

## The Pond of Peace

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The Pond of Peace is located near the center of the Peace Park and is bounded at either end by unique monuments.

Sitting at the head of the Peace Pond is a Cenotaph for the A-bomb victims. Constructed on August 6, 1952 and designed Kenzo Tange (a university professor in Tokyo at the time), the cenotaph was meant to resemble an ancient arch-shaped house symbolizing ‘sheltering the souls for the elements’.

The monument bears the inscription, *“Let all the souls here rest in peace, for we shall not repeat the evil.”*

Under the cenotaph lies a stone chest. The chest holds a registry of the names of those who died from the bomb. As of August 6, 2002 the list totals 226,870 names. Since there are still some survivors, the list is still growing.



**Peace Park, Hiroshima.**

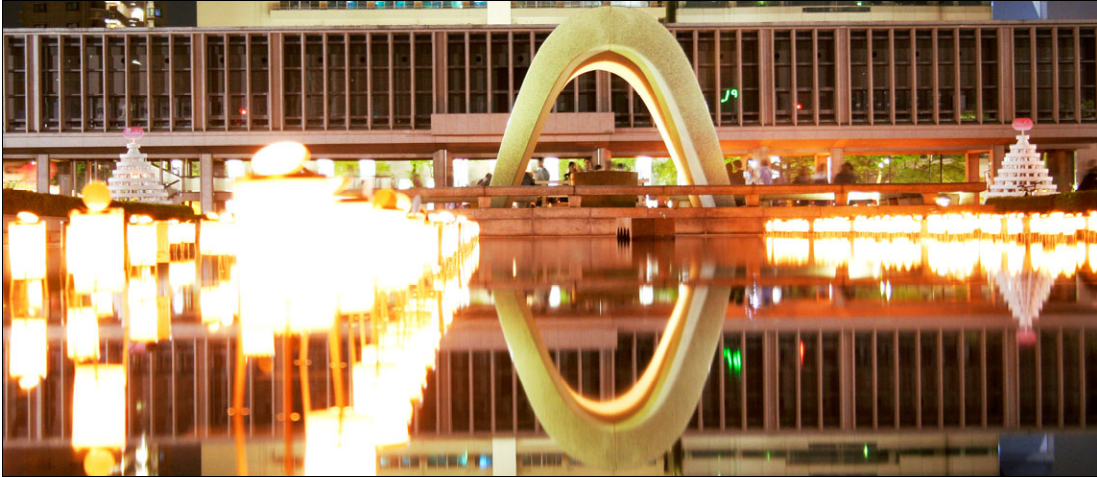
Source: Google Maps



**Cenotaph, Peace Park , Hiroshima**

Source: Jamie Smith

The Pond of Peace was completed nearly 5 years after the cenotaph was built, August 3, 1957. Originally the pond was built to be a 2 meter wide moat bounding the cenotaph on



**Pond of Peace, Peace Park, Hiroshima**

*Source: Jamie Smith*

three sides. However, in 1964 on the first of August, the Flame of Peace was constructed and they expanded the pond to stretch to from the Cenotaph to the Flame of Peace (70m) and widened the pond to 17m across.

The pedestal of the Flame of Peace was designed by the same person who designed the Cenotaph. It is meant to symbolize two open hands together at the wrist, palms facing



**Flame of Peace, Peace Park, Hiroshima**

*Source: Tim Carter*

the sky. This is intended to express commiseration for the victims unable to satisfy their thirst for water. The entire Flame of Peace monument is meant to symbolize the desire for the abolition of nuclear weapons and enduring world peace. The flame has burned continuously since it was first lit in 1964 and will not be extinguished until all that it stands for has become a reality.