Current situation (2004)

The site of Mergen Lamin Khiiid is about 30-40 km north of the Zaamar Soum Centre. It is situated at the foot of a small hill, which has an owoo on the top. The Khiiidiin Khudag (Eng: well) lies in front of the Khiiid. The source told us that the people living in this region call the area of the monastery just ‘Khiiid’ and there are no special names for mountains, hills or valleys. The Khavtsgait Gol mentioned by Rinchen flows in this area but is not very near.

There are remains of a suburgan (Sanskrit: stupa) to the north of the main temple. The site of the stupa is littered with red bricks (12.5 x 12.5 x 3 cms). The stupa is about twenty-seven metres north of the Tsogchin, the main temple, and in line with its Eastern wall. There appears to be a large L-shaped terrace around half a metre high or maybe it is two foundations lying next to each other in the form of an L-shape. The long rectangular part of the L measured about 16.60 x 19.30 metres. There is a big hole in this section, which was probably dug in the recent past by treasure-hunters. In front of the short side of the L-shape, 8 x 8 metres, is an entrance (SSE) and a millstone. It is likely that the Tsogchin was situated on the large terrace. To the north of the Tsogchin and all around it there are several small round and rectangular-shaped foundations of a few metres in length and breadth.

Source(s): Local person, Boldmaa