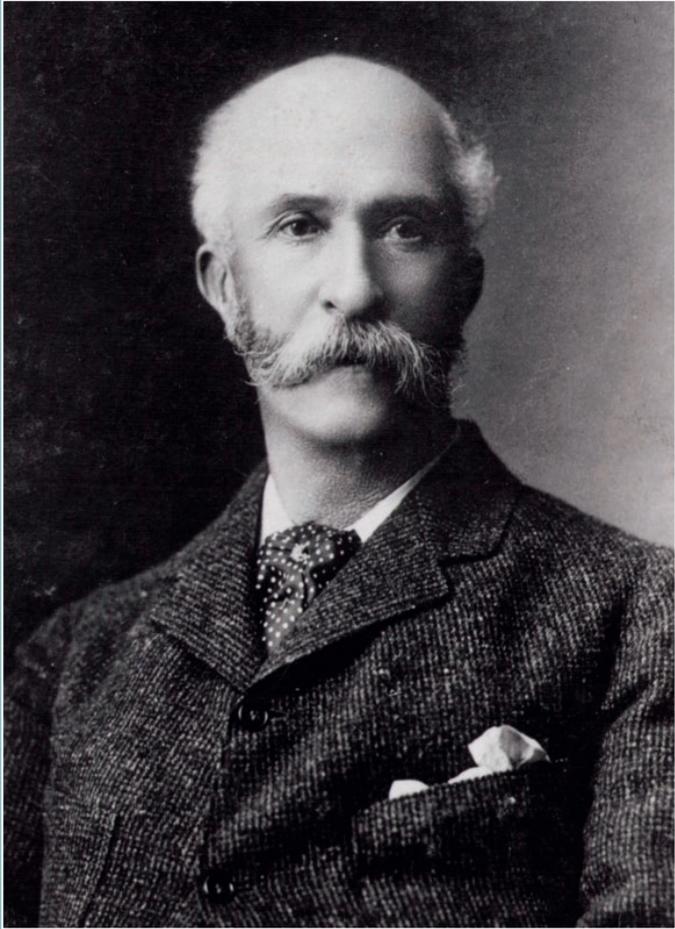
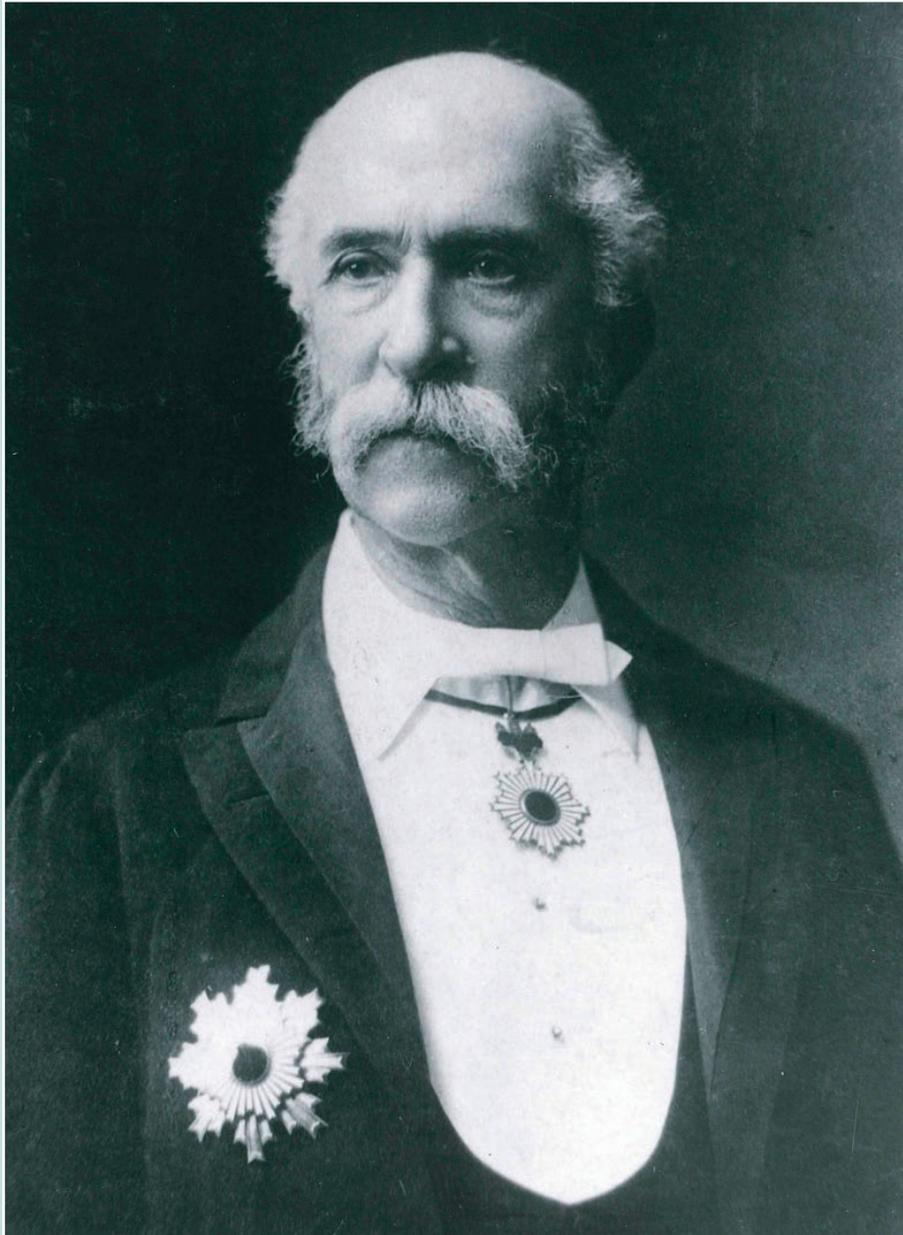


