

P.O., Naggar, Kulu.

Panjab.

11th December, 1943

Major Stuart Piggot,
H.Q.S.E.A.A.C.
New Delhi.

Dear Major Piggot,

I am in receipt of your letter dated the 24th November 1943, enclosing your very interesting article on early Buddhist Shrines, for which please accept my sincere thanks.

I am enclosing a rough plan and sketch of the Tripura-Sundari Temple in Naggar, which I hope will serve your purpose. Prior to the Kangra earthquake of 1905, the temple had five storeys, and was rebuilt after the earthquake. The lower gallery is reached by climbing the roof of the dharmasala situated nearby.

I am also enclosing a photograph of the Guru Ghantal or Gandhola Temple in Tīnan, Lahul, which embodies elements of the Himalayan wooden architecture, and of the Tibetan temple architecture. Slate is used for the roof, instead of wood. A local legend connects the building of the temple with the name of Padmasambhava /c. 750 A.D./, but of course the present temple belongs to a more recent date. Hutchison & Vogel: History of the Panjab Hill States, Lahore, 1933, vol. 11, p. 475 /. The frescoes /the best in Lahul/ have been renovated in the usual Tibetan manner, by applying new paint over old contours. The temple has some fine wooden carvings, which remind one of the carvings at the Alchi monastery in Ladakh.

1907

and of some of the Spiti temples.

1907

Yours very truly,

Joseph ...
...

Dear Mr. ...

I am in receipt of your letter dated the 11th November
1907, enclosing some very interesting articles on early Buddhist art.
For which please accept my sincere thanks.
I am enclosing a rough plan and section of the
Sungri Temple in Tibet, which I hope will serve your purpose. This
to the many excavations of 1903, the temple had five stories, and was
rebuilt after the earthquake. The tower is reached by climbing
the roof of the drum-tower situated nearby.
I am also enclosing a photograph of the main entrance of
Sungri Temple in Tibet, which embodies elements of the Himalayan
wood architecture, and of the Tibetan temple architecture. It is
for the roof, instead of wood, a local stone connects the building of
the temple with the name of the temple, 'Sungri' (Sungri).
The temple belongs to a more recent date, but the
history of the temple will be found in the 'Sungri' volume of the
Sungri have been removed in the usual Tibetan manner.
The temple has some fine wooden
carvings, which remind one of the carvings of the Lhasa monastery in Tibet.