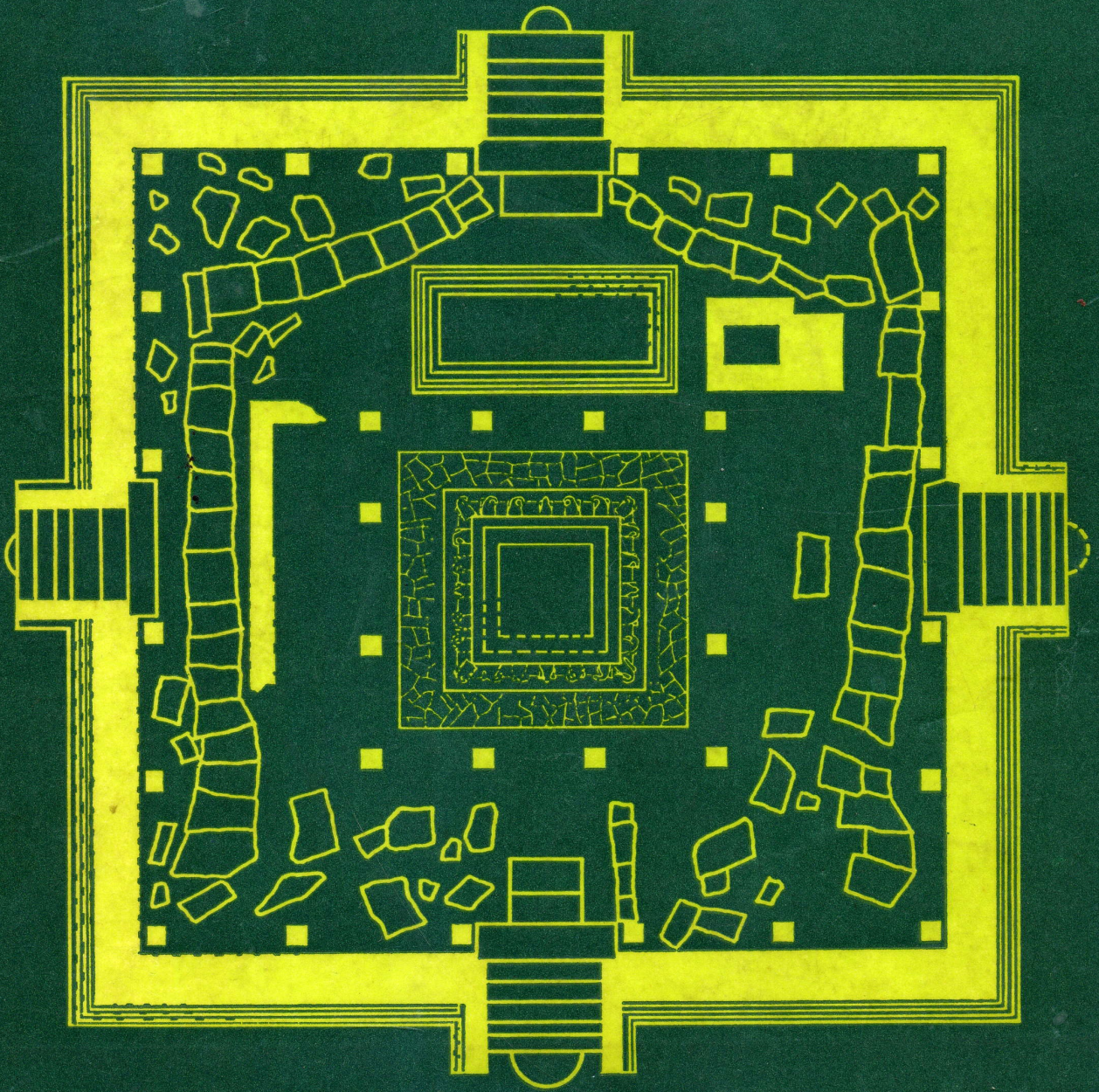


SENAKE  
BANDARANAYAKE

# SINHALESE MONASTIC ARCHITECTURE



STUDIES  
IN  
SOUTH ASIAN CULTURE

EDITED FOR THE  
INSTITUTE OF SOUTH ASIAN ARCHAEOLOGY  
UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM

BY

J. E. VAN LOHUIZEN-DE LEEUW

VOLUME IV

SENAKE BANDARANAYAKE  
SINHALESE MONASTIC  
ARCHITECTURE



LEIDEN  
E. J. BRILL  
1974

# SINHALESE MONASTIC ARCHITECTURE

THE VIHĀRAS OF ANURĀDHAPURA

BY

SENAKE BANDARANAYAKE

With 163 Figures and 55 Plates



LEIDEN

**E. J. BRILL**

1974

MEN-0943

Published with financial support from the Netherlands Organization for the Advancement of Pure Research (Z.W.O.)



CLASS NO.
3608BIC
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1778

ISBN 90 04 03992 9

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PRINTED IN THE NETHERLANDS

## EDITOR'S PREFACE

In 1965 Dr. Bandaranayake submitted his B.Litt. (Oxon.) thesis on "The Vaulted Brick Image-Houses of Polonnaruva". After being awarded this degree, he was advised by the Oxford authorities concerned to continue his research at the Institute of South Asian Archaeology of the University of Amsterdam with a view to obtaining a doctorate, while remaining attached to the University of Oxford. At the request of this university a special arrangement was made by which I acted as Dr. Bandaranayake's supervisor from 1965 till the summer of 1972. The present book is the result of Dr. Bandaranayake's "Dutch Period".

