

Kyu-Iwasaki-tei Gardens

Gardens where wind of bygone days blows always



For Stamping

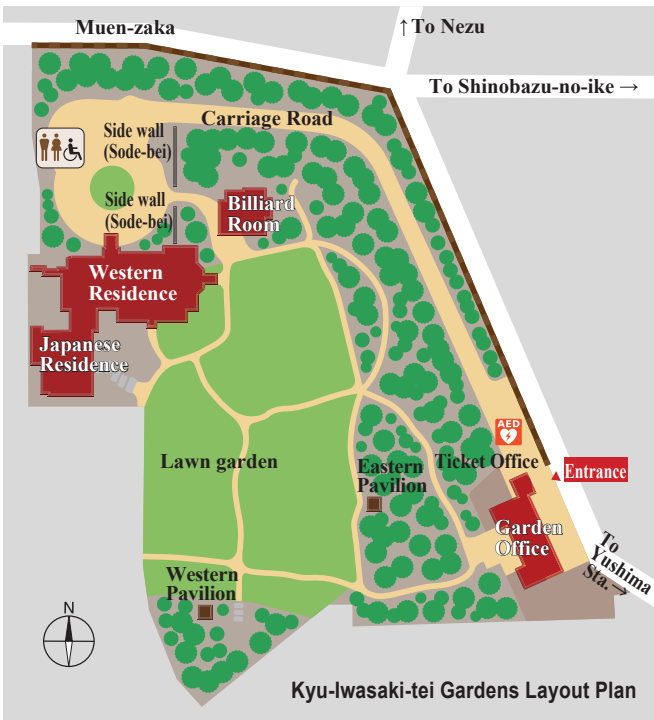
Important Cultural Property

Kyu-Iwasaki-tei Gardens

- Garden inauguration
October 1, 2001
- Area
20,709.25㎡
- Hours
Open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
(Entry closes at 4:30 p.m.)
※Opening hours may be extended during special events, etc.
- Closed
Year-end holidays (December 29 to January 1)
- Free admission days
Greenery Day (May 4)
Tokyo Citizen's Day (October 1)
- Guided tour (Free) (Japanese)
11 a.m. and 2 p.m.
※The tours may be canceled due to weather conditions, etc.

[Contact]

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Kyu-Iwasaki-tei Gardens Layout Plan

	Individual	Group (20 or more)	Annual passport (Kyu-Iwasaki-tei Gardens)	Annual passport (Common for 9 gardens)	
Admission	General	¥400	¥320	¥1,600	¥4,000
	65 or over	¥200	¥160	¥800	¥2,000
Admission free	Elementary school students or younger (guardian required) and middle school students (living or attending school in Tokyo Metropolis)				

Welcome to Cultural Heritage Gardens

Every Tokyo Metropolitan Garden is designated as a cultural heritage of either the State or of Tokyo, combining history, culture, and nature since the Edo, Meiji and Taisho eras.

They are valuable properties that have survived disasters including the Great Kanto Earthquake and the War, as well as progressing urbanization. Your understanding and cooperation are greatly appreciated in order to allow such important properties to be left to prosper in better conditions.

[Request from the garden]

- Please refrain from entering with pets, collecting plants and animals from the garden, use of mats, or bringing in alcoholic beverages.
- Please refrain from touching furniture, wall papers and pillars, etc.
- For the protection of cultural properties, we kindly ask that you wear socks during the building tour.
- There are certain locations and times where photography and sketching are not permitted in order to protect the building and surrounding scenery.
- Part of the cultural assets might not be available for viewing due to the need for regular conservation and repair work.
- Smoking is forbidden on the premises. No smoking sections are available.

9 Metropolitan Cultural Heritage Gardens

- Hama-rikyu Gardens
- Kyu-Shiba-rikyu Gardens
- Koishikawa Korakuen Gardens
- Rikugien Gardens
- Kyu-Iwasaki-tei Gardens
- Mukojima-Hyakkaen Gardens
- Kiyosumi Gardens
- Kyu-Furukawa Gardens
- Tonogayato Gardens



[Access]

- 〔Train〕 Tokyo Metro Chiyoda Line Yushima Sta. Exit No.1 (3 minutes on foot)
- Tokyo Metro Ginza Line Ueno-Hirokoji Sta. (10 minutes on foot)
- Toei Oedo Line Ueno-Okachi-machi (10 minutes on foot)
- JR Yamanote Line, Keihin-Tohoku Line Okachimachi Sta. (15 minutes on foot)
- ※Parking is not available.

Japan's new architectural culture emerged in the 29th year of Meiji (1896)

Kyu-Iwasaki-tei Gardens was built in 1896 as the main residence of Iwasaki Hisaya, the 3rd president of Mitsubishi and the eldest son of Iwasaki Yataro, the founder of the group. In the past, there were about 20 buildings lined up on a site of approximately 15,000 tsubo, but now only three remain: the western-style building, the billiard room, and the bighall of the Japanese-style building.

After the war, this place was requisitioned by the GHQ and subsequent to its return, it became a national property to be used as the Legal Training and Research Institute of the Supreme Court, etc. In 1961, the western residence and the billiard room were designated as nationally important cultural property. Further, in 1969, the hall of the Japanese residence and the side wall (sode-bei) to the east side of the western residence were designated additionally, followed by the premises as a whole including the brick wall as well as the measured drawing in 1999.