Thomas Blake **GLOVER**



— the story of the —
Scottish Samurai



Cover: Thomas Blake Glover
Courtesy Glover Garden

Above: Thomas Blake Glover wearing the Order of the Rising Sun
Courtesy Nagasaki Museum of History and Culture



Glover family photograph, with a young Thomas, back row, second from left
Grampian Japan Trust

Thomas Blake Glover

Much has been written about the life and times of Thomas Blake Glover, and many myths have grown up around him. This guide has been produced to introduce his story and to inspire you to learn more about the era, the man, and some of places associated with him. Thomas's links with Japan, and the changes that country went through in the latter half 19th century, are rightly celebrated there, and his home in Nagasaki is preserved as a museum, in extensive parkland known as Glover Garden. His career was set against a backdrop of great change in Japan and of Western economic imperialism in the Far East. Thomas was very much a man of the era and the complexity of his life and career are best understood in that context.



The Glover Family

Thomas's father, Thomas Berry Glover, was born in London and joined the Coastguard in 1827. His first appointment was to Sandend in Banffshire, where he met Mary Findlay and they married on 3 July 1829. In November 1835 Thomas Berry Glover became Chief Officer at the Coastguard Station in Fraserburgh, a growing fishing port with an expanding population. Thomas Blake Glover was born in 1838 in the family's home in Commerce Street. Thomas had six brothers and a sister: Charles Thomas (born 1830), William Jacob (born 1832), James Lindley (born 1833), Henry Martin (born 1836)



Alexander Johnston (born 1840), Martha Anne (born 1842) and Alfred Berry (born 1850). Following two short postings over three years near Grimsby, the Glover family returned to the North East of Scotland, to Collieston in 1847 and then to the Coastguard Station at the Bridge of Don, just north of Aberdeen, in 1849. By 1850 Thomas's brothers, Charles and James, were both clerks with a shipping firm based on Marischal Street, whilst another brother, William, was in the merchant navy. Thomas and the younger children attended the Gym, Chanonry House School, in Old Aberdeen, and his name appears in a surviving school register for 1854.

Little more is recorded about Thomas until August 1856 when the Foreign Office issued him with a passport allowing him to travel overseas. He arrived in Shanghai in mid 1857, aged 19, to work for the Scottish firm of Jardine, Matheson and Co, one of the largest British trading firms working in the Far East at the time. Between school and his leaving for Shanghai, Thomas may have worked with the same shipbrokers as his elder brothers, but what is certain is he took an early opportunity to go abroad. The Glover family remaining in Aberdeen moved to "Glover House" on the River Don in 1864.

*Above left: Thomas's parents, Mary and Thomas Berry Glover, in 1875
Courtesy Nagasaki Museum of History and Culture*

Opposite left: Coastguard House, Bridge of Don

Above: Glover House, Aberdeen

Japan, the East, the West and Imperialism

The mid 1800s saw Western imperial expansion into the Far East. This did not result in the formal empire structure the British, French and others established in Africa, South America, India and elsewhere in the world, rather this was economic imperialism. The Western powers of Britain, USA and France were drawn to the sources of exotic products in the East. Industrialised nations in the West were in an economic slump in the 1870s, known as the 'Long Depression', which led to a scramble for new markets for European industrial goods and colonial produce.

