

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF



THOMAS BLAKE GLOVER

The Aberdeen-Nagasaki  
Citizens' Friendship Agreement

# Aberdeen-Nagasaki Citizens' Friendship Agreement



# Aberdeen-Nagasaki Citizens' Friendship Agreement

- Greetings from Lord Provost of Aberdeen
- Why 'In the footsteps of Thomas Blake Glover'?
- Links between Aberdeen and Nagasaki go back to 1859, ...
- ... but the friendship agreement is less than one year old
- Actions being taken in Aberdeen and Nagasaki
- Any questions?

# Aberdeen-Nagasaki Citizens' Friendship Agreement

## Thomas Blake Glover ('the Scottish Samurai')

- Born Fraserburgh 1838
- Family moved to **Aberdeen** 1844
- Arrived **Nagasaki** via Shanghai 1859
- Merchant for ships, guns and gunpowder
- Introduced railways, shipbuilding and coal mining to Japan
- Political involvement through Chōshū Five and Satsuma Fifteen
- Toppling Tokugawa Shogunate
- Cordial relationships with Meiji government
- Mitsubishi link through shipbuilding activity
- Died in Tokyo 13 December 1911



Glover (r) with  
Iwasaki Yanosuke,  
son of founder of  
Mitsubishi, c 1900



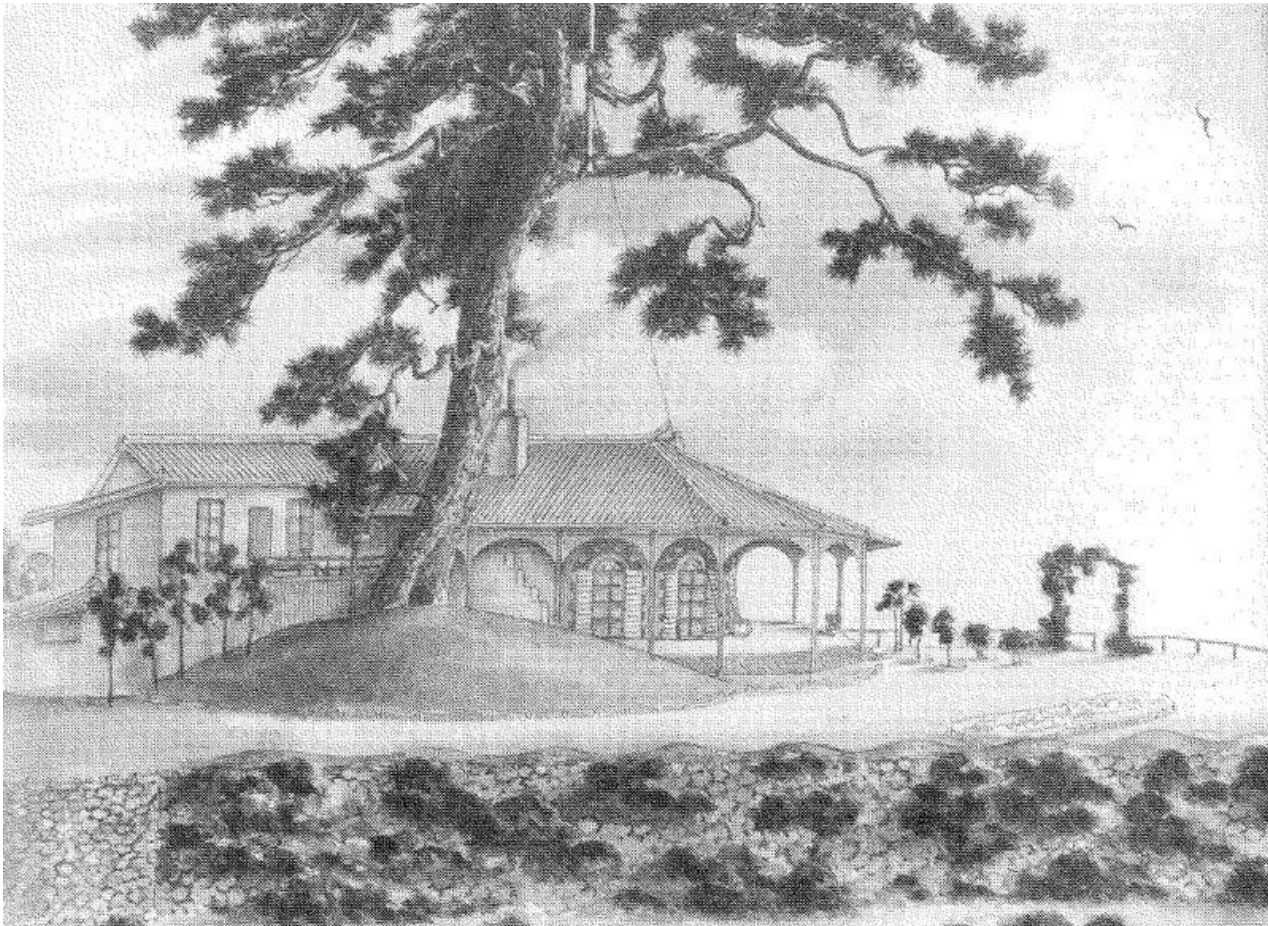
# Aberdeen-Nagasaki Citizens' Friendship Agreement