We both look back with warm feelings on these years of close collaboration in which we shared a deep interest in the rich cultural heritage of Sri Lanka and during which a profound personal friendship sprang up. The publication of the present book marks the end of a period in Dr. Bandaranayake's life and it is with a sense of loss that all of us in the Institute of South Asian Archaeology now take leave of him on his return to Sri Lanka. We have greatly appreciated his active contributions to the building up of close cultural relations between Sri Lanka and our Institute. In this respect he continued the efforts of a number of predecessors with all of whom the Institute continues to have close contacts—a band of men dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of Sri Lanka's cultural past whom Dr. Bandaranayake is now going to join.

That the publication of this book was made possible by a grant from the Netherlands Organization for the Advancement of Pure Research (Z.W.O.) is a matter of profound personal gratitude on the part of the editor. However, in addition the Institute as such is extremely grateful for this generous support which has enabled it to produce in a fitting manner a piece of research carried out in our workshop. Dr. Bandaranayake has rightly acknowledged the unstinting help of several members of the Staff of our Institute who devoted a vast amount of time to the final stages of this book. That this publication with its many intricate problems as regards lay-out could be produced in such a first-class manner is due to the continued support and advice of the Staff of Messrs. E. J. Brill, whose Director Mr. F. C. Wieder took a great interest in its production throughout its various stages.

This book re-examines and interprets the material uncovered by a hundred years of archaeological research and exploration in Sri Lanka. Although there have been a number of reports, monographs and articles on various aspects of the architecture of the Anurādhapura Period, this is the first attempt at a comprehensive treatment which examines the distinctive characteristics of this tradition and places it within the wider context of South and South-East Asia.

It seems a happy coincidence that the present volume in the series "Studies in South Asian Culture" appears on the fifteenth anniversary of our Institute.

J. E. VAN LOHUIZEN-DE LEEUW  
Director of the Institute of South Asian Archaeology

University of Amsterdam, summer 1974.

# CONTENTS

Editor's Preface, by J. E. van Lohuizen-de Leeuw, <i>Professor of South Asian Archaeology, University of Amsterdam</i> . . . . .	VII
List of Figures . . . . .	XI
List of Plates . . . . .	XV
Acknowledgements . . . . .	XVII
Abbreviations . . . . .	XIX

INTRODUCTION . . . . .	1
Architecture as historical material . . . . .	1
Methodology . . . . .	3
The concept of plan . . . . .	3
The analytical scheme . . . . .	4
The historical significance of Anurādhapura . . . . .	6
The concept of a Sinhalese tradition . . . . .	8
Constructional methods: the underlying unity of organic and formal architecture . . . . .	14
The monasteries of Anurādhapura . . . . .	17
Chronology and the periodisation of Ceylonese history . . . . .	19
Terminology . . . . .	26

## SECTION ONE

### THE MONASTIC PLAN

I. THE ORGANIC MONASTERY . . . . .	33
II. PABBATA VIHĀRA . . . . .	58
III. PAÑCĀYATANA PARIVEṆA . . . . .	86
IV. PADHĀNAGHARA PARIVEṆA . . . . .	102

## SECTION TWO

### THE BUILDING TYPES

V. SHRINES AND SANCTUARIES . . . . .	137
Cetiyaḡhara . . . . .	139
Bodhighara . . . . .	161
Paṭimāḡhara . . . . .	189
VI. ECCLESIASTICAL BUILDINGS . . . . .	214
Uposathaghara . . . . .	216
Upaṭṭhānasālā . . . . .	234

# CONTENTS

Editor's Preface, by J. E. van Lohuizen-de Leeuw, <i>Professor of South Asian Archaeology, University of Amsterdam</i> . . . . .	VII
List of Figures . . . . .	XI
List of Plates . . . . .	XV
Acknowledgements . . . . .	XVII
Abbreviations . . . . .	XIX

INTRODUCTION . . . . .	1
Architecture as historical material . . . . .	1
Methodology . . . . .	3
The concept of plan . . . . .	3
The analytical scheme . . . . .	4
The historical significance of Anurādhapura . . . . .	6
The concept of a Sinhalese tradition . . . . .	8
Constructional methods: the underlying unity of organic and formal architecture . . . . .	14
The monasteries of Anurādhapura . . . . .	17
Chronology and the periodisation of Ceylonese history . . . . .	19
Terminology . . . . .	26

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### THE MONASTIC PLAN

I. THE ORGANIC MONASTERY . . . . .	33
II. PABBATA VIHĀRA . . . . .	58
III. PAÑCĀYATANA PARIVEṆA . . . . .	86
IV. PADHĀNAGHARA PARIVEṆA . . . . .	102

## SECTION TWO

### THE BUILDING TYPES

V. SHRINES AND SANCTUARIES . . . . .	137
Cetiyaḡhara . . . . .	139
Bodhiḡhara . . . . .	161
Paṭimāḡhara . . . . .	189
VI. ECCLESIASTICAL BUILDINGS . . . . .	214
Uposathāḡhara . . . . .	216
Upaṭṭhānasālā . . . . .	234

VII. RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS . . . . .	247
Pāsāda . . . . .	251
Kuṭi . . . . .	278
Bhojanasālā and Jantāghara . . . . .	288

## SECTION THREE

## THE ARCHITECTURAL FORM

VIII. SUBSTRUCTURE AND SUPERSTRUCTURE . . . . .	311
Substructure . . . . .	313
Superstructure . . . . .	351
APPENDICES . . . . .	379
1. Senāsanas or Residences Suitable for Monks . . . . .	379
2. The 'Tooth-Relic Temple' and the Palace of the Anurādhapura Kings . . . . .	380
BIBLIOGRAPHY . . . . .	386
INDEX . . . . .	393