China had been trading with the West but under very tight restrictions imposed by the British. Britain sold Indian opium to markets in China and exported tea. After trying to work with the British authorities to limit the import of opium, the Chinese imposed a ban on it. This led to the First Opium War, which ended with a British victory in 1842. By the terms of the Treaty of Nanjing (1842) China had to pay compensation to Britain, open four ports for trade, and cede Hong Kong as a naval and commercial base. Consulates were also established. The following year the two countries signed the Treaty of the Bogue, which granted British subjects rights of extra-territoriality (that is, the right to be tried in the courts of their home countries, no matter where the alleged crime may have been committed). This right was later extended to other Western powers. The Second Opium War (1857-1860) resulted in a further treaty that opened up 10 more ports and established a British Embassy in the country to formally control trade. These were all the hallmarks of informal economic empire.



In 1845 Britain was allowed to establish a settlement at Shanghai. This brought British merchants closer to Japan where they believed great untapped markets for goods existed. Japan had been 'closed' to foreigners since 1639, except for some very restricted Dutch trading on the island of Dejima. In Japan real power lay with the Shogun (or Tycoon) rather than the Emperor. Since 1603 the Shogun had come from the Tokugawa family. Under the Shogun's government were the major Clans, each headed by a *Daimyo*. The largest and most powerful of the Clans were the Satsuma and Choshu Clans. The Clans ruled their domains but some had very limited influence nationally.

The Shogun's policy of closing Japan off from any external influences had been strictly enforced for hundreds of years. As the years progressed Japan fell behind the rate of Western technological advancement. This resulted in little or no industrialisation during the 18th and 19th centuries. As the imperial powers drew closer, and the Japanese began to see modern Western gun boats and naval technology arrive in their waters, latent tensions and frustrations among the Clans began to surface. Japan had experienced many important developments during the Tokugawa Shogunate, such as a flourishing of neo-Confucianism, artistic development and some urban growth, however many people felt increasing frustration at the current state of Japanese government practices and technology.

Left: Thomas driving an early car in Japan

Above: Thomas with leading members of the Mitsubishi Company taken about 1890
Courtesy Nagasaki Museum of History and Culture



Photograph taken in November 1905 at a reception, held at the home of Yanosuke Iwasaki, for Admiral Togo, commander of the Japanese fleet that decisively defeated the Russians at the Battle of Tsushima. Thomas can be seen in the middle of the photograph
 Courtesy Nagasaki Museum of History and Culture

In July 1853 an American fleet, under Commodore Matthew Perry, visited Japan in order to promote open trade. The purpose of his visit, with a number of warships, was clear: trade was coming one way or another. The Shogunate realised the necessity of 'catching up', to put Japan on a more equal footing with the West.

In response to Perry's visit the Shogunate opened up three treaty ports to allow Western merchants in to trade and established rights of extra-territoriality for them. However, resentment was brewing as a number of the Clans strongly opposed this approach. Others supported the move and wanted to go much further by establishing a new political system in the country, one where the Emperor's power would be restored and a new policy of openness and modern technology adopted.

Thomas Glover in Japan

The key Japanese ports which were opened up were Nagasaki, Kanagawa (Yokohama) and Hakodate. With the opening of these Treaty Ports Thomas went to Japan. He arrived in Nagasaki on 19 September 1859 as an agent of Jardine, Matheson and Co and began to trade and learn Japanese. This was a bold and brave move because there was considerable resistance to westerners in Japan. In 1861 there was a Samurai attack on the British Legation in Edo (Tokyo).

It was in this context of political and social turmoil that Thomas began to operate, at first for Jardine, Matheson and Co and then as an independent merchant. He initially traded green tea out of Japan and was involved in property, but gradually moved into arms and ship brokering. 1864 to 1867 was a time of great prosperity for him.



Thomas with Yanosuke Iwasaki, chairman and younger brother of the founder of the Mitsubishi Company
 Courtesy Nagasaki Museum of History and Culture

During the 1860s Thomas also began to sympathise with the clans who opposed the Shogunate. Despite elements of the Satsuma and Choshu Clans retaining strong anti-western feeling, other parts were increasingly convinced that it was best to work with the West. Thomas began to ally himself with the latter. At the time legitimate business was restricted to trade with the government. Thomas, however, traded with everyone.

During the early 1860s Thomas, with the help of his brothers, began to build ships in Aberdeen for the Japanese, both for the Shogunate and the Clans. In 1863 and 1864 the Glover brothers brokered the ships *Sarah* and *Satsuma* for the Satsuma Clan. The *Satsuma* was launched from William Duthie's shipyard in Aberdeen with William, another of Thomas's brothers, as captain on its maiden voyage. Between 1864 and 1867 the Glovers sold 20 ships to Japan. During this period Thomas also brokered a number of arms deals for the Clans, often personally buying the weapons in Shanghai and Hong Kong.

