



COMPLETION OF SECOND PHASE OF MACHIYA REVITALIZATION PROJECT CELEBRATED IN KYOTO

RESTORED TOWNHOUSE BECOMES MACHIYA MUSEUM

Kyoto, Japan. . . The Kyoto Center for Community Collaboration (KCCC) and World Monuments Fund (WMF) have announced the completion of restoration work at a historic *machiya* (townhouse) in Kyoto. The *machiya*, called Furaibo, will open to the public as a museum on May 25. The restoration of was supported, in part, by WMF with support from the U.S.-based Freeman Foundation, and Edward and Anne Studzinski of Chicago, Illinois.

The restored *machiya*, a traditional wooden townhouse built in 1932, in the early Shōwa period (1926–1989), had been vacant for many years. The family that owned the building agreed to lease it to a local artist, Mr. Yasuhiko Kida, in order to turn the building into the *Kyomachiya Museum-Furaibou*, which would result in its the preservation and restoration, as well as open it to the public. This effort was carried out through collaboration with KCCC and the Kyomachiya Council, an NGO dedicated to the preservation and revitalization of *machiya* in Kyoto. The transformation of Furaibou into a museum is part of the cultural and educational outreach goal of the KCCC, Kyomachiya Council, and WMF for the surviving *machiya* in Kyoto, which disappear at a rate of about 2 percent annually.

The restoration of Furaibou began in February 2012 and finished a few months later. To commemorate the restoration and the opening of the *machiya* as a museum, a special exhibition of drawings and sketches of Kyoto *machiya* by Mr. Kida will be on view from May 25 through July 22.

World Monuments Watch

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World Monuments Fund

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Furaibou after restoration

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