|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **Information on tourist spots around Ojiya** |



**Restaurant TOCHU, Ume-no-ma**

The name “TOCHU” was named after Chūbē Higashi, the founder. It was established about 250 years ago and was designated as a national important cultural property in 2015.

The main building has three floors with about 10 of large and small guest rooms for in the first and the second floor with fine traditional Japanese interior design. It is a Japanese-style restaurant that presents history of linen products such as Ojiya chijimi.

The annex is connected to the main building at an angle due to the shape of the site making its unique space design. The first floor has two big rooms and the second floor has a hall with a large window. It has big decorative features with sophisticated designs. It’s a classy Japanese-style building.

There is one more building connected to the main building which is called “Ue-no-kura”. Since the first floor was a billiard room before the war, inside the room is western designed at some parts. This was a amusement facility back then.

When “Ojiya Dannpan” (peace negotiation) broke off in 1868, Tsugunosuke Kawai (commander of Nagaoka forces) entrusted his servant to hold a negotiation again, and then Kawai had late lunch in the room “Ume-no-ma” of TOCHU.

Episode

* TOCHU got substantial damage by the huge earthquake happened on October 23rd ,2004. The owner at the time was thinking about closing the business, but supporters told him, “Do not close TOCHU”. A lot of people helped him restart TOCHU even though their houses got damaged too, and in April 2005, TOCHU got to resume its business.