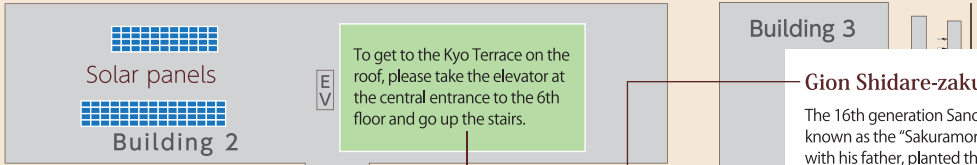


Kyoto Prefectural Office Highlights



The Kyo Terrace
As part of global warming countermeasures, Kyoto Prefecture has made a rooftop garden on Building 2 and this is open to the public. [Time] 9:00 to 17:00 on weekdays * Closed at 16:00 in November and December.

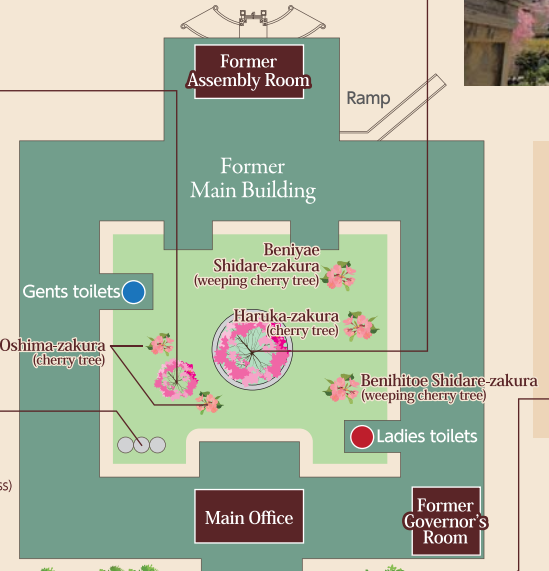
To get to the Kyo Terrace on the roof, please take the elevator at the central entrance to the 6th floor and go up the stairs.

Building 3

Gion Shidare-zakura
The 16th generation Sano Toemon, who is well known as the "Sakuramori (cherry guard)", along with his father, planted this weeping cherry tree, standing in the center of the courtyard, in the late 1950's. It was actually a seedling of the famous huge weeping cherry tree in Maruyama Park, so it can be considered its "grandchild."



Katamori-zakura (cherry tree)
This cherry tree is a very rare species that has characteristics of both the Oshima cherry tree and Yamazakura cherry tree. The 16th generation of Sano Toemon, who has come to be known as the "Sakuramori (cherry guard)", named this tree Katamori-zakura after Matsudaira Katamori, the Kyoto Military Commissioner who used to be stationed on these premises during the late Edo period.



Stone columns of Gojo Bridge
These three columns are believed to have been brought in as landscaping features in 1904 when the construction of the former Main Building was completed, and the year "1589" was engraved on the center column. They are presumed to have been taken from Gojo Bridge, which was built by the warlord Toyotomi Hideyoshi, according to records that cite the extra columns from this bridge were transferred to Kyoto Prefectural Office following its repair.



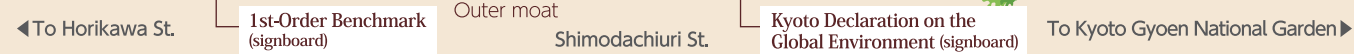
Byakushin (Juniper)
The courtyard of the former Main Building was designed by the 7th generation Ogawa Jihe, and the layout of the building and the front garden (in front of the entrance) was printed in the Hinode Shimbun newspaper on January 9, 1905. This Juniper, over 300 years old, was originally located in the grounds of a nearby temple, and was replanted here to commemorate the completion of the construction of this former main building.

Kyoto Keio Gijuku Monument
Kyoto Keio Gijuku, a branch school of Keio Gijuku (the current Keio University), was established in 1874 on these premises, where Kyoto Prefectural Junior High School (the current Rakuho High School) was located. However, it was closed down in September of the same year.

Assembly Bldg.

Kyoto Military Commissioner's Residence Monument
The position of Kyoto Military Commissioner was newly established at the end of the Edo Period to be responsible for Kyoto's security, and the construction of a residence for this person was completed in 1865. These premises were very large as they included the area of the current prefectural office.

