

History of the Museum

- 1916 Seinan Gakuin was established in Daimyō, Fukuoka-shi.
- 1918 Seinan Gakuin moved to Nishijin-machi, Sawara-gun (present-day Nishijin, Sawara-ku, Fukuoka-shi).
- 1920 Construction of Seinan Gakuin's old main building and auditorium began.
- 1921 Seinan Gakuin's old main building and auditorium completed.
- 2000 Seinan Gakuin received Fukuoka Urban Beautification Award.
- 2004 Seinan Gakuin's old main building and auditorium registered as Tangible Cultural Property of Fukuoka City.
- 2004 Repair of Seinan Gakuin's old main building and auditorium started.
- 2005 Repair of Seinan Gakuin's old main building and auditorium completed.
- 2006 Seinan Gakuin's old main building and auditorium renamed the Seinan Gakuin University Museum (Dozier Memorial Hall) and opened as a university museum.
- 2010 Seinan Gakuin University Museum registered as a museum-equivalent establishment.
- 2015 Seinan Gakuin's old main building and auditorium registered as Tangible Cultural Property of Fukuoka Prefecture.
- 2016 Permanent exhibition room reopened in celebration of the 10th anniversary of the Museum.

William Merrell Vories's Architecture

William Merrell Vories (1880–1964) came to Japan in 1905, at the age of 24, as a missionary. He also practiced social education based on Christianity, and drew plans for churches and mission schools throughout Japan. In 1920, he designed the main building of Seinan Gakuin. The main building of Seinan Gakuin is a three-story architectural piece with a total floor space of 980 square meters, width of 24 meters, and depth of 15 meters. Its outer circumference and inner wall are made of red brick with Dutch style bond. The external appearance of the building retains the Colonial Georgian style. The auditorium on the second floor showcases a facade decorated with a gently curved proscenium arch and lecture platform underneath. The gallery on the third story contains a wooden floor and thick, black, wooden octagonal colonnades and affords a broad view of the auditorium.

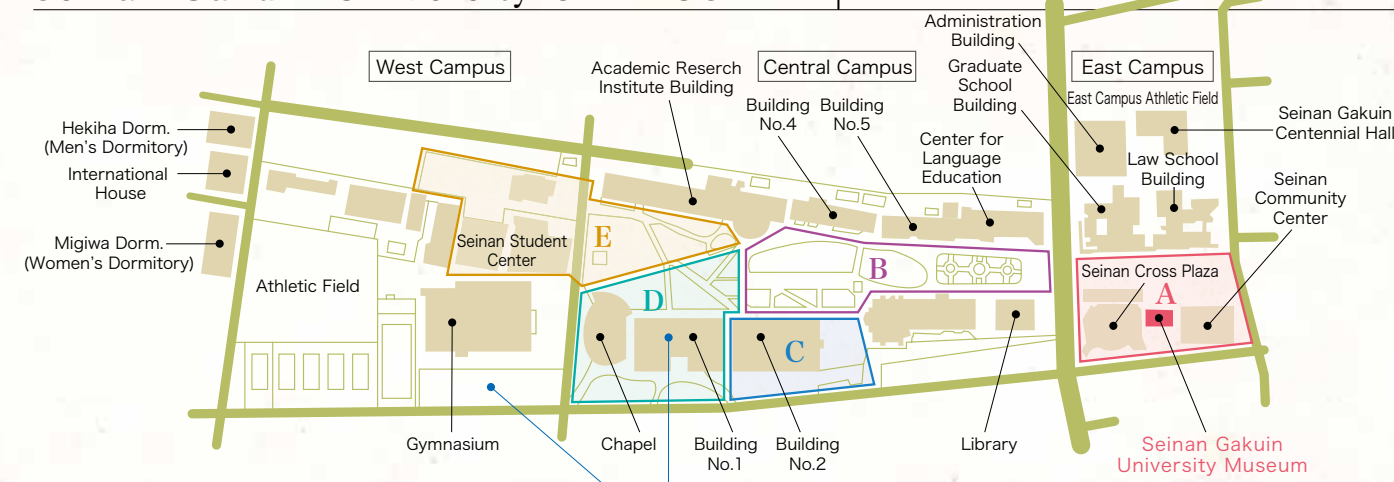


▲ Building at the time of the foundation



▲ William Merrell Vories

Seinan Gakuin University CAMPUS MAP



Remains of Defense Walls against Mongol Invasions (Genkō Bōru)

Remains of defense walls were discovered during the construction of new building number 1. They were constructed in the same manner as the defense walls found in Nishijin, which have been preserved on the south side of the university gymnasium. The newly found wall was 2.4 meters wide, sturdily reinforced with stones on its sides, and layered repeatedly with clay and sand. An earthen wall was also discovered about one meter south of the main wall, which was approximately 1.5 meters wide and 1.3 meters high. These remains indicate that the defense walls against Mongol invasions in this area were unique because they employed double-row construction of stone and earth. Due to their archeological significance, Seinan Gakuin has preserved the remains by relocating them, aiming to restore them to their original state.