In 1863 Thomas helped to organise the trip of five young, but senior, members of the Choshu Clan to Britain. This trip was officially illegal as it had not been approved by the Japanese Authorities. In Britain they experienced Western life at first hand, most spent their time in London but two, Hirofumi Ito and Inoue Kaoru, visited Aberdeen in early to mid 1864. Later the 'Choshu Five', as they became known, would play an important



Thomas with family members. His son, Tomisaburo, is standing on the far left. Hana, his daughter, is seated in the middle
 Courtesy Nagasaki Museum of History and Culture

role in Japan, arguing against opponents to opening up to the West. Hirofumi Ito would become very senior in the Japanese regime that replaced the Tokugawa Shogunate. Also in 1864 Thomas was involved in helping the 'Satsuma Nineteen' to leave Japan for Britain, again without official sanction.

In December 1864 James Glover, who had for a time been based in Japan, returned to Aberdeen. In early 1865 James set up a new firm with Charles, known as Glover Brothers (Aberdeen) Shipbrokers Ltd, at 19 Marischal Street. By this point the Glovers were trading with anyone in Japan. In the summer of 1865 Charles was preparing to launch *Owari*, a ship built for the Shogunate government at John Smith's yard in Aberdeen. A number of pro-Shogun officials were then in Britain and several came to Aberdeen to watch the launch on 22 August. This was a very tricky situation for Charles because at that time Kanae Nagasawa, aged 12 or 13, the youngest and highest status member of the Satsuma Nineteen, was staying illegally in Aberdeen.

In 1865 a total of 12 British-built ships were sold to Japan, five of which were supplied by the Glovers. In June 1865 Thomas ordered Armstrong guns, manufactured in Newcastle upon Tyne, for the Shogunate at an eventual profit of \$40,000. At the same time Thomas made around \$100,000 available to Japanese rebels in Britain to fund a number of purchases. Thomas also arranged for the construction of three modern warships in Aberdeen for the Japanese navy, including *Ho Sho Maru*, *Jho Sho Maru* and *Wun Yo Maru*.

The Meiji 'Restoration'

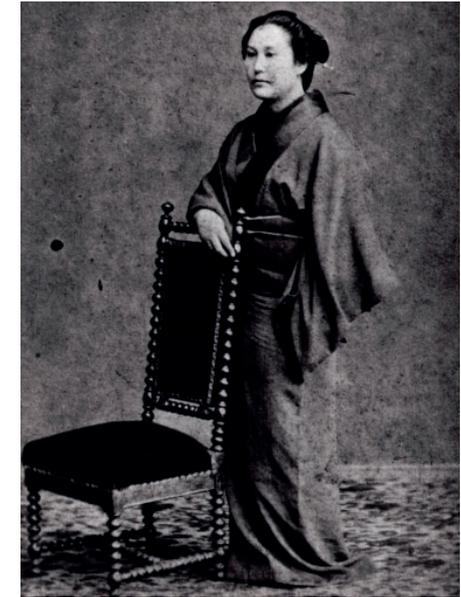
In 1866 the Chosu and Satsuma Clans signed a pact to work together in Japan. With all sides now armed, a civil war was inevitable and resulted in a new regime. This became known as the Meiji Restoration. The new Emperor was enthroned and the capital moved from Kyoto to Tokyo. Meiji Japan was determined to close the economic and military gap with the Western powers through far-reaching reforms.

The new government aimed to bring democracy to Japan with equality for all its people. The boundaries between the social classes were gradually broken down. The Samurai suffered most, as they lost all their privileges.

The reforms included:

- The establishment of human rights such as religious freedom in 1873.
- A new compulsory education system was introduced based on the French system.
- Japanese scholars sent abroad to study western science and languages, while foreign experts were brought in to teach in Japan.
- Universal conscription and a new army modelled on its Prussian counterpart, whilst the Royal Navy was used as a model for a new Japanese navy.
- Improved transport and communication networks by means of large governmental investments.
- Direct government support for businesses and industries.
- A reformed currency system and the establishment of the Bank of Japan.

Thomas later claimed that he had been the most rebellious of all those who had opposed the Tokugawa Shogunate. Whilst he was allied with the rebels it should be remembered that before the Restoration of 1868 he traded with all sides, and there is no real evidence for his political views from then. He was, after all, a business man. However, before the Meiji Restoration, he had allied himself more and more closely with the rebellious Satsuma Clan. He had previously arranged for young Samurai, from Satsuma to study in England, and persuaded Sir Harry Parkes (the senior representative of the British government in Japan) to visit the capital of Satsuma in July 1866.