The Glover House (*Ipponmatsu, Single Pine Tree*)  
in グラバー園, Gurabāen  
(Glover Garden, Nagasaki)



# Aberdeen-Nagasaki Citizens' Friendship Agreement

And from a drawing of 1863



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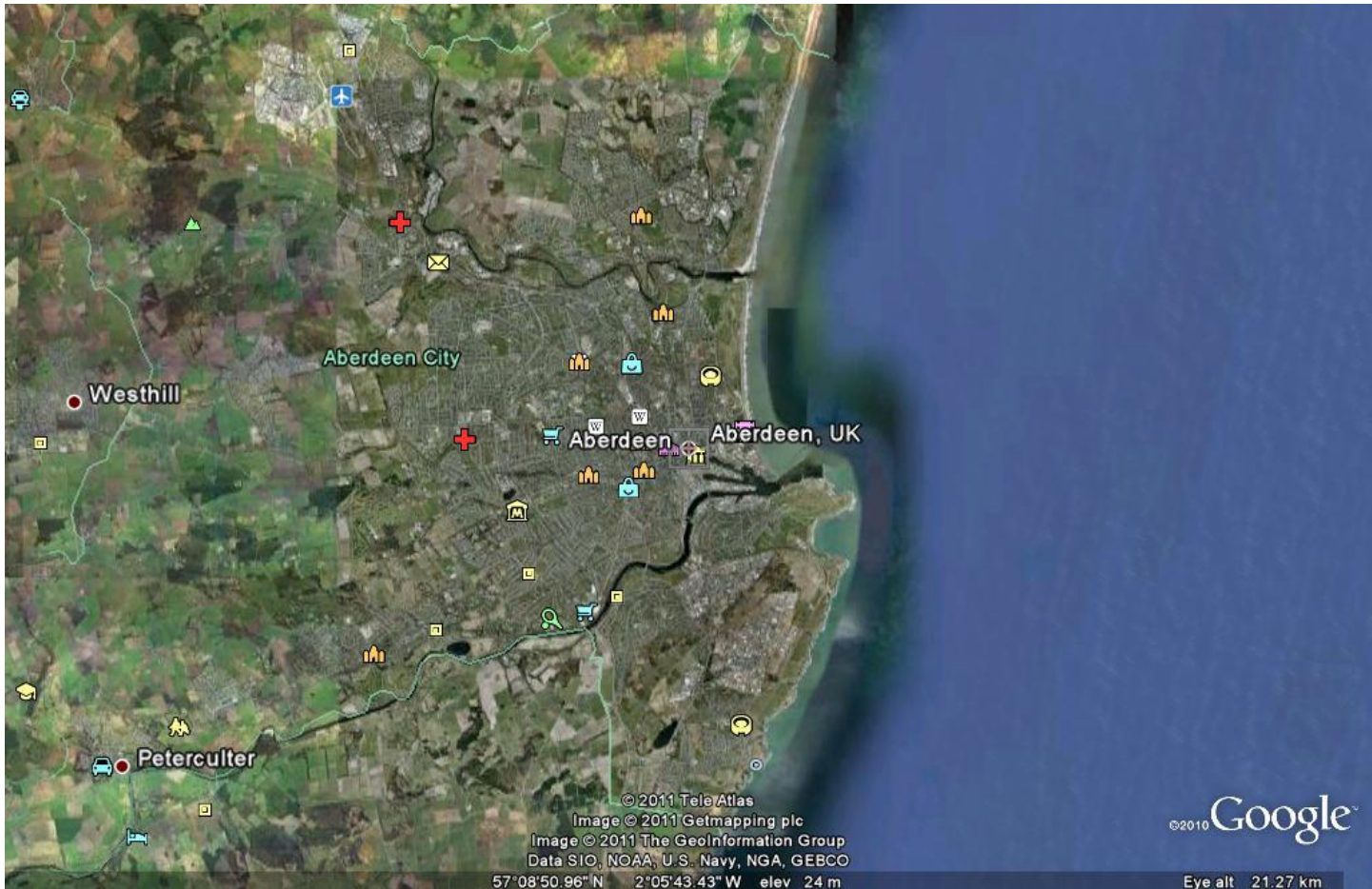
## Coming up to date

