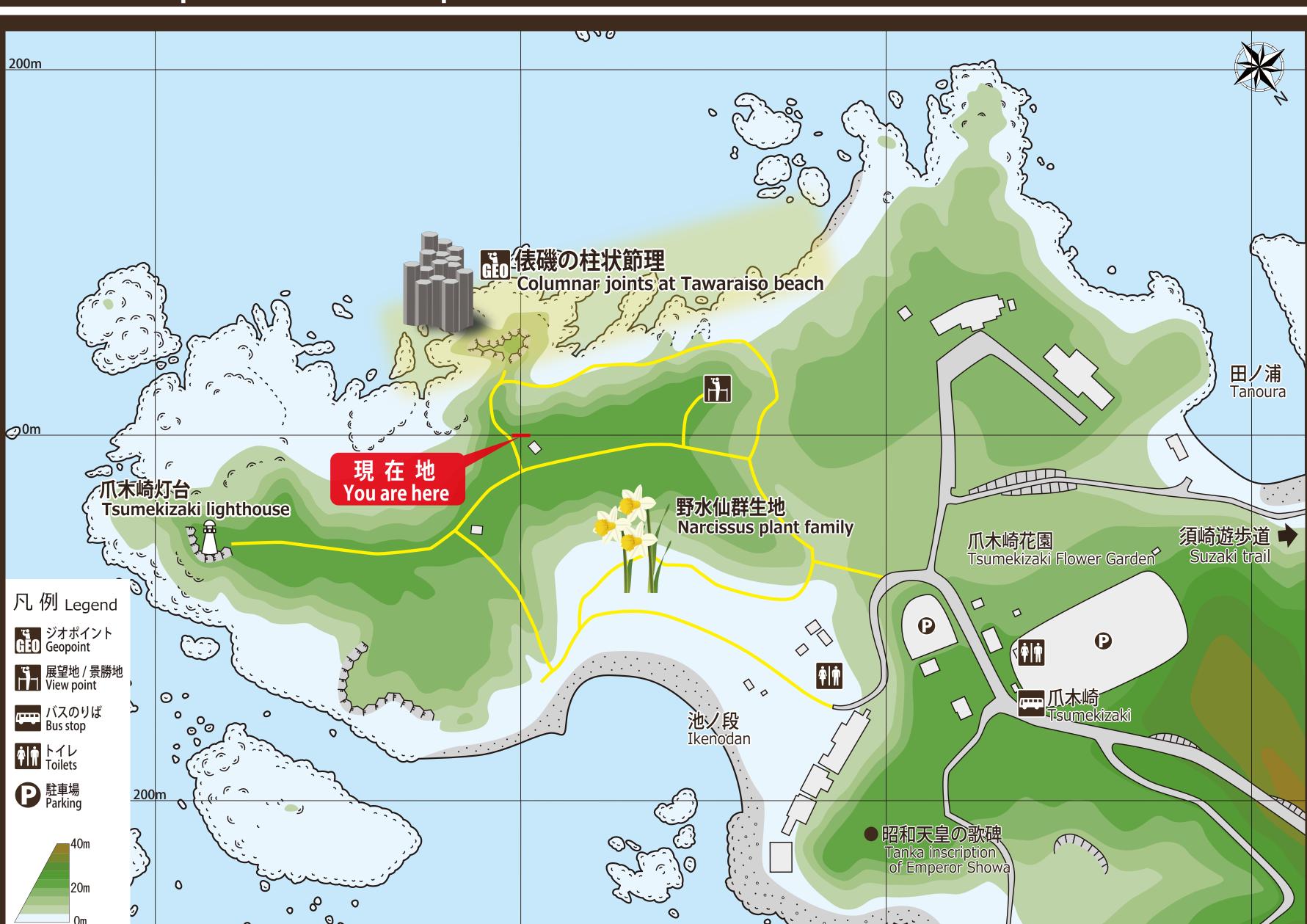
海底から姿をあらわした須崎半島 Suzaki peninsula uplifted from the seabed

下田エリア / 爪木崎ジオサイト 爪木崎西

Shimoda Area / Tsumekizaki Geosite West Tsumekizaki





伊豆半島の南部には、太古の海底火山の噴出物が広く分布しています。 長い海底火山の時代の後、伊豆全体が隆起と浸食を受けたため、本来は地 下に埋もれていたはずの海底火山の姿を直接見られるようになったので す。国立公園にも指定されている須崎の海岸線では、海底火山の痕跡を あちこちで見ることができます。

爪木崎の柱状節理も太古の海底火山のなごりです。数 100 万年前の海底火山 の地下で、マグマが冷え固まる際の収縮によってできました。

地元では柱状節理の断面の形から「俵磯(静岡県指定天然記念物)」 には建築用材として切り出され、見事な6角形の石材は「俵石」と呼ばれ好評を博しました。

In the southern part of the Izu Peninsula, prehistoric volcanic ejecta can be found widely. As the long stage of submarine volcanism came to an end, the peninsula became uplifted, and erosion proceeded. These processes made it possible for us to directly observe the volcanoes that should have been located underground. We can see the remnants of submarine volcanoes in the Suzaki coastline. The coastline is registered as a part of the National Park.

sea that were eroded by wave actions. The process is known as

As this process took place time and again in the past, the penin-

Uplifted Marine Terraces.'

sula eventually got its current flat shape.

The columnar joints seen at the Tsumekizaki area are also remnants of submarine volcanism. These joints formed when the magma cooled below the submarine volcanoes several million years ago.

These joints are called 'Tawaraiso' (appearance of a rocky bale) and are designated as a natural treasure by the Shizuoka Prefecture. These joints were once used for construction, during the Edo Period (1603-1867) in Japan the site was excavated for construction materials. The stones with beautiful hexagonal shapes were known as 'Tawara Ishi' and they were prized construction materials.

