative plaque on City property in the vicinity of the islands. - Recommended

A commemorative plaque could be placed in a location that is publicly accessible and has direct views to Don and Lion Islands. This would allow the Suian Maru Centennial Committee to participate in a dedication ceremony in conjunction with the planned celebrations. One potential location is where No. 9 Road meets the waterfront directly across from Lion Island. The other potential location is at a nearby marina and in cooperation with the marina owner.

Option 3 - Council direction to staff to submit the renaming proposal to the Province on behalf of the Suian Maru Centennial Committee.

The committee has documented the history of the settlement on the islands. The City could further assist by researching the history of the current names and formally approaching the Musqueam First Nation. The Richmond Archives does not have any information about the current names or the traditional names so further research of outside sources such as UBC Special Collections would have to be commissioned by the City. This option would involve the dedication of staff time to the proposal development and consultation with the Suian Maru Centennial Committee.

Option 4 - Proposal to the GVRD to change the park name for the islands.

The Suian Maru Centennial Committee has suggested that a simpler way to have a commemorative name for the islands would be to ask the GVRD to use either Oikawa or Sato as a park name. A proposal to the GVRD could be made through the GVRD Director of Parks or through Council resolution to the GVRD Board of Directors. The Suian Maru Centennial Committee could also

consider making a proposal to the GVRD with a letter of endorsement from Council as recommended in Option 1.

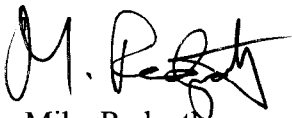
Financial Impact

There are no financial implications associated with the recommended Option 1 as detailed in this report. Option 2- the creation of and installation of an interpretive/commemorative sign/plaque on the foreshore adjacent to Don and Lion Islands would involve a capital commitment of approximately \$500.00 to \$1000.00 for manufacturing, staff time in design and consultation and installation of the plaque on site. If approved, this funding could be directed from Parks General Development capital fund in 2006.

Conclusion

The process for changing a geographic place name involves significant research and consultation. In view of the financial impact and potential demands on staff time, Option 1 is the preferred option. In consideration of the planned Suian Maru Centennial celebration next fall, Council might wish to consider implementation of Option 2, the placement of a commemorative interpretive sign/plaque, independent of any action on the other options. The placement of a plaque commemorating the Suian Maru Centennial celebration in the fall of 2006 could include a ceremony at the site to unveil the interpretive signage and or plaque.

The Suian Maru Centennial Committee could then proceed with research and consultation knowing that there will be a form of commemoration ready for the planned centennial celebrations next October.

