Clock Tower

Completed in 1855, the tower is now a well-known symbol of Kyoto University, housing what was formerly the President's Office — currently the Guest Room — as well as a large auditorium. The building was renovated and renamed the Clock Tower Central Hall in December 2003, commemorating the university’s 100th anniversary. Located behind the Clock Tower is the Classroom No. 1 of the Faculty of Law and Economics — the largest classroom at the time, it was where students gathered during the Taisho Incident, as well as where negotiations took place for student demonstrations. The camphor tree standing today is a successor to the original tree which was badly damaged by the 1934 Manchuria Typhoon.

University Museum

Open in 2001, this is one of the largest university museums in Japan. It houses 2.6 million valuable specimens and other academic materials collected by the University during more than 100 years since its founding.

Bust of Hiragi Kinosita

Hiragi Kinosita (1951-1998) was appointed as the first President of Kyoto University after serving as headmaster of the former First High School (Gyosei High School) and also as director of Higher Education Bureau of the Ministry of Education. He contributed to establishing the basis of today’s Kyoto University.

Bust of Shizuno Shinjo

Shizuno Shinjo (1889-1940) was a former President of the University, specializing in medical chemistry. He served as President for 14 years (1917-1931), the longest tenure of a past President.

Bust of Yorozu Oda

Yorozu Oda (1864-1945), a professor at the Faculty of Law, specialized in administrative law. He was active outside Japan as well, serving as a judge at the International Court of Justice.

Kenichi Fukui Monument

A monument to commemorate Prof. Kenichi Fukui’s receipt of the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1981. Prof. Fukui was Japan’s first Nobel laureate in chemistry.

Former Disaster Prevention Research Institute of Office

Built in 1916 as the office of the Disaster Prevention Research Institute, the building currently serves as a house for international students. It was designed to match the former Main Building of the Petrochemistry Department.

Faculty of Engineering Department of Architecture Historic Bldg.

Completed in 1922, this was the university’s first reinforced concrete building, and was designed without a tiled roof. It is characterized by rusticated brickwork, and is considered as the most important building on campus.

Faculty of Law and Economics Main Building

The West Wing was the first to be completed in 1933, with additional wings built through to 1953. Unique design elements can be seen around the entrance.

Main Gate

Registered tangible property. The original gate, completed in 1893, was reconstructed with alternately laid bricks and stones in 1939.

Faculty of Integrated Human Studies Main Gate and Guard Station

Registered tangible property. Conceived in 1887 as the Third High School — or “Sanko” — it was formally established as “Kyoto University” when the Yoshida South Campus opened. The Sanko was known for its liberal academic stance, and it is remembered today for having produced many prominent scholars and Nobel laureates.

Former Main Building of Petrochemistry Course

The single-storied section of this 1889 building is the oldest piece of architecture at the university. It was originally built as a physics laboratory when the Third Higher School relocated to the current Yoshida Campus from Osaka. The building is also known as the "Nobel Prize House", as three laureates — Hiroshi Yukawa, Shintaro Tomonaga, and Kenichi Fukui —all conducted their research here.

Kyoto University

Established in the historical city of Kyoto in 1889, Kyoto University is the second oldest research university in Japan. Today, as a truly international institution with numerous overseas facilities, it is dedicated to providing a flexible, stimulating academic environment with a global perspective.

The campuses of Kyoto University offer a broad-minded and accommodating academic environment where researchers can engage in long-term studies and pursue new frontiers in diverse fields. The merit of the university’s approach is testified by the accolades conferred on our alumni and researchers, notably eight Nobel Peace laureates, two Fields Medalists and one Gauss Prize laureate. Such internationally recognized accomplishments owe a great deal to the university’s unique philosophy of education and research, which emphasizes free-thinking, independence, and dialogue as distinctive academic style which encourages the creativity essential for groundbreaking research and discovery. Another key factor is the university’s state-of-the-art laboratories and research facilities, which provide students and researchers with the hands-on practical experience that is vital to their development as scientists and scholars.

Kyoto University is committed to its mission to pursue harmonious coexistence within the human and ecological community on this planet. Through that ambitious ideal we hope to inspire students and researchers from around the world to not only become specialists in their chosen fields, but also help tackle the world’s most urgent problems and contribute to the global community.