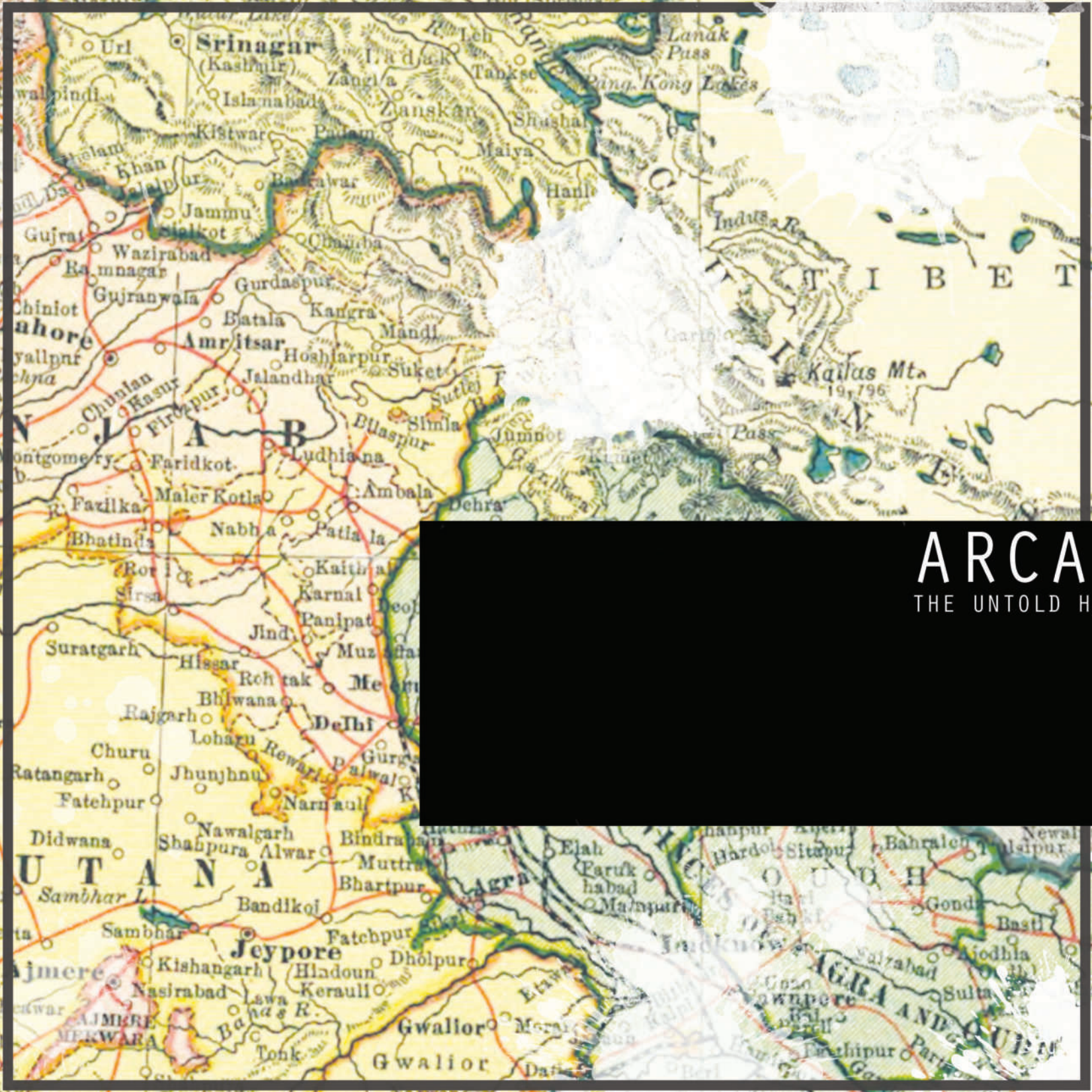




ARCANE

THE UNTOLD HARYANA



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ARCANE

The Untold Haryana....

By
Banani Bhattacharyya
&
Jaideep Singh

A Publication of Department of Archaeology & Museums, Haryana
2024



Director's Message

It gives me immense pleasure to state that the Department of Archaeology and Museums, Haryana has come out with a comprehensive and highly appealing monograph on the state protected monuments for the State of Haryana.

This work will prove to be of immense significance for its readers who want to reminisce in the past glories of Haryana and at the same time for the research scholars who can use this work as a bible to strengthen their foundations on the History, Archaeology and Culture of Haryana through the ages.

In preparation of this book I am thankful to both the writers Dr. Banani Bhattacharyya, Deputy Director and Ar. Jaideep Singh. I would further like to thank Reliance foundation & I am Gurgaon for there generous support in the publishing. I also acknowledge the help rendered by Darbar Singh, Tarunima Sen & Akash, photographers and Ar. Yatin Singhal, as without their active cooperation it would not have been possible to complete this book. I humbly urge and encourage the future generations to take keen interest in our built heritage and knowledge systems to strengthen their understanding of Haryana and India as a whole.

I hope that this corpus of architecture will encourage future scholarly pursuits in the fields of Archaeology, History and Culture of Haryana.

Amit Khatri, IAS

Director

Department of Archaeology and Museums, Haryana



INTRO

India has an extraordinary, vast and diverse pool of cultural heritage and ancient monuments in the form of buildings and other archaeological sites and remains. The monuments' magnificence leaves one spell bound while also offering unmatched and crucial insights into India's rich cultural heritage and architectural past. The very fact that these monuments are the remnants that bear witness to the golden historic era of over a thousand years and of the pre-independence battles, they carry a special and a well-deserved respect and significance in the eyes of the Indians. They are a wonderful reservoir of knowledge for historians, architects and archaeologists alike and make a beautiful canvas that speaks of colors of India's bygone cultures. They are the epitome of courage, stand testimony to the evolution and are a symbol of cultural expressions.

In this context Haryana's contribution to the main stream of Indian history and culture has been remarkable. It is known as the cradle of Indian culture and civilization, the site of decisive action of Indian history and the place,

DUCTION

where power of oppression was defied. The religious sanctity and spiritual association of the region largely depended on its material conditions and geo-political situations.

Several marvelous architectural edifices and structures are spread all over Haryana. Despite their partial destruction during the eighteenth century, most of these monuments are still standing erect with pride but with a plea on their lips to protect them from the vagaries of weather, the uninformed neighbors who use them as cattle-sheds or for storing husk, and brick-hungry people who steal their bricks, doors, etc.

Haryana has a rich crop of monuments including temples, beautiful palaces, magnificent tombs, mosques, spacious havelis, attractive sarais, baradaris, kos-minars, bridges, baolis, talaos and wells. These are not just mere monuments. These are chapters of our history and culture, full of life, as they once were long back. They are a part of our shared past and memory as much as these were in the times of our forebears who built them. Our objective is to protect, preserve and conserve them, in short, to revive them to life, they should be studied in full and their life stories, their grandeur, and their beauty should be explained to the people.

The present work is mainly a documentation of state protected monuments which are the rich architectural heritage of Haryana state. Based on the latest assessments the State of Haryana has

91 Centrally Protected and 40 State Protected Monuments and sites. These monuments are also linked directly with life of the inhabitants. We have opted to work on these monuments of great importance and try to bring out the general concern of the sensitivity towards our heritage. In this book the building plans, architectural make-up, their aesthetic beauty, have been discussed. The study is fully illustrated with figures, architectural plans, maps and plates. It gives us immense pleasure* to acknowledge our indebtedness and deep sense of gratitude to all those who have helped us in completing this project.

First, we express our sincere thanks to Sh. Amit Khatri, IAS, Director, Archaeology & Museums, Haryana, who supported us throughout the process. We are also grateful to Shri Darbar Singh, Photographer, who provided us with the necessary photographs. We would like to appreciate Dr. Suruchika Chawla, Supervisor, for making useful suggestions to improve the text and to Architects Jaideep Singh and Yatin Singhal and Dr. Kush Dhebar, for their kind help and cooperation.








We have also referenced some figures provided by Shri Inderjit Singh former conservation engineer, ASI. Last but not the least; my sincere thanks are due to Printing & Stationary, Haryana for publishing the book in such a short period and in a beautiful style.

* *Banani Bhattacharyya & Jaideep Singh*

Protected Monuments & Sites, Haryana



TYPES OF STRUCTURE/ HERITAGE

							
	Archaeological sites	Temple	stupa	Mosque/ Tomb/ Dargah	forts/ palaces/ Gateway	Cemetery	Stepwell/ chattaris/ bridge
European Cemetery, Ambala.							
Ancient Mound Bhirrana, Fatehabad.							
Ancient site Kunal, Fatehabad.							
Shish Mahal , Farrukh Nagar, Gurugram.							
Lal Gumbad Sohna, Gurugram.							
Qutub Khan ki Masjid, Sohna, Gurugram.							
Tomb of Char Qutab, Hansi, Hisar.							
Jahaj Kothi, Hisar.							
Ancient mound, Kirsola, Jind.							
Ancient Fort, Safidon, Jind.							
Ancient Site Dhronk Khera, Jind.							
Ancient Mound Balu, Kaithal.							
Tomb of Shiekh Tayyab, Kaithal.							
Brick Baoli, Kaithal.							
Old Badshahi Bridge, Karnal.							
Victoria Memorial Hall, Karnal.							
Pracheen Shiv Temple, Pehowa, Kurukshetra.							
Buddhist Stupa, Kurukshetra.							
Vishwa Mitra Ka Tila, Pehowa, Kurukshetra.							
Tomb & Mosque Pir Turkman, Narnaul.							
Tripolia Gateway, Narnaul.							
Tomb of Shah Nizam, Narnaul.							
Chor Gumbad, Narnaul.							

The **“Green Colour”** represents the type of Monument or site.

TYPES OF STRUCTURE/ HERITAGE



	Archaeological sites	Temple	stupa	Mosque/ Tomb/ Dargah	forts/ palaces/ Gateway	Cemetery	Stepwell/ chattaris/ bridge
Shobha Sarovar, Narnaul.							
Chhatta Rai Balmukund Das, Narnaul.							
Mirza Alijan's Takhat and Baoli, Narnaul.							
Sheikh Mussa ki Dargah and Jhulti Minar, Nuh.							
Dehra Mandir, Firozpur Jhirkha, Mewat.							
Ancient Gumbad, Palwal.							
Ancient Site Kachi Khera, Hodal.							
Sati ka Talab and Chhatri, Hodal, Palwal.							
Bhima Devi Temple, Pinjore.							
Nahan Kothi, Panchkula.							
Ancient Site Sugh, Yamunanagar.							
Buddhist Stupa, Chaneti, Yamunanagar.							
Ancient Mound KaranKot, Fatehabad.							
Qila Zafargarh, Jind.							
Loharu Fort, Bhiwani.							
Rani ki Chattri and Tank, District-Faridabad.							
Mugalpura, Hisar.							

The “**Green Colour**” represents the type of Monument or site.

Note: Units of Measurement of the drawings are in “MM” unless specified.



CONTENTS

Table of Contents

1. Victoria Memorial Hall, Karnal	1
2. Buddhist Stupa, Kurukshetra	7
3. Buddhist Stupa, Chaneti, Yamunanagar	11
4. Ancient Gumbad, Palwal	15
5. Sati-ka-Talab & Chattri, Hodal	19
6. Tomb of Char Qutub, Hansi	25
7. Sheikh Mussa ki Dargah & Jhulti Minar	33
8. Dehra Mandir, Firojpur Jhirka	37
9. Lal Gumbad, Sohna	43
10. Qutub Khan ki Masjid, Sohna	49
11. Shish Mahal, Farrukh Nagar	55
12. Nahan Kothi, Panchkula	61
13. Badshahi Bridge, Karnal	67
14. Chor Gumbad, Narnaul	71
15. Tripolia Gateway, Narnaul	77
16. Shobha Sarovar, Narnaul	81
17. Tomb & Mosque of Pir Turkman, Narnaul	85
18. Tomb of Shah Nizam, Narnaul	89
19. Mirza Alijan's Takht & Baoli	95
20. Chhatta Rai Balmukund Dass, Narnaul	101
21. Jahaj Kothi, Hisar	107
22. Tomb of Shiekh Tayyab, Kaithal	111
23. Brick Baoli, Kaithal	115
24. Bhima Devi Temple, Panchkula	121
25. Qila Zafargarh, Jind	127
26. Loharu Fort, Bhiwani	131
27. Rani ki Chattri, Faridabad	135
28. Ancient Fort, Safidon	141
29. Pracheen Shiv Temple, Pehowa	145
30. Chuhimal ki Chattri & Talab, Nuh	149



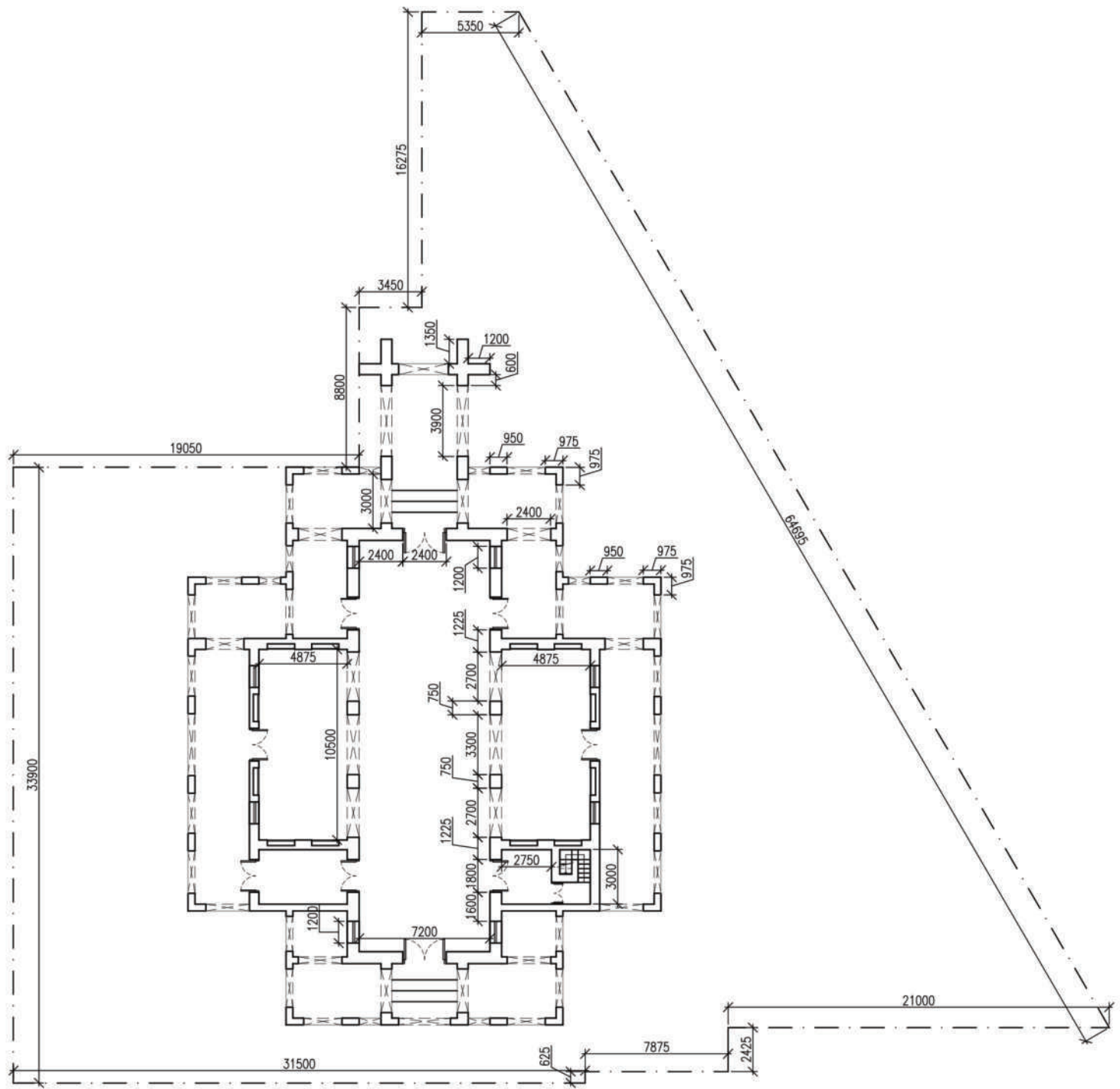
1

VICTORIA MEMORIAL HALL, KARNAL

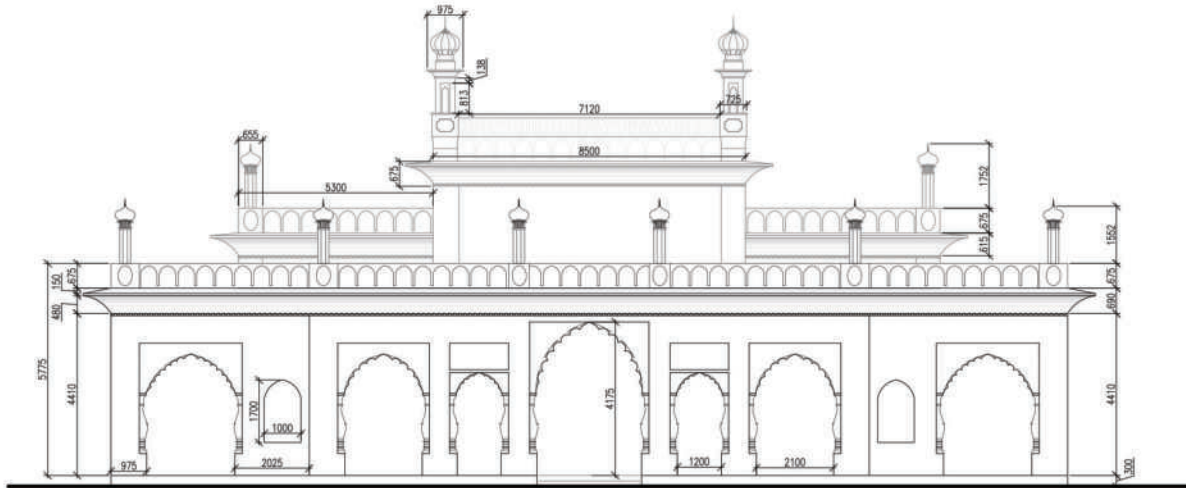


Victoria Memorial Hall

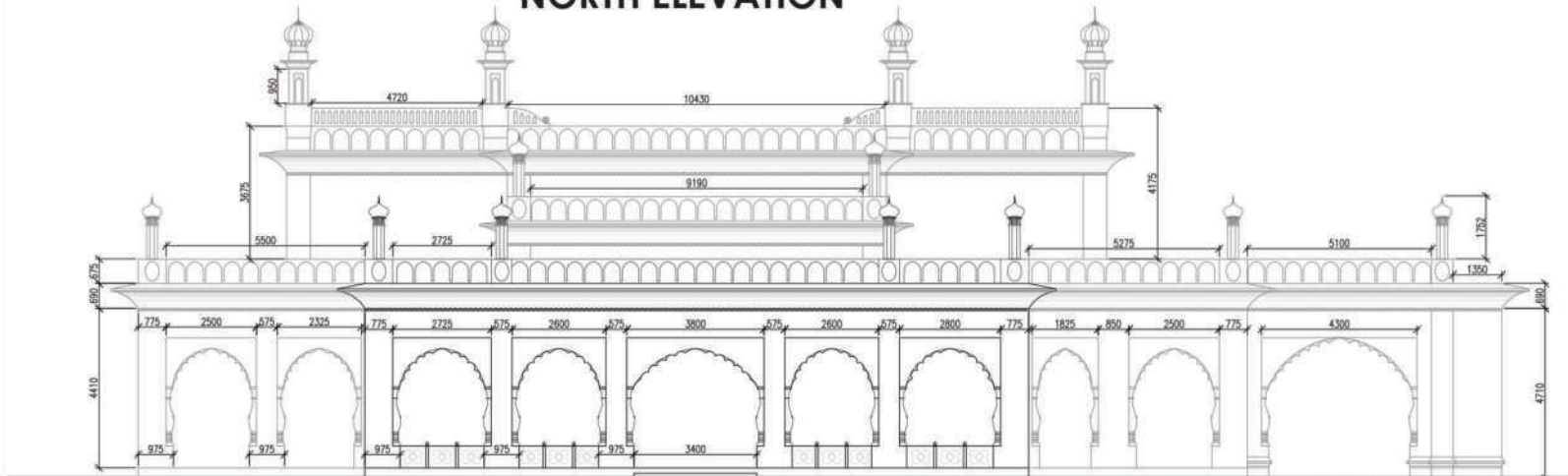
Type	: Colonial Structure
Location	: Committee Chowk, Karnal, Haryana
Ownership	: Archaeology & Museums Department, Haryana
Period	: 19th Century
Patronage	: Lala Bhik Chand



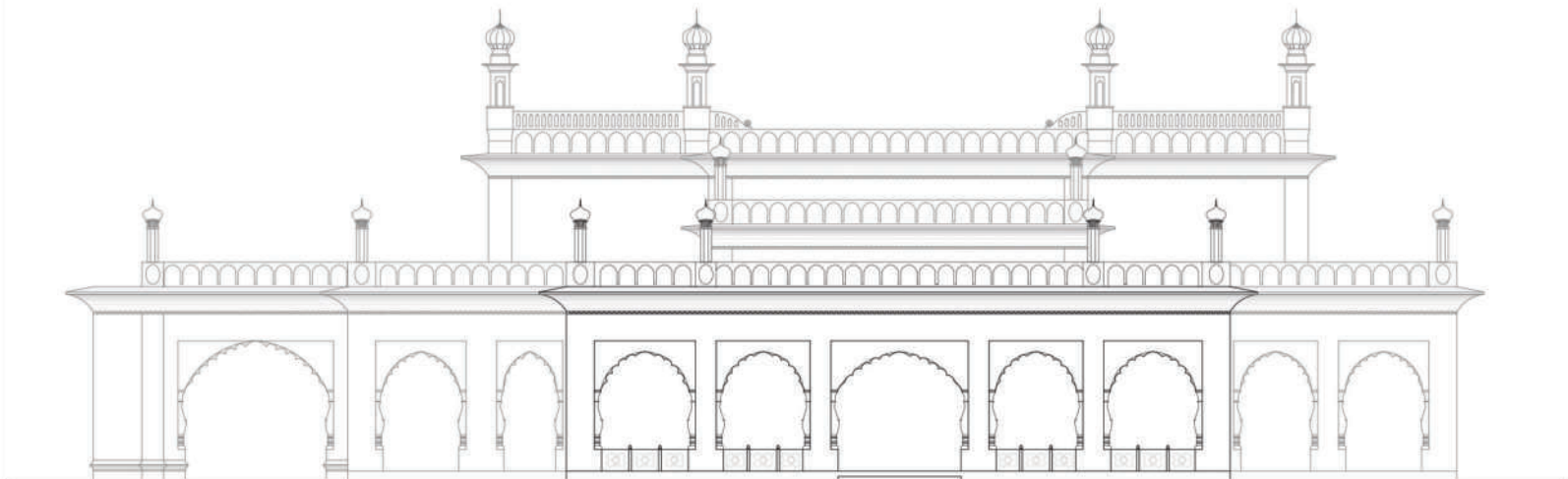
SITE PLAN



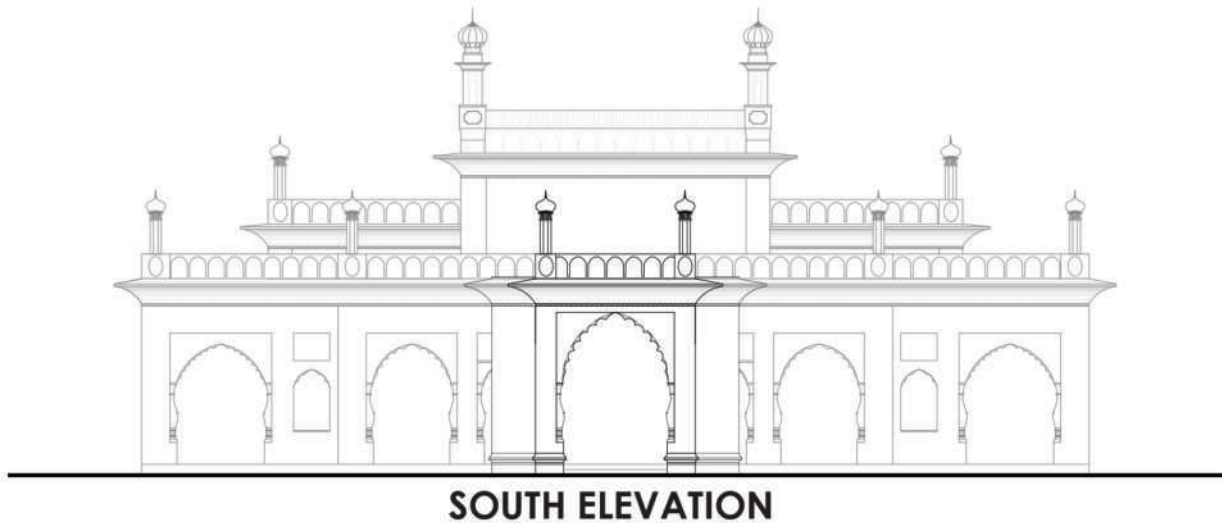
NORTH ELEVATION



WEST ELEVATION



EAST ELEVATION



The hall is a unique combination of three architectural styles – Indian, Islamic and European. This structure is surrounded by a pillared Verandah. Verandah's arches are example of Islamic foliated arch style architecture. There are four porticos on all the sides of building and outside of the pillared Verandah. It is a single storey building but provide an expression of double storey from the outside. There are minarets on the top of each corner of the building. The entrance and windows of the main hall are built on Gothic arch fashion, which represent the European style of architecture.

**Nazol Land means the type of government land used for non-agricultural purpose such as building, road, market, playground or any other public purpose or the land which has potential for such use in future including such lands granted on long or short term lease or on no compensation agreement.*



2

BUDDHIST STUPA, KURUKSHETRA



Buddhist Stupa, Kurukshetra

Type	: Stupa
Location	: Thanesar Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra, Haryana
Ownership	: Archaeology & Museums Department, Haryana
Period	: 1st CE – 8th CE
Patronage	: Unknown

The name Sthanvisvara is derived from Sthana (abode) of Iswara (or Mahadeva) or from the junction of his name Sthaanu and Iswara or from Sthanu and Sar, a lake. Parbhakarvardhan, father of Harshvardhana, was the king of the Vardhana Empire and his capital was at Sthaneshvra (Thanesar). After that in the early medieval period Thanesar was ruled by Pratiharas and Tomaras. Archaeological remains reveal that Sunga, Kushana, Gupta, Vardhana, Pre-Medieval and Medieval period rulers came on this place.

Archaeological findings:

Five burnt brick structures were unearthed during the archaeological excavation at the mound. First three structures belong to the Kushana phase, one is related to Gupta period, last structure has the four successive phases which belong to Vardhana period to later medieval period. A Tri-ratha style burnt-brick temple remains were also found which belongs to the Kushana period. Only the remains of foundation were found. The temple had square sanctum measuring 7.5m with 70cm projection and an entrance on eastern axis in a small porch.

A round shaped structure with a diameter of 9m was found just below the humus to the eastern side of the mound. This structure was built by burnt bricks measuring 35 x 21 x 5.5 and 37 x 22 x 7.3cm. Only five courses are intact on south-west side. Other portion of the structure was removed by earth diggers. This structure might have been like a drum in shape. It looks like Dmekha stupa. A massive wall of a big compound also visible probably which was built during the Harsha period. This wall was constructed by reused bricks of earlier periods. The width of this wall is 3 m and was cleared up to 30m. This wall has support on the outer side. This compound belonged to the structure which is popularly called stupa by locals. This structure was built in five phases.



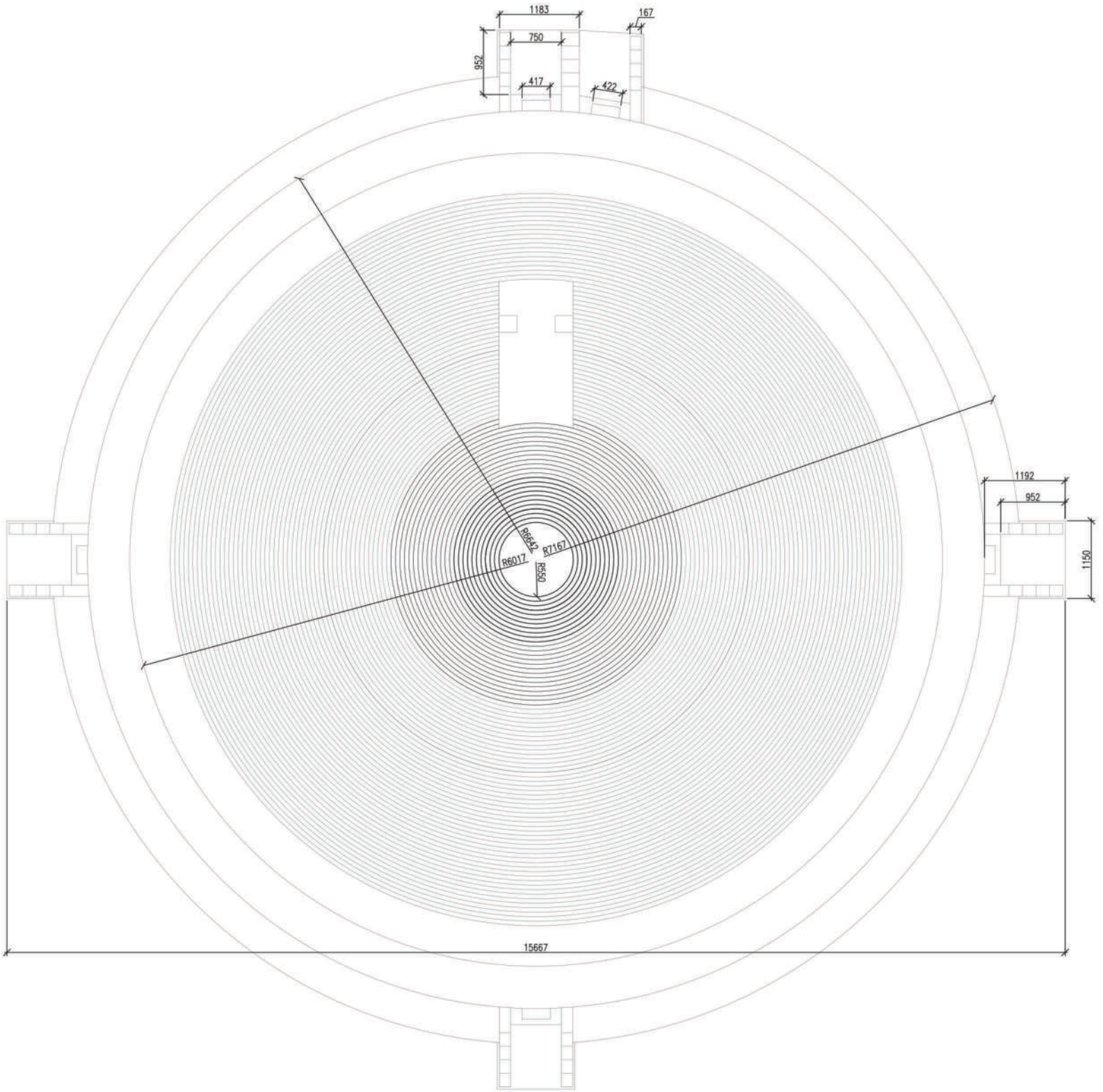
3

BUDDHIST STUPA, CHANETI, YAMUNANAGAR

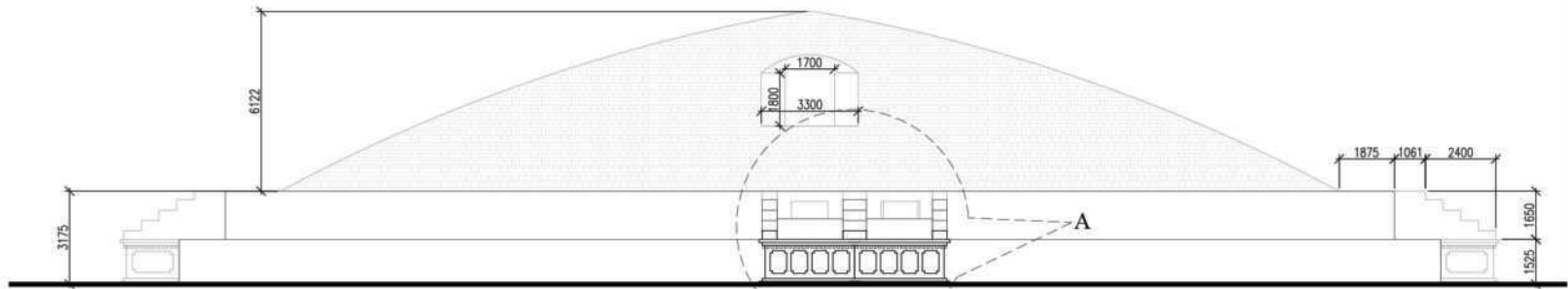


Stupa view

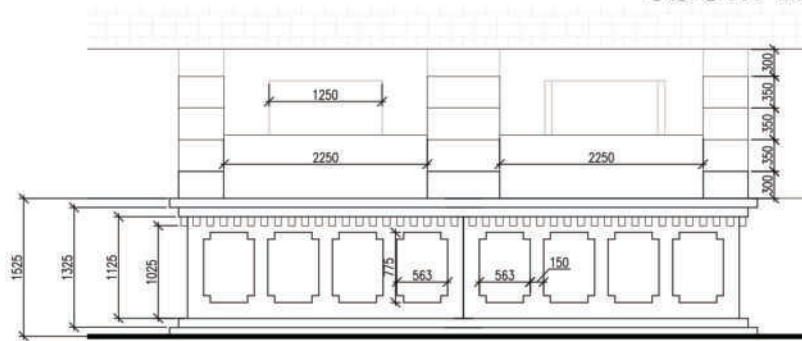
Type	: Stupa
Location	: Village Chaneti, District Yamuna Nagar, Haryana
Ownership	: Archaeology & Museums Department, Haryana
Period	: 3rd Century BCE
Patronage	: Unknown



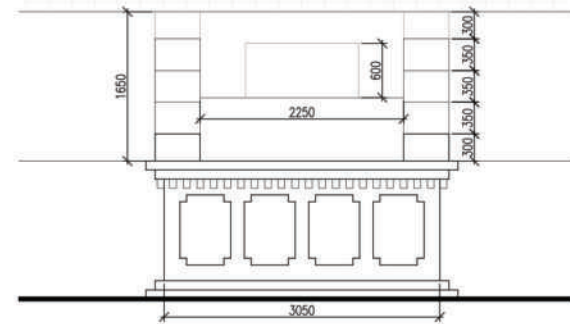
STUPA TOP PLAN



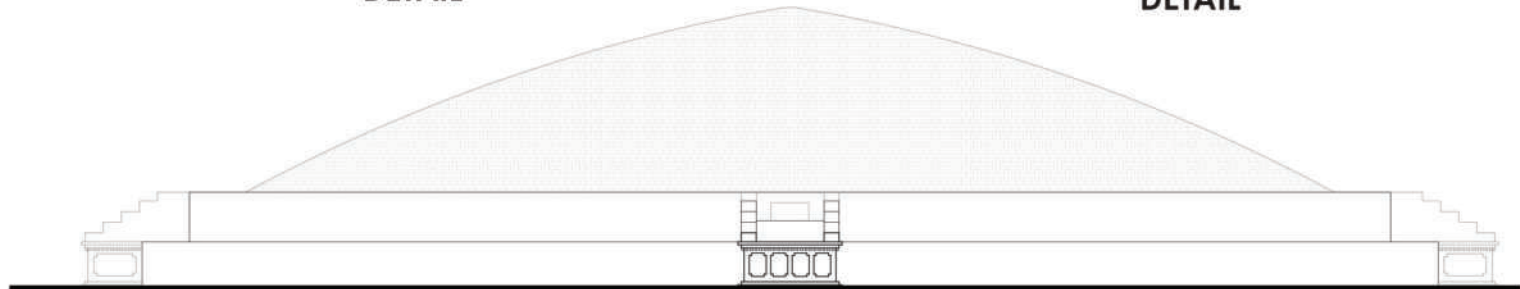
SOUTH ELEVATION



DETAIL



DETAIL



WEST ELEVATION

History & Description:

During the reign of Mauryan king Ashoka, the ancient city of "Shrughna" (modern Sugh) became an important centre of Buddhism. As mentioned in the travel accounts of the Chinese pilgrim "Yuan Chwang" this place was adorned by tens of stupas and a monastery. The village Chaneti is about 3 kms. North -west of Sugh. The Stupa at Chaneti must have been one of those tens of top's referred by Yuan Chwang. To construct this baked brick stupa, concentric layers were put one over the other, each time leaving some space on the underlying layer, so that the whole structure should give a hemispherical look. This stupa corresponds to the Shahpur and Dharmarajika stupas at Taxila. No traces of stone railing surrounding this stupa were found. Probably, it might be having wooden railings during that time. At the top of the stupa, square space about 1.5m. Was found filled with mud. This was the place for harmika which bore the chhatravali (umbrella/flag).



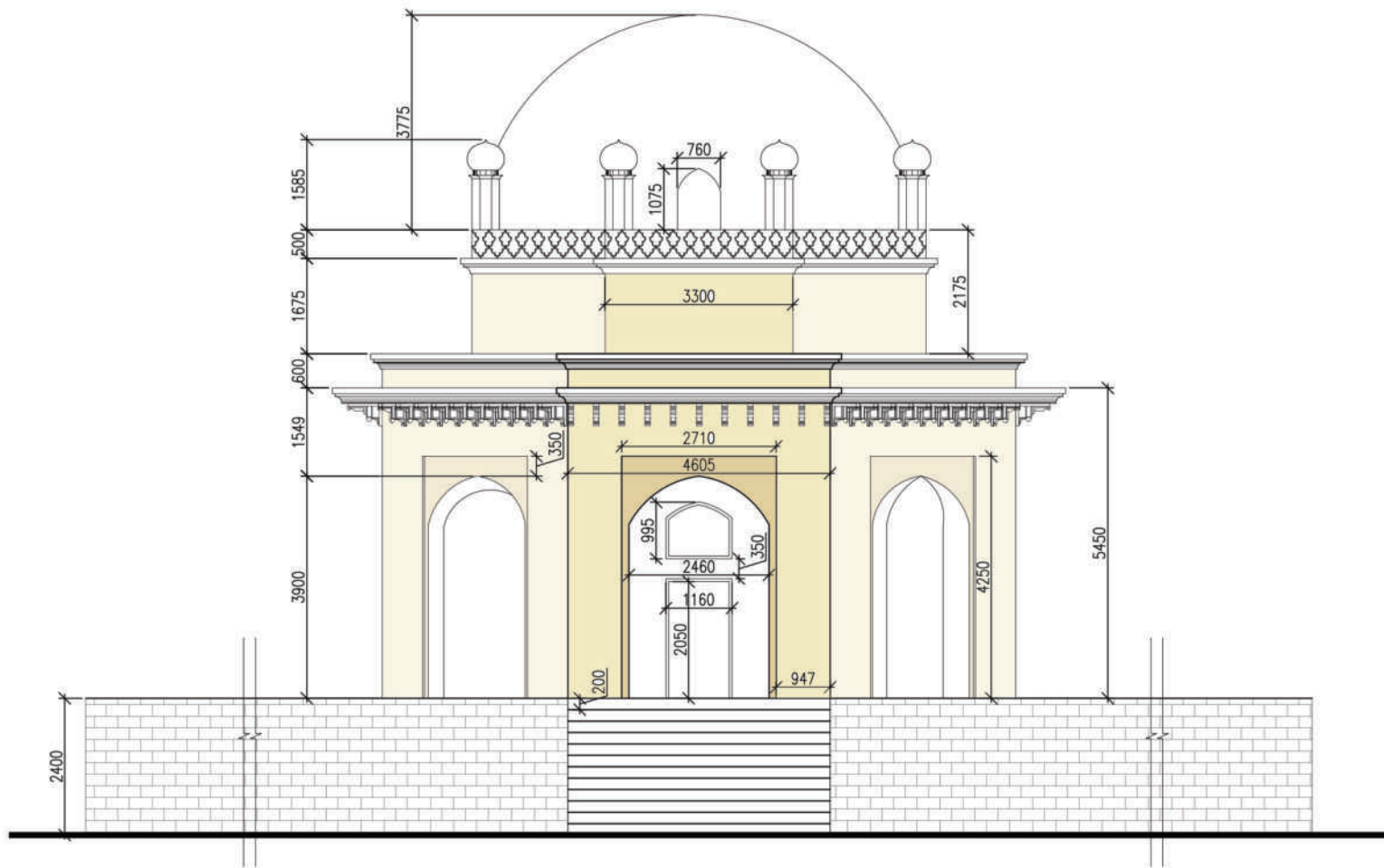
4

ANCIENT GUMBAD, PALWAL



Ancient Gumbad, Palwal

Type	: Tomb
Location	: MC park, Housing Board Colony, Palwal, Haryana
Ownership	: Archaeology & Museums Department, Haryana
Period	: 13th – 14th century CE
Patronage	: Unknown



WEST ELEVATION

History & Description:

It is located on a raised stone foundation. The tomb is octagonal in shape, and square in plan from interior. It's all four sides have arched openings. Its lower half is made of dressed kankar stone blocks and remaining upper half of lakhori bricks. Each side of the octagon has recessed arches niches, some of which form the opening of the interior. A chajja runs along the periphery of the tomb supported by brackets. The interior chamber is spanned by a dome resting on a high octagonal drum. Stone is used to construct the structure which is then plastered and painted.