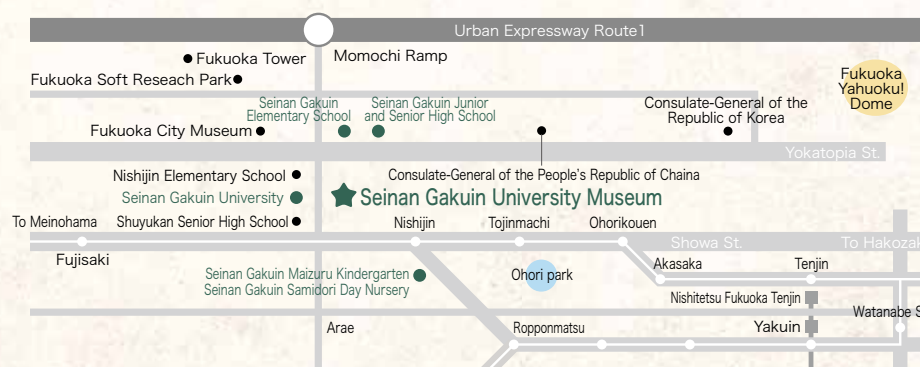


Biblical Botanical Garden (A·B·C·D·E)

Palestine, the land of the Bible, is as small as Shikoku Island but has notably diverse terrain, climate, and foliage. The variation of plants ranges from alpine flora in the northeastern mountainous region to desert flora in the southern dry region. The number of plant species is more than 2,800, of which 100 were depicted in the Bible. Our Biblical Botanical Garden cultivates 80 of these species. Please walk through campus and identify these biblical plants, which will afford a better understanding of the world of the Bible.



ACCESS MAP



SUBWAY	Fukuoka Airport → Nishijin Station	17minutes
	Hakata Station → Nishijin Station	12minutes
	Tenjin → Nishijin Station	8minutes
*A 5-minute walk from Nishijin Station (Exit 3)		
BUS	Hakata Station Bus Center → Shuyukan-mae bus stop	35minutes
	Tenjin → Shuyukan-mae bus stop	20minutes
	*A 5-minute walk from Shuyukan-mae bus stop	
TAXI	Fukuoka Airport (Urban Expressway/Momochi Ramp) → Seinan Gakuin University	25minutes
	Hakata Station (Urban Expressway/Momochi Ramp) → Seinan Gakuin University	20minutes
	Tenjin (Urban Expressway/Momochi Ramp) → Seinan Gakuin University	15minutes
Parking Lot	There is no parking at the museum. Please use the nearby toll parking.	

Open hours
Open Hours / 10:00a.m.-6:00p.m. (Entrance before 5:30p.m.)
Days Closed / Sundays *Aug. 10 - Aug. 16
 *Christmas Day (Dec 25)
 *Dec 28 - Jan. 5

Admission / Free

SEINAN GAKUIN UNIVERSITY MUSEUM
 3-13-1 Nishijin, Sawara-ku, Fukuoka 814-8511
 TEL.092-823-4785 Fax.092-823-4786

