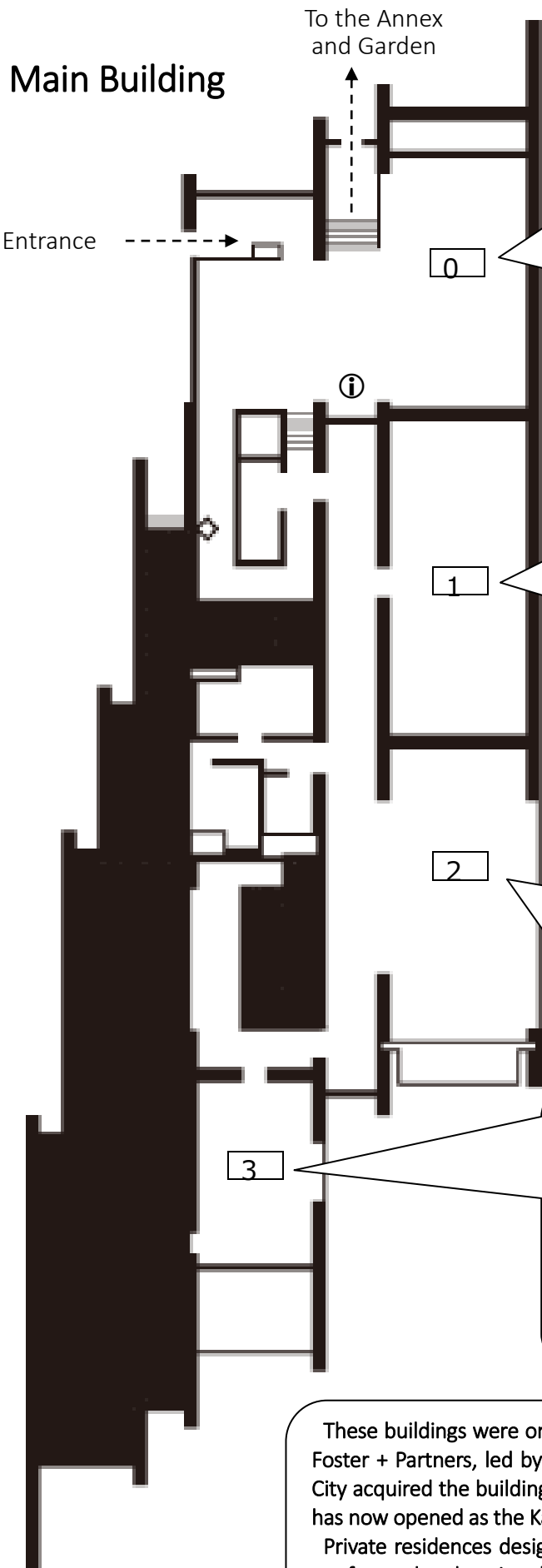


# Museum Map and Information



## 0. Entrance Hall

This entrance used to be a garage. Photos of Yabusame (horseback archery), Kamakurabori carving, Masamune sword and replica O-yoroi (samurai large armor) are displayed.

You can see the technique and craftsmanship that have been passed down continuously.

This area links the past to the present and sets the stage to further explore the history in the next rooms.

## 1. Overview of History Room

This room used to be two guest rooms, combined into one, which gives you an overview of historical Kamakura.

Historical remnants are on display using artifacts from the past with explanatory photo panels.

Here we highlight 10 important facts of Kamakura from ancient times to the current era.

## 2. The Middle Ages Room

This room was used as a living room, which introduces the aspects of Kamakura in the Middle ages, known for home of the samurai and flourishing of new Buddhism.

One wall is adorned with a large window which provides a lovely view. Therefore, due to the sun's rays, exhibits are largely limited to excavated artifacts like ceramics and stone pagodas. (These are much less susceptible to the influence of ultraviolet light.)

