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TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE

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+ Present Volume

CONTENTS

	Page
Preface	XVII—XX
MADURAI DISTRICT	
Introduction	1
DINDIGUL TALUK	
Important Temples	
Sri Kalyana Narasinga Perumal Temple	8
Sri Soundara Raja Perumal Temple	8
Sri Gopinathaswamy Temple	9
Sri Soundara Raja Perumal Temple	10
Sri Kalahastheeswarar Temple	10
Other Temples	
Temples under the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department	12
Temples outside the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department	28
PALNI TALUK	
Important Temples	
Sri Thiruvankadanatha Perumal Temple	30
Sri Dandayuthapaniswamy Temple	30
Other Temples	
Temples under the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department	36
Temples outside the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department	44
KODAIKANAL TALUK	
Important Temple	
Sri Velappaswamy Temple	47
Other Temples	
Temples under the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department	48

PERIAKULAM TALUK

Important Temples	Page
Sri Kamakshi Amman Temple	50
Sri Gowriamman Temple	51
Sri Ramalinga Chowdambigai Amman Temple	51
Sri Poolanandheeswarar Temple	52
Sri Kamaraya Perumal Temple	53

Other Temples

Temples under the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department	54
Temples outside the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department	80

NILAKKOTTAI TALUK

Important Temples

Sri Kadhali Narasinga Perumal Temple	82
Sri Ayyanar Temple	82
Sri Pralayanathaswamy Temple	83
Sri Mulanathaswamy Temple	83
Sri Edaganathaswamy Temple	84

Other Temples

Temples under the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department	86
Temples outside the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department	104

MELUR TALUK

Important Temples

Sri Kallalagar Temple	106
Sri Thirumarai Nathar Temple	108

Other Temples

Temples under the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department	112
Temples outside the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department	126

MADURAI TALUK

Important Temples	Page
Sri Kalamega Perumal Temple	128
Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple	129
Sri Kudalalagar Temple	134
Thiru Appudayar Temple	135
Sri Subrahmanyaswami Temple	136

Other Temples

Temples under the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department	138
Temples under the control of Ramanathapuram Samasthanam and Sivaganga Devasthanam	160
Temples outside the control of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department	162

TIRUMANGALAM TALUK

Important Temples

Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple	165
Sri Alagarswamy Temple	165

Other Temples

Temples under the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department	166
Temples outside the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department	178

MAPS

	Frontispiece
	Facing page
1. Map showing the location of important temples in Madurai District	8
2. Map showing the Centres where there are temples in Dindigul, Palni and Kodaikanal taluks	50
3. Map showing the centres where there are temples in Periyakulam and Tirumangalam taluks	82
4. Map showing the centres where there are temples in Nilakkottai, Melur and Madurai taluks	

SKETCHES

1. Sri Soundararaja Perumal Temple	8
2. Sri Kalahastheeswarar and Abiramiamman Temple	10

	Facing page
3. Sri Dandayuthapani Hill Temple	34
4. Sri Kamakshiamman Temple	50
5. Sri Poola Nandheeswarar Temple	52
6. Sri Edaganathaswamy Temple	84
7. Sri Kallalagar Temple	108
8. Sri Thirumarainathaswamy Temple	110
9. Sri Kalamega Perumal Temple	128
10. Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple	128
11. Sri Koodalazhagar Temple	134
12. Sri Subramanyaswamy Temple	137

PHOTOGRAPHS

1. A view of the recently renovated gopuram of Sri Soundararaja Perumal Temple at Thadicombu	8
2. The artistic Mantapam before the sanctum of the Goddess	8
3. An impressive carving of the Lord Nataraja with his right leg lifted	8
4. The image of Chakrathazhwar in the temple at Thadicombu	8
5. The image of Sri Ramar on the back of Hanumar	8
6. Image of Lord Vishnu on Garuda	9
7. The image of Thillai Kali in the temple at Thadicombu	9
8. The image of Lord Vishnu on a pillar in the temple at Thadicombu	9
9. Festival idols of Sri Soundararaja Perumal and His consorts in the temple at Thadicombu	9
10. Festival idols of Sri Soundararaja Perumal and His consorts in Sri Soundararaja Perumal temple at Vadamadurai	9
11. The festival idol of Amman in the temple at Dindigul town	10
12. A view of the huge rock with the dilapidated Fort and Temple in Dindigul	11
13. A picturesque view of Sri Dandayudhapaniswami Temple at Palni	30
14. The adivaram or the foot of the hill at Palni	30
15. A panoramic view of Shanmugha Nadi	31
16. A view of the Saravana Poigai	31
17. The winch which takes pilgrims up and down the Palni hills	31
18. The Vimanam of the Idumbar temple	31
19. Another view of the Dandayudhapaniswami Temple	32
20. A view of the devotees coming out after darshan	32

	Facing page
21. A view of the goldplated Moolavar Vimanam	32
22. Devotees dropping their offering in the huge hundi	32
23. A close up of the gopuram of the hill temple	33
24. A Cock offered by the devotees perching on the flagmast	33
25. A view of the outer prakaram	34
26. A Bird's-eye-view of Palni Town	34
27. A view of the steps on the Palni hill	34
28. A view of the Thiru Avinankudi Temple at Palni	34
29. The images of Lakshmi, Kamadenu, Sooryan, Bhoomi and Agni in Thiru Avinankudi Temple	34
30. The impressive golden chariot in the Palni Temple	35
31. Another view of Thiru Avinankudi Temple	35
32. Festival idol of Lord Muruga in Avinankudi Temple	35
33. A view of the closed sanctum of the Kamakshi Amman temple at Devadanapatti	50
34. A panoramic view of river Manjalar	51
35. A view of the shrine of Sri Kamakshi Amman	51
36. Pots of ghee offered by devotees, stored at the Kamakshi Amman Temple	51
37. The presiding deity of the Poolanandeeswarar Temple	52
38. Festival images of Kambaraya Perumal Temple	52
39. A view of the temple tank of Poolanandeeswarar Temple	53
40. A view of the Kambaraya Perumal Temple	53
41. A temple at Cumbum dedicated to Sri Kasi Viswanathar	53
42. A view of the Ayyanar temple at Thanichiam	82
43. A view of the Goddess' shrine and Tank in Sri Mulanathaswami Temple	82
44. Life size image of a horse offered by a devotee to Lord Ayyanar	83
45. Inscriptions in Sri Mulanathaswamy Temple	83
46. Image of Sri Natarajar in the temple at Thiruvedagam	84
47. Carvings near the steps of the river Vaigai at Thiruvedagam	84
48. The impressive gopurams of the temple at Thiruvedagam	85
49. A beautiful view of the towers and vimanams of the temple at Thiruvedagam	85
50. The festival idol of St. Thirugnanasambandhar in the temple at Thiruvedagam	85
51. Entrance to Sri Kallazhagar Temple	106

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

	Page
Introduction	186
TIRUPPATTUR TALUK	
Important Temples	
Nallamangaibagaswamy Temple	192
Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple	193
Sri Thiruthalinathar Temple	193
Sri Shanmughanathar Temple	194
Sri Karpakavinayakar Temple	196
Sri Sowmyanarayana Perumal Temple	200
Sri Kotravaleeswarar Temple	201
Other Temples	
Temples under the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department	202
Temples under the control of Anjukoil Devasthanam	228
Temples under the control of Sivaganga Devasthanam	230
Temples outside the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department	244
SIVAGANGA TALUK	
Important Temples	
Sri Swarna Kaleeswarar Temple	246
Sri Pushpavaneswarar Temple	247
Other Temples	
Temples under the control of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department	250
Temples under the control of the Sivaganga Devasthanam	262
Temples outside the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department	268
TIRUVADANAI TALUK	
Important Temples	
Sri Swarnamurtheeswarar Temple	270
Sri Adiratneswarar Temple	270

TIRUVADANAI TALUK—(contd.)

Other Temples	
Temples under the control of Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department	272
Temples under the control of the Sivaganga Devasthanam	280
Temples under the control of Ramanathapuram Samasthanam	282
Temples outside the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department	286

PARAMAKUDI TALUK

Important Temples	
Sri Soundararaja Perumal and Chandrasekharaswamy Temple	288
Sri Sundararaja Perumal Temple	288
Sri Naganathaswamy Temple	288
Other Temples	
Temples under the control of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department	290
Temples under the control of the Sivaganga Devasthanam	300
Temples under the control of the Ramanathapuram Samasthanam	302

RAMANATHAPURAM TALUK

Important Temples	
Sri Tilakeswarar and Kadaladaitha Perumal Temple	304
Sri Mangalanathaswamy Temple	304
Sri Adi Jagannatha Perumal Temple	305
Sri Ramanathaswamy Temple	306
Other Temples	
Temples under the control of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department	310
Temples under the control of Ramanathapuram Samasthanam	314

MUDUKULATHUR TALUK

Important Temples	
Sri Kumariah <i>alias</i> Subrahmanyaswamy Temple	320
Sri Senjadainathaswamy Temple	320

	Facing page
52. A view of the gopuram of Sri Kallazhagar Temple	106
53. A view of the Kalyanamandapam in Kallazhagar Temple	106
54. The festival image of the goddess in Sri Kallazhagar Temple	106
55. A view of Sri Subramanyaswami Temple at Pazhamudircholai	106
56. The path leading to Subramanyaswami Temple at Pazhamudircholai	106
57. Another inspiring gopuram of Sri Kallazhagar Temple	107
58. A view of the goldplated Vimanam of Sri Kallazhagar Temple	107
59. Festival idols of the Lord and His Consorts in Sri Kallazhagar temple	107
60. The sacred Vel at Pazhamudircholai	107
61. The gopuram of Sri Thirumarainathar temple at Tiruvadavur	108
62. The Sannadhi of Manicka Vasagar temple at Tiruvadavur	109
63. Images of Sri Rama and Sri Sita on a pillar in the temple at Tirumugur	128
64. The eastern tower of Sri Meenakshi Temple at Madurai	128
65. A close up of the artistic Vimanam in Kalamegha Perumal temple at Tirumugur	129
66. Image of Sri Lakshmana in Kalamegha Perumal Temple	129
67. A side view of the eastern tower of Sri Meenakshi Temple	129
68. A view of the southern tower and tank of Sri Meenakshi Temple	130
69. A view of the golden Lily tank and towers of Sri Meenakshi Temple	130
70. Another view of the golden Lily tank and towers of Sri Meenakshi Temple	130
71. A view of the northern tower of Sri Meenakshi Temple	130
72. Beautiful paintings on the ceilings of the Kilikattu Mantapam	130
73. A close up of the artistic southern tower of Sri Meenakshi Temple	131
74. The western tower and gold-plated Vimanam of Sri Meenakshi Temple	131
75. Entrance to Meenakshi Temple on the eastern side	131
76. A view of the beautiful Chitramandapam	131
77. Sculpture of Sri Siva as Warrior in Sri Meenakshi Temple	131
78. A rare carving of Lord Vinayaka in female form	132
79. A sculpture of Anasuya	132
80. Idol of Sri Mukkurini Pillayar	132
81. The imposing figure of Agni Veerabhadrar	132
82. The sculpture depicting the marriage of Goddess Meenakshi	132
83. Other sculptures depicting the marriage of Goddess Meenakshi	132

	Facing page
84. Paintings of 64 Thiruvilayadals on the Corridor wall	133
85. Sculpture of Lord Vishnu as Mohini	133
86. The sculpture depicting Urdhwa Thandavam	133
87. Sculptures of Siva, Parvathi and Ekapadamurthi	133
88. The image of Aghora Veerabhadrar	133
89. Sculpture of a mythological incident concerning Goddess Meenakshi	133
90. The stump of the sacred Kadamba tree in Sri Meenakshi Temple	134
91. A life like sculpture of a gypsy	134
92. An interior view of thousand pillared Mandapam	134
93. A sculpture of Lord Vinayaka	134
94. A view of the Kudalazhagar Temple, Madurai	134
95. The festival images in Thiru Appudayar Temple, Madurai	134
96. Entrance to thousand pillared Mantapam in Sri Meenakshi Temple	135
97. Sculpture of a gypsy woman with her children	135
98. Sculpture of Saraswathi, Goddess of learning	135
99. A view of the Teppakulam and Garden Temple	135
100. Images of Shanmughar and Deivayanai in Thiru Appudayar Temple	135
101. A view of the Lakshmi theertham and Gopuram of Sri Subrahman- yaswami Temple, Thirupparankunram	135
102. Another view of Lakshmi Theertham and hillock at Thirupparan- kunram	136
103. Another view of the Temple at Thirupparankunram	136
104. Sculpture of Varaha Iswarar at Thirupparankunram	136
105. Sculpture of Narasimhavatharam at Thirupparankunram	136
106. Sculpture of Cosmic dance of Lord Siva at Thirupparankunram	136
107. Saravanapoigai in Thirupparankunram	136
108. A close up of the Gopuram at Thirupparankunram	137
109. The artistic front Mantapam at Thirupparankunram	137
110. Sculpture of Varaha Avataram at Thirupparankunram	137
111. Sculpture of Mahavishnu at Thirupparankunram	137
112. Sculpture depicting Parvathi, Nandi and Devas watching Cosmic dance of Siva	137

MUDUKULATHUR TALUK—(contd.)

Page

Other Temples

Temples under the control of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department

322

Temples under the control of Ramanathapuram Samasthanam

326

Temples outside the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department

330

ARUPPUKOTTAI TALUK

Important Temple

Sri Thirumeninathaswamy Temple

332

Other Temples

Temples under the control of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department

334

Temples under the control of Sivaganga Devasthanam

344

Temples under the control of Ramanathapuram Samasthanam

346

Temples outside the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department

348

SATTUR TALUK

Sri Venkatachalapathy Temple

351

Temples under the control of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department

352

Temples outside the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department

364

SRIVILLIPUTHUR TALUK

Important Temples

Sri Andal and Vadapathrasayee Temple

366

Sri Vaidyanathaswamy Temple

367

Sri Mayuranathaswamy Temple

368

Other Temples

Temples under the control of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department

370

Appendix

A select glossary of terms relating to Temple Survey

MAPS

Facing Page

1. Map showing location of important temples in Ramanathapuram District 184
2. Map showing centres where there are temples in Tiruppattur, Sivaganga and Tiruvadanai Taluks 192
3. Map showing centres where there are temples in Paramakudi, Mudukulathur and Ramanathapuram Taluks 288
4. Map showing centres where there are temples in Srivilliputhur, Sattur and Aruppukottai Taluks 332

SKETCHES

1. Sri Thiruthalinathar Temple, Tiruppattur 195
2. Sri Karpaga Vinayakar Temple, Pillayarpatthi 197
3. Sri Kotravaleeswarar Temple, Kovilur 200
4. Sri Swarna Kaleeswarar Temple, Kaliyar Koil 247
5. Sri Pushpavaneswarar Temple, Tiruppuvanam 249
6. Sri Adi Rathneswarar Temple, Tiruvadanai 270
7. Sri Sundararaja Perumal Temple, Paramakudi 288
8. Sri Adi Jagannatha Temple, Tiruppullani 304
9. Sri Ramanathaswamy Temple, Rameswaram 305
10. Sri Pralayakeswarar Temple, Thiruvuthirakosamangai 305
11. Sri Thirumeninathaswamy Temple, Tiruchuzhi 332

PHOTOGRAPHS

1. A panoramic view of the Piran Malai Hill and Temple 192
2. A side view of the hill temple with front Mantapam 192
3. The shrine of Sri Bhairavar 192
4. The huge tridents before the shrine of Bhairavar 192
5. Entrance to Sri Thiruthalinathar Temple 192
6. Steps leading to the Piranmalai Hill Temple 193
7. A view of the Vimanam on a rock over the sanctum sanctorum of the Piranmalai Hill Temple 193
8. The festival image of Sri Bhairavar 193
9. The place where sage Valmiki performed penance 193
10. The Vimanam view with sthalavriksham of Thiruthalinathar Temple 193
11. Sri Somaskandar in Thiruthalinathar Temple 194
12. A view of the Temple and Tank at Kunnakudi 194
13. A side view of Sri Shanmughanathar Temple, Kunnakudi 195

xiv	Facing page		Facing page
14. Steps leading to the Shanmughanathar Temple, Kunnakudi	196	48. Festival images of Lord Natarajar and Sivakami Amman	270
15. The idol of Sri Shanmuganathar	196	49. A view of the Gopuram and Vimanam of the Temple	270
16. A view of Sri Karpaka Vinayakar Temple at Pillayarpatti	196	50. A side view of the front Mandapam	270
17. The rock-cut image of Sri Karpaka Vinayakar	196	51. A painting of the Sthalapuranam	270
18. The shrine of Pillayar at the Kunnakudi Temple	197	52. Some images on the Rajagopuram of the Temple	271
19. Gopuram view of the Karpaka Vinayakar Temple	197	53. Images of Chandikeswarar with Suryan	271
20. A close view of the rock-cut image of Karpaka Vinayakar	197	54. A view of the Rajagopuram	271
21. Image of Lord Nataraja in the Temple	198	55. Another painting of the Sthalapuranam	271
22. An interesting panel in the Temple	198	56. Another painting of the Sthalapuranam	271
23. Sri Thiruveesar near the Moolavar in the Temple	199	57. A view of Sri Naganathaswami Temple, Nayinarkoil	288
24. Front view of the Thirukoshtiyur Temple and Tank	200	58. Image of Lord Dakshinamurthi	288
25. A view of the Ashtanga Vimanam	200	59. The huge Car gifted to the Temple by Raja of Ramanathapuram	288
26. A side view of the Vimanam of Sowmyanarayana Perumal Temple	200	60. The Sthalavriksham of the Temple	289
27. A closer view of the Vimanam of Sowmyanarayana Perumal Temple	200	61. A rear view of the Gopuram	289
28. Image of Sri Bhoo Devi in the Prakaram	200	62. Sri Thilageswarar Temple at Devipatnam	304
29. Rajagopuram of the Thirukoshtiyur Temple	201	63. Moolavar and Uthsavar of Kadaladaitha Perumal	304
30. Entrance leading to the shrine of Sowmyanarayana Perumal	201	64. A closer view of the Navapashanas at Devipatnam	304
31. Another view of the Vimanam of the Sowmyanarayana Perumal Temple	201	65. A view of the Agni theertha inside the Mangalanathaswami Temple	304
32. The image of Sri Devi in the prakaram of the Sowmyanarayana Perumal Temple	201	66. Emerald Natarajar in the Mangalanathaswami Temple	304
33. The magnificent Rajagopuram of the Kaliarkoil Temple	246	67. The Spatika and emerald lingams in the Mangalanathaswami Temple	304
34. A front view of the Gopuram of the Kaliarkoil Temple	246	68. One of the carved pillars left unfinished	304
35. The golden unjal in the palliyarai of the Kaliarkoil Temple	246	69. A view of the Adi Jagannathaswami Temple, Tiruppullani	304
36. Another view of the Temple Tank with Mantapam	246	70. Images of Samudraraja and his Consort in Tiruppullani	304
37. Statues of Marudu Pandyan and his brothers	246	71. Sri Kadaladaitha Perumal temple, Devipatnam	305
38. Rajagopuram of Pushpavaneswarar Temple	246	72. A distant view of the Navapashanas at Devipatnam	305
39. Rajagopuram and ancient Gopuram of the Kaliarkoil Temple	247	73. Another view of the Agni Theertha in Mangalanathaswamy Temple	305
40. The festival idol of Somaskandar in the Kaliarkoil Temple	247	74. Uthsavar of Lord Natarajar in Mangalanathaswami Temple	305
41. The sacred tank with a huge Mantapam of the Kaliarkoil Temple	247	75. Festival idol of Amman in Mangalanathaswami Temple	305
42. Another view of the sacred Tank with a huge Mantapam of the Kaliarkoil Temple	247	76. The stone chariot in Mangalanathaswami Temple	305
43. Image of Lord Natarajar in Pushpavaneswarar Temple	247	77. Ananthasayanam in Thiruppullani	305
44. Sculpture depicting the Sthalapuranam of the Temple	248	78. The image of Vibhishana in Thiruppullani	305
45. A view of the beautiful vimanam over the sanctum sanctorum	248	79. A view of the Rajagopuram of the Rameswaram Temple	306
46. The Vimanam over the sanctum sanctorum—another view	249	80. The third and biggest corridor of the Rameswaram Temple	306
47. The front view of the Rajagopuram of the Adi Rathneswarar Temple	270	81. The gigantic Nandi in the Temple	306
		82. A view of the temple gopuram and Vimanam	306

Facing page

83. Images depicting the sthalapuranam of Rameswaram Temple	307
84. Another view of the third Corridor	307
85. An aerial view of Sri Rameswaram Temple	307
86. View of Vimanams indicating Pallava architecture	307
87. One of the theerthas in the Temple	308
88. A seaside view of the Rameswaram Temple	308
89. The holy footprints of Sri Rama	308
90. Another seaside view of the Rameswaram Temple	309
91. The Gandhamadana Parvatha	309
92. Rajagopuram of Sri Andal Temple at Srivilliputhur	366
93. A beautiful sculpture on a pillar in the Temple	366
94. Image of Karnan with Nagasthra in the Temple	366
95. Another artistic sculpture in the Temple	366
96. Another view of the Vimanam	366
97. Festival idols in the Temple	366
98. Festival idol decorated with 108 Sarees	366
99. The Nandavanam	366
100. Dwajasthambham at Sri Vadapathrasayee Sannadhi	367
101. Image of Saraswathi in the Temple	367
102. An artistic image on a pillar	367
103. A view of the Vimanam and Gopuram	367
104. A closer view of the Vimanam	367
105. Festival idols of Andal, Rajamannar and Nammalwar	367
106. The Nandavanam where Andal was born	367
107. The front view of Sri Vaidyanathaswami Temple	368
108. A view of the Gopuram of the Vaidyanathaswami Temple	368
109. The sacred tank and gopuram of Vaidyanathaswami Temple	369
110. Image of Sri Natarajar in the Vaidyanathaswami Temple	369

PREFACE

Indian Census has, in 1961, along with the main task, undertaken a number of special studies to highlight the social and cultural heritage of India. In keeping with this tradition, a scheme for preparing a compendium volume on the Temples of Madras State was mooted. South Indian temples have attracted a large number of tourists from all parts of the country and even from abroad. South India has been least affected by the series of invasions which India witnessed because of its geographical isolation and the Hindu culture has been preserved in its most pristine form in Madras State. As Hindu culture is associated largely with temples, it is likely that a study of the temples of Madras State will give a background of what Hindu culture stands for. A scheme has therefore been evolved in which seven volumes will be published covering all the temples in the State. Five volumes have already been published, the first covering Madras City and Chingleput district, the second covering the districts of Tiruchirapalli and South Arcot, the third covering the districts of Coimbatore and Salem, the fourth covering the districts of North Arcot and Nilgiris and the fifth covering the districts of Kanyakumari and Tirunelveli.

This is the sixth volume which covers the districts of Madurai and Ramanathapuram. The manner of presentation in this volume is similar to that adopted for the second, third, fourth and fifth volumes. A detailed description is given of important temples in each taluk while for the others, the relevant particulars are given in a tabular statement. The procedure adopted for filling up the forms relating to temples in the State has been indicated in the first volume on Chingleput and Madras City.

Madurai District

Out of 440 temples under the control of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department in Madurai district, reports were received on 368 temples. My staff collected information on the remaining 72 temples. In addition, schedules were received from 46 temples which are under private management. Such temples also have been included in the compendium. Thus the Directory for Madurai will cover 486 temples. The narrative report covers 27 temples while details relating to 459 temples are given in the tabular statements. The questionnaires were filled up by the following individuals and officials.

Details	Temples under the H.R. & C E. (A) Dept.	Temples outside the Dept.	Total
1. By the Trustees of the temples ...	143	9	152
2. By the Executive Officers of the temples ...	36	...	36
3. By the Revenue Inspectors ...	88	12	100
4. By the Village Officers ...	56	10	66
5. By the Tahsildars ...	4	...	4
6. By the Panchayat Development Officer ...	1	...	1
7. By Office Staff:			
(a) Particulars collected from the Trustees ...	62	6	68
(b) Particulars collected from the Village Officers ...	6	1	7
(c) Particulars collected from the Priests ...	4	1	5
8. Information not stated ...	40	7	47
Total ...	440	46	486

Details of income from immovable properties and the value of jewellery have been given for all temples except 16 under the former and 30 under the latter. It can be presumed that these temples do not have any immovable property or jewellery.

Sketches and plans of the following temples (not according to scale) are included in this compendium.

1. Sri Soundararaja Perumal temple, Thadicombu
2. Sri Kalahastheeswarar temple, Dindigul
3. Sri Dandayudhapaniswamy temple, Palni
4. Sri Kamakshi Amman temple, Devadanapatty
5. Sri Poolanandheeswarar temple, Chinnamanur
6. Sri Edaganathaswamy temple, Thiruvudagam
7. Sri Kallalagar Temple, Valayapatti
8. Sri Thirumarai Nathar temple, Thiruvadhavur
9. Sri Kalamega Perumal temple, Thirumugur
10. Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar temple, Madurai
11. Sri Kudalalagar temple, Madurai
12. Sri Subramaniaswamy temple, Tirupparamkundram

Ramanathapuram District

Out of 355 temples under the control of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department in Ramanathapuram district, reports were received on 265 temples. My staff collected information on the remaining 87 temples, while 3 temples have not reported any information. In addition, reports on 91 temples under the control of the Sivaganga Devasthanam, 56 shrines under the Ramanathapuram Samasthanam and 16 other temples which are under private management were also received. Thus the Directory for Ramanathapuram covers 518 temples. The narrative report covers 24 temples while the rest are included in tabular statements. The questionnaire has been filled up by the following persons.

Details	Temples under the H.R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	Temples under the Sivaganga Devasthanam	Temples under the Ramana-thapuram Samasthanam	Temples outside the Dept.	Total
1. By the Trustees of the temples	239	...	...	14	253
2. By the Executive Officers of temples	14	...	...	...	14
3. By the Inspectors, H.R. & C.E. (A) Department	8	...	...	...	8
4. By the Village Officers	4	...	...	...	4
5. By the Devasthanam Manager	...	91	...	...	91

Details	Temples under the H.R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	Temples under the Sivaganga Devasthanam	Temples under the Ramana-thapuram Samasthanam	Temples outside the Dept.	Total
6. By the Samasthanam Administrative Secretary	...	...	56	...	56
7. By the Priests	...	...	...	2	2
8. By Office Staff :					77
(a) Particulars collected from the Trustees	77	...	...	...	6
b) Particulars collected from the Village Officers	6	...	...	...	4
(c) Particulars collected from the Priests	4	...	...	...	4
Total	352	91	56	16	515

Details of income from immovable properties and the value of jewellery have been given for all temples except 8 under the former and 13 under the latter. It can be presumed that these temples do not have any immovable property or jewellery.

The age of the temple will depend on the view held by the persons who filled the schedule and cannot always be supported by evidence of inscriptions, or other records.

Revenue officials as well as the officials of the Sivaganga Devasthanam, Ramanathapuram Samasthanam and the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department have been of great help to us in collecting the particulars relating to temples.

Sketches and plans of the following temples (not according to scale) are included in the compendium :-

1. Sri Thiruthalinathar temple, Tirupattur
2. Sri Karpaga Vinayakar temple, Pillayarpatti
3. Sri Kotravaleeswarar temple, Kovilur
4. Sri Swarna Kaleeswarar temple, Kaliarkoil
5. Sri Pushpavaneswarar temple, Tiruppuvanam
6. Sri Adirathneswarar temple, Tiruvadanai
7. Sri Soundararaja Perumal temple, Paramakudi
8. Sri Naganathaswamy temple, Nainarkoil
9. Sri Mangalanathaswamy temple, Tiruthirakosamangai
10. Sri Adi Jagannatha Perumal temple, Tirupullani
11. Sri Ramanathaswamy temple, Rameswaram
12. Sri Thirumeninathaswamy temple, Tiruchuli

In addition to these temples, there are innumerable shrines for village Gods and Goddesses with and without structures. Where there are structures, they are very small; in other cases, the deities are installed under trees and represented by an idol or a symbol like three bricks or a stone. These shrines are outside the scope of our survey; but I have indicated in the first volume relating to Madras City and Chingleput district, the important role played by them in the religious life of a section of the people in the State.

I am grateful to Sri A. Mitra and Sri A. Chandrasekhar, Registrar Generals, India for the encouragement they have given me in this study of Temples in Madras State.

P. K. NAMBIAR

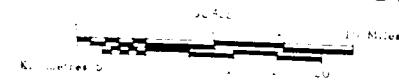
I wish to place on record my appreciation of the able assistance given by the following members of my staff in the preparation and presentation of this volume.

1. Sri N. Rama Rao	Tabulation Officer
2. Sri T. S. Rajaram	Research Assistant
3. Sri N. D. Rajan	Photographer
4. Sri A. Rajamani	Draughtsman
5. Sri T. Balakrishna Kurup	Upper Division Clerk
6. Sri D. Chandrasekaran	Lower Division Clerk
7. Sri V. V. Balan Nambiar	do

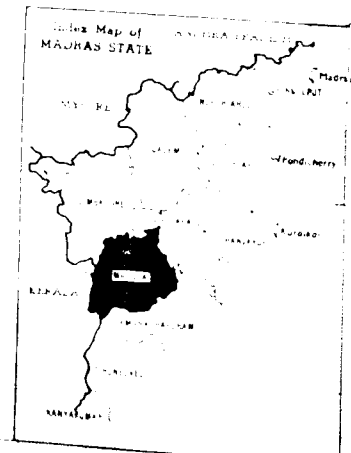
P. K. NAMBIAR

MADURAI DISTRICT

LOCATION OF IMPORTANT TEMPLES IN MADURAI DISTRICT



- REFERENCE**
- State Boundary
 - District Boundary
 - Local Boundary
 - Railway Line
 - State Highway
 - Other Important Roads
 - River with Stream
 - Village Name
 - Temple Name



MADURAI DISTRICT

INTRODUCTION

The City of Madurai is considered to be the centre of ancient Tamil culture. It has a great past, rich in tradition and history. It is noted for Sri Meenakshi Temple, the most famous in South India dedicated to Goddess Meenakshi well known not only in India but also beyond India. Still one will be surprised to find that Madurai District has only 486 temples. No doubt the Pandyas and later rulers of the region have contributed to the growth of temples but still the area is not as rich as Tanjore or Tiruchirapalli in temples.

The temple of Madurai holds a unique place in India. Its artistic towers, wonderful musical pillars, colourful festivals, costly jewels are well known. Its presiding deity, commands respect among devotees. The history of the temple is linked with the growth of Madurai City which has witnessed the rise and fall of Pandyas and later Naiks. The Pandya rulers and later Naik chieftains contributed lavishly towards making it a monument of architecture. Even in the recent past extensive repairs have been made to the temple in which ancient standard of architecture and sculpture and modern techniques of renovation and preservation have been harmonised.

