

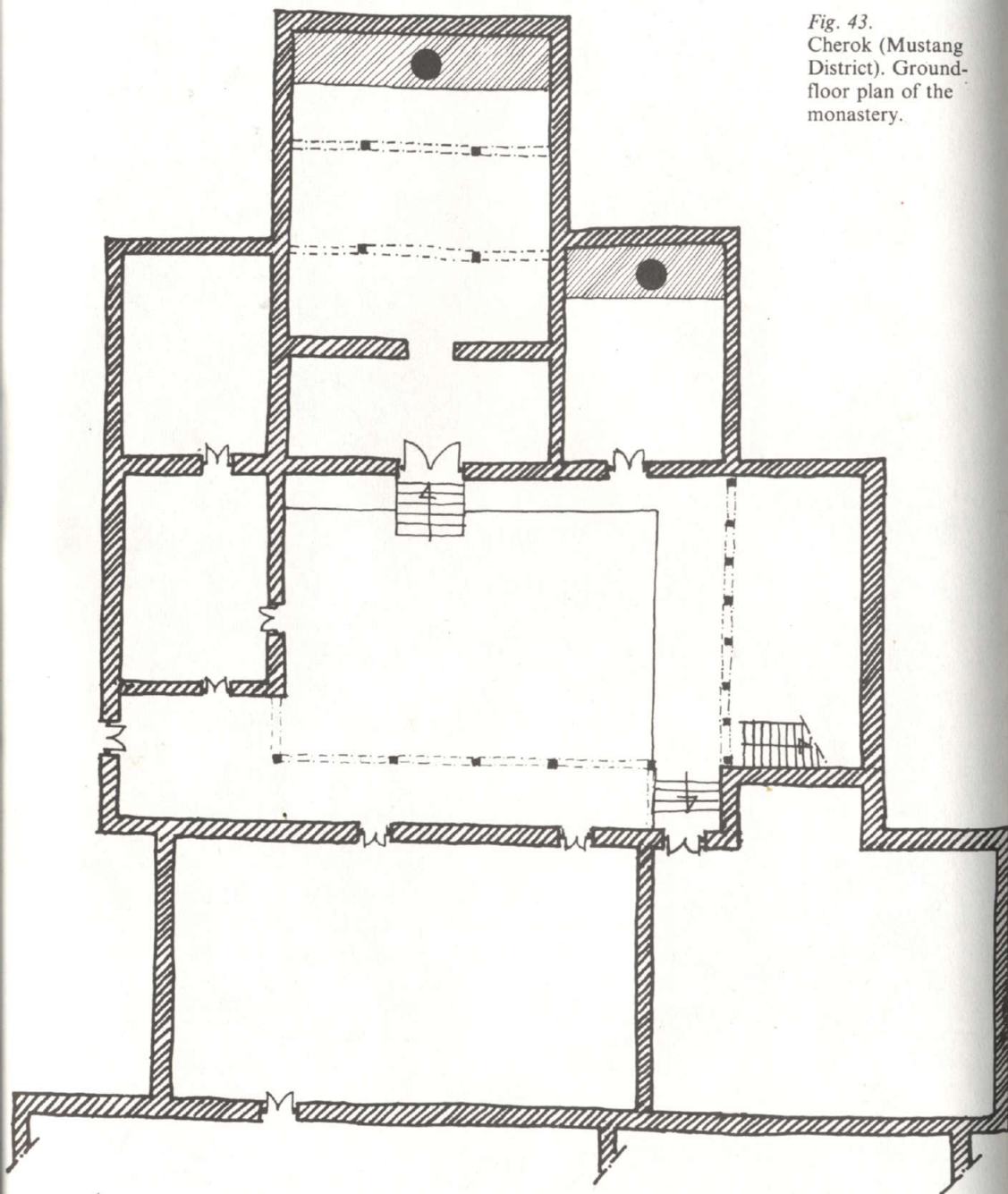
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Fig. 43.  
Cherok (Mustang  
District). Ground-  
floor plan of the  
monastery.



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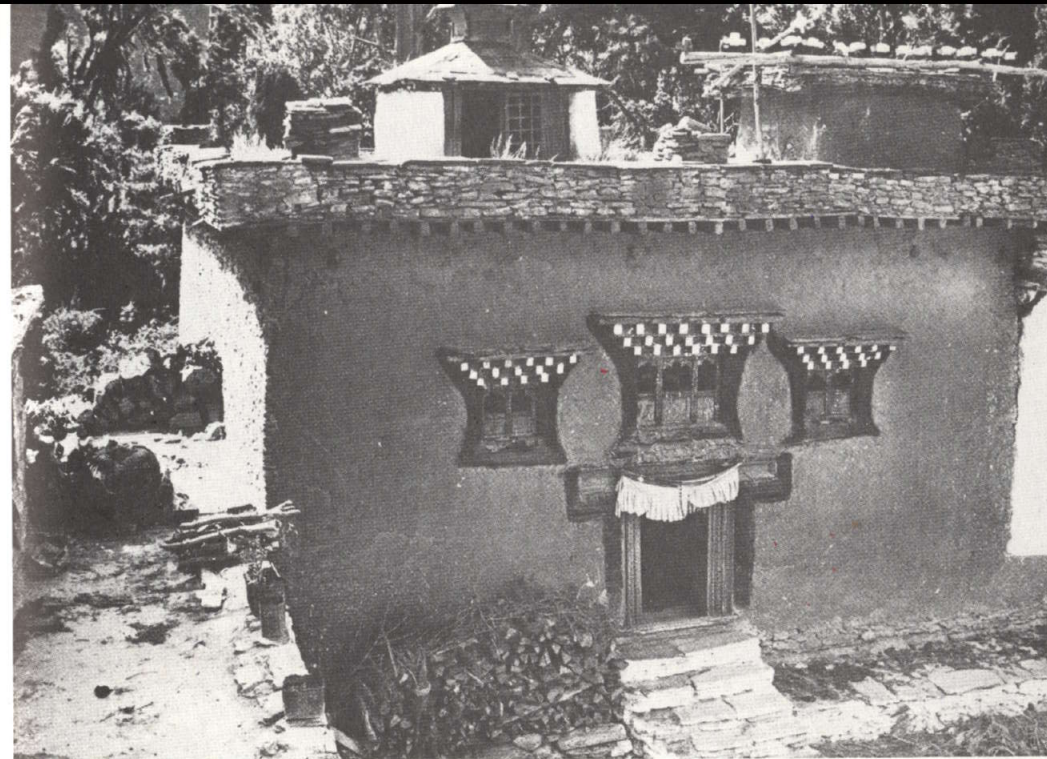