Tsuru Glover, Thomas's wife
 Courtesy Nagasaki Museum of History and Culture



After the Restoration

William Copeland, a naturalised US citizen of Norwegian descent, had arrived in Yokohama in 1864. In 1869, responding to the large foreign demand for domestically brewed beer, Copeland opened the Spring Barley Brewery. By 1884 Copeland had closed the brewery, having been dogged by misfortune, and sailed for the United States.

A year later two foreign entrepreneurs established a partnership with two Japanese businessmen to reopen Copeland's brewery, with help from Thomas Glover. With sound financial backing, the newly-formed Japan Brewery Company, Ltd soon became a profitable enterprise. By 1888 all of its beer featured the 'Kirin' label: the mythical Kirin, according to ancient Chinese legend, brought good fortune to those who caught a glimpse of it.

Despite the success of Kirin, Thomas found it difficult to adjust to the changes in trade that occurred with the Meiji Restoration of 1868, including the economic decline of the port of Nagasaki. Glover attempted to expand his business activities, including brokering the construction of a patent slip dock in Aberdeen. The dock was disassembled and brought over to Nagasaki, which lacked modern facilities for repairing ships. Thomas later sold his share in the venture to the Japanese government, who in turn leased the dock to Mitsubishi in 1884. He also became a partner with the Hizen Clan in developing the Takashima coal mine. The deal over the mine, although a good prospect, was very one-sided against him and the operation was seriously under-financed. His debts grew.

Above: Ho Sho Maru in Aberdeen Harbour

Thomas's Nagasaki trading firm, Glover & Co, was declared bankrupt in August 1870 and the Netherlands Trading Society acted as Trustees. This failure has been attributed to a lack of managerial ability as well as to the change in the politics of Japan, but it also needs to be understood in the context of fierce competition for trade among Westerners and with the Chinese, who accounted for around half of all of Nagasaki's export trade.

After the bankruptcy he continued to work at the Takashima coal mine, which was eventually bought by Mitsubishi. It has been suggested that that Thomas's 'students', the Clan youngsters whose trips to Britain he had organised, used their new positions of power to keep his later businesses going. Whilst this was true to an extent, Thomas continued to work hard and after seven years of work at Takashima he had cleared \$500,000 of debt.

It was also during this period that Thomas became involved with the development of Mitsubishi. The company's second president, Yanosuke Iwasaki, a former Tosa samurai, had business dealings with Thomas before the Restoration and they remained friends afterwards. Thomas moved to Tokyo and acted as a consultant for Mitsubishi in various ways from 1877 until his death in 1911.

In 1908 Hirofumi Ito and Inoue Kaoru recommended Thomas be awarded the Order of the Rising Sun (Second Class). This was the first time a foreigner had received Japan's first national decoration. On 16 December 1911 Thomas died of Bright's Disease (the historical classification for kidney disease), and was buried in Nagasaki.



*Thomas trout fishing
Courtesy Nagasaki Museum of History and Culture*



Glover's Life in Japan and the story of *Madame Butterfly*

Thomas settled in Japan, learned Japanese and only returned briefly to Scotland on business trips. He built his home in Nagasaki and lived with his Japanese 'wife', Tsuru, and their daughter, Hana, who was born in 1876. At that time these associations were seen as informal 'marriages', which generally ended when the man returned to the West. He also had an earlier relationship with a woman named Kaga Maki and they had a son, Tomisaburo, in 1870. When Tomisaburo was six Thomas brought him into the home he shared with Tsuru.

Thomas's personal story has been linked to Puccini's opera *Madame Butterfly*, of which much has been written. The original short story was written by John Luther Long, who was likely to have been inspired by various other stories circulating at the time about how these marriages worked. One inspiration may have been Pierre Loti's novel, *Madame Chrysanthème*, published first in French in 1887 and later in English. Loti's version follows a French naval officer, Pierre, who enters into a temporary marriage with a geisha while stationed in Japan. The loosely autobiographical novel tells of Pierre's arrival in Nagasaki, how he employed his engagement of a marriage broker, his resultant relationship with Chrysanthème, and his eventual departure. Long revised the story, replacing Pierre with an American called Pinkerton and a different ending. Puccini saw a version of Long's story as a play in London when he was considering

writing an opera based on *Oliver Twist*. He abandoned his original idea and developed *Madame Butterfly* as an opera instead.

