

Sagmosavanq

XIII AD - Aragatsotn Marz

The monastery complex of Saghmosavank is five kilometers apart from the main road and situated in the villages of the same names of the Ashtarak district. Both monuments perch on the edge of the precipitous gorge of the Kasakh river. erected by Prince Vache Vachutyan belong to the same type of cross-winged domed structure with two-floor annexes in all the corners of the building. The book repository of Saghmosavank, built in 1255 under Prince Kurd Vachutyan is among Armenia's buildings rare in their purpose and original in their composition. The book repository communicates, through doors, with the vestry and church of Astvatsatsin (1235) to which one can get only through the book depository. This circumstance, as well as the existence of the altar apse, suggest that the building was intended for depositing not only manuscripts, but precious church-plate as well. On the territory of the monasteries, on the cemeteries adjacent to them and also in the interiors of architectural structures there are many tombstones, some of them in the shape of richly ornamented khachkars.