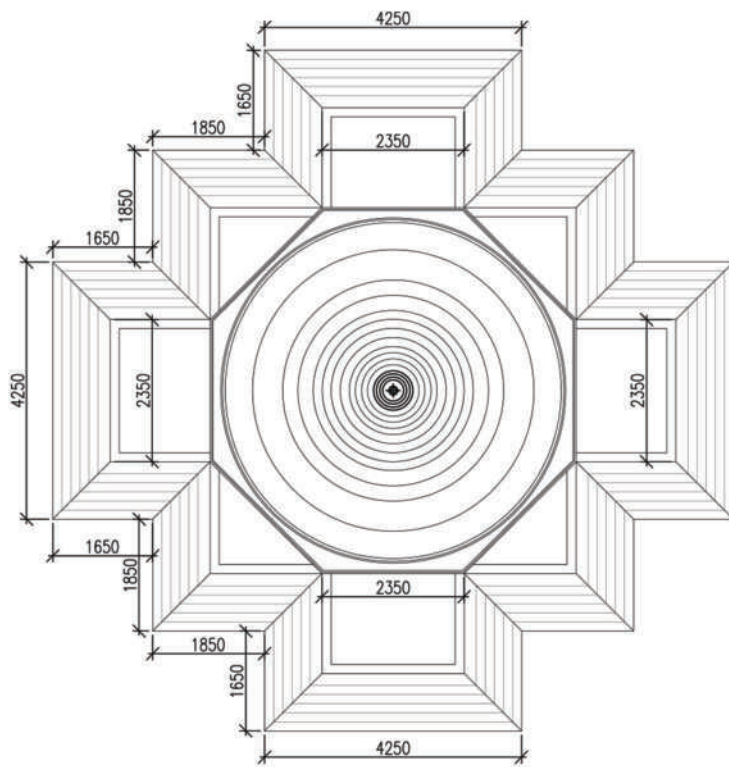
5

SATI-KA-TALAB & CHATTRI, HODAL

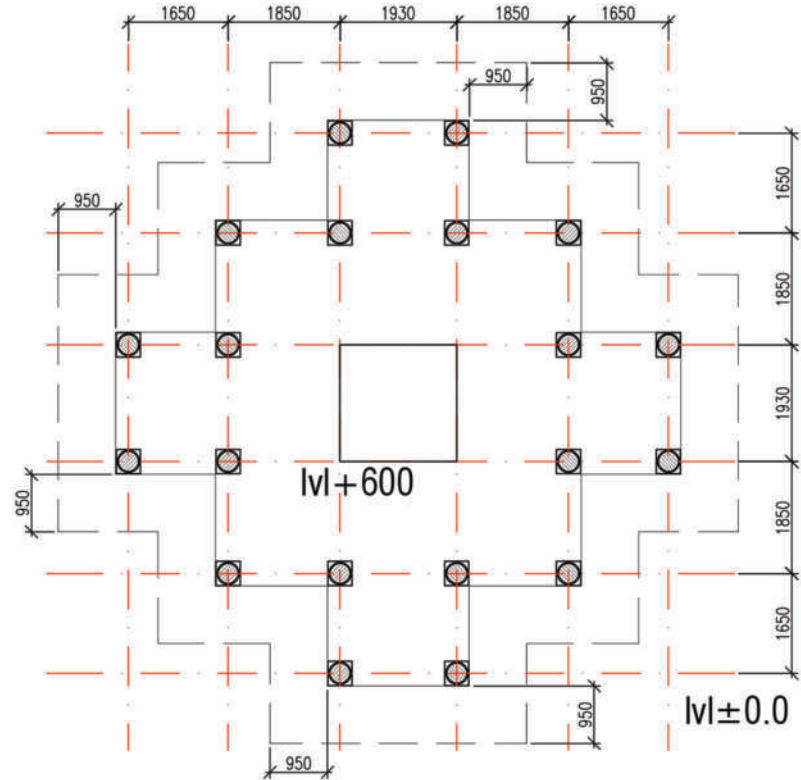


Chattri view of Sati-Ka-talab, Hodal

Type	: Pilgrim, Memorial & Reservoir
Location	: Hodal, Palwal, Haryana
Ownership	: Archaeology & Museums Department, Haryana
Period	: 18th century AD
Patronage	: Unknown

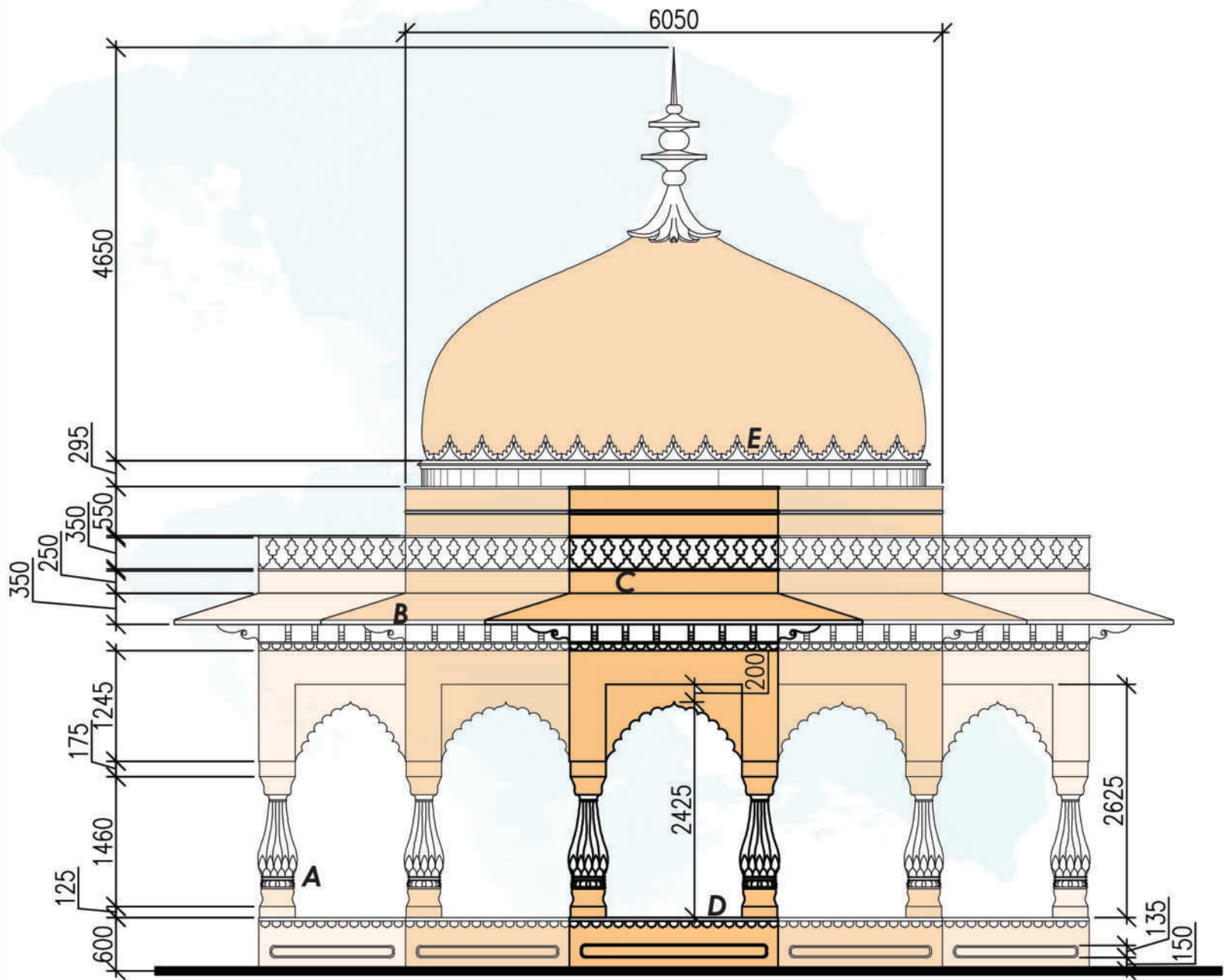


TERRACE PLAN

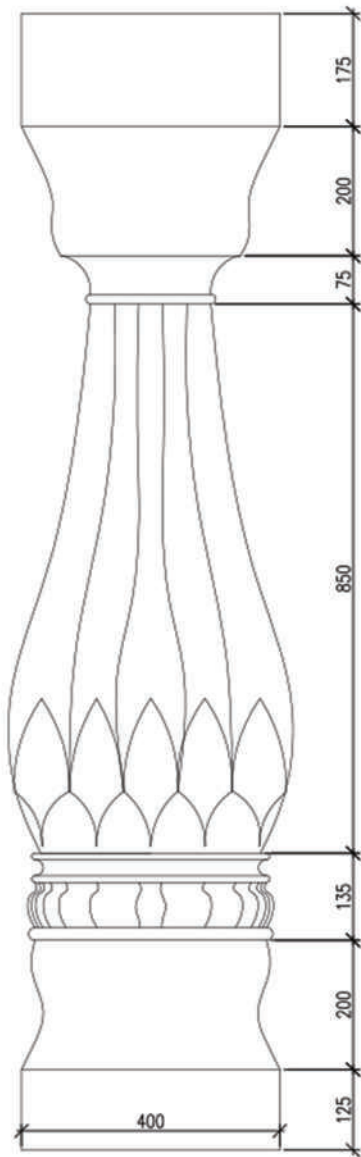


GROUND FLOOR PLAN

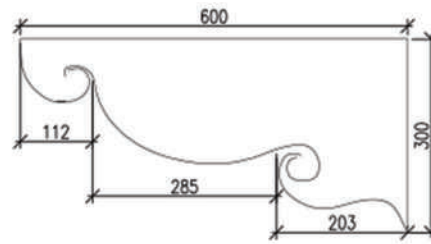
The Chattri was raised sometime between 1765-67 in the memory of Balram, brother of Kishori Devi and only son of Kashi Ram who was killed during the invasion of Delhi by Jawahar Singh. The body of Balram was brought to Hodal like an honorable General and assigned to flames on the bank of Sati ka Talab. When his body was being consigned to flames at Bharatpur, his wife Jaskaur wished to perform sati. Her wishes were fulfilled. The ashes of both the husband and wife were brought to Hodal and kept on a chabutra on which the temple is said to have been built. The footprints of both the husband and wife were carved on a stone slab and placed in the sanctum sanctorum. Every year on Magh Sudi Duj and Baisakh Sudi Duj, a devotional fair is held in memory of Jaskaur who performed sati.



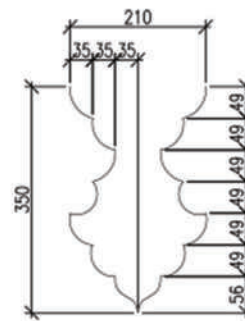
WEST ELEVATION



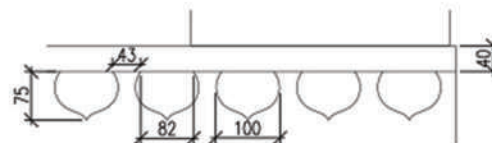
DETAIL AT "A"



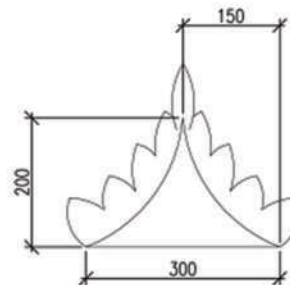
DETAIL AT "B"



DETAIL AT "C"



DETAIL AT "D"



DETAIL AT "E"

ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS

The chartri is raised on a high plat form, has a plinth layout which matches that of a cross or a chaupar. The stone pillars are 20 in number. The temple of Sati was built a few years earlier than chhatri. Decorative features on the chatri are intricate, with the use of floral and decorative motifs in an aesthetic outlay. The chatri is also in a good state except floor. The whole complex, with its charming ambience, emanates a serenity that transports you back to a forgotten era.



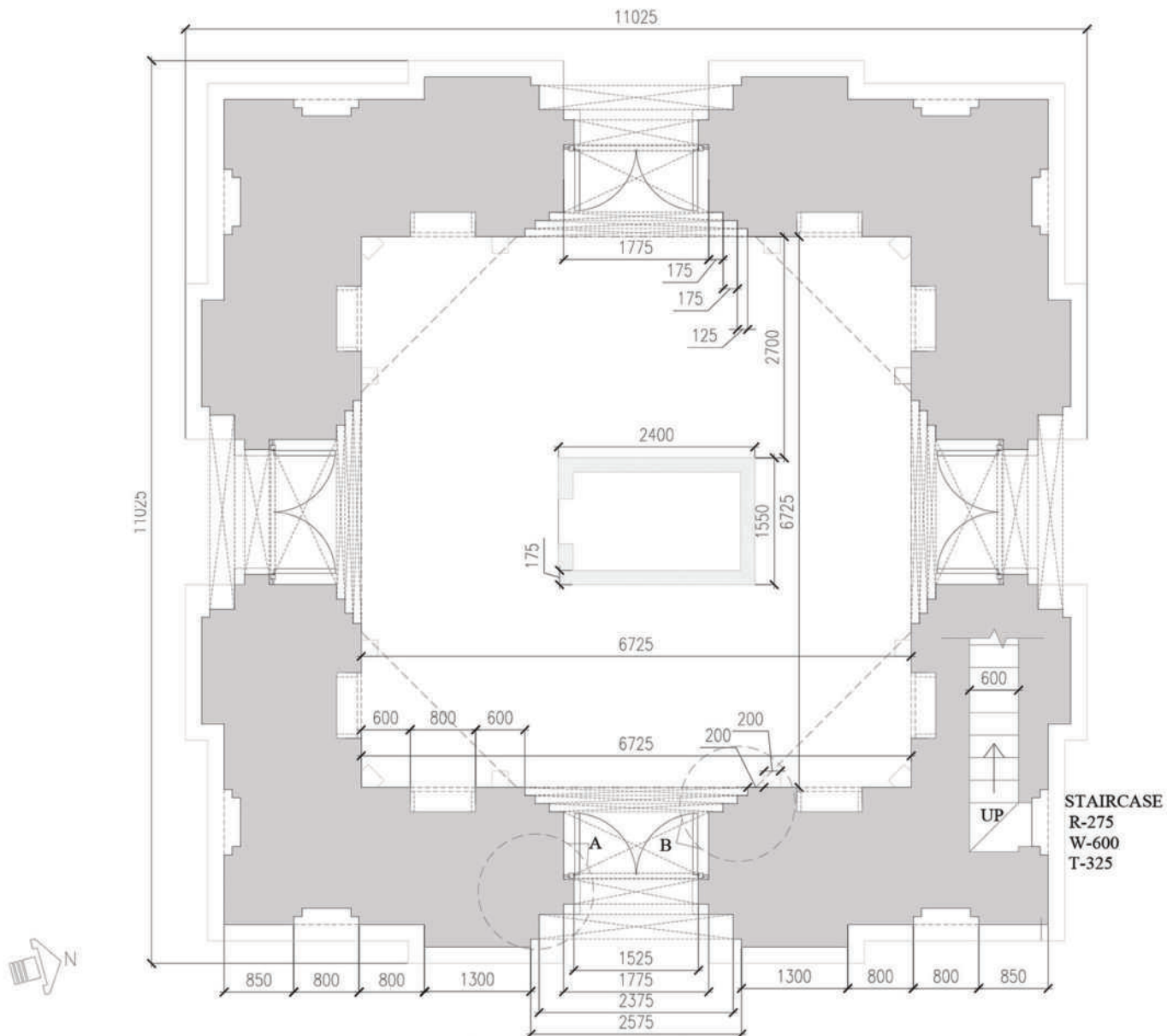
6

TOMB OF CHAR QUTUB, HANSI

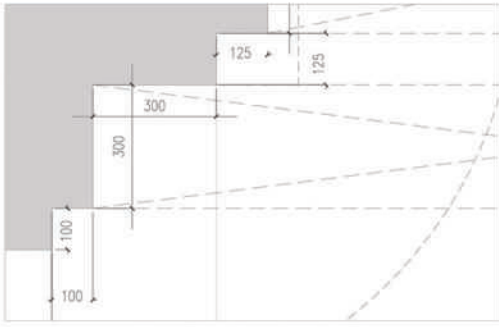


Tomb of Char Qutub

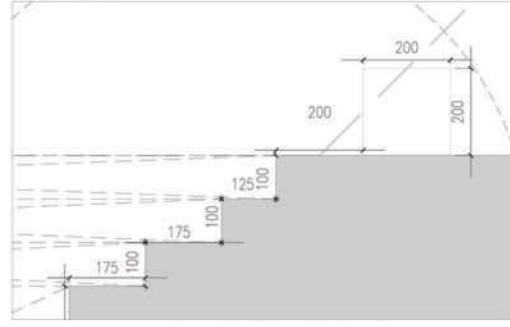
Type	: Tomb
Location	: Hansi, Hisar, Haryana
Ownership	: Archaeology & Museums Department, Haryana
Period	: 12th-14th Century CE
Patronage	: Mir Ali or Alam



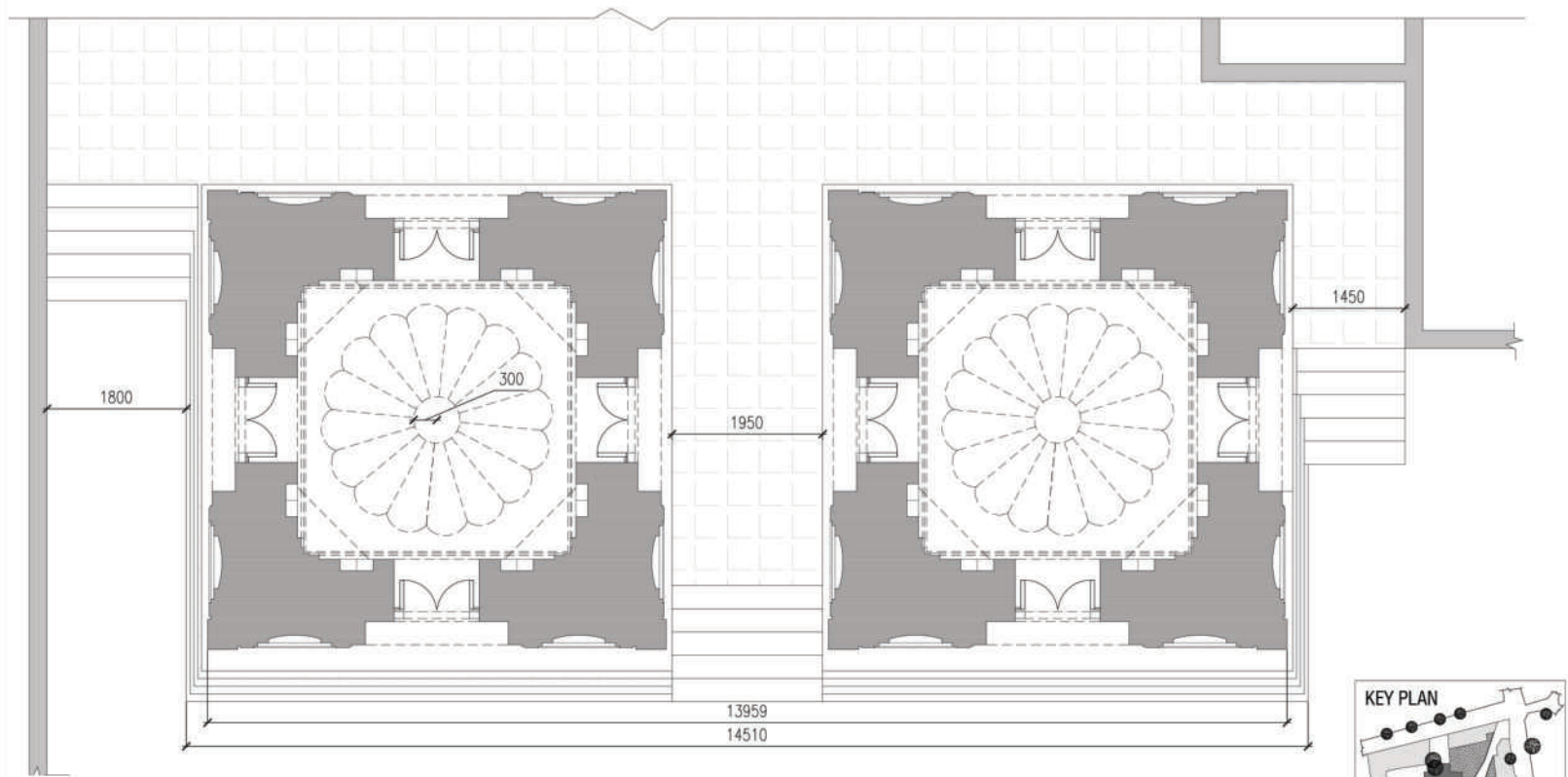
GROUND FLOOR PLAN



Detail at "A"



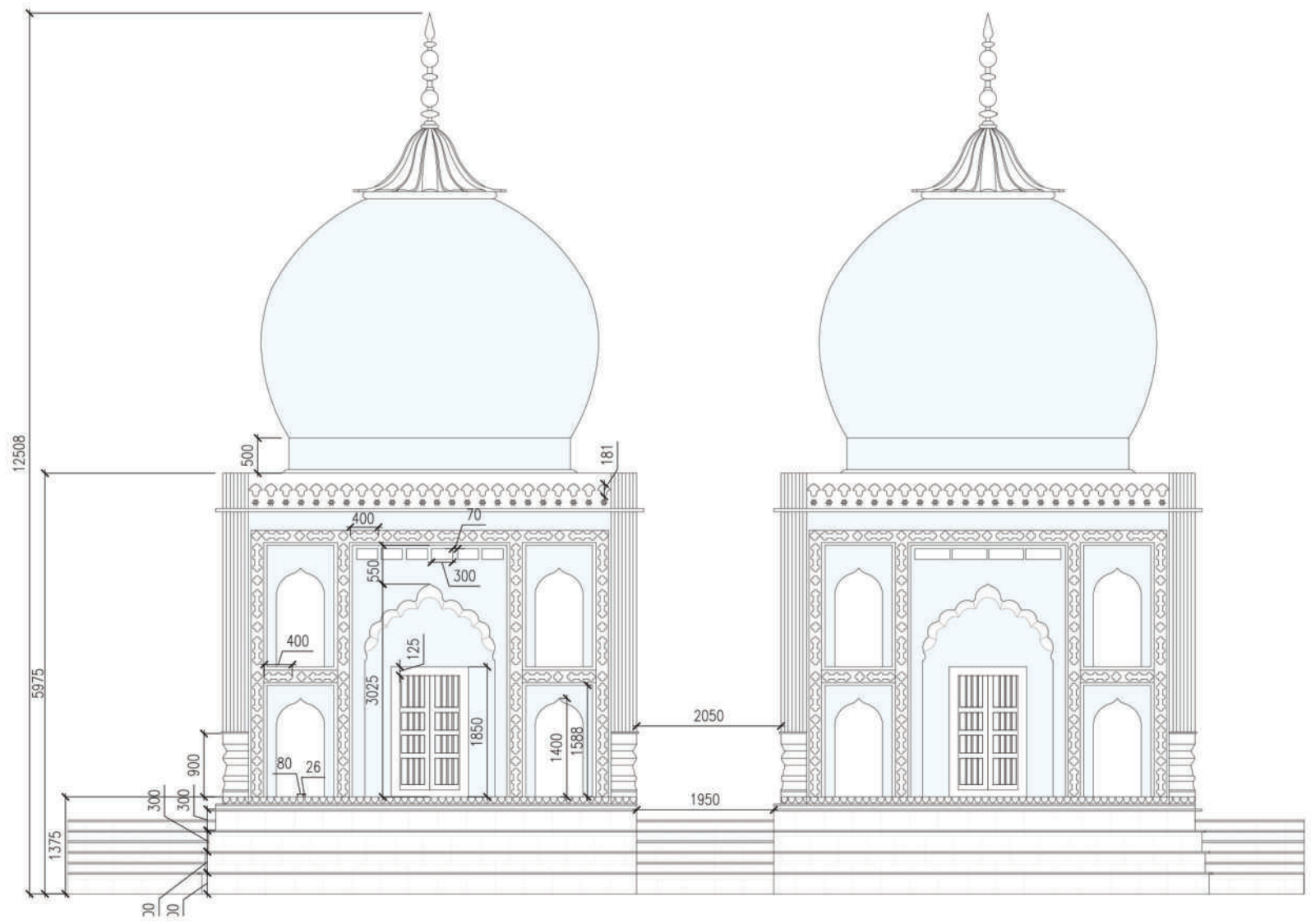
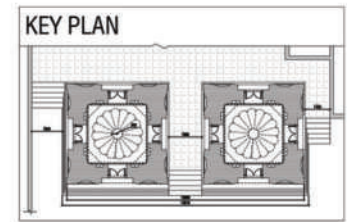
Detail at "B"



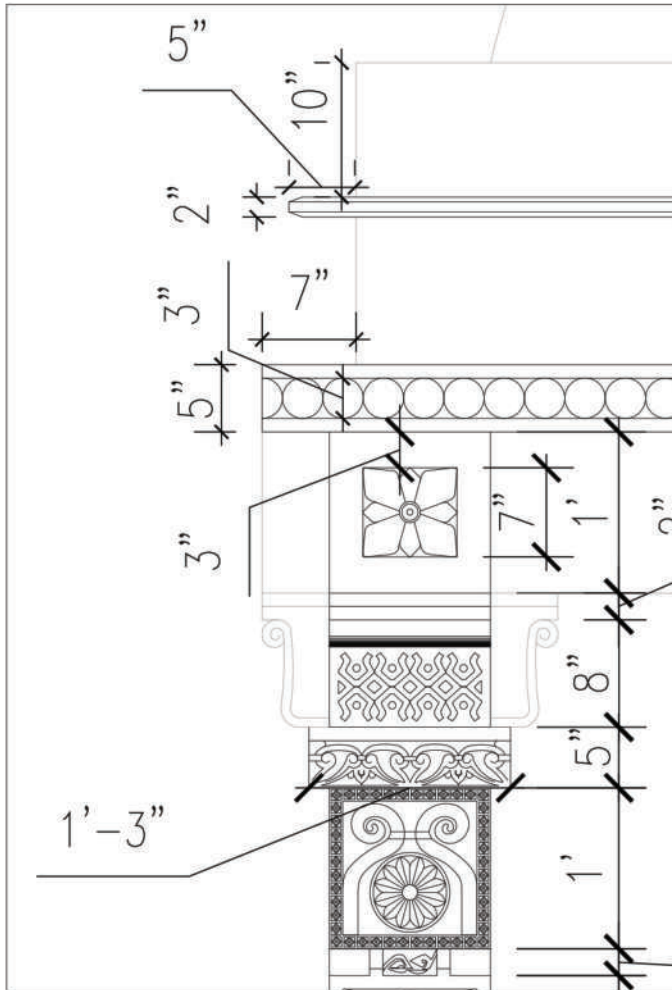
GROUND FLOOR PLAN

History & Description:

A group of monuments, situated to the west of town around tomb complex is known as Dargah Char-Qutub. Qutub is a very high spiritual degree of a saint in Islam. Jamaj-ud-Din Hanswi (1187-1261 CE), Burhan-ud Din (1261-1303 CE), Qutub-ud-Din Munawwar (1300-1354 CE) and Nur-ud-Din or Nur-e –Jahan (1325-1397 CE) were the celebrated Sufi Saints of their time and designated as 'Qutubs'. This monument celebrates the last resting place of these saints. The dargah has been subjected to many changes. The tomb is connected to a small shed. It is said that it is built at the place where Baba Farid used to meditate and offer prayers.



SOUTH ELEVATION



Architectural Detail at "A"

Dimensions in Feet and Inches

One of the most imposing edifices of this complex is the large mosque in the northern enclosure which was constructed by Firoz Shah Tughlaq. Other important monuments in the complex are the tomb of Mir Ali who was the chief Surveyor (Tijarah) of Sultan Hamid-ud-din Hanswi. Mir Ali or Alam was a disciple of Jamal-ud-Din, the first Qutab and is said to have built this tomb for his teacher. But he himself was entombed here due to his early demise. Other monuments in the complex are the twin tombs of Begum Skinner and chhatries (two kiosks) known as Char Diwan and Ek Diwan.



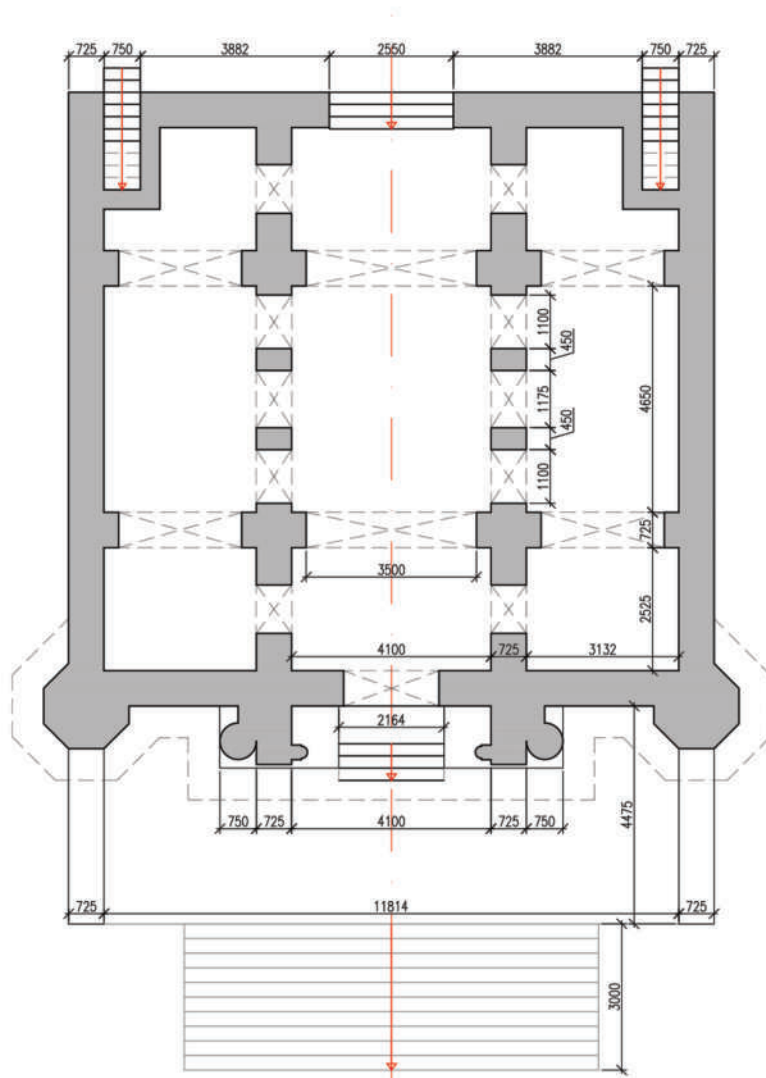
7

SHEIKH MUSSA KI DARGAH & JHULTI MINAR

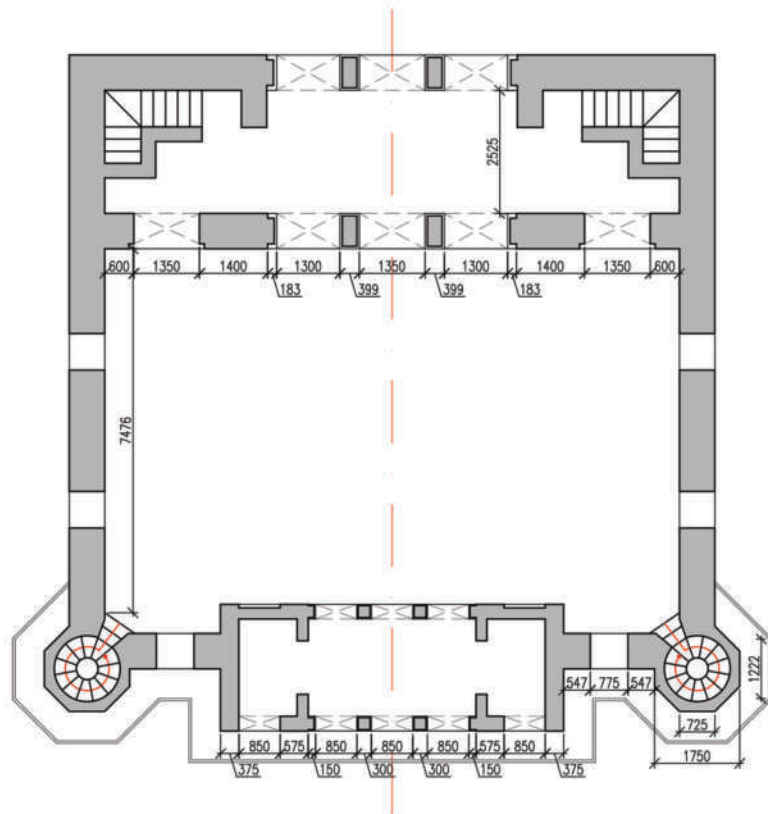


Jhulti minar

Type	: Tomb
Location	: Village Palla, Nuh, Haryana
Ownership	: Archaeology & Museums Department, Haryana
Period	: 19th Century
Patronage	: Hijri era 1142



GROUND FLOOR PLAN (ENTRANCE)

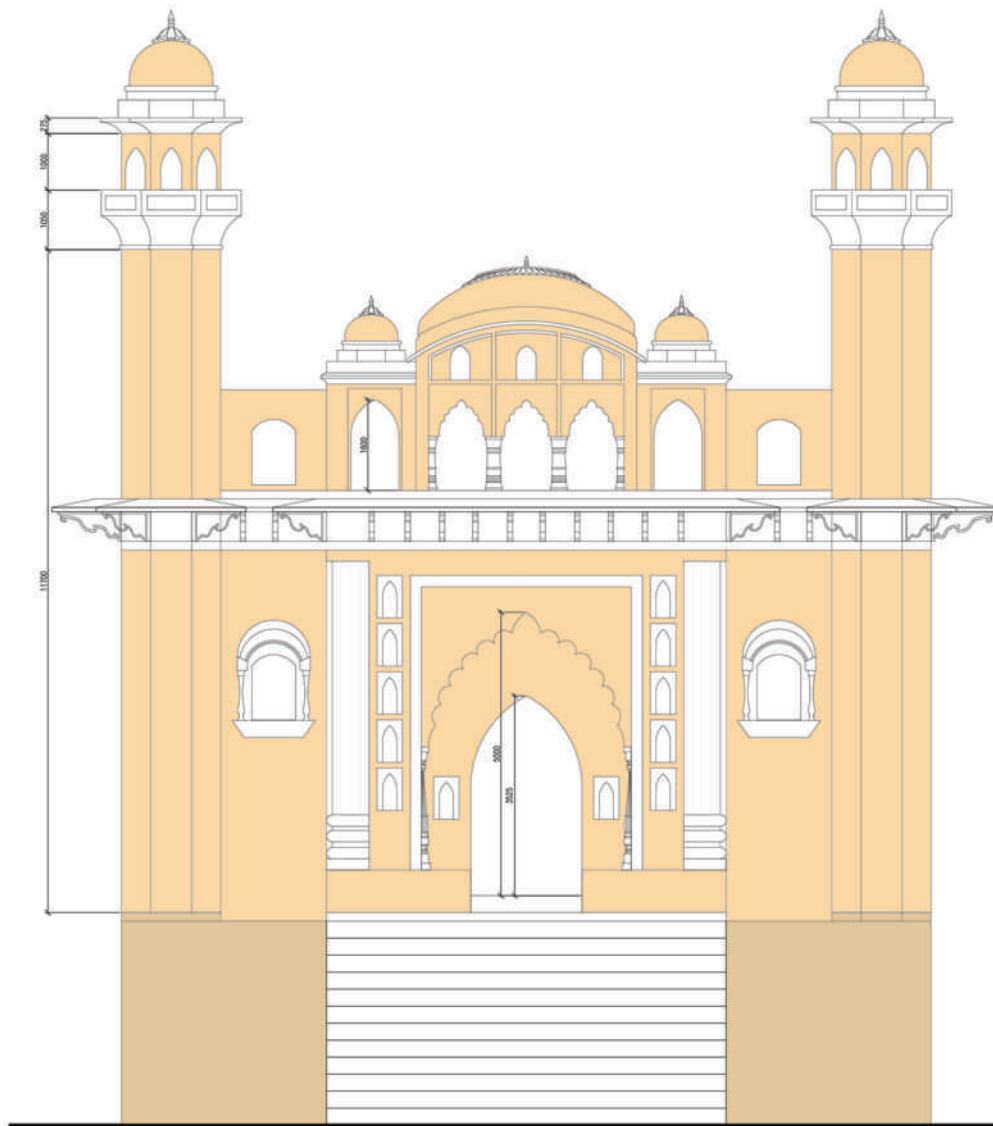


SECOND FLOOR PLAN (ENTRANCE)

History & Description:

The simplistic and utilitarian architecture of the tomb of Sheikh Mussa shows an ideal blend of Mughal and Rajput styles. Earlier it was called as the *Dargah* of Hazrat Sheikh Mussa.

Sheikh Mussa, the grandson of Mohammed Farid, had arrived here in search of peace and serenity. The complex was built for him and as his fame grew, it was extended. One of the 12 gateways built around the dargah has shaking minarets that vibrate synchronously.



ELEVATION (ENTRANCE)

These minarets are one of its kind in India (like in Ahemdabad), as these can vibrate/shake. These are also known as the Shaking Minarets (Jhulti Minar). They are playful but with a whir of quivering mystery. They have left the best of architects and pioneering design engineers intrigued & in irresolvable wonder. What they cannot unravel is when one minaret is shaken the other begins to vibrate, though the connecting passage between the two remains vibration-free; what causes this vibration is unknown. The conditions of these minars are not good due to lack of maintenance & immediate action is required otherwise within next 2-3 years we may lose this example of ancient engineering. The water in the kundli is said to contain healing powers.

Constructed entirely in stone the mosque has a *Cenotaph* and an old well. The *Cenotaph*, built in marble has an underground source of water. From amongst the arches of the imposing structure one can also see the ruins of an old fort nearby. Built in local stone it has arches and gateways made using stone & lime plaster. Timber & bricks were used later to renovate the damaged structure. The arches, domes and walls of the inside mosque are a statement of the Tughlaq style. The roofs are shaped as stunted vaults in stone. The mosque mentions the Hijri era 1142 (approximately 14th century) as the date of construction. The arches and gateways (18th to early 19th century) have a late Mughal treatment mixed with Rajput style.