Twenty kilometres north-west of Madurai is Alagar Koil which stands under the southern end of the picturesque hill viz., Alagarmalai. In olden days there was a fortified town round the temple, which contained the palace of Tirumala Naik. The hill and the temple have been worshipped by great Vaishnavite Saints like Periyalwar, Peyalwar, Bhoothathalwar, Nammalwar and Thirumangai Alwar. The Saivite Saint Nakkirar has sung the praise of Pazhamudircholai, one of the favourite resorts of Lord Muruga, which is located at a distance of 3 kilometres on the hill from Alagar Koil.

Madurai District has the distinction of having three of the celebrated 'Arupadai Veedu' or the six favourite resorts of Lord Muruga as sung by Nakkirar. They are Pazhamudircholai near Alagar Koil,

Tirupparamkundram and Palni (Thiru-avinankudi), the three favourite centres of pilgrimage for the devotees of Lord Muruga. Tirupparamkundram near Madurai stands close to a hill called Skandhamalai. Its inner most shrine is beautifully cut out of solid rock. The temple contains several inscriptions of interest. The greatness of the shrine has been described in the literature of the Sangam age.

Pilgrims from all over the State and especially from the neighbouring State of Kerala visit the famous hill temple of Muruga at Palni. The presiding deity known as Dandayudhapani which takes the form of a young boy in the sanctum sanctorum is supposed to be made of an amalgam of nine chemicals known as Navapashanam. The Panchamritham is a popular prasadam. This is the most popular hill temple in the State.

In addition to this, Madurai District has a number of shrines which have considerable historical and sacred associations. Thiruvetagam in Nilakottai taluk was the place where the sacred leaf of Thirugnanasambandar which floated upstream in Vaigai stopped, thereby establishing the greatness of Saivism during the trial of strength between this saint and Jains. The Siva temple there was renovated and expanded at a huge cost by the Nattukottai Nagarathar community Thiruvadavur, the birth place of the great Saint Manickavasagar has a big Siva temple. The Vishnu shrine in Thirumogur is held sacred by Vaishnavites. Many temples, dedicated to Mariamman Ayyanar and other village deities are to be found in this district. Devadanapatti near Periakulam is widely known for its temple dedicated to Kamakshi Amman. Chinnamanur of great historical importance contains an ancient shrine said to have been built by a Pandya King named Rajasimhan. Several interesting cave temples are found near Anamalai near Madurai. Soundararaja Perumal Temple at Thadicombu near Dindigul which has been renovated in the recent past has sculptures of superb workmanship.

Thus though the number of temples in the district is limited, it has variety and historical and archaeological importance.

Of the 486 temples in the district, 440 are under the administrative control of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department and the remaining 46 are outside the Department.

The taluk-wise break-up of temples is as follows:-

Name of Taluk	Temples		Total	Extent	Temples		Total
	Under the H. R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	Outside the Dept.			Under the H. R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	Outside the Dept.	
1. Dindigul	59	7	66	Below 5 cents	156	20	176
2. Palni	29	6	35	5 cents and above but below 20 cents	125	12	137
3. Kodaikanal	6	...	6	20 cents and above but below 1 acre	78	6	84
4. Periakulam	96	5	101	1 acre and above but below 2 acres	26	5	31
5. Nilakottai	66	4	70	2 acres and above but below 5 acres	13	...	13
6. Melur	51	6	57	5 acres and above but below 10 acres	2	1	3
7. Madurai	82	7	89	10 acres and above	2	...	2
8. Tirumangalam	51	11	62	Area not stated	38	2	40
Total ...	440	46	486	Total ...	440	46	486

As may be seen from the above statement more than half the number of temples are concentrated in the taluks of Periakulam, Madurai and Nilakottai. Periakulam taluk has the largest number of temples namely 101, closely followed by Madurai and Nilakottai taluks having 89 and 70 shrines respectively, while the least is in Kodaikanal taluk viz., 6.

A classification of the temples according to the presiding deities reveals the following interesting details:-

Presiding deities	Temples		Total
	Under the H.R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	Outside the Dept.	
Siva and His Consort	84	7	91
Vishnu and His Consort	108	13	121
Murugar	19	...	19
Goddesses (Village Deities)	98	6	104
Vinayakar	49	10	59
Other Deities	82	10	92
Total ...	440	46	486

Nearly 50% of the temples are those for Vishnu and village deities. A special feature of this district is that unlike other districts, where Siva temples are predominant, here Vaishnavite shrines are greater in number. There are 121 Vaishnavite shrines as against 91 Siva temples, apart from 59 Vinayakar temples and 19 shrines dedicated to Lord Muruga.

The following statement shows the area covered by the temples.

It may be seen from the above statement that while only 2 temples cover an area of 10 acres and more, 176 shrines are small ones covering less than 5 cents. A major portion of the temples namely 221 out of 486, occupy an extent ranging from 5 cents to an acre. Temples which cover an area of one acre and over is less than 11 per cent, as the number of such shrines is only 49. The 40 temples which have not furnished the information under this head may be treated as small ones. Thus, more than 80 per cent of the temples are those, which cover an area of less than an acre.

In 22 out of 82 Siva temples, the presiding deity is a Swayambu Lingam while in the remaining sixty shrines the Moolavar is an installed one. Out of 9 temples dedicated to the consort of Siva, in 4 temples

MADURAI DISTRICT

the amman is in a sitting posture, in two other shrines She is in a standing posture, in one temple no idol is found. The remaining two shrines have not furnished this information. There are heads of deities only in two temples, while in 19 shrines neither head nor idol is found. Excluding 94 temples, where their position is not specified, the posture of the presiding deities in other than Siva temples is as follows:-

Standing pose	172
Sitting pose	98
Lying pose	1
In the yoga pose	1

Lingam	...	6
Karagam	...	1
Trident	...	1
Total	...	280

Saivite Gurukkals and Vaishnavite Bhattachariars are generally employed to perform poojas in the Siva and Vishnu temples respectively. The remuneration paid to them is low. Before they are permitted to enter the sanctum, they should be duly initiated according to the rules prescribed in the Agamas or Pancharatras.

Poojas are performed in all except nine temples, where there are no priests. The following statement regarding poojas will be interesting:-

Temples under the H.R. & C.E. (A) Dept.				Temples outside the Dept.			Total		
Names of Deities	Where poojas are performed	Where the priest belongs to		Where poojas are performed	Where the priest belongs to		Where poojas are performed	Where the priest belongs to	
		Brahmin community	Other community		Brahmin community	Other community		Brahmin community	Other community
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Siva and His Consort	84	67	17	5	3	2	89	70	19
Vishnu and His Consort	106	81	25	13	6	7	119	87	32
Murugar	19	11	8	...	...	...	19	11	8
Vinayakar	48	15	33	10	2	8	58	17	41
Goddesses (Village Deities)	98	7	91	6	1	5	104	8	96
Other Deities	79	12	67	9	...	9	88	12	76
Total	434	193	241	43	12	31	477	205	272

In the majority of temples dedicated to Siva, Vishnu and Murugar, the priests belong to the Brahmin community. In 272 out of 477 temples, persons other than Brahmins offer poojas. Out of 58 temples for Vinayakar, the priest is a Brahmin only in 17 shrines. So also, Brahmin priests are found only in 20 out of 192 temples for village goddesses and other deities.

In major Siva temples, after the recitation of Vedas in Sanskrit by the Gurukkals, Thevaram is sung in Tamil by Pandarams who are known as "Othuvans". In Vishnu temples the Bhattachariars recite Vedas in Sanskrit and Thiruvoimozhi in Tamil.

No ornaments are found in 291 temples. 30 temples have not furnished any details under the head. The classification of the remaining 165 temples according to value of jewellery owned by them is as follows :-

Value of jewellery	Temples		Total
	Under the H.R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	Outside the Dept.	
Rs			
500 and below	83	6	89
501 — 1,000	27	1	28
1,001 — 5,000	28	1	29
5,001 — 10,000	9	...	9
10,001 — 50,000	5	...	5
50,001 — 100,000	1	...	1
100,001 — 500,000	1	...	1
500,001 — 1,000,000	1	...	1
Above ten lakhs	2	...	2
Total	157	8	165

The following are the four temples, which own ornaments worth more than rupees one lakh.

1. Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar temple—Madurai
2. Sri Dandayudhapani temple—Palni
3. Sri Kallalagar temple—Valayapatti
4. Sri Koodalalagar temple—Madurai

The value of jewellery in Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar temple of Madurai City is estimated at Rs. 19,67,279.

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE

Except 14 temples, the remaining shrines have immovable properties. Barring 16 temples which have not given details of income, the classification of 456 temples which derive an annual income from immovable properties is shown below :—

Annual income	Temples		Total
	Under the H.R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	Outside the Dept.	
Rs.			
500 and below	169	17	186
501 — 1,000	122	5	127
1,001 — 5,000	92	3	95
5,001 — 10,000	27	...	27
10,001 — 50,000	19	...	19
Above one lakh	2	...	2
Total	431	25	456

The annual income accruing from immovable properties exceeds Rs. 10,000/- in 21 shrines. The following are the two temples whose annual income is Rs. 1,00,000/- and above.

1. Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple—Madurai
2. Sri Dandayudhapani Temple—Palni

Sri Dandayudhapani temple of Palni gets the maximum income of Rs. 13,95,416/- per annum. Sri Subramaniaswamy Temple at Tirupparamkundram and Sri Dandayudhapani Temple at Palni get an income of about Rs. 75,000/- and Rs. 3,61,736/- respectively under hundi collections; the former also gets an additional annual income of about Rs. 60,000/- through the sale of archana and abishega tickets.

Out of 486 temples, only three temples are running public institutions like choultries, libraries primary or secondary schools.

456 Temples have no temple Cars, while 476 have no Rathams. 30 Temples alone own Cars and ten have Rathams. Only 40 Temples are having Palanquins and 122 shrines possess Vahanas like Peacock, Rishabam, Elephant, Horse etc. These Vahanas are generally made of wood or brass. The bigger and

MADURAI DISTRICT

more famous temples have gold and silver plated Vahanas.

Annual festivals are celebrated, in 291 out of 486 temples, while there are no festivals in the remaining 195 shrines. The classification of temples according to the number of festivals observed is as follows :—

Number of festivals in a year	Temples		Total
	Under the H.R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	Outside the Dept.	
One festival	154	20	174
Two festivals	30	3	33
Three festivals	19	1	20
Four festivals	16	...	16
5 to 10 festivals	37	4	41
11 to 20 festivals	7	...	7
Total	263	28	291

The size of the crowd that gathers for the festivals exceeds 1,000 in 103 Temples.

Out of 440 Temples under the control of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department, paid Executive Officers have been appointed by the Department only for 56 temples.

There are no trustees for 59 temples. There is a single trustee for 259 temples and a Board consisting of more than one trustee is in charge of 164 temples. Particulars under this head have not been furnished by four temples.

An analysis of the details given in the schedules reveals the following position regarding the age of the temples in the district.

Before Christ	...	8
Prior to 7th century	...	...
7th century to 1750	...	145
After 1750 (Modern)	...	238
Details not given	...	95
Total	...	486

DINDIGUL TALUK

14. RAMAGIRI
H/o. Vadugambadi

Sri Kalyana Narasinga Perumal temple

Ramagiri, a village situated on the Dindigul-Karur High road is noted for its famous 350 year-old Vaishnavite shrine dedicated to Sri Kalyana Narasinga Perumal. The divine consort here is Sri Kamalavalli Thayar. Madurai, the district head-quarters and Dindigul, the taluk head-quarters are 120 and 40 kilometres away respectively. It is also linked with several sacred centres by bus and train.

The small beautiful temple here was built during the reign of the Naik rulers. The temple gopuram and the Amman's shrine were renovated by a devotee, about 30 years ago. There are two sanctum sanctorum here for the Lord and Devi and a single prakaram, apart from six artistically carved stone pillars, which are very enchanting to look at. The presiding deity Sri Kalyana Narasinga Perumal and His consort Sri Kamalavalli Thayar are in a standing posture. Sri Hanumar, Garudar and Alwars are the other deities here. The festival idols of the Lord and His consort are made of panchalogam.

Poojas are performed twice daily by non-hereditary Brahmin priests, strictly according to the principles of Vaikanasa Agamam. The temple owns antique jewellery in gold and silver, worth about Rs. 1580, of which the costly golden kasumalai of the Thayar deserves special mention. Besides an allowance of Rs. 3,355 given by the Government, the temple derives an annual income of Rs. 418 by way of rent from its immovable property consisting of 14 tamarind trees. In addition to the above income, Rs. 250 and Rs. 50 per annum are got from pooja charges and hundi collections respectively. These amounts are spent for the upkeep and general maintenance of the temple. There is a 100 year old Car (Ther) and a Palanquin here, made of wood.

Chithra Pournami, Narasimha Jayanthi, Navarathri and Brahmotsavam in Panguni (February-March) are the regular annual festivals celebrated here.

of which the Panguni Brahmotsavam and Navarathri are the most important ones, which attract about 5,000 devotees from far and near.

The temple has an Executive Officer and a Board of trustees consisting of three members. It is under the control of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department.

50. THADICOMBU

Sri Soundararaja Perumal Temple

Thadicombu, a village situated near Dindigul has a Vaishnavite shrine dedicated to Sri Soundararaja Perumal which is a treasure house of superb architecture and sculpture. The work is of the later Naik style. This temple has been renovated recently, thanks to the keen interest taken by some devout and art-loving citizens.

Originally known as Thalapuri (palmyrah village), this was closely associated in the past with Kallalagar temple (Thirumalirumcholai) near Madurai and Kattalagar temple near Srivilliputhur. Scriptures refer to these three sacred places simultaneously. Lithic inscriptions in the temple and other copper inscriptions speak volumes of the greatness of this place and temple and the handsome endowments made by the kings. Towards the end of the eighteenth century, it is said that Thadicombu was the headquarters of a taluk under British rulers. It is situated at a distance of about 8 kilometres to the north of Dindigul. The two places are well connected by bus. The temple which is close to the bus stop is a little away from the village proper.

Legend has it that once Sage Manduka was performing a severe penance in this place. A demon called Thalasura was giving trouble to the sage now and then. In answer in the sage's prayer, Sri Narayana appeared in the form of Kallalagar and killed the demon. The Lord agreed to the request of the sage to remain for ever in this place.

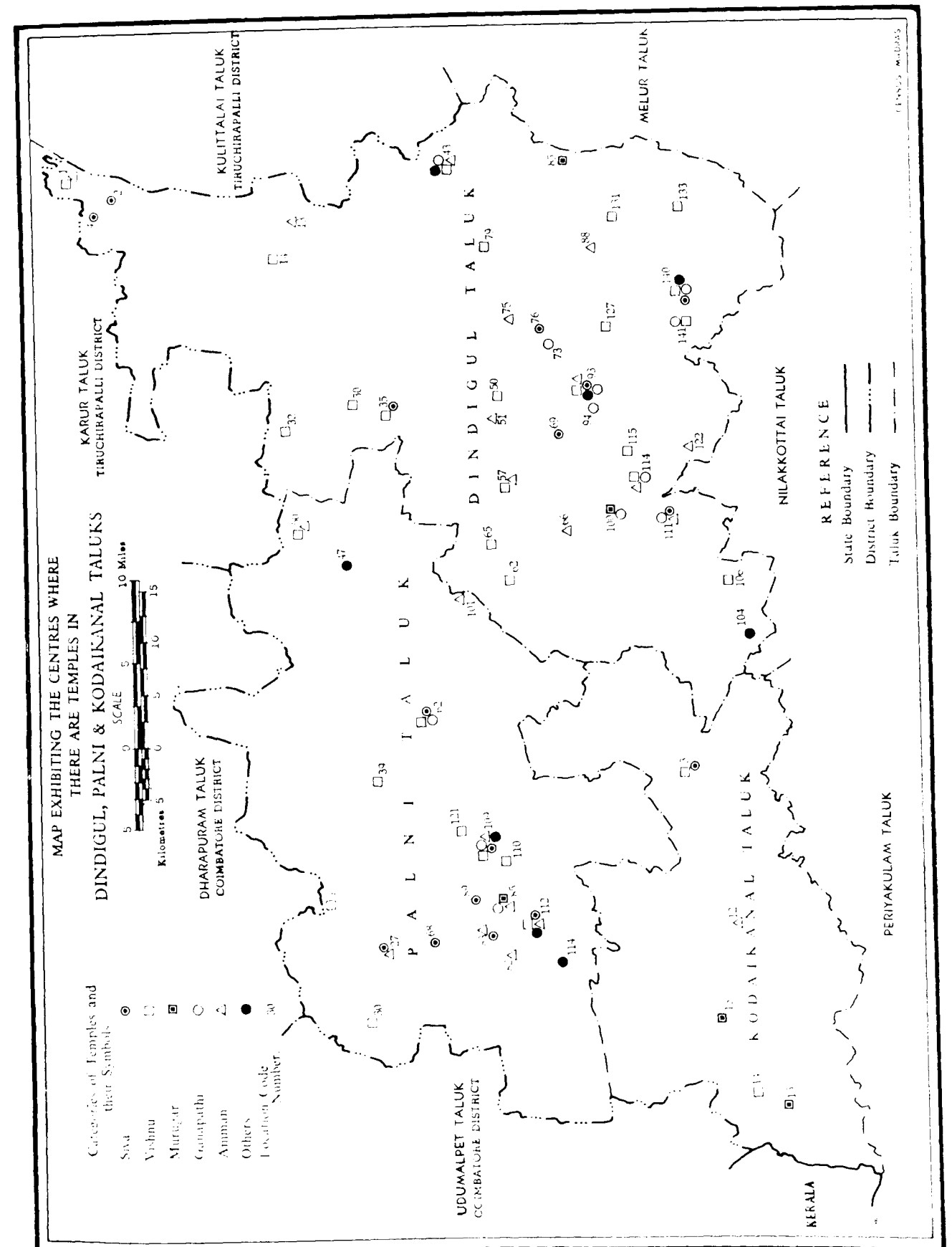




Image of Lord Vishnu on Garuda in the temple at Thadicombu



The impressive carving depicting dance of Natarajar with his right leg lifted in the temple at Thadicombu



The awe-inspiring image of Thillai Kali in the temple at Thadicombu



The life-like image of Sri Chakrathazhvar in the temple at Thadicombu



The imposing image of Lord Vishnu (Sri Vaikuntanathar) on a pillar in the temple at Thadicombu

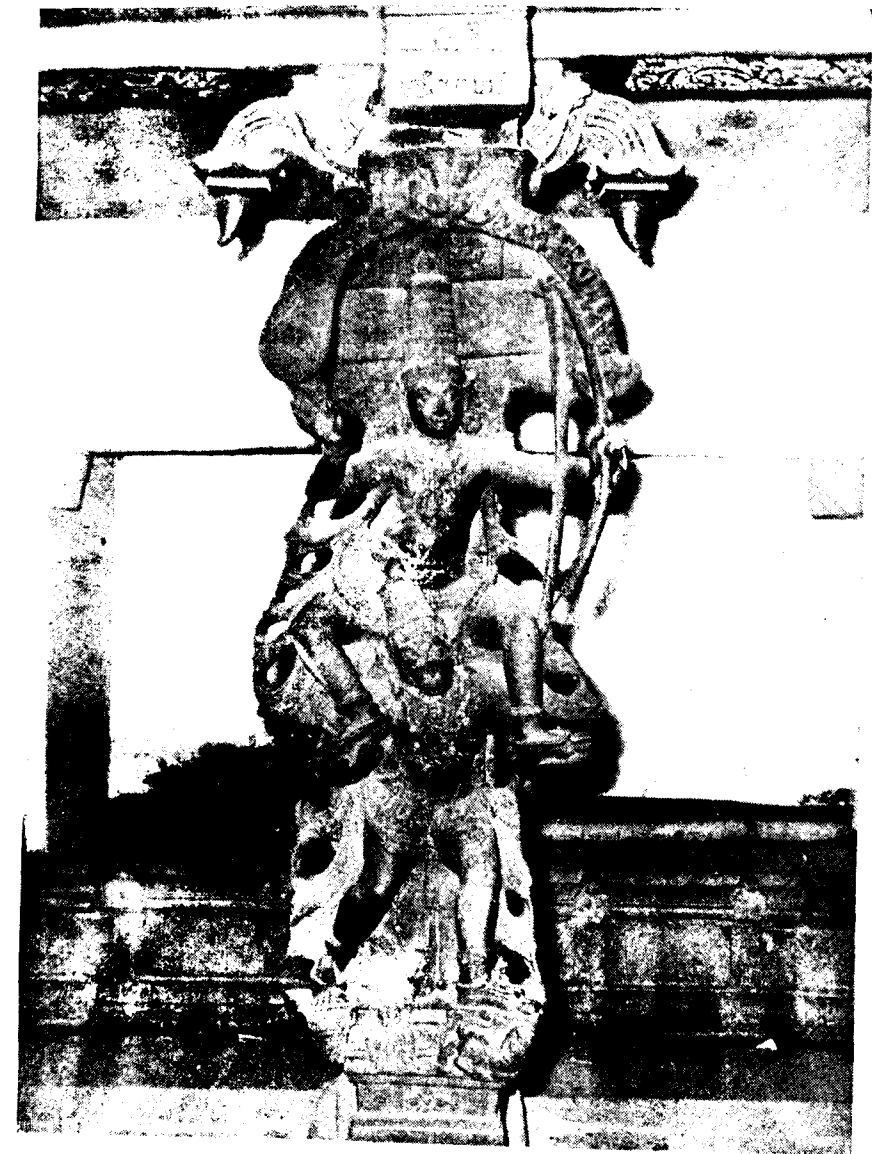


Image of Sri Ramar on the back of Hanumar on a pillar in the temple at Thadicombu

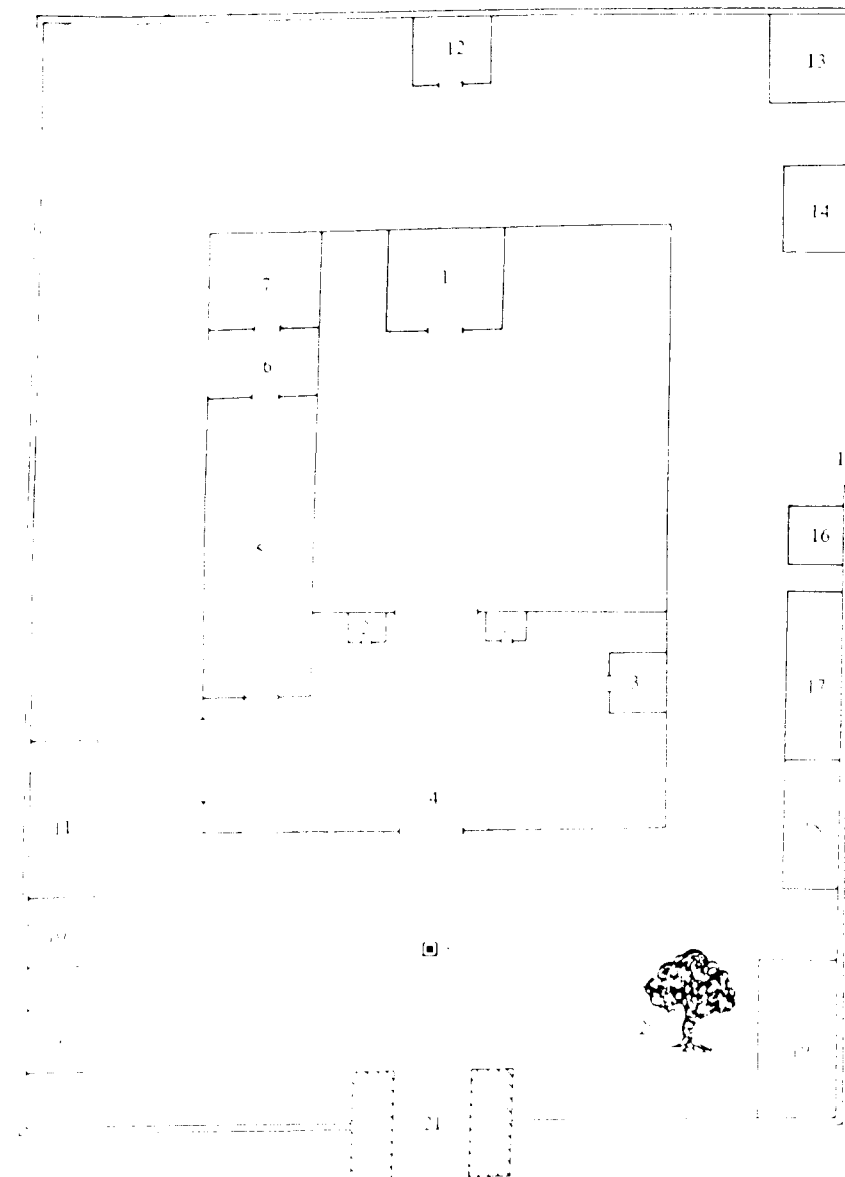
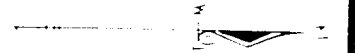


The festival idols of Sri Soundararaja Perumal and His consorts in the temple at Thadicombu.

SRI SOUNDARARAJA PERUMAL TEMPLE

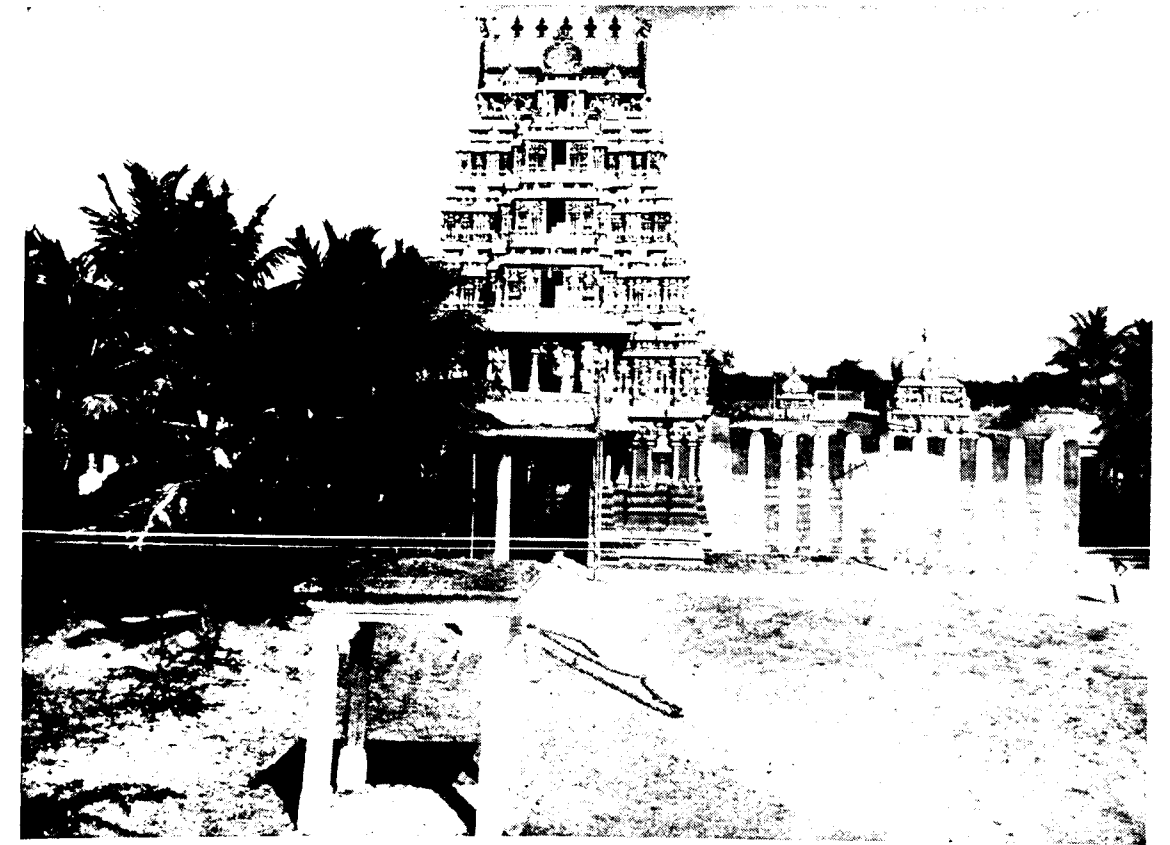
THADICOMBU

(Not to Scale)

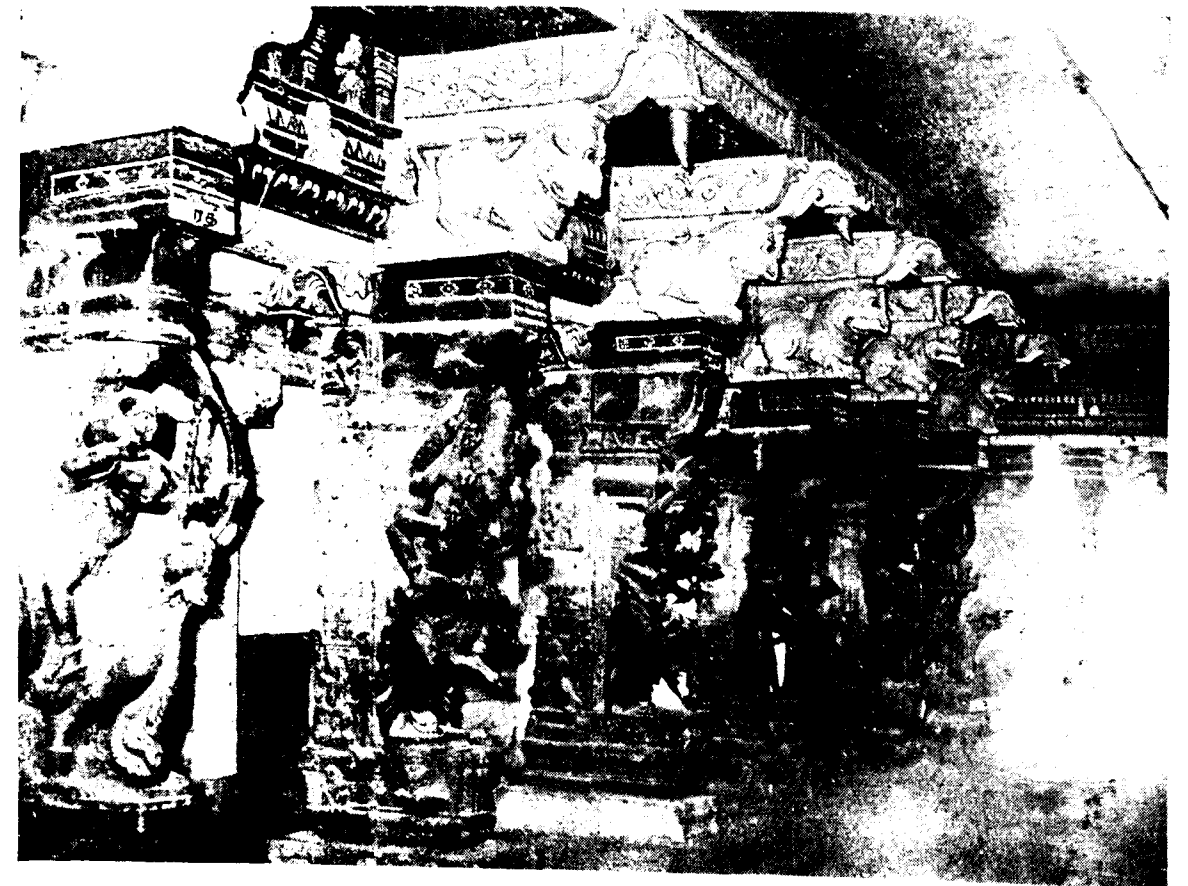


INDEX TO NUMBERS

- 1 Soundararajaperumal (M - Svar)
- 2 Dwarapalagas
- 3 Pallarai
- 4 Garuda Mandapam
- 5 Kalyana Mandapam
- 6 Unjal Mandapam
- 7 Soundaravalli Thayar
- 8 Dwajasthambam
- 9 Nammalwar
- 10 Vinayagar
- 11 Dasavatharams
- 12 Lakshmi Narasimhar
- 13 Andal
- 14 Venugopataswamy
- 15 Swarga Vasal
- 16 Arunachar
- 17 Yag. Sam
- 18 Kshethrabalar
- 19 Venu. water
- 20 Venu. tree (Simhasruksham)
- 21 Main Entrance with Gopuram



An impressive view of the recently renovated gopuram of Sri Soundararaja Perumal Temple at Thadicombu



The artistic Mandapam before the Goddess' sanctum in the Temple at Thadicombu

The east-facing temple with its tall gopuram is fairly big. It has on all its four sides strong and lofty walls. There are five chief sanctum in the temple.

