

窪田庭園



The Kubota Garden Foundation (KGF) is a non-profit 501(c3) organization formed in 1989 to continue a partnership with the City and assure the preservation of the entire 20-acre garden as envisioned by the Kubota family. With the support of staff,

KGF volunteers implement many programs and projects: conduct tours, greet visitors, help with garden maintenance, and organize publicity and capital projects to build special garden features such as the Terrace Overlook. Working with partner organizations, volunteers implement free cultural and educational events.

Please consider supporting the garden with a donation.

A donation box is located next to the kiosk. You may mail a donation to KGF or donate online. Donations provide you with a Foundation membership for 1 year. Membership benefits include seasonal newsletters, plant sale discounts, special events, and the annual members' meeting.

KUBOTA GARDEN FOUNDATION

www.kubotagarden.org
10915 51st Ave S | Seattle, WA 98178-2160
info@kubotagarden.org or 206.725.5060

TOURS

Public Tours are held year-round on the fourth Saturday of the month at 10AM. No reservation required just meet the volunteer tour guide at the entry plaza.

If you would like a private guided tour of the Garden for a party of 8 or more, email tours@kubotagarden.org for the online tour request form or leave a voicemail at (206) 725-5060. Please allow at least three weeks prior to the date you want to schedule your tour to request a tour guide. There is no charge; however, donations are readily accepted.

VOLUNTEERING

Kubota Garden Foundation offers many different opportunities for volunteers both at the Garden and remote support work. Regardless of your area of interest, or ability, there is almost certainly something to be done. Certain positions may require orientation and training. For full position descriptions and signup instructions, visit www.kubotagarden.org/volunteering/

SCHEDULING EVENTS AND PERMITS

You may schedule weddings or other events at the garden. Events, commercial photography and filming require permits. Contact the Seattle Parks & Recreation at 206-684-4081

KUBOTA GARDEN is located at: 9817 - 55th Ave. S. in the Rainier Beach neighborhood of SE Seattle.

KUBOTA GARDEN SELF GUIDED TOUR



THE STORY OF SEATTLE'S KUBOTA GARDEN



Kubota Garden, one of the loveliest places in Seattle, is a public, 20-acre Japanese garden. The garden is owned by the City of Seattle and managed by Seattle Parks and Recreation. It is open every day during daylight hours and is free of charge.

Its unique history, design, pruned pines, use of stone, waterfalls, ponds, wonderful collection of mature plants, and sense of exploration combine to create a beautiful and serene place. It will lift your spirit and delight your eyes. A popular place for people from many cultures to walk, relax, gather for celebrations, picnic and take photos year-around, the garden is particularly colorful in April and May with spring flowers, and in October with fall color. Eighteen acres of natural area surround the garden, providing a visual buffer and protecting Mapes Creek.

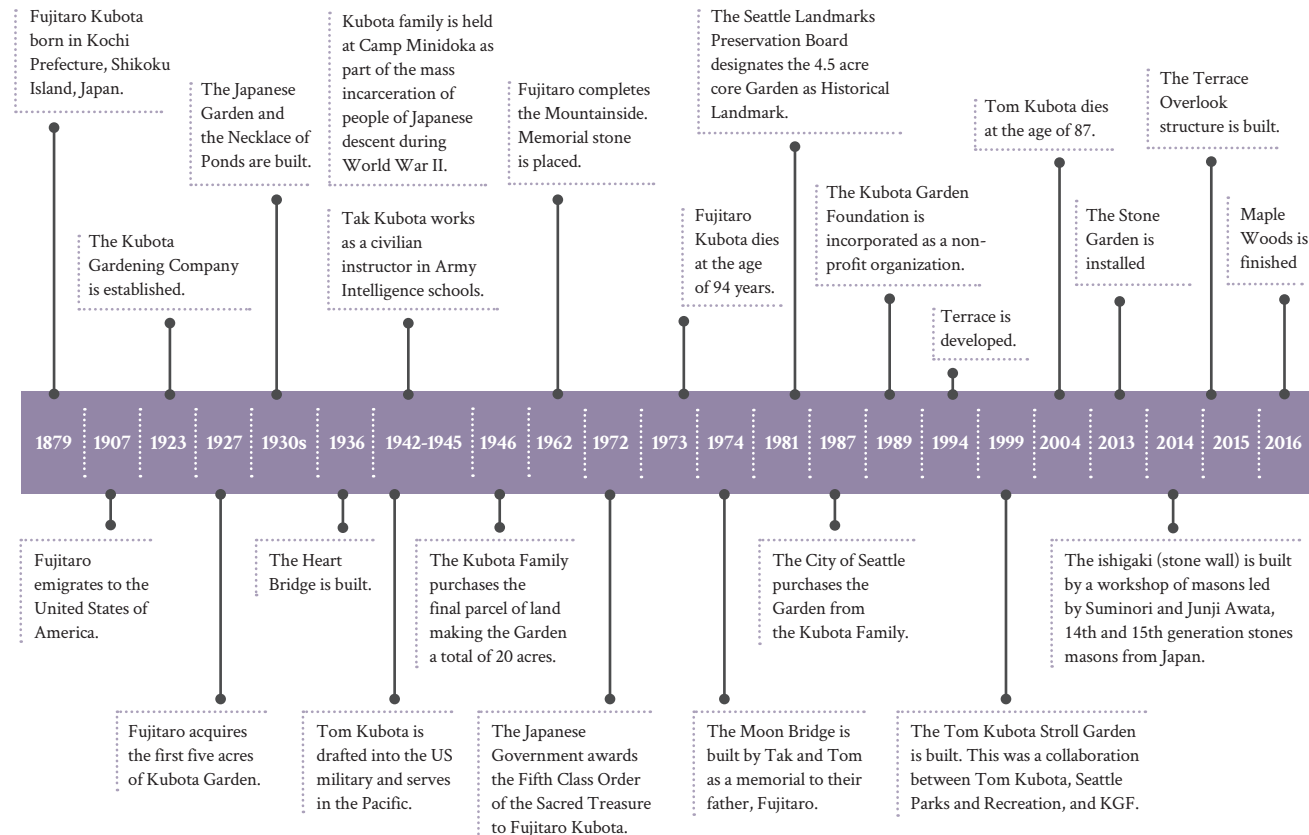
The City of Seattle designated the 4.5-acre core garden as a historical landmark in 1981, and in 1987 the City purchased the garden from the Kubota family.

