

Reihokan Museum

The Reihokan, or Repository of Sacred Treasures, stores and displays statues of Buddhist deities, paintings, sutra scrolls, letters, and other valuable artifacts acquired by Ninnaji throughout its history. One highlight is the statues of an Amida Triad that dates back to the temple's founding in the ninth century and is designated a National Treasure. Indicative of Ninnaji's historical status as an institution closely affiliated with the imperial court are the many documents handwritten by emperors and addressed to abbots of the temple, a post held by members of the royal family until 1867.

The reinforced-concrete structure evokes ancient Japanese storehouse architecture and was designed by architect Kataoka Yasushi (1876–1946). It was completed in 1927 and is a registered Tangible Cultural Property. The Reihokan is open to the public during two semiannual Meiho-ten exhibitions, held for approximately 50 days beginning April 1 and October 1 every year.