Sri Soundararaja Perumal with Sri Devi and Bhu Devi gives darshan in a standing posture in the sanctum sanctorum. The Perumal's idol is about 5 feet high. A small stone pedestal is seen in the northern corner of the sanctum sanctorum. This is supposed to be the seat offered to Sri Chakkarathalwar by the Lord himself. The idol of this Alwar is not there now. Only the Peetam remains. To the south of the Lord is the sanctum of the Goddess Sri Soundaravalli. Sri Andal, Sri Vishvaksenar and Sri Chakkarathalwar have got separate sanctum. The sanctum of Sri Chakkarathalwar is a separate temple by itself in the south-west corner. The other stone idols in the temple are: Sri Vinayakar, the Alwars, the Dasavatharas, and Goddess Saraswathi. In the inner prakaram we find the sannadhis of Sri Venugopala, Anjaneya, Bairavar and Lakshmi Narasimha. There are a number of copper idols too. Poojas are conducted twice daily according to the Pancharatra Agama.

The unjalmandapam and kalyanamandapam before the goddess's sanctum contain artistic pillars of exquisite workmanship. These mandapas are a veritable art gallery. The life-like images of Sri Natarajar, Sri Rama on the shoulders of Sri Anjaneya etc., on the pillars point to the high water-mark of sculpture in the past. There are two musical pillars which compare favourably with those in Madurai, Tirunelveli, Tenkasi, Suchindram, Krishnapuram and Alwarthirunagari.

The sthalaviruksham of the shrine is vilvam. The temple has a modest property in terms of land. In the kalyanamandapam, people are allowed to perform marriages. A nominal fee of Rs. 10 is collected per marriage. The temple authorities say that on an average about 300 marriages take place in a year. The Vahanas in the temple are Horse, Elephant, Swan, Garuda and Adishesha.

The ten-day Brahmothsavam of the temple takes place in the month of Adi (July-August) when about 5,000 people gather here. The Car festival is celebrated on one of these days. The most important festival is however the Chithra Pournami when the Lord's idol is taken in procession to Dindigul. After about 5 days, the idol comes back to the temple.

65. KAMAKSHIPURAM

Sri Gopinathaswamy Temple

About three kilometres from Reddiarchathram railway station, is a hillock on which is picturesquely situated the Vaishnavite temple dedicated to Sri Gopinathaswamy. Up to Reddiarchathram one can go by bus or train. From there one has to walk to reach the temple.

According to the temple authorities, the original shrine is about 300 years old. The present temple was constructed in 1949. There is a mandapam at the foot of the hillock. Choultries for the stay of pilgrims have also been constructed. The temple facing east measures 20' x 18'.

There is a 16' tall beautiful gopuram which can be seen even from a long distance. The temple has a 14 pillar arthamandapam and a single prakaram. The presiding deity Sri Gopinathaswamy is a 3' tall stone image in the form of Lord Krishna with His flute. The festival idol is about 2'3" tall. The divine consort is known as Sri Gopamman. On Saturdays milk and curd abishegam is done to the presiding deity. Poojas are performed thrice daily by hereditary priests. The poojas are not according to Agamas, but follow the Vaishnava conventional procedure.

The two-day Uri Adi festival celebrated in the Tamil month of Avani is the most important festival of the temple. It starts on the Sri Krishna Jayanthi. After a grand abishegam to the Moolavar on that day the festival idols are taken in an impressive procession down the hillock to the nearby Kadir Narasinga Perumal temple. The next day the Uri Adi festival takes place before the Narasinga Perumal temple. On the third day the festival idols reach the temple on the hillock early in the morning. People in large numbers take part in the procession and the festival.

The temple possesses considerable antique jewels. The annual income from Hundi amounts to Rs. 52,000. The temple comes under the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department. There is a Board of trustees with five members and an Executive Officer who look after the management of the temple.



The festival idols of the Lord and His consorts in Sri Soundararaja Perumal Temple, Villupuram

79. VADAMADURAI

Sri Soundararaja Perumal Temple

Vadamadurai is noted for its famous Vaishnavite shrine dedicated to Sri Soundararaja Perumal. His consort is Sri Soundaravalli Thayar. Madurai, the district head-quarters and Dindigul the taluk head-quarters are 80 and 17 kilometres away respectively. There are several stone inscriptions here.

The temple which covers an area of about one acre has two prakarams. It is said that it was built by the Naik rulers who administered this place. In 1958, it was renovated and a beautiful Rajagopuram was constructed. The sacred vilva tree is the sthala-viruksham here.

As one approaches the temple, one comes across a 18' high stone pillar called Kambathadi which has on all its four sides at the base the inspiring images of Hanumar, Garuda, the holy Chakram and Conch. It is said that at the time of the Garuda Sevai festival, fire will be placed on the top of this pillar before the festival image is taken out on procession. The temple authorities state that in the song *Mayanai mannum Vada Madurai Maindanai* of Thiruppavai, Andal refers to this shrine.

Poojas are performed twice daily by non-hereditary Brahmin priests of the Vaishnavite sect. The ornaments in the temple are worth over Rs. 7,470/- of which the gold crown studded with precious stones and kasumalai consisting of 50 coins deserve special mention. The immovable properties of the temple comprise 16.60 acres of dry lands and a few buildings which fetch an annual income of about Rs. 18,000/- by way of rent; this sum is utilised for its maintenance. It also gets an additional income of Rs. 400/- every year, through its hundi collections. The temple owns a Car and seven other Vahanas viz., Elephant, Lion, Horse, Adishesha, Garuda, Hanumar and Swan, all made of wood.

The eleven-day Brahmotsavam in Adi, Panguni Uthiram and Chithra Pournami are the regular annual festivals celebrated here, of which the Adi Brahmotsavam is the most important one. During this festival a big cattle fair is held for 7 days. The festival attracts about a lakh of devotees from far and near. The

festival idol is taken to Dindigul in the Panguni festival. On the Chithra Pournami day the deity is taken to *Pal Keni*, a well about 2 furlongs from the temple.

The temple is managed by a Board of three trustees, through an Executive Officer, all appointed by the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department. A small temple dedicated to Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar situated nearby, is a sub-temple of the Perumal temple.

93. DINDIGUL

Sri Kalahastheeswarar Temple

The commercial town of Dindigul which is strategically situated about 65 kilometres to the north of Madurai has a famous Siva temple. Dindigul, which perhaps derived its name from a huge rock at the western end of the town is the head-quarters of one of the taluks of the same name. It is a first class municipality and the second largest town in the district. It is linked with Madurai and other important centres by bus and train.

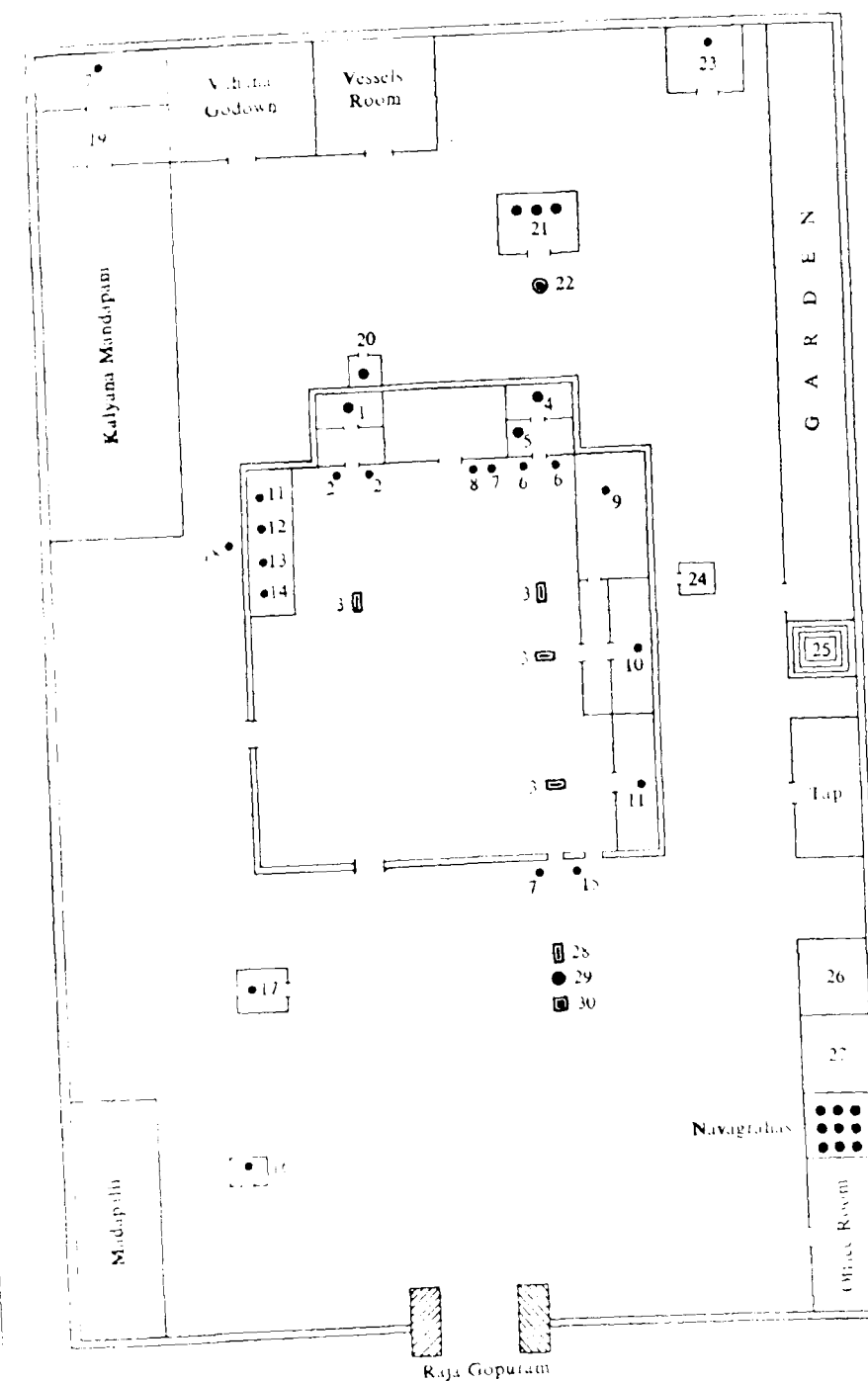
Though the temple is known in records as Sri Kalahastheeswarar temple, it is popular in and around the town as the temple of Sri Abhirami Amman. A sthalapuranam in Tamil has been published in 1962 according to which this was once a sacred place called Padmachala, sanctified by the presiding deity.

It is understood that formerly the images of Sri Padmagirinathar (Siva) and Sri Abhirami Amman (Parvathi) were worshipped in a temple on the top of the rock. This temple is said to have been originally constructed for Siva by the Pandyas whose architecture it resembles. The goddess seems to have been installed by the Vijayanagar King, Achuthadevarayar in 1538 A.D. There was also a big fort on the rock supposed to have been built by Muthukrishnappa Naik in 1605 A.D. During the invasion of Tippu Sultan the idols were removed from the temple for safety and installed in the present temple which then housed Sri Kalahastheeswarar and Sri Gnanambigai. Even now the dilapidated temple and the fort on the rock can be seen.

SRI KALAHASTHEESWARAR AND ABIRAMIAMMAN TEMPLE

DINDIGUL

(Not to Scale)



INDEX TO NUMBERS

- 1 Gnanambal
- 2 Dwarakasakthi
- 3 Nandhi
- 4 Sri Kalahastheeswarar (Moolavar)
- 5 Chockanathar Palliarai
- 6 Dwarakas
- 7 Vinayagar
- 8 Nagar
- 9 Padmakreedar
- 10 Sri Abhirami Amman
- 11 Manickavasagar
- 12 Sundarar
- 13 Appar
- 14 Sambandar
- 15 Skandar
- 16 Durgar
- 17 Peruman
- 18 Dakshinamoorthy
- 19 Decoration Room
- 20 Andavar
- 21 Arumugar, Valli & Deivayanai
- 22 Peacock
- 23 Arunagirinathar
- 24 Chandikeswarar
- 25 Tank
- 26 Temple Car Shed
- 27 Gurukkal Room
- 28 Nandhi
- 29 Balipeedam
- 30 Dwajasthanam

The Temple is in a busy part of the town, covering an area of about 0.69 acre. It has a 45 feet tall gopuram. There are four sanctum and a broad prakaram. The temple has several festival idols, all made of panchalogam.

Poojas are performed thrice daily by non-hereditary Brahmin priests. The temple owns antique jewellery in gold and silver worth about Rs. 31,581/-, donated by devotees. The immovable property of the temple comprises a few buildings and many shops, which fetch an annual income of Rs. 33,433/- by way of rent; this sum is utilised for its maintenance. The temple also gets an additional annual income of Rs. 500/- through its hundi collections and by the sale of archana and abishega tickets.

The temple owns a Ther, Ratham, Palanquin and several other Vahanas all made of wood. Of the several festivals celebrated here, the Brahmothsavam in Chithrai is the most important one, which attracts about 20,000 devotees from far and near.

The affairs of the temple are managed by a Board of trustees with three members, functioning through an Executive Officer, all appointed by the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department. Local citizens evince a keen interest in the upkeep of the temple. Religious lectures are arranged on festive occasions in the spacious western prakaram of the shrine which are well attended.



A view of the huge rock with the dilapidated fort and temple in Dindigul



The festival idol of Amman in the Temple at Dindigul Town

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
DINDIGUL

Sl. No	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
1	1	Landakottai (P)	Lanthakottai	Sri Perumal Temple (V)	100	Below 0.01	Sri Balakrishna Perumal	...	Pulivur Railway station 8½ miles
2	..	do	do	Sri Kaliasman Temple (F)	97	0.15	Sri Kaliasman	Sri Karuppanaswamy Sri Madurai Veeran	Puliyur Railway station 8 miles
3	2	Theendakkal (P)	Theendakkal	Sri Veerapandeeswarar Temple (S)	250	0.18	Sri Veerapandeeswarar	Sri Visalakshi Sri Nandhikeswarar Sri Vinayakar Sri Dakshinamurthy Sri Chandikeswarar	Karur Railway station 16 miles
4	4	Gudalur (P)	Gudalore	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple (S)	750	1.15	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar	Sri Vinayakar Sri Subramaniam Sri Dakshinamurthy Sri Chandikeswarar	Karur Railway station 13 miles
5	13	Kombai R. (P)	Kombai R.	Sri Erithipatti Kannimar Temple (F)	200	0.05	Sri Erithipatti Kannimariamman	...	Ayyalur Railway station 11 miles
6	14	Vadugambadi (P)	Ramagiri	Sri Kalyana Narasinga Perumal Temple (V)	350	0.10	Sri Kalyana Narasinga Perumal	Sri Kamalavalli Thayar	Dindigul Railway station 24 miles
7	30	Boothipuram (V)	Boothipuram	Sri Kari Varadaraja Perumal Temple (V)	200	Not stated	Sri Kari Varadaraja Perumal	...	Dindigul Railway station 14 miles

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam	Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
							(11)	(12)	(13)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department									
400	...	19.00	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Pillai	...
540	...	...	...	Garden 0.97	...	15	Horse Elephant Kamadhenu Chapparams-2	Once a day by a hereditary Pandaram	...
673	...	...	39.20	...	...	...	Ratham Chapparam Swan Horse Rishabam	Once a day by a Gurukkal	Rathothsavam in Panguni
2.0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Gurukkal	...
500	16.39	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Naicker	Adi 18th Day Karthigai Deepam Thai Pongal Sivarathri
6,364	...	...	...	Trees-14	...	1,580	Palanquin Ratham	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattar	Brahmothsavam in Panguni Navarathri Chithra Pournami Narasinga Jayanthi Gokulashtami
200	2.44	33.39	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	...

14

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
DINDIGUL

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
8	32	Kalvarpatty (P)	Kalvarpatty	Sri Varadaraja Perumal Temple (V)	200	Below 0.01	Sri Varadaraja Perumal	Sri Vigneswarar Sri Nagar	Dindigul Railway station 18 miles
9	35	Vedasandur (P)	Vedasandur	Sri Kasi Viswanathaswamy Temple (S)	100	0.21	Sri Kasi Viswanathaswamy	Sri Visalakshi	Dindigul Railway station 12 miles
10	43	Ayyalur (P)	Ayyalur	Sri Karunagiri Varadaraja Perumal Temple (V)	Not known	0.02	Sri Karunagiri Varadaraja Perumal	...	Ayyalur Railway station
11	..	do	do	Sri Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	Not stated	Sri Ayyanar	...	do
12	..	do	do	Sri Athu Pillayar Temple (G)	Not known	Not stated	Sri Athu Vinayakar	...	do
13	..	do	do	Sri Vandikaruppannaswamy Temple (O)	200	0.06	Sri Vandikaruppannaswamy	Sri Kannimar Sri Muniappar	Ayyalur Railway station 2 miles
14	..	do	Kollamuthupalli	Sri Kannimar Temple (F)	Not known	Not stated	Sri Kannimar	...	Ayyalur Railway station
15	50	Thadicombu (P)	Thadicombu	Sri Soundararaja Perumal Temple (V)	500	4.00	Sri Soundararajaperumal	Sri Soundaravalli Thayar	Dindigul Railway station 5 miles

MADURAI DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Apprai- sed by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Repor- ted by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
495	...	15.00	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Brahmin	...
434	...	...	1.36	Shops	...	...	Rishabam	Poojas by a Brahmin	...
217	Extent	not	stated	—	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Festival in Chithrai
471	Extent	not	stated	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a Brahmin	...
300	Extent	not	stated	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a Brahmin	...
750	...	0.21	...	...	...	...	Horse	Once a week by a Poosari	Festival in Adi
498	Extent	not	stated	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Naidu	...
4,173	2.85	1.18	...	...	...	1,150	Ratham Elephant Swan, Lion Garuda Horses-2 Nagam	Twice a day by a Bhattachariar	Brahmothsavam in Adi Chithra Pournami

and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
DINDIGUL

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
24	73	Seelapadi (P)	Chellamanthadi	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	150	Below 0.01	Sri Vinayakar	...	Dindigul Railway station 4 miles
25	75	Padiyur (P)	Padiyur	Sri Akkammal Temple (F)	66	0.05	Sri Akkammal	...	Thamaraipadi Railway station 2 miles
26	76	Mullipadi (P)	Mullipadi	Sri Thirukameswarar Temple (S)	100	0.04	Sri Thirukameswarar	Sri Kamakshi-amman	Thamaraipadi Railway station 1½ miles
27	79	Vadamadurai (P)	Vadamadurai	Sri Soundararaja Perumal Temple (V)	500	1.00	Sri Soundararaja Perumal	Sri Soundaravalli Thayar	Vadamadurai Railway station 3 furlongs
28	85	Sengurichi (P)	Sengurichi	Sri Subramania-swamy Temple (M)	100	0.05	Sri Subramaniam	Sri Vinayakar	Vadamadurai Railway station 5 miles
29	88	Siluvathur (V)	Siluvathur	Sri Veera Chinnammal Temple (F)	100	0.02	Sri Veera Chinnammal	...	Vadamadurai Railway station 8½ miles
30	93	Dindigul (M)	Malai Adivaram	Sri Anjaneyaswamy Temple (O)	500	0.02	Sri Anjaneyaswamy	Sri Ramar Sri Sita Sri Lakshmanar Sri Krishnar	Dindigul Railway station 1½ miles
31	„	do	Dindigul	Sri Drowpathiamman Temple (F)	350	0.14	Sri Drowpathiamman	Sri Arjuman Sri Madurai Veeran	Dindigul Railway station 1 mile

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property Value of Jewellery Rs.			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple	Vahanam		
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
292	...	2.50	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Pandaram	Vinayaka Chathurthi
9,655	3.57	26.20	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Gounder	Sivarathri
200	59.86	...	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a Brahmin	Panguni Uthiram
18,175	...	15.60	...	Building	7,471	...	Car, Ratham, Elephant, Horse, Sesha, Garuda, Hanumar, Lion, Swan, Vahanas-9	Twice a day by a Bhattachariar	Brahmothsavam in Adi, Panguni Uthiram, Chithra Pournami
200	...	5.00	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Pandaram	...
565	...	...	...	...	...	Value not stated	...	Poojas by a hereditary Chettiar	Vaikasi Visakam
1,638	10.00	...	...	House	...	2,100	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Sri Ramanavami, Sri Jayanthi, Navarathri
5,180	...	...	...	Shops-10	...	200	...	Once a day by a Pillai	Navarathri

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
DINDIGUL

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
16	51	Agaram (P)	Agaram	Sri Mutha-lamman Temple (F)	250	0.30	Sri Mutha-lamman	...	Dindigul Railway station 6 miles
17	57	Kottapulli (P)	Chatharapatti	Sri Devaraja Perumal Temple (V)	250	0.03	Sri Devaraja Perumal	Sri Ubaya-nachiar	Reddiar-chathram Railway station 8 miles
18	..	do	Pudukulam	Sri Kannimar Temple (F)	250	Below 0.01	Sri Kannimar amman	...	Reddiar-chathram Railway station 5 miles
19	..	do	Kottapulli	Sri Kadir Narasinga Perumal Temple (V)	Not known	0.53	Sri Kadir Narasinga Perumal	Sri Kamala-valli Nachiar Sri Veera Hanumar	Reddiar-chathram Railway station 1 mile
20	62	Gudalvayi (P)	Thirumalairoya-puram	Sri Thiruvengada Perumal Temple (V)	50	0.03	Sri Thiruvengada Perumal	...	Oddan-chathram Railway station 5 miles
21	65	Kamakshipuram (P)	Reddiar-chathram	Sri Gopinathaswamy Temple (V)	300	0.05	Sri Gopinathaswamy	Sri Gopamman	Reddiar-chathram Railway station 2 miles
22	66	Sirangadu (V)	Muthukumarapatti	Sri Mariamman Temple (F)	60	2.12	Sri Mariamman	Sri Kali-amman Sri Muniappar Sri Vinayakar	Reddiar-chathram Railway station 5 miles
23	69	Anaipatty (P)	Anaipatty	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple (S)	60	0.18	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar	...	Akkaraipatti Railway station

MADURAI DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
8,390	...	...	...	...	9,885	...	Palanquin Chapparams-3	Twice a day by a Chettiar	Festival in Panguni
200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Naicker	...
200	0.72	11.69	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Naicker	...
1,267	...	...	458.48	...	...	40	...	Twice a day by a Bhattachariar	Narasinga Jayanthi in Chithrai
550	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
49,175	...	40.00	...	...	...	3,650	Sahadai Chapparam Rishabam	Thrice a day by a hereditary Poosari	Sri Jayanthi
646	Extent	not	stated	...	...	200	...	Poojas by a hereditary Poosari	Mariamman festival in Masi
200	5.00	...	...	...	...	150	...	Poojas by a Brahmin	...

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
DINDIGUL**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
32	93	Dindigul (M)	Chettinai-ckenpatti	Sri Kalahastheeswaraswamy & Abhirami-amman Temple (S)	650	0.69	Sri Kalahastheeswarar	Sri Abhirami-amman Sri Bhadrageswarar Sri Gnanambigai	Dindigul Railway station 1 mile
33	„	do	Dindigul	Sri Kalaikattu Vinayakar Temple (G)	60	0.03	Sri Vinayakar	Sri Subramaniam Sri Idumbar	do
34	„	do	do	Sri Kottaimariamman Temple (F)	400	Not stated	Sri Kottaimariamman	Sri Vinayakar Sri Muniappa-swamy Sri Karuppanna-swamy Sri Madurai Veeran	Dindigul Railway station 1½ miles
35	„	do	do	Sri Manthakaliamman Temple (F)	200	0.07	Sri Manthakaliamman	Sri Madurai Veeran	do
36	„	do	do	Sri Saneeswarar Temple (O)	100	0.05	Sri Saneeswarar	„	Dindigul Railway station 1½ miles
37	„	do	do	Sri Srinivasa Perumal Temple (V)	500	13.50	Sri Srinivasa Perumal	Sri Andal	do
38	„	do	do	Sri Sowdamman Temple (F)	80	0.04	Sri Sowdamman	Sri Vinayakar Sri Murugan Sri Valli Deivayanai Sri Kali	Dindigul Railway station 1 mile
39	„	do	do	Sri Kaliamman Temple (F)	Not known	0.07	Sri Kaliamman	Sri Hanumar Sri Vinayakar	do

**MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)**

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple	(18)	(19)	(20)
33,433	...	...	...	Building	31,581	...	Car Palanquin Ratham Vahanas-24	Thrice a day by Gurukkals	Brahmothsavam in Chithrai
1,515	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Brahmin	Vinayaka Chathurthi
12,124	...	...	...	Shop	1,184	...	Sahadai	Twice a day by a Vellalar	Brahmothsavam in Masi
2,638	...	...	...	Shops-11	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Vanniar	Brahmothsavam in Vaikasi
743	...	...	...	Huts	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Poosari	Festival in Adi
3,808	...	1-36	...	...	...	500	...	Twice a day by a Brahmin	...
1,253	...	...	...	Houses-4	...	500	...	Twice a day by a Chettiar	Thiruvadhirai Karthigai Deepam Vinayaka Chathurthi Navarathri
5,284	...	...	...	Houses-2 Shops-2	...	490	...	Once a day by a Brahmin	Kaliamman festival in Thai Vinayaka Chathurthi

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
DINDIGUL**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	No.	Name	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religions									
40	93	Dindigul (M)	Dindigul	Sri Vandī Kali- amman Temple (F)	60	0.36	Sri Vandī Kali- amman	Sri Bhagava- thiamman Sri Angales- wari Sri Madurai Veeran Sri Karupp- annan	Dindigul Railway station 1½ miles
41	"	do	Madurai Road	Sri Akhasalai Vinayakar Temple (G)					NOT
42	94	Pallapatty (P)	Pallapatty	Sri Agasthya Vinayakar Temple (G)	100	Below 0.01	Sri Agasthya Vinayakar	Sri Veeraba- dhrakali Sri Chonai- swamy Sri Karupp- annaswamy	Dindigul Railway station 2 miles
43	100	Dharmathu- patti (P)	Pazhaiya Kannivadi	Sri Subramania- swamy Temple (M)	50	0.03	Sri Subramania- swamy	Sri Kaliannan Sri Bhagava- thiamman Sri Karuppan- naswamy	Reddiar- chathram Railway station 7 miles
44	"	do	do	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	45	0.20	Sri Vinayakar	...	Reddiar- chathram Railway station
45	104	Ayyampala- yam (P)	Ayyampala- yam	Sri Peria Ayyanar Temple (O)	100	0.50	Sri Peria Ayyanar	...	Kodaikanal Roa Railway statio 13 miles
46	106	Sitherevu (P)	Sitherevu	Sri Varadaraja Perumal Temple (V)	100	0.30	Sri Varadaraja Perumal	...	Kodaikanal Roa Railway statio 15 miles

**MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)**

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)

and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)

7,496	...	...	...	Shops-14	...	49	Bhootham Palanquin	Twice a day by a hereditary Chettiar	Brahmothsavam in Panguni
REPORTED									
530	Extent	not	stated	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Pillai	Vinayaka Chathurthi Veerabadrar festival in Adi
3,243	1.47	5.77	2.99	Shandy	...	790	...	Once a day by a hereditary Poosari	Chithra Pournami Navarathri
612	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Poosari	...
4,550	2.78	132.55	...	...	...	...	Horse	Twice a day by a Poosari	Chithrai festival
489	...	...	111.62	...	...	40	Horse Garuda Vahanas-2 Palanquin	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Chithra Pournami Navarathri Adi Pooram

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
DINDIGUL

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
47	111	Authoor (P)	Authoor	Sri Kasi Viswanathaswamy Temple (S)	Not known	0.22	Sri Kasi Viswanathaswamy	Sri Visalakshi Sri Visweswarar	Ambathurai Railway station 5 miles
48	„	do	do	Sri Sakkarai Vinayakar Temple (G)	120	0.02	Sri Sakkarai Vinayakar	...	Ambathurai Railway station
49	„	do	do	Sri Vandikaliyamman Temple (F)	Not known	Below 0.01	Sri Vandikaliyamman	Sri Muthaliyamman	Ambathurai Railway station 4 miles
50	114	Veerakal (P)	Veerakal	Sri Soundamman Temple (F)	70	0.15	Sri Soundamman	...	Dindigul Railway station 7½ miles
51	„	do	do	Sri Perumal Temple (V)	100	0.01	Sri Perumal	...	Dindigul Railway station 7 miles
52	„	do	do	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	50	1.50	Sri Vinayakar	...	do
53	122	Ambathurai (P)	Ambathurai	Sri Jambuthurai- amman Temple (F)	100	Below 0.01	Sri Jambuthurai- amman	...	Ambathurai Railway station 1½ miles
54	„	do	Malakottai	Sri Badhrakali- amman Temple (F)	300	0.05	Sri Badhrakali- amman	Sri Meenakshiamman	Ambathurai Railway station ½ mile

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple	Vahanam		
			Wet & Dry	Others					
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
1,447	3.83	9.53	...	...	...	170	Rishabam	Twice a day by a Brahmin	...
369	3.07	...	...	...	...	...	..	Once a day by a hereditary Pillai	Adi 18th Day Tamil New Year's day Vinayaka Chathurthi Karthigai Deepam Thai Pongal
7,474	2.21	5.30	...	Building	3,584	...	Chapparam Palanquin	Once a day by a hereditary Velar	Festival in Panguni Navarathri Karthigai Deepam
300	...	1.36	...	...	...	200	...	Twice a day by a Gounder	Festival once in 10 years in Vaikasi-Ani
20	...	1.39	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Naidu	...
700	...	2.51	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a Naidu	Thai Pongal
300	0.90	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a Gounder	...
200	...	1.27	...	...	...	100	...	Once a day by a hereditary Pandaram	Festival in Panguni Navarathri

4

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
DINDIGUL

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
55	127	Thotanuthu (P)	Thotanuthu	Sri Varadaraja Perumal Temple (V)	200	Below 0·01	Sri Varadaraja Perumal	Sri Devi Bhu Devi	Dindigul Railway station 3 miles
56	131	Vathalathop-pampatty (P)	Vathalathop-pampatty	Sri Kadir Narasingaperumal Temple (V)	Not known	0·05	Sri Kadir Narasinga-perumal	Sri Nammal-war Sri Udayavar Sri Garudalwar	Vadamadurai Railway station 10½ miles
57	„	do	do	Sri Pettai Perumal Temple (V)	120	0·01	Sri Pettai Perumal	Sri Vettai-karan Sri Poovam-man	Vadamadurai Railway station 10 miles
68	133	Thimmanallur (P)	Paraipatty	Sri Ovaneeswara Perumal Temple (V)	40	Below 0·01	Sri Ovaneeswara Perumal	...	Dindigul Railway station
59	140	Thavasimadai (P)	Thavasimadai	Sri Odukkam alias Sri Maragathavalli- amman and Mahalinges-warar Temple (S)	1000	1·00	Sri Maragatha-valli amman	Sri Maha-linges-warar	Dindigul Railway station 9 miles
60	141	Sirumalai (P)	Fudur	Sri Shenbaga Sidhi Vinayakar Temple (G)	33	0·22	Sri Shenbaga Sidhi Vinayakar	Sri Nava-grahas	Dindigul Railway station 2½ miles
61	„	do	Tl ekkampatti	Sri Perumal Temple (V)					NOT

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Concl'd.)									
681	1.32	5.65	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Brahmin	...
300	6.93	1.25	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Brahmin	...
200	...	6.53	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Pillai	...
200	...	5.77	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Brahmin	...
675	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Pandaram	...
250	1.00	...	...	...	...	Value not stated	Palanquin Car	Once a day by a hereditary Pillai	Vinayaka Chathurthi

REPORTED

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
DINDIGUL

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	No.	Name	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples outside the Hindu Religious									
1	35	Vedasandur (P)	Vedasandur	Sri Narasinga Perumal Temple (V)	75	0.17	Sri Lakshmi-narasingar	Sri Anjaneyar	Dindigul Railway station 18 miles
2	93	Dindigul (M)	Nagal Nagar	Sri Varadaraja Perumal Temple (V)	50	0.18	Sri Varadaraja Perumal	...	Dindigul Railway station
3	115	Vakkampatty (P)	Vakkampatty	Sri Perumal Temple (V)	100	0.02	Sri Perumal	...	Dindigul Railway station ½ mile
4	140	Thavasimadai (P)	Thavasimadai	Sri Perumal Temple (V)	500	0.02	Sri Perumal	...	Dindigul Railway station 9 miles
5	..	do	do	Sri Kamakshi-amman Temple (S)	500	1.00	Sri Kamakshi-amman	...	Dindigul Railway station 9 miles
6	..	do	do	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	1000	0.10	Sri Vinayakar	...	do
7	..	do	do	Sri Karuppannaswamy Temple (O)	Not known	0.03	Sri Karuppannaswamy	...	do

MADURAI DISTRICT

TALUK (Concl.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department									
500	...	...	22.01	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a Bhattachariar	...
...	Extent not stated		...	...	...	411	...	do	Vasanthotsavam in Vaikasi Uriyadi Karthigai Deepam Vaikunta Ekadasi Brahmotsavam in Panguni
Not stated	...	1.24	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Pandaram	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Vellalar	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Vellalar	...
200	Extent not stated		...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Pandaram	Vinayaka Chaturthi Karthigai Deepam
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Udayar	...