URL www.seinan-gu.ac.jp/museum/



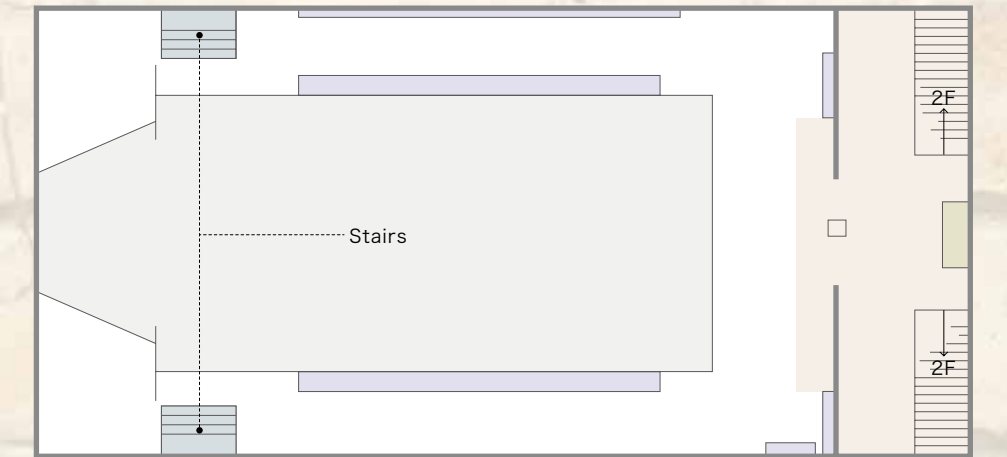
Seinan Gakuin University Museum



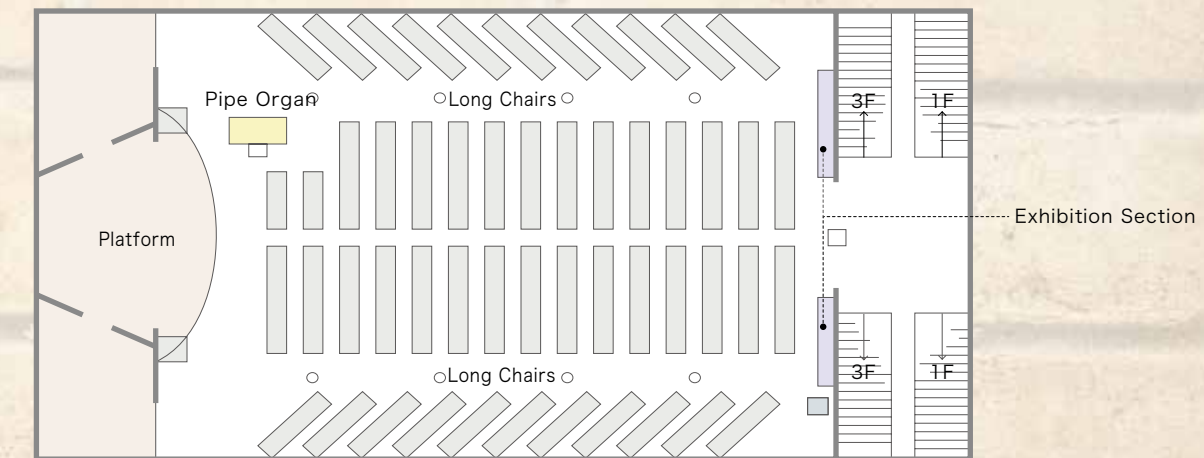
Welcome to the University Museum!

Seinan Gakuin University is a Christian university. Since Christianity's origin in Palestine, the trajectory of the religion has witnessed many diverse events around the world. This museum provides various exhibitions and workshops on Christianity and Christian culture and aims to show visitors a part of Christianity's history.

