## PROJECT INTRODUCTION

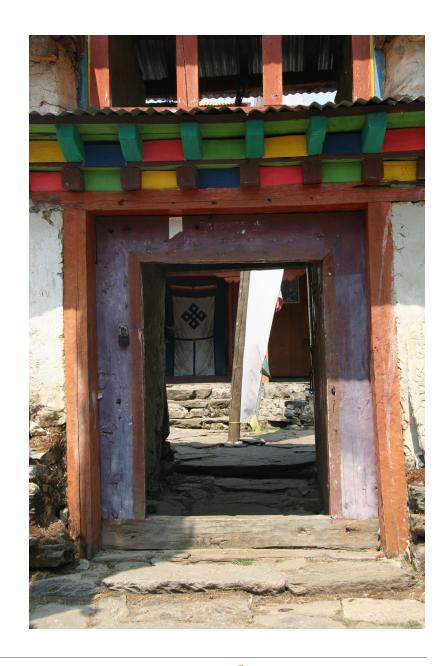
Nestled into the foothills of Mt. Everest, the Deboche convent is considered to be the oldest and most historically significant Buddhist nunnery in the Himalayan region. It is a direct link to the preservation of the Tibetan/Sherpa culture so threatened by the influx of tourists, trekkers and climbers 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:**

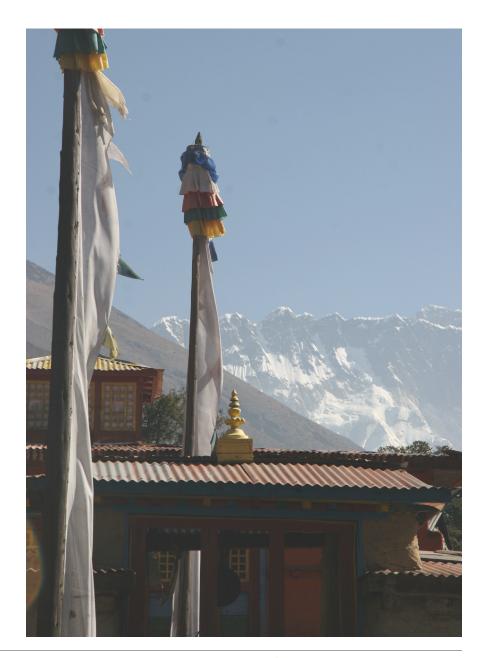
- To preserve Buddhist and local culture in the Khumbu region of Nepal
- To do so by renovating and thus invigorating this Buddhist convent
- Involve the local community, particularly the nuns
- Repair the current buildings to improve the living conditions of the nuns by keeping them warm and dry through 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.





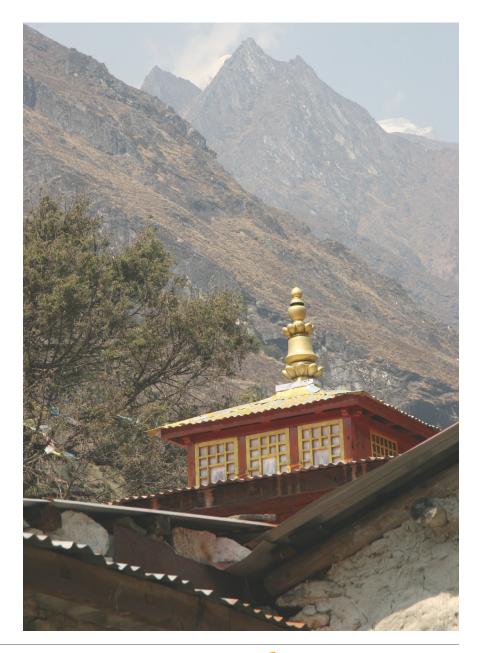
## HISTORIC TIME LINE

#### TIME LINE:

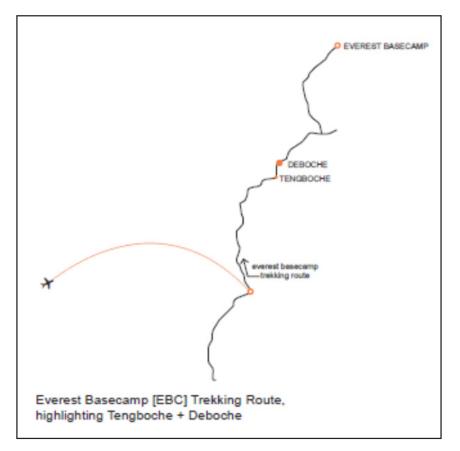
- 1913
  - Deboche Nunnery established, associated with Tengboche Monastery
- 1928
  - First buildings constructed at Deboche Nunnery
- 1976
  - Sagarmatha National Park established
  - First National Park listed as a World Heritage Site, which includes Deboche Nunnery
  - The Khumbu Valley "Sacred Sites 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**