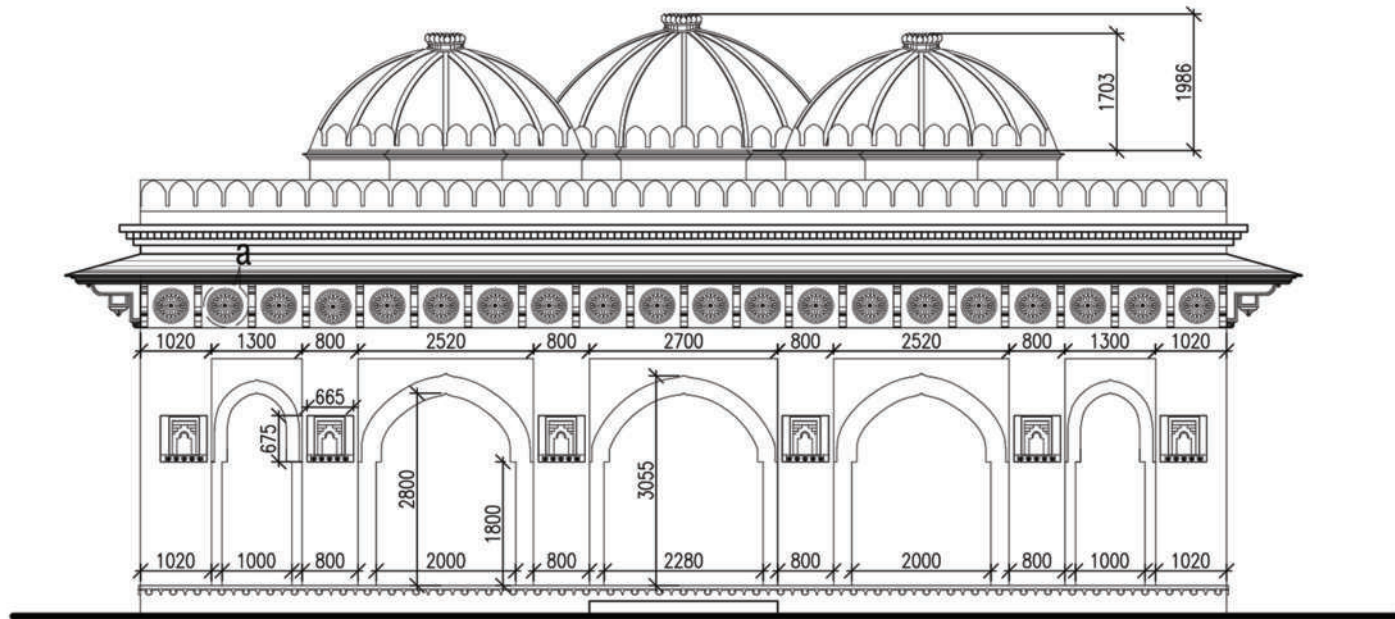
8

DEHRA MANDIR, FIROJPUR-JHIRKHA

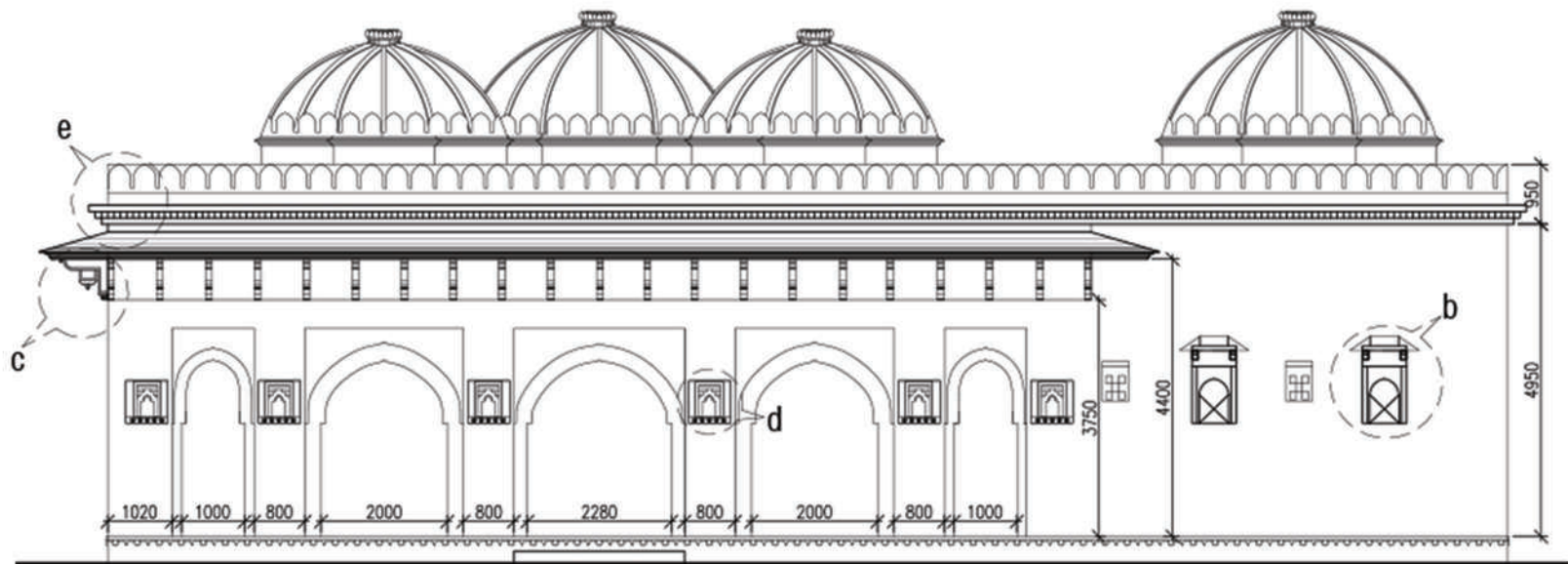


Dehra Mandir

Type	: Temple
Location	: Village Bhond, Tehsil Firozpur Jhirkha, Mewat, Haryana
Ownership	: Archaeology & Museums Department, Haryana
Period	: 1451 CE
Patronage	: Unknown



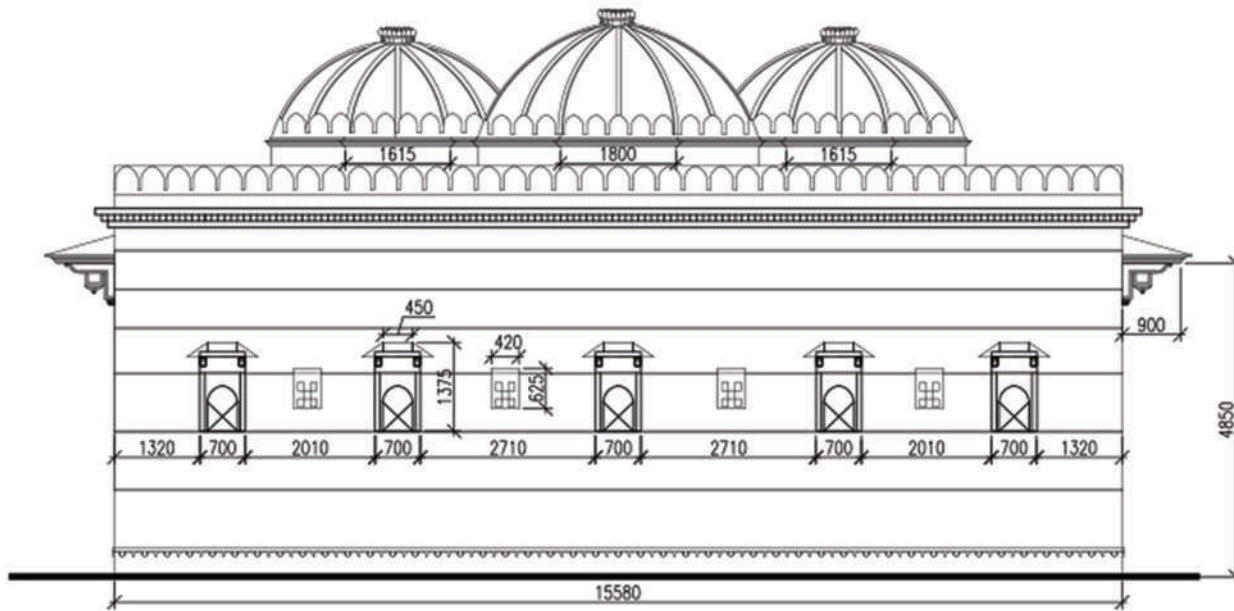
ELEVATION "A"



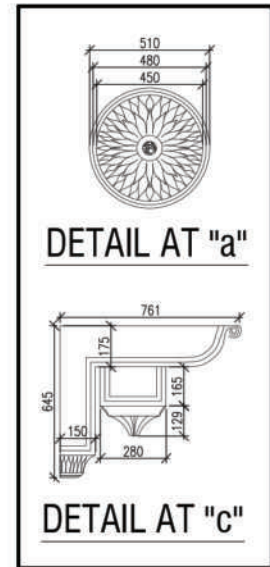
ELEVATION "B"

History & Description:

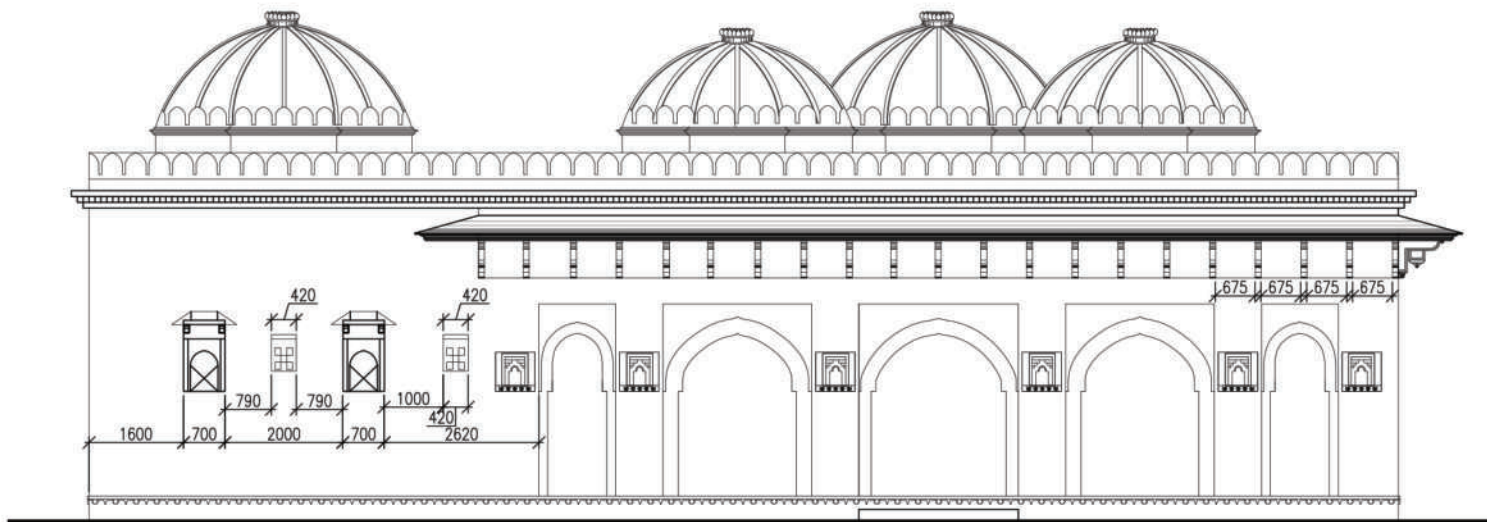
This is only State protected ancient Jain Temple site in Haryana. This temple was possibly constructed in 1451 CE as can be inferred from an inscription fixed on the upper portion of the entrance of the Pillared hall (*Sabhagraha*) of the temple.



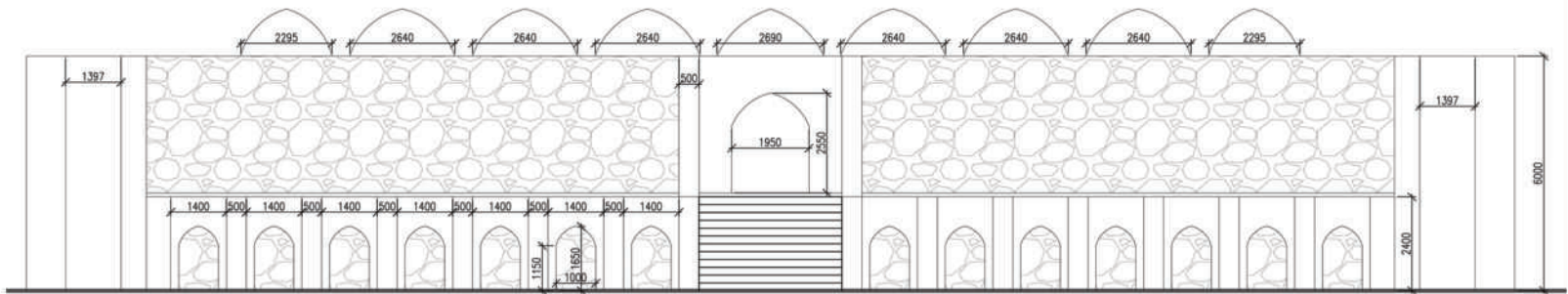
ELEVATION "C"



DETAILS



ELEVATION "D"



ELEVATION "E"

This temple consists of three sanctum-sanctorum for the three Tirthankars; a Pillared hall & a circumambulatory path (*Pradakshinapath*). There were four stone slabs with carved elephants, one out of them is missing. The inscription, among them the central slab mentions the date of construction of the temple in Samvat 1508 i.e. 1451 CE. The temple architecture appears to be heavily influenced by the then prevailing Lodhi style of architecture. Stone boulders of uneven sizes were used for the construction of this temple. The binding material is lime. A boundary wall with a stepped gate way encloses the temple. There is also an underground chamber, which has arched openings on the front of the outer wall on the eastern side.



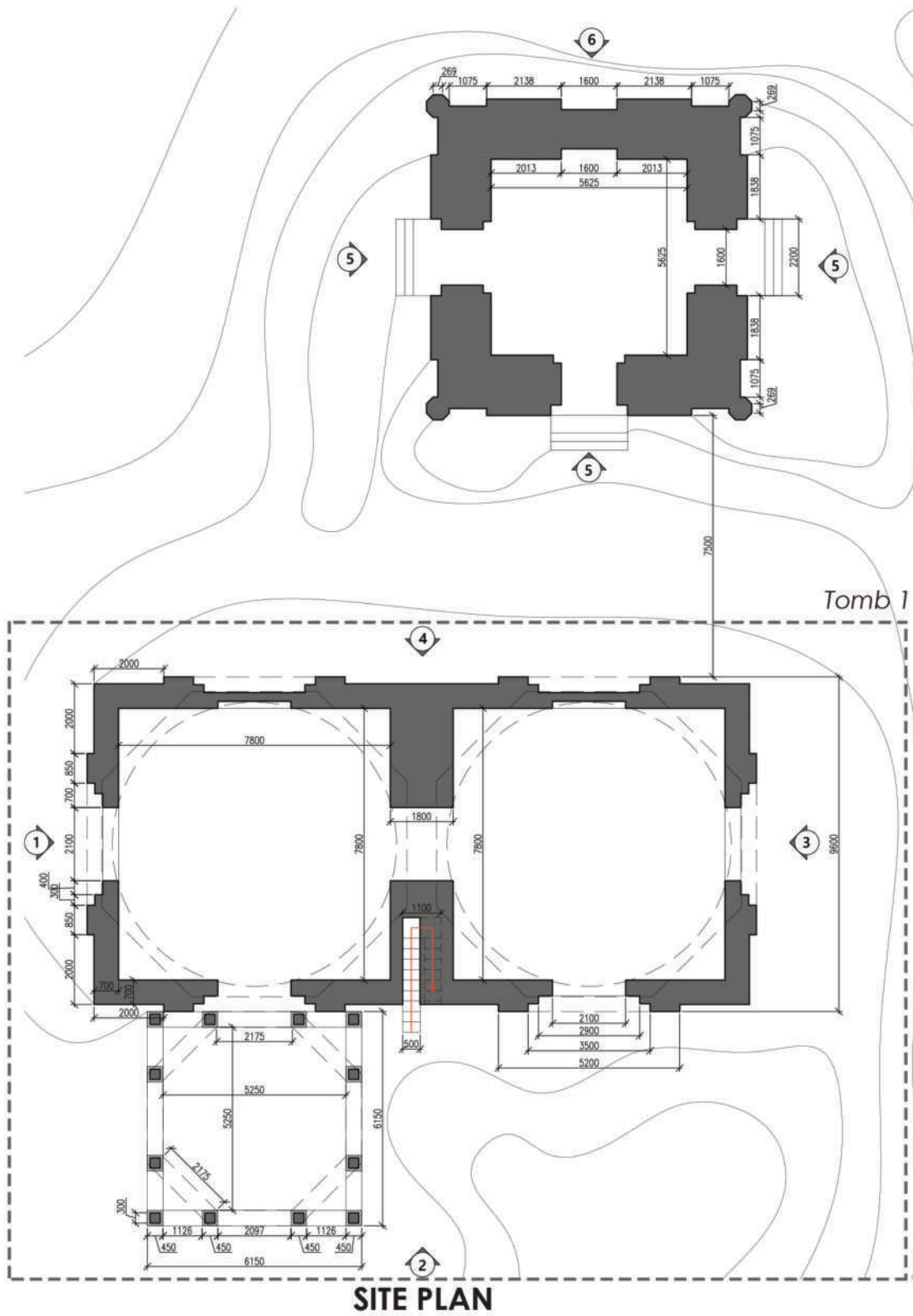
9

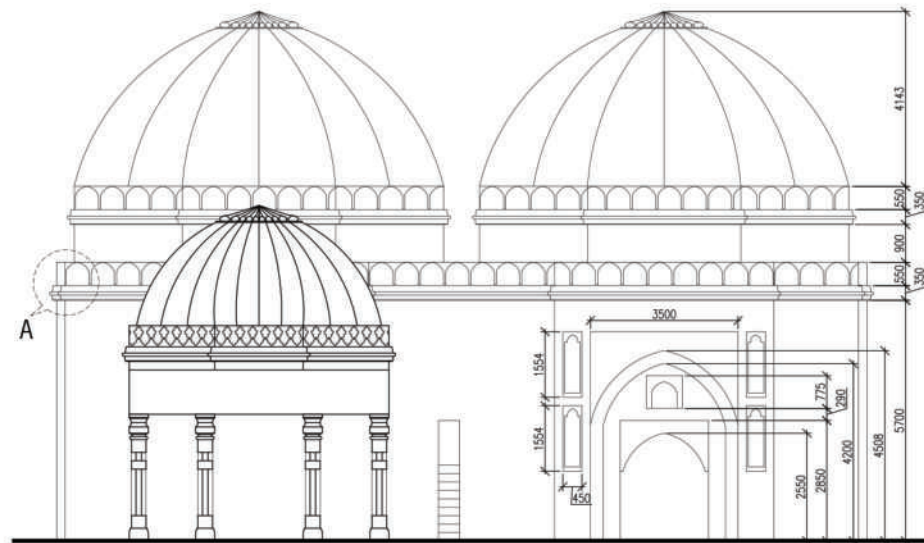
LAL GUMBAD, SOHNA



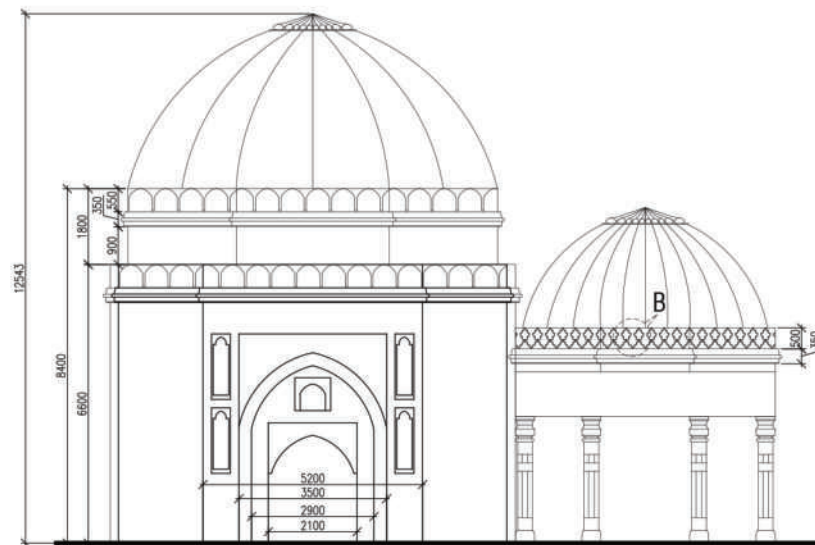
Lal Gumbad

Type	: Tomb
Location	: Village Saanp ki Naangli, Sohna, Gurugram, Haryana
Ownership	: Archaeology & Museums Department, Haryana
Period	: 15th to 16th century CE
Patronage	: Unknown





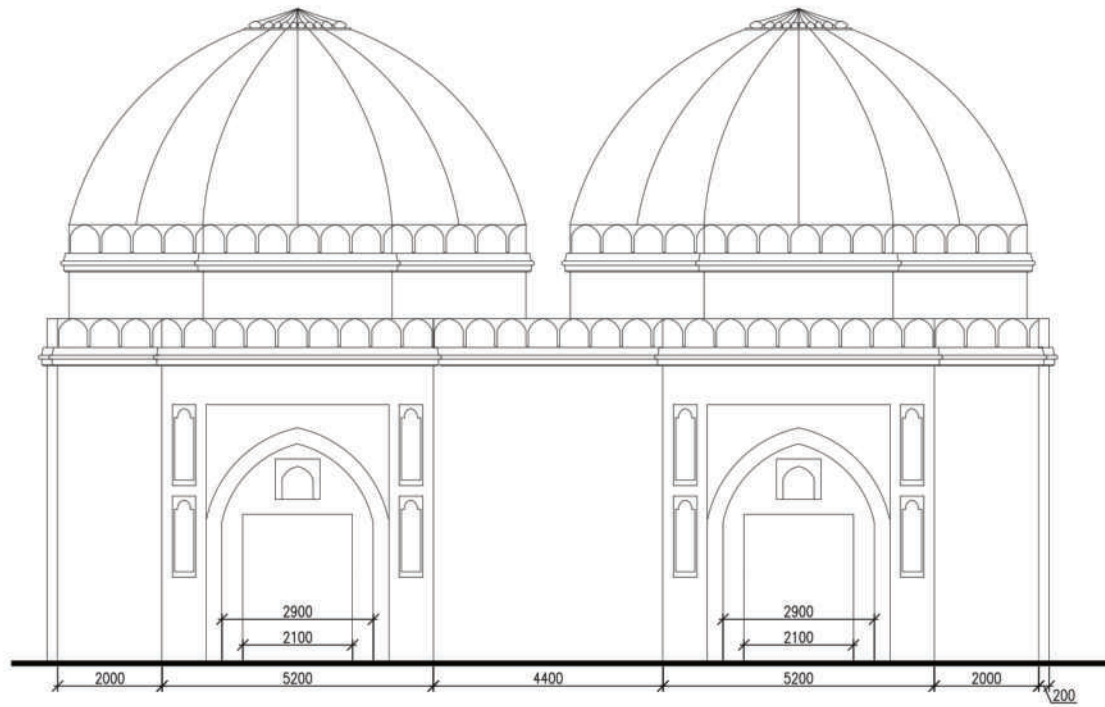
ELEVATION "2"



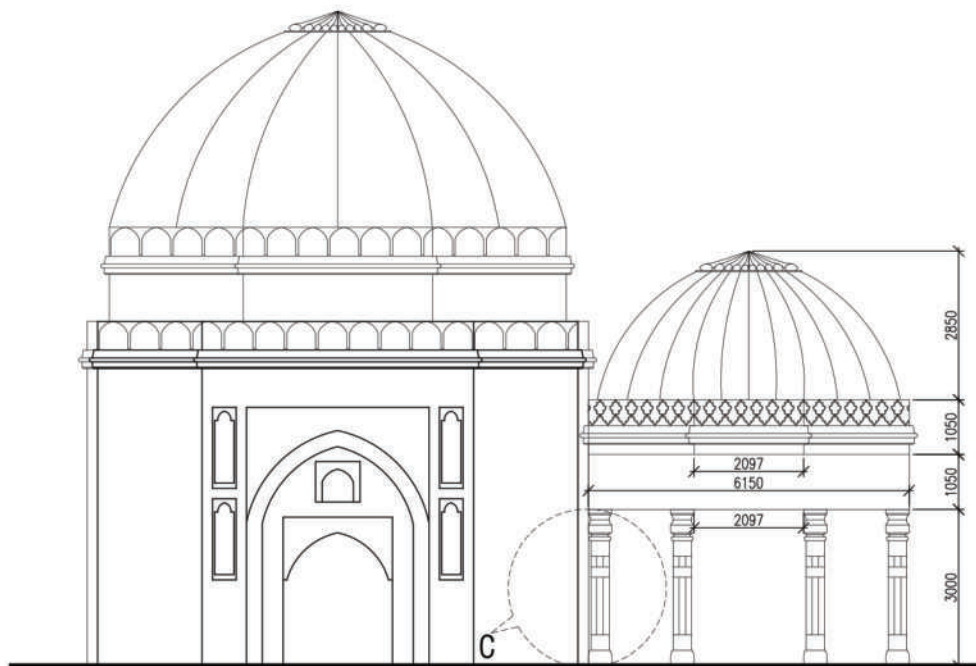
ELEVATION "1"

History & Description:

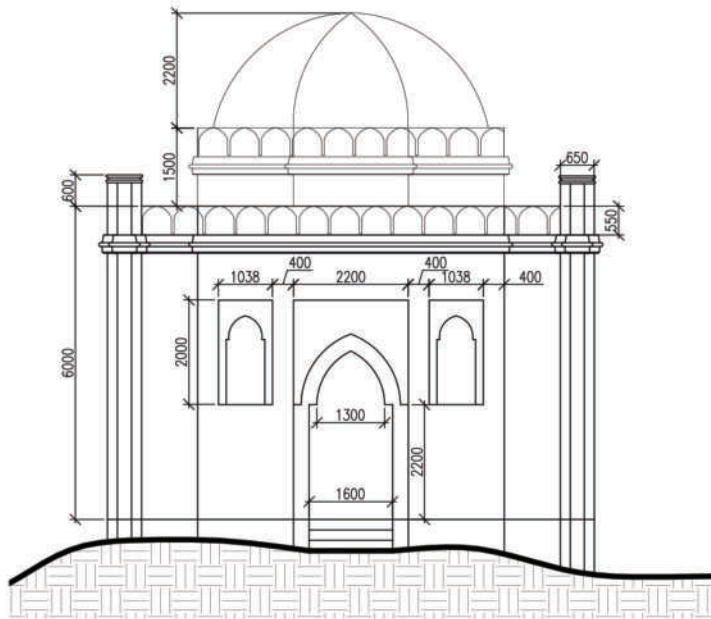
The tomb complex locally known as "Lal Gumbad" consists of a Lodi period twin tomb and a single tomb. The red sandstone columns of the porch of twin tomb are responsible for its local name 'Lal Gumbad'. Twin tomb is a rectangular structure consisting of two square tombs; a porch that projects from one of the tombs (tomb-1).



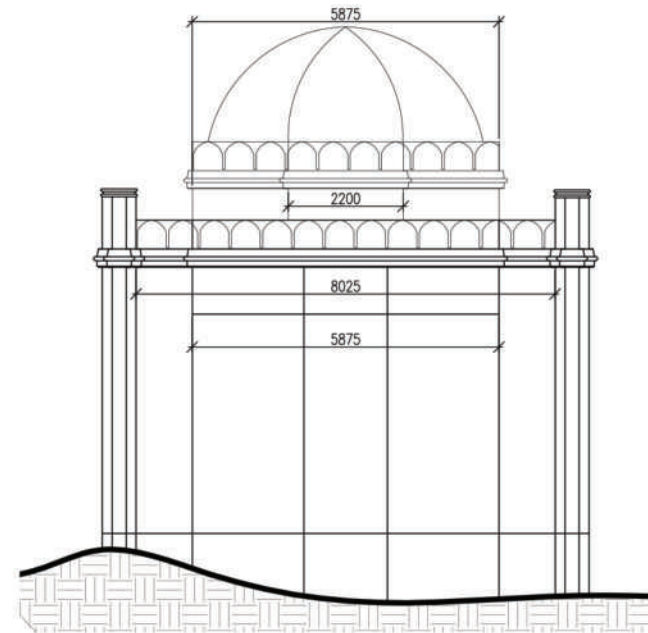
ELEVATION "4"



ELEVATION "3"



ELEVATION "5"



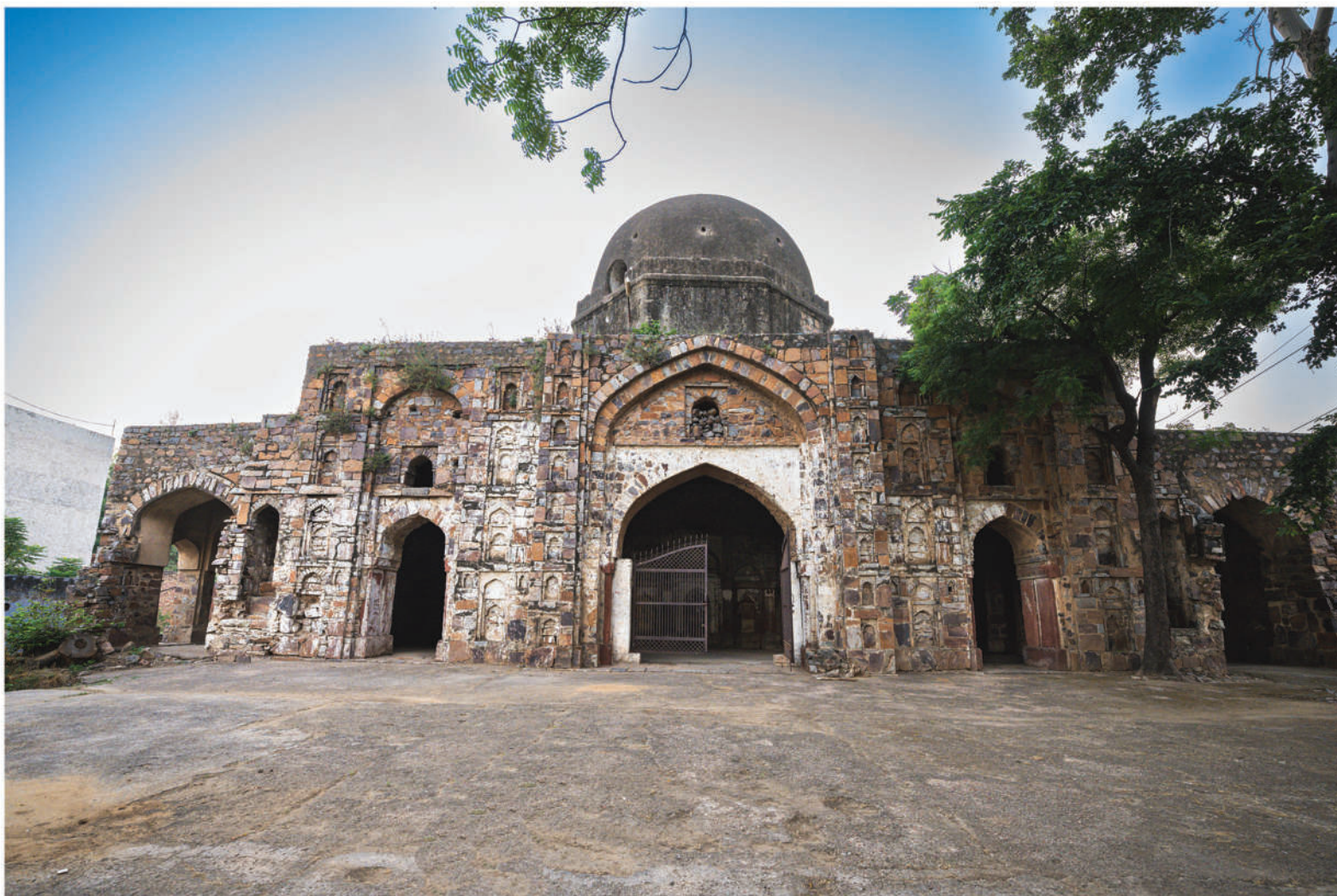
ELEVATION "6"

Porch is composed of columns supporting a ribbed domical roof, on an octagonal drum. The tomb-1, has three arched openings; one opening into the porch, the second directly outside and the third leading to the other tomb. Like the tomb-1, the other tomb also has three openings, two leading to the outside and the third leading to tomb-1. A dome spans on each of the interior of these spaces resting on high octagonal drums. The dome over second tomb has partially collapsed. This twin tomb is constructed of red and buff stone. A single tomb is located behind this twin tomb. This tomb is square in plan with minarets at all corners and two arched openings facing each other. The interiors are covered with a domical roof resting on an octagonal base (collapsed). The construction material are rubble and red sandstone with lime *surkhi* mortar. The monument is dated back to 1475-1525 CE i.e. 15th to 16th century CE.



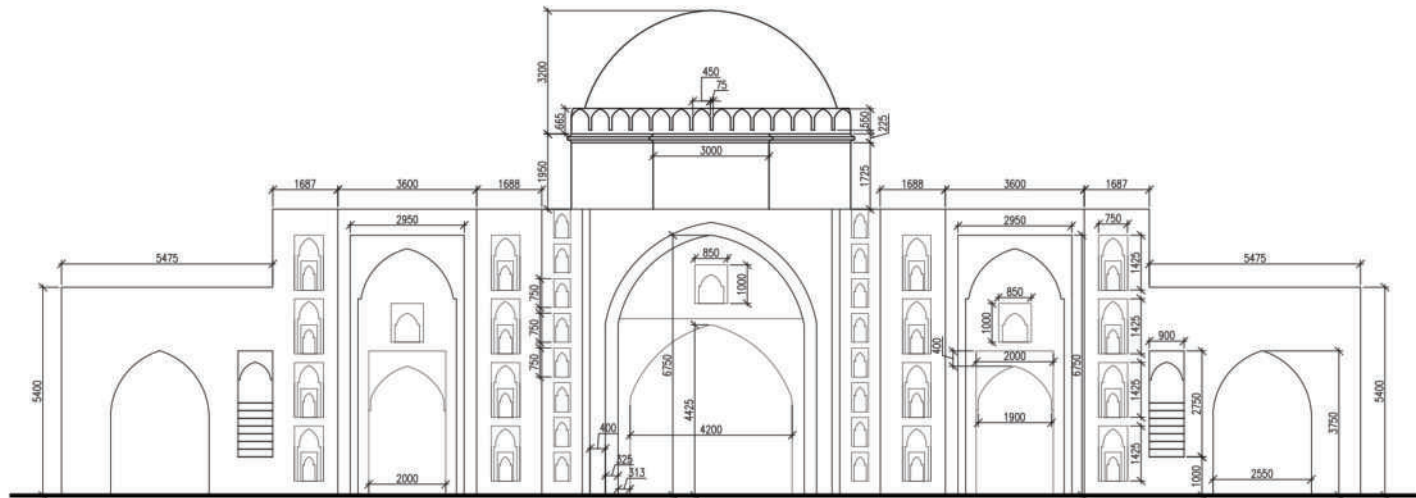
10

QUTUB KHAN KI MASJID, SOHNA

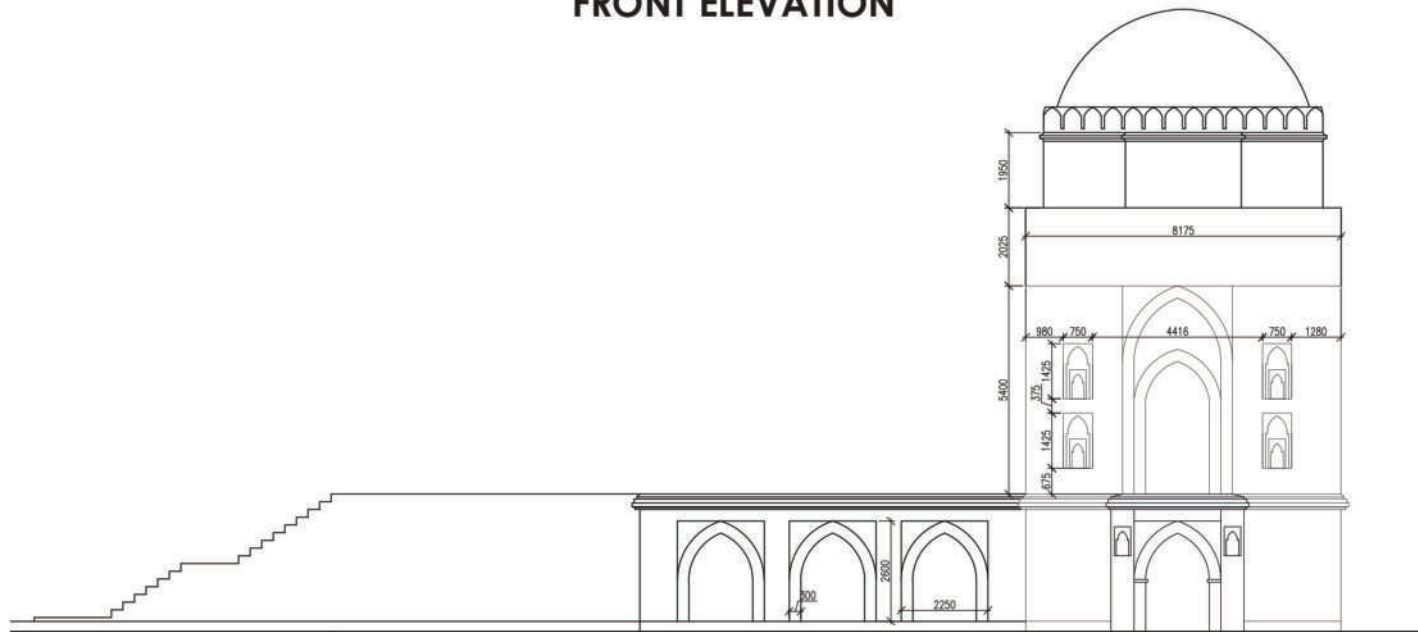


Qutub khan ki Masjid

Type	: Mosque
Location	: Block <i>Chungi</i> 1, Sohna, Gurugram, Haryana
Ownership	: Archaeology & Museums Department, Haryana
Period	: 16th Century CE
Patronage	: Unknown



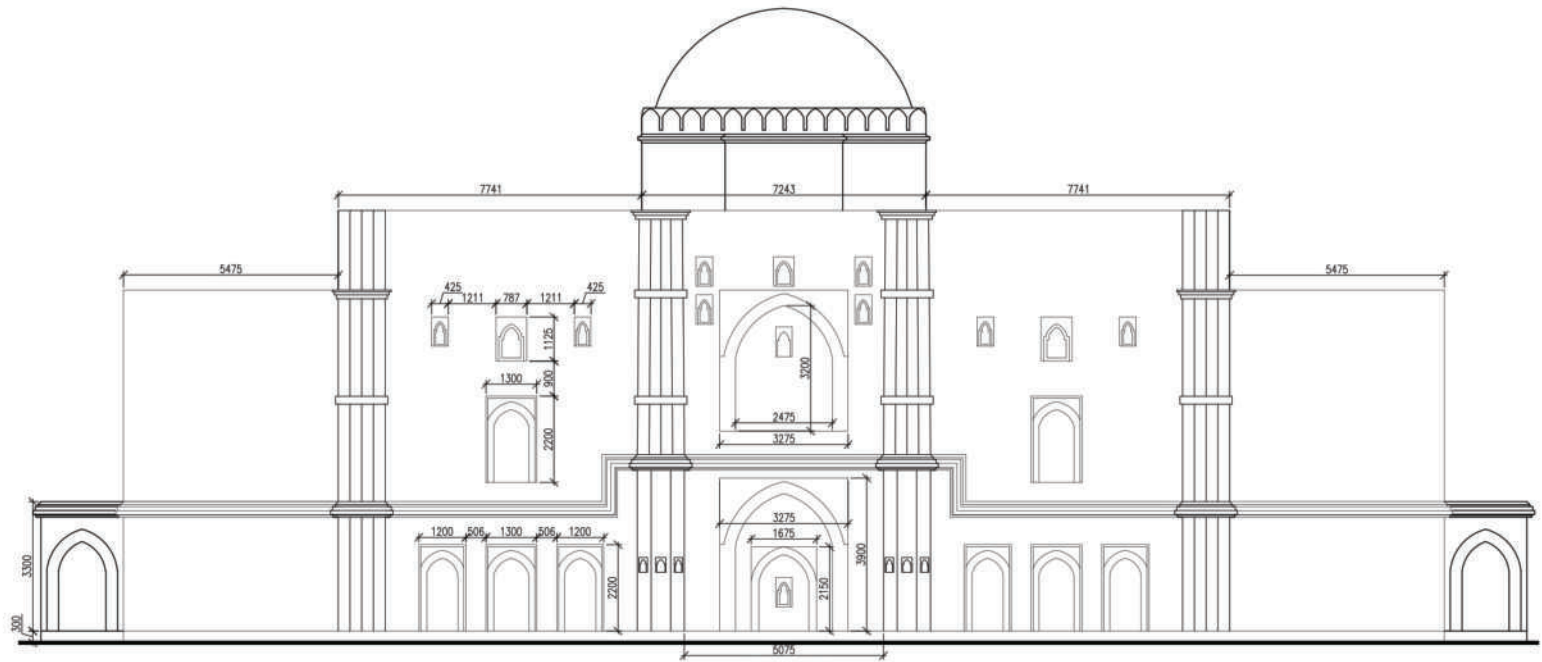
FRONT ELEVATION



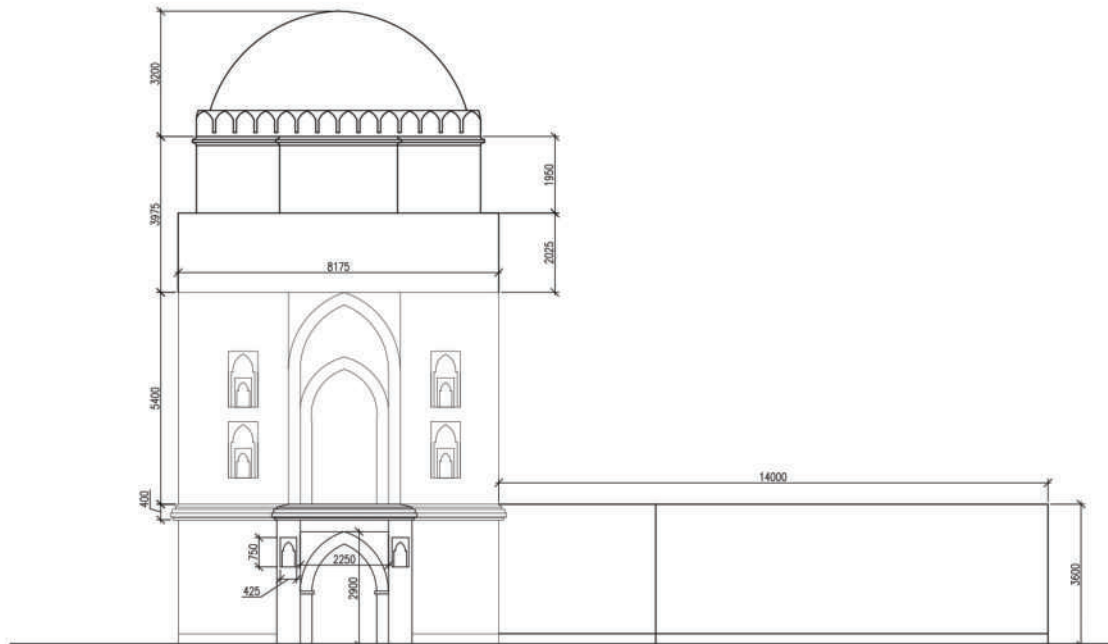
RIGHT ELEVATION

History & Description:

It is a rectangular shaped structure with three arched openings leading to the interior, with central opening being higher and broader than the rest. The wall facing the archways houses the mehrab in red sandstone. A low arcaded verandah is located at both ends of the structure, enveloping the sides.



REAR ELEVATION



LEFT ELEVATION

At the heart of this magnificent structure stands a grand dome, proudly perched atop a soaring octagonal base that adds a touch of architectural splendor to the entire edifice. Welcome to the timeless wonder of the Mosque, a place where history and artistry unite to create an awe-inspiring sight.

As you approach the exterior of the Mosque, your eyes are immediately drawn to the captivating adornments. The façade is adorned with a mesmerizing array of arched niches, meticulously arranged in rectangular panels, gracefully flanking the majestic arched openings. Each niche seems to tell a story of its own, a testament to the intricate craftsmanship that once thrived within these walls.

Adding to the allure of the structure, a series of fluted minarets stand tall at the rear, like sentinels, forming a truly captivating and decorative feature of the Mosque. These minarets, with their graceful form and intricate detailing, once called the faithful to prayer and symbolized the spiritual significance of this sacred place.

The Mosque's construction utilizes rubble as the primary building material. This technique, combined with the stunning use of red sandstone, imparts a distinctive and captivating hue to the entire monument.

Alas, today, the Mosque stands abandoned, a silent witness to the passage of time and the ebb and flow of history. Yet, even in its solitude, the monument remains a testament to the rich cultural heritage and architectural marvels of its time.

Dated back to the year 1550 CE, this Mosque has seen generations come and go, witnessed countless prayers and celebrations, and stood resilient through various eras and events. It continues to hold within its walls a timeless charm that beckons visitors to marvel at its grandeur and appreciate the legacy it carries from centuries past.



