

Mōtsūji Temple Coastal Rock Formation

The eleventh-century “Treatise on Garden Making” (*Sakuteiki*) gives specific instructions for creating what was considered to be the ideal garden. Special features, such as these rocks, were included as a motif of natural landscapes.

During the 2011 Tohoku earthquake and tsunami, the large *tateishi* stone, originally standing vertical, had shifted. Restoration work revealed that the stone, while tall and heavy, is not embedded as deeply as originally thought.