



Western Architecture of the Tannan Area

Kyō-machi, Echizen City; Asahi-machi, Sabae City; Elsewhere

The area's history is reflected in the western-style buildings that remain from Japan's rapid entry onto the global stage, spared from both war and massive earthquakes to survive into the present day.



Jōsei Preschool (former Prefectural Police Headquarters, now registered as a National Cultural Property)

The cities of Sabae and Takefu, spared from the ravages of World War II, still possess a wide array of western architectural specimens ranging from Meiji Period styles to the modernist school.

Jōsei Preschool, built in 1899, served as the headquarters of the prefectural police before being relocated to its current location at Injō-ji in 1924. The Takefu Town Hall Museum, completed in 1929, its bold lines and elliptical shapes make it a commanding structure. It is currently being used as a museum dedicated to the city's historical and cultural development, as well as an archive of local historical resources.



Takefu Town Hall Museum (Nat. Cultural Property)^①



Studio M, the former Takefu Post Office (National Cultural Property)^②

Studio M, formerly the Takefu Post Office, was built in 1914 and served in that capacity until a new office was built 15 years later. Its decorative roof tiles still possess the distinctive 卍 postal mark. At present it is used as both an architectural design studio and residence.



Former Sabae Area Textile Inspection Office (National Cultural Property)^③

The former Sabae Area Textile Inspection Office was built in 1935 as an inspection station for rayon produced in the area. Inside the structure its old wooden counters remain intact, and it is among the precious few remaining buildings that tell the story of textile production in Sabae. It currently serves as an exhibition center for local works of art.

The Emi Photography Museum was built in 1905, fusing elements of Japanese and Western designs. Its main entrance is typical of a traditional Japanese physician's home, while the arches and beams of its exterior are decidedly Western in stylistic origin.



Emi Photography Museum (National Cultural Property)^④