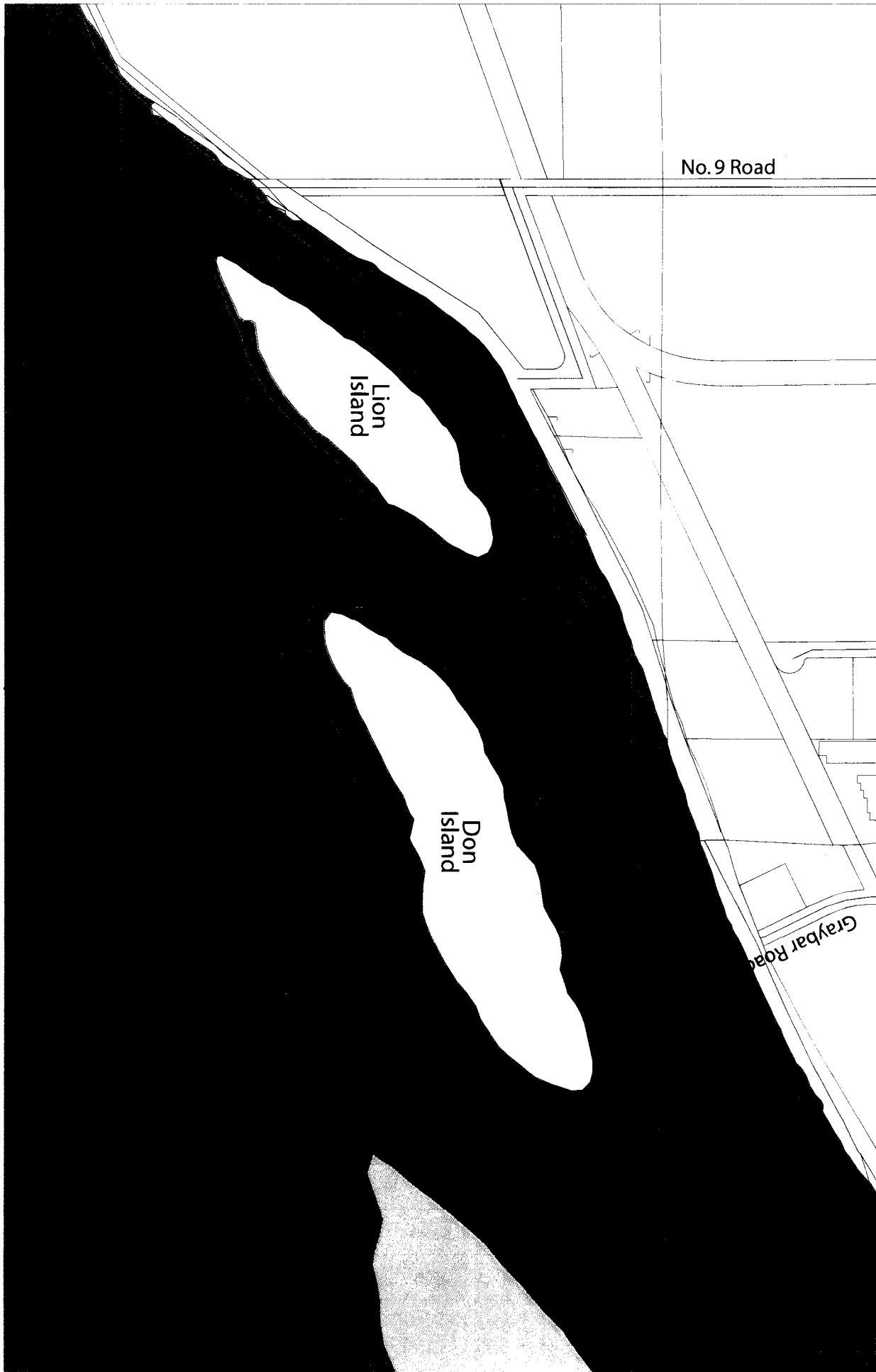


Mike Redpath
Manager, Parks - Programs, Planning & Design
(1275)



Jamie Esko
Park Planner

MER:mer



The Story of the Suian Maru

In 1906, the three-masted Suian Maru deposited 83 "Boat People" at Beacher Bay near Victoria. They were recruited by Jinzaburo Oikawa who had dreams of creating a colony on two islands in the Fraser. Most were from his native Miyagi but some were also from Iwate and Kanagawa. Unable to obtain passports, they left Japan illegally and tried to smuggle themselves into Canada. They were apprehended within a few days but there was a labour shortage in Canada and a Vancouver Japanese consulate staffer negotiated entry visas for them in exchange for promises to work on the railroad and other jobs in need of workers.

These pioneers became residents of Don and Lion Islands in the Fraser River just downstream from Annacis Island. The islands were called Oikawa Jima and Sato Jima by local Nikkei in honour of their leaders. Oikawa's factories processed salt chum salmon and salt salmon roe, mainly for export to Japan. They milled rice for the local market and brewed sake for a time until quashed by authorities. His dreams unfulfilled, Jinzaburo returned to Japan in 1917 but his legacy lives on in the many descendants of the Suian Maru who remained in North America.

The most famous descendent of the Suian Maru People was Buck Suzuki, born on Don Island and a WWII veteran of the Canadian Forces, who spearheaded the drive to bring Nikkei fishermen into the United Fishermen and Allied Workers Union. His environmentalist concerns resulted in the creation by the UFAWU of the T. Buck Suzuki Foundation.



