

Facilities and Organizations Affiliated with the Sumitomo Group

Repaying Society in a Sustainable Manner

The Sumitomo Business Spirit speaks of a conviction toward "conformity of self-interest and altruism, of public and private affairs." Sumitomo's business operations are thus not aimed at reaping gains only for itself; rather, Sumitomo seeks to share all gains with society, because society and Sumitomo are inherently bonded. During the Edo period, Sumitomo revealed the secrets of its "nanban-buki" smelting technique to members of the copper smelting industry in order to prevent a drain of the nation's silver to other countries. In the modern era, Sumitomo donated a library and other assets to the Osaka Prefectural Government. In the postwar age, this same spirit is carried on by Group companies, and today activities are steadily and continuously pursued to enrich the lives of local citizens and support academic research.



Sen-oku Hakuko Kan (Kyoto)

■Sen-oku Hakuko Kan (Kyoto)
24 Shimomiyanomae-cho, Shishigatani, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto 606-8431, Japan
Telephone: +81-75-771-6411

Opening seasons: Mid-March through June, September through mid-December
Opening hours: 10:00 – 17:00 (admission until 16:30)
Closed: Mondays (except national holidays; then closed Tuesday) and during changes of exhibits
URL: <http://www.sen-oku.or.jp/english.html>

Sen-oku Hakuko Kan (Kyoto), often referred to as the Sumitomo Collection, is an art museum founded as an incorporated foundation in 1960 to preserve and exhibit art objects collected by the Sumitomo Family. The Collection is best known for its ancient Chinese bronzes and mirrors, which were collected by Tomoito (Shunswi) Sumitomo (1864-1926), the fifteenth head of the Sumitomo Family. These are acclaimed as one of the world's premier collections of its kind, both in quality and quantity. At Sen-oku Hakuko Kan (Kyoto), roughly 200 bronzes and mirrors are on display in four chronologically arranged exhibition rooms. The museum also holds serial exhibitions of other art objects collected by the Sumitomo Family, including Japanese and Chinese calligraphic works, paintings, handicrafts, etc.



Sen-oku Hakuko Kan (Tokyo)

■Sen-oku Hakuko Kan (Tokyo)
1-5-1 Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0032, Japan
Telephone: +81-3-5777-8600 (representative)

Opening hours: 10:00 – 17:00 (admission until 16:30)
Closed: Mondays (except national holidays; then closed Tuesday) and during changes of exhibits
URL: <http://www.sen-oku.or.jp/english.html>

Sen-oku Hakuko Kan (Tokyo) was opened in the Roppongi district of Tokyo in 2002 as an annex to the main museum in Kyoto. Four times each year, the Tokyo museum holds exhibitions of diverse items in the Sumitomo Collection, including modern Western paintings and Japanese-style paintings, tea ceremony utensils, Noh masks and costumes, modern ceramics, etc. A special exhibition is also held once every year. The Tokyo museum offers visitors a view of many famous works in the areas of modern arts and crafts. Two examples are the painting of "Two Reikos" by Ryusei Kishida (1891-1929), the largest among his acclaimed series of depictions of his daughter, and a flower vase by Hazan Itaya (1872-1963) which (along with a work by Kozan Miyakawa (1842-1916)) was the first piece of modern ceramicware to win designation as an Important Cultural Property.



Besshi Copper Mine Memorial Museum

■Besshi Copper Mine Memorial Museum
3-13 Sumino-shinden-cho, Niihama City, Ehime 792-0844, Japan
Telephone: +81-897-41-2200

Opening hours: 9:00 – 16:00
Closed: Mondays, national holidays (excluding Sundays), end of December through early January
Admission: Free
URL: <http://www.sumitomo.gr.jp/english/history/related/index02.html>

After 282 years in operation, the Besshi Copper Mine was closed in 1973. The Besshi Copper Mine Memorial Museum, built by the Sumitomo Group, was opened in 1975 to preserve and display materials relating to the mine's long and eventful years in operation. Among all copper mines worldwide, Besshi was unique in having remained under the same corporate management continuously from 1691 until its closing, a circumstance that enables visitors today to view numerous items that would normally have been scattered or lost to posterity. The Memorial Museum is also famed for the near 10,000 azalea bushes planted atop its roof. In May each year, local residents flock to admire the dazzling spectacle of their flowers in full bloom.



