



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.: OR/CTC- 44

SECTION I : IDENTIFICATION

1. Name

Present : Simhanatha Siva Temple, Gopinathapur, Dist.- Cuttack
Past : ---
Other Name (if any): : ---

2. Location

LONGITUDE 85°22'51"E **LATITUDE** 20°22'15" N **ELEVATION** 40 ft

Address : **Village (village code)** Gopinathapur
Post: Simhanatha **Via:** Baramba
Tehsil: Baramba **District:** Cuttack
State : Orissa **PIN:** 754031

Approach : The temple is situated on an island in the river Mahanadi near Baideswar (right bank) and Badamba (left bank) which can be approached from both sides by boat.

3. Property Type

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Palace |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Fort |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Citadel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Govt. building |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Railway station |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Defence building |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Industrial building |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Other public buildings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Residential building |

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Temple |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Mosque |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Minar |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Church |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Monastery |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Stupa |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Tomb, Mausoleum |

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Wall |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Gateway |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Pillar |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Others (specify) |

Engineering structure

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Bridge |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Tunnel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Other engineering structure |

Open space and related structures

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Public square |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Park or garden |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Graveyard |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Baolis, Well |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Cave |

Note:

The temple has a *rekha vimana* and terraced roof *jagamohana* of transitional phase of temple style of *Kalingan* order. The temple is unique for its sculptural embellishment of both the saivaitic and vaishnavite cult.

The temple is of the *panchayatana* class though only the south-east corner shrine has survived. Several *pidha* shrines have been added in the compound at a later date which houses sculpture from the collapsed corner shrines.

4. Property Use

ABANDONED / IN USE : In use

Present : Living temple, enshrining a (broken) Sivalinga within a circular *yonipitha*.
Past : Worshipped

5. Age (Source)

PERIOD : Early part of the Somavamsi rule.
YEARS : 9th century A.D.
Precise date of Construction 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 : ---
Address : Archaeological Survey of India, Bhubaneswar Circle, 153 Vip Area, Nayapali, Bhubaneswar, Orissa
Phone : 0674- 2558170

7. Association

- **WITH EVENTS**

In History : ---
In Rituals : *Sivaratri, Makarasankranti, Sitalasasthi, etc.*
In Building Construction : ---
Any other (specify) : ---

- **WITH PERSONS**

Patron : Originally the Somavamsi, but now under the care of Archaeological Survey of India.
Architect / Engineer : ---

Any other (specify) : ---

8. Statement of Significance

<input type="checkbox"/>	Architectural	: ✓	Architectural
<input type="checkbox"/>	Archaeological	: ✓	Archaeological
<input type="checkbox"/>	Historical	:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Religious	:	✓ Religious
<input type="checkbox"/>	Any other (specify)	:	On the basis of architectural style like four mouldings <i>pabhaga</i> , incipient stage of <i>pancharatha</i> on plan and the decorative element, sculptural embellishment, iconographical feature assigned the temple to the 9 th century A.D.

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	:	Within an island of the river Mahanadi
Surroundings		
	Stand in Isolation	
	Integral part of a Landscape /	Complex
	Street / Complex :	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quantification		
Area Dimension (L x B x H)	:	16.10 mtrs x 6.95 mtrs x 14.00 mtrs (m / cm/ feet / inch)
Number of Blocks	:	Two
Number of Storys	:	---
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Spatial Organization		
Orientation	:	Facing towards east.
Plan	:	The <i>vimana</i> is square on plan whereas the <i>jagamohana</i> is rectangular.
Allocation of Spaces	:	36.40 mtrs x 14.40 mtrs (L x W)

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ornamentation		
Exteriors	:	The temple is richly carved with sculptural panel and decorative motifs.
Interiors	:	The interior is plain except the ornate doorjambs of the <i>vimana</i> and the niches surmounted the lintel carved with the images of Uma-Mahesvara playing dice and surmounted with an image of lakulisa.
Movable Collections	:	A few images are installed in the compound wall of the temple such as Brahma, Kartikeya, Visnu, Parvati, Lingapuja votive slab, Mahisasuramardini Durga, Lakulisa etc.
Any Other(specify)	:	The temple is <i>triratha</i> on plan and <i>triangabada</i> in elevation and the important features is that the temple is in an incipient form of <i>pancharatha</i> on plan.

