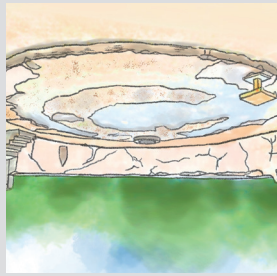
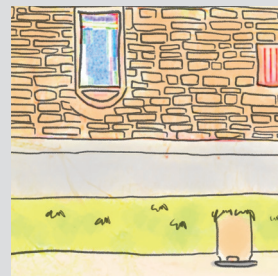


There are shell-shaped holes in the wall next to the cannon plate, which were used to place the artillery shells.



Cannon plate consists of ring-shaped wheel rail and rack to rotate gun carriage.



The soil above the barracks functions as a cushion.



Directly through from the barracks to the top of the ground cover, the holes help regulate the air in the barracks.



9. Ammunition Storage Socket

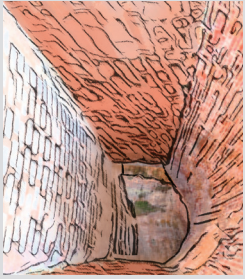
10. Cannon Plate

11. Ground Cover

12. Ventilation Holes

7. Cannon Delivery Ramp

A special ramp to facilitate the transportation of the cannons to the cannon base.



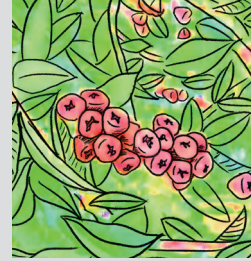
6. Barracks

Stationed troops' rest areas.



14. Wax Apples

They grew around the aisles surrounding the square; the military also ate them to beat the summer heat.



15. Iron Cement

The concrete developed in the 19th century was very sturdy and was often used in military engineering projects.



4. Parapet Wall

3. Fort Entrance Gate

2. Inscribed Plaque Above the Gate

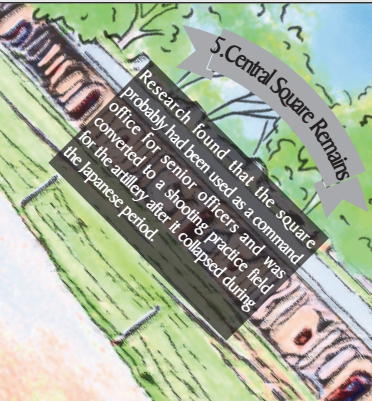
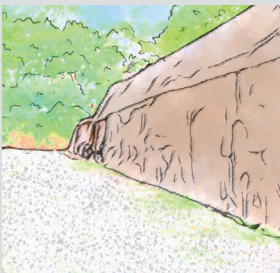
1. Trenches

The main walls of the fort were made of once-expensive iron cement.

Entrance to Fort Hobe.

The plaque above the entrance to the fort bears the inscription "Key to the North Gate", inscribed by Liu Ming-Chuan, Governor of Taiwan Province.

Surrounding the fort, the trenches separate the outer wall from the inner wall, to enhance defense and surveillance capability.



**GO**



## Promising Highlights

Hobe Fort was built during the Guangxu reign of the Qing Dynasty, led by the first governor of Taiwan, Liu Ming-Chuan. It was a military building in defense of Tamsui River estuary and was one of the important modernized coastal defense facilities in Taiwan during the Qing Dynasty, as it was situated high on a hill above the Tamsui River.

## Historical Footprints

More than two million years ago, five hills were formed in Tamsui area after the lava erupted by the Tatun Volcano cooled, also known as the "Five-Tiger Hill". The first hill was the closest to the estuary of the Tamsui River and was where the Hobe Fort was located, with a bird's-eye view of the Tamsui River and vessels sailing on the river, making it a very strategic bastion.

After the Sino-French war during the Qing Dynasty era, the Qing Empire became aware of the importance of Taiwan, and appointed Liu Ming-Chuan as Taiwan governor to beef up Taiwan's defense. There were ten Western-style forts built at five estuaries, i.e. Penghu, Keelung, Hobe (now Tamsui), Anping and Cihou. In particular, the Hobe Fort was built, supervised by a German Commander, Lieut Max E. Hecht, and was constructed with the structure looking like the Chinese character "回", as it consisted of the retaining wall, the trenches, the entrance gate, the parapet wall, the cannon plates, the ground cover, the barracks, and the central square remains. Liu Ming-Chuan purchased 31 cannons from the U.K. via Jardine Matheson, among which four were placed at Hobe Fort. On the area above the gate, there was a plaque inscribed with "Key to the North Gate" and these characters are still visible to this day.

The Hobe Fort stayed relatively intact despite the war. During the Japanese period, the fort was turned into a shooting practice field for the Japanese artillery. After Taiwan was placed under the control of the Republic of China, the R.O.C.'s National Army's garrison force was stationed at Hobe Fort, which is now being declared a national historic site.

### Address

No. 34, Lane 6, Sec. 1, Zhongzheng Rd., Tamsui District, New Taipei City

### Transportation

Take the MRT Tamsui Line, get off at Tamsui Station. Then, take Red Bus No. 26 or shuttle bus No. 836. Get off at Hobe Fort (Martyrs Shrine, Court) stop and Hobe Fort (Cloud Gate Theater) stop respectively. Then follow the sign to Hobe Fort.

### Opening Hours

Monday ~ Friday 09:30 - 17:00

Saturday, Sunday and National Holiday(s) 09:30 - 18:00

### Closed on

The first Monday of each month (if it is National Holiday, the Fort is open as usual and closed the next day), Chinese New Year's Eve, Chinese New Year's Day, Off-Work Day due to natural disaster announced by the government, and other necessary closed days will be announced additionally.



For more information on visiting the Museum, please click the official website of the Tamsui Historical Museum, New Taipei City, or scan the QR-Code.

新北市立淡水古蹟博物館  
Tamsui Historical Museum, New Taipei City

**Hobe Fort**  
*Contemplate the present and recall the past*  
*Key to the North Gate*

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