

## **Shaka Hall Ruins**

The foundations of what was formerly the Shaka Hall are attended here by a solitary Jizō statue. The hall was constructed in 1578 as one of thirteen buildings raised in this part of the temple complex during Daisenji's most prosperous centuries. Named for Shakyamuni, the historic Buddha, the hall was dedicated to one of the three "towers" of Japanese Buddhism: Shakyamuni Buddha, Dainichi Buddha, and Amida Buddha. It was reportedly built on such an impressive scale that it resembled a castle.

Following a series of floods and fires, in the late nineteenth century both the Shaka Hall and the nearby Kongō Dōji shrine were relocated to the far northern side of the Daisenji complex, near Mt. Jakujō. No structures survive in either location today—a poignant expression of the transience of all things.