PROJECT INTRODUCTION

Nestled into the foothills of Mt. Everest, the Deboche convent is considered to be the oldest and most historically significant Buddhist nunnery in the Himalayan region. It is a direct link to the preservation of the Tibetan/Sherpa culture so threatened by the influx of tourists, trekkers and climbers from other cultures. The nunnery dates back to 1913 and is an integral part of local Sherpa culture as well as an important base of Tibetan Buddhism along with the nearby and well-known Tengboche Monastery.

As the oldest Tibetan Buddhist nunnery in Nepal, the buildings, facilities, and infrastructure of the site have become considerably degraded over time. Many of the buildings are structurally unstable and lack insulation to provide warm shelter from the extreme cold temperatures in the region.

In 2006 the Deboche Project was formed by a group of individuals concerned about the Tibetan and Sherpa nuns that resided in the convent. Various projects have been completed since then, such as the provision of running water, sanitary facilities, a greenhouse, stoves and a working kitchen. They continue to work on repairing and improving the buildings within the compound.

Their goal now is to build new residences and a year-round teaching/ meditation facility, not only for the nuns, but to provide a source for the cultural preservation for the surrounding villages.

Architects Without Borders – Seattle, in concert with the Deboche Project team, is embarking on this next phase, to plan and design for these critical improvement to the Deboche Nunnery.

PROJECT GOALS

KEY PROJECT GOALS:

- To preserve Buddhist and local culture in the Khumbu region of Nepal
- To do so by renovating and thus invigorating this Buddhist convent
- Involve the local community, particularly the nuns
- Repair the current buildings to improve the living conditions of the nuns by keeping them warm and dry through the monsoon and cold seasons
- Provide new buildings as necessary
- New buildings are to be examples of energy efficiency and sustainable design and construction.

KEY DESIGN GOALS:

- Regionally appropriate
- Resource efficient
- Earthquake resistant
- Provide a warm environment for the nuns
- Create an inspiring place for the nuns and guests to practice
- Support long term maintenance and operational needs

KEY SUSTAINABILITY GOALS:

- Use locally-available materials and labor where possible
- Minimize energy use and emissions
- Maximize passive solar gain
- Maximize on-site generation opportunities
- Refine and adapt traditional techniques to provide modern solutions that are more energy and resource efficient.

HISTORIC TIME LINE

TIME LINE:

- 1913
  - Deboche Nunnery established, associated with Tengboche Monastery

- 1928
  - First buildings constructed at Deboche Nunnery

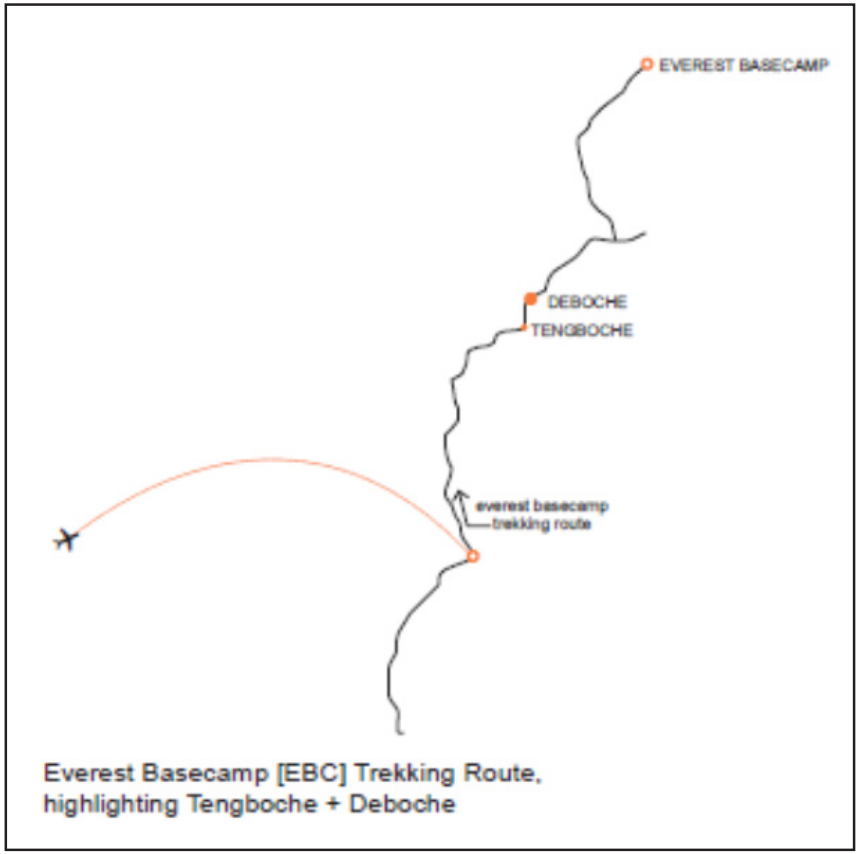
- 1976
  - Sagarmatha National Park established
  - First National Park listed as a World Heritage Site, which includes Deboche Nunnery
  - The Khumbu Valley “Sacred Sites Trail Project” established and includes Deboche Nunnery