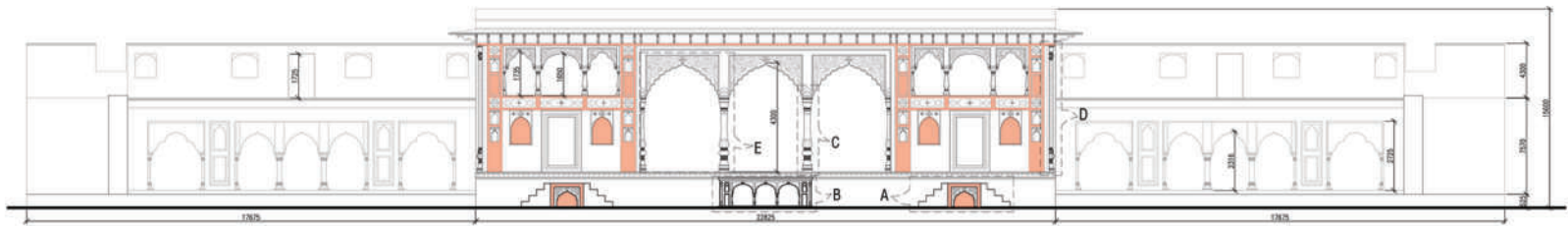
1 1

SHISH MAHAL, FARRUKH NAGAR

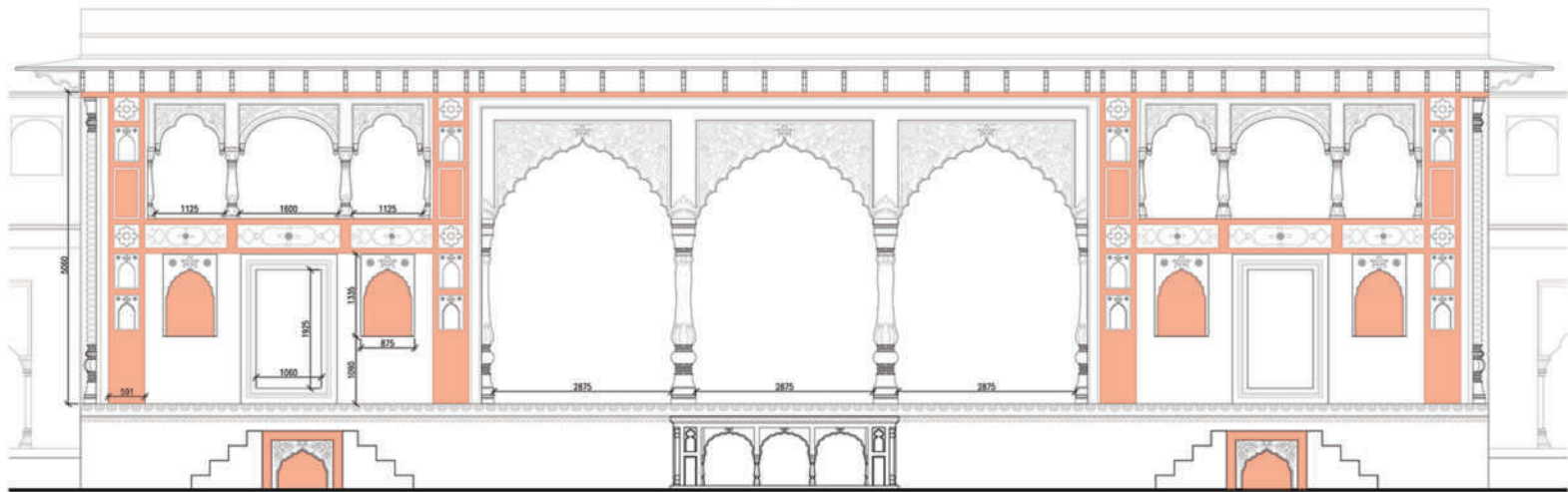


Shish Mahal

Type	: Palace
Location	: Old Grain Market, Farrukh Nagar, Gurugram, Haryana
Ownership	: Archaeology & Museums Department, Haryana
Period	: 1733 CE
Patronage	: Faujdar Khan



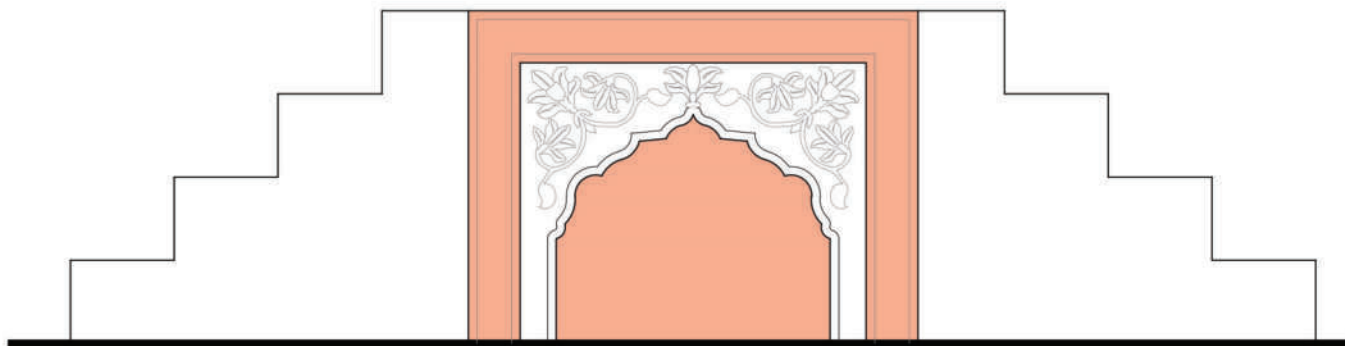
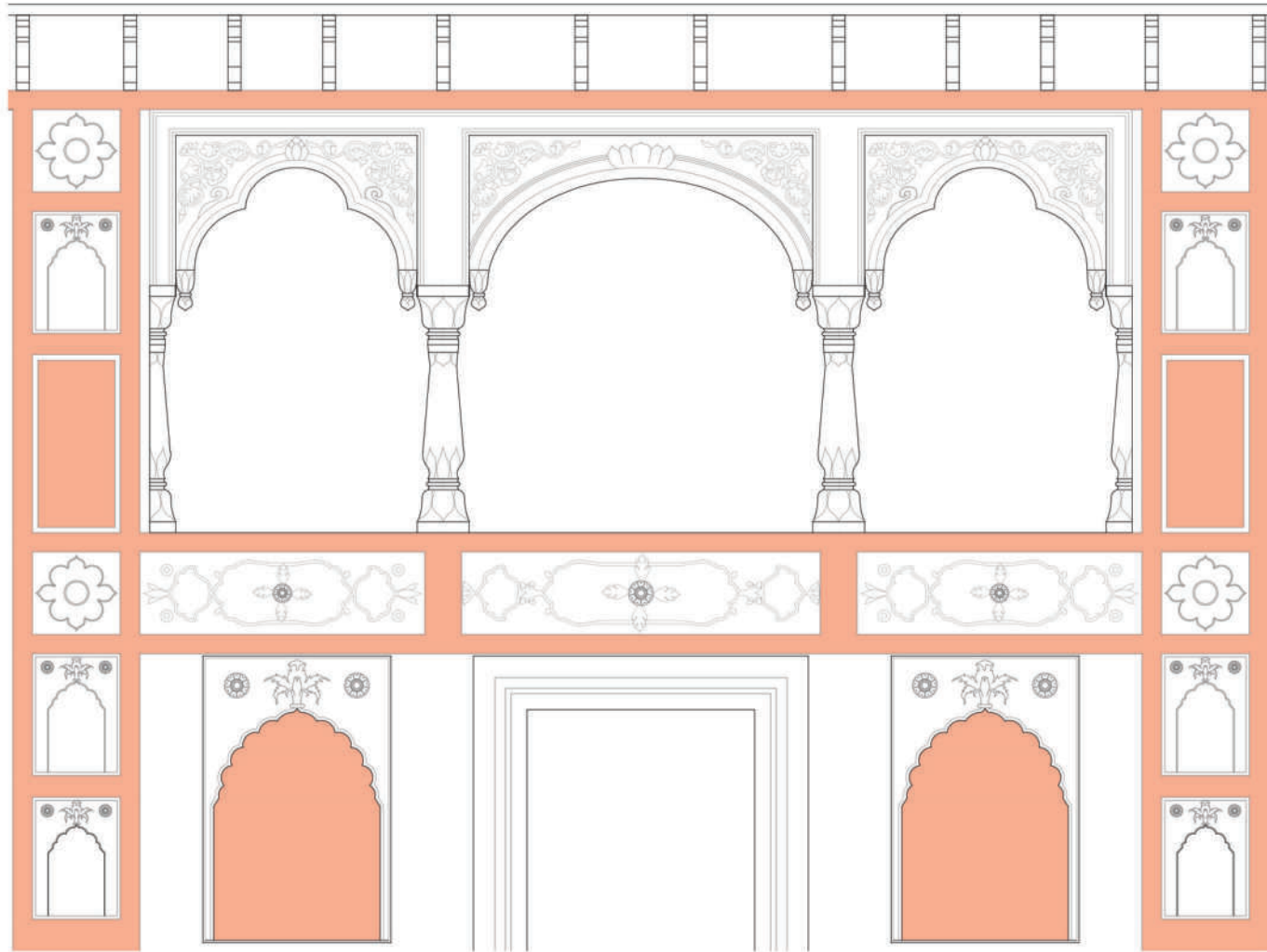
FRONT ELEVATION



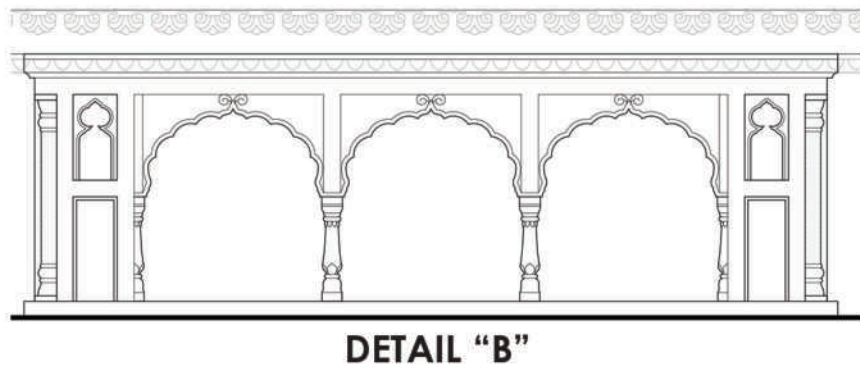
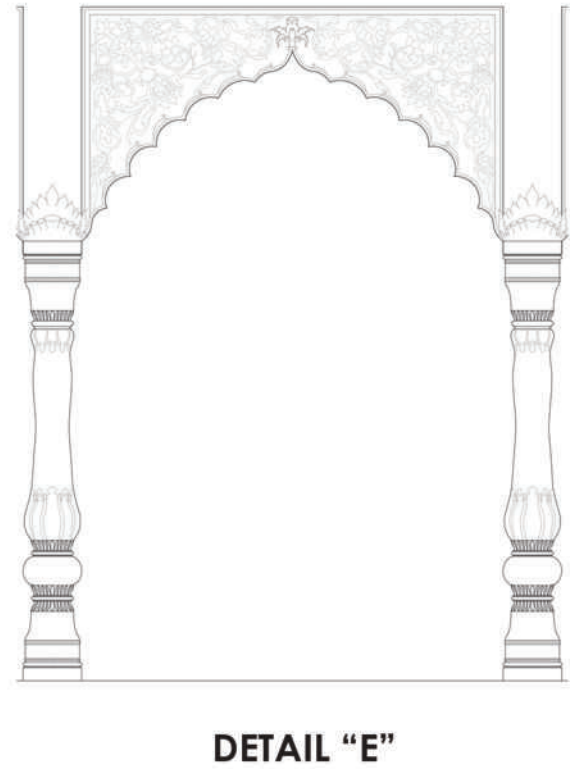
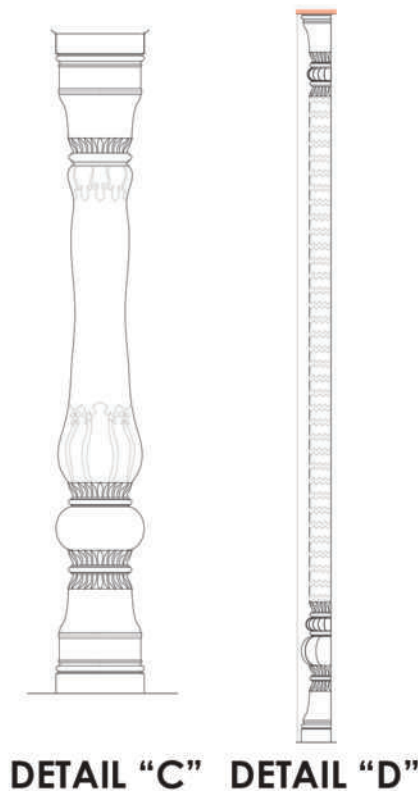
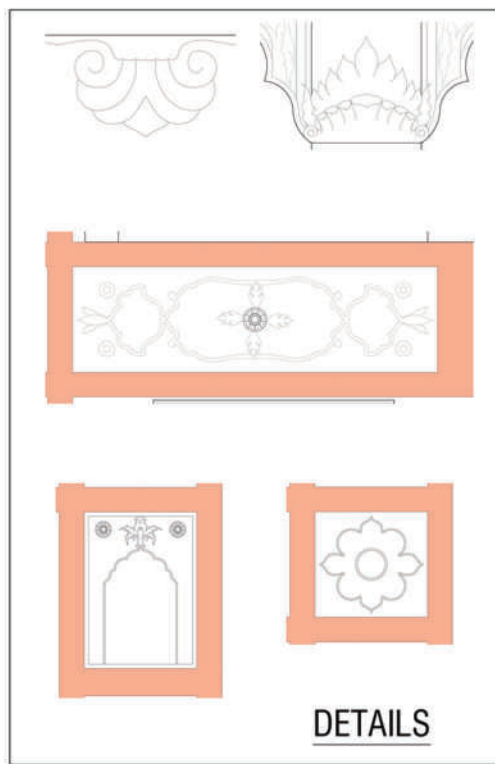
FRONT ELEVATION "BLOWN-UP"

History & Description:

The Shish Mahal was the residential palace of Faujdar Khan, the Governor appointed by Emperor Farrukh Siyar, the great grandson of Aurangzeb. This residential palace was built by him in 1733 CE. The Diwan-e-aam of the palace is a rectangular structure made of sandstone. It is built on a high plinth with mirrors fixed in the wooden ceiling and backside wall, a tradition that gave the palace its name of Shish Mahal or glass palace. A continuous water flow in the artificial channel in front of *Diwan-e-am* was provided by a fountain pool made over the plinth. This mahal is an example of the excellent Mughal patterns used in royal palaces of which the glitter of mirrors and the music of running water was an integral part of the structural design (ambience).



DETAIL "A"



The details and the stone carving is well preserved in this monument, some planning details of this monument is yet to be explored further (basement planning) which was not accessible properly.

The intricate detailing of the wall shows how talented the people were of that time. The walls of this monument has well preserved symmetrical floral motifs carved out of Dholpur stone.



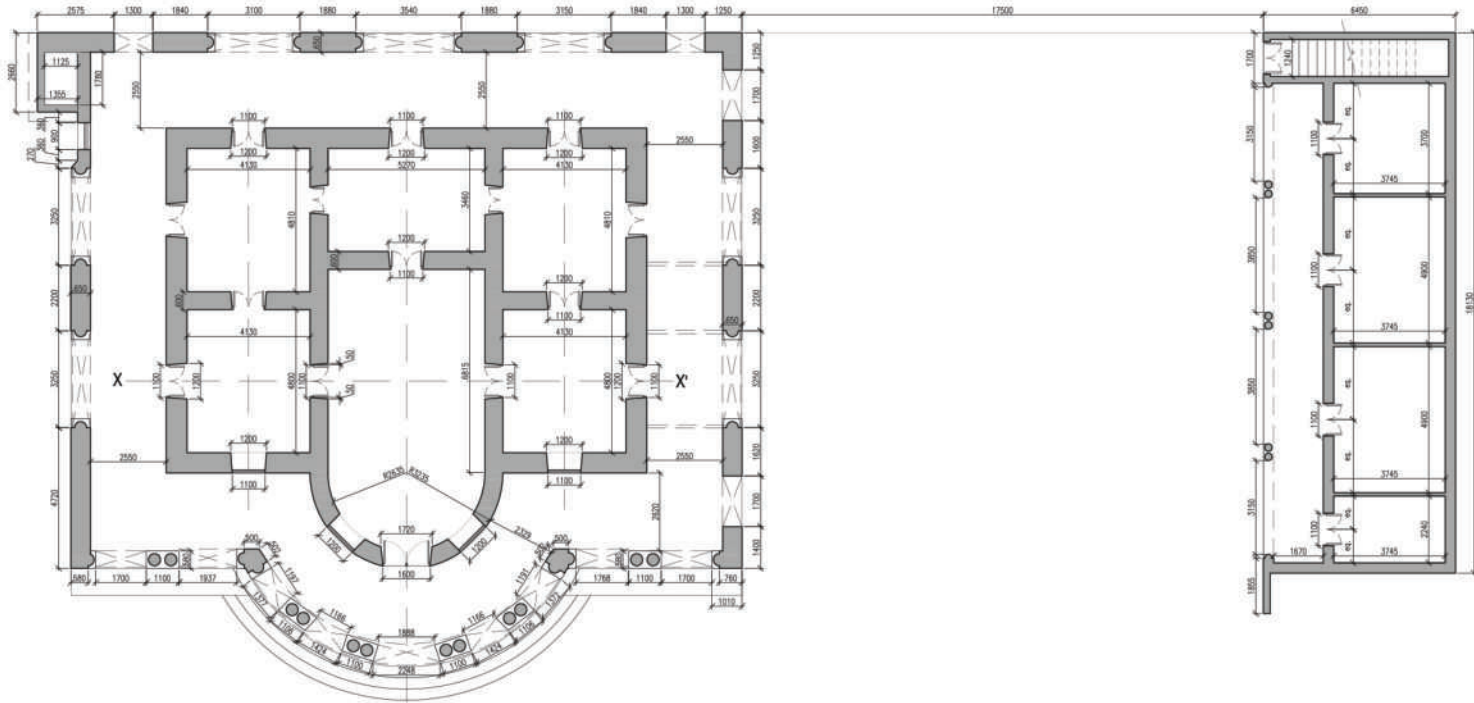
12

NAHAN KOTHI, PANCHKULA

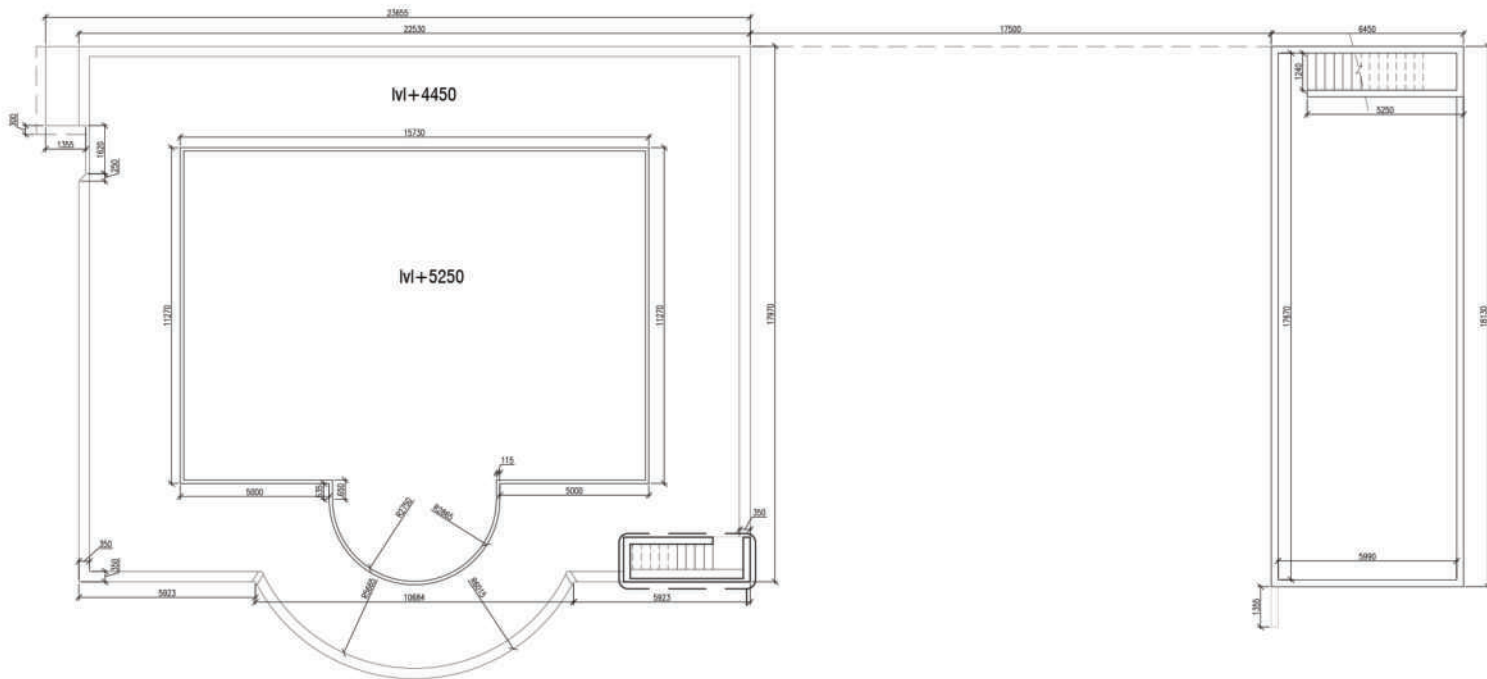


Nahan Kothi

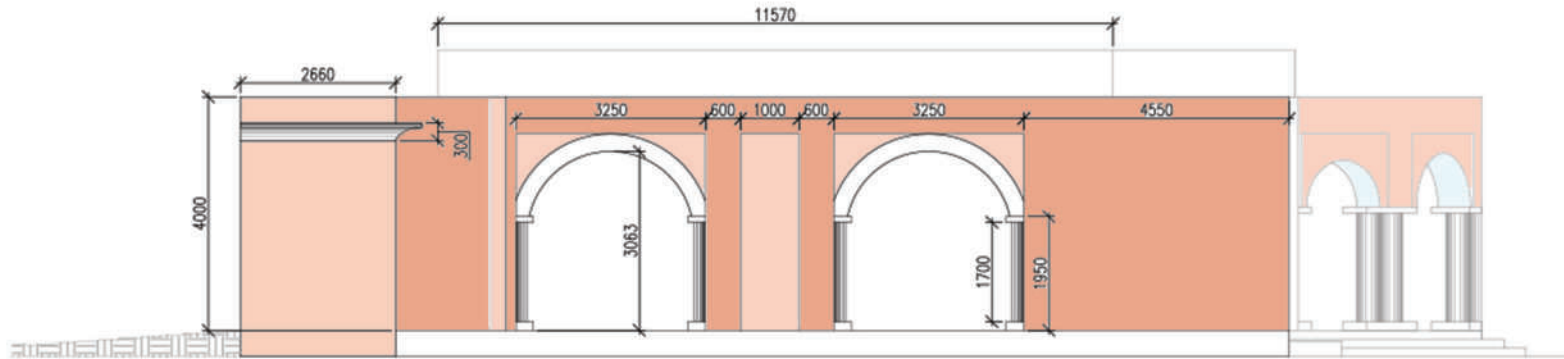
Type	: Residence/ Official/ Colonial
Location	: Sector 12A, Panchkula, Haryana
Ownership	: Archaeology & Museums Department, Haryana
Period	: 19th Century CE
Patronage	: Prince Surjan Singh & Bir Singh



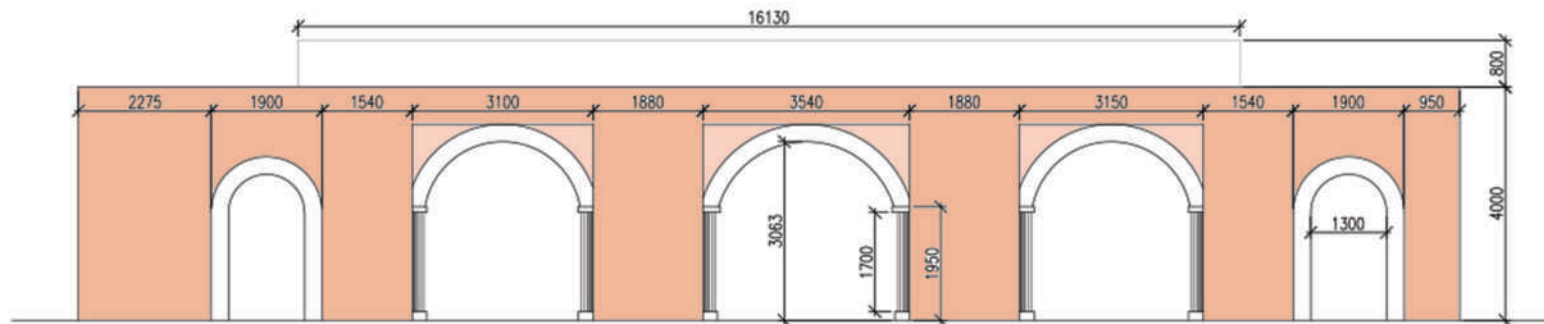
GROUND FLOOR PLAN



TERRACE PLAN



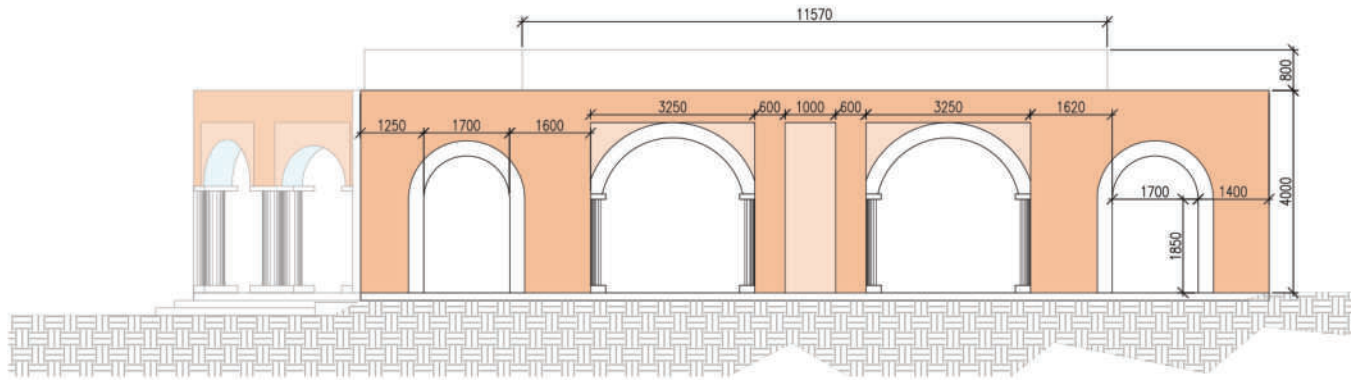
LEFT ELEVATION



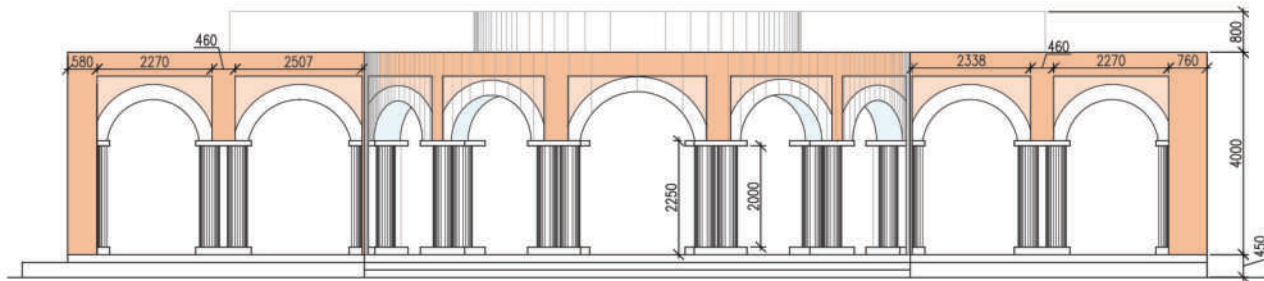
REAR ELEVATION

History & Description:

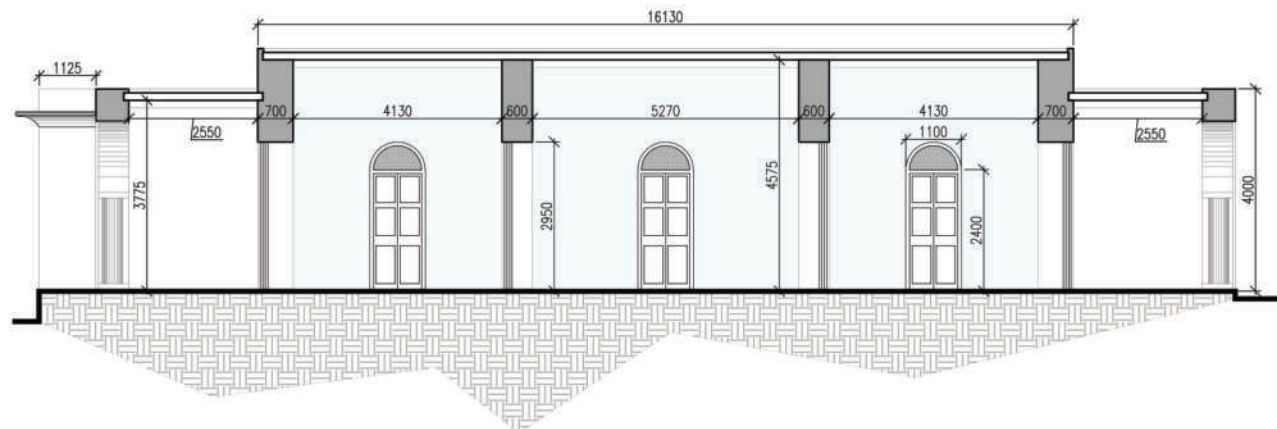
A significant and only remnant representing the British architecture of 19th century CE in the modern city of Panchkula is known as *Nahan Kothi*. This monument was built by Prince Surjan Singh and Bir Singh the sons of Raja Fateh Singh (1857-63 CE) the ruler of Sirmour State. This region including Morni and other adjoining hilly areas of Haryana was then under the Sirmour State.



RIGHT ELEVATION



FRONT ELEVATION



SECTION XX'

The capital of this State was Nahan (Himachal Pradesh), hence the name Nahan Kothi was given to this building. It was generally used by the rulers to keep watch on the activities of their territory. Sometimes it was also used for stay during hunting. This monument had a garden and servant quarters in the beginning. The original architectural beauty of this monument has been marred by the renovations and alterations in different areas at various times, even then, its original characteristics of architectural style are still in existence.



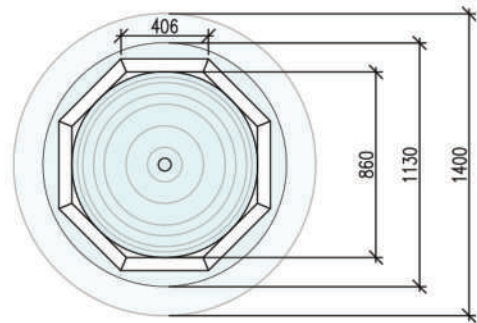
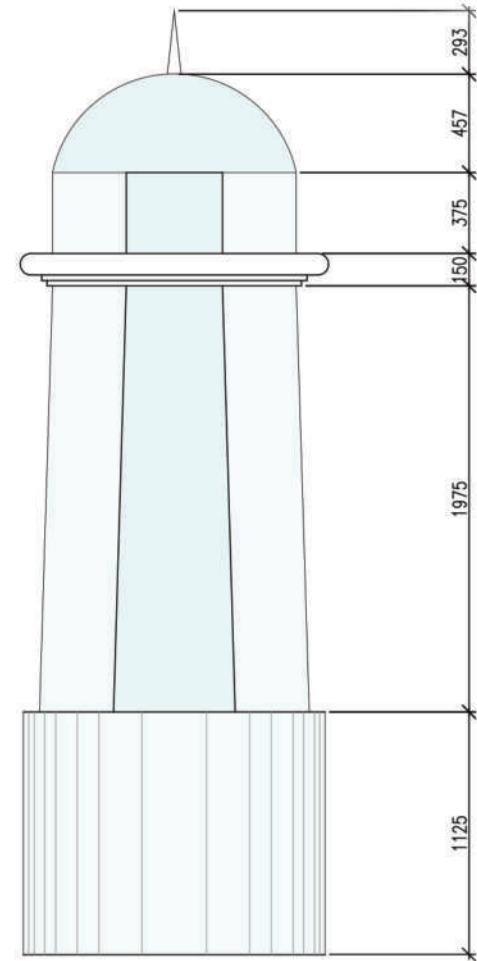
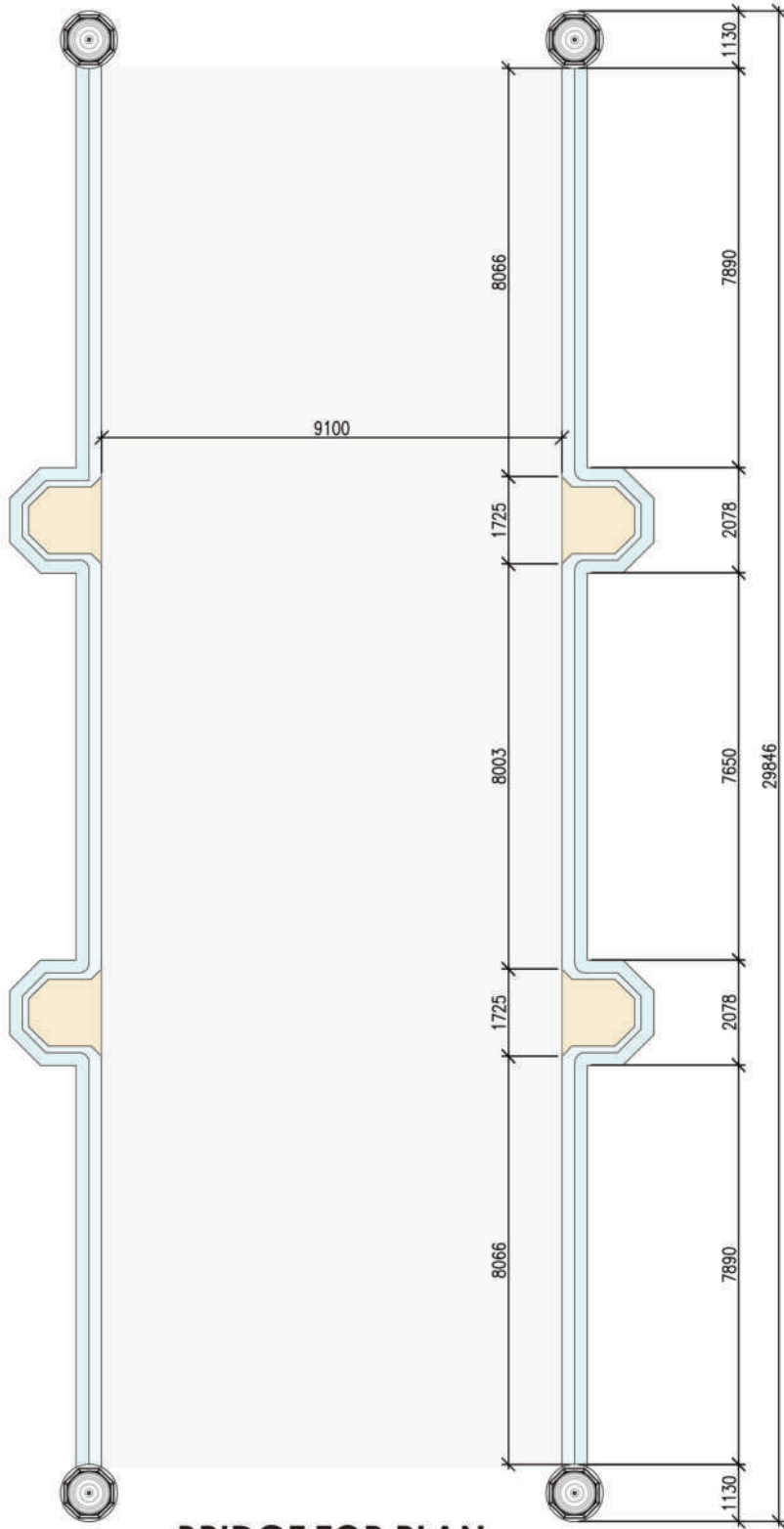
13

OLD BADSHAHI BRIDGE, KARNAL



Badshahi Bridge, Karnal

Type	: Bridge
Location	: Vill. Uncha Siwan, Karnal, Haryana
Ownership	: Archaeology & Museums Department, Haryana
Period	: 1540-44 CE
Patronage	: Sher Shah Suri




History & Description:

This Bridge was erected on the directions of Sher Shah Suri to facilitate safe and easy passage for the travellers. This is a stone bridge having three arches which are structurally sound. The piers of the arches at the both ends are strengthened by buttresses with marked positions indicated by four small minars with domed tops.

This bridge is along with Pakka Pul Pir Dargah and one can easily visit this place. Presently this structure is along the NH 44, with geo-coordinates 29°37'18.3"N and 76°58'58.3"E.

The bridge has four columns, two columns (as "*minarets*") on one side and two on the other. The columns and bridge is in brick masonry, the structure is in good shape and condition.



