

Komainu (guardian dog statues) of Toge

This pair of komainu is presumed to have been made in the middle of the Muromachi period, which makes it the oldest guardian dog statue in Nagano Prefecture. A male, one with opened mouth called "a," lies on the right side, while a female with a closed mouth called "un" is placed on the left side. Although komainu is initially placed in front of imperial mausoleums in China to protect people from evil with the aim of intimidation, this komainu is very simple and friendly.

Karuizawa Town Board of Education

The Protection of Cultural Properties Review Committee of Karuizawa Town