Tonogayato-Teien 殿ヶ谷戸庭園

The Tonogayato Teien is a relatively new landscape garden, built between 1914 and 1916 (Taisho period) at the edge of the 25 km long Kokubunji rift line, which is called "Hake" by the people of Musashino.

History

The manager of the early Mitsubishi Group and later Vice-President of the South Manchurian Railway, Eguchi Sadae, bought the land in Kokubunji and built his garden and residence there from 1913 to 1915.

The garden was designed by Sengoku Sōtarō (仙石社太郎), who also designed the Happōen garden and the garden of Takahashi Korekyo. At this time the garden was named Zuigien (隨宜園).

In 1929 Iwasaki Hikoyata, the grandson of Mitsubishi’s founder Iwasaki Yatarō, bought the land and remodeled the mansion and parts of the garden to what should become his second residence.

Tsuda Saku designed the two-storied Western mansion, which was built in 1934. It contained western and Japanese style rooms.

The architect was challenged with a compromise between East and West when he not only designed the new villa, but also the pond-forest strolling garden (回遊式林泉庭園) next to a spacey area of fields and finished the teahouse Köyōtei.