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
DINDIGUL

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples outside the Hindu Religious									
1	35	Vedasandur (P)	Vedasandur	Sri Narasinga Perumal Temple (V)	75	0.17	Sri Lakshmi-narasingar	Sri Anjaneyar	Dindigul Railway station 18 miles
2	93	Dindigul (M)	Nagal Nagar	Sri Varadaraja Perumal Temple (V)	50	0.18	Sri Varadaraja Perumal	...	Dindigul Railway station
3	115	Vakkampatty (P)	Vakkampatty	Sri Perumal Temple (V)	100	0.02	Sri Perumal	...	Dindigul Railway station ½ mile
4	140	Thavasimadai (P)	Thavasimadai	Sri Perumal Temple (V)	500	0.02	Sri Perumal	...	Dindigul Railway station 9 miles
5	..	do	do	Sri Kamakshi-amman Temple (S)	500	1.00	Sri Kamakshi-amman	...	Dindigul Railway station 9 miles
6	..	do	do	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	1000	0.10	Sri Vinayakar	...	do
7	..	do	do	Sri Karuppanna-swamy Temple (O)	Not known	0.03	Sri Karuppannaswamy	...	do

TALUK (Concl'd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department									
500	...	...	22.01	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a Bhattachariar	...
...	Extent not stated		...	...	...	411	...	do	Vasanthotsavam in Vaikasi Uriyadi Karthigai Deepam Vaikunta Ekadasi Brahmothsavam in Panguni
Not stated	...	1.24	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Pandaram	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Vellalar	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Vellalar	...
200	Extent not stated		...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Pandaram	Vinayaka Chathurthi Karthigai Deepam
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Udayar	...

PALNI TALUK

50. IDAYAKOTTAI

Sri Thiruvankadanatha Perumal Temple

Idayakottai lies on the northern part of Palni taluk and is 34 kilometres away from Dindigul. It is noted for its famous Vaishnavite shrine dedicated to Sri Thiruvankadanatha Perumal whose idol is a Swayambu one. Idayakottai was the chief village of a zamindari of the same name. It is connected by both bus and train, the nearest railway station being Oddanchathram at a distance of 22 kilometres. Madurai the district head-quarters and Palni the taluk head-quarters are 96 and 51 kilometres away respectively. The small temple here covering an area of 0.04 acre was built some 536 years ago during the regime of Sri Erathamma Naik, son of Vallala Makkaiya Naik, the then zamindar of the village. Several additions and renovations were made in 1946.

The temple with huge compound walls on all its four sides has two prakarams and a sanctum sanctorum. The presiding deity Sri Thiruvankadanatha Perumal with his divine consorts Ubayanachiar on his right and left sides is in a standing posture. According to a popular legend, once the Idaiyars (cowherds) of the village found that the milk pots which they carried automatically slipped down at a particular spot. They had to return empty handed every day. The inquisitive cowherds tried to find out the cause of this and started digging at the spot. Suddenly blood gushed out of the ground. A vigraha was found hidden. Blood oozed out from the vigraha which was hit by an axe while digging. The fact was immediately reported to the zamindar of the village, who before long built a small temple to which many additions were made by his descendants. There are also several festival idols here, all made of panchalagam.

Poojas are performed twice daily by hereditary Brahmin priests of the Thenkalai Vaishnavite sect strictly according to the principles laid down in the Pancharatra Agamam. The temple owns modern jewellery in gold and silver all donated by the here-

ditary trustees of the temple. The immovable properties of the temple fetch an annual income of Rs. 32,021 by way of rent. This amount is utilised for its maintenance. The temple owns a 60 year-old Horse and a Garuda Vahanam, made of wood.

Navarathri for a period of nine days and Vaikunta Ekadasi are the only important festivals celebrated by the temple every year, when about 5,000 devotees from far and near congregate here. A story goes that a blind Vaishnavite Brahmin who did a severe penance at Tirupati got back his vision when he came over here as directed by the Lord in his dream.

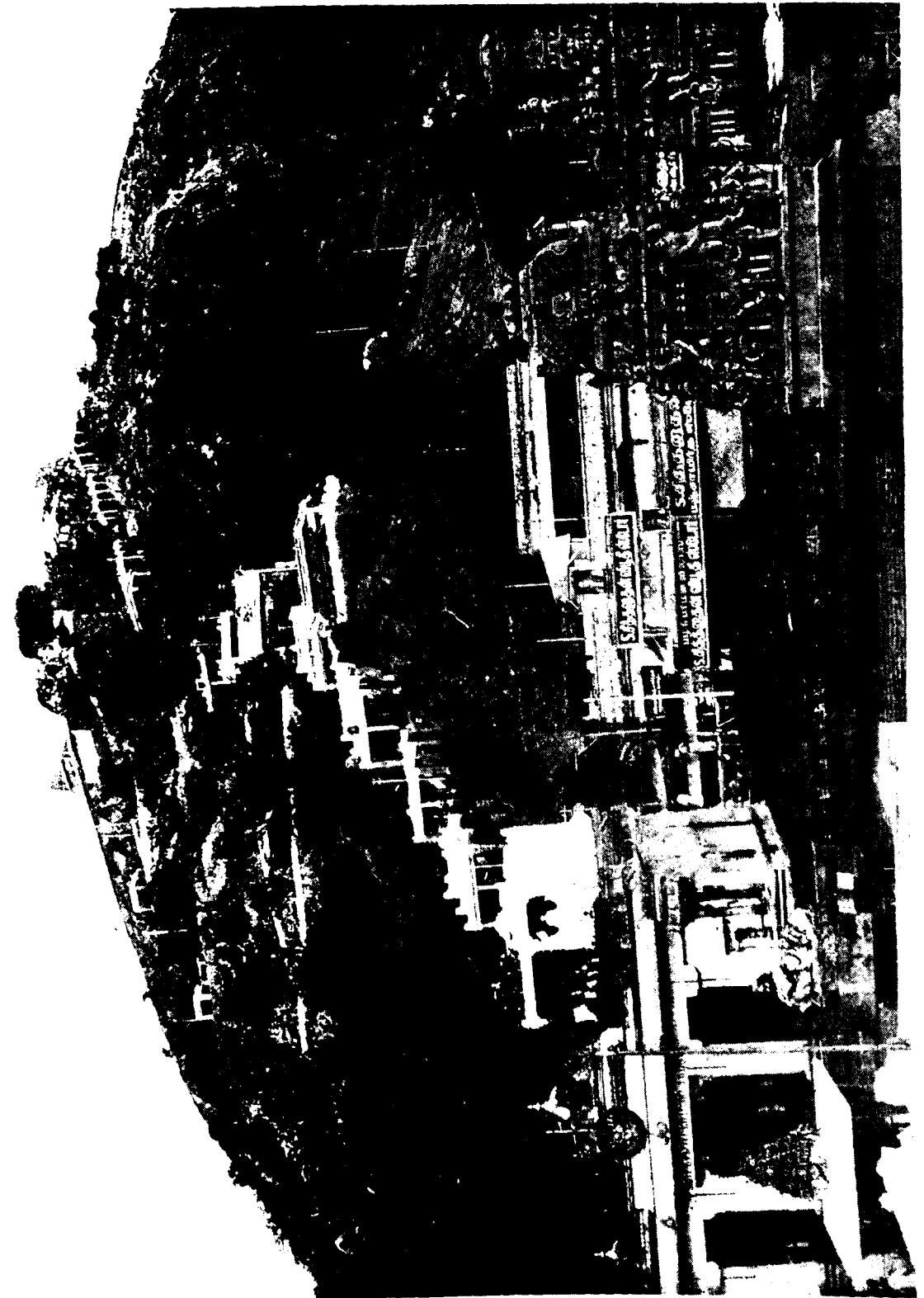
A single hereditary trustee appointed by the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department is in charge of the temple.

85. PALNI

Sri Dandayudhapaniswamy Temple

Picturesquely situated on a hillock at Palni is the sacred temple of Sri Dandayudhapani or Lord Muruga, which is the most popular of all hill shrines in this State. The founder of this holy fane was Bogar, a great Sidha saint. The temple has been well maintained and expanded by his disciples and by Chera, Pandya and Naik Kings.

The Palni town where the temple is situated is well connected by a road from the Palni station on the southern railway. The Palni hill on the top of which exists the famous hill temple of Sri Dandayudhapani is 450 feet high. The temple is reached by climbing up a winding flight of 690 stone steps flanked on either side at frequent intervals by mandapams with shrines to Sri Vinayakar, Sri Subramaniam and others. Recently a haulage winch has been pressed into service which takes pilgrims up the hill and down on payment of nominal charges.



A picturesque view of Sri Dandayudhapaniswamy Temple on the hillock at Palni

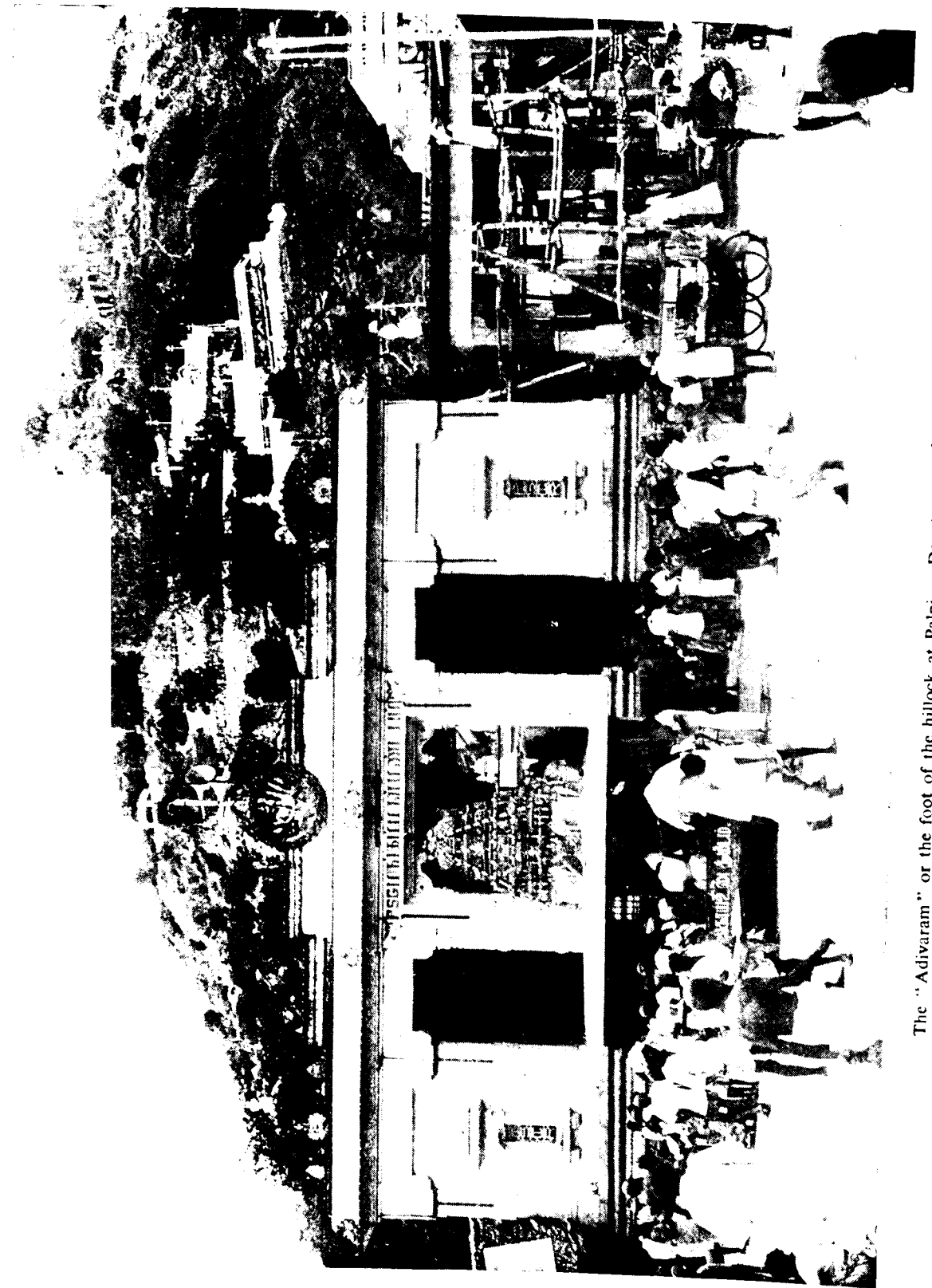


A panoramic view of Shanmuga nadi about 5 kilometres from Palni town. A bath in this river is also considered sacred.

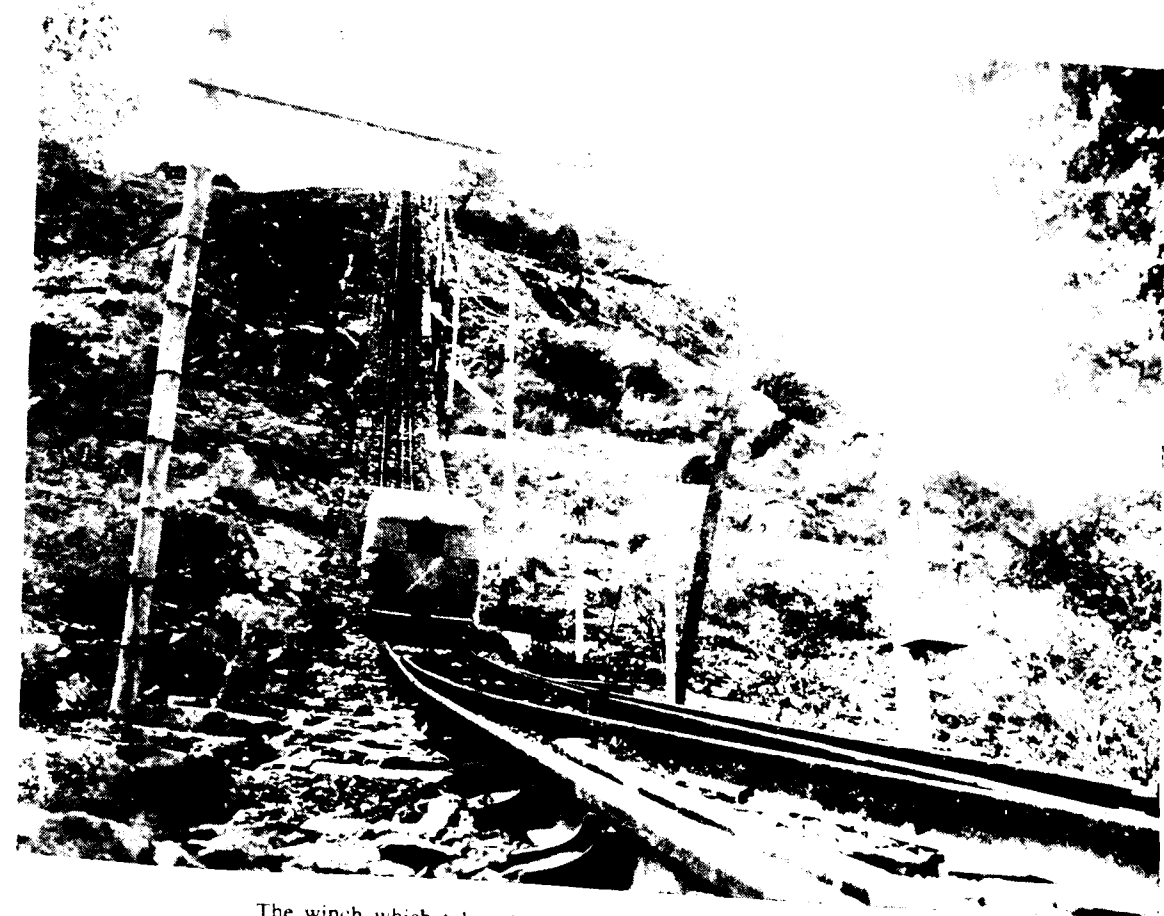


Saravanapoigai, the sacred well near the fort of the town. People come here to bathe in it.

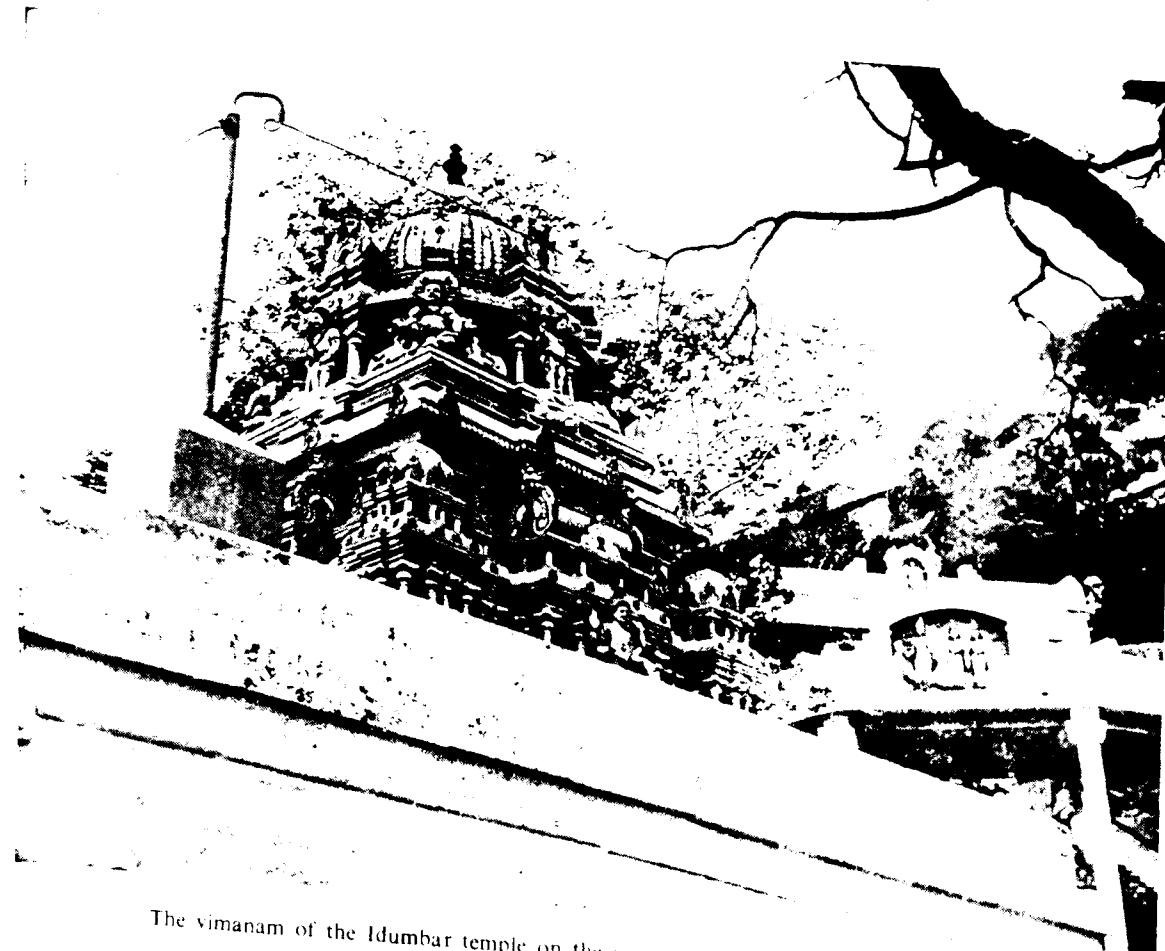
take it a point
1.



The "Adivaram" or the foot of the hillock at Palni. Devotees worship at the shrine of Lord Ganesa in the foreground before ascending the steps.



The winch which takes the pilgrims up and down the Palni hills



The vimanam of the Idumbar temple on the way to the hill temple. The temple is situated close to the steps.

The legend concerning the origin of the temple is as follows:—Sage Narada during one of his visits to Mount Kailasa to worship Lord Siva and Goddess Parvathi presented a pomegranate fruit to them. Both the sons—Ganesa and Subramania—asked for the fruit and Lord Siva decreed that it would be given to the one among them who could go round the earth and return first. Subramania mounted on his peacock and set out but Ganesa circumambulated the parents and demanded the fruit on the ground that the whole world rests in them. Lord Siva could not resist this claim and by the time Subramania completed his journey and returned, He found Ganesa enjoying the fruit. He got angry, left Kailasa and journeyed southwards reaching Thiru-avinankudi which is in the Adivaram or the foot of the hillock of the Palni temple. The story goes on to say that Lord Siva and Parvathi came down in search of Him and meeting Him at this place, coaxed Him to return by saying *pazham nee* meaning “You are yourself the fruit—the fruit of all wisdom”. Muruga was not consoled and he preferred to remain at the place and bless generation of devotees.

It would appear that on one occasion when Sage Agasthya went to Kailasa to worship Lord Siva, He presented him with two peaks of the Mount known as Sivagiri and Sakthigiri to be taken to his abode. The sage directed his disciple Idumban to carry them. The latter tied the two peaks to both ends of a big pole and carried it on his shoulders. He reached Palni in the course of his journey and kept the load down for taking rest. As he attempted to lift them up and continue his journey, he found that the two peaks had got themselves fixed to the earth and that it could not be lifted. When he got over the higher of the two peaks for ascertaining the reason for this strange phenomenon, he found there a young boy clad in a *kaopeenam*, (a small loin cloth) and bearing a staff in his hand. The boy claimed the hill to be his own and during the struggle that ensued, Idumban was defeated and killed. Sage Agasthya who arrived on the scene about this time with Idumbi, the wife of Idumban implored the Lord to forgive Idumban for his ignorance and restore him to life. The boon was granted and Idumban who was restored to life sought two boons from the Lord. He should be permitted to remain for ever as the *dwarapalaka* of the Lord's shrine and any devotee who carries offerings on his shoulders tied to the two ends of a pole as he did

while carrying the hillocks should be blessed. The boons were granted. This is the origin of the hill shrine of Palni and the most favourite offering of Kavadi to the Lord. The Kavadi form of worship had its origin in Palni and spread later on to the temples dedicated to Muruga.

We find references to this temple in the Thirumurugatrupadai of Nakkirar, a poem which is attributed to the Sangam age. Skandhapurana by Kachchiappaswami of Kancheepuram makes mention of this temple. Saint Arunagirinathar has composed 95 verses about Palni and its Lord in his Thiruppugazh.

The Palni hill and its adivaram with the Thiru-avinankudi temple form a distinct unit. Around the hill runs a sacred path known as the Giriveedhi which contains several mandapams. Going round the Giriprakaram is considered to be an auspicious act and one can find numerous devotees doing this in the early hours of the morning during the Agninakshathram fortnight in the month of May and during the month of Vaikasi (May-June). The fragrance of the blossoms of the Kadamba trees in the avenue and the breeze emanating from the hill-side where countless medicinal herbs grow are supposed to have miraculous healing properties.

The devotees take a bath either in the sacred river Shanmuganadhi with its six tributaries situated nearby or in the sacred well known as Saravanapoigai near the Thiru-avinankudi temple before climbing the sacred steps. After a holy bath, the devotee worships at the shrine of Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar in a mandapam to his right as he goes to the hill and at the Padi Vinayakar shrine and joins the crowd of pilgrims going up, many of whom are saffron-robed and have the sacred ash besmeared over their forehead. As one goes up, one halts at the shrine of Idumban almost midway. Idumban is here represented as worshipping at the feet of Muruga with a Sivalingam and the idol of Sage Agasthya. There is another sanctum dedicated to Kura-Adivelar in which form Lord Muruga appeared before Idumban under a Kura tree in the first instance. Climbing a few more steps, the devotee reaches the main temple where his weariness is removed by the cool breeze coming from the valleys round about and by the panoramic view of the vast ranges beyond.



A Cock offered by a devotee is seen quietly perched on the flagmast before the sanctum sanctorum

in the adivaram and Sri Muthukumarar of the town temple is the festival deity. The temple Car is hauled on the evening of the last day of the festival and in the night; the silver Ratham is used for the procession. On this occasion, thousands of devotees go to Kodumudi for collecting the sacred water of river Cauveri. They bring it in pots as headloads or attached to Kavadis as an offering for abishegam to the principal deity.

Agninakshathram festival lasts for a fortnight. Thousands of pilgrims visit Palni to have a giripradakshinam and to worship the Lord in the hill temple. On the last day, Muthukumaraswami of the town temple gives darshan at the adivaram to the devotees.

The Vaikasi Visakam is also celebrated for ten days. The silver Ratham is hauled round the temple on the last day.

Skandha Sashti is celebrated for seven days in November. On the last day of the festival, there will be a spectacular procession in the night round the giriprakaram in which both Muthukumaraswami of the town temple and Chinnakumarar of the hill temple participate. The events leading to the defeat and suppression of Surapadman and his followers are symbolically enacted on this occasion.

Consistent with the legend that Lord Muruga was reared up by the Karthigai damsels, this star has assumed importance. Every Krithigai day is a festival day in all temples dedicated to Muruga. This day in the month of Karthigai is most important. Procession with the Lord in the golden chariot takes place in the hill temple on every Krithigai day, but the golden chariot is not used on Krithigai day in the month of Karthigai due to the unmanageable crowd that collects there. This festival is also celebrated for ten days.

The Thai Poosam festival in the month of Thai (January) is another festival witnessed by a large crowd of devotees. This also takes place for ten days.

Vows of tonsure are taken by the pilgrims. Offerings of milk, curd, sandal, rosewater etc., are also brought by pilgrims on Kavadis almost daily and on festive occasions, such receipts will be enormous. Various other vows are taken to please the deity, of which one is to wear a mouth-lock by passing a piece of silver wire driven through both the cheeks and fastened outside for a number of days before going to the temple. It is important to note that from very ancient times, pilgrims have been coming in large numbers to this temple from Kerala.

The temple owns about 32 acres of wet land and 420 acres of dry land and 36 houses and house-sites. These yield an approximate annual income of Rs. 1,17,000. The temple jewels and festival Vahanas in silver and gold are estimated to cost about Rs. 16,47,685. The important items are the gold Kavacham and Kireedam or head-dress of the Lord costing Rs. 1 lakh, the gold Chariot costing about Rs. 75,000/-, the gold Peacock vahanam costing Rs. 20,000/- and the gold Chapparam costing about Rs. 45,000/-. Income by way of offerings from devotees through the hundies comes to over Rs. 10 lakhs during a year.

The main shrine contains seven inscriptions which have been copied by the Government Epigraphist. They are inscription Nos. 609, 610, 611 and 612 of 1893, 371, 372 and 373 of 1904. These refer to gifts of lands to the temple by various chiefs and kings.

The following 32 constituent temples are attached to this temple.