Working together since 1987, the City, Kubota Garden Foundation, local community, and volunteers planned and implemented projects over 30 years to maintain and improve the garden for the enjoyment of visitors. The garden is sustained within the spirit and vision of Fujitaro Kubota and his son Tom Kubota.

GARDEN ETIQUETTE

Please enjoy the garden and help us keep it beautiful.

1. Walk on gravel paths or lawns, not in mulched planted areas.
2. Trees, stones, and stone walls are not for climbing.
3. Keep out of the ponds.
4. Pets on leash are welcome. Pick up waste.
5. Place trash in receptacles located in parking lot.
6. Drones are not allowed.
7. Amplified music only allowed at permitted events.



KUBOTA GARDEN FEATURES

- Kiosk** – displays monthly plant feature, animal feature, haiku and updates.
- Entry Plaza** – built during the 2004 International Symposium of Japanese Gardens.
- Entry Gate and Ornamental Wall** – bronze gate sculpted by local artist Gerard Tsutakawa. The gate and wall create a special experience: crossing the threshold from the everyday world to a sacred space.
- Bell and Drinking Fountain** – ring the bell with your knuckle to let the spirits know you are in the garden. Refresh with a sip of water from the drinking fountain designed and built by Gerard Tsutakawa.
- Window Overlook** – a visitor's first look into the historical garden.
- Terrace** – open lawns and late summer blooming plants which provide a great venue for permitted events
- Terrace Overlook** – pavilion atop ishigaki (stone) wall built by stone masons led by famed Japanese masons Suminori and Junji Awata.
- Spring Pond** – fed by several underground springs. The Kubota family used it to water 6 acres of nursery stock. Look for koi and turtles.
- Mapes Creek** – runs through the natural area and feeds the Necklace of Ponds.
- Stone Garden** – the gate is from the Seattle Japanese Garden in the Washington Park Arboretum. Originally the stones were installed by Kubota Landscaping Company in the 1960s or 70s in a nearby residential garden. The stones were rescued and repurposed in 2012.
- Maple Woods** – A cluster of beautiful Japanese maples with a colorful fall spectacle.
- Japanese Garden** – built in the 1930s, the most traditional part of the garden, it features a spring-fed pond, Kasuga lantern from Japan, and stones.
- Tom Kubota Stroll Garden** – features long views, many places to sit, and stone from the high Cascades. It was designed by Tom Kubota, Fujitaro's son, a strong advocate for creating a public garden.
- Fera Fera Forest** – a tranquil refuge, originally a nursery planting of threadleaf cypress.
- Heart Bridge** – crosses Mapes Creek and resembles a red bridge in a garden on Mr. Kubota's home island, Shikoku, Japan.



Heart Bridge



Kasuga Lantern at Japanese Garden



Waterfall at Mountainside



Moon Bridge



Terrace Overlook



- Mountainside** – built by the Kubota family to celebrate the 1962 World's Fair in Seattle, offers the visitor a miniature walk into the mountains. The waterfalls are formed with stones from North Bend.
- Memorial Stone** – placed in 1962; the back of the stone has a brief biography of Fujitaro in Japanese. See below for full text of the English translation.
- Lookout** – offers a wooden umbrella, bench, and a grand view of the garden 65 feet below.
- Moon Bridge** – symbolizes the difficulty of living a good life: "Hard to walk up and hard to walk down." Fossil stone, across the pond, is 40 million years old (when horsetail was 60 feet tall), and was discovered in Issaquah.

MEMORIAL STONE ENGLISH TRANSLATION

"Fujitaro Kubota was born in 1879, in Kochi Prefecture on the island of Shikoku, Japan. He immigrated to America in 1907 and established his home. In 1927 he acquired this land in order to make a large garden. With his own hands he cleared the land, dug several ponds and cut the trees to build the garden. Mr. Kubota studied landscaping, suffered hard work and put great effort into this project. The garden was finally completed in 1962 and in that year this memorial stone was erected. It was the eighty-third year of Fujitaro Kubota." *Text written by Rev. Fumio Matsui – Stone carved by Mr. Okada of Japan*

KEY

- Tree Canopy
- Lawn Areas
- Primary Routes
- Secondary Routes
- Service Roads
- Easier Paths (0-5% grade)
- Challenging Path (5-10% grade)



This self-guided tour provided courtesy of the Kubota Garden Foundation.