

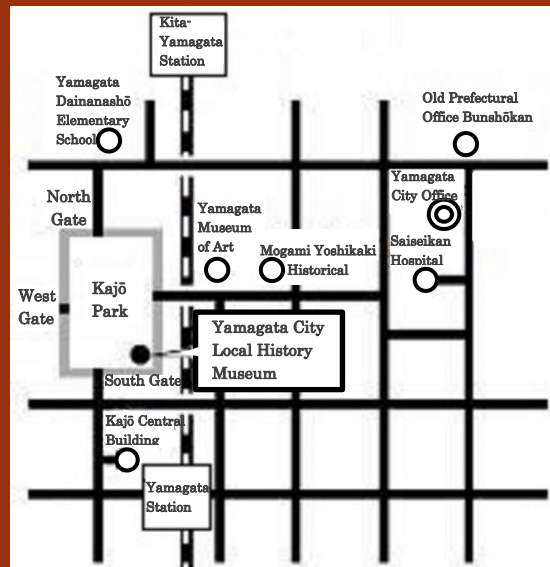
Information

Location: within Kajō Park (15 minute walk from Yamagata Station)

Opening hours: 9:00~16:30

Closed: December 29~January 3

Entrance fee: free



Yamagata City Local History Museum

Yamagata City Kajo-machi, 1-1
Tel 023-644-0253

Yamagata City Local
History Museum
**Old Saiseikan
Hospital Building**

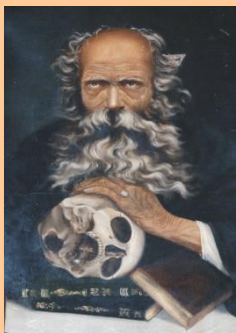


Nationally designated
important cultural property

The Three Treasures of the Museum



1. "Saiseikan" plaque (2F auditorium)
 "Saiseikan" means "building to save lives". It was named as such by Sanjō Sanetomi, representative of the Japanese government during the early Meiji Period. He made the writings now engraved in the wooden plaque displayed in the building.



2. Portrait of Hippocrates (1F lobby)
 This portrait of the great Greek physician Hippocrates is a work by Yamada Seishō, who was an art teacher at the University of Tokyo. A disciple of Takahashi Yūichi, he was a famous oil painter of the early Meiji Period.



3 "Kaitai Shinsho (New Text on Anatomy)" and "Compendium of Materia Medica" (1F lobby)
 The "Kaitai Shinsho", the first Western dissection manual translated in Japanese by mid Edo Period Dr. Sugita Genpaku and the, a commented translation of the Chinese herbology volume "Compedium of Materia Medica" are on display.



The old Saiseikan Hospital was built in *giyōfu* architecture style in 1878 on orders from the first governor of Yamagata prefecture, Mishima Michitsune.

Giyōfu architecture is one of the Japanese architectural styles of the early Meiji Period (1868~1912).

This Western-style architecture as mimicked by Japanese artisans is known for its blend of Western and Japanese designs.

It was first built in the center of the city but dismantled and relocated to Kajo Park in 1969.



Albrecht von Roretz

The Saiseikan hospital also included a medical school, where Austrian Dr. Roretz was invited to teach in 1880 by Mishima Michitsune. He worked there for 2 years, promoting western medicine in Yamagata.



Spiral staircase



View from second floor auditorium