The hill temple is situated within a spacious quadrangle. An outer wall encloses the central shrine. The entrance to the inner temple is by the Manikkatti and Kattaigopuravasal mandapams flanked on either side by the Naik mandapams constructed by the Chiefs of Palni, Ayakudi and Neikarapatty. There are separate shrines dedicated to Sri Dakshinamurthi facing south, Siva facing east and the Goddess of Sri Malai Nachiamman facing west. After worshipping these deities, the devotee enters the beautiful Navaranga mandapam by an entrance which is guarded by the dwarapalakas. This mandapam is supported by twelve massive pillars. The processional deities of Sri Natarajar and Nava Veerar are located to the right of this mandapam and those of Velayudha Viswanathar and others to the left. The Palliarai, the sanctum of Shanmuga and the processional deity, Chinnakumarar are on the left.

The devotees congregate in the Navaranga mandapam to have darshan of Lord Dandayudhapaniswamy. The sanctum sanctorum of the Lord is crowned by a gold-plated Vimanam. In the inner quadrangle are situated the sanctum of Nava Veera, Nava Durga, the Kannimars, Sri Kailasanathar and Sri Chandeswarar. The sanctum of Saint Bogar is a small shrine in a corner of the south-western corridor of the inner quadrangle. Nava Durga or Goddess as Sri Bhuvaneshwari is worshipped here along with a Maragatha Lingam. It is stated that the saint entered an underground passage below this sanctum and never appeared afterwards. This underground passage is believed to lead to the Garbagraha of Sri Dandayudhapaniswamy.

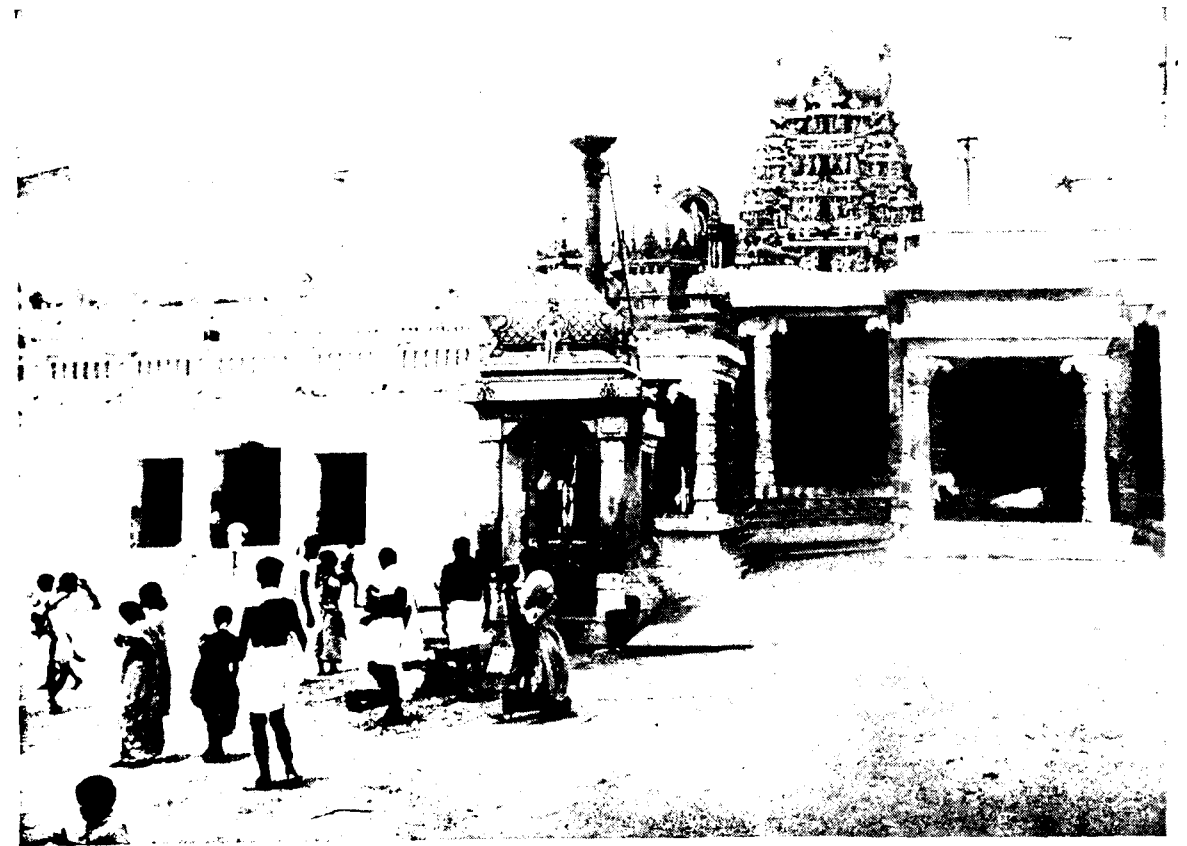
It is believed that Saint Bogar had his ashram in the hill from where he catered to the spiritual and medical requirements of his disciples and devotees. The principal image of Dandayudhapani in the sanctum sanctorum is in the standing posture of a young boy (Muruga) with a staff in hand. It is supposed to be

made of an amalgam of nine chemicals known as Navapashanam. The prasadam of milk, sandal, panchamritham and other materials with which the deity is anointed are therefore supposed to work curative wonders. The general belief is that a descendant of Pulippani who was a disciple of Saint Bogar commenced the worship at this small shrine. Stories about the sanctity of the temple and the efficacy of the prayers offered at this shrine spread far and wide and Cheraman Perumal, the King of Kerala who is supposed to be a contemporary of Saint Sundarar is believed to have visited this place. The construction of the Garbagraha is attributed to him according to one version. Sculptures of this King on horse-back are seen on the walls of the shrine.

Seven poojas are performed to the Lord daily. The morning Viswaroopa darshan of the Lord is very inspiring. The worship of the day closes with a colourful procession of the deity in a golden Palanquin within the temple and the Palliarai Aradhana. Poojas are performed by the Sivachariars.

The principal festivals of the temple are: Panguni Uthiram, Brahmothsavam (April), Agni Nakshathram (May), Vaikasi Visakam (June), Skandha Sashti, Sura Samharam (November), Karthigai Deepam (December) and Thai Poosam (January). The temple Car is used for the processions in connection with the three festivals in June, January and April. The silver Ratham is used for the procession round the town temple and the temple at the adivaram during Panguni Uthiram festival.

Panguni Uthiram is celebrated for ten days in the month of Panguni (April). This is the Brahmothsavam and by far the most important and crowded of all the festivals. Thousands of devotees gather from various places to worship the Lord on this important occasion. The festival is confined to the Thiru-avinankudi temple



A view of Sri Dhandayudhapaniswamy temple from the outer prakaram



Devotees coming out after having darshan of the Lord

List of 32 constituent temples to Sri Dandayudhapaniswamy temple, Palni

On the Palni hill

1. Sri Dandayudhapaniswamy
2. Sri Malaikkolundu Sivan and Malai Nachiamman
3. Sri Bhuvaneswari (Durga) and Saint Bogar

On the hill steps

4. Sri Kura-adi-Velavar
5. Sri Idumban
6. Sri Vyavipuri-Durai
7. Sri Kannimar
8. Sri Valliamman near the Ariyar mandapam

Thiru-avinankudi and at the adivaram

9. Sri Kulandai Velayudhar
10. Sri Ankili Parameswarar
11. Sri Veleeswarar
12. Sri Meenakshisundaeswarar
13. Sri Patha Vinayakar

On the Giri-veedhi

14. Sri Veera Durga-north giri-veedhi
15. Sri Vana Durga-south „
16. Sri Rakkala-madam Vinayakar
17. Sri Durga on the west giri-veedhi

Palni town

18. Sri Periyanyakiamman, Sri Muthukumaraswami and Sri Kailasanathar temples
19. Sri Uthara Vinayakar
20. Sri Kosala Vinayakar
21. Sri Pathiri Vinayakar-On the Vyavipuri tank bund
22. Sri Aparanji Vinayakar
23. Sri Lakshminarayana Perumal

24. Sri Venugopala Perumal

25. Sri Pattathu Vinayakar

On the Shanmuganadhi

26. Sri Periya Udayar
27. The Navagrahas on the Theertha Ghat
28. Sri Thoor Nachiamman on the Varadhama-nadhi

The Idumban hill

29. Sri Kalingar-parai-Subramaniam

Keeranur

30. Sri Vaheeswaraswami

Ayakudi

31. Sri Choleeswaraswami

Balasamudram

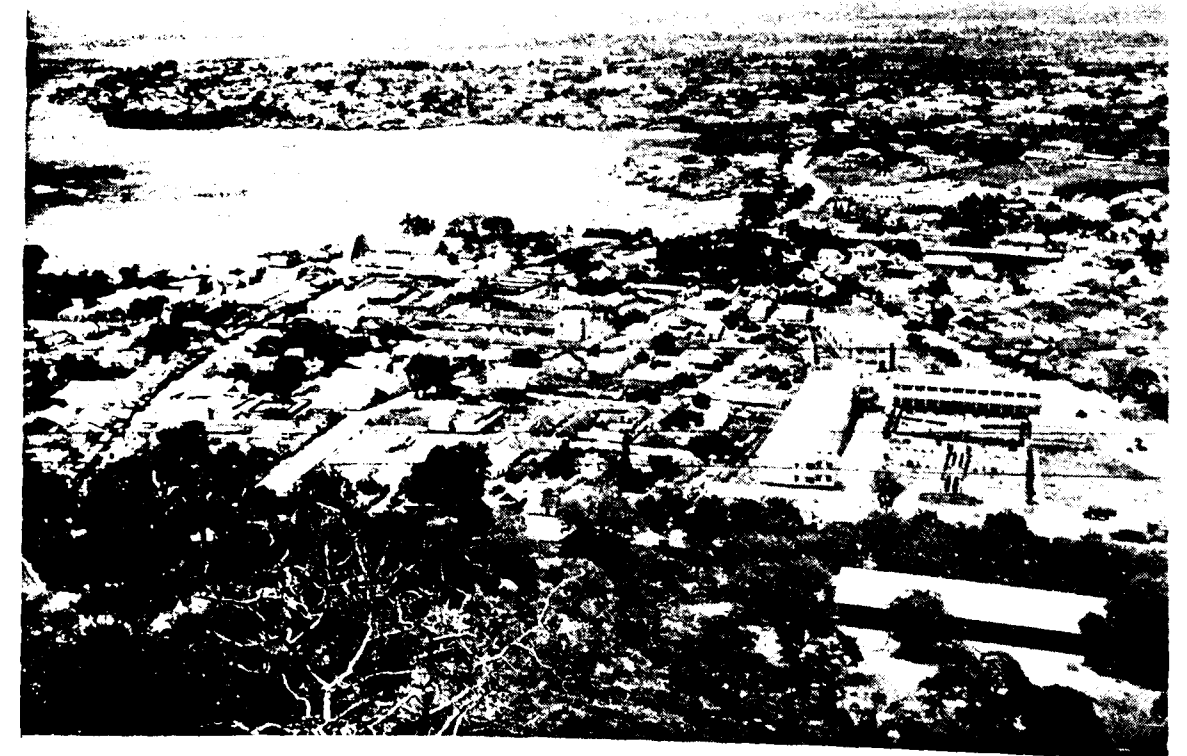
32. Sri Ahobila Varadaraja Perumal

The temple is administered by the Hindu Religious & Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department. There is a Board of trustees assisted by an Executive Officer. The Thiru-avinankudi temple known also as Sri Kulandai Velayudhar temple with the Saravana-poigai near it, is considered as one of the *Arupadai Veedu* or six abodes of Lord Muruga. This temple has recently been renovated. Three Kumbabishegams were performed in the hill temple in 1933, 1936 and 1940. The latest Kumbabishegam was performed on a grand scale in 1960 after effecting many improvements such as gold plating the Moolavar Vimanam at a cost of Rs. 2/- lakhs, renovation of Rajagopuram, construction of vimanams to all sub-shrines and other improvements at a cost of Rs. 5 lakhs.

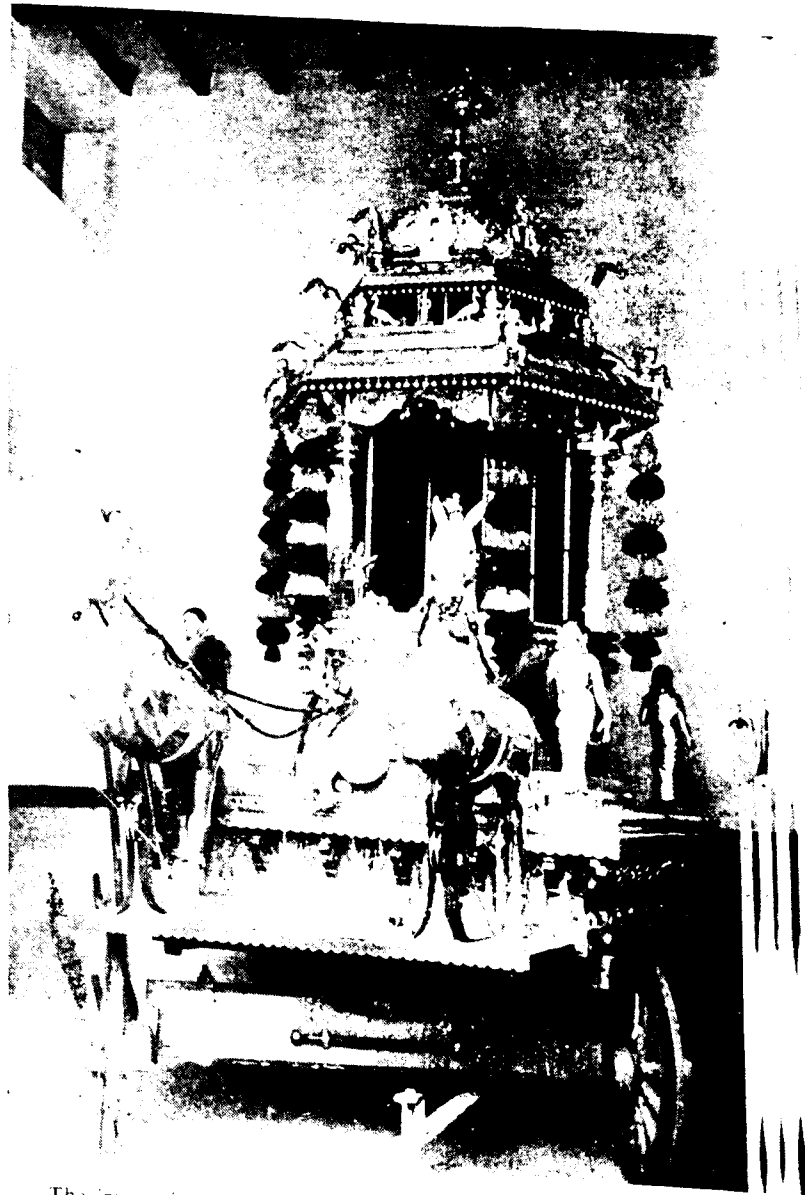
Sri Palani Andavar as the Lord is popularly known throughout the length and breadth of South



A view of the outer prakaram of the Palni temple



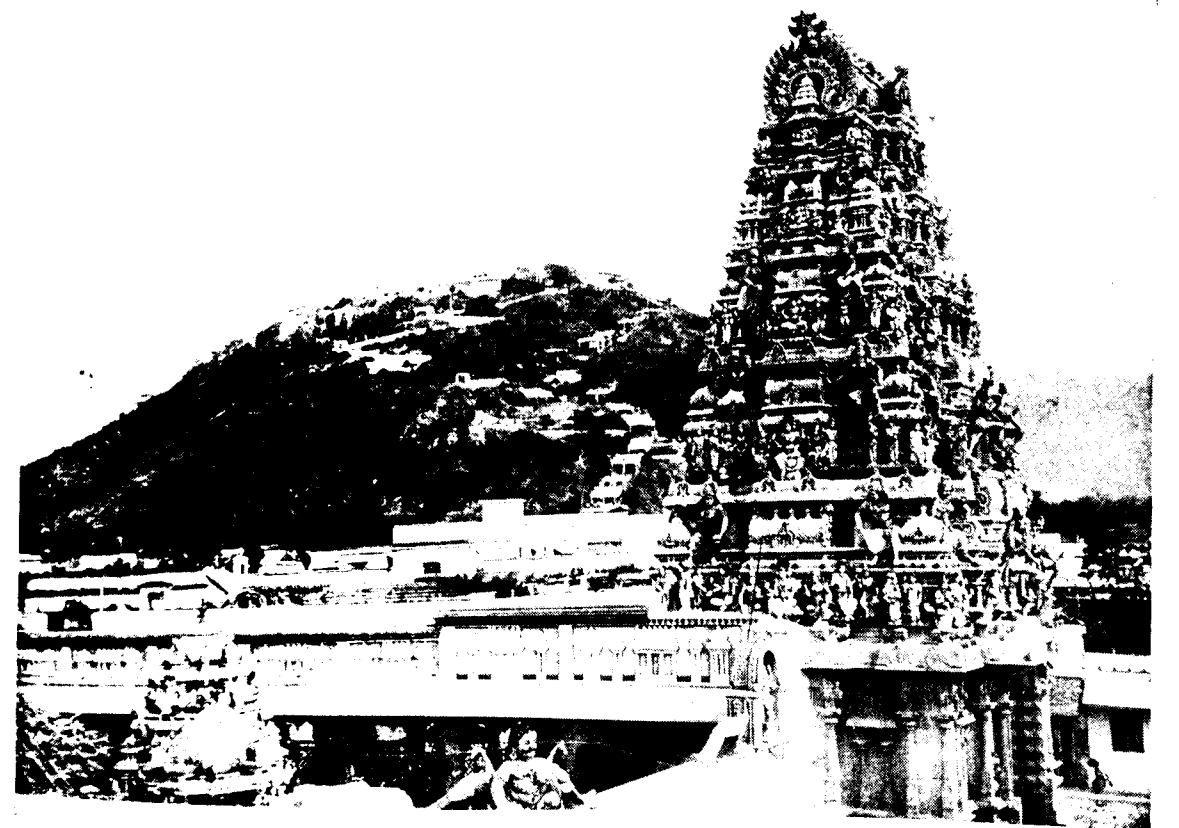
A bird's-eye-view of Palni town



The impressive golden chariot in which the Lord is taken in procession around the temple on the hillock at Palni on every Kirthigai Day

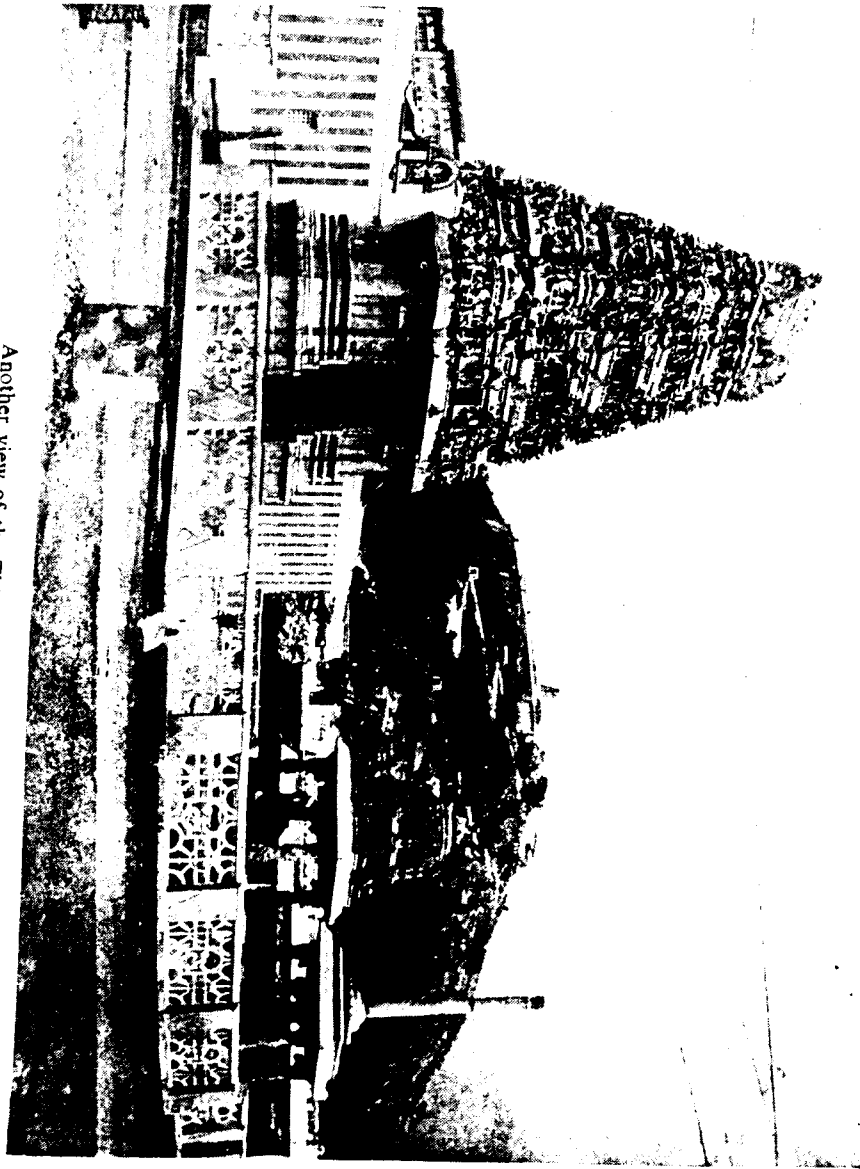


A view of the steps on the Palni hill



A view of the recently renovated Thiru Avinankudi temple at Palni with hillside in the background

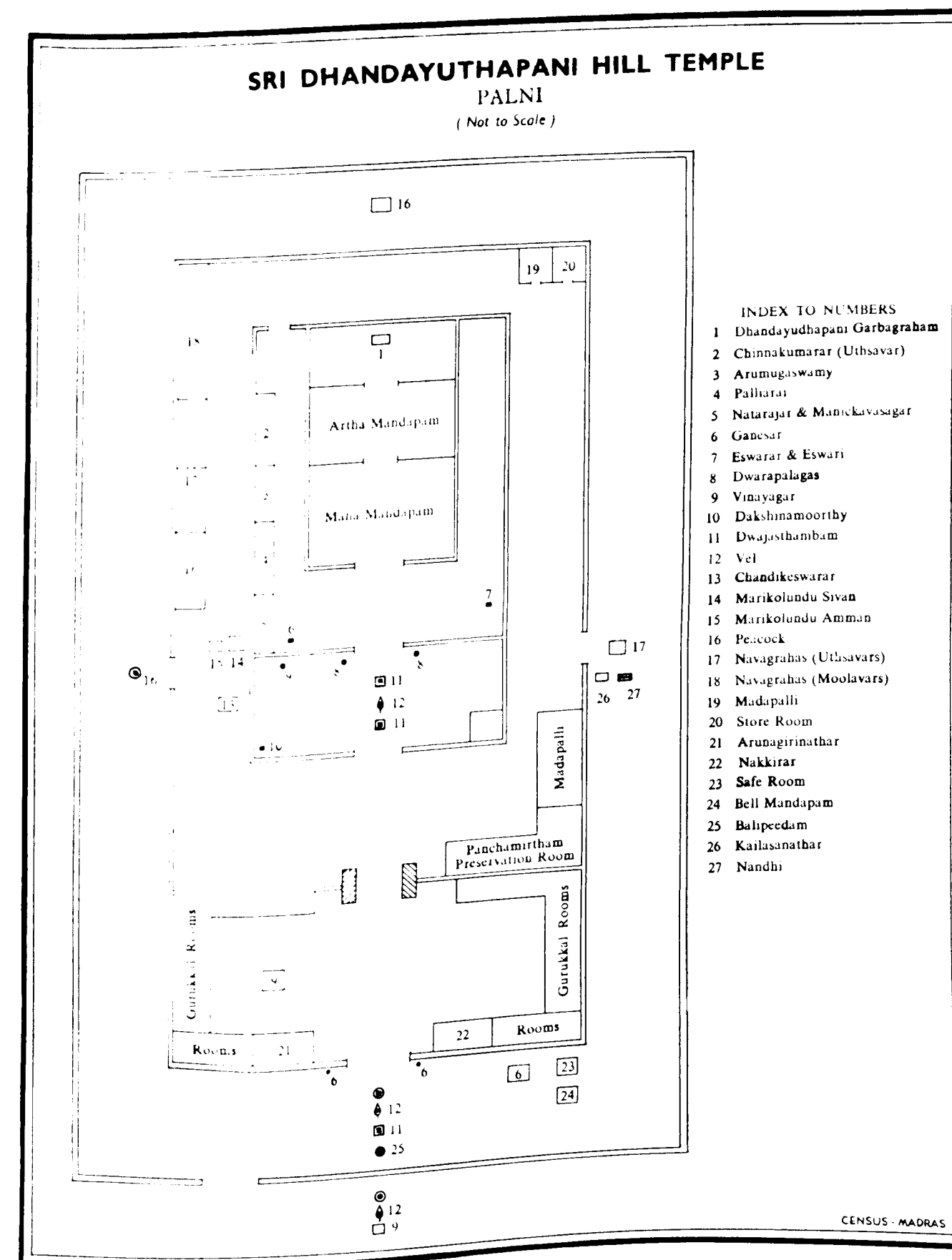
Another view of the Thiru Avinankudi temple



The Stone images of Lakshmi, Kamadhenu, Suryan, Bhoomi and Agni in Thiru Avinankudi temple



The festival idol of Lord Muruga in Thiru Avinankudi temple



MADURAI DISTRICT

India is the family deity of many who make it a point to visit the shrine and offer worship at least once in a year. Apart from liberal offerings in cash and kind, some of the devotees have, as a token of their deep veneration to the Lord, contributed towards the construction of mandapams, steps etc. In the recent past, a beautiful mandapam has been constructed in the outer prakaram by Sri T. A. Subramaniam, Managing Editor, *The Mail*, Madras, at a cost of Rs. 19,000/- in memory of his father. A spacious mandapam which is seen as one starts ascending the steps was built by Sri P. S. G. Ganga Naidu of Coimbatore. The Vidyadhara mandapam near the entrance to the temple came up due to the efforts of some mill-owners. Many more philanthropic individuals and families have made similar endowments.

The temple funds are utilised for educational and charitable purposes with an emphasis

on oriental culture and religion. The temple is running the following institutions:

1. The Palni Andavar Arts College
2. The Palni Andavar College of Oriental Culture
3. The Veda Sivagama Padasala for training boys of the Gurukkal and Pandaram community in religious rituals
4. Thevara Isaippalli for giving training in the recital of devotional hymns
5. Palni Saiva Siddhantha Sabha for disseminating knowledge relating to Saivite and Tamilian culture
6. Temple Library and Reading Room
7. Nadhaswaram College
8. A choultry with 210 rooms-10 first class & 200 second and third class rooms
9. Poor Home in the form of a friend-in-need society
10. Beggar Home

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE

PALNI

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
1	27	Korikadavu (P)	Korikadavu	Sri Chockanatha-swamy Temple (S)	Not known	0.12	Sri Chockanatha-swamy	...	Pushpattur Railway station 5 miles
2	"	do	do	Sri Angalamman Temple (F)	Not known	0.05	Sri Angalamman	...	do
3	30	Muthunai-ckenpatty (P)	Muthunai-ckenpatty	Sri Veera Narayana Perumal Temple (V)	170	Below 0.01	Sri Veera Narayana Perumal	Sri Devi Bhu Devi	Madathukulam Railway station 3 miles
4	39	Kothayam (P)	Kothayam	Sri Alwar Perumal Temple (V)	Not known	Below 0.01	Sri Alwar Perumal	...	Chatrapatti Railway station 5 miles
5	47	Javadupatty (P)	Javadupatty	Sri Mallayaswamy Temple (O)	400	0.20	Sri Mallaya-swamy	Sri Kasi Viswanathar Sri Idumban Sri Dandapani	Oddan-chathram Railway station 8 miles
6	50	Idayakottai (P)	Idayakottai	Sri Angalamman Temple (F)	200	0.03	Sri Angalamman	Sri Vinayakar	Oddan-chathram Railway station 14 miles
7	"	do	do	Sri Thiruvengkadanatha Perumal Temple (V)	529	0.04	Sri Thiruvengkadanatha Perumal	Sri Ubayanachiar	do
8	62	Periakottai (V)	Periakottai	Sri Narasinga Perumal Temple (V)	100	0.20	Sri Perumal	...	Chatrapatti Railway station 4 miles

DURAI DISTRICT

LUK

Annual income assessed for 1375 y H. R. & C. E. Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property Value of Jewellery Rs.			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Appraised by H. R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple	Vahanam		
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department									
708	4.15	13.86	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...
300	0.59	8.05	...	...	...	15	...	Once a day by a hereditary Chettiar	...
1,781	Extent not stated		...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Brahmin	Vaikunta Ekadasi Karthigai Deepam Navarathri
646	...	33.94	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Naidu	...
495	...	2.00	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...
556	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Chettiar	...
3,202	...	...	...	...	...	...	Horse Garuda	Twice a day by a hereditary Brahmin	Navarathri Vaikunta Ekadasi
1,114	...	43.21	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Nonbu festival in Chithrai

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
PALNI

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
16	85	Palni (M)	Palni	Sri Mariamman Temple (F)	Not known	0.04	Sri Mariamman	Sri Pechiamman	Palni Railway station 1½ miles
17	101	Lakkayan-kottai (P)	Solaiputhur	Sri Uchi Mahalamman Temple (F)	100	0.04	Sri Kaliyamman	...	OdJan-chathram Railway station 1½ miles
18	109	Ayakudi (P)	Old Ayakudi	Sri Vigneswarar Temple (G)	100	0.01	Sri Vigneswarar	...	Kanakkanpatti Railway station 1 mile
19	„	do	Pudu Ayakudi	Sri Angalamman Temple (F)	100	0.01	Sri Angalamman	...	do
20	„	do	do	Sri Ayyanar Temple (O)	150	0.20	Sri Ayyanar	Sri Karuppanaswamy Sri Pechiamman	do
21	„	do	do	Sri Veereswarar Temple (S)	200	0.06	Sri Veereswarar	...	do
22	110	Ayakudi (V)	Ayakudi	Sri Ahobalisinga Perumal Temple (V)	300	0.05	Sri Ahobalisinga Perumal	...	do
23	112	Balasamudram (P)	Balasamudram	Sri Bakkumalamman Temple (F)	Not known	Not stated	Sri Bakkumalamman	...	Palni Railway station 4 miles

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
5,242	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Pandaram	Mariamman festival in Masi
Not stated	...	...	...	...	...	30	...	Poojas by a hereditary Pillai	Annual festival in Ani
527	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Poosari	...
462	...	...	2.80	...	...	500	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Pandaram	...
374	...	...	4.70	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Poosari	...
677	...	...	2.66	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Gounder	...
909	Extent not stated			...	...	1,000	Palanquin	Thrice a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Chithrai festival
250	1.30	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Pandaram	...