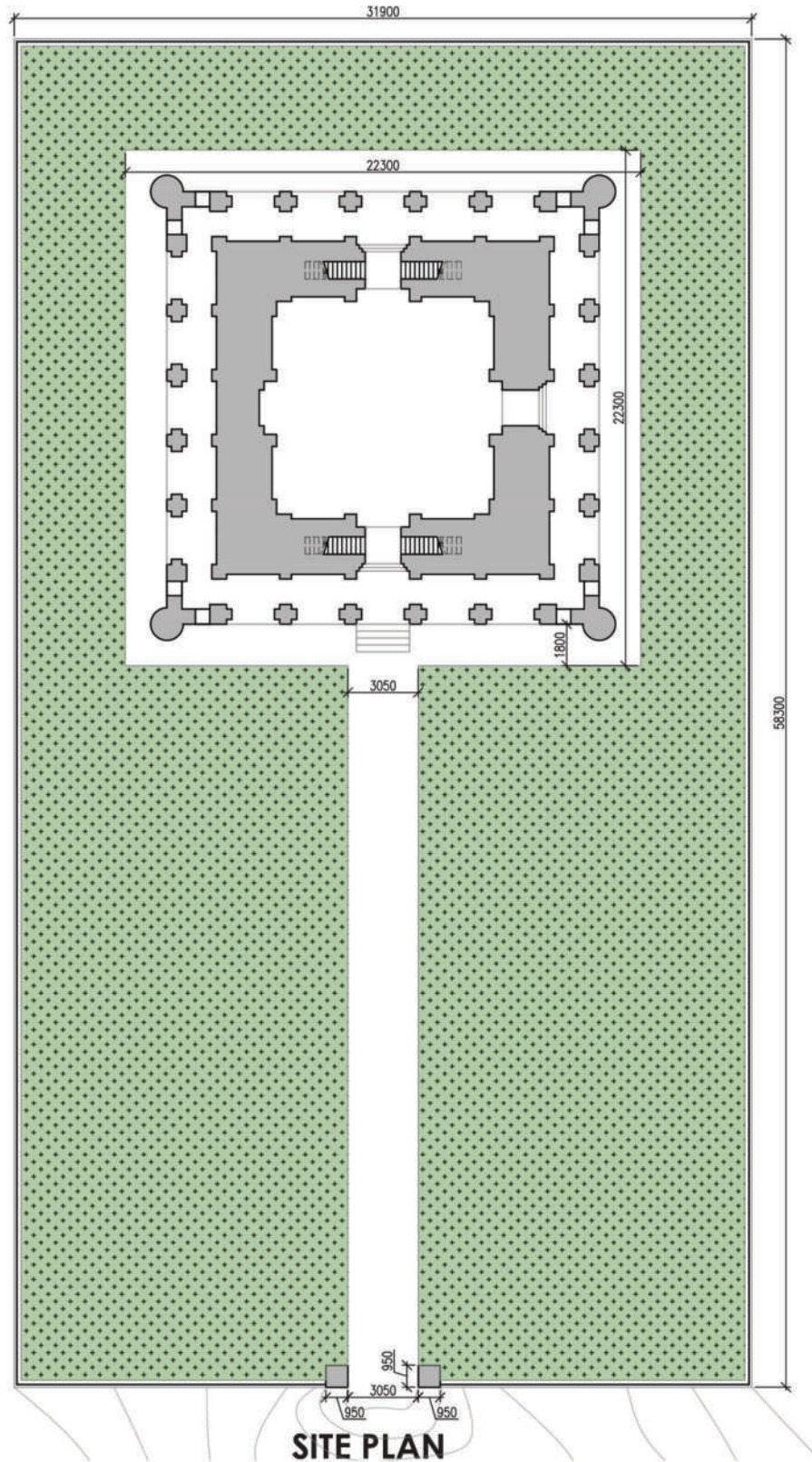
14

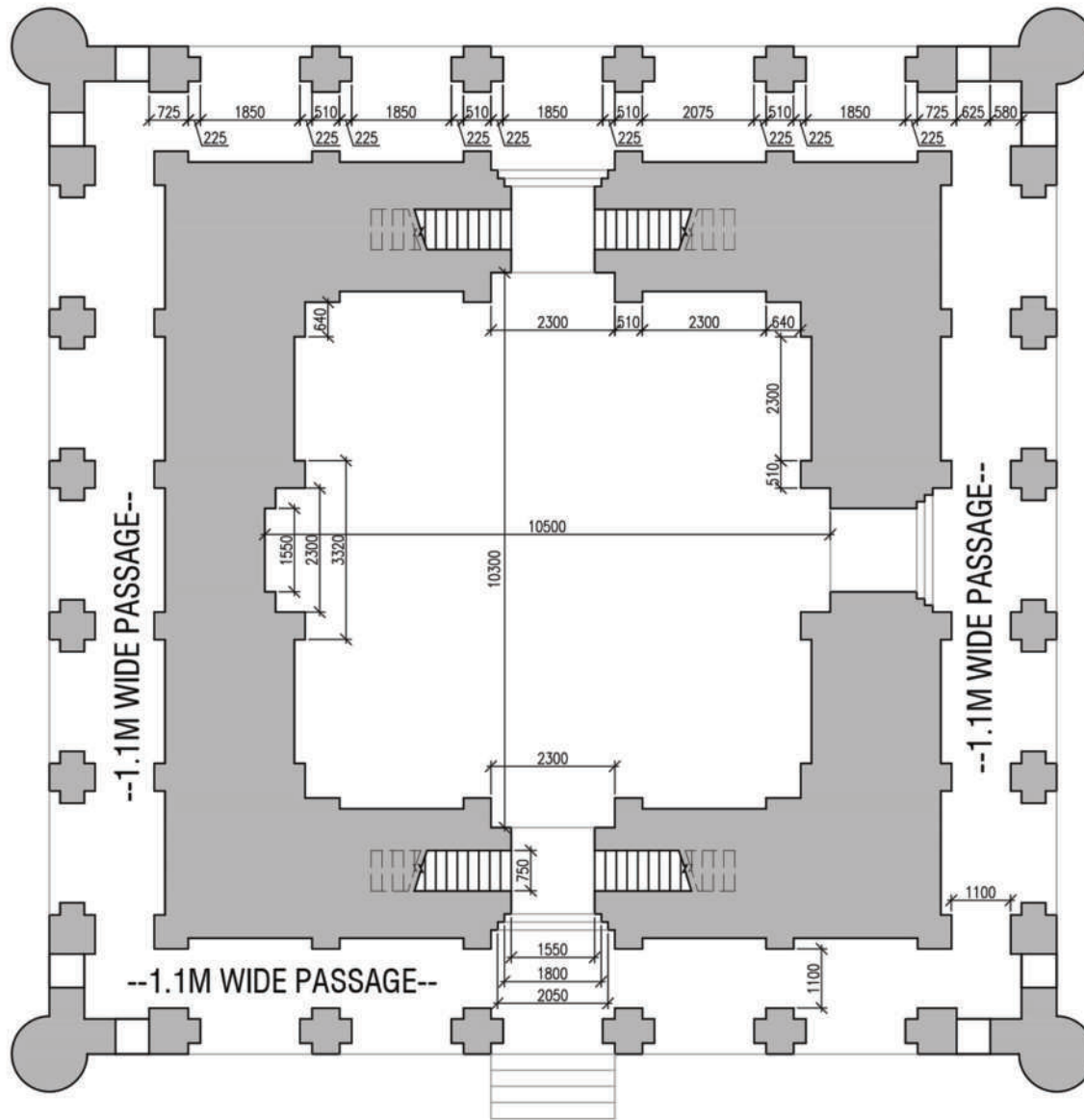
CHOR GUMBAD, NARNAUL



Chor Gumbad, Narnaul

Type	: Tomb
Location	: Jamalpur Area, Singhan Road, Narnaul, Haryana
Ownership	: Archaeology & Museums Department, Haryana
Period	: 1351-88 CE
Patronage	: Unknown

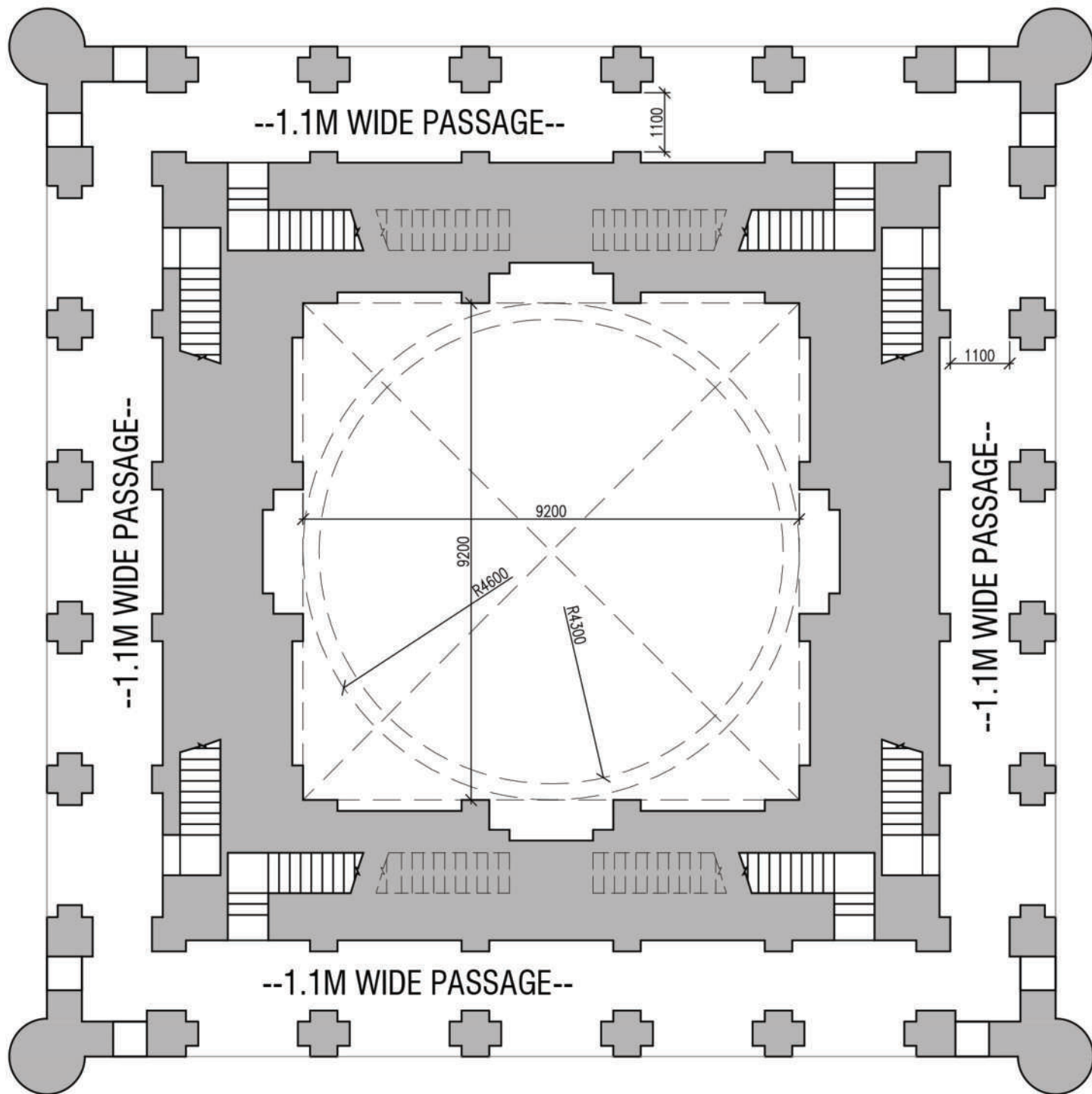




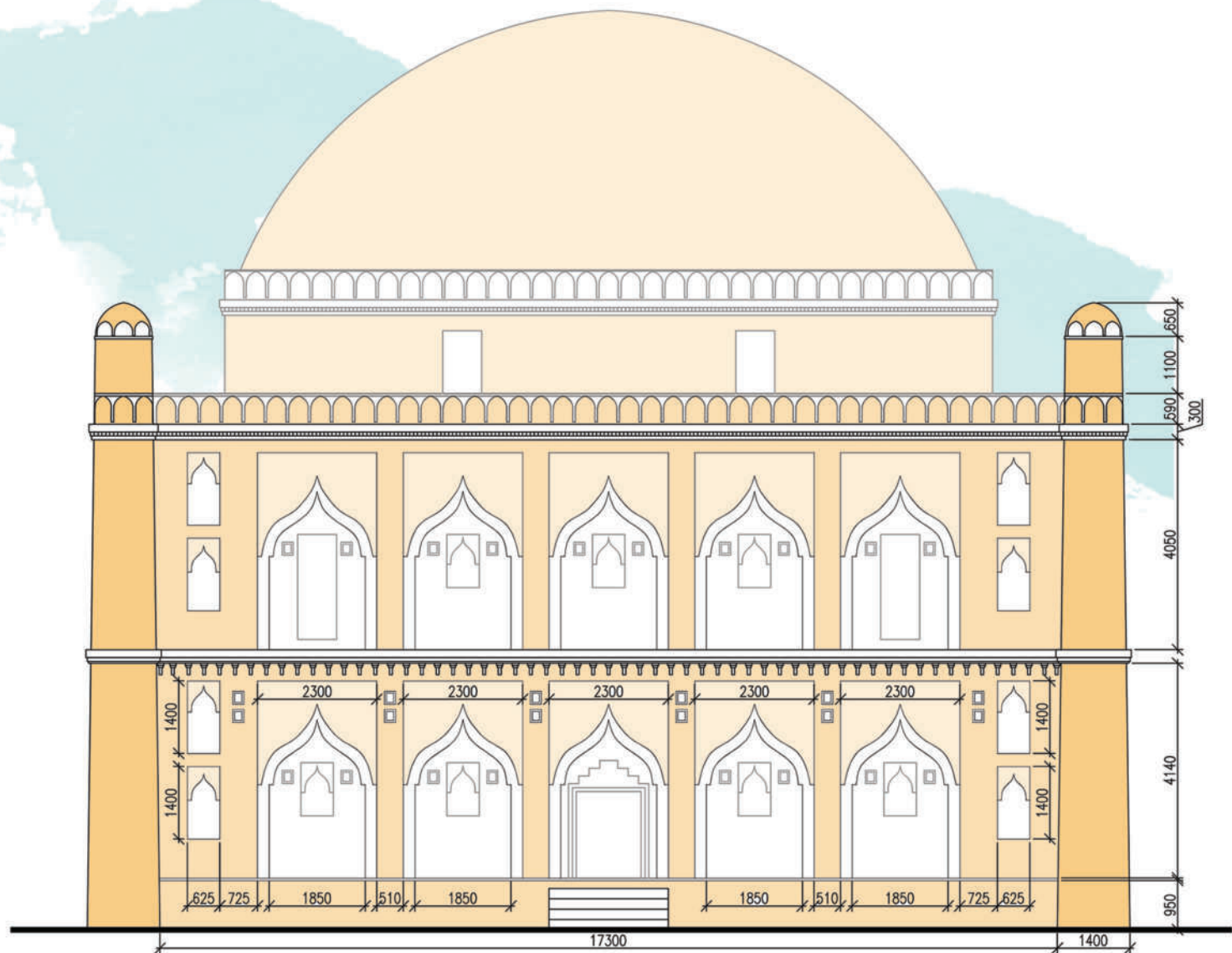
GROUND FLOOR PLAN

History & Description:

The Chor Gumbad majestically stands upon a rock on the north of the town. At present, this complete hilly area has been developed in a park by the district administration. On account of prominent location of the Chor Gumbad, it is known as the signboard of Narnaul.



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



FRONT ELEVATION

It is a well-planned monument in square shape having single chamber with four minarets at each corner. It gives an appearance of a double-storied structure from the outside due to an open veranda running around it. This structure possibly came to be used as hideouts by thieves and highwaymen subsequently leading to the popular present day name: Chor Gumbad. It was constructed by an Afghan Jamal Khan as his tomb. Architecturally low dome and ogee arches show that it must have been constructed during the reign of Firoz Shah Tughlaq.



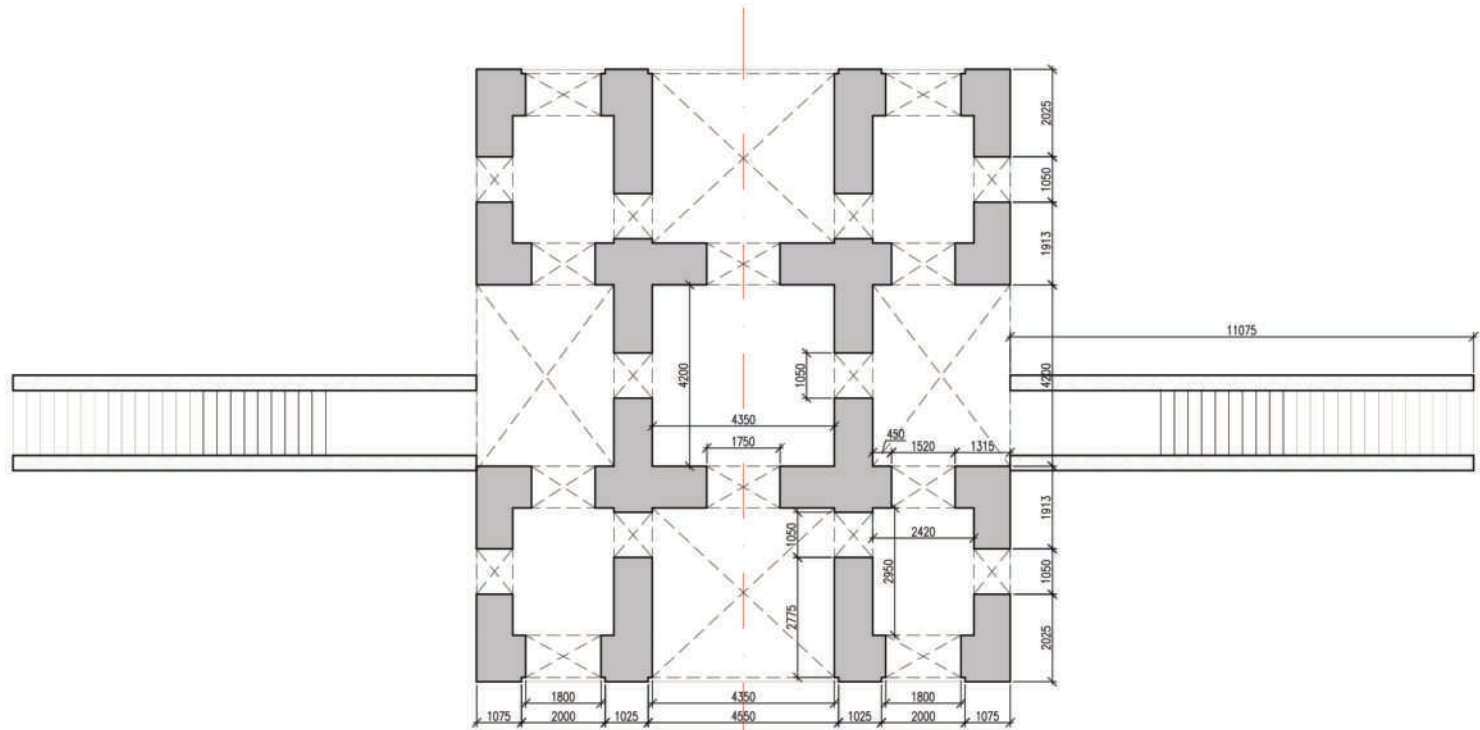
15

TRIPOLIA GATEWAY, NARNAUL

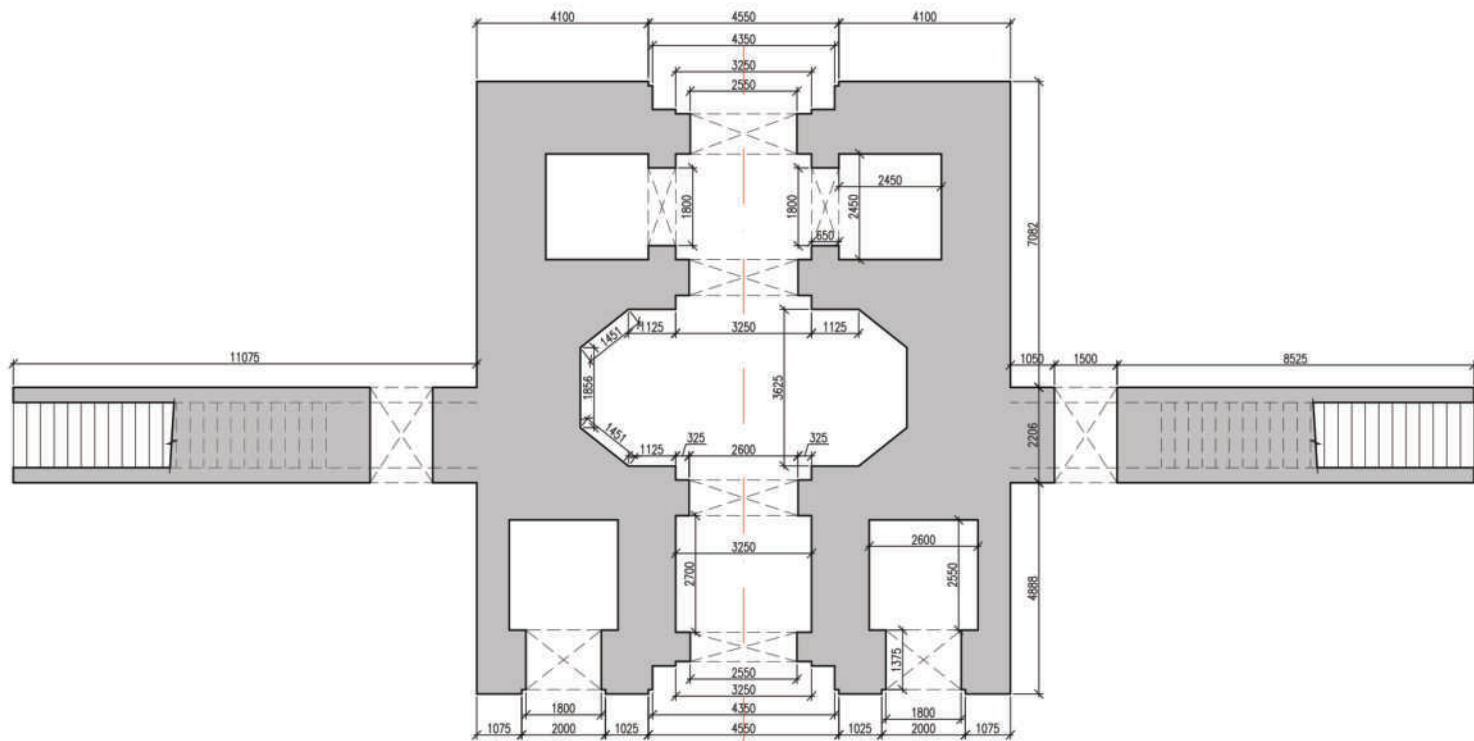


Tripolia Gateway, Narnaul

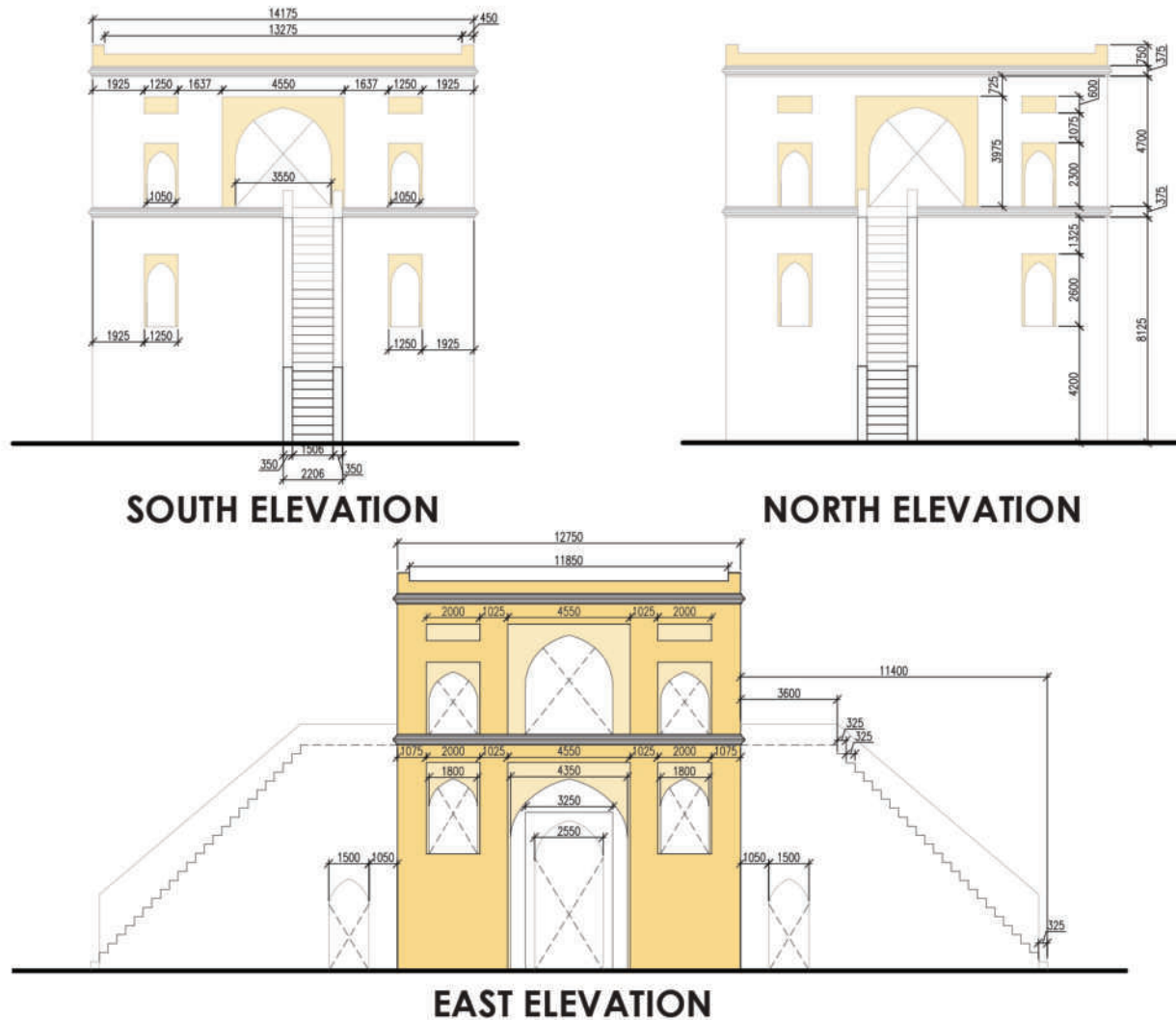
Type	: Gateway (Garden)
Location	: Purani Mandi, Narnaul, Haryana
Ownership	: Archaeology & Museums Department, Haryana
Period	: 1589 CE
Patronage	: Unknown



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



GROUND FLOOR PLAN



History & Description:

Shah Quli Khan was a valiant noble of Akbar's court. He was made Governor of Punjab in 1575 CE. He died at Agra in 1601 CE. At Narnaul where he spent maximum time of his life, he erected splendid buildings and a beautiful garden and named the garden as *Aram-i-Kausar*.

The Tripolia Gateway is the main entrance to this garden. His fine mausoleum is also situated within the compound of the garden. The elegant three-storied building of the gateway was constructed in rubble masonry with thick layer of lime plaster. The interior walls and ceilings of the façade are adorned with pleasing ornamental carvings over the plaster.



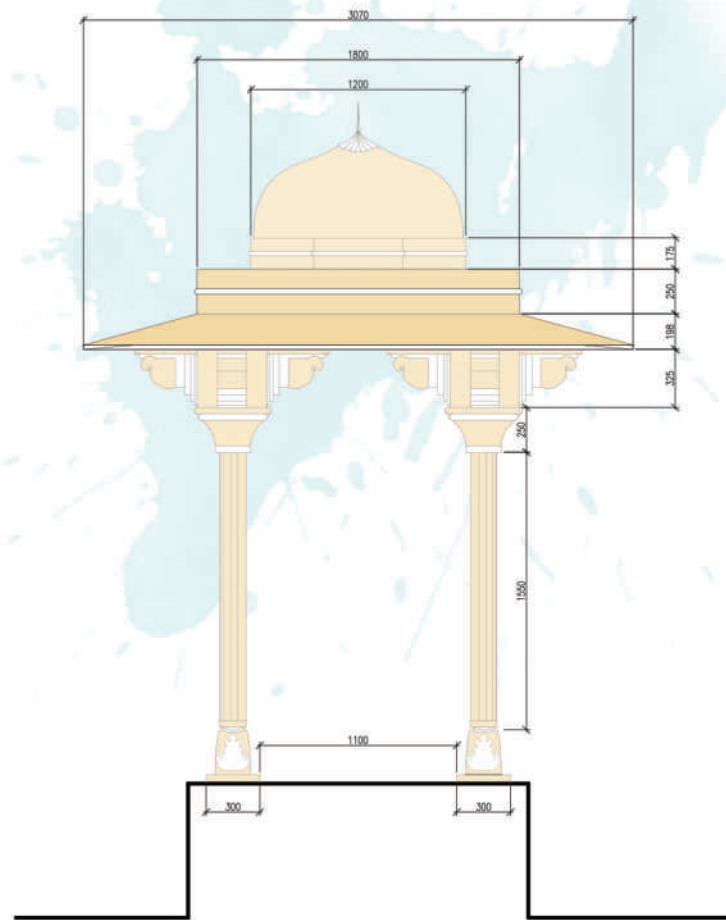
16

SHOBHA SAROVAR, NARNAUL

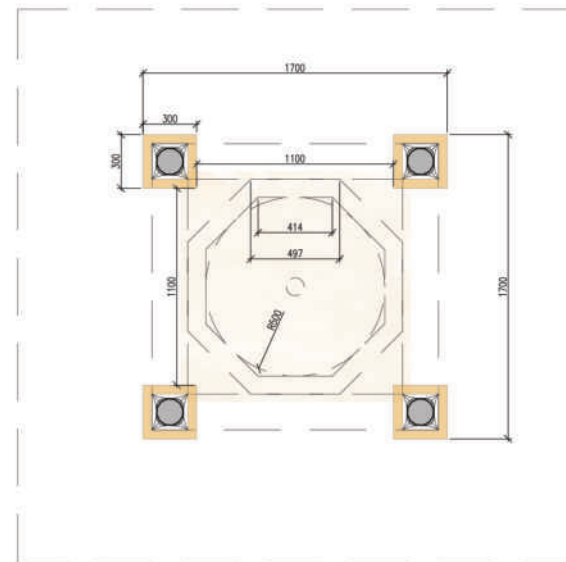


Shobha Sarovar, Narnaul

Type	: Tank
Location	: Kadiyanwala Hanuman Temple, Narnaul, Haryana
Ownership	: Archaeology & Museums Department, Haryana
Period	: 18th Century CE
Patronage	: Unknown



ELEVATION



“CHATTRI” PLAN

History & Description:

Availability of water was always scarce in Narnaul due to the proximity of deserts. Therefore, this huge pond (sarovar) was built by a local chief during the late Mughal period for the use of general public. The sarovar was constructed in rubble masonry with thick layer of lime plaster in the style of the then prevailing Hindu Temple architecture style. Four staircases in each arm lead to the tank. There were twelve kiosks (*chattri*) on its boundary wall, one each at the corners and two each on the either sides of the staircases. At present only two out of twelve are surviving.

An inscription fixed on the eastern wall records that an enclosed chamber for ladies-bath was added to this tank in samvat 1986 (1929 CE). This place is still in public use.



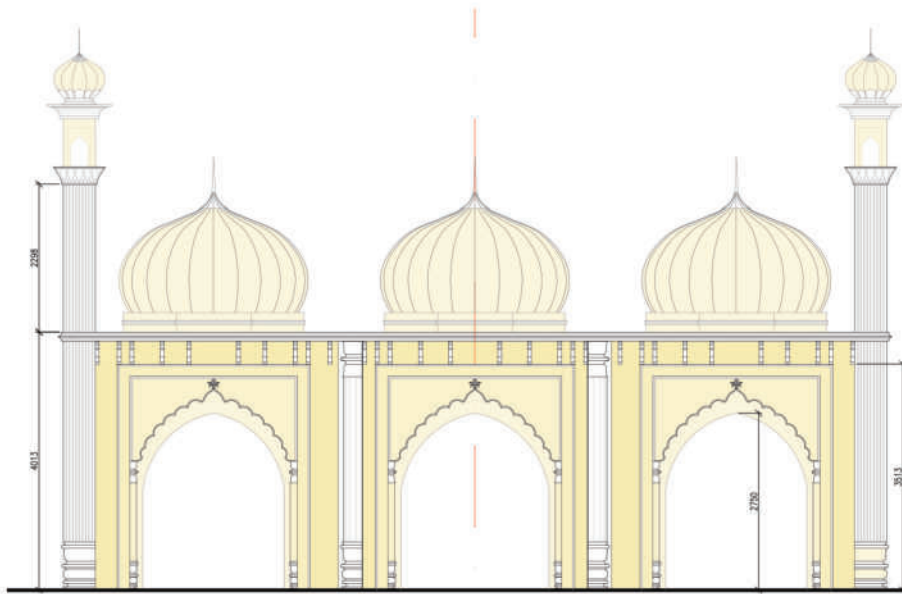
17

TOMB & MOSQUE OF PIR TURKMAN, NARNAUL

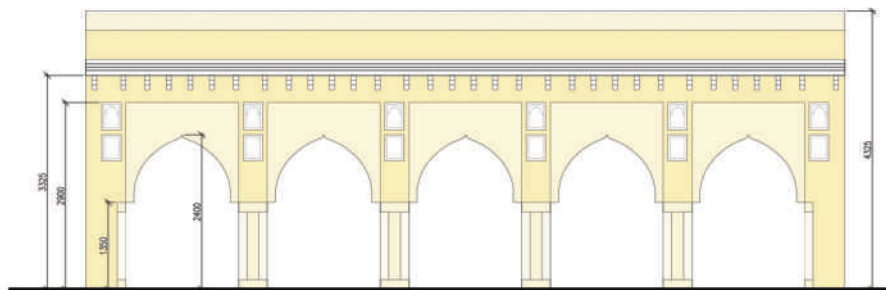


Pir Turkman Tomb Complex, Narnaul

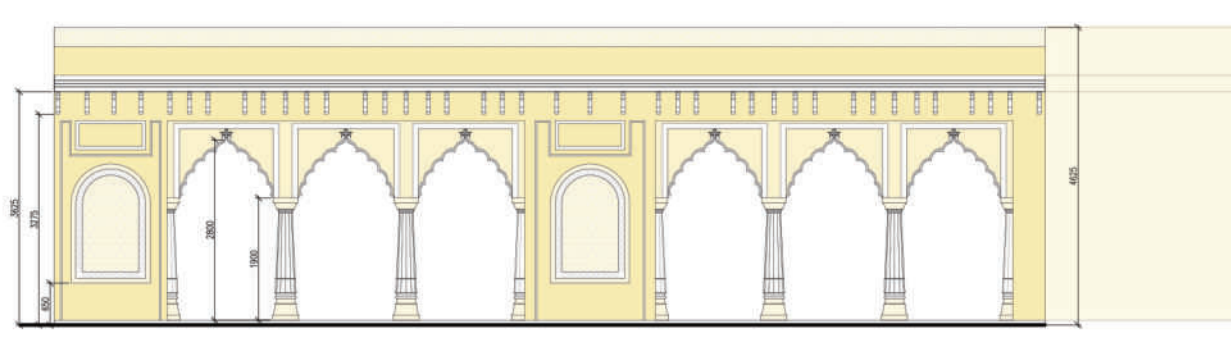
Type	: Tomb
Location	: Piran ka Mohalla, Narnaul, Haryana
Ownership	: Archaeology & Museums Department, Haryana
Period	: 12th to 17th Century CE
Patronage	: Alam Khan Mewati



ELEVATION "A"



ELEVATION "B"



ELEVATION "C"

History & Description:

This is the tomb-cum-mosque complex with a long tradition of architecture ranging from the Tughlaq period to the British times. Much of its originality is marred by later constructions.

Originally the tomb and adjoining mosque was constructed during the reign of Firoz Shah Tughluq. The eastern colonnade, the dome and a part of enclosure were erected by Alam Khan Mewati in AH 760(1357 CE) the tomb itself is surmounted by a hemispherical dome, crested by a finial of the Pathan style of architecture. The interior of dome has some modern paintings.

The pillared varanda (portico) in front of the tomb was constructed during the British period. Most of other structures within its enclosures were constructed during late mughal period. The inscription in Persian verse over the doorway registers the date AH 531(1137 CE) of demise of the Turkish saint in chronogram and in figures.



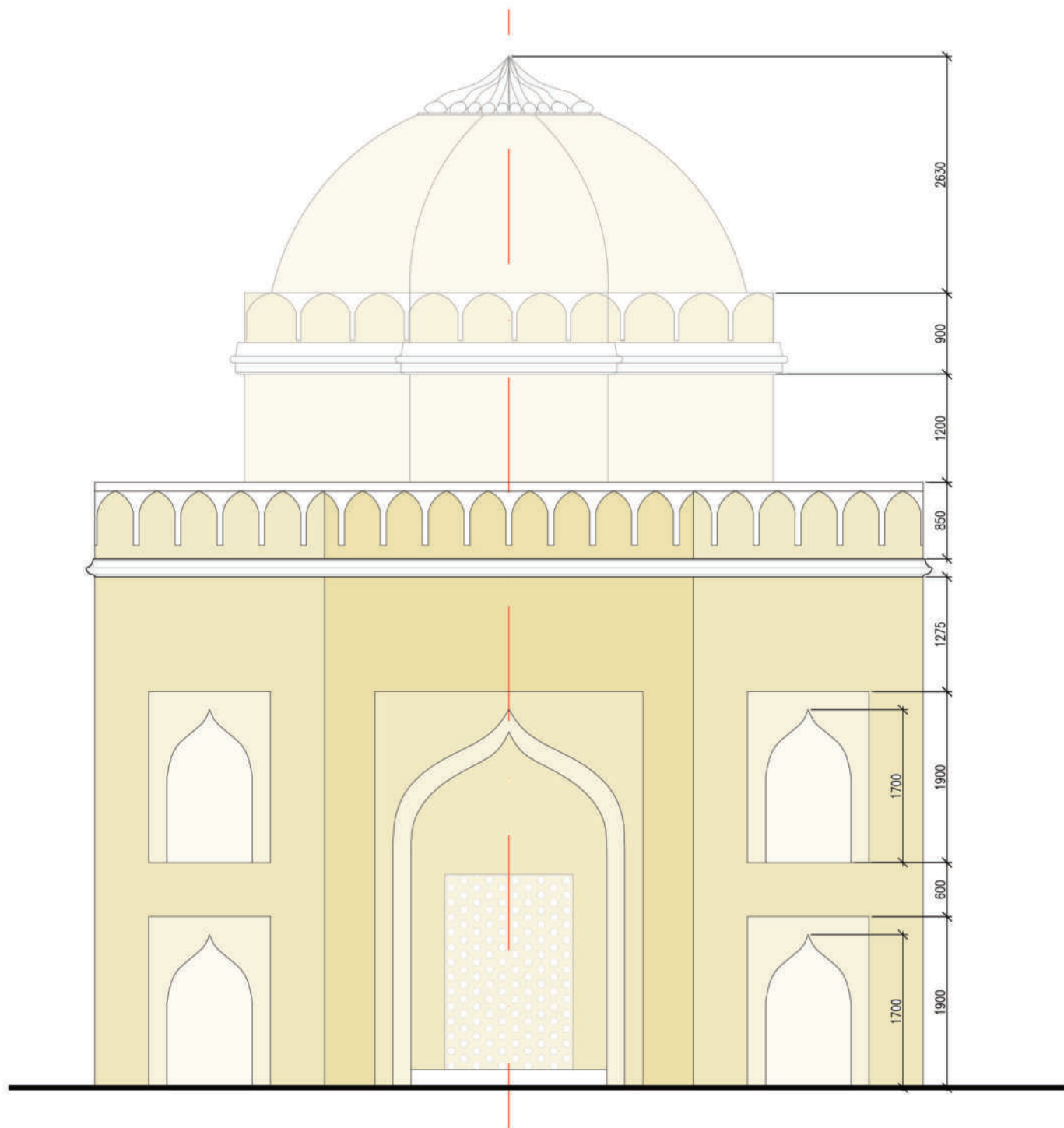
18

TOMB OF SHAH NIZAM, NARNAUL

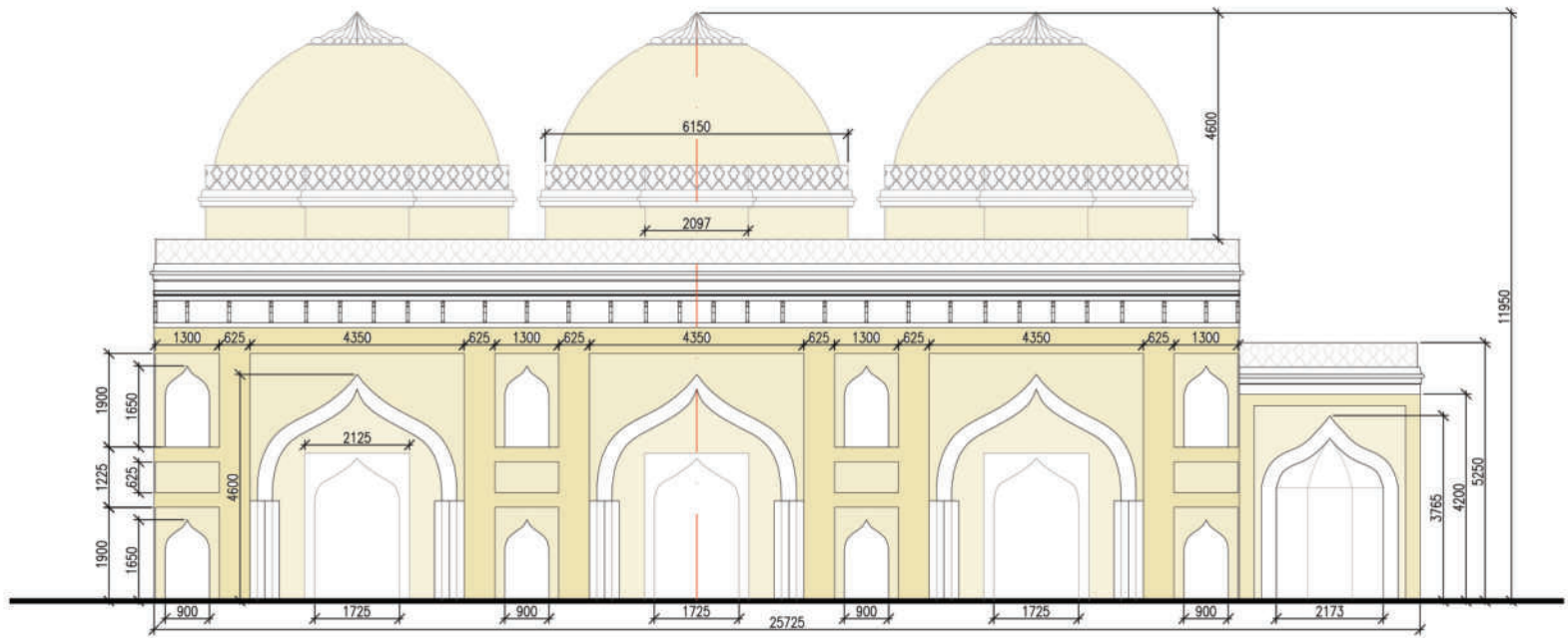


Tomb of Shah Nizam, Narnaul

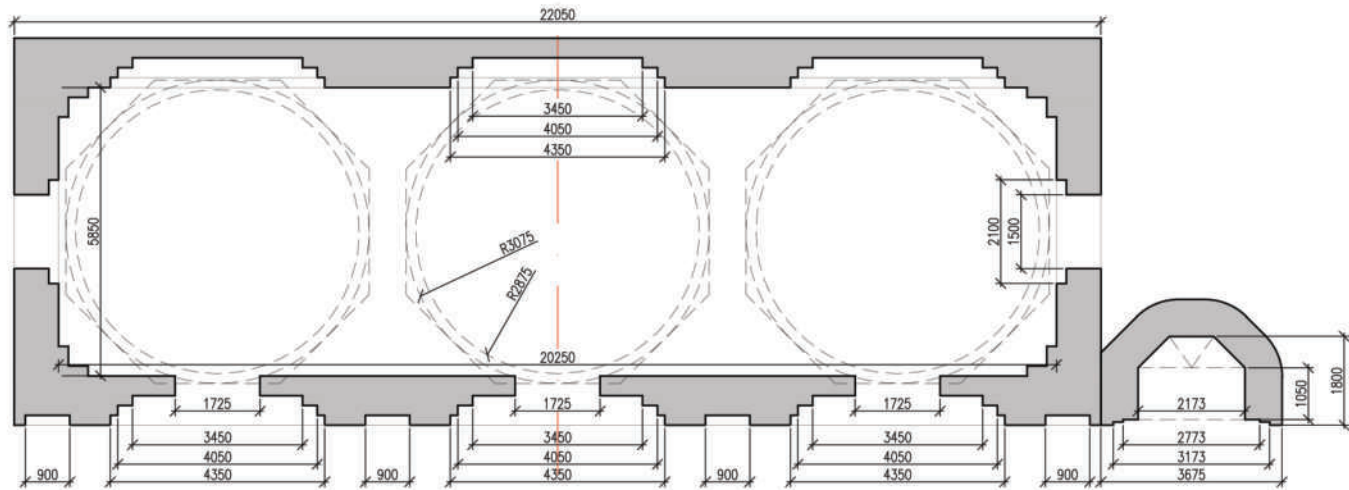
Type	: Tomb
Location	: Piran ka Mohalla, Narnaul, Haryana
Ownership	: Archaeology & Museums Department, Haryana
Period	: 16th Century CE
Patronage	: Niamatullah



NORTH ELEVATION



FRONT ELEVATION



GROUND FLOOR PLAN

History & Description:

This tomb was built during the reign of Mughal Emperor Akbar (1556–1605 CE). Akbar is believed to be a great devotee of this celebrated saint and he used to visit him frequently on his way to Ajmer.

An inscription in Persian fixed over the doorway records the date of demise of the saint as AH 997 (1589 CE) in chronogram and figure. The mosque within the tomb compound was constructed in AH 1031 (1662 CE) by some Niamatullah as can be gathered from the inscription in Persian fixed on the entrance of the mosque.