水安丸物語

1906年3本マストの帆船水安丸が、日本から密航者をビクトリア近くのビーチャー・ベイに下船させた。及川甚三郎はフレーザ河の2つの小島に植民地を作ろうと言う夢を持っていた。甚三郎は主として宮城県そして少数は岩手と神奈川から参加者を募ったが日本のパスポートを入手出来なかった。それで、彼らを密入国させる方法を取った。バンクーバー領事館の路員が入国ビザを誘導や労働力を必要とする場所で働くことを条件に入手してくれた。

先駆者はフレーザ河のアナシス島の直ぐ下流にあるトン島とライオン島の住民となった。これらの島は土地の日系から彼らの指導者を称える意味で、かつてオйкаワ島およびサトウ島と呼ばれていた。及川の工場は塩漬けサケや鰯を加工して主として日本へ輸出していた。精米所も地元需要を賄うために開始された。酒造所も始めたが管轄当局により潰された。1917年に甚三郎は日本へ帰国した。

水安丸の最も有名な子孫は、トン島生まれのカナダ軍隊の第二次世界大戦の退役軍人で、日系漁者が漁者労働者組合 (UFAWU) へ参加できるよう先陣を切った、バック鈴木と言えよう。環境保存に関心が高かったこの労働委員長を称えて、UFAWUはT.Buck Suzuki Foundation (基金) を創設した。

Suian Maru Centennial Celebration : Oct. 2006 水安丸航海100周年祭：2006年10月開催

Heritage Events

Nikkei Week 2006 will celebrate the contributions of Japanese Canadians to Canadian history and culture, focusing on the centennial of the voyage of the Suian Maru and subsequent settlement of its passengers on the Fraser River.

2006年の日系ウィークの行事は、カナダの歴史と文化に対する日系人の貢献を祝い、密航船水安丸事件の百周年に当たりますので、その航海と渡航者のフレーザ河の開拓事業を中心におこないます。

A Miyagi Fraser River Reunion

Miyagi people and their friends from across North America and Japan will gather here in October 2006 to celebrate the centennial.

北米に住む渡航者の子孫と関係者及び及川甚三郎出身地の東和町の子孫関係者一同に百周年記念を祝うために集まって頂けるよう呼びかけます。

Exhibition

at the Japanese Canadian National Museum, photos, documents and artefacts on Jinzaburo Oikawa and the Miyagi pioneers on Don and Lion Islands.

及川甚三郎と宮城県の先駆者特にドン島とライオン島に住み着いた方々に関する写真、資料や遺品を展示します。

Don and Lion Islands Ceremony and River Tours

Oct. 13, 2006

10月13日にはドン島とライオン島を背景にして記念式典とフレーザ河ツアーも行います。

Celebration Dinner

Oct. 14, 2006 to pay tribute to Jinzaburo Oikawa and pioneers on the Fraser – at the National Nikkei Museum and Heritage Centre.

2006年10月14日には、及川甚三郎とフレーザ河の先駆者を記念に、日系ヘリテージ・センターにて祝賀晩餐会を行います。

Contact Persons: 連絡係：

Mits Sugawara Miyagi Tomo no Kai President

宮城友の会会長 604-584-8202

Yasunobu Sugawara Contact with Oikawa Grandchildren

及川子孫との連絡 604-990-0307

Kiyoo Goto Suian Maru descendent

水安丸乗加者の子孫 604-528-9717

Stan Fukawa Chair. 委員長 sfukawa@telus.net 604-421-0490



Why Are We Celebrating?

A centennial is a special opportunity to remember the history of those who came before us and to try to record what we can of their dreams and accomplishments. We hope to provide...

For all Canadians an opportunity to learn through the dreams, hardships and contributions of a group of Asian immigrants, the richness and diversity of Canada as a multicultural society.

For all Nikkei an opportunity to learn about the history of the Suian Maru and Miyagi immigrants and to think about why their own ancestors left Japan. They can learn about their own roots and appreciate their pioneers.

