## The Face of Meiji

## The Courthouse Stone Wall

The Matsue Regional Courthouse was moved to its current location in Meiji 23 (1890), and an enclosing stone wall was constructed at the time. The original stone wall remains on the west and east sections of the courthouse-side wall and retains the look of the time period.

In the areas surrounding Matsue Castle, there are many stone walls that remain; however, if you look closely, you may notice that the design of stone wall differs by location. The reason is that the method of piling stones, stone construction, and material choice changed over time. For example, if you compare Matsue Castle's Edo-period stone wall with the courthouse stone wall, the difference is quite apparent.

As a point of interest, only the stone wall on the courthouse south side (main entrance) is a Heisei-period (modern) reconstruction, put in place due to road-widening work.