

Shimonoseki City Designated Tangible Cultural Property
(Archaeological Material)

Hikoshima-Sugita Petroglyph

ENGLISH Hikoshima-Sugita Petroglyph

Hangul 히코시마 스기타 암각화

Simplified Chinese 彦岛杉田岩刻画

Traditional Chinese 彦島杉田岩刻畫

Designated on May 9, 1991; W140 cm x D100 cm x H80 cm Made of tonalite

The Hikoshima-Sugita Petroglyph attracted attention in 1924, when an article on the petroglyph together with pictures was published in No. 14, Vol. 10 of the Journal of the Archaeological Society of Nippon, stating: "This is considered to have been made in ancient times." The petroglyph consists of geometric figures, including circles, triangles and squares, as well as abstract drawings of human figures carved on the face of a stone using a pecking technique (a technique of inscribing figures by striking with a sharp-pointed stone tool.) These geometric motifs are similar to those found in many decorated tombs along the Sea of Ariake coast in Kyushu. Moreover, Ulsan Metropolitan City, in the southern part of the Korean Peninsula, also has petroglyphs created using the same technique, known by the name of "Rock Inscriptions in Chon-jun Li, Ul-ju County." The Hikoshima-Sugita Petroglyph is considered to be an important archaeological material for gaining a systematic understanding of decorated tomb cultures in these areas.

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