Hirose History Museum

■Hirose History Museum
Location: 10-42, Uwabara 2-chome, Niihama City, Ehime 792-0046, Japan
Telephone: 0897-40-6333

Opening hours: 9:30-17:30 (admission until 17:00)
Mondays and the day after a national holiday (except Sundays). Also closed Dec. 29 through Jan. 3.
Admission: general ¥ 520; groups (20 or more) ¥ 420; elementary and junior high school students free. Discounts are available to the disabled, etc.
URL: <http://www.city.niihama.lg.jp/soshiki/hirose/>

The Hirose History Museum was created to preserve the legacy of Saihei Hirose (1828-1914), an extremely important figure in the history of the Besshi Copper Mine and the House of Sumitomo. During the tumultuous transition from the feudal Edo era into the modern period launched by the Meiji Restoration in the 19th century, Hirose saved the Besshi Copper Mine from requisitioning by the government and prevented its sale at a time when Sumitomo's finances were in disarray. With great foresight, Hirose made significant contributions both to the modernization of the mine's development and as well as to Japan's overall industrial development. The Hirose Memorial Museum traces Hirose's legacy starting from his upbringing in Niihama (Ehime Pref.) and describes his abundant contributions to Japan's industrial modernization. The museum includes Hirose's Japanese-style home dating from circa 1890, which was designated an Important Cultural Property of Japan in 2003.



Sumitomo Kakkien

■Sumitomo Kakkien
10-14 Tanabe-cho, Otsu City, Shiga 530-0852, Japan
Telephone: +81-77-537-1568

Opening hours: 10:00 – 16:00
Closed: Sundays, Mondays, national holidays, end of December through early January
Note: Normally open to Sumitomo Group employees, their families and accompanied visitors
URL: <http://www.sumitomokakkien.com/> (Japanese only)

Sumitomo Kakkien was built in 1904 as the private retreat of Teigo Iba (1847-1926), the second Director General who laid the foundations for Sumitomo's transformation into the modern era. After his death, his descendants donated the building and grounds to what was then the Sumitomo head company. From that time forward, Kakkien has been carefully maintained and managed by the Sumitomo Group as a property recognized for its cultural value. In 1997 Kakkien was converted into a memorial museum dedicated to Teigo Iba, and today Group employees come to Kakkien to learn about the noble and lofty spirit he espoused. In 2002 the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology designated Kakkien as an Important Cultural Property. Since then it is periodically opened to the general public.



The Sumitomo Foundation

The Sumitomo Foundation was established in 1991 to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the opening of the Besshi Copper Mine. Sumitomo Group companies served as its founding donors. In keeping with the legacy of Sumitomo's pioneers, the Foundation's purpose is to contribute to the development of an enriched society through the provision of grants to fund research and projects befitting the needs of the times and undertaken with the objective of solving or alleviating various problems affecting humanity. Every year grants worth a total of some JPY370 million are awarded in fields including: basic scientific research; environmental research; protection, preservation and restoration of cultural properties in Japan and overseas; and Japan-related research by Asian scholars.

■The Sumitomo Foundation
1-12-16 Shibadai, Minato-ku, Tokyo 105-0012, Japan
Telephone: +81-3-5473-0161
URL: <http://www.sumitomo.or.jp/e/index.htm>



"Procession of the Korean Ambassadors Scroll"
(Collection of the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London), restored under a grant extended in fiscal 2006

Sumitomo Historical Archives

The Sumitomo Historical Archives trace back to a project initially launched in 1887, when full-time researchers were allocated to Sumitomo's main residence in Osaka tasked with collecting old documents relating to the House of Sumitomo and its businesses, in order to compile a written history. After World War II, the project was carried on as a joint undertaking of the various companies in the Sumitomo Group. In 1987 the research venue was relocated to its present location in Kyoto and formally renamed the "Sumitomo Historical Archives." In their current form as a privately established institution, the archives actively continue the work of collecting, collating and preserving all materials relating to the House of Sumitomo and the business histories of the Sumitomo Group companies.

The Sumitomo Historical Archives today contain some 30,000 historical items from before the Meiji Restoration (1868) and approximately 60,000 items from the subsequent modern era. The most important documents are compiled and published in a vast compendium of Sumitomo's historical materials, while research results are made public in a number of regular publications that are provided to Group companies, universities, libraries, research institutes, etc. The materials included in the Archives collection are also made available to persons engaging in scholarly studies and research.