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
PALNI**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census	Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Temples under the Hindu Religious								
9	62	Periakottai (P)	Periakottai	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	100	0.01	Sri Vigneswarar	Chatrapatti Railway station 4 miles
10	..	do	do	Sri Eswarar Temple (S)	100		Sri Choleeswarar	
11	68	Manur (P)	Manur	Sri Choleeswarar Temple (S)	Not known	0.24	Sri Choleeswarar	Palni Railway station 4½ miles
12	82	Periakalayam-puthur (P)	Peria Kalayana-puthur	Sri Mahalakshmi- amman Temple (F)	100	0.02	Sri Mahalakshmi	Palni Railway station 3 miles
13	83	Kalayampu- thur (V)	Kalayampudur Agraharam	Sri Kalyani- amman and Sri Kailasa- nathar Temple (S)	100	0.46	Sri Kalyani- amman Sri Vinayakar Sri Subra- maniar Sri Natarajar Sri Dakshina- moorthy Sri Chandike- swarar Sri Bairavar	do
14	..	do	do	Sri Alaganachi- amman Temple (F)	750	0.02	Sri Alagana- chiamman Sri Karupp- annan Sri Veera- muthu	do
15	85	Palni (M)	Palni	Sri Dandayudha- paniswamy Temple (M)	1100	Not stated	Sri Dandayu- dhapaniswamy (Sri Palani Andavar)	Palni Railway station 1 mile

**MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)**

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Apprai- sed by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Report- ed by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
	...	8 32	...	...	...	...	...		...
743								Once a day by a hereditary Brahmin	
	...	21.74	...	...	...	...	...		...
2.5	1.18	7.00	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Devar	Sivarathri
3.0	1.75	...	...	...	...	...	Chapparam	Once a day by a hereditary Gounder	Festival in Adi
4,470	13.31	10.15	...	...	...	1,253	Chapparams-2 Rishabam Sahadai	Twice a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...
429	...	4.50	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Pandaram	Navarathri
13,95,416	320.05	420.28	...	Houses-36 Buildings Vacant plots	16,47,685	...	Gold { Ratham Horse Chapparam Palanquin Peacocks-2 Ratham Elephant Rishabam Goats-2 Kamadhenus-2 Peacocks-2 Chapparam Bandicoot Palanquin Ivory Palanquins-2 Rathams-4 Chapparams Vahanas	Seven times a day by hereditary Gurukkals	Panguni Uthiram Brahmothsavam in Chithrai Visaka Uthsavam Skandha Sashti Karthigai Deepam Thai Pocosam
							Silver {		

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE

PALNI

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	No.	Name	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religions									
24	112	Balasamudram (P)	Balasamudram	Sri Karuppannaswamy Temple (O)	Not known	Not stated	Sri Karuppannaswamy	Sri Kannimar	Palni Railway station 7 miles
25	..	do	do	Sri Karai Kannimar Temple (F)	Not known	Not stated	Sri Karai Kannimar	...	do
26	..	do	do	Sri Alaganachi- amman Temple (F)	Not known	Below 0.01	Sri Alaganachi- amman	...	Palni Railway station 5 miles
27	..	do	do	Sri Ahobila Varadaraja Perumal Temple (V)	267	0.48	Sri Ahobila Varadaraja Perumal	...	Palni Railway station 4 miles
28	114	Periammapatty (P)	Periammapatty	Sri Ammanpatti Karuppannaswamy Temple (O)	100	0.10	Sri Karuppannaswamy	...	Palni Railway station
29	121	Pottampatty (P)	Pottampatty	Sri Hari Thimmaraya Perumal Temple (V)	180	0.02	Sri Hari Thimmaraya Perumal	..	Kanakkanpatti Railway station $\frac{1}{2}$ mile

MADURAI DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Concl'd.)									
250	1.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Pandaram	...
40)	...	...	0.66	...	...	...	...	do	...
300	Extent not stated			...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Poosari	...
Not stated	...	...	...	...	...	Value not stated	...	Twice a day by a Bhatta-chariar	Vaikunta Ekadasi
495	...	...	...	...	...	Value not stated	...	Once a day by a hereditary Poosari	...
200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a Pandaram	...

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
PALNI

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples outside the Hindu Religions									
1	3	Keeranur (V)	Keeranur	Sri Azhagia Chocka Perumal Temple (V)	80	1.90	Sri Azhagia Chocka Perumal	...	Palni Railway station 13 miles
2	85	Palni (M)	Palni	Sri Pattathu Vinayakar Temple (G)	50	0.12	Sri Pattathu Vinayakar	...	Palni Railway station ½ mile
3	89	Kodamangalam (P)	Kodamangalam	Sri Kothai Eswarar Temple (S)	Not known	0.10	Sri Kothai Eswarar	...	Palni Railway station 2 miles
4	109	Ayakudi (P)	Pudu Ayakudi	Sri Aladi Perumal Temple (V)	200	0.03	Sri Aladi Perumal	...	Kanakkanpatti Railway station
5	110	do	Ayakudi	Sri Choleeswara-swamy Temple (S)	300	0.01	Sri Choleeswara-swamy	...	Kanakkanpatti Railway station 1 mile
6	112	Balasamudram (P)	Balasamudram	Sri Viswanatha-swamy Temple (S)	100	0.03	Sri Viswanatha-swamy	Sri Visalakshi	Palni Railway station 5 miles

MADURAI DISTRICT

TALUK (Concl'd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department									
...	0.56	2.35	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Naidu	...
...	...	...	...	Rice Mill, Library, Shops-5	...	Value not stated	...	Once a day by a Pillai	Vinayaka Chathurthi
...	1.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Gurukkal	Navarathri
...	4.34	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Brahmin	...
...	4.59	...	...	...	...	...	...	Thrice a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Brahmin	Sivarathri Karthigai Deepam

KODAIKANAL TALUK

13. POOMBARAI

Sri Velappaswamy Temple

Poombarai is noted for its famous shrine of Lord Muruga known as Sri Velappaswamy temple. The 4 feet high enchanting image of youthful Murugar popularly known as Sri Kuzhandhai Velappar, presents an impressive view. Several additions and renovations have been made to this old temple. References about this shrine are found in the sthalapuranam of Sri Subramaniaswamy temple of Palni. There are several interesting stone inscriptions on the walls of the temple. Poombarai is situated at a distance of about 21 kilometres from Kodaikanal.

The temple which covers an area of about 1.06 acres has a 35 feet tall gopuram over the sanctum sanctorum containing several attractive plaster images. It has a single prakaram and several beautiful mandapams with many artistically carved stone pillars. There are three separate shrines here for Lord Siva, Sri Vinayakar and Saint Arunagirinathar. The

festival idols of Sri Vinayakar, Subramaniam, Valli and Deivayanai are all made of panchalogam.

Poojas are performed thrice daily by hereditary Brahmin priests. The temple owns antique jewellery in gold and silver worth about Rs. 1,053/-. The landed properties of the temple comprise 4.19 acres of wet lands and 0.06 acre of dry lands, which fetch an annual income of Rs. 446/- by way of rent; this sum is utilised for its maintenance. The temple also gets an additional income of Rs. 30/- every year, through its hundi collections. There is a 30 feet high Car here and as many as six Vahanas viz., Lion, Rishabam, Peacock, Elephant, Horse and Goat, all made of wood.

The famous Car festival which takes place in the month of Thai (January) every year, for a period of 10 days, is the only important festival celebrated by the temple, when about 3,000 devotees from the neighbouring villages and taluks congregate here.

A single trustee appointed by the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Dept. is in charge of the temple.

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
KODAIKANAL**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
1	3	Pannakadu (V)	Oralpatty	Sri Ramaswamy Temple (V)	150	0.24	Sri Ramar	Sri Lakshmanar Sri Sita Sri Perumal Sri Lakshmi	Kodaikanal Road Railway station 35 miles
2	..	do	do	Sri Nagavilasam Kannimalainathar Temple (S)	60	0.05	Sri Kannimalainathar	Sri Subramaniam	do
3	12	Kodaikanal (M)	Anandagiri (1st Street)	Sri Mariamman Temple (F)	45	0.03	Sri Mariamman	Sri Vinayakar Sri Subramaniam	Kodaikanal Road Railway station 50 miles
4	13	Pcombarai (V)	Poombarai	Sri Velappaswamy Temple (M)	Not known	1.06	Sri Subramaniam	Sri Vinayakar Sri Valli Deivayanai	Kodaikanal Road Railway station 61 miles
5	14	Mannavanur (P)	Mannavanur	Sri Mandala Perumal Temple (V)	Not known	0.10	Sri Perumal	...	Kodaikanal Road Railway station 71 miles
6	15	Poondi (V)	Kelvarai	Sri Chandra-kumaraswamy Temple (M)	Not known	0.20	Sri Subramaniamswamy	...	Kodaikanal Road Railway station 78 miles

TALUK

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)

and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department

1,731	...	7.32	...	...	8,705	...	Ratham Vahanas-2	Thrice a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Karthigai Deepam Vaikasi Visakam
325	...	...	...	10.00	...	...	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Chettiar	...
709	...	...	...	Hotel Building	...	500	Lion Chapparam	Four times a day by a hereditary Udayar	Festival in Chithirai
446	4.19	0.06	...	...	...	1,053	Car, Lion Rishabam Peacock Elephant Horse	Thrice a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	Car festival in Thai
493	2.09	...	...	...	...	Value not stated	...	Twice a week by a Poosari	Masi Magam Vaikunta Ekadasi
260	...	...	2.00	..	...	Value not stated	...	Once a week by a Poosari	Festival in Masi

PERIAKULAM TALUK

6. DEVADANAPATTY

Sri Kamakshi Amman Temple

With lofty mountain chains in the back-ground and situated on the banks of a placid perennial stream the tiny shrine of Sri Kamakshi Amman about three kilometres away from Devadanapatty proper affords a view which is at once awe-inspiring and panoramic. Devadanapatty is a road-side village about six kilometres from Batlagundu, the popular commercial centre of the district. To reach the temple one has to either trek or engage a vehicle. The serene spot where this popular temple is located is free from din and bustle and has shady trees all round.

The legend concerning the shrine is as follows:- Once the people of a village near the spot where the temple now stands were harassed and tortured by a demon called Thakkan. The devout citizens entreated Sri Kamakshi Amman at Kancheepuram to come to their rescue. Accordingly the goddess in the form of an unmarried girl (Kanni) waged a formidable war with the demon and quelled him. After this, she is said to have settled down in a bamboo bush as a girl of nine years and started doing penance.

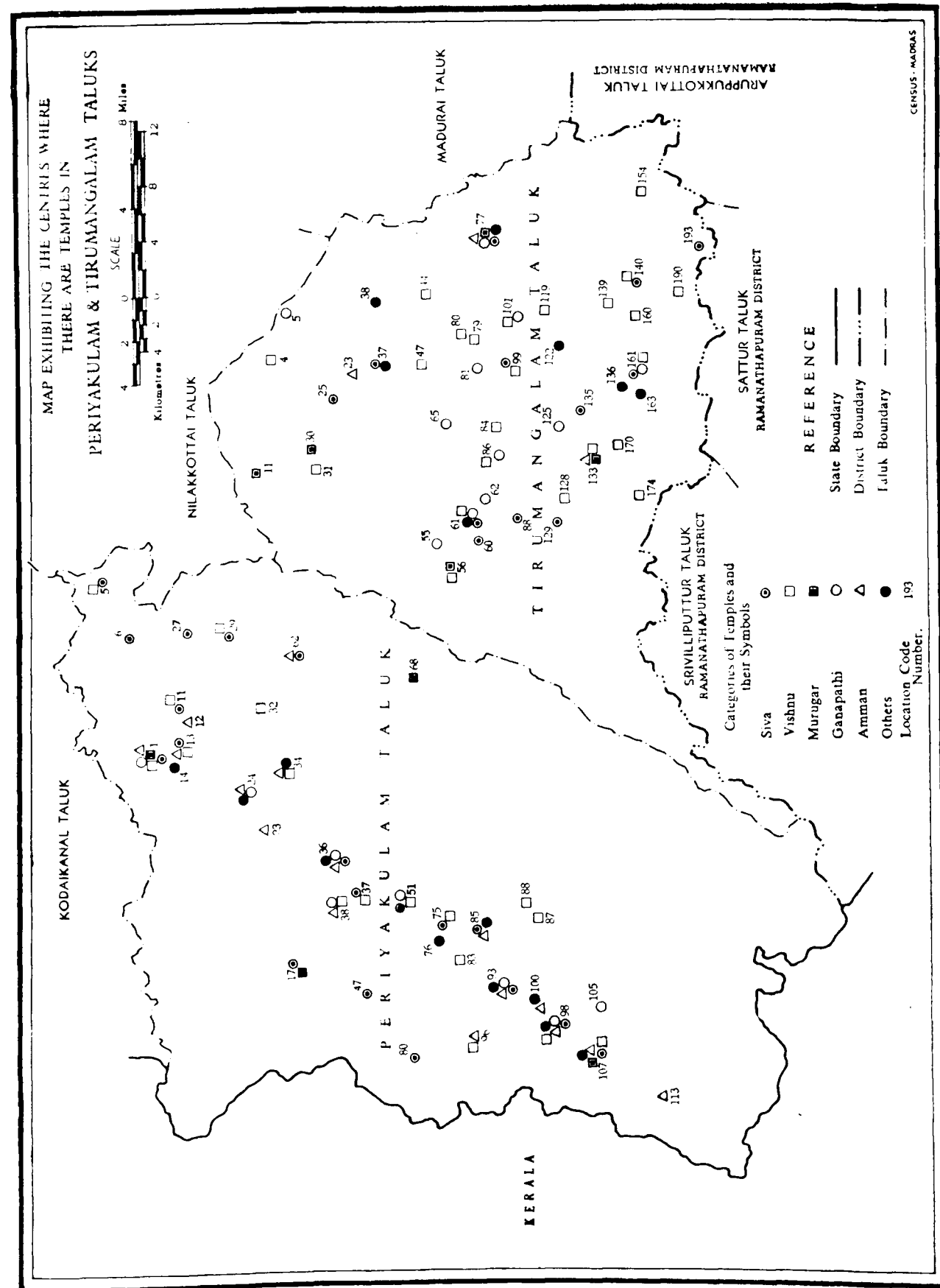
After a long time, a cowherd who was led to this bush in order to investigate why a cow in his herd chose to empty her milk there, lost his eyes. The zamindar of the place called Pujari Naicker and the people of the area who were taken aback at this incident wanted to find out whether it was a divine punishment. They came to know through a devotee that the boy lost his sight due to the matchless splendour of goddess Shakthi who was performing penance. The people were asked to look forward for a box which would shortly come floating on the waters of the river Manjalaru during floods. This box containing the goddess would be stopped by a bamboo bush and the people should construct a temple for this box. The zamindar and the people did accordingly and the present temple came up. The cowherd regained his eyesight. In a state of ecstasy on seeing the box the zamindar forgot to break cocoanut. Even today cocoanut is not broken in the temple at the time of neyvedyam under the impression that the goddess does not require it to be done.

There is no record to know the actual age of the temple. At present there are no gopurams or vimanams. There is no idol in the temple. Another peculiarity about the shrine is that it must never be roofed with anything but thatch. Pooja is performed thrice daily to *Sulam* and *Vel* by priests belonging to the Pandaram community before the closed door of the sanctum sanctorum. The temple is also known as Sri Mungilanai Kamakshi Amman Temple, since the box in which the goddess is supposed to have remained was stopped by mungil or bamboo as it came floating in the floods.

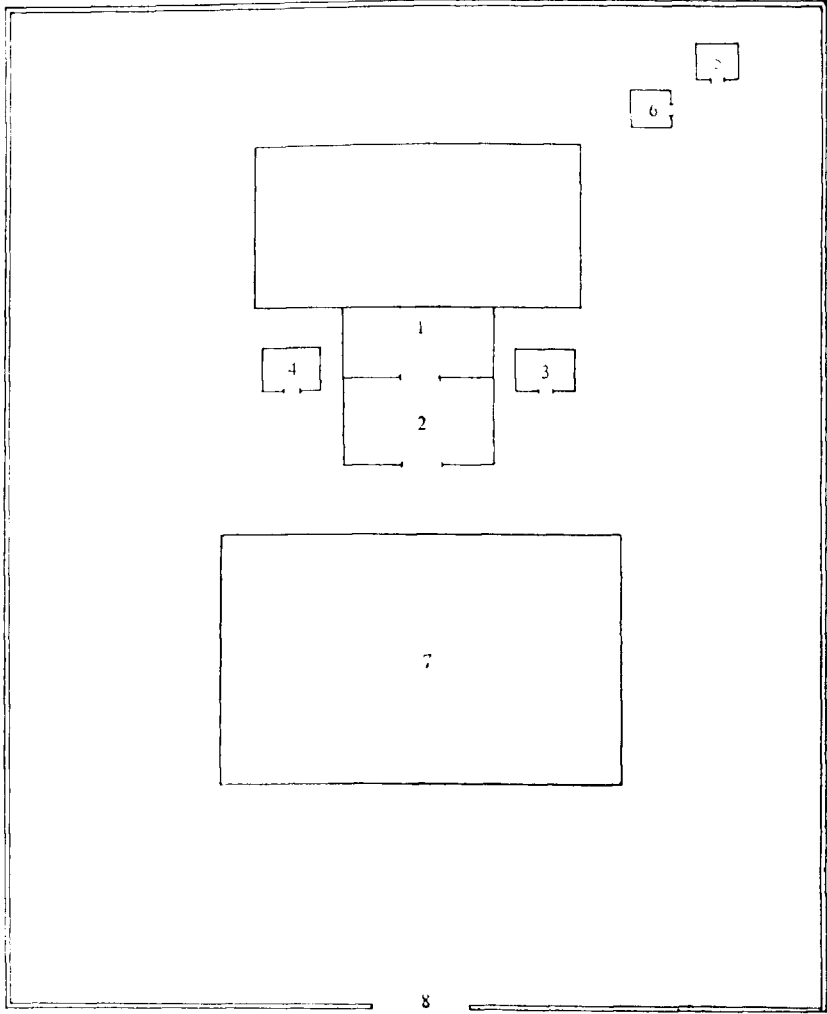
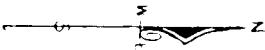
A three-day festival in the Tamil month of Adi and the five day Maha Sivarathri festival in Masi are the important festivals of the temple. The Sivarathri festival which is very popular in this area is celebrated with great eclat when about 15,000 devotees from far and near muster here. The auspicious pole called Muhurtha Kal to signify the commencement of the festival is installed in the month of Thai on the Ratha-sapthami day. This day is significant to the local people in another way. The annual ceremony (Thevasam) for a lady called Kamakkal, a great devotee of the goddess is performed on this day.

There is an interesting legend concerning this devotee. Kamakkal was the widow of a zamindar in the line of Pujari Naicker who built the original temple. She was such an ardent devotee of the goddess that she could talk to the goddess in nights. Once when she took her inquisitive little son to the presence of the goddess, the boy fell down dead. The mother was appeased by the goddess with the remarks that the boy was destined to die on account of his adamant nature. The lady was told by the goddess that after her death, the community of Naickers would perform her annual ceremony. Kamakkal died on the Rathasapthami day. To the east of the temple, there is a structure on the spot where the pious mother and her son lie buried.

During the Sivarathri festival devotees contribute ghee in large measure. It is stored in about 40 pots and used throughout the year for burning the wick lamps of the temple. No oil is used in the temple for this purpose. In a separate room the pots of ghee are



SRI KAMAKSHI AMMAN TEMPLE
DEVADANAPATTI
(Not to Scale)



INDEX TO NUMBERS

- 1 Kamakshi Amman
- 2 Mandapam
- 3 Subramanian
- 4 Vinayagar
- 5 Perumal
- 6 Vairavar
- 7 Mandapam
- 8 Entrance with Gopuram



A panoramic view of river Manjalar on the bank of which is situated the temple of Sri Kamakshi Amman at Devadanapatty



A view of the small shrine of Sri Kamakshi Amman at Devadanapatty



A view of the roof of the closed sanctum sanctorum of Sri Kamakshi Amman Shrine in Devadanapatty

MADURAI DISTRICT

kept in rows on the floor. It is surprising that ghee thus stored is unaffected by ant, fly etc.

The temple has about 85 acres of land and some groves. The annual income from the landed property amounts to about Rs. 8,521/-. The hundi collections are to the tune of about Rs. 2,000/-. Bullocks, cows etc., are left in the temple as votive offerings by devotees. The animals are periodically auctioned away to augment the temple funds.

The temple, on account of its great legend enjoys a popularity in this area. It is administered by a Board of trustees consisting of three members.

36. VEERAPANDI

Sri Gowmariamman Temple

The village Veerapandi in Periakulam taluk of Madurai district is noted for its famous Amman temple dedicated to goddess Gowmariamman. The presiding deity is in the form of a Lingam. The popular annual Brahmotsavam which takes place here in the month of Chithrai for 8 days attracts about a lakh of devotees from all parts of the district. From the point of view of attendance and importance, it is said to be second only to the famous Chithrai festival, of Madurai.

Legend has it that once this place was a thick forest. It was customary for a devout oilmonger of the Vannia community to drop the vessel containing large quantity of oil at a particular spot where he was crippled by a stone. One day he started digging out at this place. His axe hit the Swayambu Lingam underneath and blood spurted out of the Lingam. The surprised merchant at once reported this fact to the villagers. All of them felt that it is the goddess Gowmariamman. Knowing the power of the Amman, the merchant at once erected a beautiful shrine for Her and installed the Lingam with the help of the villagers.

The impressive temple stands at a distance of about 8 kilometres from Theni, on the Madurai-Cumbum Road. It is connected by both bus and train, the nearest railway station being Theni, at a distance of 7 kilometres. The district and the taluk head-quarters are about 80 and 24 kilometres away respectively.

The temple which covers an area of about 17 cents has a single prakaram and a sanctum sanctorum. The festival idol of the Amman here, made of Panchalogam is in a standing posture.

A hereditary Poosari offers two poojas daily. He is in the enjoyment of service inam lands. The temple owns antique jewellery in gold and silver, worth about Rs. 13,828/-, donated by devotees, of which the costly golden kasumalai of the Amman deserves special mention. The landed properties of the temple comprise about 7 acres of wet lands, which fetch an annual income of about Rs. 36,622/- by way of rent; this sum is utilised for its maintenance. The temple also gets an additional income of about Rs. 15,000 through its hundi collections, during the annual Brahmotsavam in Chithrai.

The temple which is under the control of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department is managed by a Board of trustees, consisting of three members.

80. TEVARAM

Sri Ramalinga Chowdambigai Amman temple

Tevaram which was the Chief village of one of the 26 Palayams of Dindigul is noted for its famous Saivite temple of Sri Ramalinga Chowdambigai Amman. The presiding deity Sri Ramalingeswarar is an installed Lingam here, with the five-headed hood of a serpent covering it as an umbrella. His divine consort Sri Chowdambigai Amman is in a sitting posture. The temple was built some 150 years ago by the people of the Devanga community. Subsequently, in 1905, it was renovated by them. A prakaram, several beautiful mandapams and a small shrine for the Navagrahas were added then. A noteworthy feature of this temple is the fire-walking ceremony during the Brahmotsavam, which takes place once in 5 or 10 years.

The village is situated at a distance of about 12 miles from Bodinayakanur which is the nearest railway station. It is also easily accessible by bus from Madurai, Dindigul, Periakulam, Theni and Virudhunagar. The temple which covers an area of about 57 cents has a 12 feet-high vimanam over the sanctum sanctorum with attractive plaster figures on it.



Ghee offered by devotees are stored in these pots in the temple of Sri Kamakshi Amman. It is remarkable that ghee stored thus is unaffected by ant, fly etc.



A view of the temple and tank of Sri Poolanandeeswarar temple at Chinnamanur



The presiding deity of the Sri Poolanandeeswarar Temple at Chinnamanur.

There are also two separate shrines here, one for the Swamy and the other for Ambal. Sri Vinayakar, Subramaniam, Veerabadrar, Bairavar and Navagrahas are the other deities. There are also several festival idols here, all made of panchaloham.

Poojas are performed thrice daily by a non-hereditary priest. The temple owns antique jewellery in gold and silver worth about Rs. 1,500 all donated by devotees. The landed properties of the temple comprise 3.50 acres of wet lands and a grove of about three acres, which fetch an annual income of about Rs. 1,381/- by way of rent; this sum is utilised for its maintenance.

There are two palanquins here, made of wood. Tamil New Year's day in Chithrai, Navarathri in Purattasi and the famous Brahmotsavam which takes place once in five or ten years for a period of ten days are the regular festivals celebrated here, of which the fire-walking ceremony during Brahmotsavam is the most important one which attracts thousands of devotees from far and near.

The affairs of the temple are managed by an Executive Officer and a Board of trustees, consisting of five members, all appointed by the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department.

85. CHINNAMANUR

Sri Poolanandheeswarar Temple

The reputed Siva temple dedicated to Sri Poolanandheeswarar in Chinnamanur was constructed by the famous Pandya King, Raja Simha III in 916 A.D. There is an inscription which refers to this place as Harikesari Nallur and mentions that the temple was constructed by Raja Simha. Chinnamanur lies at a distance of 15 miles from Theni, which is the nearest railway station. The temple is pleasingly located amidst green vegetation. As this sthalam is supposed to have been worshipped by Sri Thirumal, Brahma, Rudhra and Indra, it came to be known as Hari Kesari Nallur. Madurai, the district head-quarters and Periakulam, the taluk head-quarters are 96 and 37 kilometres away respectively. It is connected well by buses with important towns like Cumbum, Periakulam etc. The temple has 3 vimanams, 3 sanctum, 2 pra-

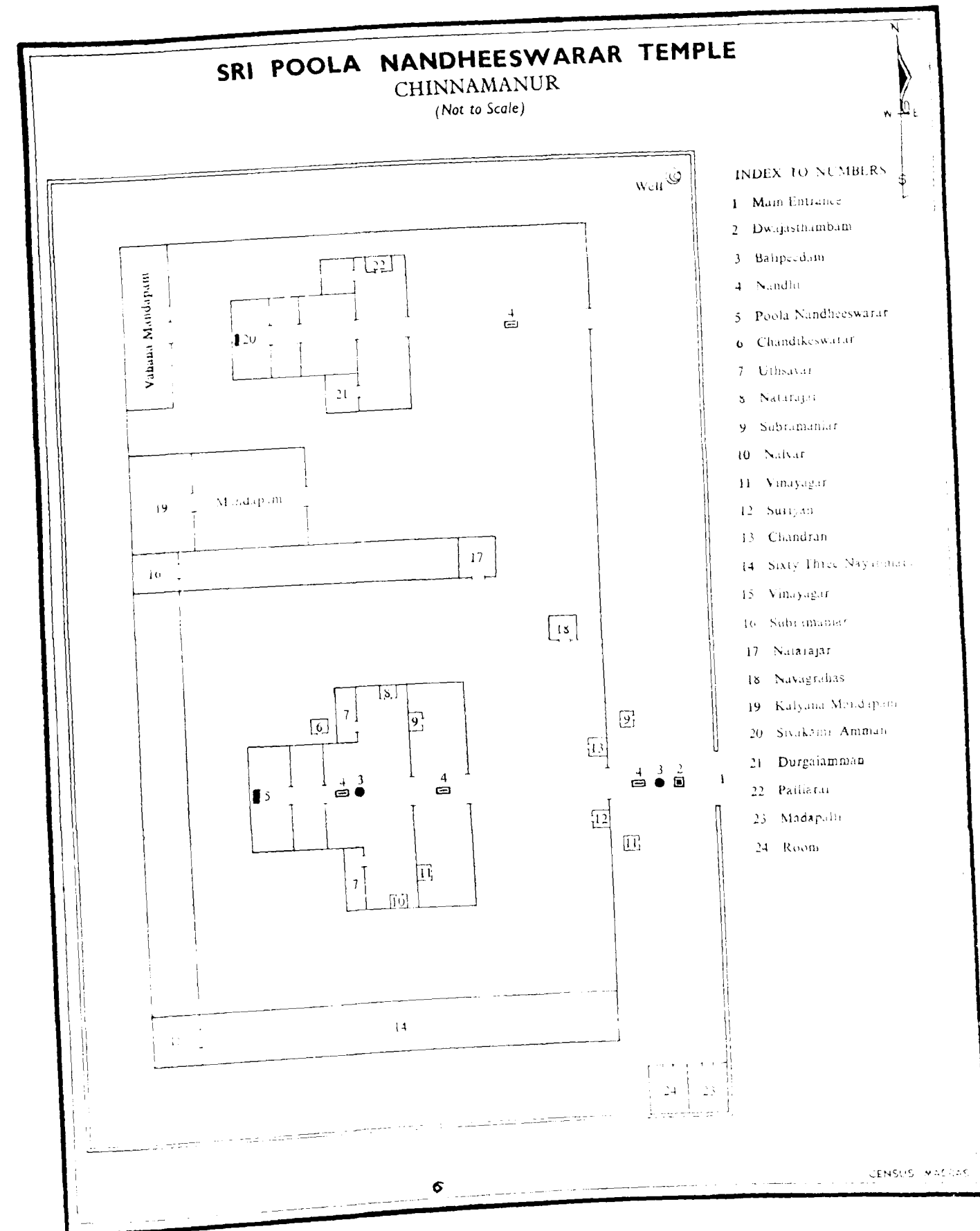
TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE

karams, a thirukalyana mandapam, a vahana mandapam and a 16-pillar mandapam.

There is an interesting legend pertaining to the origin of this shrine which runs thus:

During the reign of Sri Raja Simha Pandyan, there was a thick forest here. Once a particular cow in a herd was found to empty her milk over an ant-hill under a bush. The inquisitive cowherd one day dug up the ant-hill with his crowbar. This caused an injury to the Siva Lingam hidden underneath, which resulted in the gushing out of blood. The Lord gave darshan to the cowherd who immediately reported this miracle to Sri Raja Simha, a staunch devotee of Lord Siva. The King hurried to this spot, in order to have the sacred darshan of the Almighty. At his request, the Lord gave him a darshan as *alavukkalavanar* (i.e., as a Lingam, of the height of the devotee who worships). Carried to the height of ecstasy, the King embraced the Lingam. This Lingam was later on installed here and a beautiful temple came up. The scar of the wound caused by the cowherd, as well as the mark of the King's pearl necklace are visible even now on the Lingam. As the Swayambu Lingam of this shrine was discovered from the *Poolam* (bush). He was called Sri Poolanandheeswarar. Palundanathar, Thazhuvu Kuzhaindhavar and Raja Simheswarar are the other names of the God. His consort is Sri Sivakami Amman. The original idol of the Amman installed by the King got damaged due to efflux of time. Later on it was thrown into a well by some mischievous thieves. The present idol of the Amman, a new one, has been installed, only some 60 years ago, by the temple authorities. Sri Vinayakar, Subramaniam, Dakshinamoorthi, Chandeswarar, Bairavar, Brahma, Suryar, Nandhi Devar, Chandrar, Lingodbhavar, Kaleeswari, Durgai, Chandeswari, Navagrahas and Arubathimoovar are the other deities. There are several festival idols here, all made of panchaloham. There is also a vigraham of a maiden, in the south-east corner of the temple, which is said to be the daughter of King Raja Simha and it is learnt that she attained her puberty, only at a late age, after having worshipped the Lord of this sthalam. The original temple has been renovated from time to time.

