



# Introduction to Sankeien Garden

Among Japan's important and beautiful landscape gardens, Sankeien in Yokohama is one of the youngest. Construction works began in 1902 and it was opened to the public in 1906. The founder of the garden, Hara Sankei, has collected numerous buildings from all over Japan.

Hara Sankei made a fortune through the raw silk trade. Like many other successful businessmen of this time, he invested his capital in a landscape garden, collected art, and supported artists as a patron.

The Sankeien garden has several ponds and streams. It is separated into the outer garden and the inner garden. The outer garden is a typical pond-strolling garden while the inner garden is more of a watching garden with several buildings surrounding a pond.

① Hara Sankei or Hara Tomitarō (原 富太郎)  
Born in 1868 in Gifu Prefecture as Aoki Tomitarō.  
He married into the Hara family and got adopted.  
Hara Tomitaro was commonly known as Hara Sankei. He died in 1939.

After his death, the Sankeien Hoshokai Public Interest Incorporated Foundation started to take care of the estate.