Some of walls and ceiling of the mosque depict painting in floral motifs. The tomb and mosque is built in rubble masonry covered with thick lime plaster. This structure also has domed entrance similar to the tomb.



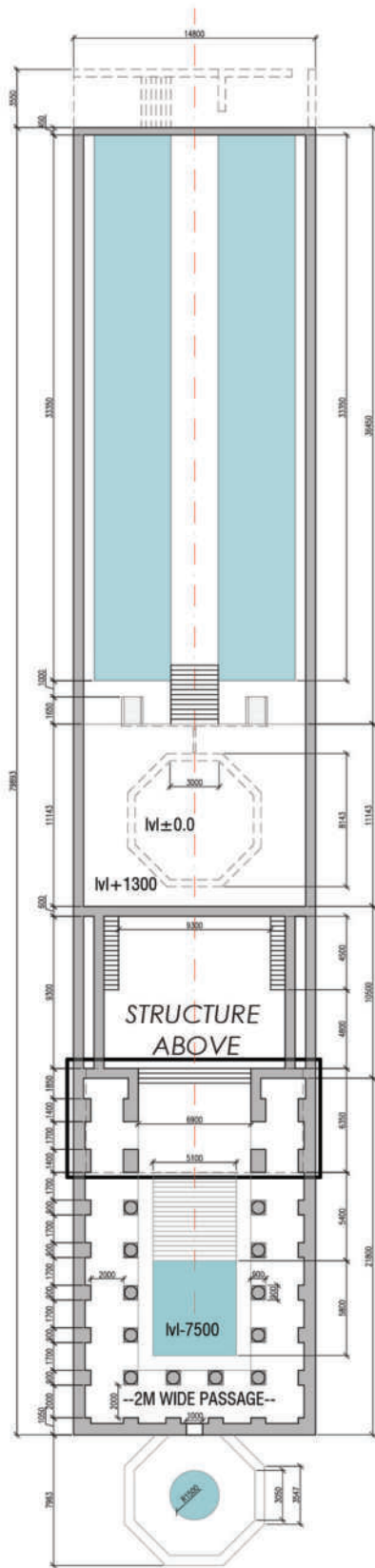
19

MIRZA ALIJAN'S TAKHAT & BAOLI, NARNAUL

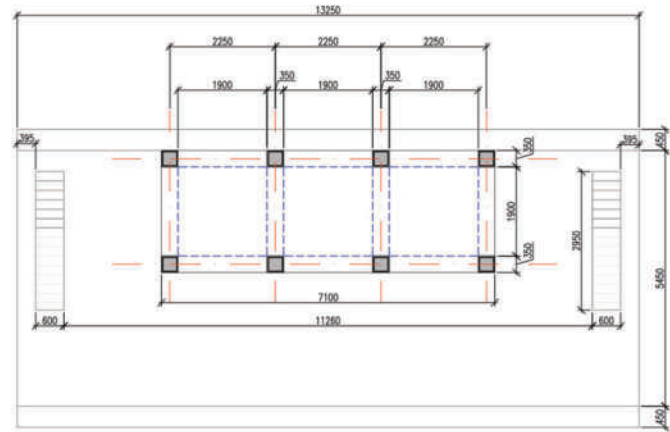


Nawab Mirza Alijan's Baoli, Narnaul

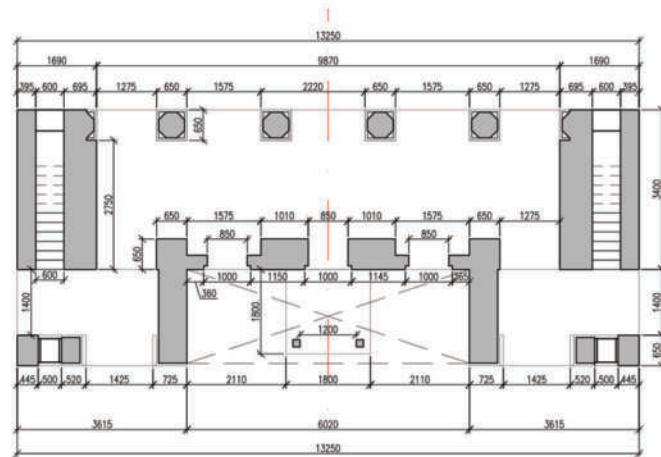
Type	: Baoli
Location	: Chota-bada talab area, Narnaul, Haryana
Ownership	: Archaeology & Museums Department, Haryana
Period	: 1556-1605 Century CE
Patronage	: Nawab Mirza Alijan



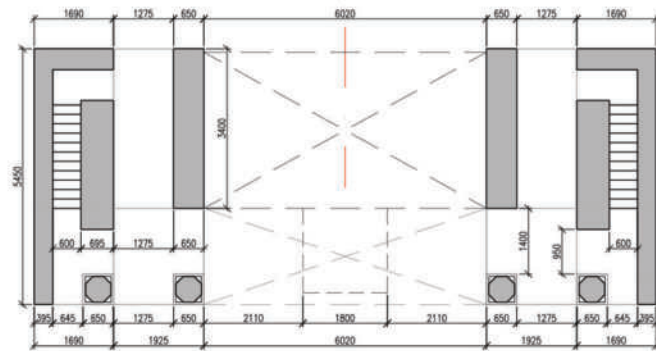
97. SECTIONAL FLOOR PLAN



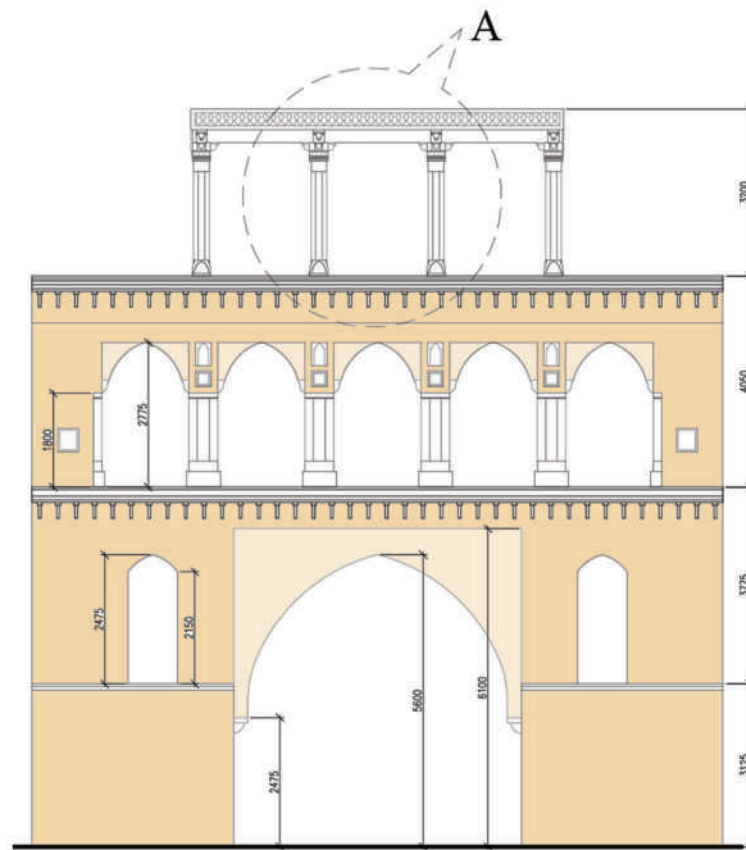
SECOND FLOOR PLAN



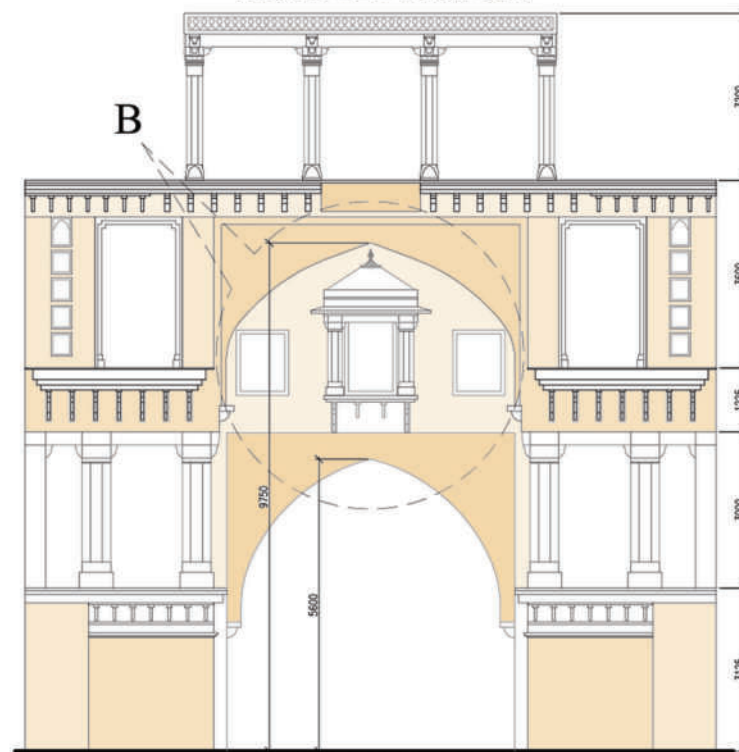
FIRST FLOOR PLAN



GROUND FLOOR PLAN



REAR ELEVATION



FRONT ELEVATION

History & Description:

This baoli (water tank) built by Mirza Alijan, the Nawab of Narnaul during the reign of Emperor Akbar is situated to the north-west of the town of Narnaul.

The main structure of the building is in the shape of a huge arched gateway carrying the Takhat with a rectangular pillared Chattri (kiosk) on its top. The Chattri has a decorated flap, resting on the eight pillars made of grey stone into rows that open to all sides. Below it there is a balcony with staircases.

The Takhat stands on the main arched entrance of the baoli. On the south, the main arched opening is attached with the three storeyed baoli and further a well. The water to the baoli is provided through this well.



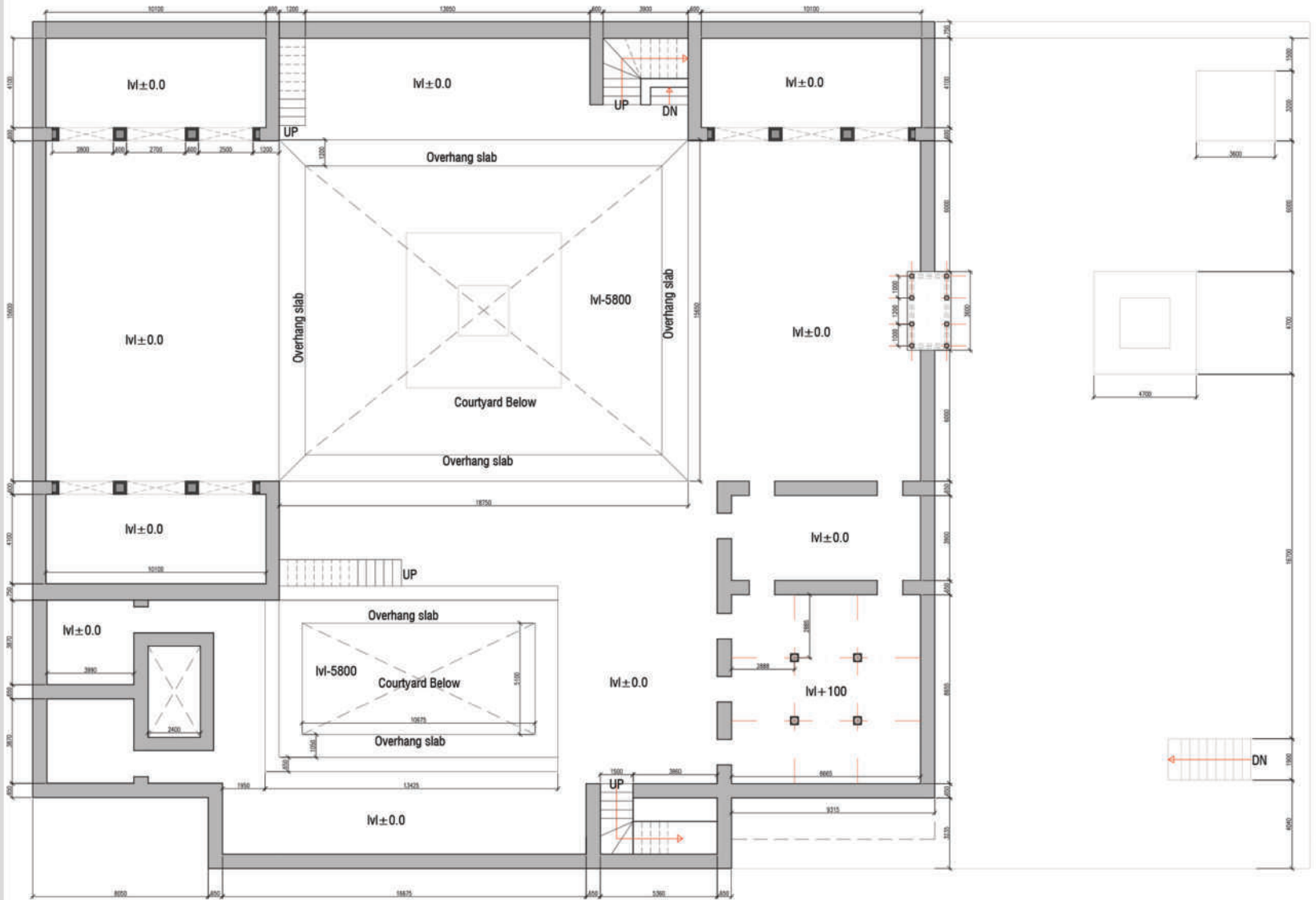
20

CHATTA RAI BALMUKUND DAS, NARNAUL



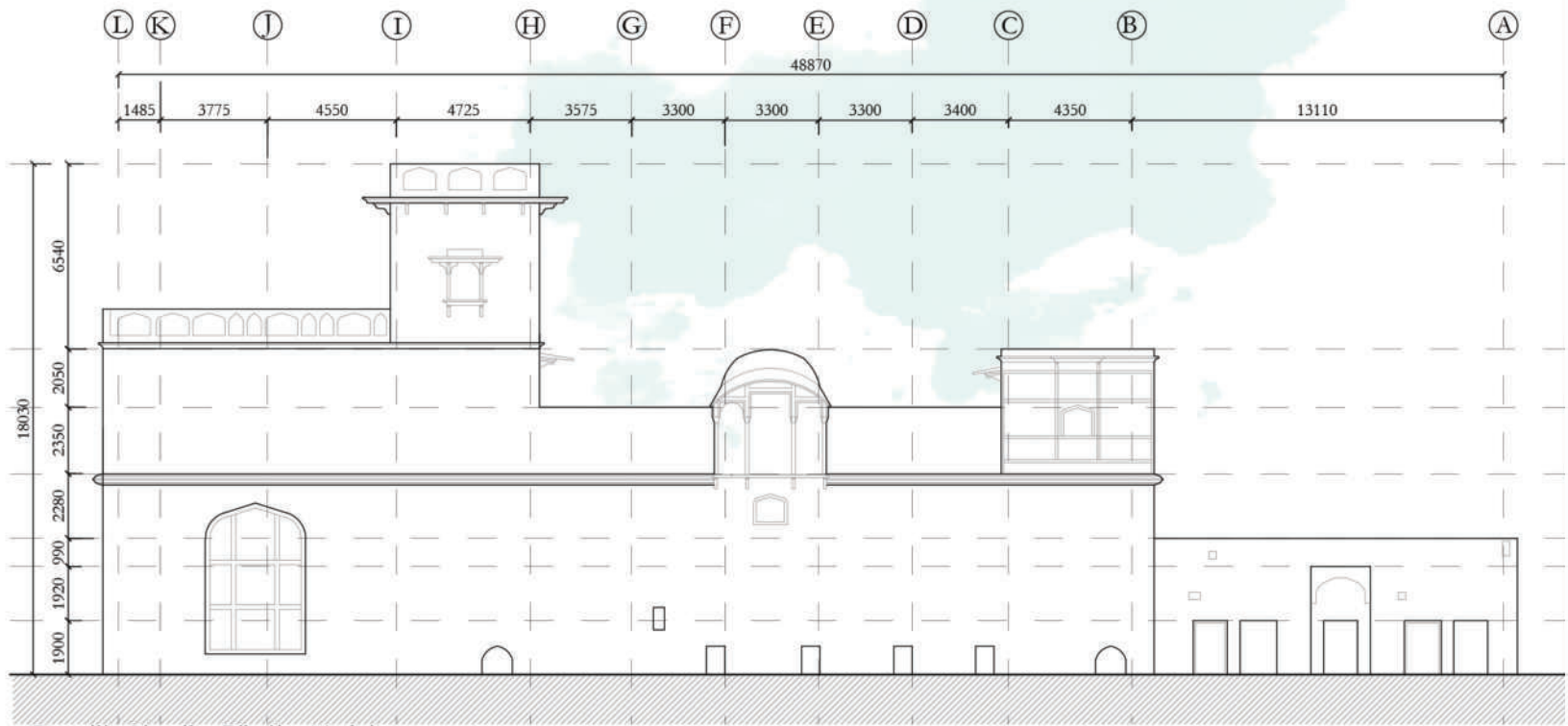
Chatta Rai Balmukund Das, Narnaul city

Type	: Palace
Location	: Nalapur mohalla, Narnaul, Haryana
Ownership	: Archaeology & Museums Department, Haryana
Period	: 17th Century CE
Patronage	: Rai Balmukund Dass



SECOND FLOOR PLAN

* Note- Other floor plans were not accessible.

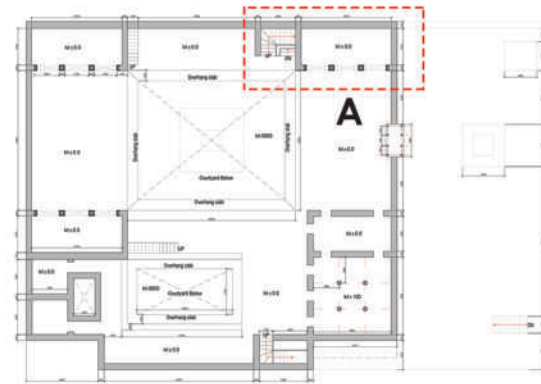


Credit: Studio Plinth, Noida

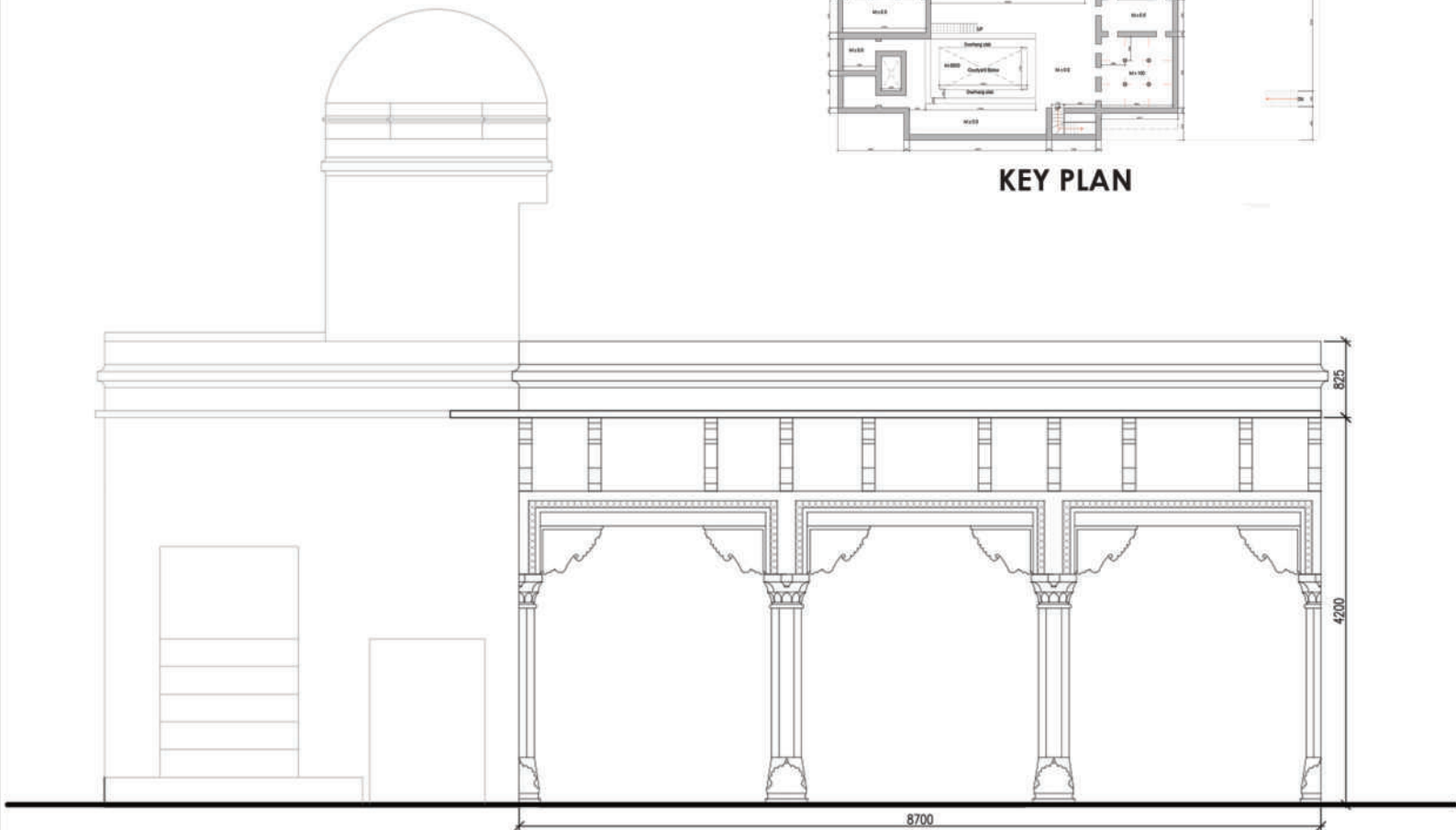
FRONT ELEVATION

History & Description:

This spacious palace was built by Rai Bal Mukund Dass, the Dewan of Narnaul under the rule of Emperor Shah Jahan (1628-58 CE). It is a five storeyed building having several halls, rooms and pavilions. The liberal use of marble for flooring and pillars in the Dewan-e-Khas (the central courtyard) add uniqueness indicating prosperity of the contemporary Narnaul. The fountains and springs in the underground chambers were provided to keep them cool during summer season. In the south-east corner, there is a well from which water was raised into the apex reservoir by multilevel lifting following the 'Persian wheel style' for onward supply of water to the various levels of the building.



KEY PLAN

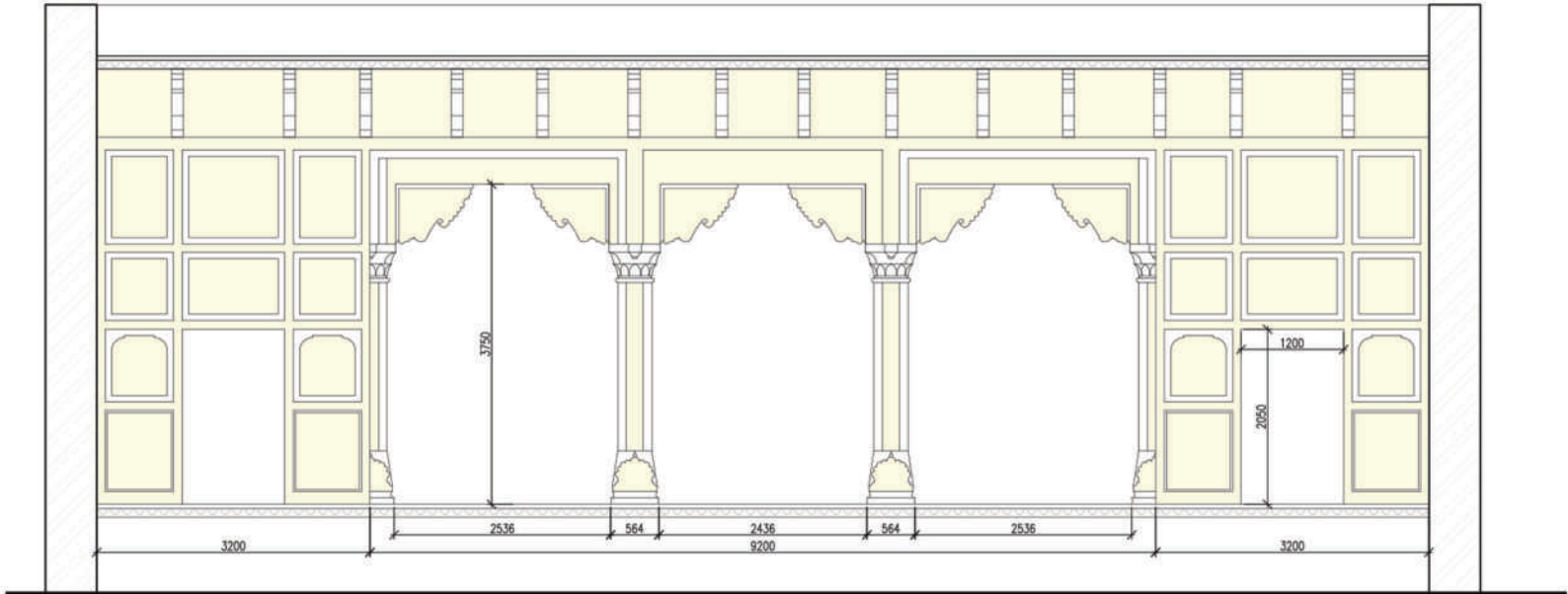


ELEVATION "A"

The building possibly had three underground floors with tunnels having remarkably efficient lighting systems. These tunnels secretly led possibly to Delhi, Jaipur and Mahendragarh. They can, however, not be as clearly appreciated now as only one basement remains remarkably intact now.



KEY PLAN



ELEVATION "B"



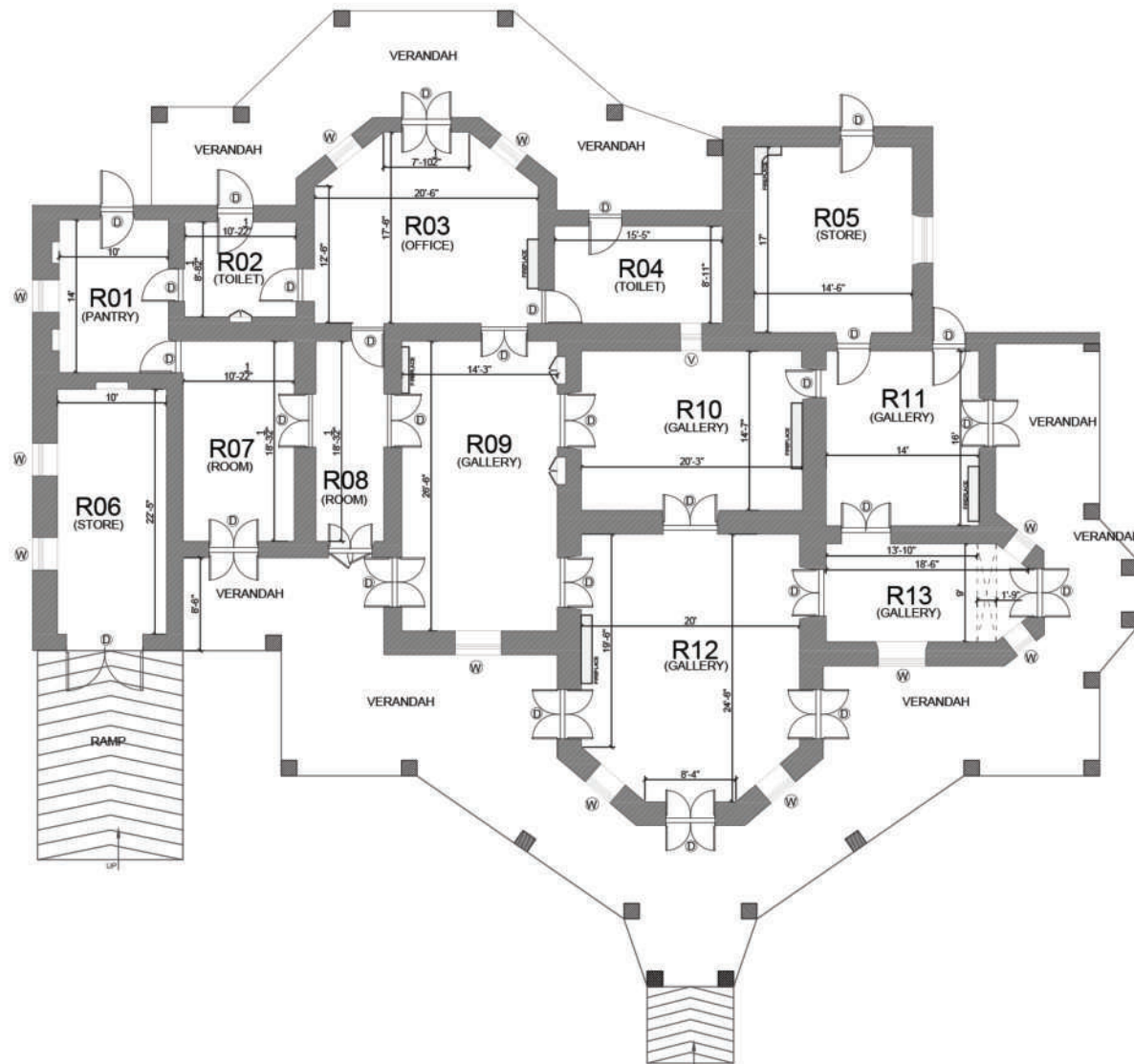
21

JAHAJ KOTHI, HISAR



Jahaj Kothi, Hisar

Type	: Residence/ Colonial
Location	: Jahaj pul area, Hisar, Haryana
Ownership	: Archaeology & Museums Department, Haryana
Period	: 18th Century CE
Patronage	: George Thomas



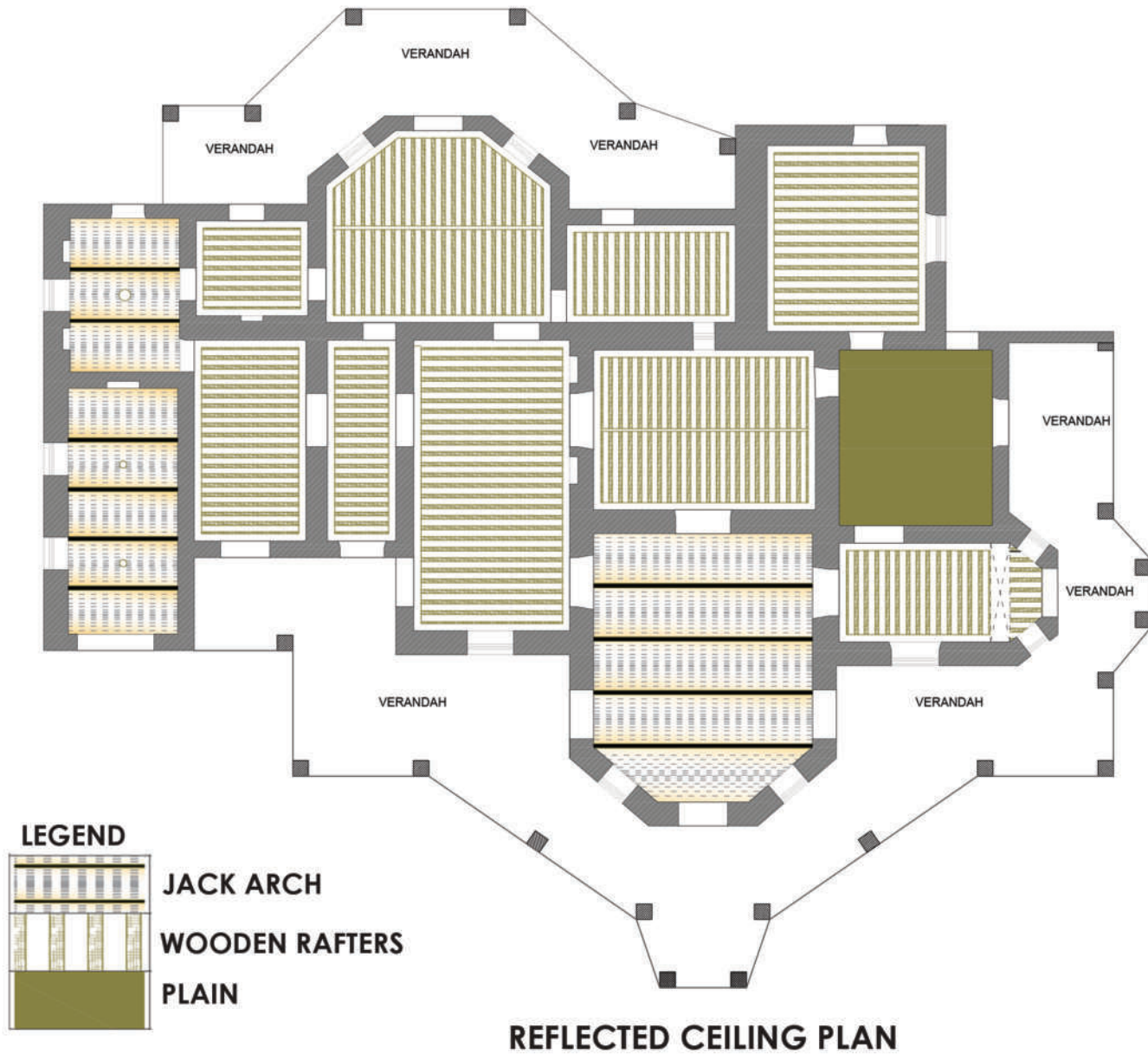
GROUND FLOOR PLAN



SITE PLAN

History & Description:

George Thomas, a native of Ireland and the uncrowned ruler of the territory between Sirsa and Rohtak built this building for his residence. Owing to its isolated location, it gives an impression of a ship in the ocean (surrounded by a huge open area) and that is what justifies the name 'Jahaj Kothi'.



It might have also derived its name as a consequence of progressive distortion of the word 'George' to Jahaj over a period of time. After the defeat of 'George' somewhere in the first decade of 19th century, James Skinner, a respected name in the service of British Government, became the ruler of this territory.

He also used 'Jahaj Kothi' for some time as his residence before constructing his own residential palace at Hansi. This monument is a good example of pre-British architecture in the transitory phase.



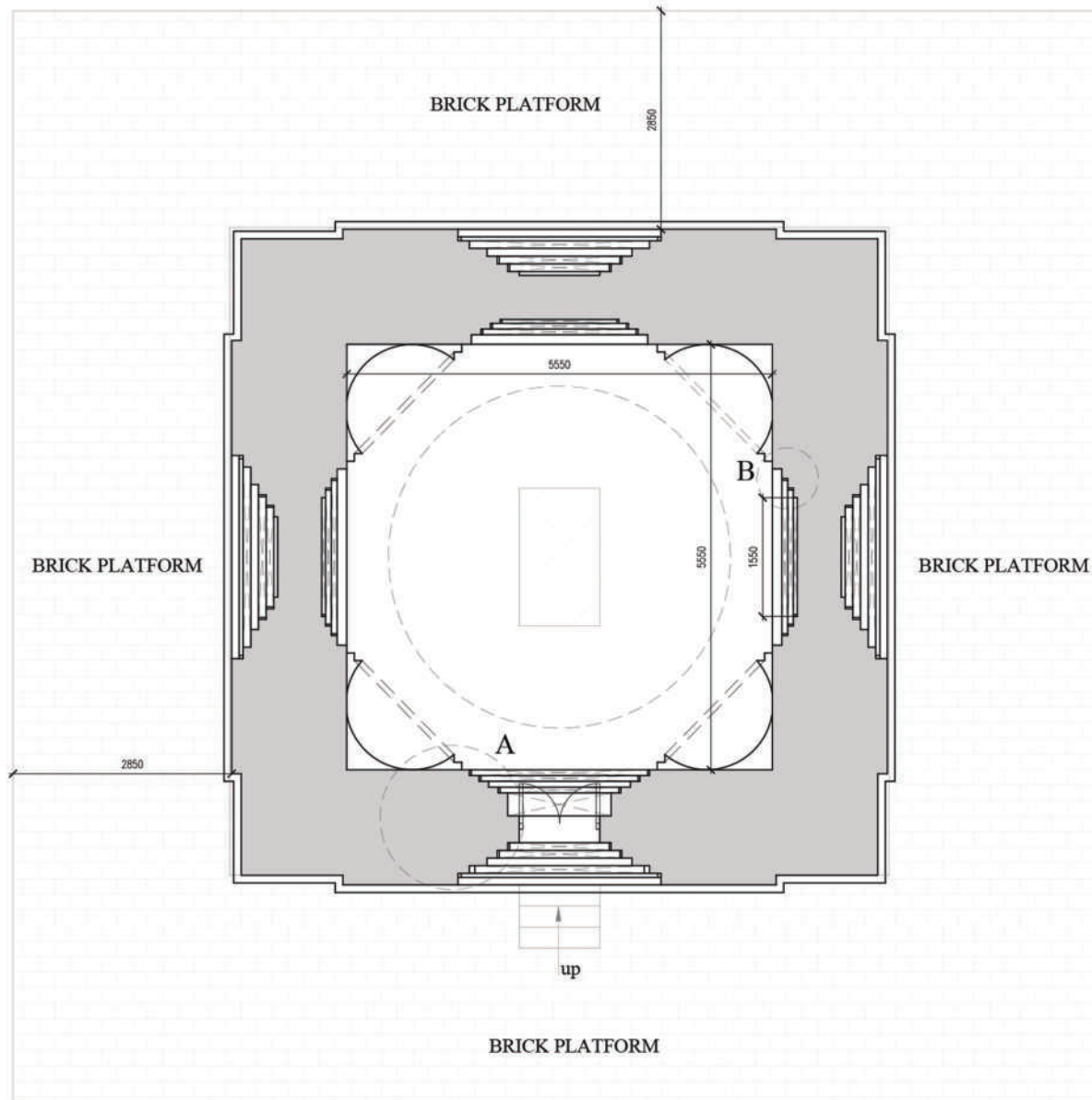
22

TOMB OF SHEIKH TAYYAB, KAITHAL



Sheikh Tayyab tomb, Kaithal

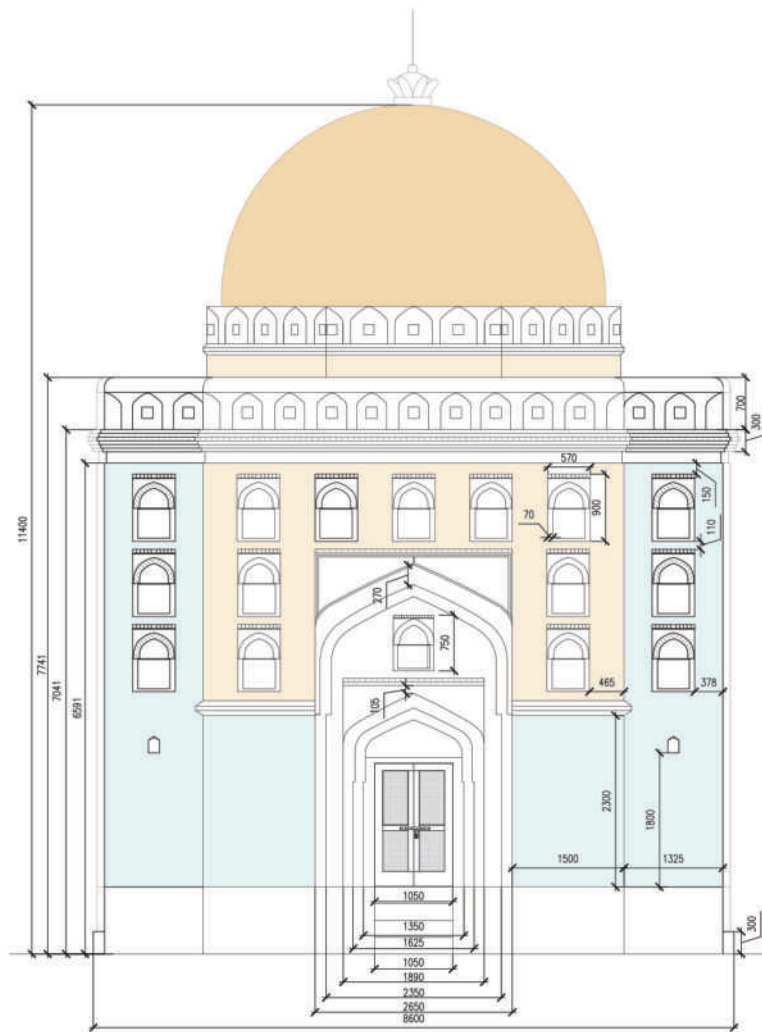
Type	: Tomb
Location	: District Kaithal, Haryana
Ownership	: Archaeology & Museums Department, Haryana
Period	: 16th Century CE
Patronage	: Hazrat Shah Sikandar



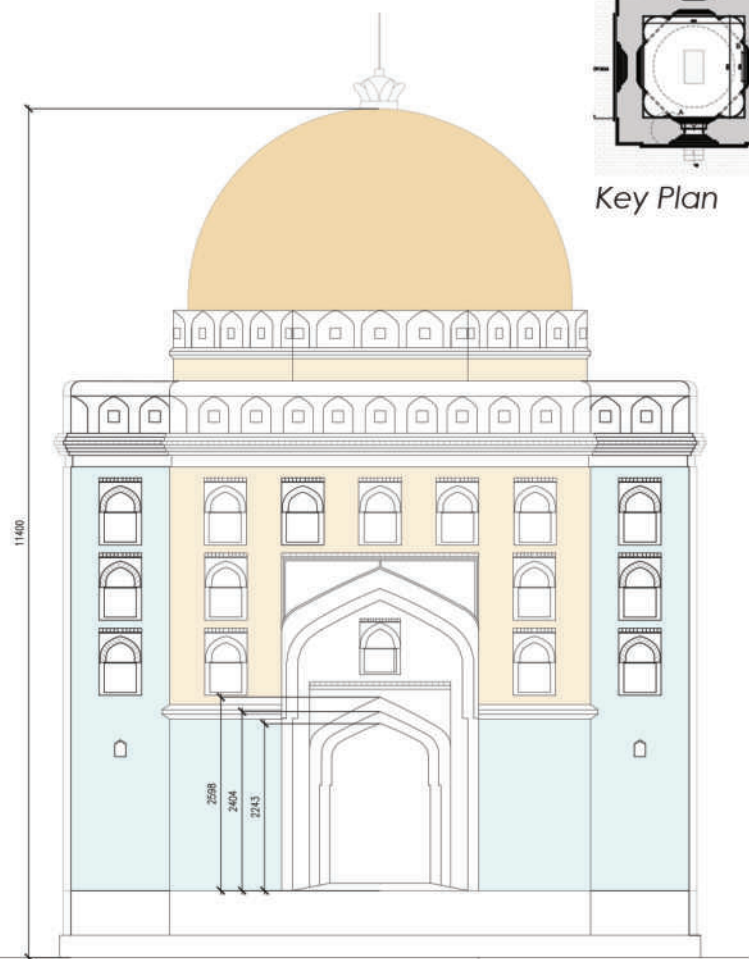
GROUND FLOOR PLAN

History & Description:

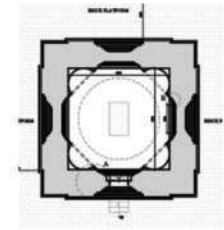
The words 'Sheikh' and 'Tayyab' stand for terms 'Fakir' (saint) and 'pure' respectively. Sheikh Tayyab was a great saint and a follower of renowned sufi saint Hazrat Shah Kamal.



