

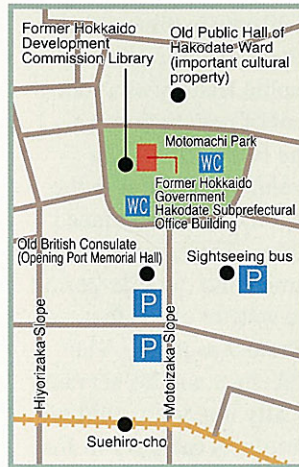
Photography-related places

- Hakodate City Museum of Photographic History – in Motomachi Park
- a Old Public Hall of Hakodate Ward – north of Motomachi Park
Reproduction of Kobayashi Photo Studio
- b Kobayashi Photo Studio – south of the Chinese Memorial Hall
Oldest existing photo studio in Hokkaido
- C Hokkaido's Cradle of Photography Monument – in Toyokawa Koji (greenbelt)
- d Place where Commodore Perry interviewed – south of Sugatamizaka Slope
- e Tomb of Matsusaburo Yokoyama – in the cemetery of Koryuji Temple
- f First Russian Consulate site – on the premises of the Russian Orthodox Church
A place where photography has been handed down
- g Photo studio site of Kokichi Kizu – north of Sugatamizaka Slope
- h Photo studio site of Kenzo Tamoto – on Hachimanzaka-dori Street
- i Former Jitsugyoji Temple site – on the premises of Yayoi Elementary School
A place where photos of three Samurai of the Matsumae clan were taken
- j Hakodate City Museum – in Hakodate Park
Display of materials about Cabinet Minister Kanzo Ishizuka
- k Tomb of Kenzo Tamoto – in the Sumiyoshi-cho Public Cemetery



Hokkaido Government-designated tangible cultural property

Former Hokkaido Government Hakodate Subprefectural Office Building

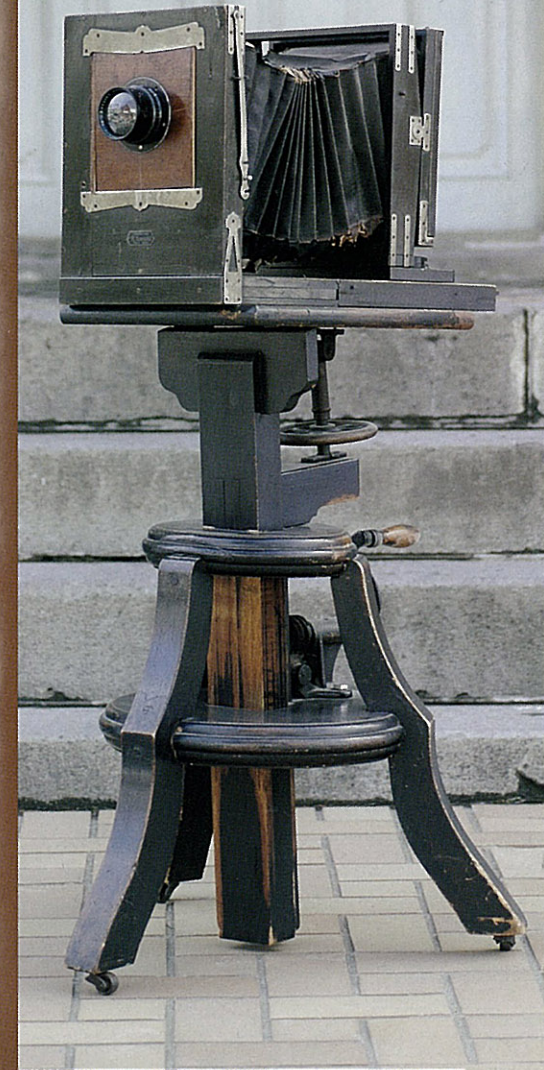


- Opening hours
Apr. – Oct.: 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Nov. – Mar.: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Closed on Dec. 31 – Jan. 1
- Admission fees: Adults: 200 yen
School students: 100 yen
(20% discount for groups of 15 people or more)

Hakodate City Museum of Photographic History

12-18, Motomachi, Hakodate, Hokkaido 040-0054 Japan
Tel: 0138-27-3333
(in the Motomachi Tourist Information Center)
Fax: 0138-27-3343

A Western-style structure completed in 1909. Featuring dormer windows and Corinthian columns with capital ornaments, this is a fine example of Western-style architecture. The building is highly valued as an important structure in the history of Hokkaido's development, and was designated as a tangible cultural property by the Hokkaido Government in 1985. The building houses the Motomachi Tourist Information Center on the first floor and the Hakodate City Museum of Photographic History on the second floor.



函館市写真歴史館



● Indoor camera obscura for photo studios ● Field camera obscura for a *yotsugiri* format

As one of the first Japanese cities to open its ports to the world, Hakodate had early contact with a range of Western cultures, and adopted and developed them into its own culture. Photography was one of the areas adopted, and Hakodate has been greatly involved in the development of Japanese photography along with Yokohama and Nagasaki, which also opened their ports to Western countries. The Hakodate City Museum of Photographic History conveys the development of Hakodate's photographic culture that was brought about by the opening of the port.

Oldest photo in Japan

Photographer Eliphalet Brown Jr. accompanied Commodore Perry's expedition to Japan in 1854, where he took photos of Japanese landscapes and the three Samurai of the Matsumae clan who welcomed Perry. Brown later gave the Samurai the images, one of which is now Japan's oldest existing photo. It is a daguerreotype of Kanzo Ishizuka and his servants, and a copy is exhibited at the Hakodate City Museum of Photographic History as a relic to mark the important event of negotiations to open ports at the end of the Edo period. The photo is one of the most valuable artifacts in the history of international negotiations, and indeed in the history of photography. The museum also exhibits the sword and kamishimo (an Edo-period ceremonial costume of the warrior class) that Ishizuka wore when the photo was taken. The daguerreotype of Kanzo Ishizuka and his servants was designated as a nationally important cultural property in the historical artifacts category in June 2006.

● Oldest photo in Japan
Kanzo Ishizuka and
his servants



● Lenses for taking photos of
people and aperture inserts

Development of commercial photography

In the wake of the Perry Fleet's visit, photography developed rapidly with the opening of Hakodate Port in 1855, which marked the beginning of Japan's modern age. Many consulates were established in Hakodate, and Goshkevich, the first Russian consul, brought a range of photographic techniques to Japan with him. In 1864, ten years after the first photo was taken in Japan, Kokichi Kizu of Hakodate became Hokkaido's first commercial photographer. Hakodate has also produced many other successful photographers such as Kenzo Tamoto, who learned photographic techniques with Kizu and took photos of Hokkaido's early development, and Matsusaburo Yokoyama, who was based in Tokyo. The Hakodate City Museum of Photographic History exhibits valuable materials showing various events in Hakodate that now represent the forefront of Japanese photographic history.

● Stereograph viewer created
by Matsusaburo Yokoyama

(owned by the Hakodate City Museum)

