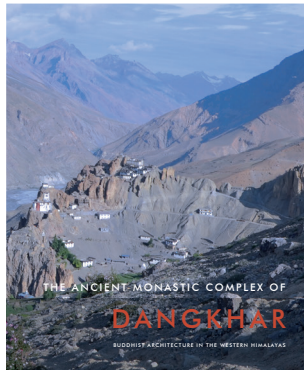
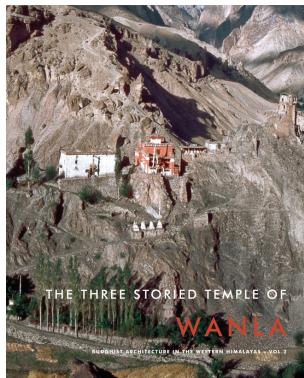


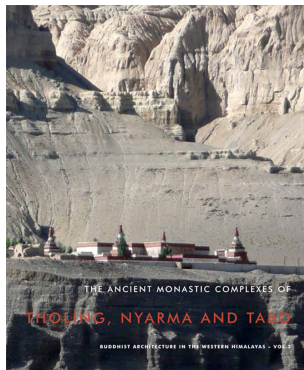
CURRENT PUBLICATIONS



Neuwirth & Auer 2013:
The Ancient Monastic Complex of Dankhar



Neuwirth & Auer 2015:
The Three Storied Temple of Wanla



Neuwirth & Auer 2021:
The Ancient Monastic Complexes of Tholing, Nyarma and Tabo

The total number of the surveyed buildings comprises more than 50 individual buildings at 23 different locations in Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh and Western Tibet.

The documentation includes general descriptions and pictures as well as a collection of architectural drawings, photomontages and spatial models. These results of many years of research work are shared openly to allow an exchange of knowledge among fellow researchers and everyone interested in the topic.

THE RESEARCH PROJECT

In the last two decades, an extensive collection of research material on Buddhist architecture of the Western Himalayas has been built up at *Graz University of Technology* within the framework of various research projects. This research deals with various buildings - temples, temple complexes and votive buildings - that are associated with the second wave of the spread of Buddhism in Tibet from the 10th century onwards. The current project allows to include the preserved Buddhist monuments of *Dolpo* - a region in Western Nepal that directly borders Tibet - in our research.

The proposed project will be grounded on interdisciplinary approach using research methods from the geodetic building survey and building technology on one hand, and theory and history of architecture on the other. The cooperation with the *Institute of Engineering Geodesy and Measurement* systems of the Graz University of Technology enables us to implement innovative aspects of architectural surveying and documentation in the project.

Our aim is to enhance the accurate documentation of significant buildings in this difficult-to-reach area to provide meaningful comparative material for the study of contexts within Buddhist architecture in Western Tibet, Northern India, and Western Nepal.



