



## Culture and Arts in Shibetsu

Shibetsu Public Exhibition Hall was constructed in 1915 to commemorate the enthronement of the Taisho emperor. At the time, it was considered to be the best example of a building in all of northern Hokkaido to incorporate facets of Western architecture. In addition to being used a chamber for the debate of administrative policy by town and city councils, it was popular among local residents as an assembly hall and community center. While the original building was demolished in 1984 due to excessive deterioration, it was reconstructed as an exhibition hall on land adjoining the museum in 1989.



Inside its walls, the works of local artists such as printmaker Nobuko Koike and sculptor Kōkō Abe, as well as materials from famous people with connections to Shibetsu like Masako Izumi and Koichi Wajima, are on display. A special exhibition room is also available on the second floor of the building.