Fig. 44.  
Cherok. Main  
façade of the  
monastery looking  
south-east.

#### *Monastery of Cherok*

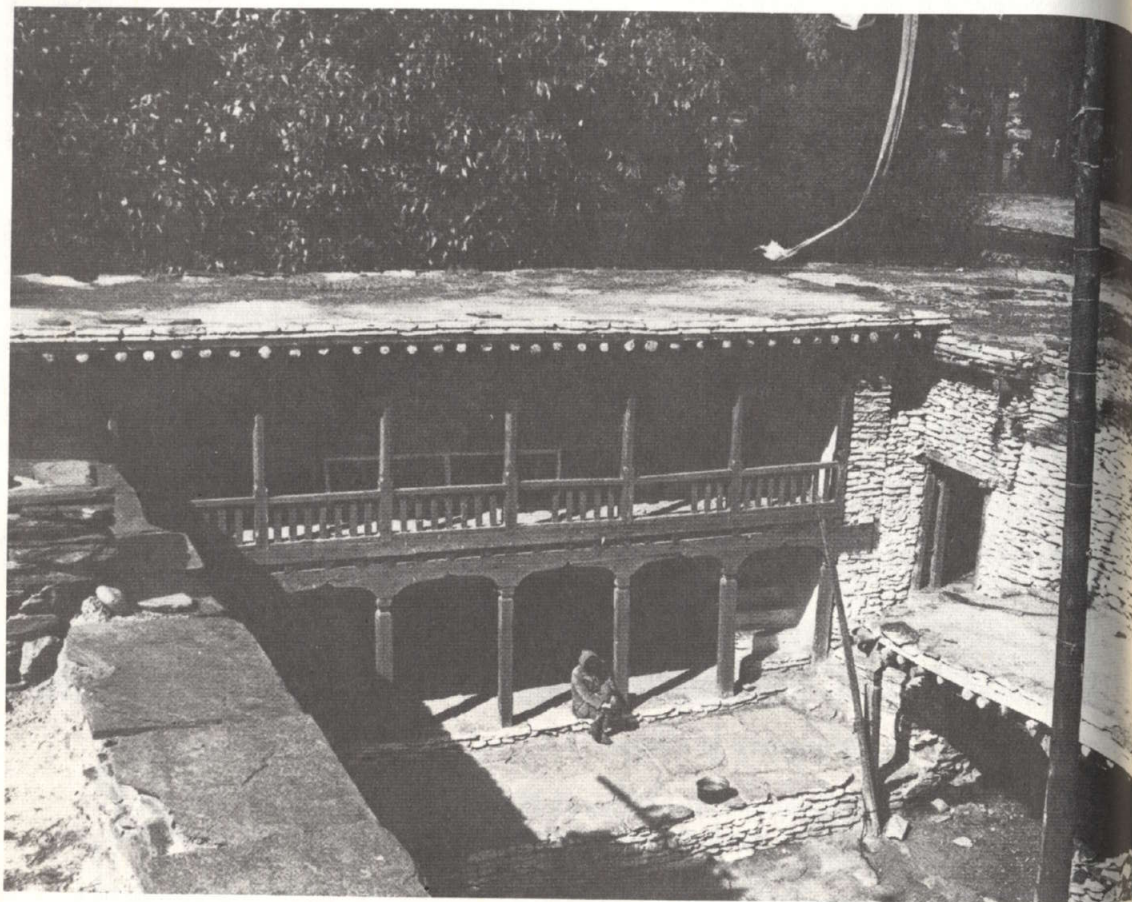
The monastery of Cherok (Survey of India: Chairo) is located on the left bank of the Kali Gandaki, below Marpha at an altitude of 2,680 metres.

Within the monastic complex, the temple called Sanga Chöling as it stands today, was built in the eighteenth century by Lama Sangye. The buildings surround a courtyard: the main temple and a lateral chapel on the north-west, the dwellings of the monks on the south-east and the kitchen on the west. A two-storeyed gallery runs along the north-east side. The assembly hall (7.30 × 9.25 m) is on a higher level than the courtyard. A statue of Sakyamuni stands in the centre of the altar. In the adjacent chapel there is a 3-metre-high statue of Padmasambhava.

Once an important monastic centre, the temple has now only four nuns acting as caretakers.

The District of Mustang is changing rapidly and tourism is having an ever greater impact. This could be an opportunity to develop a programme of conservation in a region where the monuments are of historical and cultural value.





*Fig. 45.*  
Cherok. Monastery:  
north-east side of  
the courtyard.



*Fig. 46.*  
Cherok. Monastery:  
altar in the  
assembly hall.



*Fig. 47.*  
Cherok. Monastery:  
detail of mural  
painting.





*Fig. 48.*  
Cherok. Monastery:  
detail of altar.

*Fig. 49.*  
Cherok. Statue of  
Padmasambhava in  
the side chapel.