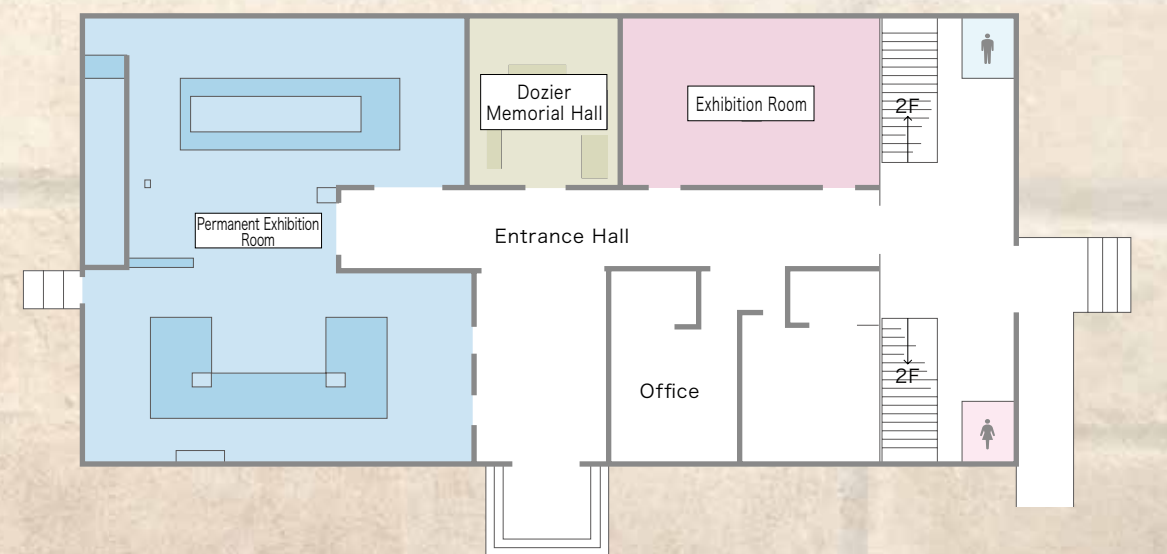
3rd Floor Gallery



2nd Floor Auditorium



1st Floor Exhibition Room



I Genealogy of the Bible and the Development of Christianity

Judaism as the Womb of Christianity

01 In the 1st century, Christianity evolved from a reformation movement among Jews led by Jesus, who was a Jew and a Jew. Christians and Jews shared the Holy Bible. If you want to learn more about the Holy Bible, Judaism liturgies offer good information. This section introduces the various ritual objects of Judaism.



◀ Dish and Cup of Passover Festival
◀ Menorah

Collection of Prof. Sadao Sekiya

02 Sekiya Sadao (1925-2017) is a professor emeritus at Seinan Gakuin University, who specializes in Biblical archeology. Professor Sekiya has collected ritual materials of Judaism around Israel for many years and donated his collection to the Seinan Gakuin University Museum in 2014. The collection consists of about 400 items.



◀ Ancient Lamp
◀ Ancient Jewish Lamp

Manuscripts of the Bible

03 The Bible was transcribed onto parchment or papyrus scrolls, which were passed down to next generations. Christians began transcribing the Bible into book form in the 2nd century BC, which offered the advantages of portability and economic efficiency. In the 15th century, many people came to possess their own bibles, thanks to new typographical printing technology. In addition, people began decorating bibles with elegant ornamentation during this time.