Sri Manickavasagar, who is supposed to have visited this shrine during the 8th century and





A view of the Sri Kamaraya Perumal temple, Cumbum



The festival images of Kamaraya perumal temple, Cumbum

worshipped the Lord here, has glorified this sacred place in his famous "Thiruvagasam".

Poojas are performed six times daily by hereditary Brahmin priests of the Sivachariar community, strictly according to the principles laid down in the Kamika Agamam. They are supposed to have had "Siva Dheekshai" and "Acharya Abishegam". They are paid a decent monthly salary of Rs. 40/-, apart from a daily paditharam of a measure of rice from the temple revenues.

The temple owns antique jewellery in gold and silver worth about Rs. 13,650 - mostly donated by devotees. The landed property of the temple comprises a few acres of wet and dry lands, which are leased out for an annual rent of Rs. 23,056/-. This is used towards the upkeep and general maintenance of the temple. Besides, the temple also gets an additional annual income of Rs. 100/- by way of hundi collection and Rs. 840/- through the sale of archana and abishega tickets. The temple is also running a "Thevara padasala" for the benefit of educating children on religious lines. There is a 40 year old Car here, made of wood.

Chithrai thiruvizha, Puttu thiruvizha, Viragu thiruvizha, Navarathri, Skandha Sashti, Sankaranthi and Sri Krishna Jayanthi are the regular annual festivals celebrated in the temple, of which the Chithrai thiruvizha is the most important one, which attracts not less than 25,000 devotees from far and near.

The Executive Management of the temple vests in a Board of trustees consisting of five members functioning through an Executive Officer, who are appointed by the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department.

There are a number of inscriptions in the temple relating chiefly to the Pandya kings of the thirteenth century and Rajendra Chola Deva (1012-1043 A.D.). In Chinnamanur were found a number of copper plates of great historical importance which give the geneology of the early Pandya dynasty from Arikesarin to Rajasimha II.

107. CUMBUM

Sri Kambaraya Perumal etc. Temples

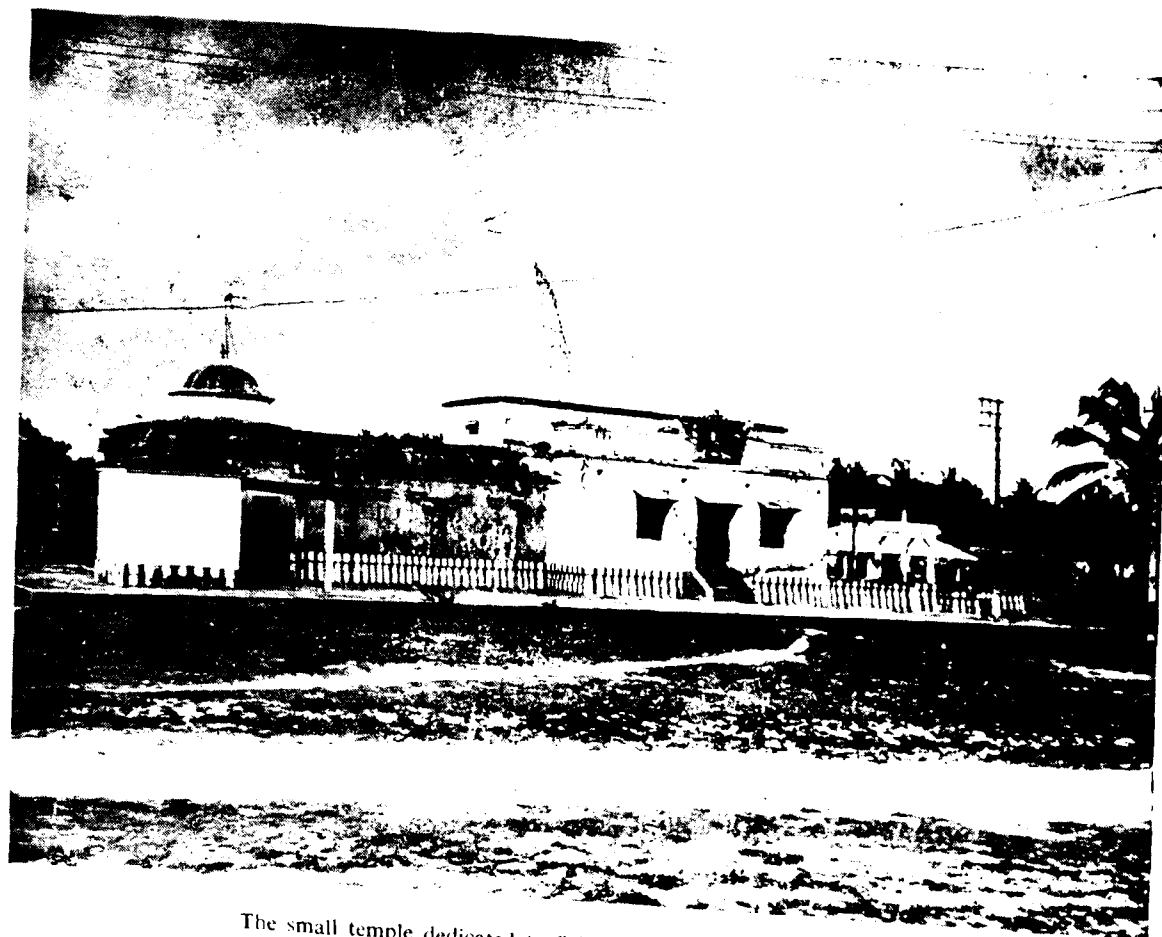
Cumbum with beautiful natural surrounding lies about 10 kilometres south-west of Uthamapalayam. This historic place was one of the 25 palayams of Dindigul. It was also one of the estates claimed by the Raja of Travancore. The chief to whom the place was rented out is stated to have built the two temples, one dedicated to Siva and one to Vishnu in the ruined fort to the east of the town.

It is said that one of these temples was built because a goddess appeared there to a wandering bangle-seller. She asked him to sell her a pair of bangles and he, taking her for a mortal, slipped two on her wrists. He stood aghast when his customer held out her other two arms. There is also a temple of Subramaniaswamy containing an inscription of the Pandya King Jatavarman who is believed to have been enthroned in 1253.

Sri Kasi Viswanathar is the presiding deity of the Siva temple. His consort is Sri Visalakshiamman. Sri Kambaraya Perumal and Sri Alamelumangai Nachiar are the chief deities of the Vishnu shrine. Both the temples are situated in the same compound. The Siva temple has a modest appearance. Traces of the dilapidated structure of the original temple could be seen here. The installed Lingam is 5' tall. In the Vishnu shrine there are separate sannadhies for the god and the goddess. This temple has gopuram and vimanam. About 47 years back, a dwajasthambam was installed before this temple.

Poojas are performed by a Gurukkal in the Siva temple and by a Bhattachariar in the Vishnu temple. Both the temples celebrate a number of festivals. The Rathotsavam in the month of Ani is well attended. On Fridays devotees come in large number to have darshan of Sri Visalakshiamman.

The temple which comes under the purview of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department is managed by an Executive Officer and a Board of trustees having five members.



The small temple dedicated to Sri Kasi Viswanathar in Cumbum

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
PERIAKULAM

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
1	1	Periakulam (M)	Thenkarai	Sri Balasubramaniaswamy Temple (M)	600	1.00	Sri Balasubramaniaswamy	Sri Vinayakar Sri Chandikeswarar Sri Adhikara Nachiar Nachiaramman	Theni Railway station
2	„	do	do	Sri Krishnaswamy Temple (V)	200	0.10	Sri Gopalakrishnan	Sri Lakshminarayanar	do
3	„	do	do	Sri Gowmari- amman Temple (F)	Not known	0.20	Sri Gowmari- amman	...	do
4	„	do	do	Sri Kailasanathaswamy Temple (S)	600	0.05	Sri Kailasanathar	Sri Vinayakar Sri Ambal	do
5	„	do	Periakulam	Sri Kalahastheswaraswamy Temple (S)	60	0.20	Sri Kalahastheswaraswamy	Sri Vinayakar Sri Subramaniam Sri Dakshinamurthy Sri Dandayudhapani Sri Bairavar Sri Chandikeswarar Sri Natarajar Sri Sivakami- amman	do
6	„	do	Thenkarai	Sri Meenakshisundareswarar Temple (S)	600	0.10	Sri Meenakshisundareswarar	Sri Vinayakar Sri Somaskandhar Sri Bhavani- amman Sri Chandrasekarar Sri Annapurani- amman Sri Balasubramaniam Sri Valli Deivayanai Sri Natarajar Sri Sivakami- amman	do

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Apprai- sed by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Report- ed by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department									
1,493	9.20	20.00	...	Grove	17,153	...	Car Elephant Peacock Parrot Rishabams-2	Six times a day by a hereditary Brahmin	Panguni Uthiram Vaikasi Visakam Navarathri
451	4.62	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Sri Jayanthi
824	...	...	...	Shops-7	...	497	Rishabam Lion	Twice a day by a hereditary Poosari	Mariamman festival in Avani
542	3.00	7.00	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...
649	3.00	8.00	...	...	...	...	Horse Rishabam	Twice a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...
302	2.76	...	...	...	...	1,018	Rishabams-3 Peacock Nandhi Swan Elephant Horse Bandicoot Palanquin	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	...

56

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
PERIAKULAM

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
7	1	Periakulam (M)	Thenkarai	Sri Varadaraja Perumal Temple (V)	300	0.50	Sri Varadaraja Perumal	Sri Thayar Sri Anjaneyar Sri Garudalwar	Theni Railway station
8	„	do	do	Sri Muppidari-amman Temple (F)	200	0.08	Sri Muppidari-amman	...	do
9	„	do	do	Sri Drowpathi-amman Temple (F)	300	0.06	Sri Drowpathi-amman	Sri Pancha Pandavas Sri Durgai-amman	do
10	„	do	Periakulam	Sri Kamakshi-amman Temple (S)	800	0.10	Sri Kamakshi-amman	Sri Madurai-veeraswamy Sri Muthukaruppannaswamy	do
11	„	do	Vadakarai	Sri Vaidhyanathaswamy Temple (S)	100	0.75	Sri Vaidhyanathaswamy	Sri Thaiyal-nayagi	Theni Railway station 10 miles
12	„	do	do	Sri Sadayyan Vinayakar Temple (G)	100	0.02	Sri Sadayyan Vinayakar	Sri Karuppannaswamy	Theni Railway station 9 miles
13	„	do	do	Sri Angalamman Temple (F)	500	0.02	Sri Angalamman	Sri Veerabardraswamy Sri Irulappa-swamy Sri Pechi-amman Sri Madurai Veeraswamy Sri Peria Karuppannaswamy	Theni Railway station

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam	Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
5,136	5.00	...	...	Shops-2	...	991	Palanquin Swan, Lion Garuda Hanumar Sesha Horse	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Festival in Chithrai Vaikasi Vasantha uthsavam
547	...	...	...	Shops-2	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Chettiar	Brahmothsavam in Adi
621	...	...	...	Shops-8	...	...	Horse	Once a day by a hereditary Poosari	Brahmothsavam in Panguni
800	...	2.34	...	...	...	100	Horse Rishabam	Once a week by a hereditary Chettiar	Sivarathri Karthigai Deepam
10,091	63.00	55.00	...	Houses-22	9,397	...	Car Palanquin Rishabams-3	Twice a day by an Archagar	Chithra Pournami
476	1.90	3.50	...	...	...	Value not stated	...	Once a week by a hereditary Pillai	...
355	1.75	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Poosari	...

58

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
PERIAKULAM

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religions									
14	1	Periakulam (M)	Vadakarai	Sri Kannika Parameswari-amman Temple (F)	45	0.06	Sri Kannika-Parameswari amman	Sri Vinayakar Sri Subrama-niar	Kodaikanal Road Railway station 26 miles
15	5	Genguvarpatty (P)	Ganguvarpatty	Sri Kalahasthees-waraswamy Temple (S)	200	0.05	Sri Kalahasthees-warar	...	Kodaikanal Road Railway station 16 miles
16	..	do	do	Sri Lakshmi Narayana Perumal (V)	Not known	Not stated	Sri Lakshmi Narayana Perumal	...	do
17	6	Devadanapatty (P)	Devadanapatty	Sri Kamakshi-amman Temple (S)	Not known	Not stated	Sri Kamakshi-amman	...	Kodaikanal Road Railway station 20 miles
18	11	Melmangalam Part (P)	Melamangalam	Sri Mayapandeeswarar and Chockanathaswamy Temple (S)	2,000	0.18	Sri Mayapandeeswarar	Sri Brahan-nayagi Sri Subrama-niar Sri Vinayakar	Andipatty Railway station 10 miles
19	..	do	do	Sri Pallikonda Perumal alias Ranganathar Temple (V)	500	0.50	Sri Pallikonda Perumal	Sri Rangana-yagi Sri Narasim-har	Andipatty Railway station 12 miles
20	12	Vadugapatty (P)	Vadugapatty	Sri Bhagavathi-amman Temple (F)	100	0.05	Sri Bhagavathi amman	Sri Vinayakar Sri Subra-manian	Theni Railway station 9 miles

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Apprai- sed by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Report- ed by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
2,578	Extent not stated			Buildings-2	...	Value not stated	Horse Chapparam	Twice a day by trustees	Festival in Chithrai Thiruvadhirai Navarathri Karthigai Deepam Vinayaka Chathurthi Vaikasi Visakam Thai Pongal
990	4.05	27.19	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Brahmin	...
664	4.16	25.93	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Poosari	...
8,521	16.28	68.24	...	...	...	100	...	Thrice a day by a hereditary Brahmin	Sivarathri
3,178	...	...	16.84	...	...	900	Suran Peacock Rishabam	Twice a day by a hereditary Brahmin	Chithra- pournami Karthigai Deepam Thiruvadhirai Thai Poosam
1,811	8.88	15.14	...	...	...	679	Palanquin Garuda Swan Elephant	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Uriyadi Navarathri Karthigai Deepam
787	6.16	1.91	...	Buildings-6	...	800	Lion, Swan Parrot Horse Rishabam Kamadhenu Bhootham	Twice a day by a Chettiar	Festival in Panguni

and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
PERIAKULAM

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
21	13	Thamarai-kulam B. (V)	Thamaraikulam	Sri Lakshmi Narayana Perumal Temple (V)	200	0.04	Sri Lakshmi Narayana Perumal	Sri Garudalar	Theni Railway station
22	„	do	do	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswaraswamy Temple (S)	600	0.10	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar	Sri Meenakshi Sri Subramaniam Sri Bairavar	do
23	„	do	do	Sri Chellandi-amman Temple (F)	150	0.05	Sri Chellandi-amman	Sri Karuppannaswamy Sri Pechiamman Sri Chavandi-amman	Theni Railway station 8 miles
24	„	do	Jallipatty	Sri Jakkalamman and Parameswarar Temple (F)	120	0.01	Sri Jakkalamman	Sri Parameswarar Sri Kannimar Sri Perumal	Theni Railway station 6 miles
25	14	Thenkarai (P)	Thenkarai	Sri Thalayar Udayar Temple (O)	159	0.55	Sri Ayyanar	Sri Kannimar Sri Pechiamman	Theni Railway station 10 miles
26	17	Bodinayakanur (M)	Bodinayakanur	Sri Ramalinga Chowdambigaianman Temple (S)	200	0.06	Sri Ramalingar	Sri Soundeeswari Sri Subramaniam Sri Vinayakar Sri Bairavar Sri Veerabadrar	Bodinayakanur Railway station 1 mile
27	„	do	do	Sri Subramaniaswamy Temple (M)	100	0.69	Sri Subramaniam	Sri Valli Deivayanai Sri Vinayakar Sri Sundareswarar Sri Meenakshi Sri Natarajar Navagrahas	do

MADURAI DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
638	5.63	13.49	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Karthigai Deepam
515	5.63	11.46	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Poosari	...
580	0.73	16.00	...	...	...	150	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Poosari	Festival in Purattasi
686	...	10.90	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a Naicker	...
494	3.00	4.00	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Poosari	...
5,349	...	...	...	Shops Godowns	...	1,865	...	Thrice a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...
1,436	Extent not stated		...	...	...	...	Peacock Horse Kamadhenu Bandicoot	Twice a day by a Gurukkal	Navarathri Karthigai Deepam Panguni Uthiram

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
PERIAKULAM

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
28	23	Allinagaram (P)	Allinagaram (Theni)	Sri Gowmari amman Temple (F)	200	0.23	Sri Gowmari-amman	...	Theni Railway station 2 miles
29	24	Unjampatty (P)	Unjalampatti	Sri Alagar Temple (V)	100	0.62	Sri Alagar	...	Theni Railway station 3 miles
30	..	do	do	Sri Arasadi Vinayakar Temple (G)	70	0.02	Sri Arasadi Vinayakar	...	do
31	..	do	do	Sri Thottappa-swamy Temple (O)	700	0.50	Sri Thottappa-swamy	...	do
32	..	do	do	Sri Unjalamman Temple (F)	80	0.10	Sri Unjalamman	...	do
33	28	Jayamangalam Part (P)	Keela mangalam	Sri Chockanathaswamy Temple (S)	Not known	0.41	Sri Chockanathaswamy	Sri Meenakshi Sri Sundareswarar	Andipatty Railway station 8 miles
34	29	Gullapuram (P)	Gullapuram	Sri Thiruneelakandeswaraswamy Temple (S)	2500	0.05	Sri Thiruneelakandeswarar	Sri Annapoorani Sri Bairavar Sri Subramaniam	Andipatti Railway station 8 miles
35	..	do	do	Sri Uthanda Scundararaja Perumal Temple (V)	2000	0.08	Sri Uthanda Soundararaja Perumal	Sri Soundaravalli Thayar Sri Srinivasa Perumal Sri Alvars Sri Narasimha Perumal Sri Anjaneyar Sri Visveswarar	do

MADURAI DISTRICT

TALUK (Concl.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (contd.)									
8,086	0.60	...	...	Vacant plot 0.75 Shops	...	200	Swan, Car	Daily poojas by a hereditary Gounder	Festival in Vaikasi
437	...	8.77	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Priest	Chithra Pournami
281	...	...	...	7.17	...	...	...	Daily poojas by a Priest	...
412	...	3.53	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Gounder	...
516	...	6.09	...	...	...	...	...	do	...
495	7.80	3.72	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
1,231	11.24	10.28	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a Gurukkal	...
1,640	15.32	6.65	...	...	9,159.40	...	Car, Swan Lion Hanumar Garuda Elephant Horse Palanquin Sesha	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Vasanthotsavam in Vaikasi-Ani Chithra Pournami Karthigai Deepam Thai Pongal

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
PERIAKULAM**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temple under the Hindu Religions									
36	32	Kovilpatti (P)	Jambulipudur	Sri Kadhali Narasinga Perumal Temple (V)	200	2.01	Sri Kadhir Narasinga Perumal	Sri Chengamala Nachiar Sri Varadaraja Perumal Sri Devi Bhu Devi Sri Thirumangai Alwar Sri Visveswarar Sri Bairavar Sri Anjaneyar Navagrahas	Andipatty Railway station 2½ miles
37	34	Kunnur (P)	Ammachia-puram	Sri Ammachiamman Temple (F)	Not known	1.00	Sri Ammachiamman	Sri Vettai-karuppuswamy	Theni: Railway station 3½ miles
38	..	do	Kunnur	Sri Venugopala-swamy Temple (V)	70	Not stated	Sri Venugopaswamy	...	Theni Railway station 4 miles
39	35	Veerapandi (P)	Muthan-thevanpatty	Sri Sidhi Vinayaka murthi Temple (G)	60	0.02	Sri Sidhi Vinayakar	...	Theni Railway station 2 miles
40	..	do	do	Sri Gowmariamman Temple (F)	200	0.08	Sri Gowmariamman	...	Theni Railway station 4 miles
41	..	do	do	Sri Kanneeswaramudayar Temple (S)	500	0.14	Sri Kanneeswaramudayar	Sri Dharma Samvardhani Ambal	do
42	..	do	Vailpatti	Sri Hanumantharayar Temple (O)	200	0.05	Sri Ramar	Sri Lakshmanar Sri Sita Sri Hanumar	Theni Railway station 3 miles

MADURAI DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
504	...	...	...	...	...	1,200	Car Palanquin Swan, Lion Hanumar Garuda Horse Sesha Elephant	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Festival in Chithrai Sri Jayanthi Karthigai Deepam Vaikunta Ekadasi
1,845	1.50	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Poosari	...
290	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Brahmin	...
350	0.62	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Pandaram	Vinayaka Chathurthi
36,622	7.00	...	...	...	13,827.98	...	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Poosari	Festival in Chithrai
17,735	25.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
742	...	3.00	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Naicker	...

66

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
PERIAKULAM**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
43	37	Upparpatty (P)	Upparpatty	Sri Nee'akandeewaraswamy Temple (S)	250	1'00	Sri Neelakan-deeswaraswamy	Sri Annapoorani Sri Valli Deivayanai Sri Sambandar	Theni Railway station 6 miles
44	..	do	do	Sri Varadaraja Perumal Temple (V)	200	0'17	Sri Varadaraja Perumal	Sri Lakshmi	Theni Railway station
45	38	Uppukottai Part (P)	Uppukottai	Sri Kannikaparameswariammam Temple (F)	50	0'40	Sri Kannikaparameswari	Navagrahas	Bodinayakanur Railway station 6 miles
46	..	do	do	Sri Varadaraja Perumal Temple (V)	200	0'30	Sri Varadaraja Perumal	...	Theni Railway station 5 miles
47	..	do	do	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	200	Not stated	Sri Vinayakar	...	
48	47	Rasingapuram (P)	Rasingapuram	Sri Malligeswaraswamy Temple (S)	70	10'05	Sri Malligeswaraswamy	...	Bodinayakanur Railway station 6½ miles
49	51	Kottur (P)	Kottayur	Sri Mallikarjuneeswaraswamy Temple (S)	500	0'07	Sri Mallikarjuneeswaraswamy	Sri Vinayakar	Theni Railway station 9 miles
50	..	do	do	Sri Gopalakrishna alias Gopinathaswamy Temple (V)	100	0'15	Sri Gopinathar	Sri Rukmani Sri Sathyabama	do
51	..	do	do	Sri Vella Vinayakar Temple (G)	500	0'05	Sri Vella Vinayakar	...	do

MADURAI DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
412	2-93	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Brahmin	Navarathri Karthigai Deepam
994	2-15	0-92	...	...	...	...	Horse	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Chithra Pournami Karthigai Deepam
480	Extent	not	stated	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Brahmin	Navarathri
1,077	3-00	...	...	...	...	...	Horse	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	...
	0-75	...	...	...	...	...	...		
240	Extent	not	stated	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Poosari	...
742	2-40	0-90	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattar	Karthigai Deepam
885	2-50	0-98	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Karthigai Deepam Vaikunta Ekadasi
400	1-95	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Velar	...

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
PERIAKULAM

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
52	62	Andipatti (P)	Anaipatti	Sri Kaliasman Temple (F)	200	1-00	Sri Kaliasman	...	Andipatti Railway station 1 mile
53	..	do	do	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple (S)	300	0-20	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar	Sri Meenakshi	Andipatti Railway station 1 mile
54	..	do	do	Sri Muthalamman Temple (F)	250	0-03	Sri Muthalamman	...	Andipatti Railway station 1 mile
55	..	do	do	Sri Mariamman Temple (F)	250	0-10	Sri Mariamman	...	do
56	68	Theppampatti (P)	Theppampatti	Sri Mavoothu Velappar Temple (M)	300	0-01	Sri Velappar	...	Andipatti Railway station 12 miles
57	75	Seelayanpatti (P)	Seelayanpatti (P)	Sri Mallikarjunaswaraswamy Temple (S)	60	0-06	Sri Paramasivan	Sri Vinayakar Sri Akilandswari	Theni Railway station 11 miles
58	..	do	do	Sri Venugopala-swamy Temple (V)	100	0-05	Sri Krishnar	Sri Rukmani Sri Sathyabama	do
59	76	Kujjanur (P)	Kuchanoor	Sri Saneeswara Bhagavan Temple (O)	500	0-98	Sri Saneeswarar	Sri Swayambunatheswarar	Theni Railway station 13 miles

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
1,333	..	3-20	...	Shops-10	...	1,500	Lion	Twice a day by a hereditary Pandaram	Festival in Panguni
1,154	...	...	40-78	Shops-8	...	341	Horse	Twice a day by a hereditary Bha'tar	Karthigai Deepam
426	...	...	...	Building 0	...	...	...	Thrice a day by a hereditary Pandaram	Festival in Purattasi
225	...	...	...	...	...	12	...	Thrice a day by a hereditary Pandaram	Mariamman festival in Chithrai
801	...	...	...	Garden 0-01	...	300	...	Once a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	Festival in Chithrai Karthigai Deepam
995	3-32	1-93	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Brahmin	Karthigai Deepam
923	3-27	2-49	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	...
1,877	1-79	...	...	...	...	782	Sahadai	Thrice a day by a hereditary Pillai	Festival in Adi

and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
PERIAKULAM**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
60	80	TeVaram (P)	TeVaram	Sri Madhu Ramalinga Chowdambigai Temple (S)	150	0.57	Sri Rama-lingeswarar	Sri Chowd-ambigai amman Sri Vinayakar Sri Subramaniam Sri Veerabadrar Sri Bairavar Navagrahas	Bodinayakanur Railway station 12 miles
61	83	Markayankottai (P)	Markayankottai	Sri Hanumantharaya Perumal Temple (V)	Not known	1.25	Sri Hanumantharaya Perumal	...	Theni Railway station 13 miles
62	..	do	do	Sri Varadaraja Perumal Temple (V)	Not known	1.25	Sri Varadaraja Perumal	Sri Devi Bhu Devi	Theni Railway station 12 miles
63	85	Chinnamanur (P)	Chinnamanur	Sri Bhagavathi- amman Temple (F)	50	Not stated	Sri Bhagavathi- amman	.	Theni Railway station 14 miles
64	..	do	do	Sri Manicka-vasagar Temple (O)	60	0.50	Sri Manicka-vasagar	..	do
65	..	do	do	Sri Poolanan- dheeswarar Temple (S)	1,047	Not stated	Sri Poolanan- dheeswarar	Sri Sivakami- amman Sri Vinayakar Sri Subramaniam Sri Saneeswarar Sri Arubathu- moovar Sri Bairavar Sri Brahma Sri Durgai	Theni Railway station 15 miles
66	..	do	Periyavaikkal thanneerthurai	Sri Karuppukoil alias Nallendra Ayyanar Temple (O)	300	Not stated	Sri Nallendra Ayyanar	Sri Karuppu- swamy	Theni Railway station 15 miles

**MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)**

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	Apprai- sed by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Repor- ted by temple	(18)	(19)	(20)
1,381	...	3.50	...	Grove 3.00	...	1,000	Palanquins-2	Thrice a day by a Gurukkal	Brahmothsavam
9.56	1.62	...	...	...	...	30	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Brahmin	Sri Hanumantha Jayanthi in Margazhi
889	1.51	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Brahmin	Karthigai Deepam Navarathri
565	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a Brahmin	Festival in Adi
5,889	5.79	...	...	0.56	...	200	Rishabam Horse	Twice a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	Thiruvadhirai
23,056	...	Extent not stated	...	...	13,651.71	...	Car	Six times a day by hereditary Gurukkals	Festival in Chithrai Navarathri Skandha Sashti Sri Jayanthi
970	1.17	...	...	Grove 0.56	...	1,000	...	Poojas by a Brahmin	Tamil New Year's Day

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
PERIAKULAM

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
67	87	Erasakkanai- ckanur (V)	Erasakkanai- ckanur	Sri Alagarswamy Temple (V)	150	0.01	Sri Alagar- swamy	Sri Devi Bhu Devi	Theni Railway station 17 miles
68	..	do	do	Sri Lakshmi Narayana Perumal Temple (V)	150	0.45	Sri Narayanar	Sri Lakshmi Bhu Devi	do
69	88	Kanniservai- patti (P)	Kanniservai- patti	Sri Gopala Krishnan Temple (V)	60	0.02	Sri Balakrish- naswamy	Sri Selva Vinayakar	do
70	93	Uthamapalayam (P)	Uthamapalayam	Sri Kannikapara- meswariamman Temple (F)	45	0.07	Sri Kannika Parameswari	...	Theni Railway station 18 miles
71	..	do	do	Sri Kalahasthee- swaraswamy Temple (S)	Not known	2.50	Sri Kalahasthee- swaraswamy	Sri Gnanam- bigai	do
72	..	do	do	Sri Muthukaru- ppannaswamy Temple (O)	Not known	Not stated	Sri Muthu Karuppanna- swamy	Sri Angaleswari amman	do
73	..	do	do	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	Not known	0.01	Sri Vinayakar	...	Theni Railway station 22 miles

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property Value of Jewellery Rs.			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Apprai- sed by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Repor- ted by temple	Vahanam		
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
830	...	17.29	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	...
602	...	34.51	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	...
1,170	...	10.87	...	...	...	...	Chapparam	Daily poojas by a hereditary Pandaram	...
2,415	1.00	...	...	...	...	500	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Rao	Navarathri
6,465	...	106.49	...	Mango Grove, Buildings, Vacant Plots	4,735	...	...	Daily poojas by a Brahmin	...
854	1.61	...	...	Tamarind Trees-7	...	250	...	Once a week by a Naidu	Sivarathri Tamil New Year's Day Festival in Thai
396	0.60	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a Brahmin	...