Thomas's story does not seem to be the inspiration for *Madame Butterfly*: neither Kaga nor Tsuru were geishas nor was Thomas a callous man, as Pinkerton is. However it is perhaps reasonable to see *Madame Butterfly* (at least the original story) as criticism of the way in which Western men treated Japanese women.

The association of Thomas with *Madame Butterfly* probably arises from American soldiers after the Second World War who dubbed his old home 'Madame Butterfly House'. To the soldiers it probably looked like the imagined house in the opera.



Thomas remained loyal to his family and to his adopted country of Japan until his death. In particular he developed a close link with the Satsuma Clan, especially after they adopted a policy of openness to the West after 1863. This relationship was financial through loans, as well as political.

Elements of Thomas's life appear strange to us today but we should not judge the man or his times. Thomas and his family did make a small fortune at a time of great upheaval against a background of Western expansion. There were many other British people who played important roles in Japan, and Thomas's career is best understood in this context. Thomas was loyal to Japan and the connections he had made earlier in his life stood him in very good stead when his circumstances changed. Thomas's reputation remains high in Japan today and he is remembered in many different ways. In Aberdeen and Fraserburgh there is an interest in his story and a desire to understand this man and his place in Japan's fascinating history.

Left: Thomas and Japanese friends, early 1900s, Tokyo
 Courtesy Nagasaki Museum of History and Culture

Right: Thomas and his daughter-in-law, Waka, 1890s, Tokyo
 Courtesy Nagasaki Museum of History and Culture



Glover Garden, Japan

by Brian Burke-Gaffney, Historian

The former house of Thomas Blake Glover served as a residence for American Occupation personnel from 1945 to 1950. The American families living there called it 'Madame Butterfly House', a whimsical nickname that would later be exploited as a tourist catch-phrase and cause confusion about the true history of the house.

In 1957, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, which had purchased the house from Thomas's son in 1939, donated the property to Nagasaki City as part of their shipyard's centennial celebration. Opened to the public the following year, the house gained attention at home and abroad for its eclectic architectural style and breathtaking view over Nagasaki Harbour.

In recognition of its importance as the oldest Western-style building in Japan, in 1961 the Japanese government designated the former Glover house a *jūyō bunkazai* (Important Cultural Asset). Nagasaki City also purchased the former residence of the Ringer family, a Western-style building of stone construction built in the early Meiji Period at No.2 Minamiyamate, the lot to the south of the Glover House, and launched an ambitious project to restore the buildings to their original condition.

A wave of urban redevelopment was sweeping across Japan at the time, provoking an outcry over the loss of old neighbourhoods. In 1965, a group of concerned architects and business people opened a facility in Aichi Prefecture called 'Meiji Village' for the relocation of heritage buildings slated for demolition. Among the structures dismantled and reassembled on the site were the former Tokyo Imperial Hotel and

the summer residence of American author and translator Lafcadio Hearn. Meiji Village enjoyed a huge success as Japan's first modern theme park.

Inspired by the sensation, Nagasaki City announced plans to build a similar facility in the Minamiyamate district. However, there was a fundamental difference: while Meiji Village was simply an architectural museum, the theme park planned for Nagasaki encompassed part of the former Nagasaki Foreign Settlement.

The plan proceeded in two phases from 1970 and included the purchase of the former Alt House at No 14 Minamiyamate and the relocation of the Walker House (located originally at No 28 Minamiyamate) and several other Western-style buildings threatened with destruction. Outdoor ponds, murals and walkways were built, gardens were refurbished, and an unusual outdoor escalator was installed to carry visitors up the hillside. Nagasaki City held a naming contest and selected 'Glover Garden' from among 190 suggestions submitted by citizens.

Inaugurated on September 4, 1974, the new facility quickly grew into Nagasaki's best-known tourist attraction, welcoming as many as two million visitors a year and lifting tourism shoulder-to-shoulder with shipbuilding and fisheries as a pillar of the city's postwar economy. In 1991, the Japanese government designated the Minamiyamate and Higashiyamate neighbourhoods as historic preservation zones.

Today, Glover Garden plays a vital role, not only as the centre of the preservation zone and Nagasaki's most valuable tourism resource, but also as a window on a period in history when a small group of foreigners made important contributions to Japan as it emerged as a leader in global industry and commerce.





Thomas Blake Glover Trail Aberdeen

The Trails

Two trails are suggested, one around Aberdeen and the other in Fraserburgh both of which are intimately associated with Thomas's life. However other small towns in the North East of Scotland can also be visited, such as Sandend where Thomas Berry Glover was first posted in 1828, or the charming village Collieston where the family lived between 1847 and 1849, before they moved to Aberdeen city.



