

Miyataki site

The Miyataki site has long been recognized, and from the Meiji to Taisho periods local historians have proposed the theory that it was the Yoshino detached palace of the Ancient period. In September 1929 the Nara Prefecture Historic Site Investigation Committee, responding to calls for the need to conduct an excavation, carried out a preliminary investigation, and the first full-scale excavation of the site was conducted from October 1930 to 1938. In the investigation, as roof tiles and pottery from the Nara period were recovered in large amounts, and paved stone features were discovered over an extensive area, the possibility of it being the Yoshino detached palace increased.

Based on investigations up to the present day, at a higher location on the north side of the national road was a garden pond from the reign of Empress Saimei to around that of Empress Jitō (over the latter half of the seventh century), and on level ground adjacent to the Yoshino river a group of buildings and stone pavement from the period of Emperor Shōmu's reign (in the first half of the eighth century) have been confirmed. From these results, the Miyataki site is thought to have been the Yoshino palace built by Empress Saimei and frequently visited by Empress Jitō, and also the Yoshino detached palace of Emperor Shōmu.

In an investigation in the 2017 fiscal year, the confirmation of a large-scale building of the class of a palatial main hall, nine inter-pillar spans wide by five spans deep and surrounded by stone paving, has drawn attention.