- 1992
  - Makalu-Barun National Park established as an eastern extension of Sagarmatha National Park

- 2006
  - The Deboche Project is formed

CULTURAL LANDSCAPE:
The Deboche landscape is an organically evolved landscape, the result of religious imperative that developed to its present form by association with the natural environment. It is a continuing landscape, as defined by the World Heritage Centre.

SITE: LOCATION



Everest Basecamp [EBC] Trekking Route,
highlighting Tengboche + Deboche

SITE: LOCATION

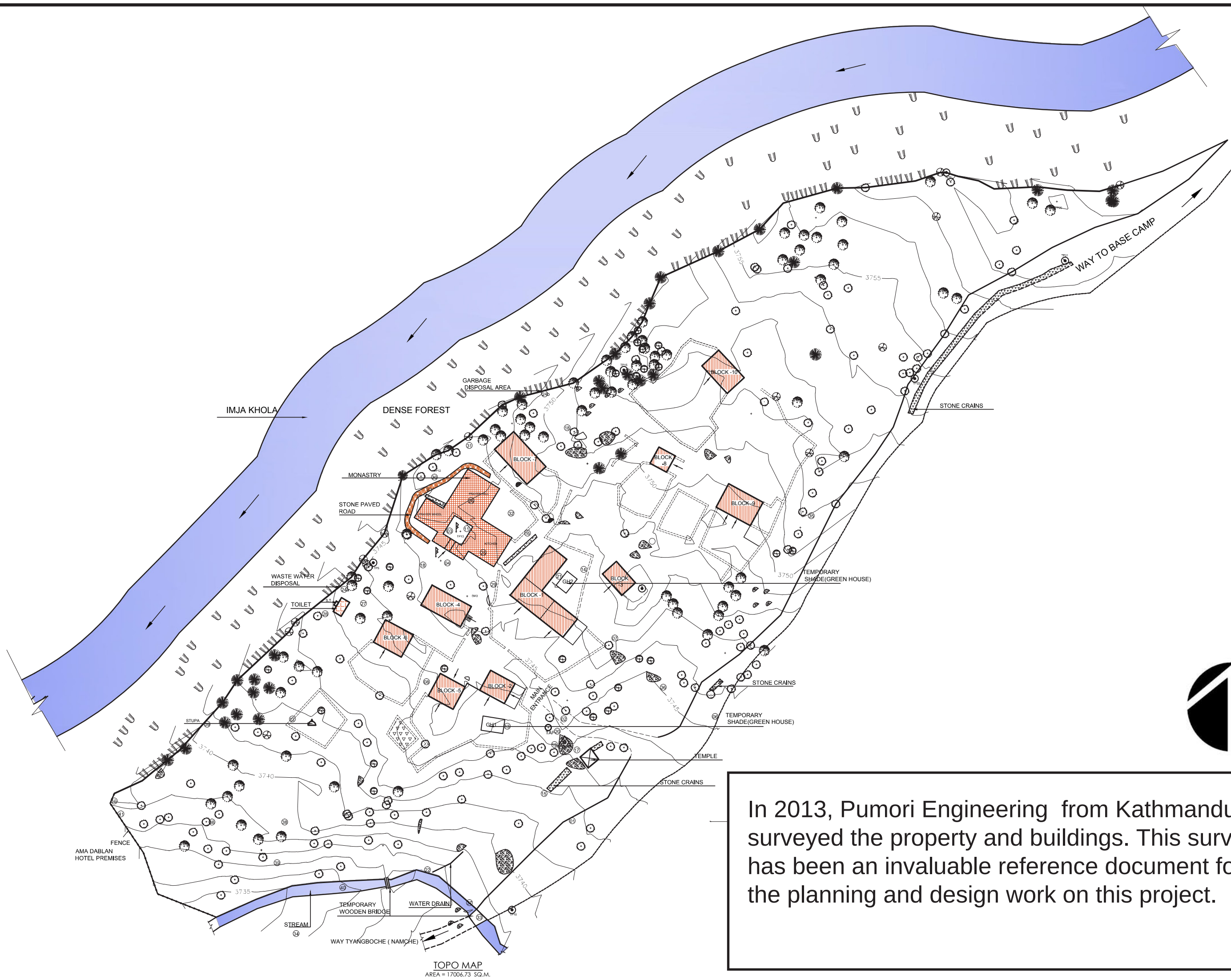
PROPOSED **PHASE II** BUILDING LOCATION