Aberdeen Maritime Museum

Aberdeen Maritime Museum has a display on Thomas Glover, containing objects that reflect his life and achievements in Japan, as well as looking at the lives of other British people present in the country at the same time. The display also explores the links between modern day Japan and Scotland, highlighting the lasting legacy of Glover's life.

This award-winning museum is on the city's historic Shiprow and incorporates Provost Ross's House, which was built in 1593. The Maritime Museum houses a unique collection covering shipbuilding, fast sailing ships, fishing and port history. It is also the only place in the UK where you can see displays on the North Sea oil and gas industry.

19 Marischal Street

The 1864-5 *Post Office Directory* for Aberdeen lists No 19 Marischal Street as the offices for Thomas's brothers firm, Charles T Glover's Ship Insurance Broker Company. It was from here that important ships such as the *Jho Shu Maru* and the *Ho Shu Maru* were brokered for

Above: Site of Alexander Hall and Duthie Shipyards (on opposite shore).

Left: 19 Marischal Street



Japanese interests. Marischal Street was one of Aberdeen's first purpose-built streets in the 18th century, linking the commercial heart of the city to the expanding harbour. The *Jho Shu Maru* and the *Ho Shu Maru* were subsequently donated by their respective Clan owners to the Imperial Government and served in the Imperial Japanese Navy as men-of-war.

Alexander Hall Shipyard

Alexander Hall & Co were Aberdeen shipbuilders from 1790 to 1957. The firm is best remembered for its development of the Aberdeen or Clipper Bow in 1839, designed for greater speed and seaworthiness. The Glover brothers brokered ships for the Japanese government and clans through a number of Aberdeen's shipyards. One of Hall's best-known ships was the *Jho Shu Maru*, a barque-rigged steamer, built in 1868. This wooden corvette had a belt of iron armour plating at the waterline and carried eight 64-pounder guns and two 100-pounder guns. Unfortunately, due to a miscalculation of costs, the firm actually lost £500 on the project.



Hall's yard also built the *Ho Shu Maru*. On 22 August 1868 the *Aberdeen Herald* described its trial trip:

'The *Ho-So-Maru*, a new steam gunboat, built for the Japanese Government by Messrs. Hall & Co. made a trial trip in the bay on Thursday, leaving the harbour about noon, and returning again about four o'clock. The anticipations which existed regarding her speed were fully realized. For the first half hour after leaving the harbour she made eight knots an hour before the wind, and during the second half hour, nine knots. When the vessel was put about, she steamed with bare poles over seven and a half knots, in the face of a stiff breeze, although the engines were not working anything like their full power. The hopes maintained regarding her speed were thus fully met. Nothing could have exceeded the manner in which the *Ho-So-Maru* conducted herself, both under canvas and steam.'

Duthie Shipyards

William Duthie first leased a shipyard from the Town Council in November 1817. It was a family business – his partners were his younger brothers John and Alexander. All three seem to have

Above: model and photograph of Jho Shu Maru



Above: Gym School, Old Aberdeen

served apprenticeships with the Hall shipyard before going into business together. The company ceased to trade in 1925. It was from their yards next to Alexander Hall that the Glover Brothers brokered ship, *Satsuma* was launched.

Glover House

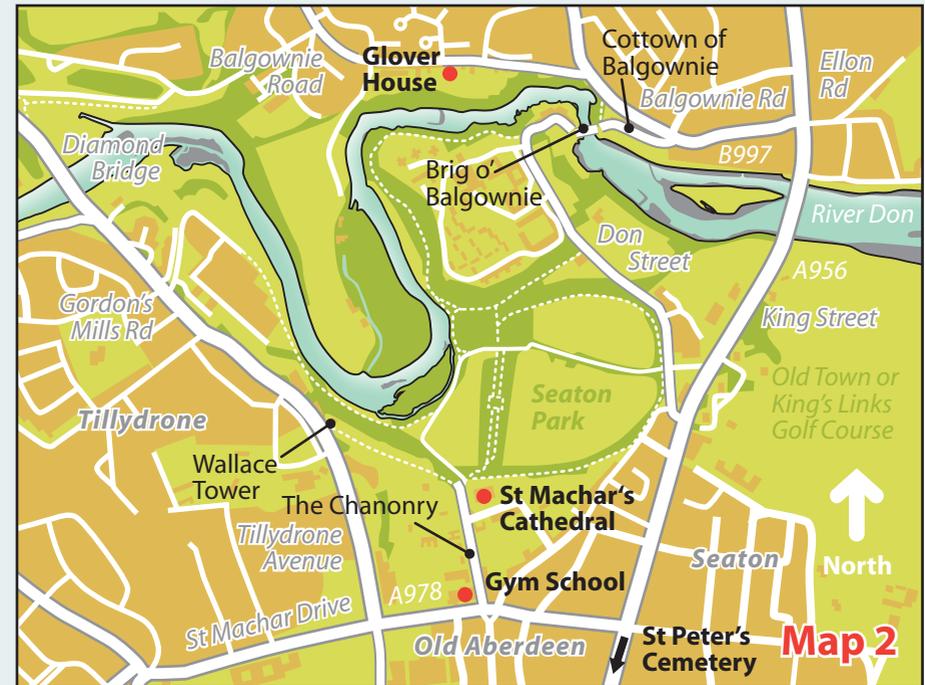
The Glover family lived here from 1864 for some twenty years. Whilst Thomas didn't live here, he visited this house on a number of occasions and it no doubt played host to some of Thomas's Japanese 'students' when illegally in Britain. Thomas Blake Glover probably stayed here when he was in Aberdeen negotiating the contract on behalf of the *Jho Sho Maru* for the Higo Clan. The house itself is a dignified granite house of the later 19th century sitting on a high bank of the River Don to the north of Aberdeen city.

