



INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE ARTS

Janpath, New Delhi -110 001, www.ignca.gov.in

Documentation format for Archaeological / Heritage Sites / Monuments

Serial No.: 0R/PRI- 21

SECTION I : IDENTIFICATION

1. Name

Present : Varahi Temple, Chaurashi, Dist.- Puri
Past : ---
Other Name (if any): : Varahi Temple

2. Location

LONGITUDE 86°07'07"E **LATITUDE** 20°03'31"N **ELEVATION** 31 Ft.

Address : **Village (village code)** Chaurashi
Post : Amareswar **Via:** Chaurashi
Tehsil: Chaurashi **District:** Puri
State : Orissa **PIN:** 752120

Approach : The temple is located in the village Chaurashi and on the right bank of the river Prachi. It is about 2 Km from Amaresvara temple on the Nimapada-Kakatpur road in Puri district.

3. Property Type

Buildings

- ☐ Palace
- ☐ Fort
- ☐ Citadel
- ☐ Govt. building
- ☐ Railway station
- ☐ Defense building
- ☐ Industrial building
- ☐ Other public buildings
- ☐ Residential building

Engineering structure

- ☐ Bridge
- ☐ Tunnel
- ☐ Other engineering structure

Religious structures

- ☒ Temple
- ☐ Mosque
- ☐ Minar
- ☐ Church
- ☐ Monastery
- ☐ Stupa
- ☐ Tomb, Mausoleum

Open space and related structures

- ☐ Public square
- ☐ Park or garden
- ☐ Graveyard
- ☐ Baolis, Well
- ☐ Tank

Other Structures

- ☐ Wall
- ☐ Gateway
- ☐ Pillar
- ☐ Others (specify)

Note :

The temple consists of a *Khakhara vimana* and a rectangular *jagamohana* having a roof of two terraces with clere-stories. The temple



Cave

is dedicated to goddess Varahi; she has two arms and holds a fish in her right hand and a *kapala* in her left. She is seated in *Lalitasana* on a cushion placed on a plain seat with her right foot resting on her buffalo mount carved on the pedestal. A third eye is tightly etched into her forehead and her rises in spiral coils. A plain hallow is behind her head and *vidyadharas* are on the upper corner the back slab.

4. Property Use

ABANDONED / IN USE : In use

Present : It is a living temple and enshrines an image of goddess Varahi.
Past : Worshipped

5. Age (Source)

PERIOD : Somavamsi rule.
YEARS : 10th century A.D.
Precise date of Construction : First quarter of 10th century A.D.
Completion : ---
Subsequent changes : ---
Destruction / Demolition : ---

6. Ownership / Level of Protection

SINGLE / MULTIPLE : Single

Public : Archaeological Survey of India / State Archaeology Department / Any Other (Please specify) : Protected monument of Archaeological Survey of India.
Private : ---
Any other (Please specify) : ---
Name : Archaeological Survey of India.
Address : Bhubaneswar Circle, 153-VIP Area, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar.
Phone : 0674-2558170

7. Association

- **WITH EVENTS**

In History : ---
In Rituals : *Dushera, Raja* etc. are observed
In Building Construction : ---
Any other (specify) : ---

- **WITH PERSONS**

Patron : Originally the Somavamsi, but now the Archaeological Survey of India

Architect / Engineer : ---

Any other (specify) : ---

8. Statement of Significance

<input type="checkbox"/> Architectural	:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architectural
<input type="checkbox"/> Archaeological	:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Archaeological
<input type="checkbox"/> Historical	:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious
<input type="checkbox"/> Any other (specify)	:	The architectural features and decorative program of the temple assigned the temple to the Somavamsi Period.

SECTION II: DESCRIPTION

9. Physical Description and Decorative Features

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Context 	* Drawings (Attach extra sheet if necessary) : No
Urban / Rural Setting :	Rural setting
Surroundings	Stand in isolation : Stand in isolation Integral part of a landscape / Street / Complex :
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quantification 	
Area Dimension (L x B x H) :	15.84 mtrs x 8.23 mtrs x 8.40 mtrs (m / cm/ feet / inch)
Number of Blocks :	Two
Number of Storys :	---
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spatial Organization 	
Orientation :	The temple is facing towards east.
Plan :	The <i>Vimana</i> is rectangular on plan where as the <i>jagamohana</i> is oblong on plan.
Allocation of Spaces :	About 2 acres

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ornamentation 	
Exteriors :	The temple is lavishly decorated with sculptural motifs and scroll work.
Interiors :	Plain in decoration. In the <i>jagamohana</i> there are 12 pilasters act as the load bearer to the temple.
Movable Collections :	Nil
* Any Other (specify) :	It is a <i>pancharatha</i> temple having <i>triangabada</i> . The temple style itself suggests its vaulted roof design of <i>mastaka</i> .

10. Construction Technology

Structural System :	<i>Khakhara temple of kalingan order.</i>
Building Techniques :	Ashlar dry masonry
Material of Construction :	Sand stone.

In General **Good / Fair** : Fair

In Brief (Attach extra sheet if necessary):

12. Threats to the Property

[illegible]

13. Reference Sources (published and unpublished textual details)

- 14. Photographs: 35 nos**

(Attach list as in page 6, in case of multiple photographs)

15. Audio / Video

(Related to rituals / performance / festivals etc.)

16. Maps/Plans/Drawings

NAME : D. B. Garnayak

18. Reviewers

NAME : Dr. S. Pradhan
COMMENTS

NAME :
COMMENTS :