



### Layout diagram of Kyu-Iwasaki-tei Gardens

The color portion of the layout is the current area comprising the gardens. The uncolored portion indicates the entire original grounds.

The grounds were originally the property of the Echigo Takada Clan and were the site of their Edo clan residence. The property later passed into the hands of the Maizuru Prefecture Governor, Makino Sukeshige, and finally became the official residence of the Iwasaki family. Over the years, there were more than 20 buildings on this 49,500m<sup>2</sup> property.

At the end of World War II, the Iwasaki home and grounds became the property of the Japanese government and were used for the Judicial Research and Training Institute of the Supreme Court. In 2001, the City of Tokyo took on the responsibility for the management of the grounds and buildings.

In 1961, the western-style residence and the billiards building were designated important cultural assets, and in 1994 management of the grounds was turned over to the Agency for Cultural Affairs.

The Great Hall of the Japanese-style building and the Japanese decorative screens in the East Wing of the western-style building were both designated important cultural assets in 1969. Later, in 1999, the land upon which the residence is located, and the surrounding tiled-walls were also designated important cultural assets.

The architect, Condor, studied Japanese painting under Kawanabe Kyosai and married a Japanese lady. He loved Japan until the day he died.

### Josiah Condor

Josiah Condor was born in London in 1852. In 1877, he was invited to come to Japan by the Meiji government where he became the first professor of the Technical University residence architecture department (currently the Tokyo University Engineering School Architecture Department). He became Japan's first teacher of western-style architecture. Among his students were Tatsuno Kingo, who designed Tokyo Station, Katayama Toukuma, who designed the Akasaka Detached Palace, and other well-known Japanese architects. He designed the Rokumeikan, the Ueno Museum, the St. Nicolai Cathedral and many other famous western-style buildings and later established Japan's first western-style architectural office. He became a professor emeritus of Tokyo University and the honorary head of the Japan Society of Architecture. He passed away in Japan in 1920.

**Date of inauguration as a park:** October 1, 2001

**Area:** 16,912.88m<sup>2</sup>

**Main plants:** Cherry blossom (*Prunus*), ginkgo tree (*Ginkgo biloba*), Japanese maple (*Acer palmatum*), ternstroemia japonica (*Ternstroemia gymnanthera*), hemp palm (*Trachycarpus fortunei*), and himalayan cedar (*Cedrus deodara*)

**Hours:** Open from 9:00 to 17:00 (Entry until 16:30)

**Closed:** Year-end holidays (December 29 to January 1)

**Entrance fee:** ¥400 (Persons 65 and over: ¥200)

(No charge for primary school children or younger, and junior high school students living or attending school in Tokyo) \*20% discount for groups of 20 persons or more

**Related facilities:** Western-style residence building, billiard facility, and Japanese-style residence building

**Park location:** 1-3-45 Ike-no-hata, Taito-ku, Tokyo 110-0008

**Contact:** Kyu-Iwasaki-tei Garden Office Tel: 03-3823-8340

**Access:** Tokyo Metro Chiyoda Line, Yushima Station, Exit #1 (3 minutes on foot)

Tokyo Metro Ginza Line, Ueno Hiro-koji Sta. (10 minutes on foot)

Toei O-Edo Line, Ueno Okachi-machi Sta. (10 minutes on foot)

JR Yamanote Line, Okachi-machi Sta. (15 minutes on foot)

\*No parking available.



### 旧岩崎邸庭園 Kyu-Iwasaki-tei Gardens



Important Cultural Asset

Kyu iwa saki tei tei en

# 旧岩崎邸庭園

Kyu-Iwasaki-tei Gardens



# In Meiji 29 (1896), examples of the architecture of the new Japan began to appear.

In Meiji 29, in Kaya-cho, Shitaya-ku (Tokyo), a western-style residence that is remembered in the history of Japanese architecture was built. It was the home of the founder of Mitsubishi, Iwasaki Yataro. Josiah Condor designed this home and it marked the dawn of modern architecture in Japan. At this time, the architecture of the new Japan began to take root.