For Miyagi people and especially for descendents of the Suian Maru voyagers an opportunity to meet many relatives and friends and celebrate their connections to a unique event, to some noted leaders and to two islands in the Fraser River.

なぜ100周年を祝うか

100周年と言う節目にあたり、今こそ我々は水安丸でカナダに渡っていた人々の歴史を回顧し、彼らの夢や成績を記録して置かなければならないのです。そこで私たちは次のような事を企画しています。

全カナダ人のために：アジア系移民グループの夢、苦難、貢献を通じて、カナダの豊かさや多様性を学ぶチャンスをつくります。

すべての日系人のために：宮城県史を学び、なぜ祖先が日本を去ったかを考えるチャンスを提供します。それによって自分のルーツを再認識し、先駆者の偉業たたえることができます。

宮城県人、とくに水安丸に乗船していた人々の子孫のために：多くの親類や友人との出会い、そしてお互いのユニークな関係、何人かの有名なリーダーたち、またフレーザ河の2つの島とのつながりを祝う好機を提供します。

Help Needed

The Suian Maru Centennial Committee asks for your assistance to make the event a success.

- Make plans to attend the Anniversary Events.
- Tell relatives and friends about it.

Share your stories, photos, documents related to the lives of the Suian Maru passengers after 1906 and their communities on Don and Lion Islands and surrounding areas so that we can use them in the exhibit and celebrations.

Donate photos or documents (or copies) to the Japanese Canadian National Museum so they will be able to assist researchers including your family and descendents.

水安丸船客名簿

明治29年11月晩市日本領事館の外務大臣への報告から引用。

若手県出身	千葉正吉 (43)	晶山雄記 (21)	小野寺儀藏 (28)
	新沼兼蔵 (48)	堀内平蔵 (33)	佐々木栄 (19)
	菅原運吉 (27)	五十嵐謙 (24)	佐藤源三郎 (39)
		稲毛新四郎 (35)	佐藤十三郎 (26)
		伊藤春三郎 (40)	佐藤吉之助 (48)
神奈川県出身	井上久蔵 (32)	岩瀬長三郎 (33)	佐藤吉右衛門 (24)
	駒沢広吉 (40)	岩淵宇多五郎 (22)	佐藤菊治 (21)
	小野好兵衛 (45)	熊谷忠之助 (29)	佐藤倉次 (31)
	渋谷才治郎 (33)	熊谷市三郎 (23)	佐藤清一郎 (29)
	露木治三郎 (41)	熊谷匡平 (41)	佐藤清十郎 (36)
宮城県出身		熊谷泰治 (34)	佐藤繁次郎 (33)
		熊谷豊松 (46)	佐藤新吉 (22)
	阿部三治 (22)	熊谷与十郎 (43)	佐藤惣三郎 (26)
	阿部末吉 (26)	三浦大之進 (33)	佐藤成治 (42)
	浅野養右衛門 (29)	新沼兼蔵 (48)	佐藤辰三郎 (26)
	下薬栄吉 (26)	沼倉孫兵衛(36)	佐藤八重蔵 (39)
	千葉源作 (48)	及川千代晃 (22)	佐藤善助 (25)
	千葉松太郎 (32)	及川五郎治 (33)	須藤栄治 (42)
	千葉寅吉 (41)	及川春次郎 (27)	菅原基三郎 (21)
	遠藤蔵 (37)	及川市治 (29)	菅原熊天 (24)
	藤原太郎兵衛 (21)	及川基三郎 (53)	菅原健蔵 (19)
	藤原吉治 (30)	及川良治 (30)	鈴木源之助 (28)
	藤原由兵衛 (38)	及川清一郎 (22)	鈴木ひさよ (21) F
	後藤文治 (24)	及川清太郎 (38)	鈴木浄吉 (25)
	後藤忠蔵 (26)	及川寅治郎 (29)	鈴木清之助 (29)
	後藤金平 (18)	及川とよ (25) F	平野辰三郎 (21)
	後藤恒三郎 (43)	及川うん (16) F	平市之丞 (41)
	晶山利右衛門 (28)	及川宇三郎 (28)	滝沢良雄 (18)
	晶山惣助 (27)	及川寛之進 (25)	
		及川吉蔵 (29)	

