Between the Old Capital and the Provincial Office
——Decipherment of the Wooden Writing Tablet dated 810 that
was Excavated from the Site of Fujiwara Palace——

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Two wooden writing tablets were found out from the well located at the
north-west corner of Fujiwara Palace 藤原京 through the 36 the excavation
(December, 1982—March, 1983) of the site of Fujiwara Palace, and one of them,
dated 810, is a very important historical document, not only because it is unpar-
alleled large sized (98.2cm×5.7cm) but because the settlement of accounts of the
eyearly manor named “Miyadokorono sho” 宮所庄, which might be in the area of
old Fujiwara Palace is written on it. I commented in the otherday’s Mainich
about these tablets when these old wooden tablets were appear in the press by
Research Department of Asuka Fujiwara Palace site of Nara National Cultural
Properties Research Institute 奈良国立文化財研究所飛鳥藤原宮跡発掘調査部, so I had
an article again in another day’s Mainich. In this report, I would like to detail
about these tablets. The following is the contents of these wrriting tablets.

In 810 A.D., the tax paddy is 1509 soku 東 in this manor, made up as follows:
Yamadame 山田女 and Oshiuminofukumaro 凡海福万呂 paid a tax. These tablet
are a cashlook of a kind that we can find the expenses in manor and the
tributes to a provincial office daily. Moreover, the program of agricultral
management of the next year is written in it, so we can find the basic date about
the manor business. Judging from description Miyadokoronooshō be 3 cho 町 6 tan
反 120 bu 歩 in area as small as any other manor in Yamato province 大和國
Especially a land under direct management is occupied eighty per cent of the
total land, the other side, a tenant land is beneath notice. This manor is a
taxable land, so the peasants renderd a fixed tax to a provincial office, that
characterized an early manor.