

Land history of the liquefied zone caused by the 2016 Kumamoto Earthquake reconstructed from the historical records and old maps

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The 2016 Kumamoto Earthquake caused extensive liquefaction damages in the zonal area of the Kumamoto City, Minami Ward. Many houses in this zonal area were settled and tilted due to the liquefaction-induced damage. Land history of this liquefied zone caused by the 2016 Kumamoto Earthquake was reconstructed from the historical records and old maps. The paleo-river channel of Shirakawa River was located in this zonal area during the 13th century described in the historical records. However, small river was existed in this zonal area, and the river channel of Shirakawa River was located in the current position during the early Edo period described in the historical records and old maps. Existence of river channel was not recognized in the topographical maps in the middle Meiji period.

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