View of the north side of the residence; the palm trees give the surroundings an exotic quality.

## The gardens

During the Period, the grounds were the residence of an Echigo Takada Clan notable called Sakakibara, and the residence of the clan official Makino, of the Maizuru Clan, both of whom preserved the garden in its existing form. When the main Iwasaki residence was built, the large garden was ringed with a number of bushes, and many garden stones, lanterns and garden mountains were placed there. The Japanese residence was also constructed and the garden still retains much of the form it had during this period. The elements in the garden that still exist from the Edo Period include some stone monuments, a stone hand-washing basin, a large Japanese evergreen (*Ternstroemia gymnanthera*), etc. The Japanese-style residence that was built here had a significant influence on the development of Japanese residential architecture.



For the floor of the veranda, tiles with a design motif reminiscent of traditional Islamic designs were used.



The wood used for the Japanese-style building is almost impossible to obtain at the present time.



The two colonnades look out over the extensive garden.

## Western-style residence

Based on Josiah Condor's design, the building was completed in 1896. The grounds comprised 49,500m<sup>2</sup> and more than 20 buildings. At the present time, only one building remains. This is a two-story, western-style building constructed of wood that also has a cellar. The design is basically western in style and is representative of the type of architecture that was used for the residences of upper class families. This style is based on the Jacobean style of England in the 17th century, which incorporates Islamic motifs of the Renaissance. On the south side of the building, there is a veranda with a colonnade. The second-story colonnade is in the Ionian style of the Pennsylvania country house in the United States.

It forms good balance with the juxtaposed Japanese-style building

and is regarded as a residence of importance in the world history of architecture.

The building itself was used once mainly for annual gatherings of the Iwasaki family and for entertaining foreign guests. The first floor includes an entryway, dining room, kitchen, study and guest rooms. On the second floor there are guest rooms and a room for gatherings. In the cellar, there is storage space, a machinery room, and a passageway.

In 1952, the residence was designated a national cultural asset. After World War II, the residence was confiscated by the GHQ and after it was returned it was used as the Judicial Research and Training Institute of the Supreme Court until 1970.

On the first floor on the east side of the building, the ceiling of the drawing room is covered with embroidered Persian silk.



One can note Jacobean architectural features in the design throughout the interior of the Iwasaki main residence building.



## Japanese-style building

The Japanese-style building was integrated with the Western-style building and the design was based on the classic "Shoin" style. At the time the building was completed, the total floor space amounted to 1,815m<sup>2</sup>, making it nearly comparable in size to the Western-style building. The head Japanese carpenter for the project was Ookawa Kijuro, a famous craftsman who created many residences for notables in the government and the financial world. Near the entranceway, there was a large, classic Shoin tatami room for greeting guests and screens and fusuma sliding door paintings done by a well-known painter of the period, Hashimoto Gaho, are still in existence. The living space for the Iwasaki family was located to the rear of the large greeting room. It was divided into south and north sections. The bedrooms of the master and mistress of the house and the children's bedrooms were located in the southern section. The quarters of the serving personnel were in the northern section along with the kitchen, an office for business personnel, storage space, etc. The large guest gathering room and many parts of the building afford glimpses of the exquisite workmanship and design of this classic Japanese building.



The drawings that were painted on the wood surfaces of the house still exist at present.

The billiard facility was designed to be reminiscent of a Swiss mountain chalet.



## Billiard facility

The billiard room, an important feature of Condor's design, is separated from the main residence. Differing from a Jacobean western-style residence, this building was designed to be reminiscent of a Swiss mountain chalet, a style very rarely seen in Japan. This building is made completely of wood. It features "aze-kura" (log house-style) walls with carved pillars and a roof with protruding eaves, a design that shows signs of Gothic style. It is connected to the main residence by an underground passageway.