

36) 1770m Kurogane holly (*Ilex rotunda*) クロガネモチ

Kanon Elementary School 観音小学校

2-1-26 Kanon-honmachi, Nishi-ku, Hiroshima 西区観音本町二丁目 1-26

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Hiroshima Prefectural Second High School was located at this place at the time of the bombing. The first year students were engaged in the so-called demolition work of houses in the city center near the Peace Park of today. Most of them died instantaneously. Orimen Shigeru was one of them. He was 13 years old. His scorched lunch box is exhibited in the memorial museum. The school buildings too were seriously damaged. Seven teachers and 343* students of the high school died in the atomic bombing. In 1950, the school, now called Hiroshima Kanon Senior High School, moved a few hundred meters to the south, and this elementary school opened here in the same year.

This tree was donated by a neighbor to the elementary school in 1989 when his family moved out of the area. The tree had a crack from the atomic bombing, and a typhoon broke it into half from the crack.

* According to the website of Hiroshima Kanon Senior High School (<http://www.kanon-h.hiroshima-c.ed.jp/zen/gaiyou/enkaku/index.htm>). See also No.38 Camphor trees.