Monument commemorating Emperor Meiji's visit to Kyoto Prefectural Office
Emperor Meiji visited Kyoto Prefectural Office on January 29, 1887, during his stay in Kyoto for the 20th anniversary of Emperor Komei's passing.



Important Cultural Property Former Main Building of the Kyoto Prefectural Office



Since 1904

Former Main Building

This brick building, completed on December 20, 1904, was used as the main building of Kyoto Prefectural Office up to 1971, and is still used now for offices and meetings. It is the oldest active governmental building in its original state in Japan, and was designated as an Important Cultural Property in 2004.

This Renaissance style structure features an elevated roof at the center with symmetrical wings on each side, reminiscent of Western palaces of the modern era. Some parts of the interior of the building showcase some intricate Japanese design techniques, giving the impression of artwork over architecture.



Former Governor's Room

This room is located at the southeast corner of the second floor, offering a magnificent view of Mt. Hiei through its east facing windows.

This was used by 24 governors over 67 years, from 1905 to 1971. (From Shoichi Omori to Torazo Ninagawa).

This room and three other rooms (former dining room, former guest room, and former special guest room) are all fitted with fireplaces, and each of them boasts unique and intricate decorations. The fireplace in this former governor's room is made of marble and tiles, with a large mirror installed above. The design of this room is remarkably more elaborate compared to the other rooms, due to some outstanding features such as the dignified crown moldings and gorgeous latticed ceiling.

Main Office

The Main Office room, a major highlight of this building, displays a covered, coffered and finely latticed ceiling, a noted and prestigious feature of Japanese style architectural design. The beautiful zelkova lined Kamanza Street can be viewed from the windows of this room, and it was used for a number of official events and ceremonies. These included the Cabinet meetings for the accession ceremonies for Emperor Taisho (November 1915) and Emperor Showa (November 1928), as the Home Ministry's temporary office was located here.

Yuri A. Gagarin, the first human to journey into outer space, visited this prefectural office in 1962 and was welcomed by the citizens from the balcony.



Former Assembly Room

In order to harmonize with the Main Building, this assembly room was designed to protrude on the north side. It was used to house the prefectural assembly from 1905 to 1969, and then employed as the information center for the prefectural administration until March, 2013.

In order to mark the 110th anniversary of the former main building's construction, renovation works were started in December 2014. This renovation project was completed in March 2016, and the room's design once again echoes that of the original Meiji Period construction.

The room has a high ceiling and plaster walls exhibiting various design features such as curved arches and cornice moldings. On the first floor, with the front facing south, the seat of the chairman takes pride of place in the center, with seats for the board members on both sides. Opposite and facing these are seats for 60 assembly members which are on sloping tiers and laid out in a fan shape. The second floor serves as a public gallery.



● Subway

10 minutes' walk from Marutamachi Station.

Take Subway Karasuma Line from Kyoto Sta. to Marutamachi Sta.; or take Subway Tozai Line from Nijo Sta. to Karasuma-Oike Sta., transfer to Karasuma Line, and get off at Marutamachi Sta.

● City Bus

5 minutes' walk from Fucho-mae Stop.

Take No.10 from Sanjo-Keihan Sta., or No. 93, 202, or 204 from Keihan Jingu-Marutamachi Sta.

Public viewing of the former Main Building of Kyoto Prefectural Office

[Open] Tuesdays to Fridays;
and 1st, 3rd and 5th Saturdays every month
10 a.m. to 5 p.m. * As of October 2015. The days may change.

[Reservation] Unnecessary * When visiting in a group of 10 or more,
please contact us in advance if possible.

[Cost] Free

[Inquiries] Miyakogusa (Kyoto tourism and culture group)

Tel & Fax. 075 451 8146

Former Main Building of Kyoto Prefectural Office for hire

In order to offer opportunities for citizens to enjoy this unique location, the main office and the former assembly room can be made available for various private functions, such as weddings, for a fee. For inquiries, please contact the Prefectural Property Utilization Division.

[Prefectural Assets Utilization Division] TEL. 075-414-5435

Yabunouchi-cho, Nishiiru, Shinmachi, Shimodachiuri-dori, Kamigyo-ku, Kyoto 602-8570