Shōan-do 少庵堂
This small tea house was built in 1925 and is dedicated to the son-in-law of the famous tea master Sen no Rikyū. Sen no Shōan was the second generation in the Sen family tradition of Japanese tea ceremony. There is a wooden image of him enshrined here.

Along the winding path, you can see a low, flat stone which has a sacred straw rope tied around it. Its name is Yogo-seki (耀号石 - shadow-facing stone) and is the temple's guardian stone. Next to it is a small spring called the 'Clear waters of the morning sun'.

Shōnan-tei 湘南亭
A little further down the path, after turning to the left, another tea house comes into view.

The Shōnan-tei is said to have been built by Musō Soseki in 1339. It was repaired by Sen no Shōan (1546-1614), who also lived in it in his later years. Japan declared it one of its Important Cultural Properties. The moon viewing platform (月見台 - Tsukimi-dai) facing the garden is unique to this tea house. It is easy to imagine him enjoying the sight of a full moon on a clear summer night.

A square area directly above the pond indicates the place were once the Hōjō, the private quarters of the head priest, have stood. The island you can see from this point is the Island of the Morning sun. The Island of the Evening Sun is directly behind it.

Shōan-dō 少庵堂
Small Tea house

Yogo-seki 原号石
Shadow-facing Stone, the temple's guardian stone

Small gate and mud wall 土塀 Tsuki-kabe

Shōnan-tei 湘南亭

Moon viewing platform 月見台 Tsuki-mi-dai
Tanhoku-tei (漬北亭)
Going around another turn, the Tanhoku-tei comes into view. The ceramist Mashimizu, who had a great fondness for this garden, built this tea house in 1928.

Turtle Island
Kame-jima

Left: Tanhoku-tei
漬北亭

Right: Sanzon-iwagumi
三尊石組
Stone arrangement representing a Buddhist triad. A large rock is placed in the middle, two smaller rocks are placed to its left and right side.

If you like this,
visit us on our website:
www.japanesegardens.jp

like us on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/RealJapaneseGardens

follow us on Pinterest:
pinterest.com/realjapangarden/

© 2012 by Niwashyu