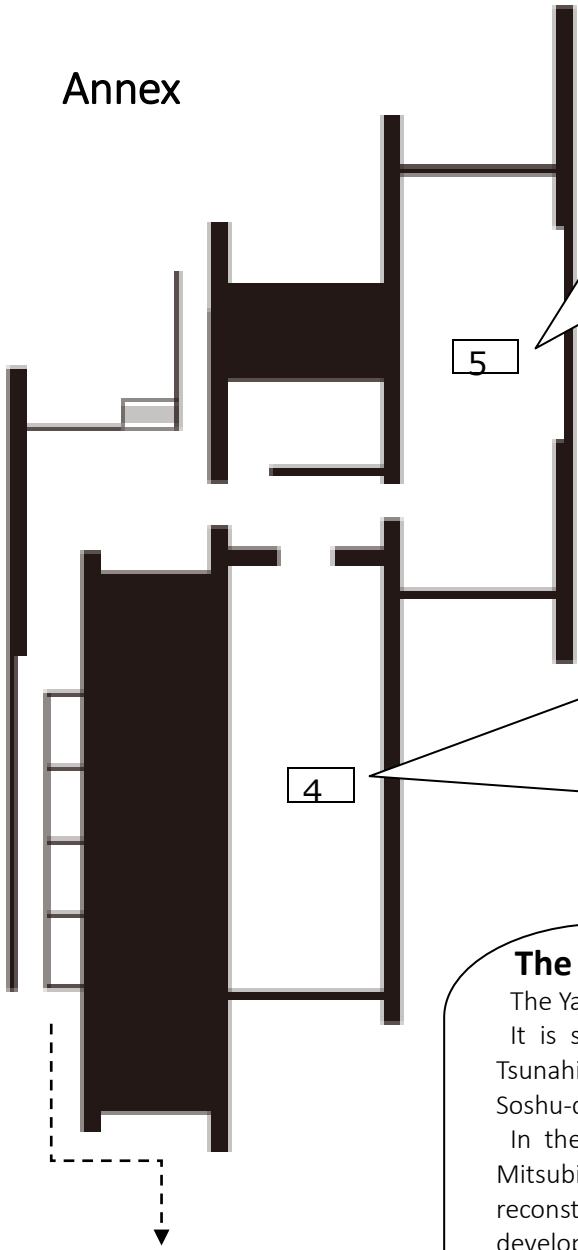
## 3. The Early Modern to Contemporary Room

This room was used as a bed room with the windows on two sides. The explanatory photo panels along with some items introduce some looks of Kamakura from the Early Modern times to Contemporary, establishing Kamakura as a notable place of pilgrimage and tourist resort. Also, the panels show the course of the citizens' efforts to live harmoniously with their historical heritage in the contemporary period.

These buildings were originally designed as Kamakura House (2004), a private residence by Foster + Partners, led by the renowned British architect Norman Foster. In 2013, Kamakura City acquired the buildings and the land, and remodeled them as an exhibition venue, which has now opened as the Kamakura Museum of History and Culture in May 2017.

Private residences designed by Norman Foster are very rare. Therefore, these renovations are focused on keeping the appearance of the buildings, not disturbing its inherent aesthetic as much as possible (except for air conditioning and barrier-free access)

Annex



To the Main Building and Exit

### 5. Multipurpose Room

This is a former conference room, now mainly used as a lounge or a multipurpose room for workshops and lectures .

The arched 3-hole cave outside was made in the period of the Iwasaki family ownership. Other caves on the left and also in front of the annex entrance were *yagura*, built back in the medieval days as cave graves. Similar *yagura* caves are seen in various places in Kamakura.

Hope you would enjoy our garden with a vestige of Kamakura’s medieval scenery.

### 4. Archaeology Room

Even today many remains are still buried in Kamakura, and archeological investigation has been continuously underway.

The life of the medieval Kamakura people and how they lived are shown here through artifacts from the excavation. You could touch some of them in the hands-on section of the room.

Wooden products and lacquerware are exhibited here, a room formerly used as a gallery, due to no sunlight from outside.

### The land through history

The Yato valley where these buildings stand, was once called Muryojigayatsu. It is said that in the Edo Period (1603-1867), there was a residence of Tsunahiro, the descendent of Masamune, the swordsmith master of the Soshu-den sword crafting school.

In the Taisho Era (1912-1926), Koyata Iwasaki, the fourth family head of Mitsubishi Zaibatsu(financial clique) had a villa here for his mother. He reconstructed an old Inari shrine venerated here as “Aizuchi Inari Shrine”, and developed Sando approach, built Torii gateway, stone statues of divine fox and shrine itself.

In the year 2000, the Century Cultural Foundation acquired the land and restored much decayed Inari Shrine. On the occasion of their donation of the premises to Kamakura City, the shrine, the stone statues and the Torii were transferred to nearby Kuzuharaoka Jinja Shrine. The site of the shrine on the hill is now used as a viewing platform (closed on rainy days)

Stamp

