



The Nanmon-cho 323 garden was built in the 1930s during the Japanese colonization. Its address back then was No. 323, District 6, Nanmen Town, Taipei City, Taipei Prefecture (台北市南門町六丁目三二三番地, *Taihoku-shu Taihoku-shi Nanmon-cho 6-Chome 323-banchi*), hence the name. The building had been used for different purposes through the decades but was neglected for a long time until recently. With the help of two well-known architects – Chung-Twn Kuo and Kenji Horigome — the Taipei Botanical Garden was able to restore this Japanese-style garden so its beauty could be appreciated by the general public.

## Open Hours

Tuesday-Sunday 9:00 am.– 16:30 pm.  
Closed on Mondays and Chinese New Year Holiday.

## Regulations

1. Please obey the entrance capacity.
2. No smoking, food and beverage.
3. Please do not enter the room and the Zen garden unless invited by interpreters.
4. Please do not throw rocks into the garden.

## Getting Here

Due to limited parking near the garden, visitors are advised to take public transportation systems.



### By Bus

- 1 Botanical Garden : Bus line 1, 242, 624, 907, BL28, or Heping Main Line
- 2 Sanyuan St. Entrance : Bus line 204, 630
- 3 Jianguo High School (Experimental Primary School) : Bus line 1, 204, 630
- 4 Jianguo High School (Nat'l Museum of History) : Bus line 1, 204, 630

### By Metro

 MRT- Xiaonanmen station, take exit 3.

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## ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES

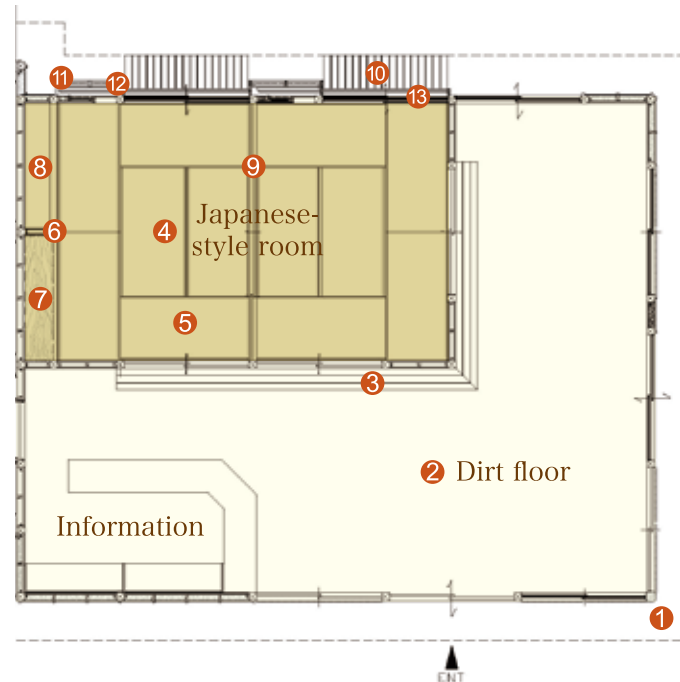
The architecture of the building is reminiscent of the old Japanese style, seen in other buildings that remain in Taiwan. There are two main rooms – the *zashiki* to receive guests and the *ima* used for family. Inside the *zashiki*, there is an alcove used to showcase valuable collections and family symbols. Next to the alcove, there is a section called *tokowaki*, which is used for storage and more showcase shelves. When more space is needed, the *fusuma*, or sliding doors between these two compartments, can be removed. The outer walls of the building were also constructed in Japanese fashion, using a special style rainproof board designed to shield against inclement weather.

The Karesansui garden, or Zen garden, was designed by Oguchi Motomi. Three features (*kare-san-sui*) are represented in the minimalistic design. All the components are stripped to the bare essentials (*kare*) so visitors can appreciate the natural beauty. Mountains (*san*) are represented by the rocks, while the raked gravel gives a sense of following water (*sui*). These key design elements are combined to create a peaceful place for quiet contemplation. This garden style has spiritual significance to the Japanese culture.

This garden is currently used as an exhibition hall but is also designed to be a tea garden for visitors.

NANMON-  
CHO 323

## ARCHITECTURAL FLOOR PLAN



1. 犬走り (いぬばしり) berm
2. 土間 (どま) dirt floor
3. 上り框 (あがりかまち) up stile
4. 和室 (わしつ) Japanese-style room
5. 畳 (たたみ) tatami
6. 床柱 (とこばしら) alcove post
7. 床の間 (とこのま) alcove
8. 床脇 (とこわき) section of a room next to the alcove
9. 襖 (ふすま) sliding door to create partition within the house
10. 濡れ縁 (ぬれえん) outdoor step/bench
11. 戸袋 (とぶくろ) a space to store the rain shade boards
12. 雨戸 (あまど) rain shade boards
13. 障子 (しょうじ) sliding doors between the hallway and the room, usually made with thin papers so more light can pass through