SOUTH ELEVATION



ELEVATION (EAST, WEST, NORTH)



Key Plan

He came to India from Baghdad and after the death of Hazrat Shah Kamal, he enthroned to the spiritual seat of his teacher. Sheikh Tayyab died sometime in the late 16th century CE. It is said that this tomb was constructed by Hazrat Shah Sikandar, the son of Hazrat Shah Kamal.

The tomb is built on a square plan, a popular style of Pathan architecture. It is made of lakhauri bricks and lime mortar. The roof is surmounted by a bulbous dome with an inverted lotus flower finial resting on an octagonal drum-base.



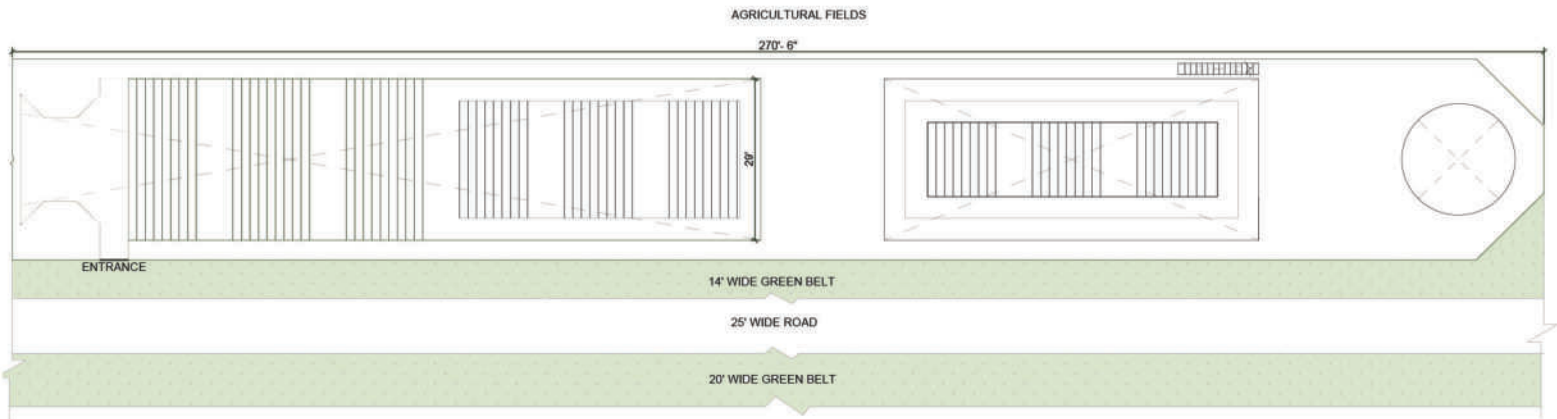
23

BRICK BAOLI, KAITHAL

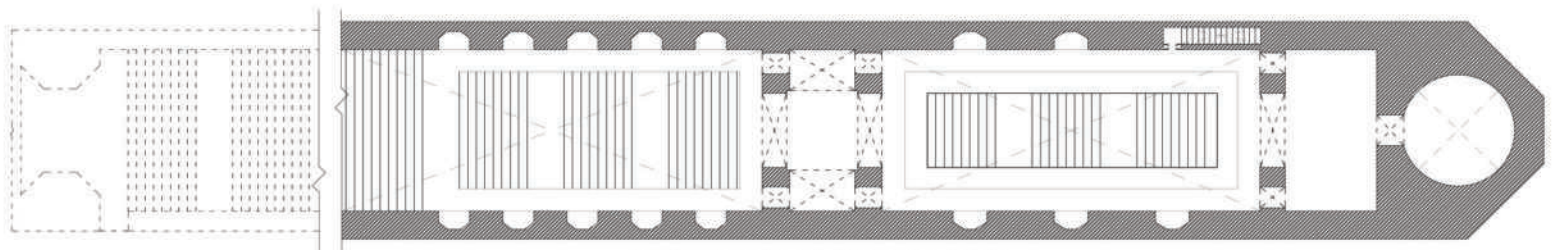


Brick Baoli, Kaithal

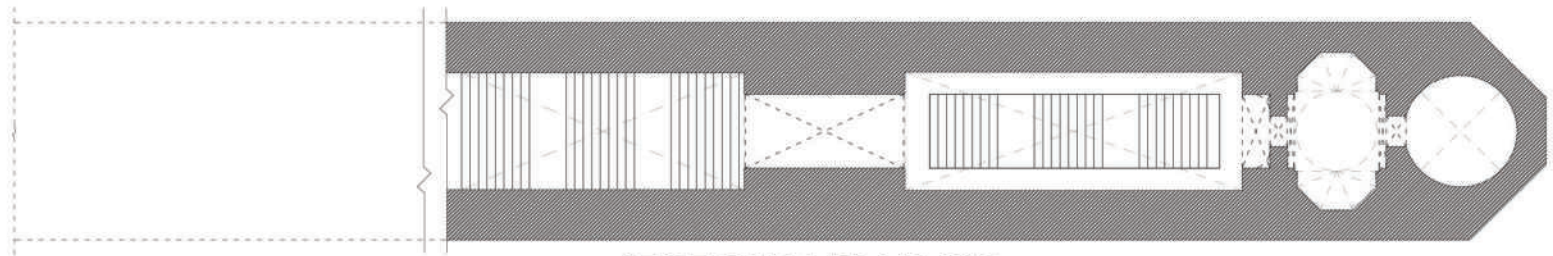
Type	: Baoli
Location	: District Kaithal, Haryana
Ownership	: Archaeology & Museums Department, Haryana
Period	: 18th-19th Century CE
Patronage	: Bhai rulers



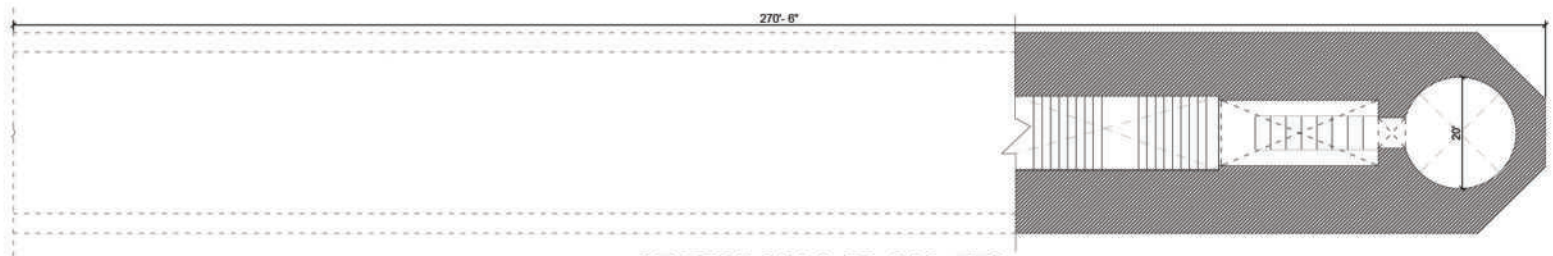
SITE PLAN



SECTIONAL PLAN-XX'



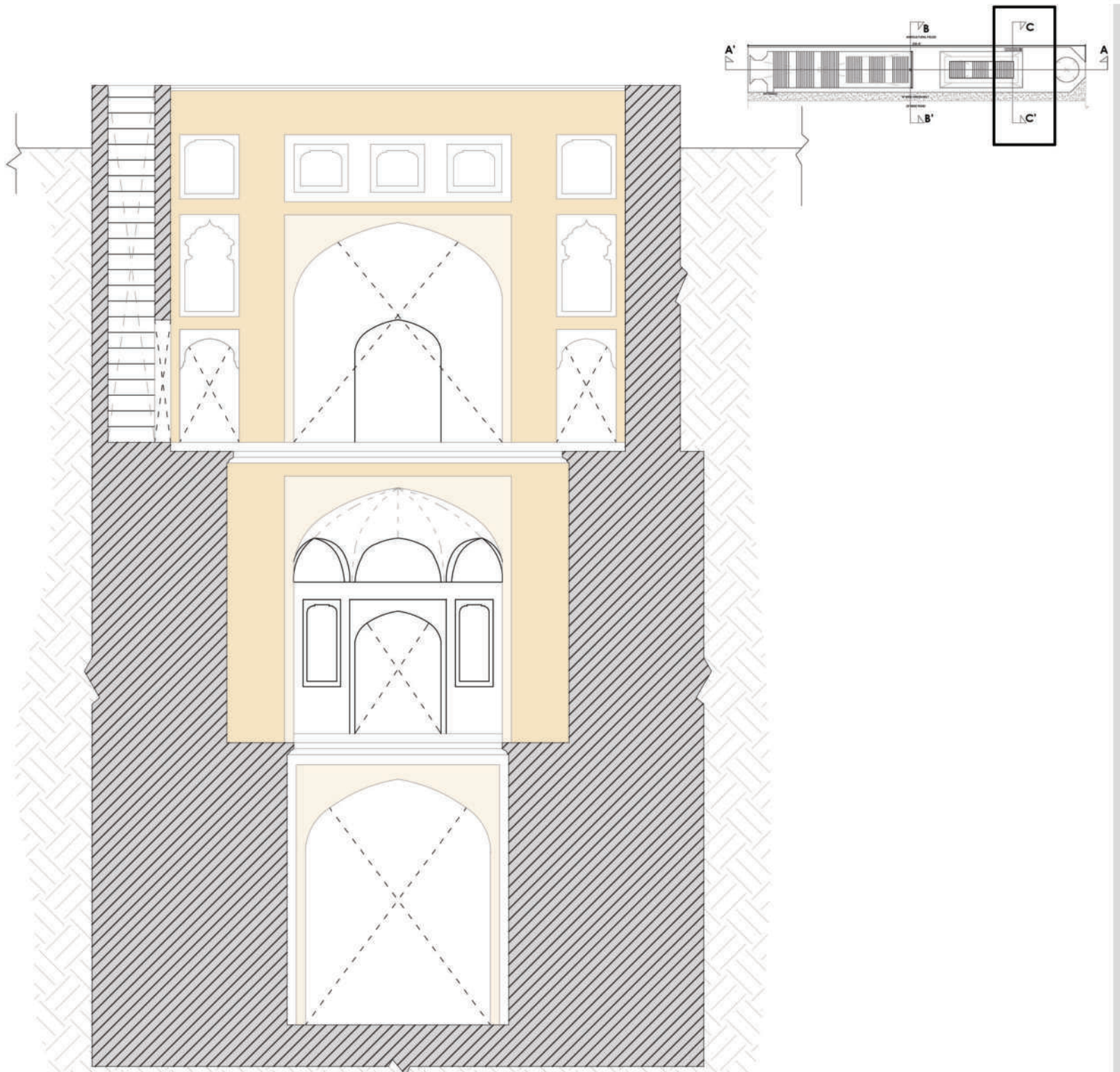
SECTIONAL PLAN-YY'



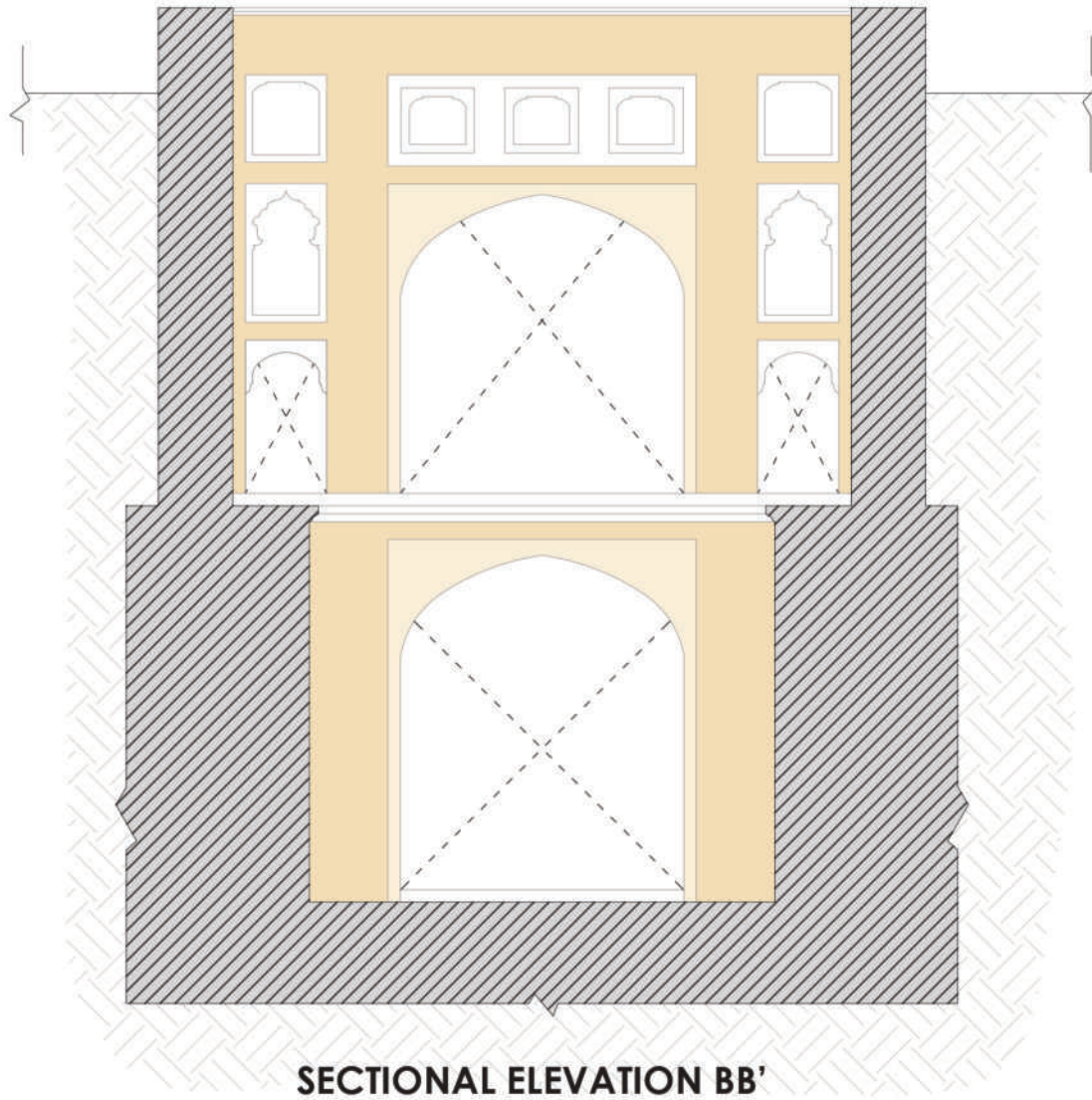
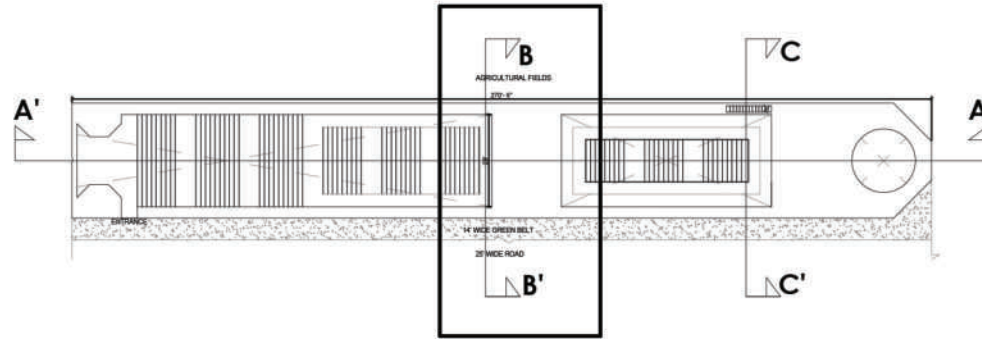
SECTIONAL PLAN-ZZ'



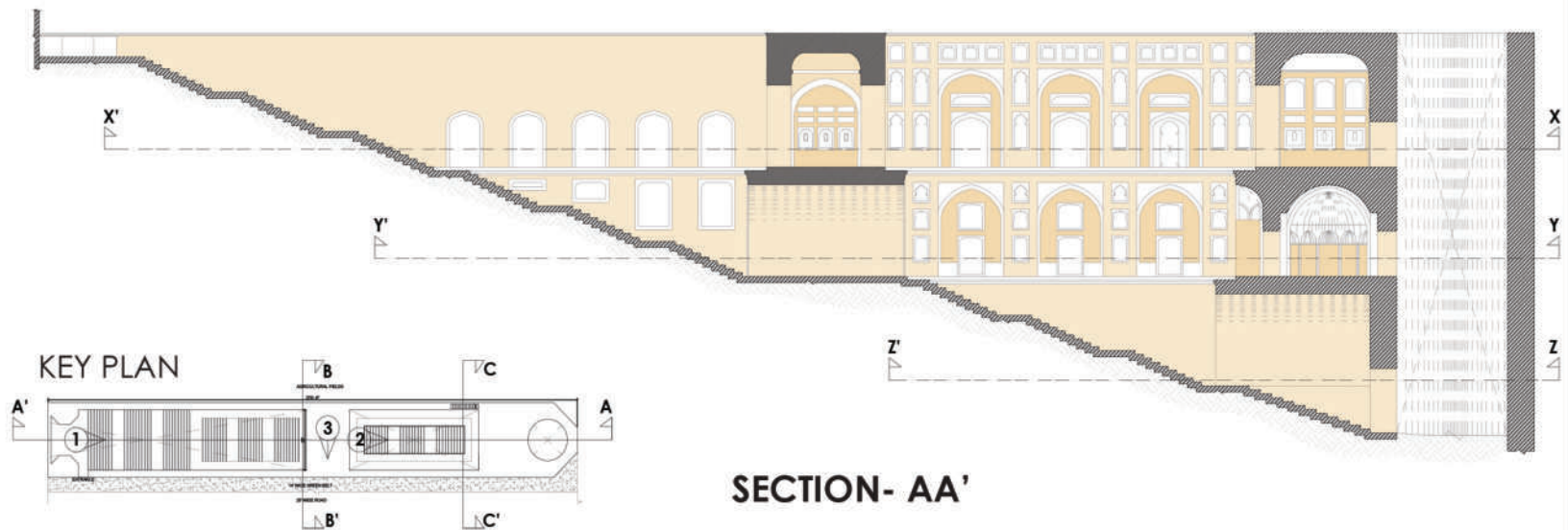
Credit: Yatin Singhal



SECTIONAL ELEVATION CC'



SECTIONAL ELEVATION BB'



History & Description:

The *Baoli* (water tank with a well) locally known as '**Bhai Ki Baoli**' is made out of lakhauri bricks with lime-surkhi.

This three-storeyed building is in the shape of a step-well. It is approached by descending flight of steps leading downwards to the well. The steps have thick wall on both the sides. The thick walls on the either side of the steps are decorated with close-arched doorways.

The well is three-storeyed and is open from two sides. It is covered with a domical roof. As the name of this monument itself indicates, it was built by Bhai rulers (1767-1843 CE) of Kaithal State for the use of general public.



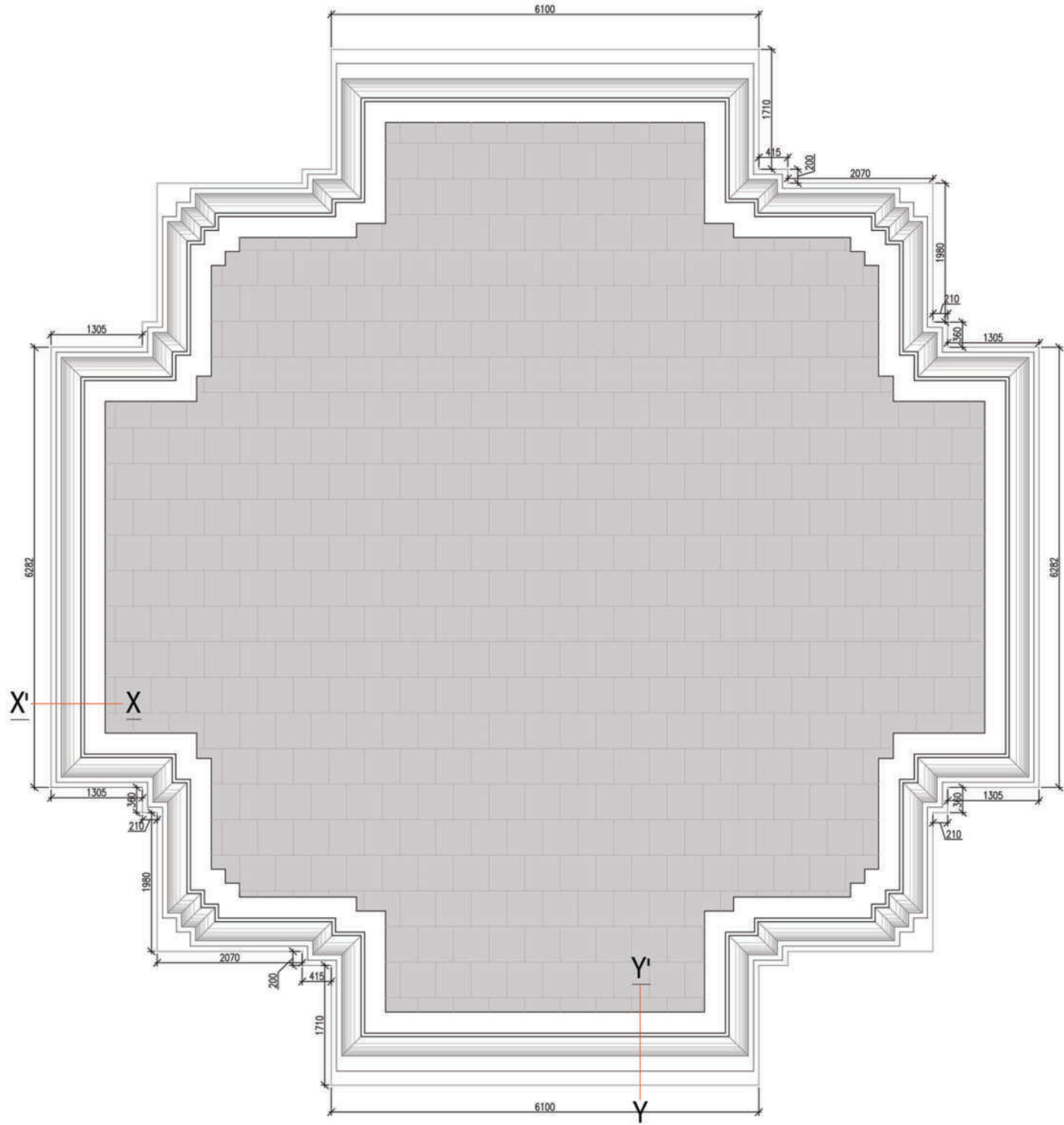
24

BHIMA DEVI TEMPLE COMPLEX, PANCHKULA

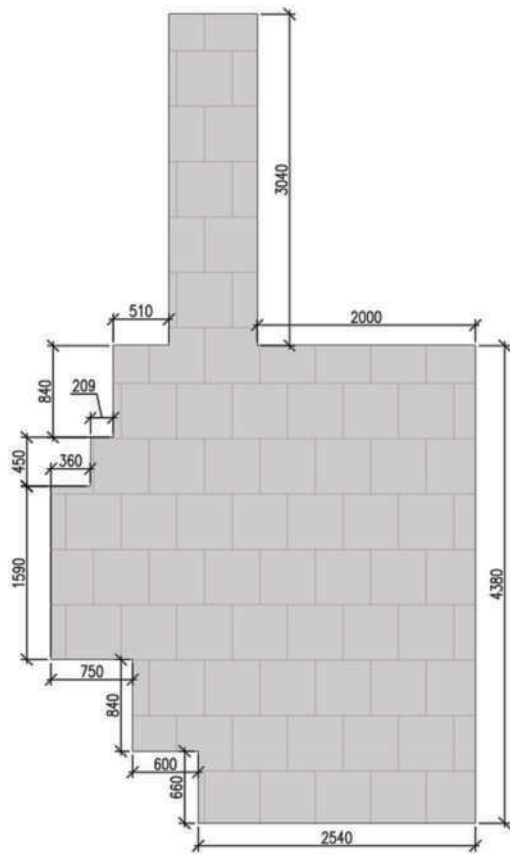


Bhima Devi temple, Panchkula

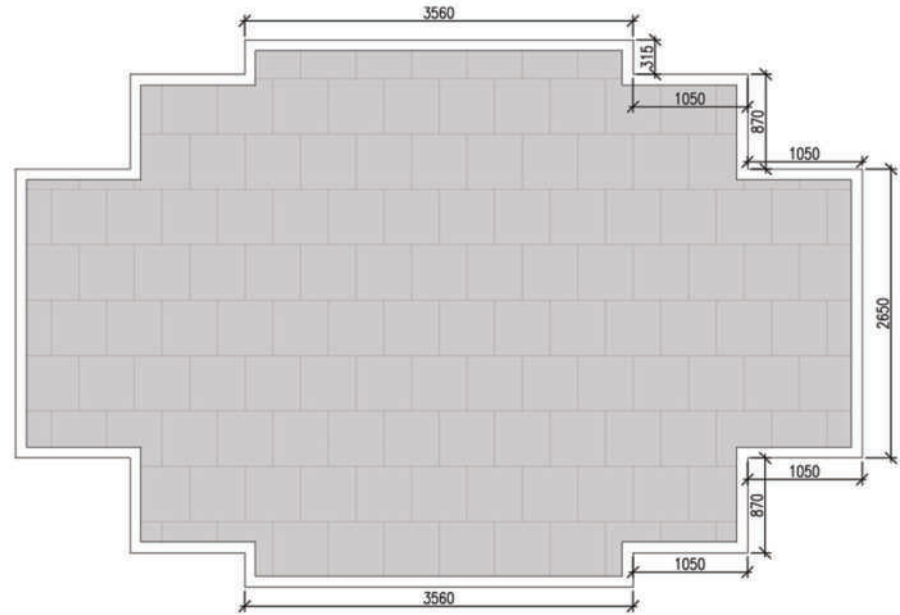
Type	: Temple
Location	: Yadavindra Garden, Pinjore, Panchkula, Haryana
Ownership	: Archaeology & Museums Department, Haryana
Period	: 9th-11th Century CE
Patronage	: Unknown



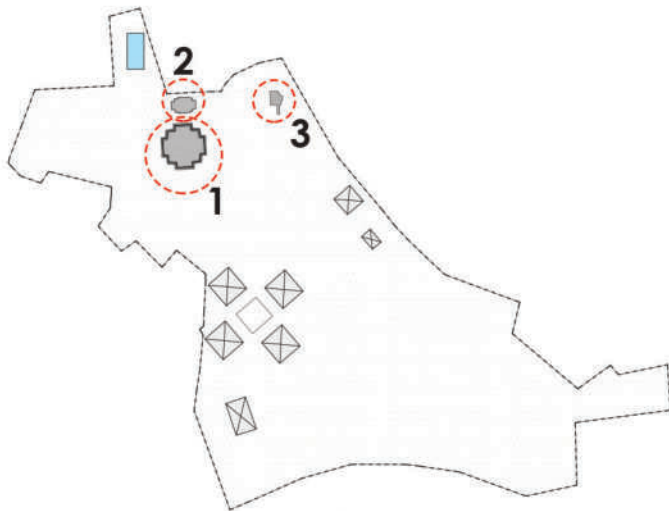
FLOOR PLAN



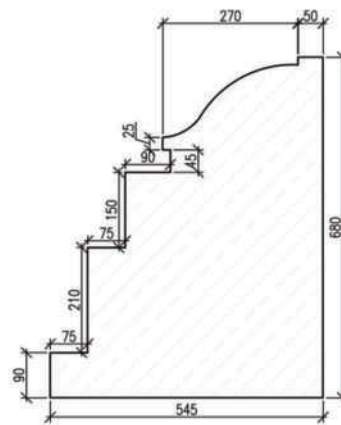
FLOOR PLAN



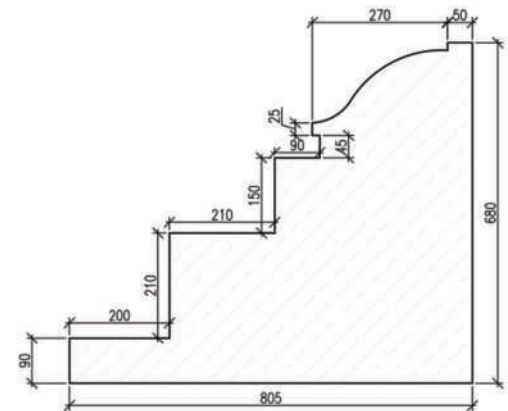
FLOOR PLAN



KEY PLAN



SECTION -XX'



SECTION -YY'

History & Description:

Alexander Cunningham, during his explorations in 1878-79, found in a 27-line inscription of 10th Century CE mentioning "Panchapura" from which modern name Pinjore is derived. The mention of Panchapura in the Hansi stone inscriptions (1167 CE) also seem to refer to this place. The name Pinjore also appears to be based on the myth that the Pandavas had stayed here during the course of their exile. Later on, this place also came to be known as Bhima Nagar – after a much revered local temple that came to be created at this ancient site. These evidences suggest that the ancient site of Panchapura and Bhima Nagar must have been a place of considerable importance between 9th to 12th century CE. Evidences further suggest that the ancient temple site of Bhima Devi was systematically demolished repeatedly possibly by the contemporary Muslim invaders with the last blow coming when Aurangzeb reigned. The adjoining Yadavindra garden was possibly built using the rubbles of the temple.

As a result of scientific clearance at the site, three stone plinths of a prominent ancient temple have come to light along with a number of beautiful sculptural and architectural remnants. The presence of these three plinths indicate that the temple was built in the 'Panchayatan' style of temple architecture. Panchayatan means a group of five temples with a main shrine in the centre and four sub-shrines at the each cardinal direction.

The architectural remains included chaitya windows, bhadrakumukha (Kirtikumukha), miniature turrets, the scouting figures on the brackets of the pillars etc. which indicate that the temple might have been built in the then prevailing north Indian style of temple architecture. Some of the sculptures in the remnants carry striking resemblance with those found at Khajuraho. The deities are related to the Shiva cult leading to the presumption that the temple was dedicated to Lord Shiva. Interior of the temple possibly remained simple in striking contrast to the profuse carving and decoration on the exterior.

The outer walls of the temple were decorated with the sculptures of gods and goddesses along with the depiction of social life. A large number of sculptures depicting Shiva and Parvati, Agni, Varuna, Surya, Vishnu, Ganesha, Kartikeya were also found on this site. The other decorative patterns included social performances, floral designs, animal motifs, musicians and erotic scenes etc. A few notable stone inscriptions have also been found at this site linking it with the name of Raja Rama Deva, possibly a local king of repute who patronized this temple.



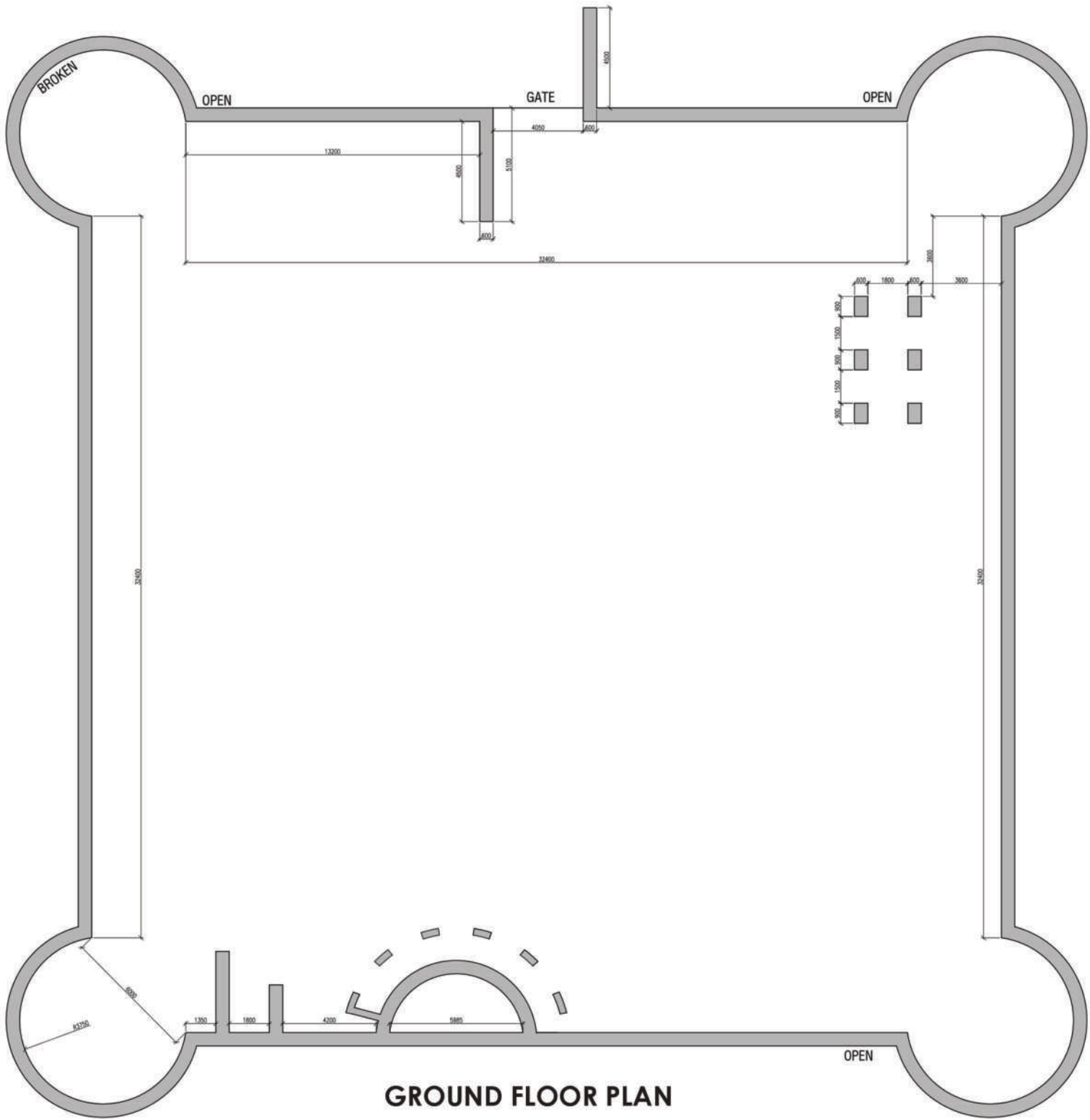
25

QILA ZAFARGARH, JIND

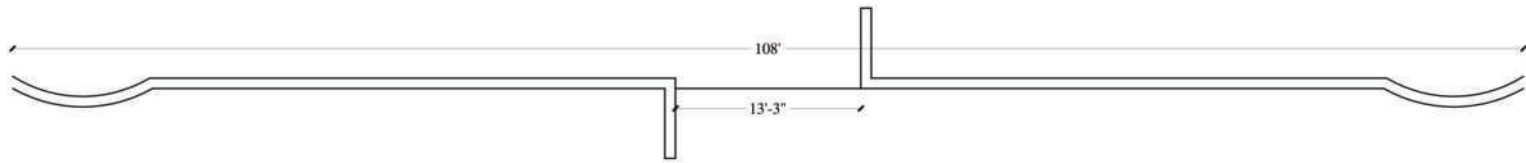


View of Qila Zafargarh

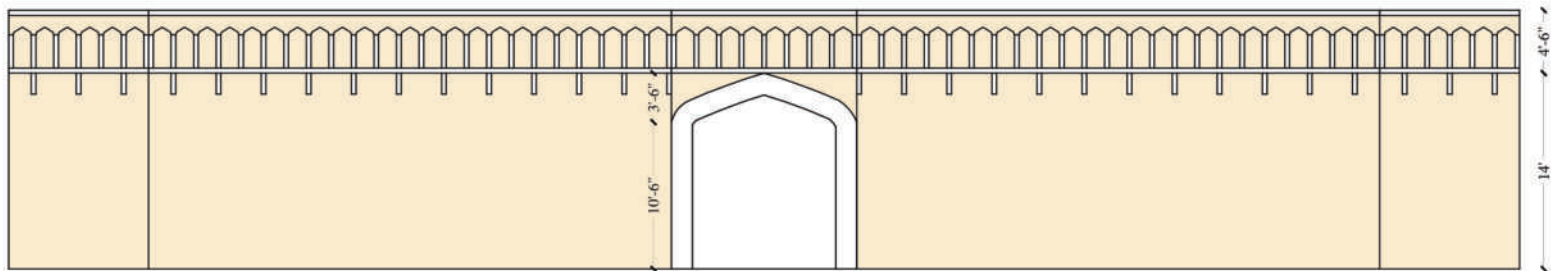
Type	: Fort
Location	: Vill. Qila Zafargarh, Teh. Julana, Jind, Haryana
Ownership	: Archaeology & Museums Department, Haryana
Period	: 19th Century CE
Patronage	: Rulers of Jind Princely state



GROUND FLOOR PLAN



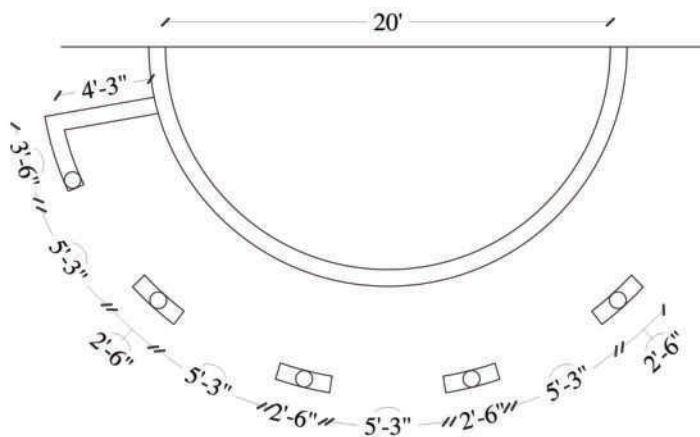
DETAIL LAYOUT PLAN ENTRANCE WALL



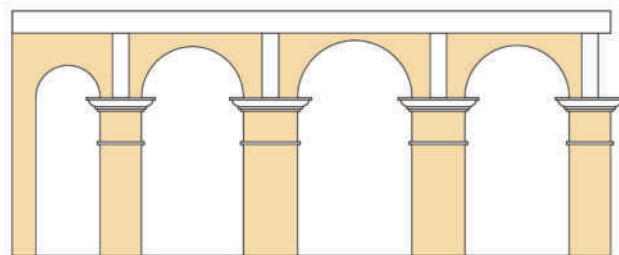
FRONT ELEVATION

History & Description:

The fort is located in village Qila Zafargarh, near Jind-Rohtak road (NH 352) at Tehsil Julana, district Jind. The rulers of Jind Princely state built this small fortress. It was mainly used by the rulers for the storage of arms, civil supplies, and training of the horses. Though the building was built as an outpost, the local people call it Qila. The citadel shaped building is now absolutely abandoned. Its inner chambers are still surviving.



PLAN BARADARI



FRONT ELEVATION

The fort building has already lost its main gate and tower posts while walls on three sides have survived with reparable damages. It is made of small bricks (lakhauri) and still has the famous courtyard (baradari) used by the king at that time.



