

## 18\_9\_English\_大津京と大津宮

### The Imperial Capital and Palace of Otsu

In 667, crown prince Naka no Oe (also known as “Nakano Oe no Oji”) moved the capital of Japan from Asuka (current day Nara prefecture) to Otsu. Although Otsu’s time as the capital lasted only five years, the Otsu Imperial Palace was home to a variety of groundbreaking projects, such as the implementation of Japan’s first family register. From investigations of past records and excavations conducted in the area it was discovered in 1974 that the exact location of the Otsu Imperial Palace was in the Nishikori area of Otsu. The former Imperial Palace grounds were surrounded by the Ano Temple Ruins, Sufukuji Temple, the Minami Shiga-cho Temple Ruins, and the predecessor temple to Onjo-ji Temple. Due to the orientation of the temples listed above and the remains of a drainage system that was discovered, the area where buildings were constructed under this orientation is considered to be the extent of the "Otsukyo" (or “Imperial Capital of Otsu” in English) region.