- Visit to Nagasaki by former Lord Provost of Aberdeen
- Bridge of Don Aberdeen Rotary Club
  - long standing association with a Rotary Club in Nagasaki
  - offers a bi-ennial Glover Scholarship which allows an Aberdeen student to spend part of the summer in Nagasaki
- Japan Society of Scotland and Aberdeen Asset Management
  - offer scholarship to International Christian University of Tokyo
  - won in 2010 by student from Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen
- Proposal from Mayor of Nagasaki for Friendship Agreement



# Aberdeen-Nagasaki Citizens' Friendship Agreement

## Aberdeen





# Aberdeen-Nagasaki Citizens' Friendship Agreement

## Aberdeen

- North east Scotland
- 7 hours by train from London
- 100 minutes by plane
- Former centre of shipbuilding
- Coastal setting of great beauty
- Now 'energy capital of Europe'
- Outward looking for trade  
for hundreds of years



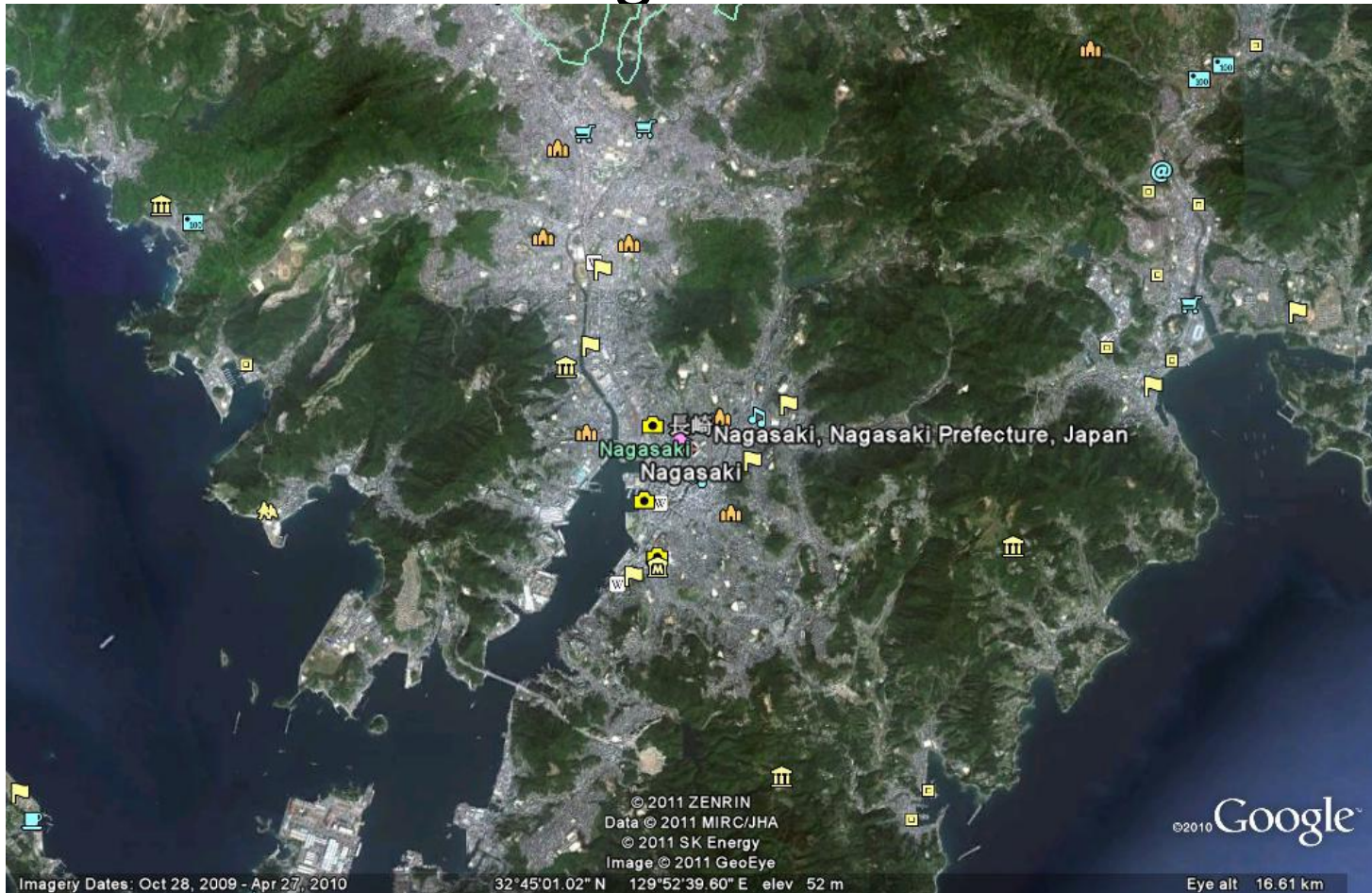
# Aberdeen-Nagasaki Citizens' Friendship Agreement