Gym School

The Gym School in Old Aberdeen was involved in the story in a number of ways. It was here that Thomas himself was educated and some of Thomas's visiting Japanese students later attended this school. On 5 October 1867 the *Aberdeen Herald* noted that 'several Japanese gentlemen' had recently been studying in Aberdeen. The records of the Gym note that five 'pupils' were at the school, but naming only two, Nagasawa and H. Heiki.

Memorials

A memorial to Thomas Berry Glover and Mary Findlay is located at St Peter's Cemetery on King Street. Charles Thomas Glover and his family are commemorated in Oldmachar Churchyard at St Machar's Cathedral.



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Fraserburgh

Commerce Street

By popular repute Thomas was said to have been born at No 15 Commerce Street. There is, however, no evidence to back up this claim. Whilst the 1841 census records the family as living at Commerce Street the exact address is not listed in Coastguard records, suggesting Thomas Berry Glover rented the property privately. Unfortunately No 15 was bombed during a Luftwaffe raid in 1941 and the remains of the house were later demolished. However the remainder of Commerce Street retains a 19th century feel to it. A plaque on a building on the street bears witness to the Glover connection.



49 Mid Street

Today this building is known as St Paul's Episcopal Church in the 1830s and Thomas Blake Glover was baptised here on 12 July 1838. This is also marked with a plaque.



School in Saltoun Place

This school building was opened in 1838 and it was here that Thomas first went to school before the family left Fraserburgh. Today the building is little altered in external appearance.



Photographs from top to bottom:
Fraserburgh Harbour;
Plaque on Commerce Street;
St Andrew's 2000 Halls;
Former school, Saltoun Place;
Plaque on former school in Saltoun Place

Fraserburgh Heritage Centre

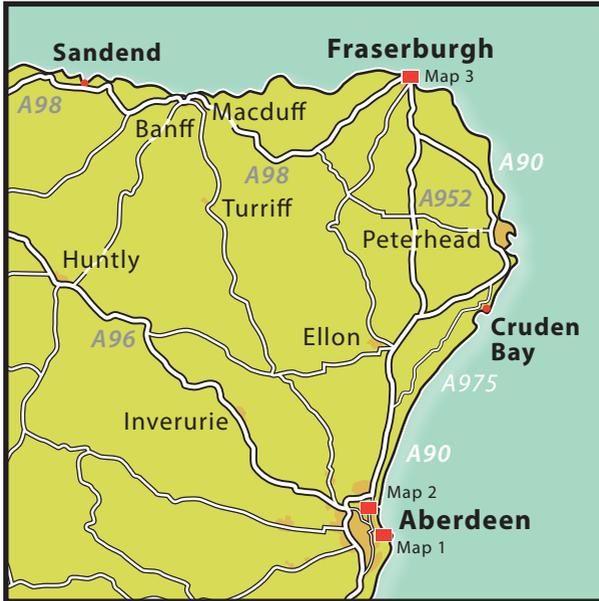
Fraserburgh, known locally as 'the Broch' (being the way the word burgh was historically pronounced in Scotland), celebrates the life and career of one of its most famous sons in Fraserburgh Heritage Centre. The centre tells the story of Fraserburgh and its heritage and it is here that Thomas Blake Glover's career can be seen in the context of the development of the town.



Above: Fraserburgh Heritage Centre
Below: Fraserburgh shoreline



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