

Let's Learn about the old house of Yamato

Answers

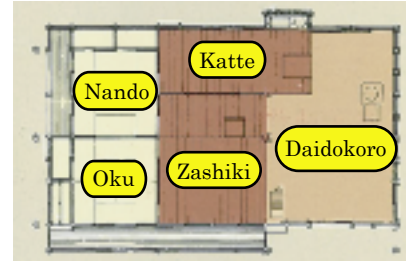
Question 1

How many rooms are there?

Former Kitajima residence has 4 rooms. They are "Zashiki", "Katte" "Oku" and "Nando".

Former Ogawa residence had 3 rooms of "Zashiki" "De-e" and "Heya", but Kitajima residence has a room added.

The reason for this is the pillar between "Daidokoro" (or "Doma") and "Zashiki". This pillar held the whole house up, reducing other columns, and making it possible to build larger houses.



Room layout Former Kitajima Residence

Question 2

How is the ceiling?

A board can be seen at the ceiling. This was the upper stairs where people can go up.

The upper floor was used to grow silkworms. Kitajimas made a living by both sericulture and farming.

A large room was needed to grow more income-earning silkworms, the upper floor was used. The ceiling itself was transformed for sericulture.



Stairway to the upper floor
Cannot be used

Question 3

How was this tatami room used for?

There are wooden-floored rooms and tatami rooms.

Tatami rooms were used when officiators visited, as like a living room of today.

Also, tatami rooms such as "Oku" and "Nando" were used for occasions such as weddings and funerals.



A funeral at ShimoWada



A wedding at Fukami

Question 4

How was this large "Kamado" (hearth) used?

The large "Kamado" of the former Kitajima residence was not used to cook rice or side dishes for daily meals.

This large "Kamado" was used to boil large amounts of ingredients such as boiling soybeans to make bean paste or soy sauce at home.



Boiling soybeans to make "Miso" (bean paste)
"Miso Making Class" held at Historical Folk house Museum