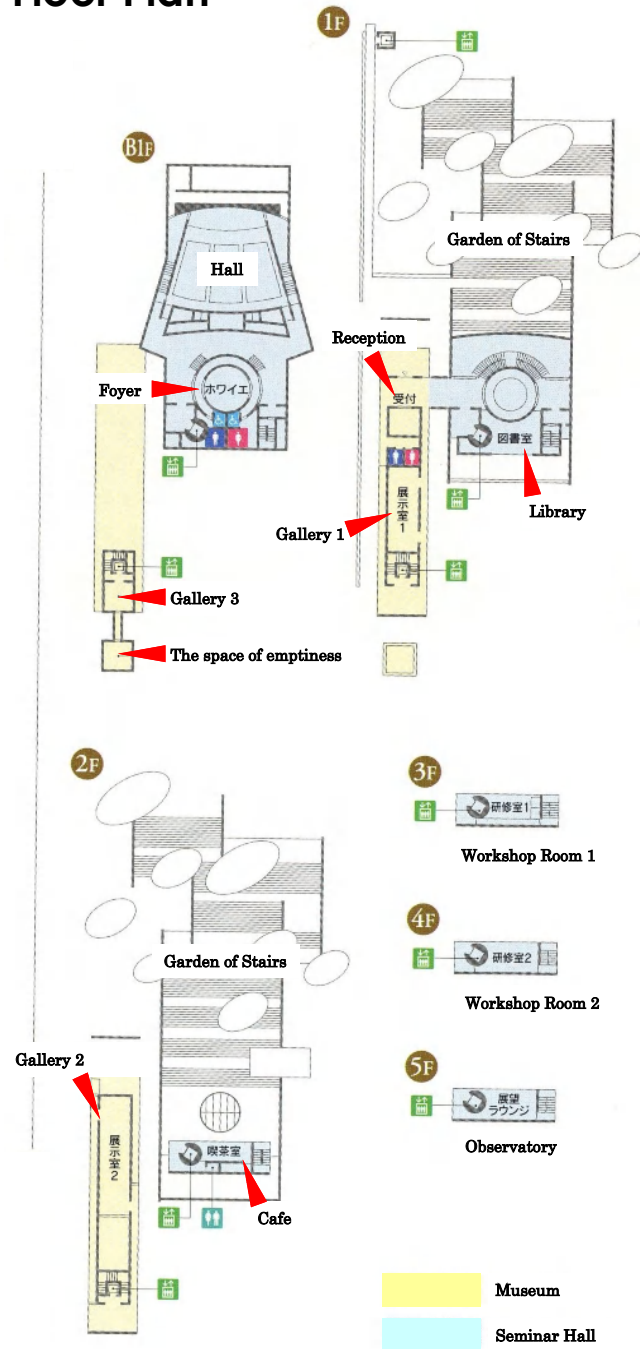


Floor Plan



Design: ANDO, Tadao



Spiritual Grove of Philosophy

While you enjoy a reflecting stroll, this grove of acacia surrounds you with plum and cherry blossoms among other species of trees. This is a forest where nature and mankind can interact in a relaxed manner.

Garden of Stairs

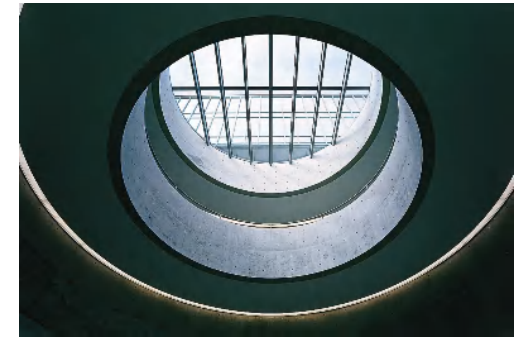
This set of stairs is built into hilly terrain. With each step, the wind gently strokes your face, and the view of the forest below and of the city in the distance soothes the hearts of the visitors.



Ishikawa NISHIDA KITARO Museum of Philosophy
 1 Uchihisumi-i, Kahoku, Ishikawa 929-1126
 TEL: (076) 283-6600

Access

- By vehicle:
 - 20 minutes from Hokuriku Expressway <Kanazawa Higashi I.C.> on Highway 159
 - 5 minutes from Noto Satoyama Kaido <Shiroo I.C.>
- By JR train:
 - 25 minutes to Unoke Station from Kanazawa Station on the Nanao Line
- By Plane:
 - 50 minutes from Komatsu airport to Kanazawa Station by bus and 25 minutes from Kanazawa Station to Unoke Station on the Nanao Line



The Beginning of Philosophy

See. Do. Think.



