

Монголын Сүм Хийдийн Түүхэн Товчоо Төсөл

UBNR 943

NOT in Rinchen 943 - Norovlin

Norovlinkhai, Erdenii khiid

Tibetan name: *nor-bu gling-kha*

Written Mongolian name: *Norbulingka*

English name: Norbulingka, Jewel Island

Elevation 1281m

N 47° 53.776'

E 106° 54.542'

Data provider: Dr O. Pürew; Sh. Soninbayar lama (Gandan monastery)

Sources: Forbáth, L., *A megujhodott Mongolia*, Franklin [A Magyar Földrajzi Társaság Könyvtára], Budapest 1934

Painting by Jügder (1913)

Photos: none

History

Although not marked on Rinchen map the fenced-off complex of *Norbulingka* (Tib. *nor-bu gling-kha*) was situated at the East side of the Green palace of the Bogd khaan as the picture painted by Jügder shows. There was a wooden building and some yurts within a fenced-off area east of the Green Palace, on the left side of the road leading to Tuul River on the two banks of a creek. It had the same name, meaning 'Jewel Island' as the summer palace of the Dalai Lamas in Tibet. According to Soninbayar lama, O. Pürew and other sources this place did not function as a temple, but it was a smaller zoo of the Bogd khaan. The Bogd khaan was famous for his collection of exotic animals, including a giraffe and an elephant (the photos are kept in the Museum of the Bogd Khaan).

According to Geleta (Forbáth, pp. 217-218), this garden pavilion next to the winter palace on the bank of a small creek, situated on the meadow of the deers was the *bogd's* favorite dwelling. The pavilion was a Chinese-style wooden building with a high closed terrace on the south and with many windows with colour glass and ornamental transparent tissue paper. The walls were also decorated with wood-carvings under the red-coloured silken drapery. Its furniture was in Oriental style with a large bed carved from palisander tree with heavy silken bed-clothes and brocade pillows. Tables and upholstered chairs were arranged in the other halls.

Current situation

There is nothing left. The presumed site of the garden is today the area of the export department of Narantuul market. The GPS measurement was taken there.