

Masuda in Akita is one of the snowiest places in Japan. Throughout the town, there are plenty of traditional streets, buildings and "Uchigura" still remaining, reminiscent of the prosperity of olden times.

The "Uchigura" were not places where anyone could come and go as they pleased. Entry was restricted to family members. No-one else could enter.

You couldn't see these "Uchigura" from outside.

Access was for the head of the household, and for younger family members only. Sometimes the neighbors didn't even know there was an "Uchigura" next door. These special structures and facilities have been handed down through the ages to the present day.

These rare and unusual buildings are made of black plaster. There are around 50 "Uchigura" here in this town. People still live in them, even to this day. [選定 重要伝統的建造物群保存地区

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