## **SITE: LOCATION**





PROPOSED **PHASE II** BUILDING LOCATION

PROPOSED PHASE III BUILDING LOCATION

## SITE: SURVEY

## **DE-BUCHE MONASTERY PREMISES TOPOMAP**

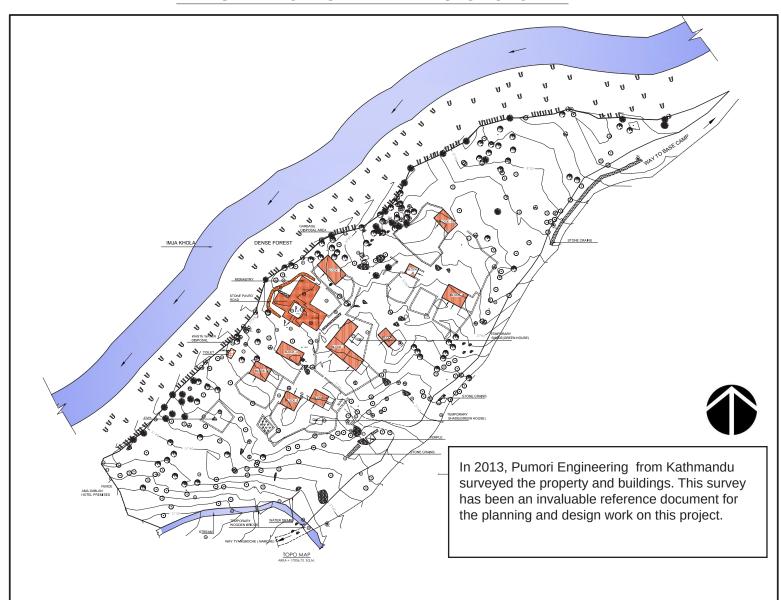




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3.		BLOCK
4.		TOILET
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6.	*	PINE TREE
7.	<b>&amp;</b>	PAPER BRUSH TREE
8.	0	RHODODENDRON TREE
9.	Φ	STONE
10.	Ø	ROCK
11.	$\triangle$	BENCH MARK
12.	•	TP
13.	*****	STONE CRANES
14.	_	FENCE
15.	U	STEEP SLOPE
16.	B	FLAG
17.		TRAVERSE LINE

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27.	25.		GARBAGE DISPOSAL
	26.		KITCHEN INTERIOR VIEW
9	27.		MONASTERY INTERNAL VIEW
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	42.	(41)	BOUNDARY LINE WITH BARBED WIRE





## SITE ASSESSMENT

**Study of Natural Features and Site Improvements** · SIGHIFICANT SITE VIEWS · WATER FEATURES · CIRCULATION / PATH OF TRAVEL · KEY SITE FEATURES FRAIL TO · EXISTING PRAYER HALL KITCHEN, DINING EBC. · EXISTING HOUSING/STRUCTY GARBAGE D158054L DENSE FORES SOLAR OPIENTATION DHUDH EXPOSURE KOSHI RIVER' SUMMER A CAREENTOUSE SPRING/ FALL WINTER SITE ASSESSMENT: - LIMITED INFRASTRUCTURE: WATER, ELEC., WASTE + STRONG VIEW OPPORTUNITIES TURNOFF TO DEBOCHE TOUS TURA OF SACRED PEAKS + STRONG OPPORTUNITY FOR MY. THAMSERKU SOLAR GENERATION PABLAM + OPEH SPACES AVAILABLE POR HOTEL \*KUSUM KHANG PREMITES NEW FACILITIES / FUTURE GROWTH TENGBOCHE MOHESTERY



# SITE ASSESSMENT Study of Site Circulation and Physical Boundaries