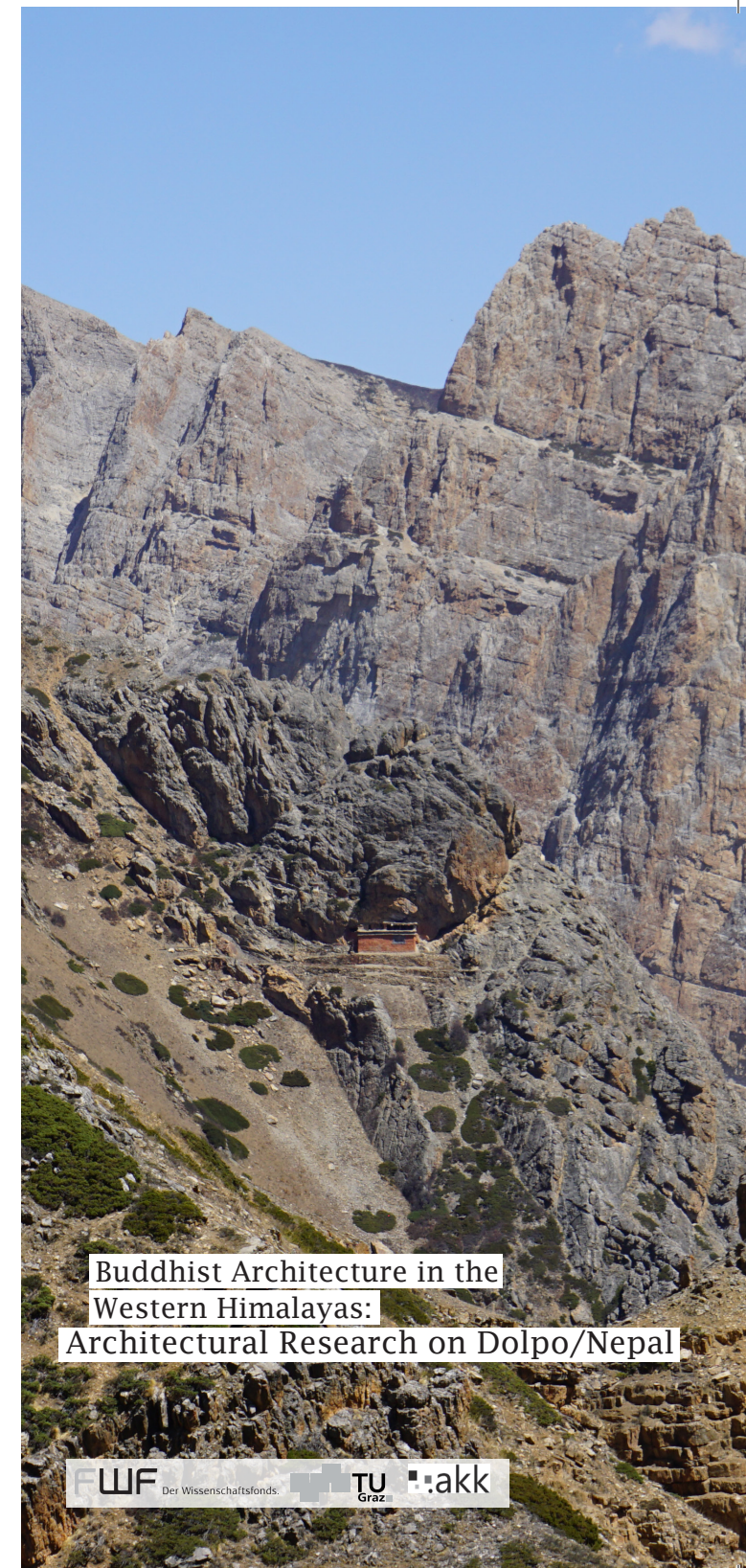
Graz University of Technology

Research Project by the Institute of Architectural Theory History of Art and Cultural Studies
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Buddhist Architecture in the
Western Himalayas:
Architectural Research on Dolpo/Nepal

FWF Der Wissenschaftsfonds TU Graz akk

ARCHITECTURAL RESEARCH ON DOLPO



Monastery of Ringmo



Monastery of Shey



Tsakhang Gompa near Shey



Nesar Temple in Bijer



Monastery of Samling



Yangtser Monastery



Hrab Monastery



Gompa on the way up to Hrab



Jampa Lakhang of Tokyu



Trangmar Gompa of Kagar



Ribo Bhumpa Gompa of Dho

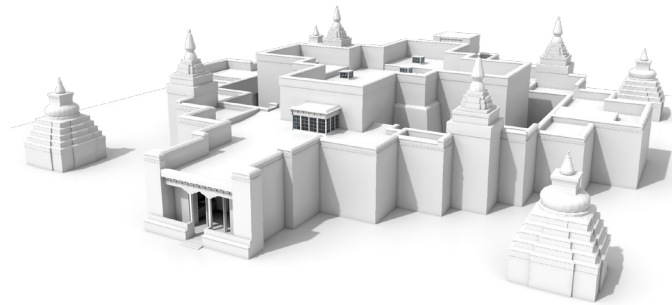


Shipchok Monastery

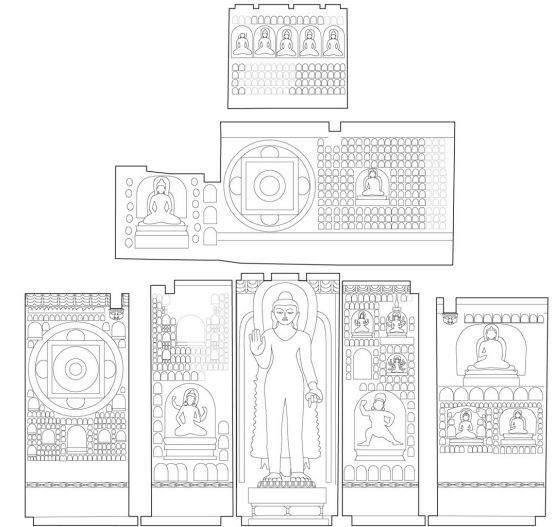
PREVIOUS WORK AND NEW SURVEYING METHODS

The starting point for the research questions and objectives was the fact that results from different fields of research, such as Anthropology and Tibetology, clearly show that the religious significance of certain regions of *Dolpo* played an important role in the sacred landscape of Tibet as early as the 11th century.

In the field of building research, on the contrary, there are almost none comprehensive surveys or documentations of remaining building structures available for this area.



3D Model of the Main Temple and the Golden Temple of Tholing



Scaled photomontages and drawings of the Interior in Wanla

In the last two decades, the fundamental surveying methods have changed significantly, driven by the rapid technological development and the variety of different sensors that are now available. Especially 3D laser scanning, has significantly improved the documentation possibilities in archaeology, cultural heritage preservation, monument preservation and architectural research in the last years.

Plans with representations of the interior and exterior artistic particularities are combined in order to achieve a holistic documentation. This is important because the artwork is often the only help when it comes to dating the building and to reflecting its historical context.

Based on the plans and detailed pictures, we are able to generate complete and scaled overviews of the interior by using photomontages and drawings.