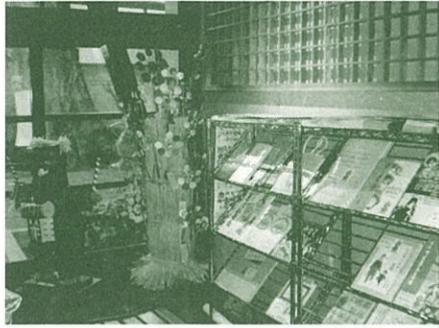


Zoshigaya Annaidokoro



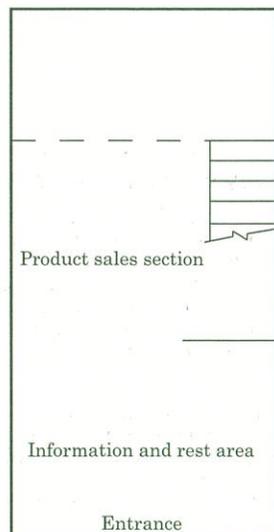
Folk toys and documents related to Zoshigaya on display on the first floor



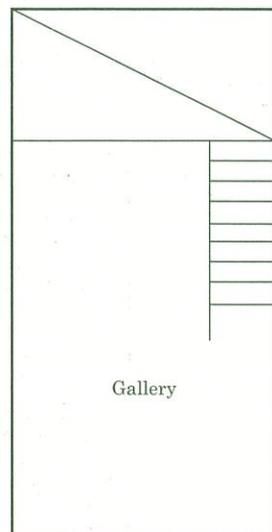
The gallery on the second floor

Facility Information

- Location: 3-19-5 Zoshigaya, Toshima-ku
- Facility name: Zoshigaya Annaidokoro
- Structure: Two-story wooden construction
- Facility area:
 - 1F, 25.9 m² 3.6 m × 7.2 m
 - 2F, 25.9 m² 3.6 m × 7.2 m (balcony not included)



1F



2F



The Namiki House Annex—where Zoshigaya Annaidokoro is located—and the Japanese zelkova-lined Kishimojin visiting path



A View of Zoshigaya, from the Edo komei kaitei zukushi series (Famous Restaurants of Edo collection); Utagawa Hiroshige; held by the Toshima Historical Museum

Days and Hours of Operation

- Closed: Thursdays (open if Thursday is a national holiday), year-end holidays
- Note: Scheduled to be open for the New Year's holidays
- Hours: 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

What Kind of Place Is Info Spot?

- Giving details about recommended spots in Zoshigaya
- Offering information about community events and shopping districts
- Display and sale of folk toys, original Zoshigaya goods and more
- Displays works of art related to Zoshigaya in the second-floor gallery

Info Spot puts on events to inform both local residents and visitors about the various attractions and attractive qualities of Zoshigaya.

Zoshigaya Info Place

3-19-5 Zoshigaya, Toshima-ku 171-0032
 Closest station: Exit 1 of Zoshigaya Station on the Fukutoshin Subway Line or Kishibojinmae Station on the Toden Arakawa Line (Tokyo Sakura Tram)
 Tel/Fax: 03-6912-5026
 E-mail: zoushigaya-a@citrus.ocn.ne.jp
 Website: <http://www.toshima-mirai.jp/zoshigaya/>

Managed by: Toshima-Mirai Cultural Foundation
 (Website: <http://www.toshima-mirai.jp/>)

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Toshima City Zoshigaya
Information Place

Zoshigaya Annaidokoro



Zoshigaya Guide Map

Oeshiki

Oeshiki originated as a memorial service for Nichiren, the founder of Nichiren Buddhism. The Kishimojin Oeshiki—held annually at Kishimojin between October 16 and 18—has been an annual event since the Edo Period, and many people join the memorial parade each year. The view of many lanterns resembling weeping cherry blossom trees led by a tall lantern with the words “威光山 (Ikozan)” written on it is an autumn tradition in the Zoshigaya area.



Toshima Historical Museum
IKE-Biz 7F



Jiyu Gakuen Myonichikan

Kishimojin-do (important cultural property)

In 1561, a retainer of Yagishita Wakasanokami dug up a statue of Kishimojin in Seido (present-day Mejirodai in Bunkyo City), and enshrined it in Toyobo Temple after purifying it at a well. In 1578, nearby residents built a hall on this land, which was called the Inari Forest. This is said to be the origin of Zoshigaya Kishimojin.

Within the temple grounds is a large ginkgo tree standing over thirty meters tall that is around seven hundred years old. Called the “Childrearing Ginkgo,” it has been designated as a natural treasure by the Metropolitan Government.

Kishimojin is widely revered as a goddess of safe pregnancy and childrearing, and has a deep history.

Folk Toy of Zoshigaya: Susuki-mimizuku (Silver Grass Horned Owls)

These are horned owl dolls made from *susuki*-grass. It reportedly originated from an omen sent to a woman who prayed to Kishimojin (also known as Hariti) everyday for her sick mother. The daughter obeyed the omen and created these horned owl dolls. She was able to sell enough of them to buy medicine for her mother, and the dolls became known as good luck charms for businesses.