## Aberdeen



# Aberdeen-Nagasaki Citizens' Friendship Agreement

## Nagasaki





# Aberdeen-Nagasaki Citizens' Friendship Agreement

## Nagasaki

- Kyūshū Island
- 7 hours from Tokyo by train
- 120 minutes by air
- Harbour city – shipbuilding
- Fjord-like setting
- An 'atypical' Japanese city
- One of the few 'trading centres'  
during Japan's closed period



# Aberdeen-Nagasaki Citizens' Friendship Agreement

## Nagasaki



# Aberdeen-Nagasaki Citizens' Friendship Agreement

**Coming up to date**

- **Citizens' Friendship Agreement signed in Aberdeen – July 2010**





# Aberdeen-Nagasaki Citizens' Friendship Agreement

- **Confirmation of Citizens' Friendship City Affiliation between Nagasaki and Aberdeen**
- Nagasaki and Aberdeen have a historical connection through Thomas Blake Glover, who was born in Aberdeen and lived in Nagasaki, and who made huge contributions to the modernisation of Japan. Based on this connection, citizens' groups in Nagasaki and Aberdeen are carrying out dynamic cultural exchange.
- To encourage the further development of informal exchange between citizens of both cities, we confirm a Citizens' Friendship City Affiliation between Nagasaki and Aberdeen. This affiliation may be dissolved at the request of one or both parties.
- English and Japanese versions of this confirmation document have been produced. The Mayor of Nagasaki and the Lord Provost of Aberdeen will sign two copies of each version, and each city will retain one Japanese and one English copy.
- July \_\_ 2010
- Mayor of Nagasaki
- (Signature)
- Lord Provost of Aberdeen
- (Signature)

# Aberdeen-Nagasaki Citizens' Friendship Agreement

## Current developments

### Aberdeen

- Lord Provost hoping to pay return visit to Mayor of Nagasaki
- Bridge of Don area planning a 'Glover event' for the autumn
- City officials investigating other ways of promoting the Citizens' Friendship Agreement

### Nagasaki

- City council promoting the Agreement through its monthly journal
- The annual 'Foreign Settlements Festival' includes a 'Scottish Festival' in Glover Garden

# Aberdeen-Nagasaki Citizens' Friendship Agreement

## **Generating enthusiasm**

- Potential challenges for both partners
  - Matching like-minded groups wishing to make contact
  - Encouraging links between schools and other educational institutions in the two cities
  - Language
  - Distance and cost – minimum of three flights, city to city
  - Constraints on public expenditure

## **Opportunities**

- Building on existing contacts
  - Sharing success stories
  - Less than one year in



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