

Yabuhara developed as a post town on the Nakasendo.

Juo-do Hall (Yakushi-do Hall) was located here, and it was also an offshoot of the Hida Kaido Road (Nagawa Road), which led to Nomugi Pass and Hida-Takayama via Nagawa.

The narrow road on the left-hand side is the old Nagawa Road, and when passing through the Ogiso area, you will come across a pass called Sakai Pass, named for being the border ("sakai") between Mino and Shinano Provinces.

At that time, the road through the pass was steep, and the Kiso side was a swamp that had to be crossed with wooden bridges. On the other hand, the road on the Nagawa side was rough and littered with rocks, making it difficult to traverse with horses.

Instead, cattle from Nagawa called “Bishu Okafune” were used to transport seafood such as Hida Yellowtail as well as salt and other goods.

When the Chuo West Line opened in 1911, female workers from Hida who worked at the paper mill in Okaya would frequently come and go on this road.