▲ Gutenberg Bible (Copy)
▲ Torah

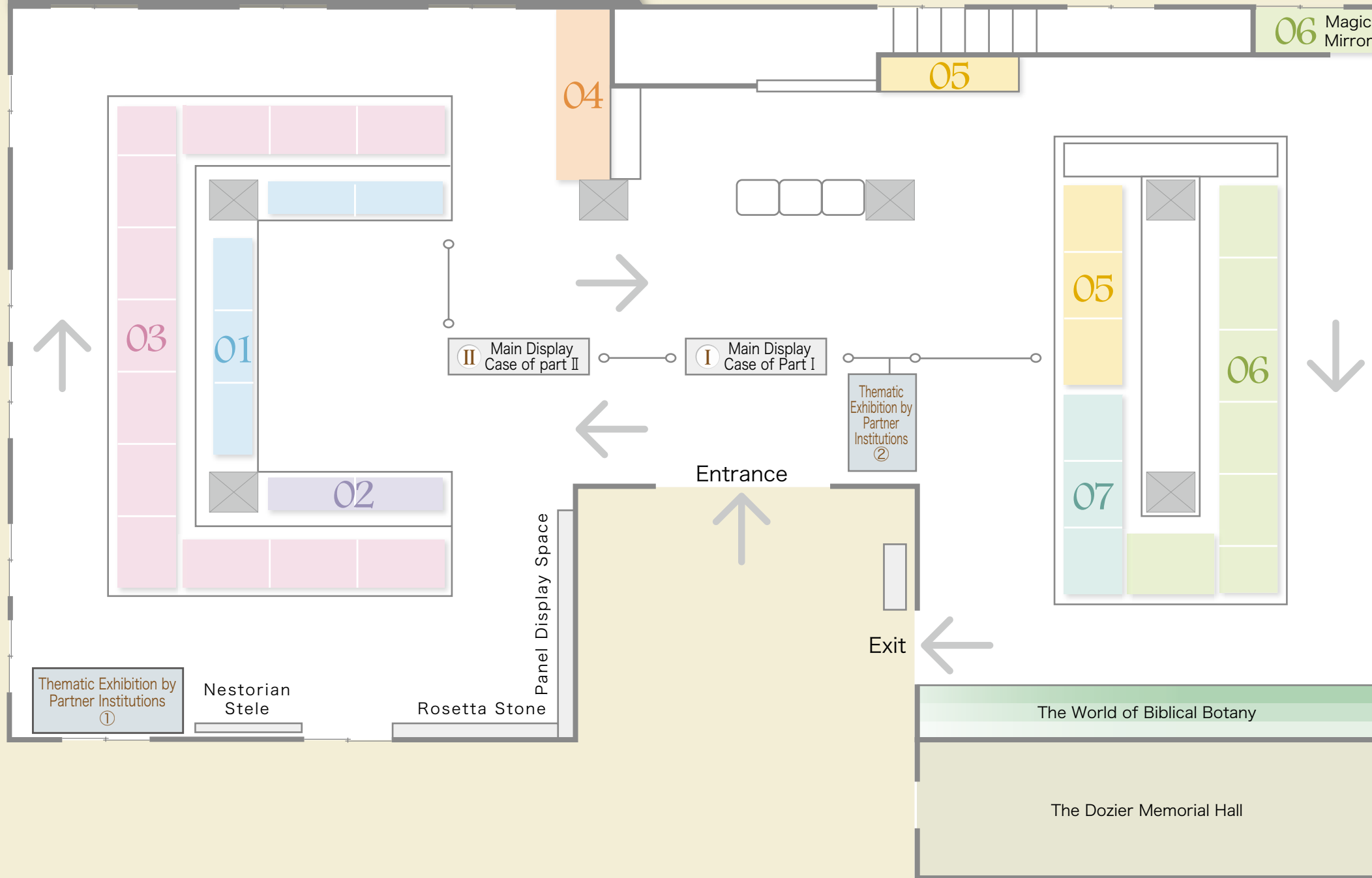
The Birth and Diffusion of Christianity

04 After the death of Jesus, his apostles inherited his reformation movement, and his ideas spread beyond Judaism. He became known as "Christ," a title for the savior, and Christianity was founded. In the early history of Christianity, the Roman Empire persecuted Christians. In the 4th century, however, Christianity came to spread throughout the world, and this dissemination resulted in production of holy icons worldwide.



▲ Icon "Christ Pantocrator"
◀ Statue of St. Francis Xavier

Permanent Exhibition Room Map



聖書植物の世界 the World of Biblical Plants

This exhibition of "The World of Biblical Botany" displays specimens of the Biblical Botanical Garden on campus. Information about the purpose, map, and descriptions of the garden can be seen in the permanent exhibition and biblical information in the periodical exhibitions. We occasionally vary the displays to offer visitors opportunities for prime viewing of certain flowers and plants.

◀ Rose of Anne Frank

The Dozier Memorial Hall

The Dozier Memorial Hall displays possessions of C.K. Dozier (1879-1933), a founder of Seinan Gakuin, such as his desk, personal bibles, and diary. Dozier was born in Georgia, U.S., and came to Japan in 1906 as a foreign missionary of the Southern Baptist Convention. Seinan Gakuin was founded in 1916, as the first boys' private middle school in Fukuoka City. Seinan Gakuin established a high school in 1921. It was later reorganized as a middle school, high school, and university in 1949 under the new Japanese educational system. Seinan Gakuin and its affiliations stand by the spirit of Dozier's last words, "Seinan, Be True to Christ."



▲ Founder of Seinan Gakuin "C. K. Dozier and his wife Maude"



◀ Desk of Dozier

II The History of Christianity in Japan

The Beginning of the History of Christianity in Japan



◀ Map of Asia

05 Jesuit Francis Xavier began his missionary work in India and Asia. When he visited Malacca, Xavier met a Japanese man called Yajirō, who prompted him to preach in Japan. He arrived in Kagoshima in 1549 and gained support from prominent domain lords. Christianity rapidly spread through the nation, while Western materials and knowledge promoted new cultures in Japan.



◀ Statue of Mary Kannon



Arnoldus Montanus Atlas Japannensis

The Ban on Christianity

06 After Toyotomi Hideyoshi issued the baten tshihō rei law (literally, "the purge of priests") in 1587, the Japanese government began restricting Christianity. During the Edo period, the government continued to take anti-Christian measures, attempting to convert Japanese Christians through severe oppression. Reports of persecution came not only from Japan but also from Western countries. In 1637, Japanese Christians staged an uprising (the Shimabara-Amakusa Rebellion) in response to the anti-Christian policies of the government.



◀ Back side

Magic Mirror

This mirror seems normal, but it has something magical about it. When you reflect bright light onto the mirror, a hidden pattern image will appear on the wall: the Crucifixion and Saint Mary on her knees. This mirror was designed during the period of anti-Christianity, during which believers were prohibited from possessing Christian items. This mirror represents an act of faith as well as the excellence of magic mirror art in this period.

Opening of the Country and the End of the Ban on Christianity



▲ Treaty of Amity and Commerce between Japan and the United States



▲ Proclamation Banning Christianity

07 After the Ansei Five-Power Treaties in 1858, the Japanese government implemented new diplomatic policies, such as the opening of the ports and the admission of missionary work into foreign settlements. The government, however, still held anti-Christian policies and oppressed Japanese Christians. In 1873, it finally rescinded its anti-Christian edicts.