This building is said to have been constructed from the wood of a single tree. The tree, a large Japanese cypress, was recovered from the bottom of the Kitakami river at the turn of the twentieth century. Such "sunken trees" (*umoregi*) are prized for the naturally rich color of their wood. A wealthy family in Sendai purchased the tree and used it to build this structure in 1908. After being donated to Zuiganji in 1943, the building was dismantled and rebuilt in its current location.