〔（ ）内は年齢、Fは女性〕

ご協力をお願いします。

水安丸百周年実行委員会は、イベントを成功させるために皆さんのご協力をお願いしております。

記念イベントにご参加なさるご計画をお立てください。

ご家族やお知り合いの方にこの計画をお伝えください。

水安丸やドン・ライオン島付近での共同生活に関する物語、情報、写真、資料、物品などにつき、展示や記念行事に利用させて頂ければ幸いです。

写真、資料、あるいはコピーをカナダ日系博物館へ贈呈できれば、学者やご家族、ご子孫の方々の研究の助けになります。

Passenger List, Suian Maru, Voyage of 1906

Source: Report to Japanese Foreign Minister from Japanese Consul in Vancouver, November 1906

Iwate Prefecture	Chiba, Masakichi (43)	Oikawa, Gorōji (33)
	Niinuma Kenzo (48)	Oikawa, Harujiro (27)
	Sugawara, Unkichi (27)	Oikawa, Ichiji (29)
		Oikawa, Jinzaburo (53)
		Oikawa, Ryoji (30)
Kanagawa Prefecture	Inouye, Hisayoshi (32)	Oikawa, Seiichiro (22)
	Komazawa, Hirokichi (40)	Oikawa, Seitaro (38)
	Ono, Kobei (45)	Oikawa, Torajiro (29)
	Shibuya, Saijiro (33)	Oikawa, Toyo (25) F
	Tsuyuki, Jizaburo (41)	Oikawa, Uri (16) F
Miyagi Prefecture	Abe, Sanji (22)	Oikawa, Usaburo (28)
	Abe, Suekichi (26)	Oikawa, Yojiro (42)
	Asano, Yoemon (29)	Oikawa, Yonishin (25)
	Chiba, Eikichi (26)	Oikawa, Yoshin (29)
	Chiba, Gensaki (48)	Onodera, Gizo (27)
	Chiba, Matsutaro (32)	Sasaki, Sakae (19)
	Chiba, Torakichi (41)	Sato, Genzaburo (39)
	Endo, Iwao (37)	Sato, Juzaburo (26)
	Fujiwara, Tarobei (21)	Sato, Kichinosuke (48)
	Fujiwara, Yoshiharu (30)	Sato, Kichiemon (24)
	Goto, Bunji (24)	Sato, Kikuji (21)
	Goto, Chuzo (26)	Sato, Kuraji (21)
	Goto, Kimpei (18)	Sato, Seiichiro (29)
	Goto, Kosaburo (43)	Sato, Seijuro (36)
	Hatakeyama, Riemon (28)	Sato, Shigejiro (33)
	Hatakeyama, Sosuke (42)	Sato, Shinkichi (21)
	Horiuchi, Heizo (33)	Sato, Sosaburo (36)
	Igarashi, Noboru (24)	Sato, Tatsuji (31)
	Inage, Shinshiro (35)	Sato, Tatsusaburo (26)
	Ito, Harusaburo (40)	Sato, Yaezo (39)
	Iwabuchi, Chosaburo (32)	Sato, Zensuke (25)
	Iwabuchi, Utagoro (22)	Sudo, Eiji (36)
	Kumagai, Chunosuke (29)	Sugawara, Jinzaburo (22)
	Kumagai, Ichiisaburo (22)	Sugawara, Kumao (24)
	Kumagai, Kyohei (41)	Sugawara, Takeyoshi (19)
	Kumagai, Taiji (24)	Suzuki, Gennosuke (28)
	Kumagai, Toyomatsu (46)	Suzuki, Hisayo (22) F
	Kumagai, Yojiuro (43)	Suzuki, Jokichi (25)
	Miura, Dainosuke (23)	Tadano, Tatsusaburo (31)
	Numakura, Magobei (36)	Taira, Ichinojo (41)
	Oikawa, Chiomi (22)	Takizawa, Yoshio (18)

Age in brackets, F = female