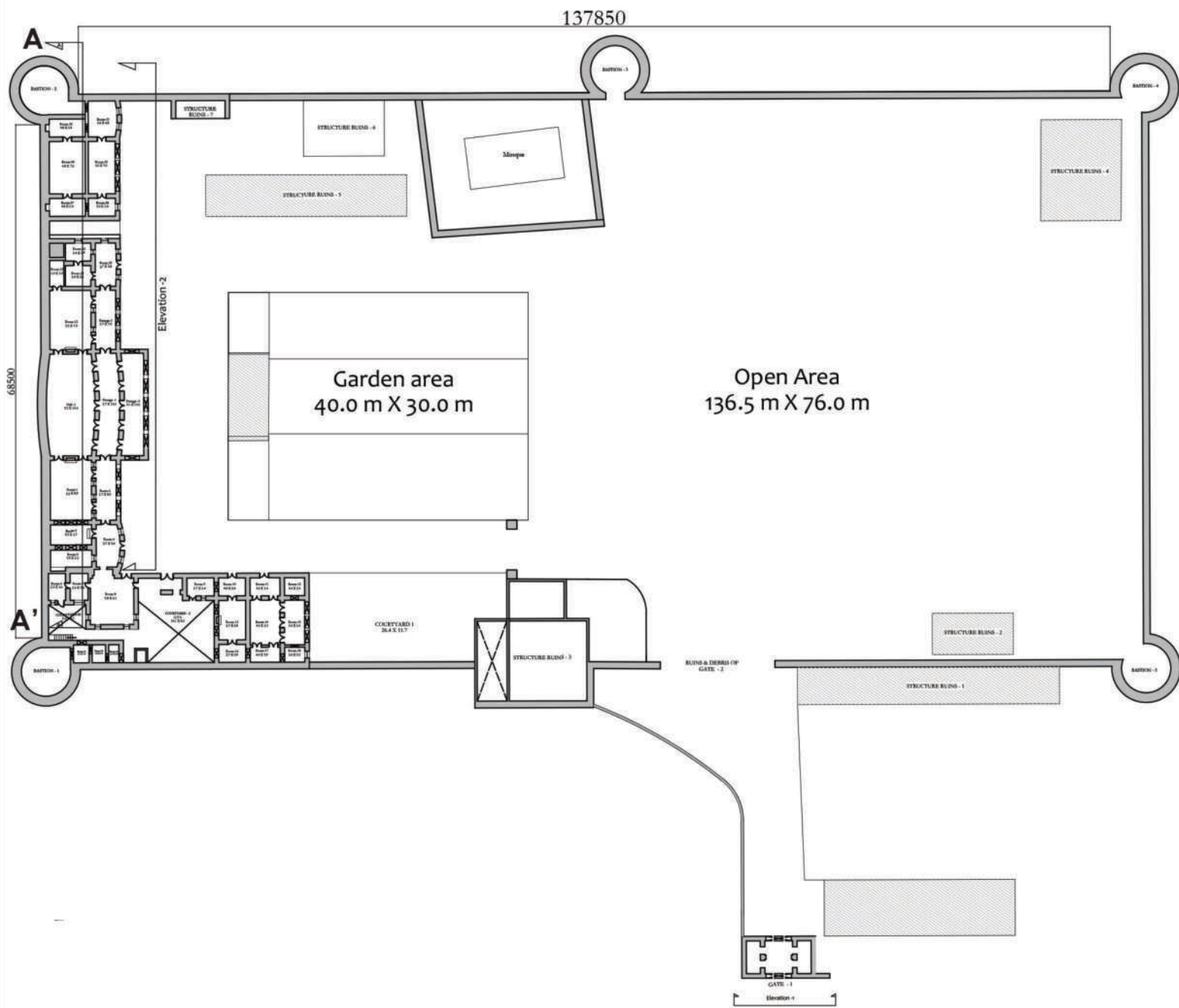
26

LOHARU FORT, BHIWANI

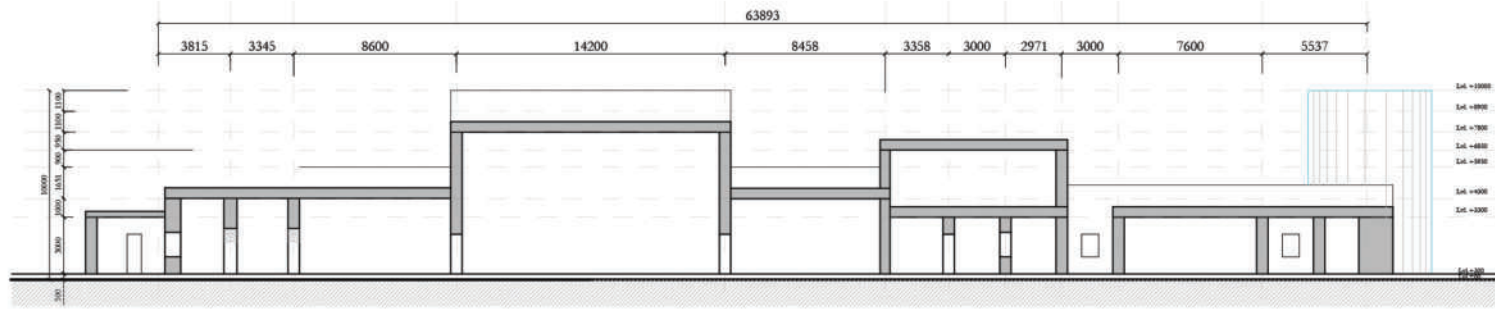


Loharu Fort, Bhiwani

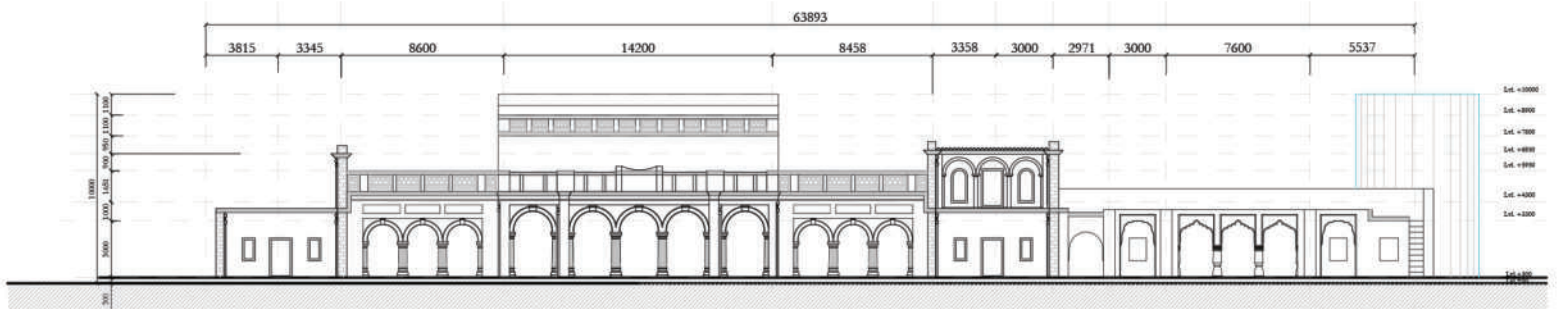
Type	: Fort
Location	: Bhiwani, Haryana
Ownership	: Archaeology & Museums Department, Haryana
Period	: 1570 CE
Patronage	: Arjan Singh



GROUND FLOOR PLAN



SECTION -AA'



ELEVATION 2

Credit: Inderjeet Singh

History & Description:

Loharu fort is the chief monument in Bhiwani. It is said to have been built in 1570 by Arjan Singh. A number of gateways and the fort wall still exist. The exterior wall is punctuated with massive circular bastions at intervals. A structure known as the Nawab's palace was built inside the fort in 1890.

The building of the palace is a mixture of oriental and western styles. The building is single – storeyed and the layout is square and symmetrical. The openings are arches with cusped profile. Four minarets are located at all corners, and it is covered with domes. It stands on a raised terrace, with a fountain and a tank in its centre.



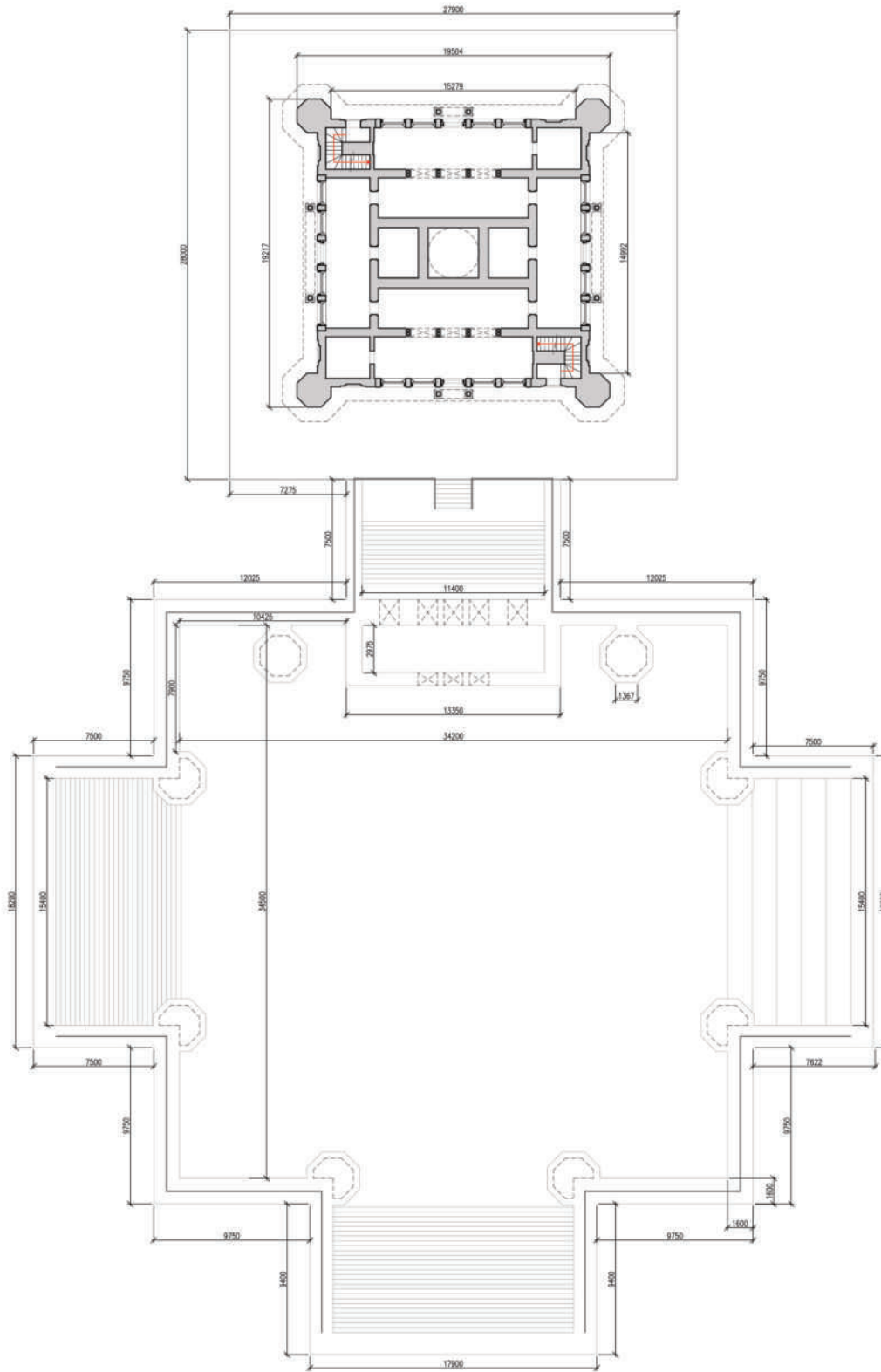
27

RANI KI CHATTRI, FARIDABAD

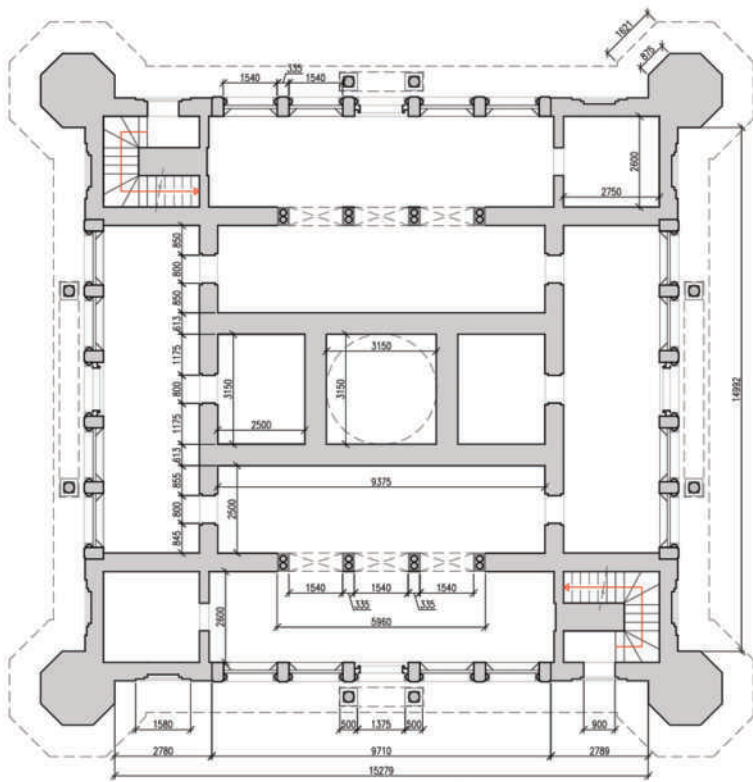


Rani Ki Chattri, Ballabgarh, Faridabad

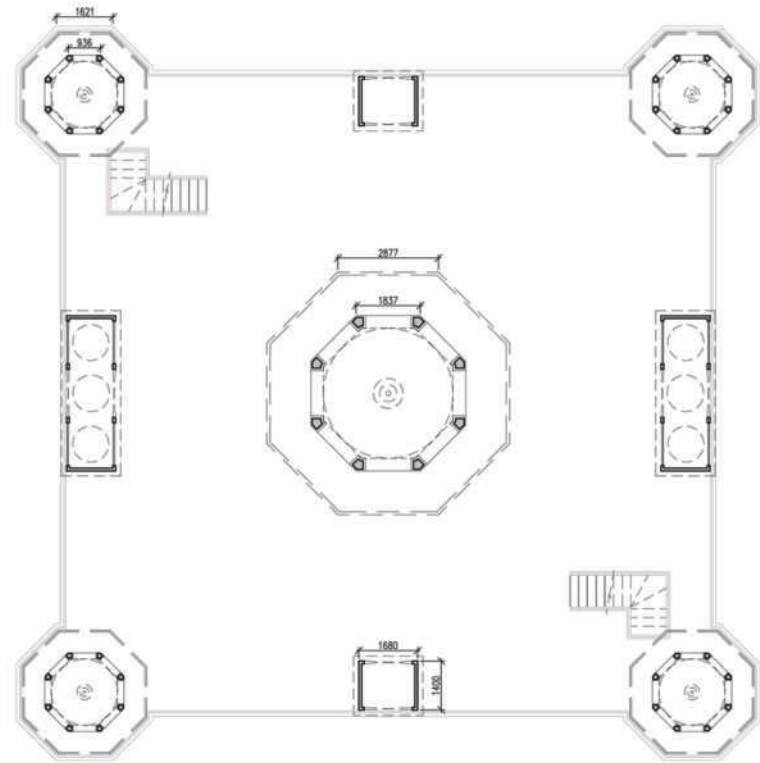
Type	: Cenotaph & Reservoir
Location	: Ballabgarh, Faridabad, Haryana
Owership	: Archaeology & Museums Department, Haryana
Period	: 19th Century CE
Patronage	: Anrudh Singh



GROUND FLOOR PLAN (SITE)



GROUND FLOOR PLAN

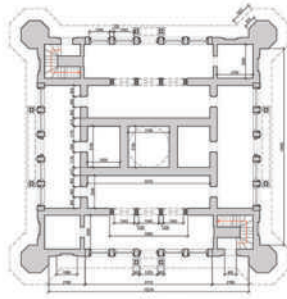


FIRST FLOOR PLAN

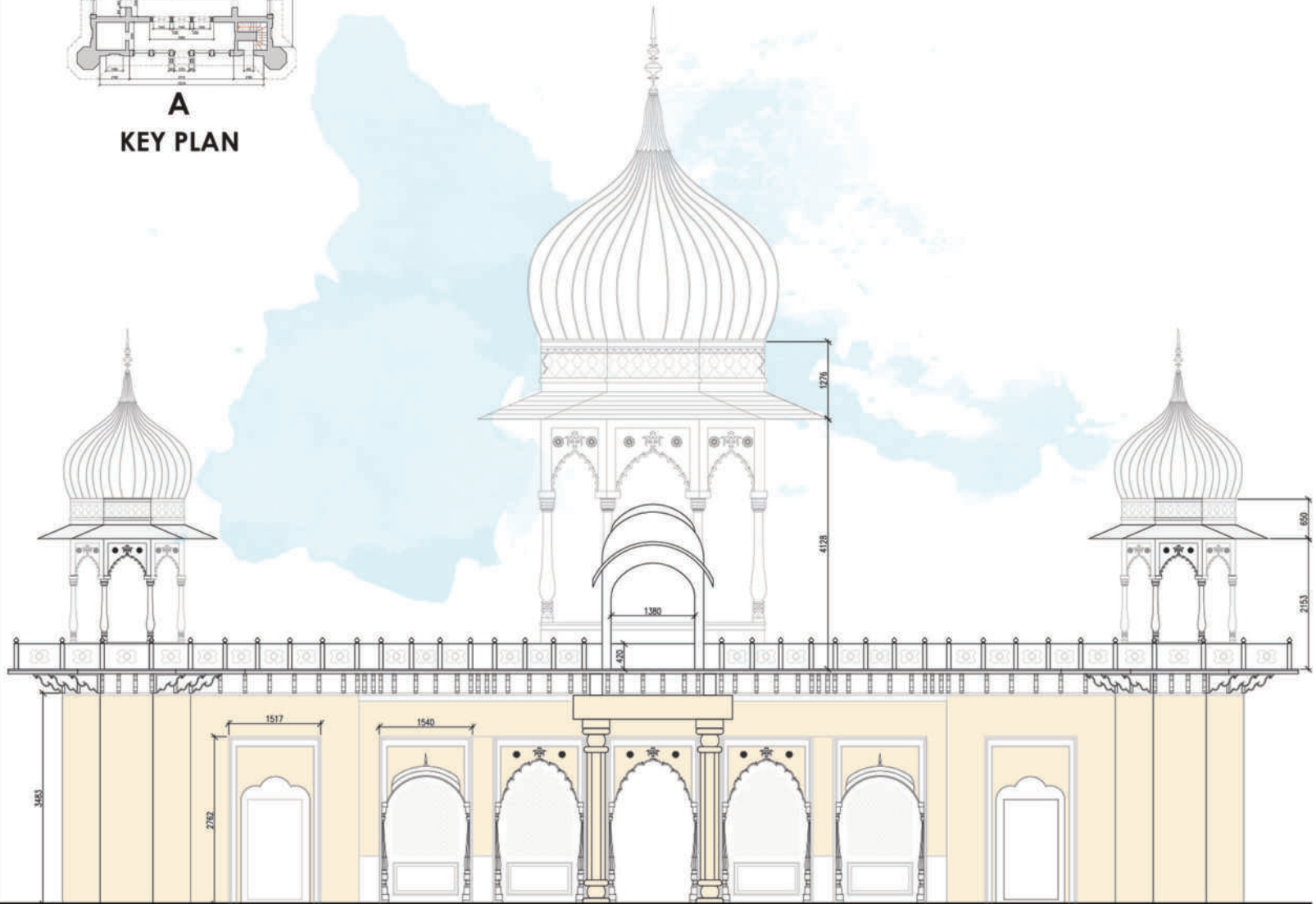
History & Description:

The complex of Rani ki Chattri includes a pavilion and a stepped tank built by widow of Anrudh Singh, Raja of Ballabgharh till 1818, in memory of her deceased husband.

Rani ki Chattri is a captivating architectural masterpiece that blends Indo-Islamic and Rajput styles. This 'pillared hall' structure features a square design and sits on an elevated plinth. Constructed using bricks and lime, it is adorned with buff-colored sandstone cladding. The interior walls are covered in white arais plaster, while the ceiling boasts vibrant paintings.



A
KEY PLAN



ELEVATION SOUTH

The corners of the building are accentuated by octagonal turrets embellished with blind arcades and ground-level niches, topped with ribbed domed chattris at the roof level. A decorative sandstone chajja supported by stone brackets encircles the building beneath the parapet. The accompanying tank showcases the region's characteristic water body architecture, with lakhori brick walls, octagonal turrets, and arched niches. Rani ki Chattri exemplifies the harmonious fusion of diverse architectural elements, creating a truly enchanting structure.



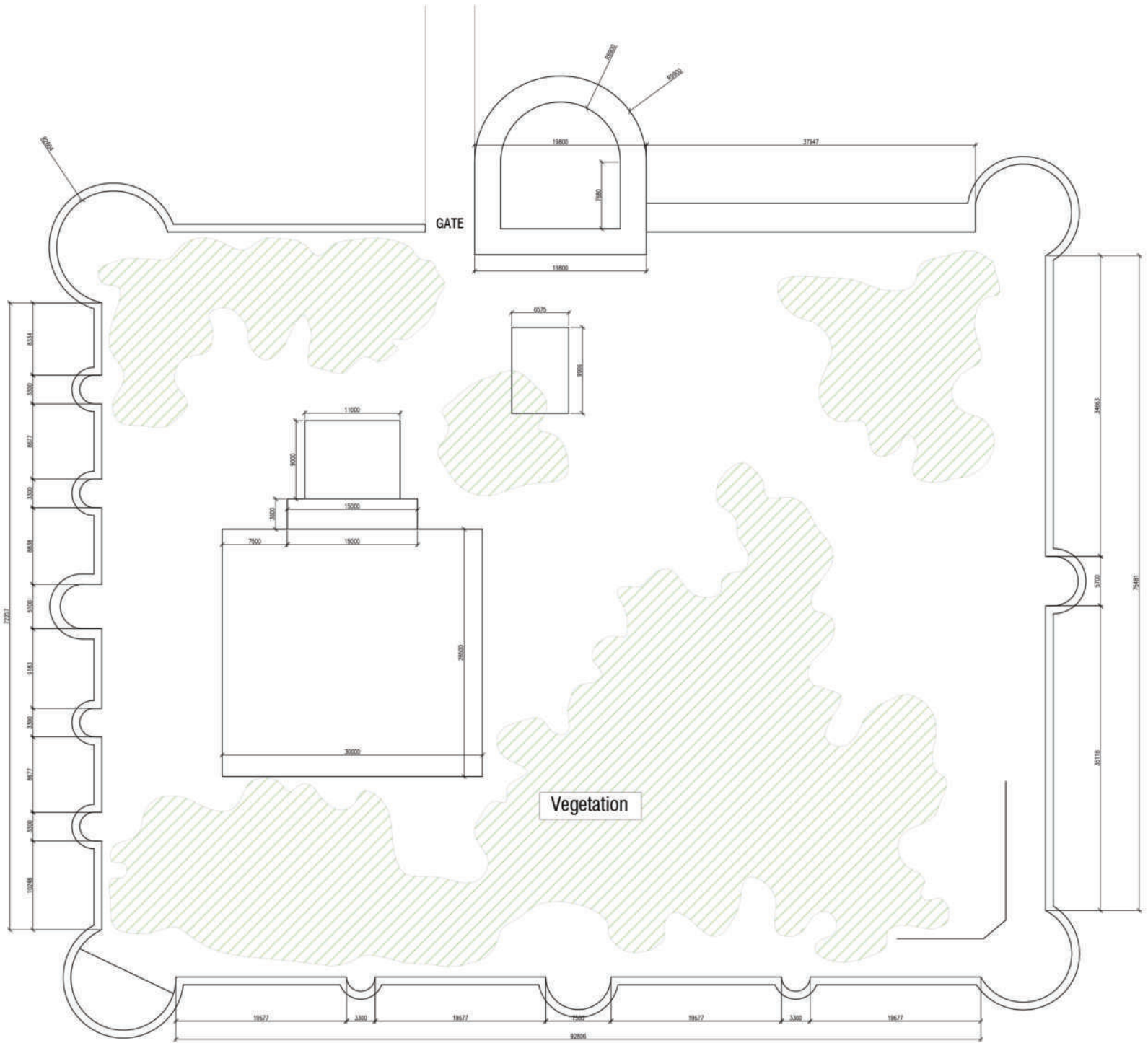
28

ANCIENT FORT, SAFIDON



Ancient Fort, Safidon

Type	: Fort
Location	: Safidon, Jind, Haryana
Ownership	: Archaeology & Museums Department, Haryana
Period	: 18th Century CE
Patronage	: Rulers of Jind State



GROUND FLOOR PLAN

History & Description:

This historical fort at Safidon was built by the rulers of Jind state in 18th century CE. The history of Jind as a separate and ruling State dates from 1763 CE. It was the first fort built by the rulers of Jind State who were successors of Phulkian family. The fort is constructed with brick and reinforced with a number of tapering bastions at equal intervals. This fort has bastions for providing strength to the fortification wall which were there to ensure security. The fort wall provides a beautiful backdrop to the ghats. The potsherds and objects recovered from the site are sufficient to push the antiquity of the place to 200 BCE.



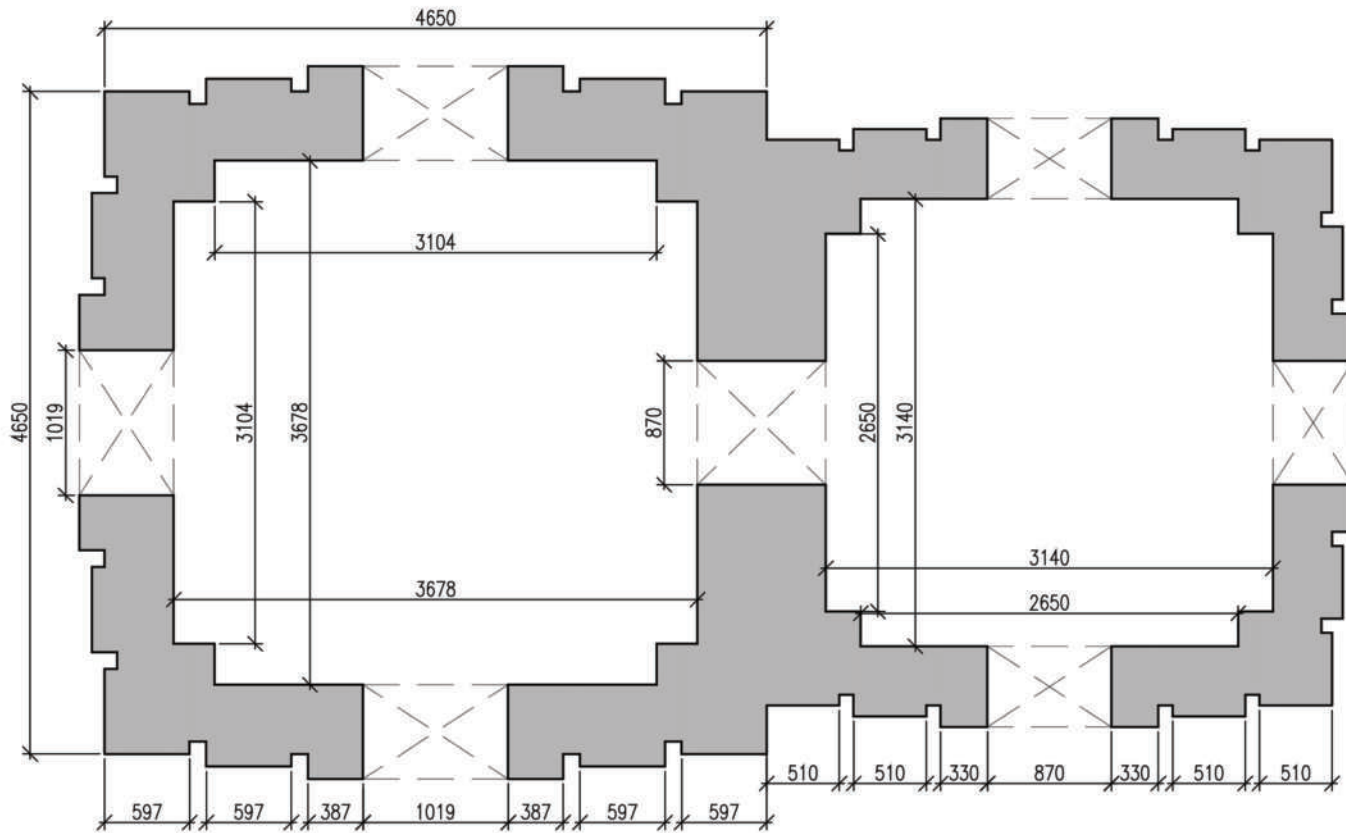
29

PRACHEEN SHIV TEMPLE, PEHOWA



Left- Temple view (archive); Rear-side View of temple (archive)

Type	: Temple
Location	: Pehowa, Kurukshetra, Haryana
Ownership	: Archaeology & Museums Department, Haryana
Period	: 8th-9th Century CE
Patronage	: Unknown

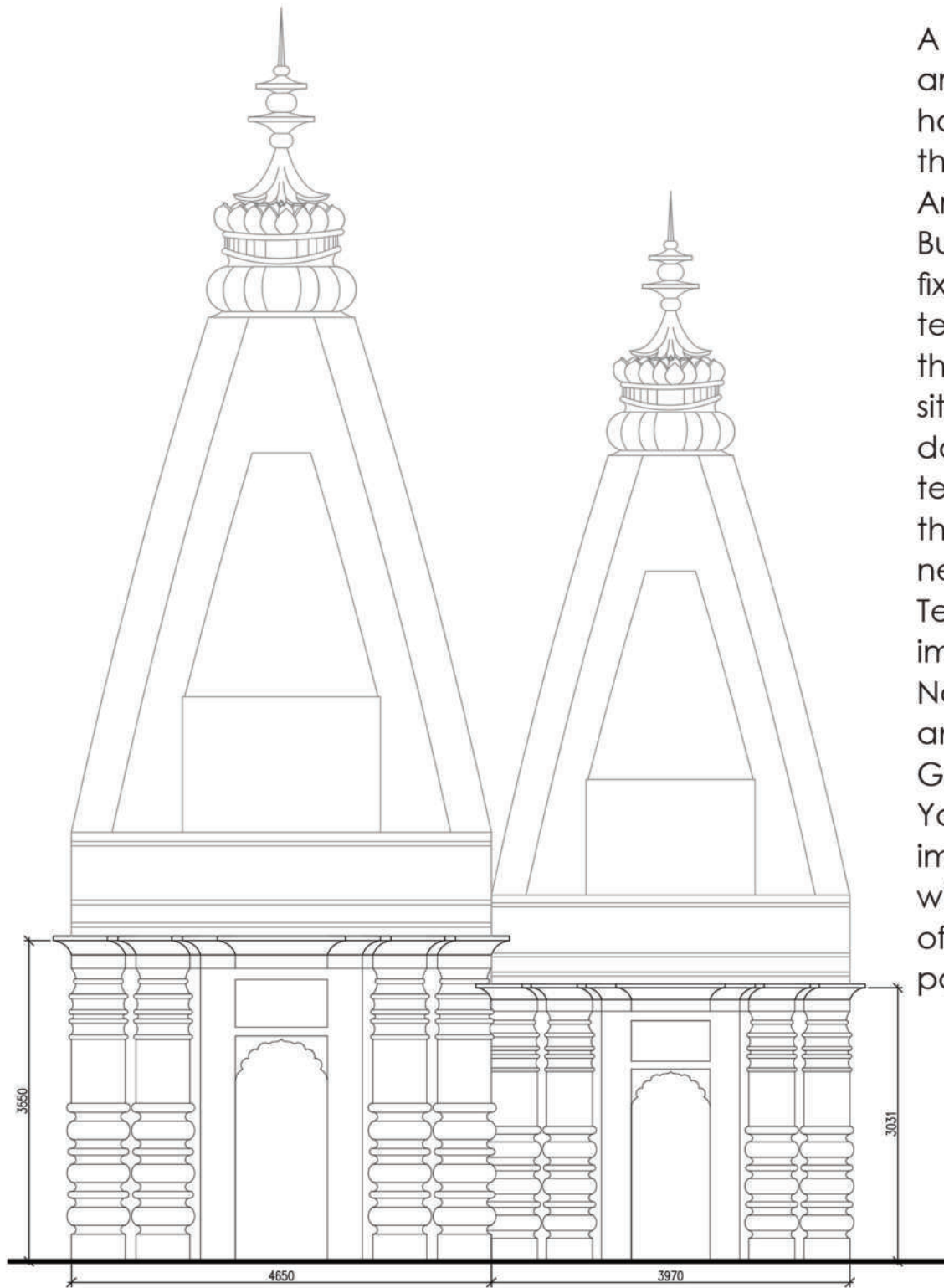


GROUND FLOOR PLAN

History & Description:

The name of this town Pehowa is derived from "Prithudaka", as King Prithu was the founder of this town.

The ancient site of Pracheen Shiva Temple have yielded a number of sculptures of Gods and Goddesses of Hindu pantheon and architectural members of a temple. These discoveries lead to the presumption that it was the site of one of the Vishnu temples which are referred in the Pehowa inscriptions. Another Vishnu temple site in this town is Vishvamitra ka Tila .



FRONT ELEVATION

A few sculptures and architectural members have been collected by the State Department of Archaeology from this site. But many of them are now fixed in the walls of modern temples at Prachi Tirth by the Mahant, owner of the site. At least three stone doorframes of ancient temple now stand fixed on the different entrances of newly built Pracheen Shiv Temple. One of them is very important as it depicts Navagraha, Saptamatrikas and the figures of Goddesses Ganga & Yamuna & also a Vishnu image on the "Lalatbimba" which signifies the presence of a Vishnu temple in the past.



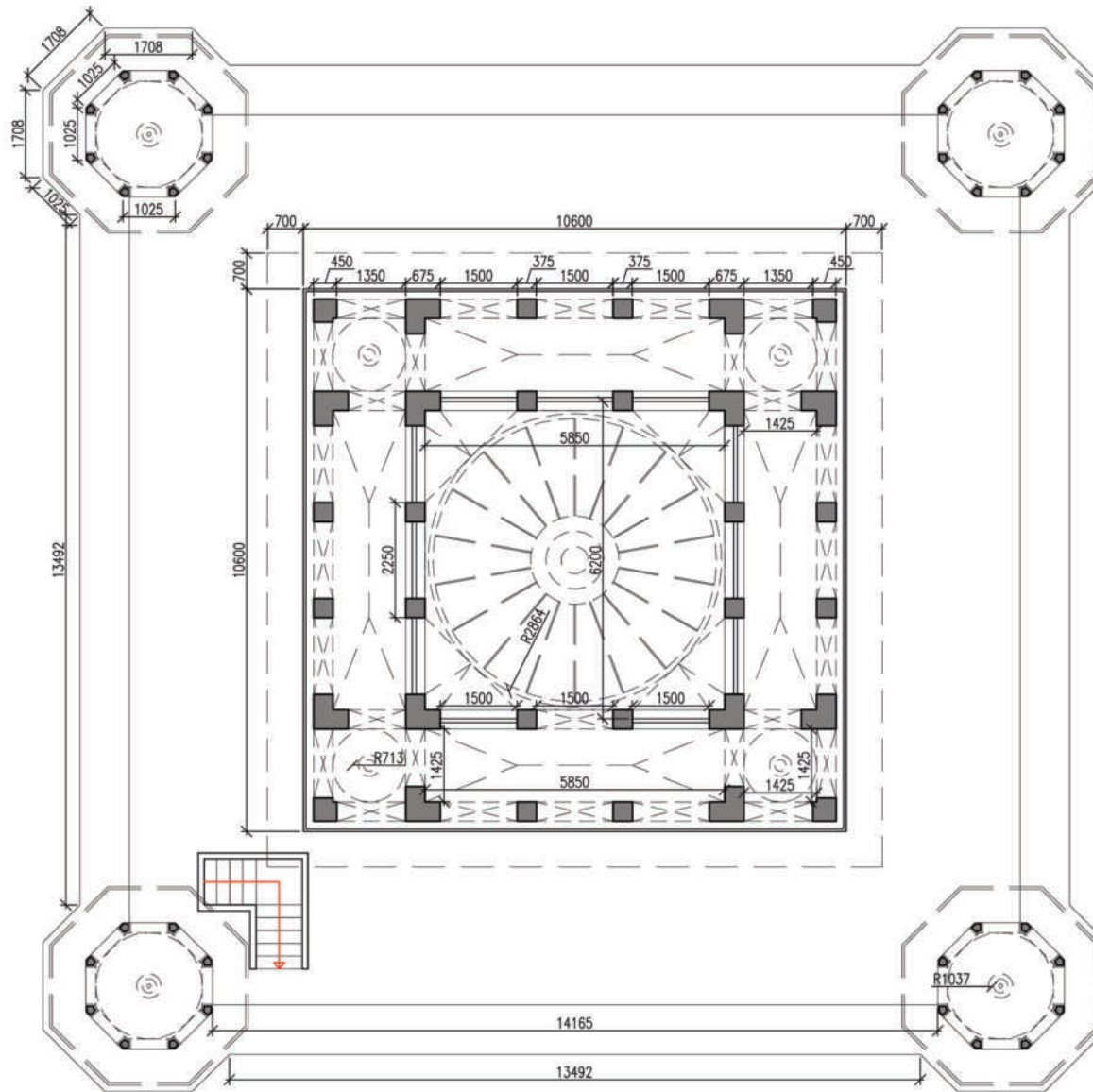
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CHUHIMAL-KI-CHATTRI & TALAB, NUH



Chuhimal-ki-Chattri

Type	: Cenotaph and Reservoir
Location	: Nuh, Haryana
Ownership	: Archaeology & Museums Department, Haryana (<i>under process....</i>)
Period	: 18th-19th Century CE
Patronage	: Unknown



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

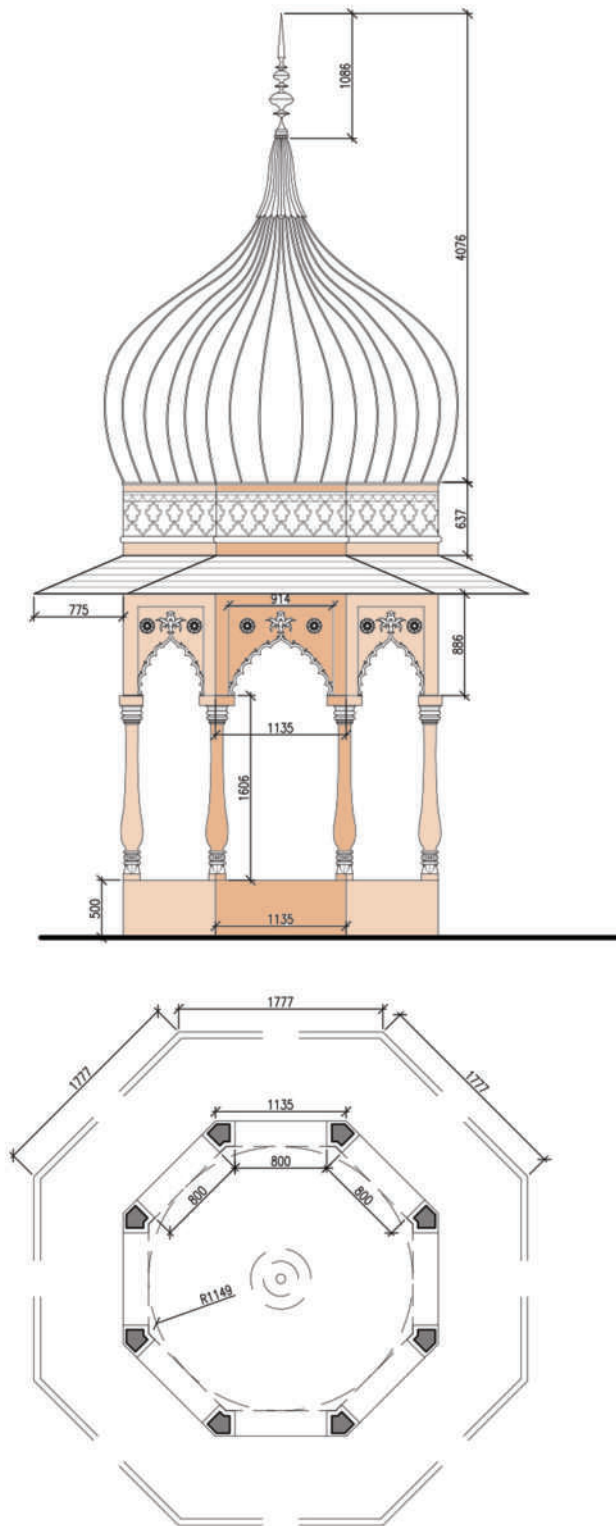
History & Description:

In the midst of Nuh region stands the historic and picturesque Chuhimal complex at Nuh, serving as an ideal oasis for the region and lending aesthetic appeal to its otherwise stark surroundings. It bears testimony to the district's glorious past, much of which is quite shrouded in obscurity. This is a rectangular ancient water tank (*talab*) with a cenotaph (*chattri*) of red stone and having beautiful carvings.

Historical sources suggest that the town of Nuh rose to prominence during the time of Bahadur Singh of Ghasera and came under British rule in 1808 CE. This complex, built in the 18th-19th century, comprises a covered and arcaded entrance block, two historic temples and a beautiful stepped water body or talab. The *talab* is surrounded by eight small octagonal *chattris*, initially conceived by Seth Chuhimal, an affluent nagarseeth of Nuh.




Chuhimal-Ka-Talab



CHATTRI PLAN & ELEVATION

The complex also has an exquisite double-storied chattri made of Bharatpur stone with floral inscriptions, which was constructed later in the memory of Seth Chuhimal. The *talab* is also said to have an underground tunnel leading to Chuhimal's haveli, situated in the nearby village, which was used for bathing by the women of the haveli. The *talab* is in a fairly good state, clean and well maintained by the owners who are descendants of Seth Chuhimal. It is fed with water from a nahar that flows perennially, probably the reason why it was a bathing place for women folk in earlier times. The main *chattri* stands a little distance away from the *talab* and the temples. It is made of red sandstone with two kinds of arches showing a tasteful blend of the Rajput and Mughal architectural styles typical of the region. Decorative features on the main *chattris* are intricate, with an abundant use of floral and animal motifs in an aesthetic outlay. The main *chattri* is also in a good state, clean and fairly well maintained and repairs have been done on portions of the structure. The stairs leading to the upper storey have been barricaded so as to prevent intrusions. The whole complex, with its charming façade, emanates a serenity that transports you back to a forgotten era. It holds great potential to be developed as a tourist spot for residents of the surrounding towns.



***“A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin, and culture
is like a tree without roots.”***

-Marcus Garvey