PROPOSED **PHASE III** BUILDING LOCATION

SITE: SURVEY

DE-BUCHE MONASTERY PREMISES TOPOMAP

N



TOPO MAP
AREA = 17006.73 SQ.M.

In 2013, Pumori Engineering from Kathmandu surveyed the property and buildings. This survey has been an invaluable reference document for the planning and design work on this project.

LEGEND

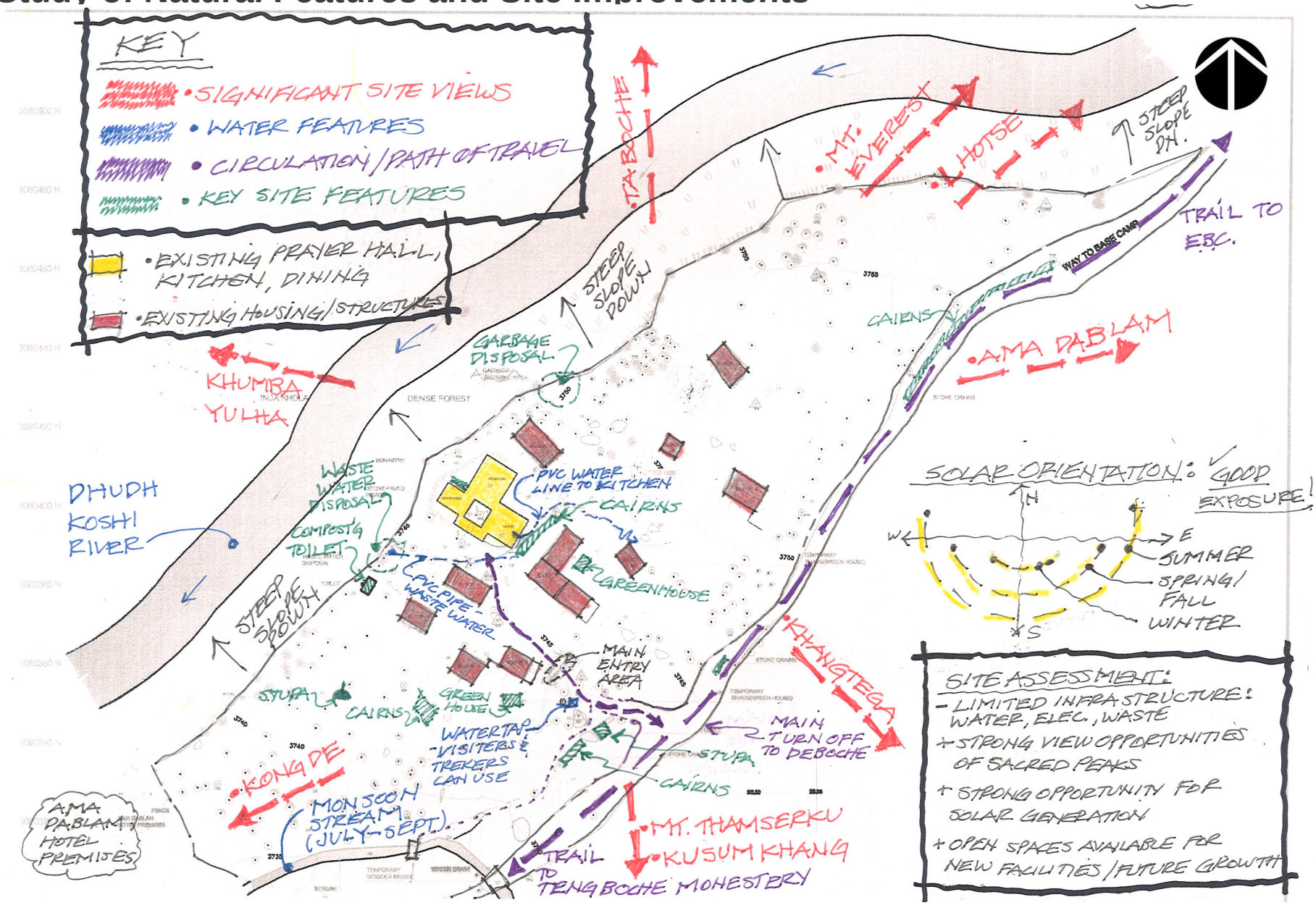
SN	SYMBOL	DESCRIPTION
1.		MONASTRY
2.		STUPA
3.		BLOCK
4.		TOILET
5.		DHUPI TREE
6.		PINE TREE
7.		PAPER BRUSH TREE
8.		RHODODENDRON TREE
9.		STONE
10.		ROCK
11.		BENCH MARK
12.		TP
13.		STONE CRANES
14.		FENCE
15.		STEEP SLOPE
16.		FLAG
17.		TRAVERSE LINE

