This thesis is an examination of cultural property rescue networks, viewed from the perspective of one region in Japan. Tono, in Iwate Prefecture, had a historical network with the municipalities of the Sanriku Coast, and also had public and private networks with museums and curators in the prefecture. Although Tono was devastated by the Great East Japan Earthquake, cultural property rescue activities were successfully carried out along the Sanriku Coast.

My involvement with cultural property rescue work evolved over time from personal networks, to public networks, and again returned to private networks. Among the materials rescued from the town of Otsuchi was a precious discovery that revealed disaster relief efforts in Tono City after the Sanriku Tsunami disaster of 1933. The network that was cultivated through the Great East Japan Earthquake was able to rescue materials in Tono, damaged by typhoon #10, in 2016, and a new network was established.

Key words: Tono, Great East Japan Earthquake, Cultural Property Rescue, Network