

Ochanoi

On the small hill above the Tōgudō is a small pool fed by a bubbling spring. The name, Ochanoi, translates as “tea well”.

It is believed to be an early form of *tsukubai*, a stone wash basin with stones arranged around it, often found near a teahouse for guests to purify themselves by rinsing their hands and mouths.

As water fills the pool, it trickles down over carefully arranged stones, flowing into Kinkyōchi Pond. It is thought that a small bamboo cottage, Sōsentei, once stood on the hill near Ochanoi.