LEGEND

SN	SYMBOL	DESCRIPTION
1.	01	APPROACH FOOTWAY TO MONASTERY PREMISES
2.	02	MAIN ENTRANCE OF THE MONASTERY PREMISES
3.	03	COURTYARD COVERED WITH STONE PAVEMENT
4.	04	FRONT PETTY OF MONASTERY COVERED WITH STONE PAVEMENT
5.	05	PATHWAY INSIDE MONASTERY PREMISES
6.	06	EVEREST BASECAMP TREKKING ROUTE'S FOOTWAY
7.	07	DRY STONE MASONRY WALL AT BOUNDARY
8.	08	DRY STONE MASONRY WALL INSIDED THE PREMISES
9.	09	OPEN BOUNDARY AT NORTH BOUNDARY LINE
10.	10	BARBED WIRE FENCE WALL AT WEST PART
11.	11	MONASTERY COURTYARDS AREA
12.	12	STUPA AND OPEN COURTYARD INSIDE THE PREMISES
13.	13	GREEN HOUSE NO - 1
14.	14	GREEN HOUSE NO - 2
15.	15	STONE CRAINS AT INFRONT OF MONASTERY PREMISES
16.	16	STONE CRAINS INSIDE MONASTERY PREMISES
17.	17	FLAGPOLE BEFORE ENTRANCE OF MONASTERY PREMISES FLAGPOLE MONASTERY GATE AND COURTYARD
18.	18	STONE
19.	19	ROCK WITH BENCH MARK (BM-1)
20.	20	TAP INSTALLED OUTSIDE MMONASTERY PREMISES WHICH SERVES VISITORS AND TREKKERS TOO
21.	21	PIPE LINE SUPPLY WATER TO KITCHEN
22.	22	STREAM WATER NEAR MONASTERY PREMISES
23.	23	ELECTRICITY SUPPLY
24.	24a	WASTE WATER DISPOSAL OF KITCHEN ON OPEN AREA TOILET BLOCK
25.	214b	GARBAGE DISPOSAL
26.	25	KITCHEN INTERIOR VIEW
27.	26	MONASTERY INTERNAL VIEW
28.	27	TOILET FRONT VIEW
29.	28	SEPTIC TANK
30.	29	MONASTERY SIDE VIEW
31.	30	MONASTERY FRONT VIEW
32.	31	MONASTERY SIDE VIEW
33.	32	MONASTERY ATTACHED KITCHEN BACK VIEW
34.	33	TEMPORARY LOG BRIDGE
35.	34	STREAM
36.	35	TREES
37.	36	FOOT TRAIL
38.	37	WHITE RHODODENDRON
39.	38	TEMPORARY LOG BRIDGE
40.	39	FOOT TRIAL
41	40	STREAM
42.	41	BOUNDARY LINE WITH BARBED WIRE

Regd No.: 26223/03
PAN No.: 301548058
Pumori Engineering Services (P) Ltd.
Architects, Engineers & Designers
BASANTA MARG-351, JYOTISHREE BUILDING, BABARMAHAL. KMC-11, NEPAL
GPO BOX: 8973 NPC 00761, KATHMANDU, NEPAL, TEL: +977-1-4216034
EMAIL: pumori@info.com.np Web: http://www.pumorigroup.com.np

SITE ASSESSMENT
Study of Natural Features and Site Improvements



SITE ASSESSMENT
Study of Site Circulation and Physical Boundaries