



1 south elevation



2 west elevation



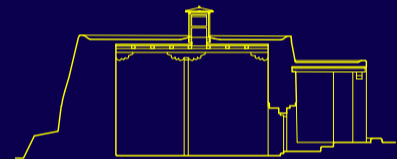
3 north elevation



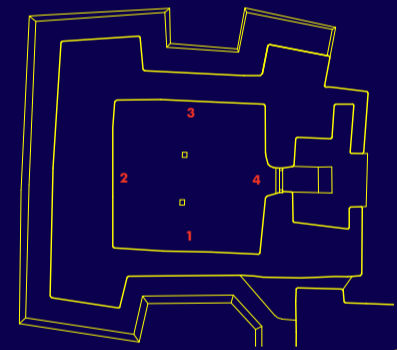
4 east elevation



site plan



longitudinal section



ground plan



Tabo chos-'khor [dKyil-khan]

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„The dKyil-khan is the second temple within the complex which is embellished with murals of both historical and devotional character. [...]

The western wall has a four-headed, two-armed, white Vairocana seated in *vajraparyanka-mudra* in a circular medaillon. Two lions seated back to back support seat. [...] Four Tathagatas associated with this *mandala* can be identified, for they represent Amitabha seated on a pair of peacocks, and Amoghasiddhi on eagles. Ratnasambhava and Aksobhya are painted on the left side. [...] The *mandala* on the south wall has Sakyamuni, yellow in colour, in the innermost circle, with the hands in *dharmacakramudra*. Eight petals sprouting forth from the central circle possibly represent the eight auspicious symbols. In the third circle are shown eight deities followed by twenty-eight figures, including the four guardians in a square *mandala*. Another round circle is arranged but the exact number of figures arranged within it remains undetermined. [...]

Equally fascinating is the *mandala* of Aksobhya painted in the centre of the north wall. One of the features of the mural is that each deity has a scarf wrapped over the shoulders which flows on either side with its ends turned upwards. [...]

Immediately above the entrance appears Srun-ma flanked by her five female attendants on either side. On the left side appears two-armed Chos-rgyal. There are faint traces of the guardians of the four quarters. "

Text: „Buddhism in the Western Himalaya“, Laxman S. Thakur, Oxford University Press 2001

Fotos: Holger Neuwirth

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