Western residence

This building was completed in 1896 by the design of Josiah Conder. Magnificent decorations of the 17th century Jacobean style are seen everywhere, along with the British Renaissance style and Islamic motifs. The south side of the building is a columned veranda, and columns in the 1st floor and 2nd floor have features of Tuscan and Ionian styles respectively. The 1st floor veranda is covered fully with British Minton made tiles, and there are also guest rooms papered with valuable Japanese leather paper (kin-kara-kawashi). The image of country houses in Pennsylvania, U.S., Iwasaki Hisaya's destination of study abroad was also reflected. This is regarded as a rare architecture in the world history of residences with its ingenious balance with the annexed Japanese building. Those days, this place was used as a private guest house for the once-a-year gathering of the whole Iwasaki family as well as for parties inviting foreign and distinguished guests.



In details of the residence, Jacobean style designs can be seen.

Billiard Room

This billiard room designed by Josiah Conder is built in some distance from the western-style building as a detached house. Unlike the Jacobean-style western building, it is built like mountain lodges in Switzerland, which was very rare in Japan those days. It is a wooden building in its entirety, following the trend of the American gothics with its log-house like walls (aze-kura-style), notched pillars and large roof extending eaves deeply. This building is inter-connected with the western residence by an underground passage, and inside of the building, you will see walls papered with valuable restored Japanese leather paper.



Japanese leather paper on the second floor guest room.



The gardens

In the Edo period, it used to be a residence of the domain Sakakibara family of Echigo-Takada clan, that was succeeded by Makino family of Maizuru clan in early Meiji period. The garden in those days partially followed a style of daimyo gardens. Like the buildings, the western and Japanese styles are laid together, retaining early form of a modern garden with "lawn". Reminders of those days are found in the garden such as stone monuments, stone-made hand-washing basin, garden stones, a large tree of Japanese evergreen, etc. This residence style of Japanese and western coexistence-style has given significant influence to residence construction in Japan thereafter.

Japanese residence

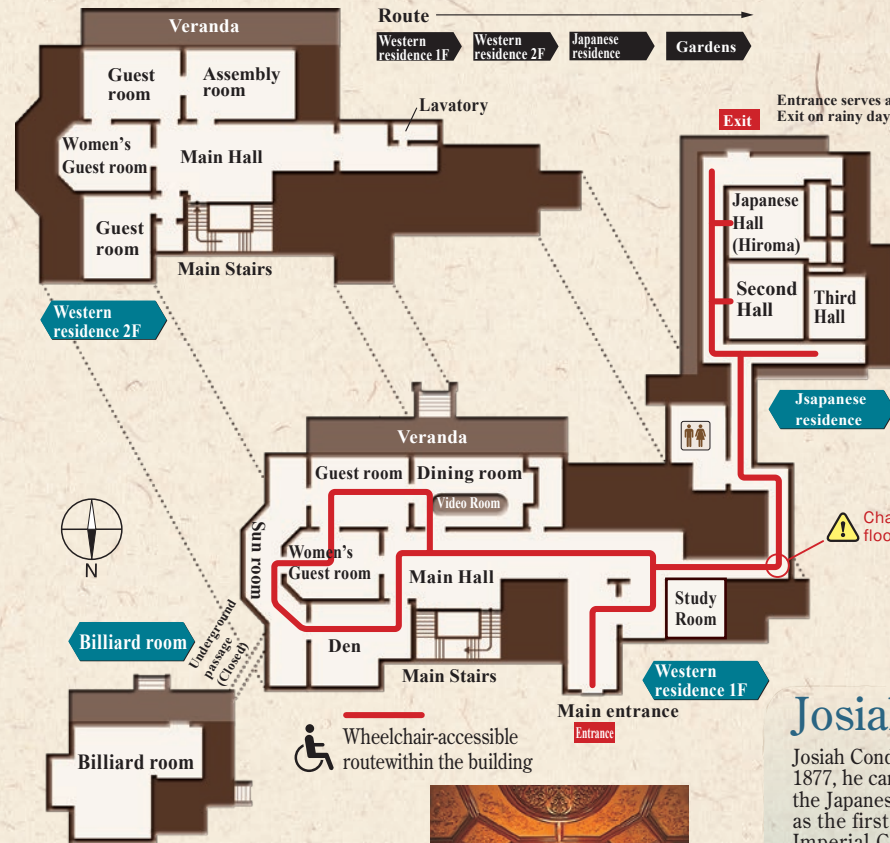
This Japanese building connected to the western-style building had much larger scale at the time of its completion, with a floor space of 550 tsubo. Currently, only one bighall remains, which was used for ceremonies like the western-style building. There remain Japanese paintings in alcove and on the paper slides, of which sketches are believed to have been done by Hashimoto Gaho. Now no more existing residential space for the Iwasaki family was divided into south and north sections. The south section was used for the master's room, children's rooms and others, while the north section was dedicated for the quarters of the service personnel, kitchen and storage space.



Drawings on the wooden plates still remain.



For every construction materials, those which are hardly available today are being used.



Wheelchair-accessible routewithin the building

Josiah Conder

Josiah Conder was born in London in 1852. In 1877, he came to Japan by the invitation from the Japanese government. He was appointed as the first professor of architecture at the Imperial College of Engineering (present Architecture Department, Faculty of Engineering of Tokyo University), and he gave genuine and full-fledged education of western-style architecture. Among his students, we find most representative architect of modern Japan like Tatsuno Kingo, known for the designing of the Tokyo Station, and Katayama Tokuma who designed the Akasaka Detached Palace. He designed many western-style buildings such as Rokumei-kan, Ueno Museum and Nicolai Cathedral, and later opened the first architectural design office. He was also a professor emeritus of the Tokyo Imperial University and honorary chairman and member of the Architectural Institute of Japan. He passed away in Japan in 1920. Josiah Conder loved Japan throughout his life, and he learned Japanese painting from Kawanabe Kyosai and he was married to a Japanese woman.



Ceiling of the guest room on the east side(1F) is covered with embroidered silk cloth.