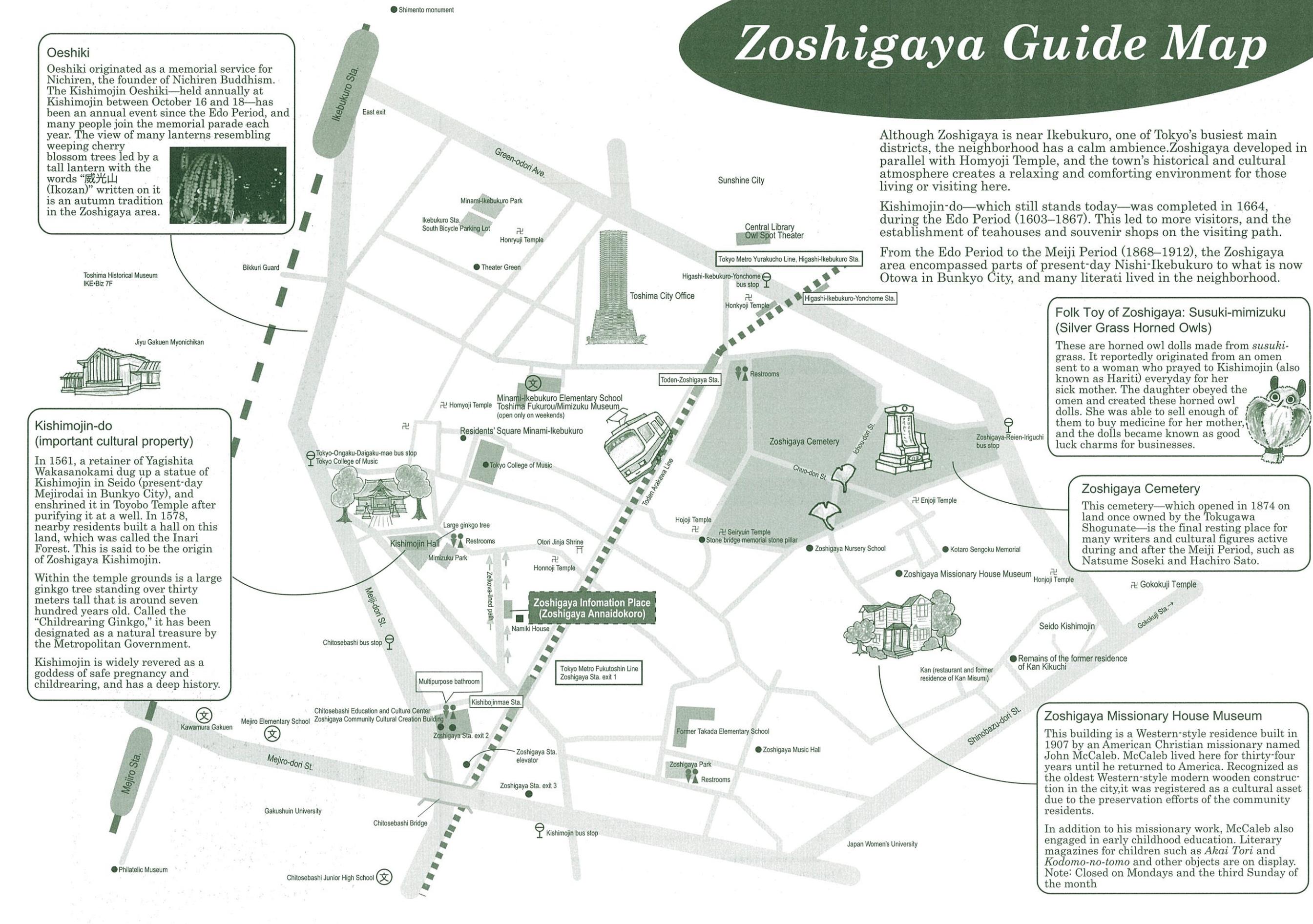
Zoshigaya Cemetery

This cemetery—which opened in 1874 on land once owned by the Tokugawa Shogunate—is the final resting place for many writers and cultural figures active during and after the Meiji Period, such as Natsume Soseki and Hachiro Sato.

Zoshigaya Missionary House Museum

This building is a Western-style residence built in 1907 by an American Christian missionary named John McCaleb. McCaleb lived here for thirty-four years until he returned to America. Recognized as the oldest Western-style modern wooden construction in the city, it was registered as a cultural asset due to the preservation efforts of the community residents.

In addition to his missionary work, McCaleb also engaged in early childhood education. Literary magazines for children such as *Akai Tori* and *Kodomo-no-tomo* and other objects are on display. Note: Closed on Mondays and the third Sunday of the month



Although Zoshigaya is near Ikebukuro, one of Tokyo's busiest main districts, the neighborhood has a calm ambience. Zoshigaya developed in parallel with Homyoji Temple, and the town's historical and cultural atmosphere creates a relaxing and comforting environment for those living or visiting here.

Kishimojin-do—which still stands today—was completed in 1664, during the Edo Period (1603–1867). This led to more visitors, and the establishment of teahouses and souvenir shops on the visiting path.

From the Edo Period to the Meiji Period (1868–1912), the Zoshigaya area encompassed parts of present-day Nishi-Ikebukuro to what is now Otowa in Bunkyo City, and many literati lived in the neighborhood.

Zoshigaya Information Place
(Zoshigaya Annaidokoro)