Kahoku city is the birthplace of world-renowned philosopher Nishida Kitaro, famous for his “*Study of Good*”. While the “Ishikawa NISHIDA KITARO Museum of Philosophy” not only introduces Professor Nishida’s accomplishments and articles of his work, here you can easily learn about philosophy and “experience reflective thinking” while having fun, as this is a “Spiritual Oasis”.



Professor Nishida's study



Space of Emptiness

Nishida Kitaro (1870-1945)

Philosopher. Born in the Prefecture of Ishikawa during the 3rd year of the Meiji Era (1870). He dropped out of the Fourth higher middle school (Shiko) under the old system of education, and then attended the Tokyo Imperial University's School of Philosophy as an auditing student. After teaching at Shiko and Gakushuin he taught Philosophy at the Kyoto Imperial University. In “*Study of Good*” (1911), Nishida established the standpoint of “pure experience” that is not classified as either subjective or objective. This was in contrast with Western modern philosophy that had always treated subject and body as well as mankind and nature as opponents. He deepened his original ideas, which disestablished such opposition, based on the keywords “Self-Awareness” and “Place”. This world-renowned system of thought is known as “Nishida Philosophy”. Intellectual followers of Nishida Philosophy gathered at Kyoto Imperial University from all over the country, and for a long period of time this was the directive stance in Japanese Philosophy and world of thought, known as the “Kyoto School”. In 1940, Nishida received the Order of Culture. In 1945, he passed away at the age of 75.

Museum

1st Floor Gallery 1 “Invitation to Philosophy”

By using easy-to-understand exhibits like rendering devices that symbolically express philosophical thought, computer graphics of several philosophers' dialogues, big screen images and illustrations, this is an introductory corner where you can grasp what philosophy is. Everyone from children through to adults can learn while having fun.

2nd Floor Gallery 2 “The World of Nishida Kitaro”

A heritage of Nishida's personal mementos, manuscripts and letters are exhibited according to theme. ‘Nishida as a philosopher’, ‘Nishida in his family’, ‘Nishida as a teacher’, ‘His friends’ etc. Various renditions allow, for example, to listen to Nishida's actual voice on tape, so you can learn to understand his path of thought and personality.

B1 Floor Gallery 3 “Calligraphic Works of Nishida Kitaro”

This exhibition corner displays the calligraphic works of Nishida, as he not only worked with philosophy but also composed poems and wrote calligraphy. Through these calligraphic writings, which are a distinctive element of Oriental culture and cannot be found in Western culture, we are able to refer to Professor Nishida's reflections and mentality.

B1 Floor The space of emptiness

On a rainy day, showers sprinkle in from the square-cut sky and on a snowy day, the snow piles up. Surrounded by towering walls on all four sides, and from the basement only open to the sky above; this is a place for reflection.

Seminar Hall

1st Floor Library

With a variety of over 9000 copies ranging from introductory to specialist level, the main focus of this library is books and research papers related to Nishida Kitaro and philosophy. This is a Philosophy library open to the public.

2nd Floor Cafe

3rd Floors Workshop Room 1 (Japanese style room)

4th Floors Workshop Room 2 (Conference room)

Both rooms are fully equipped with audio-visual media players and can be used for several purposes, for example for study groups, seminars and meetings. The room on the 4th floor is a conference room type, and the one on the 3rd floor is Japanese style. Both rooms can be split into two areas.

5th Floor Observatory

From this panoramic view you can see the white sand and green pine trees on the coast of the Sea of Japan, the magnificent Kahoku lagoon and the spiritual Hakusan mountain ranges off in the distance. The beautiful sunset along the Sea of Japan is a must see!

B1 Floor Foyer

This is a circular space, opening up to a glass window ceiling on an increasing circumference, similar to the shape of a bowl. This is a space where you can meditate while seeing the blue sky through a circular opening.

B1 Floor Hall (Seating capacity: 303)

In this hall the knowledge of the world is being discussed, for example during the annual “Summer Philosophy Seminar”. Apart from symposiums and lectures, it can be used for film showings, concerts and many other functions.



Gallery



Hall



Nishida's publication “Study of Good” and his reading glasses



Ishikawa NISHIDA KITARO Museum of Philosophy