■Sumitomo Historical Archives
1-2, Shishigatani, Shimomiyama-cho, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto 606-8431, Japan
Telephone: 075-761-7503

Opening times: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:00-16:00 (reservations required)
URL: <http://www.shiryokan.jp/english/>



Sumitomo Hospital

Osaka Sumitomo Hospital was first opened in Konohana-ku, Osaka City, in 1921 with the purpose of providing high-grade medical examinations and treatment, not only for Sumitomo Group employees but also for the general public.

Subsequently, after a series of changes, in 2000 a new hospital called Sumitomo Hospital was constructed at its current location and it is serving as a general hospital eminently suited to the needs of the 21st century. With over 90 years of tradition as its basis, it is "contributing to society through reliable medical examinations and treatment"

The hospital's basic policy aims for (1) high-grade and high-quality medical treatment, (2) diagnostics that emphasize the patient's quality of life, (3) a pleasant environment, and (4) a sense of being a member of the international community. It has earned a high reputation as a hospital that offers health screening programs and specialized medical treatment.

■Sumitomo Hospital General Incorporated Foundation
5-3-20 Nakanoshima, Kita-ku, Osaka 530-0005, Japan
Telephone: 06-6443-1261
Health Screening Programs
Telephone: 06-6447-3013

General Reception: 8:30 to 11:30 AM, 12:30 to 15:00 PM
No outpatient reception: Saturdays, Sundays, Public Holidays and New Year Holiday (Dec. 30-Jan.4)
Emergency Reception 24/7
URL: <http://www.sumitomo-hp.or.jp/>



Bronze Bell of Hokoji Temple

At Hokoji, a temple of the Tendai sect located in the Higashiyama district of Kyoto, is a large bronze bell with an inscription that is said to have caused the downfall of the Toyotomi clan in the Winter Campaign of the Siege of Osaka in 1614-15. The inscription was interpreted by the current shogun, Tokugawa Ieyasu, as an insult, leading to a military campaign that decimated the Toyotomi opposition.

Hokoji, originally built by Toyotomi Hideyoshi, was destroyed in a major earthquake in 1596. It was reconstructed by Hideyoshi's son, Hideyori, in 1612, and two years later the great bronze bell (approx. 3.2 meters) with the allegedly offending inscription was cast using roughly 63 tons of copper. According to "Monjuin Shiigaki," written by Sumitomo Masatomo, the founding father of the House of Sumitomo, and other documents, the copper used in this famed bell – and in the temple's reconstructed main image, a Buddha of enormous scale (approx. 19 meters) – was provided by his brother-in-law, Soga Riemon (1572-1636), founder of the original Izumiya smelting business in Kyoto in 1590.

■Hokoji Temple
527-2 Chayamachi, Yamatojodori Shichijo-agaru, Higashiyama-ku,
Kyoto 605-0933, Japan



Statue of Kusunoki Masashige

In 1890, to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the opening of the Besshi Copper Mine, Tomotada Sumitomo, the 13th head of the Sumitomo Family, presented a statue of Kusunoki Masashige (1294-1336), a brilliant tactician and strategist samurai, to Emperor Meiji. Creation of the statue was commissioned to Tokyo Fine Arts School (forerunner of today's Tokyo University of the Arts) the previous year. Koun Takamura (1852-1934), a renowned sculptor, took charge of preparing a model in wood, and the image was cast using copper produced at Besshi. Because Japan lacked the technology to forge a statue of such large scale in those days, Sessei Okazaki (1854-1921), who was in charge of the casting work, went to the United States to study the latest casting methods. After going to great lengths, he finally succeeded in completing his task in 1900, eleven years after receiving his assignment.

■Statue of Kusunoki Masashige
Main Square, Tokyo Imperial Palace Outer Gardens, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo,
Japan



Osaka Prefectural Nakanoshima Library

The Osaka Prefectural Nakanoshima Library was donated to Osaka Prefecture by Tomoito Sumitomo (1864-1926), the 15th head of the Sumitomo Family, in 1904. While traveling overseas, Tomoito had been deeply impressed by the generosity displayed by wealthy citizens making donations for the public benefit, and in response to rising aspirations in Osaka for a public library, he donated the building as well as funds for purchasing books. In 1922, he made a further donation in the form of the addition of two wings. The library, an impressive three-story edifice in stone with a distinctive copper-roofed dome, was designed by Magoichi Noguchi (1869-1915) and Yutaka Hidaka (1875-1952), and today, a century after its construction, the original structure is still in use. When the visitor stands in the atmospherically charged entrance hall, he gets an immediate sense of the determination of Sumitomo predecessors to nurture culture in Osaka. In 1974 the library was designated a national Important Cultural Property.

