

C-05

Tools for Forestry Work

Surrounded by mountains, Yamba had a close relationship with the mountains, and tools used for cutting and processing wood such as axes, hatchets, billhooks (a tool with a wide, hooked blade), planes, and inkpots were excavated. In particular, while only a few billhooks have been excavated in Gunma Prefecture, the billhooks found here in Yamba are characterized by having serrated edges. It is not clear whether the billhooks were rarely found because they could only be owned by special forestry households, or because the billhooks were not widely used.