■Osaka Prefectural Nakanoshima Library
1-2-10 Nakanoshima, Kita-ku, Osaka 530-0005, Japan
Telephone: +81-6-6203-0474

Opening hours: Mon-Fri: 9:00 – 20:00, Sat: 9:00 – 17:00
Closed: Sundays; second Thursday of March, June and October
URL: <http://www.library.pref.osaka.jp/site/nakato/english-nakato.html>



Osaka Municipal Museum of Art

■Osaka Municipal Museum of Art
1-82 Chausuyama-cho, Tennoji-ku, Osaka 543-0063, Japan
Telephone: +81-6-6771-4874

Opening hours: 9:30 – 17:00 (admission until 16:30)
Closed: Mondays (except national holidays; then closed Tuesday), December 28 through January 4 (Note: Some rooms may be closed for changes of exhibits, etc.)
URL: <http://www.osaka-art-museum.jp/wordpress/wp-content/themes/museum/src/pdf/lang/english.pdf>

In 1921 Tomoito Sumitomo, the 15th head of the Sumitomo Family, offered to donate the property of the Family's main house – approximately 6 hectares with the accompanying gardens – to the city of Osaka as a site for an art museum. Construction immediately got under way, but owing to a variety of factors – including a shortage of funds, the effects of the global depression and the impact wrought by the Muroto Typhoon (1934) – it was not until 1936 that the Osaka Municipal Museum of Art opened its doors. In 1944 Sumitomo donated 20 works by leading contemporary artists of the Kansai region such as Shoen Uemura, Chikkyo Ono and Keika Kanashima. Today the museum's collection has grown to some 8,000 works, and the museum is highly acclaimed as a venue dedicated to Japanese and Chinese art.



The Museum of Oriental Ceramics, Osaka

■The Museum of Oriental Ceramics, Osaka
1-1-26 Nakanoshima, Kita-ku, Osaka 530-0005, Japan
Telephone: +81-6-6223-0055

Opening hours: 9:30 – 17:00 (admission until 16:30)
Closed: Mondays (excluding national holidays, in which case closed on Tuesday), end of December through early January, during changes of exhibits, etc.
URL: <http://www.moco.or.jp/en/index.html>

In 1980 the Sumitomo Group donated the “Ataka Collection,” a vast trove of Oriental ceramics collected by Ataka & Co., to the city of Osaka. To house this world-class collection, which contains 965 articles including National Treasures and Important Cultural Properties, the Osaka Municipal Government constructed The Museum of Oriental Ceramics, Osaka. The museum opened in 1982 as one of the world's few museums dedicated exclusively to Oriental ceramics. In 1999, the museum's collection was significantly expanded through a donation by Dr. Rhee Byung-Chang, an economist and operator of a trading firm in Japan, of 351 ceramic pieces, primarily of Korean origin. Through these and other donations, today the museum boasts a collection of more than 2,500 items in total, making it a facility of international renown befitting its name.



Niihama Municipal Besshi Copper Mine Memorial Library

■Niihama Municipal Besshi Copper Mine Memorial Library
10-1 Kitashinmachi, Niihama, Ehime 792-0004, Japan
Telephone: +81-897-32-1911

Opening hours: Tuesday through Saturday 9:00 – 19:00; Sundays and holidays 9:00 – 17:00
Closed: Mondays, regular stack arrangement days (end of each month), end of December through early January, irregular stack arrangement periods
URL: <http://lib.city.niihama.lg.jp/archives/libraries/niihama/> (Japanese only)

The Niihama Municipal Besshi Copper Mine Memorial Library was donated by the Sumitomo Group (21 companies) to the city of Niihama in 1992 to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the opening of the Besshi Copper Mine celebrated in 1990. It is located on the site originally occupied by Senjutei, the Sumitomo visitors' pavilion erected in 1937. The library uses the pre-existing Japanese-style gardens and is housed in a building having two copper-roofed domes, with a central corridor separating the reading room and a multi-purpose hall. As an outstanding facility that contributes to the local community, the library has been selected among the 100 best examples of public architecture in the nation. Its expansive and beautiful gardens are a familiar strolling course for local citizens.



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