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
PERIAKULAM**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
74	96	Combai (P)	Combai	Sri Kannikaparameswariamman Temple (F)	46	1.00	Sri Kannika-parameswari	Sri Vasavambal Sri Parvathy Sri Parameswarar Sri Vinayakar Sri Subramaniam Sri Suryanaraswamy Sri Lakshmi Navagrahas	Bodinayakanur Railway station 17 miles
75	„	do	do	Sri Thirumalaraya Perumal Temple (V)	300	1.00	Sri Thirumalaraya Perumal	Sri Viswanathaswamy Sri Alamelumangai Sri Kodhainachiar Sri Chakkathalwar	do
76	„	do	do	Sri Angalamman Temple (F)	130	Not stated	Sri Angaleswari	Sri Kannimar Sri Karuppuswamy Sri Veerabdraswamy	do
77	„	do	do	Sri Seelakkali- amman Temple (F)	100	0.01	Sri Seelakkali- amman	...	Bodinayakanur Railway station 15 miles
78	98	Pudupatty (P)	Pudupatty	Sri Mariamman Temple (F)	Not known	0.10	Sri Mariamman	...	Theni Railway station 22 miles
79	„	do	do	Sri Neelakandeswaraswamy Temple (S)	1375	1.00	Sri Neelakandeswaraswamy	Sri Ambal Sri Annapoorani	Theni Railway station 21 miles

**MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)**

Annual income assessed for Faali 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property Value of Jewellery Rs.			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple	Vahanam		
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
11,638	2.41	...	...	Grove and Garden 44.14	...	3,600	Kamadhenu Chapparam Palanquin	Twice a day by a Brahmin	Sri Jayanthi Vinayaka Chathurthi Navarathri Karthigai Deepam Vaikunta Ekadasi Sri Rama Navami Sivarathri Arudhra Dharisanam
887	...	...	...	Buildings-32 Cocoanut trees-10	...	15,000	Car, Yali Palanquin Swan Lion Chapparam Hanumar Garuda Sesha Elephant Horses-3	Once a day by a hereditary Brahmin	Vaikasi Visakam Sri Jayanthi Navarathri Karthigai Deepam Vaikunta Ekadasi
200	...	14.67	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a Poosari	Karthigai Deepam
600	...	8.50	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Pillai	Festival in Chithrai Sivarathri
1,162	Extent	not	stated	...	...	...	Chapparams-2	Once a week by a hereditary Archagar	Mariamman festival in Iyypasi
2,356	3.22	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...

and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
PERIAKULAM**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religions									
80	98	Pudupatty (P)	Pudupatty	Sri Valikalraya Perumal Temple (V)	200	0.68	Sri Valikalraya Perumal	Sri Nachiar	Theni Railway station 22 miles
81	..	do	do	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	200	0.05	Sri Vinayakar	...	do
82	..	do	do	Sri Sanyasiappar Temple (O)	200	0.13	Sri Sanyasiappar	...	
83	100	Hanumanthapatti (P)	Hanumanthapatti	Sri Hanumantharaya Perumal Temple (V)	500	Not stated	Sri Hanumantharaya Perumal	...	Theni Railway station 18 miles
84	..	do	do	Sri Uthamanachiamman Temple (F)	200	0.05	Sri Uthamanachiamman	...	Theni Railway station 21 miles
85	105	Kamayagoundanpatti (P)	Kamayagoundanpatti	Sri Kutti Pillayar Temple (G)	45	0.06	Sri Kutti Pillayar	...	Theni Railway station 25 miles
86	107	Cumbum (M)	Cumbum	Sri Angalamman Temple (F)	300	0.03	Sri Angalamman	...	Theni Railway station 26 miles
87	..	do	do	Sri Kannikaparameswariamman Temple (F)	40	0.05	Sri Kannikaparameswari	...	Theni Railway station 24 miles

**MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)**

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
742	3.30	2.20	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a Bhattachariar	...
828	0.57	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Poosari	...
	0.82	...	...	...	...	...	...		
1,584	3.92	1.49	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...
300	Extent not stated			...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Archagar	...
742	1.22	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a Poosari	...
475	1.18	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Poosari	...
6,287	7.27	0.77	...	...	5,361	...	Kamadhenu Chapparam	Twice a day by a hereditary Archagar	Navarathri Vaikasi Visakam

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
PERIAKULAM

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
88	107	Cumbum(M)	Cumbum	Sri Kambaraya Perumal Temple (V)	200	0.15	Sri Kambaraya perumal	SriAlamelu Nachiar	Theni Railway station 21 miles
89	..	do	do	Sri Kasiviswanathaswamy Temple (S)	200	0.15	Sri Kasiviswanathaswamy	Sri Visalakshi	
90	..	do	do	Sri Chamundi-amman Temple (F)	300	0.40	Sri Chamundi-amman	...	Theni Railway station 26 miles
91	..	do	do	Sri Saranganathar Temple (V)	Not known	Below 0.01	Sri Saranganathar	...	do
92	..	do	do	Sri Veerabadraswamy Temple (O)	200	Below 0.01	Sri Veerabadraswamy	...	do
93	..	do	do	Sri Subramania-swamy <i>alias</i> Velappar Temple (M)	200	Below 0.01	Sri Subramania-swamy	Sri Vinayakar Sri Valli Deivayanai Sri Bairavar	Theni Railway station 26 miles
94	..	do	do	Sri Bhoothanarayana Perumal Temple (V)	150	0.02	Sri Bhootha-Narayana Perumal	...	do
95	113	Melagudalur (V)	Melagudalur	Sri Alagar Temple (V)	600	0.70	Sri Sundararaja Perumal	Sri Sundaravalli Thayar	Theni Railway station 32 miles
96	..	do	do	Sri Mariamman Temple (F)	500	0.10	Sri Mariamman	...	do

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festival
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Concl'd.)									
9,381	...	...	12.22	Shops, vacant plots	...	Value not stated	Car Palanquins-2 Elephant Horse Lion Sesha Garuda	Twice a day by a Bhattachariar	Sri Jayanthi Karthigai Deepam Vaikunta Ekadas Sri Hanumantha Jayanthi Panguni Uthiram Vaikasi Visakam Tamil New Year's Day
1,427	5.44	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a Gurukkal	Vinayaka Chathurthi Sri Jayanthi Thiruvadhirai Vaikasi Visakam Karthigai Deepam Sivarathri Panguni Uthiram Tamil New Year's Day
835	1.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Poosari	...
...	2.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	No Poojas	...
...	2.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Poosari	...
625	4.00	3.00	...	...	...	100	Peacock	Once a week by a hereditary Asari	Tamil New Year's day Karthigai Deepam Sri Jayanthi
300	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a month by a hereditary Poosari	Tamil New Year's day
3,638	3.42	2.17	...	...	...	...	Garuda	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattar	Chithra Pournami
742	1.61	...	...	Garden 1.00	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Poosari	...

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
PERIAKULAM**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples outside the Hindu Religions									
1	1	Periakulam (M)	Katcheri Road	Sri Guruvappa Pillayar Temple (G)	300	1.50	Sri Guruvappa Pillayar	...	Theni Railway station 10 miles
2	13	Thamarai kulam B. (V)	Sedapatti	Sri Sound-amman Temple (F)	300	Not stated	Sri Sound-amman	Sri Muthu-karuppanna-swamy	Theni Railway station 12 miles
3	34	Kunnur (P)	Ammachi-puram	Sri Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.16	Sri Ayyanar	Sri Karup-panna-swamy	Theni Railway station 3½ miles
4	38	Uppukottai Part (P)	Uppukottai	Sri Dhanur Veda Vinayakar Temple (G)	40	Below 0.01	Sri Dhanur Veda Vinayakar	...	Theni Railway station 6 miles
5	93	Uthamapalayam (P)	Uthamapalayam	Sri Selva Vinayakar Temple (G)	150	0.12	Sri Selva Vinayakar	...	Theni Railway station 18 miles

**MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Concl'd.)**

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
					Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vabanam		
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department									
920	1.72	...	...	...	...	260	Bandicoot Rishabam	Once a day by a Brahmin	Vinayaka Chathurthi
Not stated	0.62	5.70	...	...	...	143	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Poosari	Festival in Panguni
Not stated	...	...	...	Grove	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Velar	...
195	Extent not stated		...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by trustee	...
400	0.95	0.40	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Brahmin	Vinayaka Chathurthi Karthigai Deepam Tamil New Year's Day

NILAKOTTAI TALUK

16. ORUTHATTU

H o. Ammayanaickanur

Sri Kadhali Narasinga Perumal Temple

About two kilometres from Kodaikanal Road Railway station is an old Chola temple which emphasises that Siva and Vishnu are ultimately one and the same supreme. The chief deities of the temple in the village of Oruthattu are Sri Kadhali Narasinga Perumal (Vishnu) and Sri Kadhaleeswarar (Siva). The images on the pillars of the temple have both Saivite and Vaishnavite symbols signifying that "I am He" and "He is Me".

The temple occupies an area of about two acres. The outer walls of the shrine were repaired in 1870 by Bommachi Naicker. The madapalli and the inner prakaram of the goddess's temple were constructed in 1910. The front mandapam was put up in 1928. The temple was electrified in 1958. The walls in the prakaram of Sri Narasinga Perumal temple have a number of inscriptions. The Archaeological Department have copied some of these lithic records.

The installation of the idols of Sri Narasinga Perumal with His two consorts near a Swayambu Lingam on a square peetam goes to prove the essential oneness of Siva and Vishnu. There is a legend to the effect that Arjuna got Pasupathasthra here. The term "Kadhali" in the names of Perumal and Eswarar refers to plantain which is produced abundantly in the areas surrounding the temple.

The temple possesses a modest jewellery. The vahanas of the temple are: Horse, Swan, Lion, Garudan, Hanumar, Adisesha etc. The temple has not been celebrating the annual festivals for some years.

62. THANICHIAM

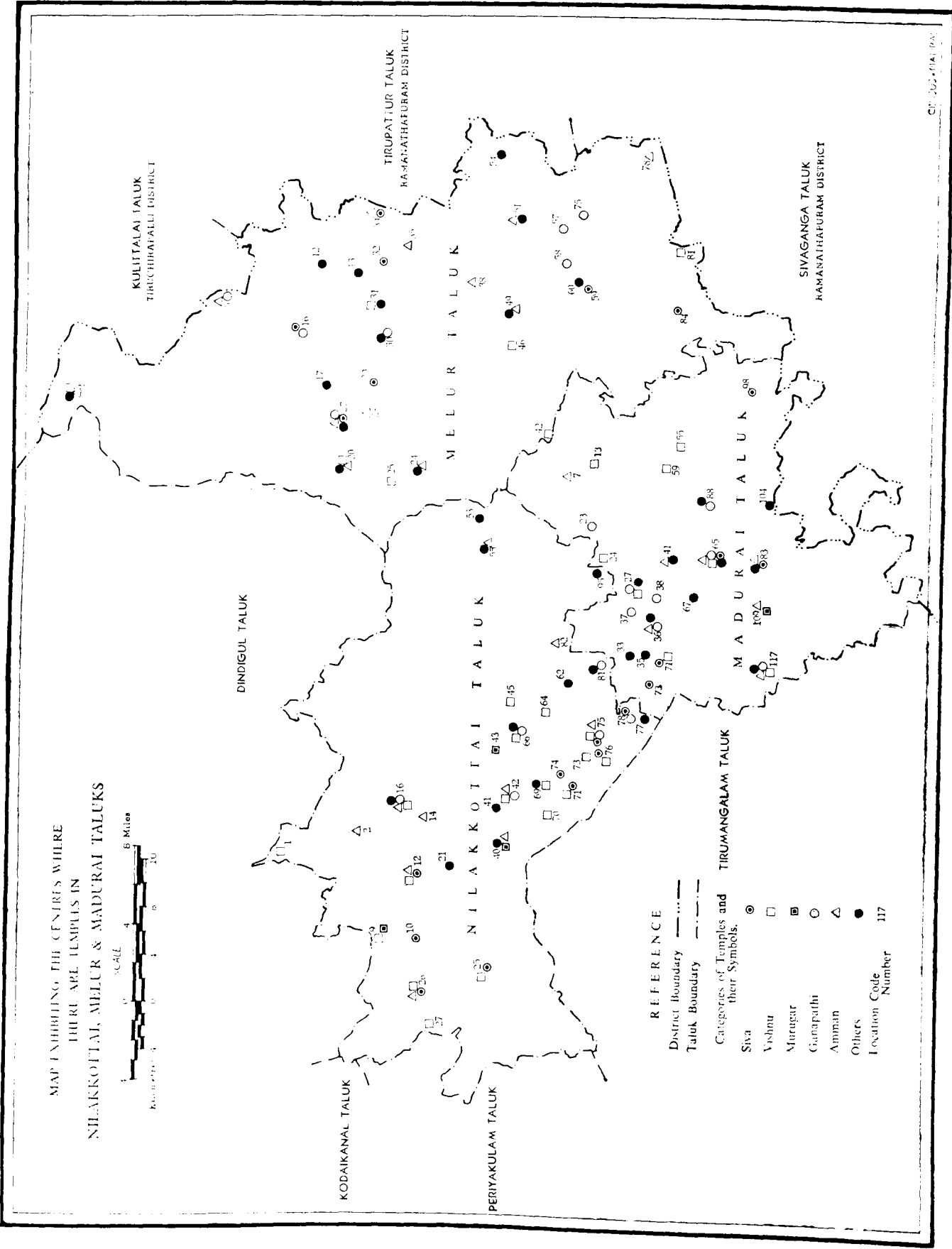
Sri Ayyanar Temple

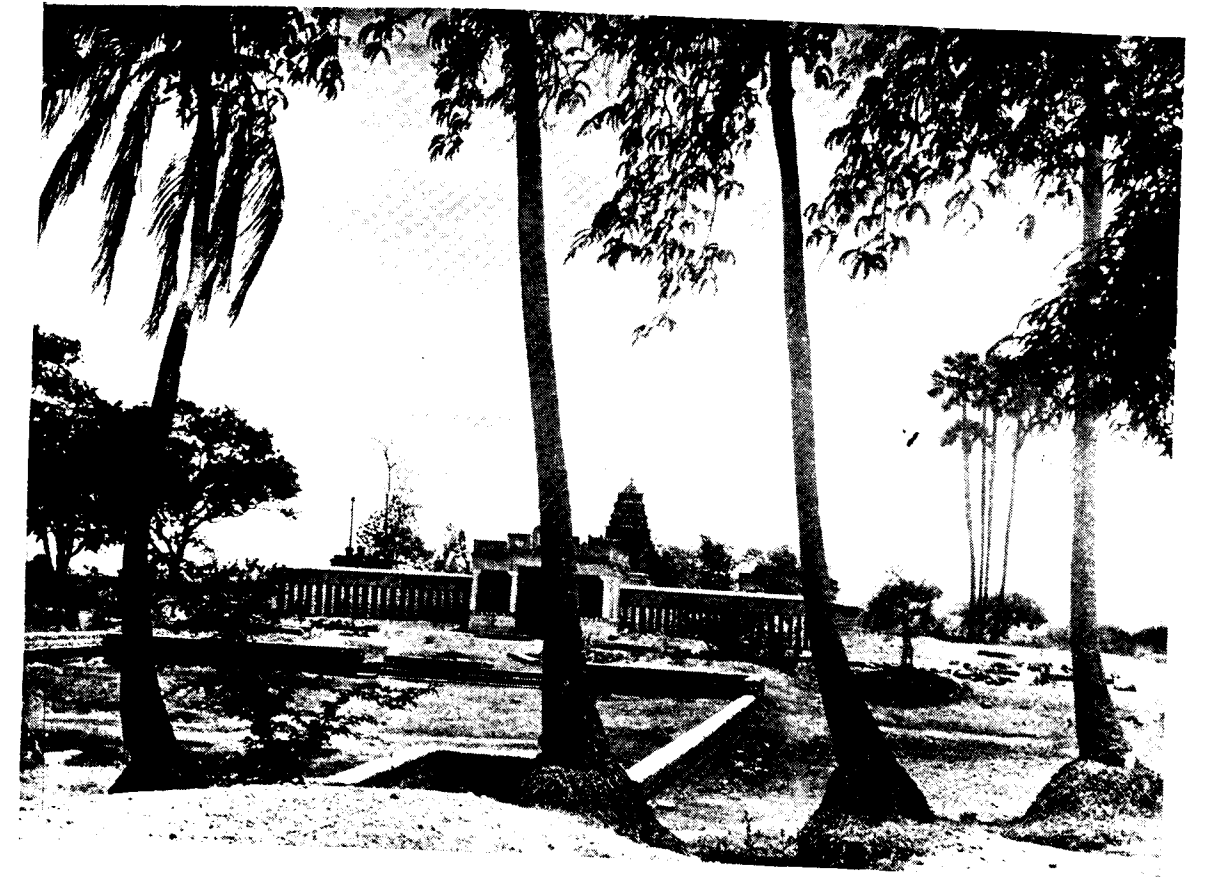
Sri Ayyanar who embodies in Himself Siva and Vishnu is the popular deity which is worshipped with great zeal by the rural folk. Temples dedicated to this god could be found in the district on the outskirts of villages near irrigation tanks.

Thanichiam is at a distance of about 6 kilometres from Samayanallur, a major rice market in Madurai district. It is situated on the Madurai-Dindigul road and is hence served well by buses. The temple of Ayyanar in the village is said to have been constructed by King Shenbaga Pandyan and later renovated by many devout individuals. There are some inscriptions in the main mandapam.

This small temple occupies an area of 95' x 81'. There is a big tank before the temple. Both the temple and tank could be seen even from the trunk road as one traverses from Madurai to Dindigul. Huge clay images of horse and Bhootham within the temple are bound to attract the attention of the passers-by. For the principal deity Sri Ayyanar and for Sri Chandana Karuppuswamy, the other main deity there are separate sanctum. There are other village deities also in the temple. Hereditary priests belonging to the potter community perform poojas in the temple once in the evening.

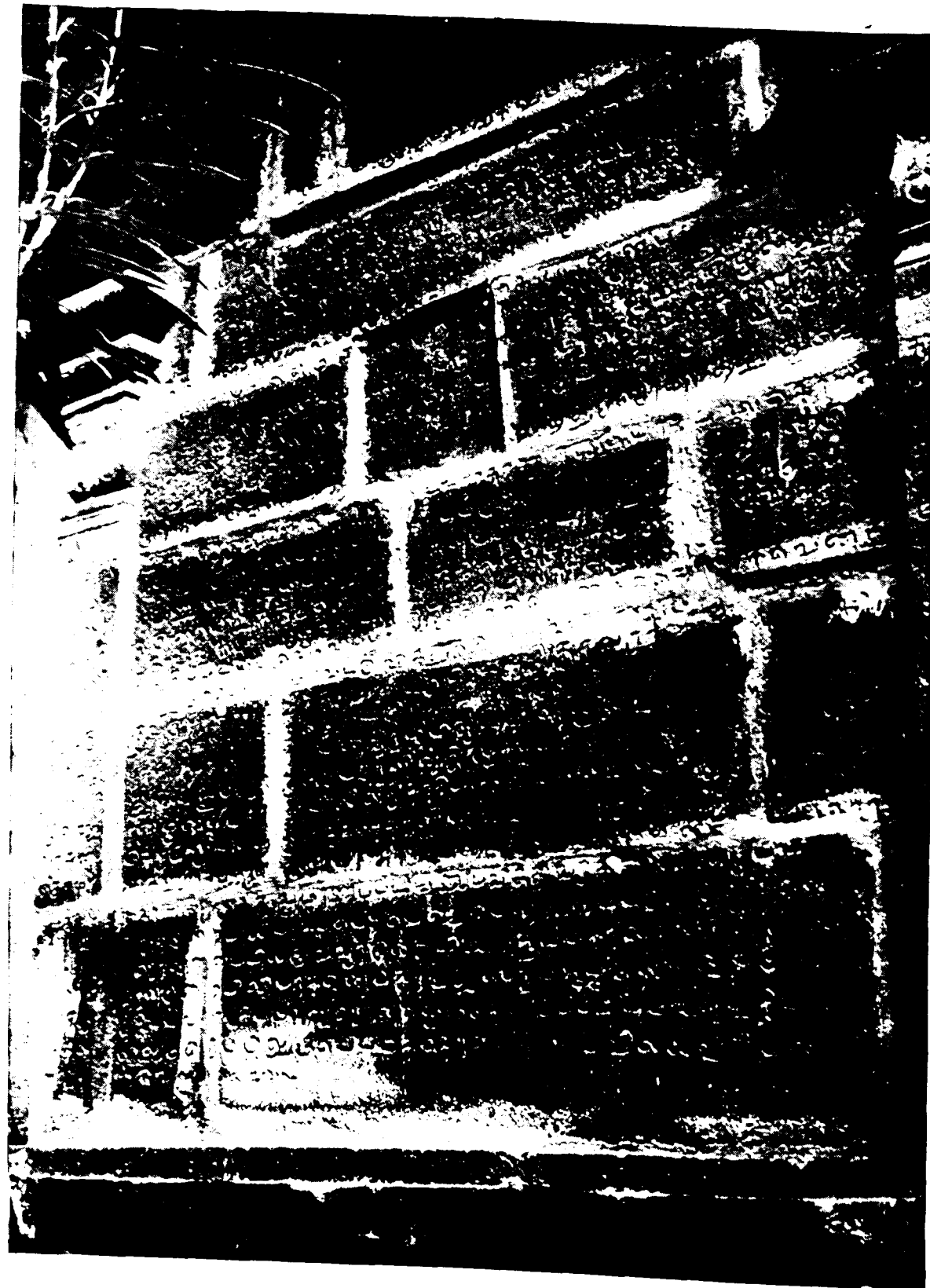
On the following days special worship is made in the temple (1) the Tamil New Years' day in Chithrai month, (2) Chithra Pournami, (3) Vaikasi Visakam, (4) Adi Perukku, (5) Vinayaka Chathurthi, (6) Karthigai Deepam, (7) Margazhi Pooja, (8) Thai Pongal, (9) Sivarathri in Masi, (10) Panguni Uthiram.





A view of the temple of Sri Ayyanar with the tank in the foreground at Thanichiam

MADURAI DISTRICT



Inscriptions in Sri Mulanathaswamy temple at Thenkarai

The most important annual festival of the temple is the 'Kudhirai Eduppu' festival or horse festival. Hundreds of people in and around the village used to take a keen interest in this traditional festival. Images of horse made out of clay and painted tastefully used to be taken to the temple with great eclat from the adjoining villages and special worship made. Pongal is the chief offering made on such occasions. On the festival day, people used to joyously participate in revelry. The expenditure was borne by the people themselves on that day. For some time past the festival is not being celebrated on such a grand scale. One could see in the temple a number of clay images of horses which were given to the temple as votive offerings.

The temple owns modest jewellery. It has about 15 acres of land, the produce from which is enjoyed by the priests who are responsible for performing the daily poojas properly. The temple which comes under the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department is managed by a Board of trustees consisting of 21 members.

75. SHOLAVANDAN

Sri Pralayanathaswamy Temple

Sholavandan, a village in Nilakottai taluk, which stands on the left bank of the river Vaigai, 26 Kilometres north-west of Madurai is noted for its famous Saivite shrine known as Sri Pralayanathaswamy temple. The presiding deity is an installed Lingam. The divine consort is called Sri Soundara Nayagi or Pushpavalli. This sthalam was also an important halting place for pilgrims travelling to Rameswaram. It is linked with several sacred centres by bus and train. Madurai, the district head-quarters and Nilakottai, the taluk head-quarters are 26 and 29 kilometres away respectively. The beautiful temple here, was built in 1869 A.D. by one Sri Pattabhirama Dikshadar, an ardent devotee of Siva. A vimanam and a mandapam were added to it later on. "Ashtabandhana Mahakumbabishegam" was performed in the year 1962.

The temple which covers an area of about 69 cents has a beautiful 22 feet high vimanam over the sanctum sanctorum with attractive plaster figures on it.

There are two separate sanctum here for the Swamy and Ambal. Sri Vinayakar, Subramaniam, Valli, Deivayanai, Dakshinamoorthy, Brahma, Vishnu, Durgai, Chandikeswarar, Nagar, Nalvar and Navagrahas are the other deities here. There are also several festival idols of Sri Natarajar, Sivakami amman Manickavasagar etc. These idols are made of Panchalogam.

Poojas are performed thrice daily by non-hereditary Brahmin priests strictly according to the principles of Karana Agamam. The temple owns antique jewellery in gold and silver worth about Rs. 4,000/-. The immovable properties of the temple comprise about 12.47 acres of wet lands, apart from 16 coconut trees, which fetch an annual income of Rs. 14,472/- by way of rent and this amount is spent for its upkeep and general maintenance. There is a 60 year old copper Rishaba vahanam here. Vinayaka Chaturthi, Navarathri, Karthigai Deepam, Thiruvadhirai and Sivarathri are the important annual festivals celebrated by the temple.

A hereditary trustee appointed by the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department is in charge of the temple.

76. THENKARAI

Sri Mulanathaswamy Temple

At a distance of about 25 kilometres from Madurai on the southern bank of Vaigai river is a fertile village called Thenkarai which has a temple dedicated to Lord Siva. The nearest railway station for the village is Sholavandan. The original temple is said to have been built by Pandya kings. There are a number of stone inscriptions in the shrine which throw light on the endowments made to the temple from time to time. Ever since the original temple was built, additions have been made now and then. A kumbabishegam was performed in the year 1961.

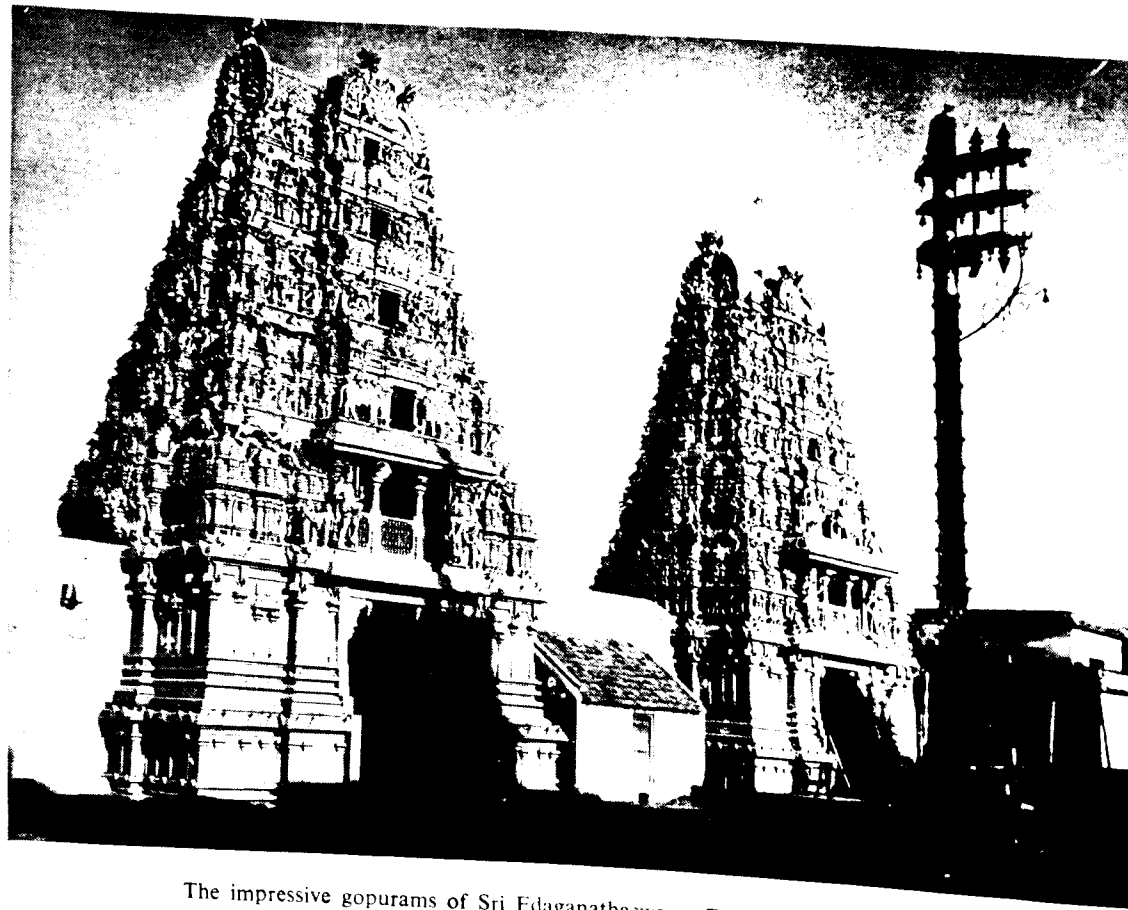
Several legends have been associated with the temple. According to one of them, King Veera Pandyan who was afflicted by leprosy got rid of his disease after taking a bath in the sacred tank called Swarnapushkarani situated within the temple opposite



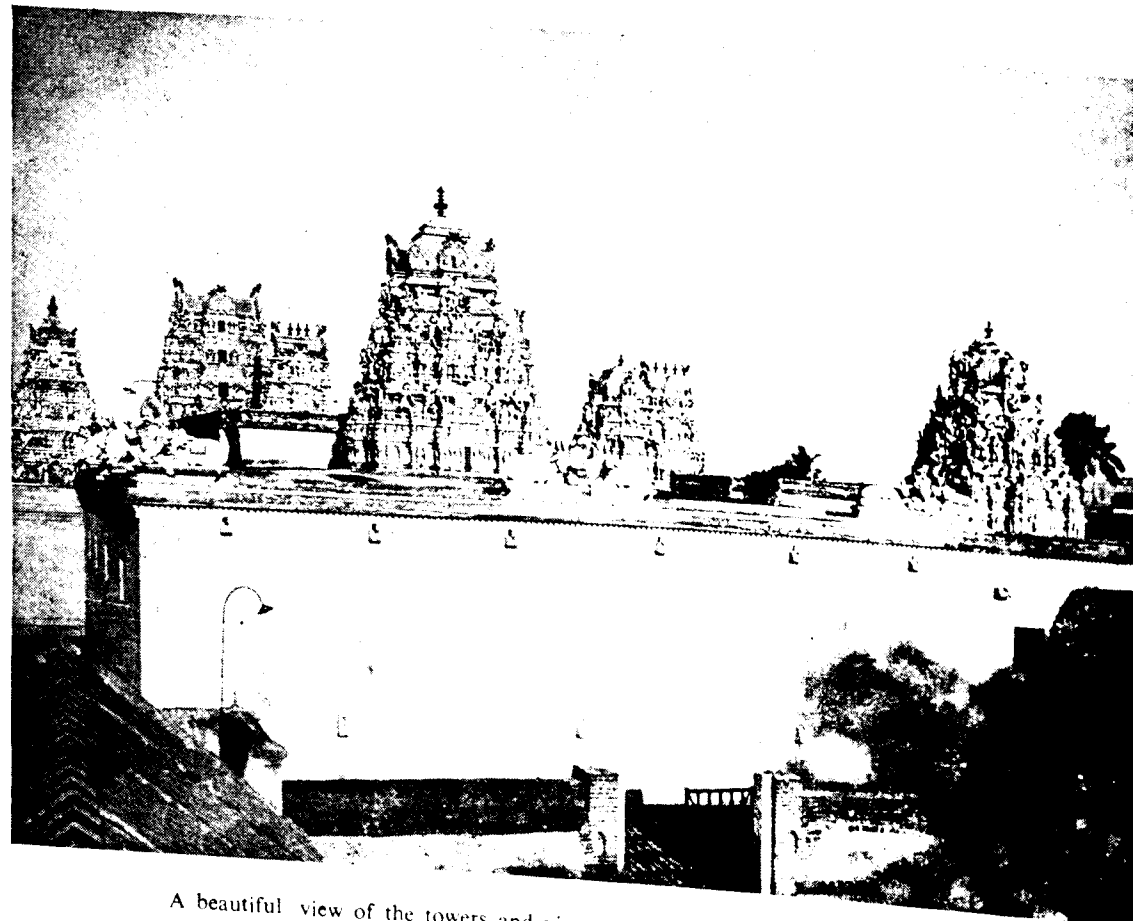
A life-size image of a horse offered by devotees in
Sri Ayyanar Temple at Thanichiam



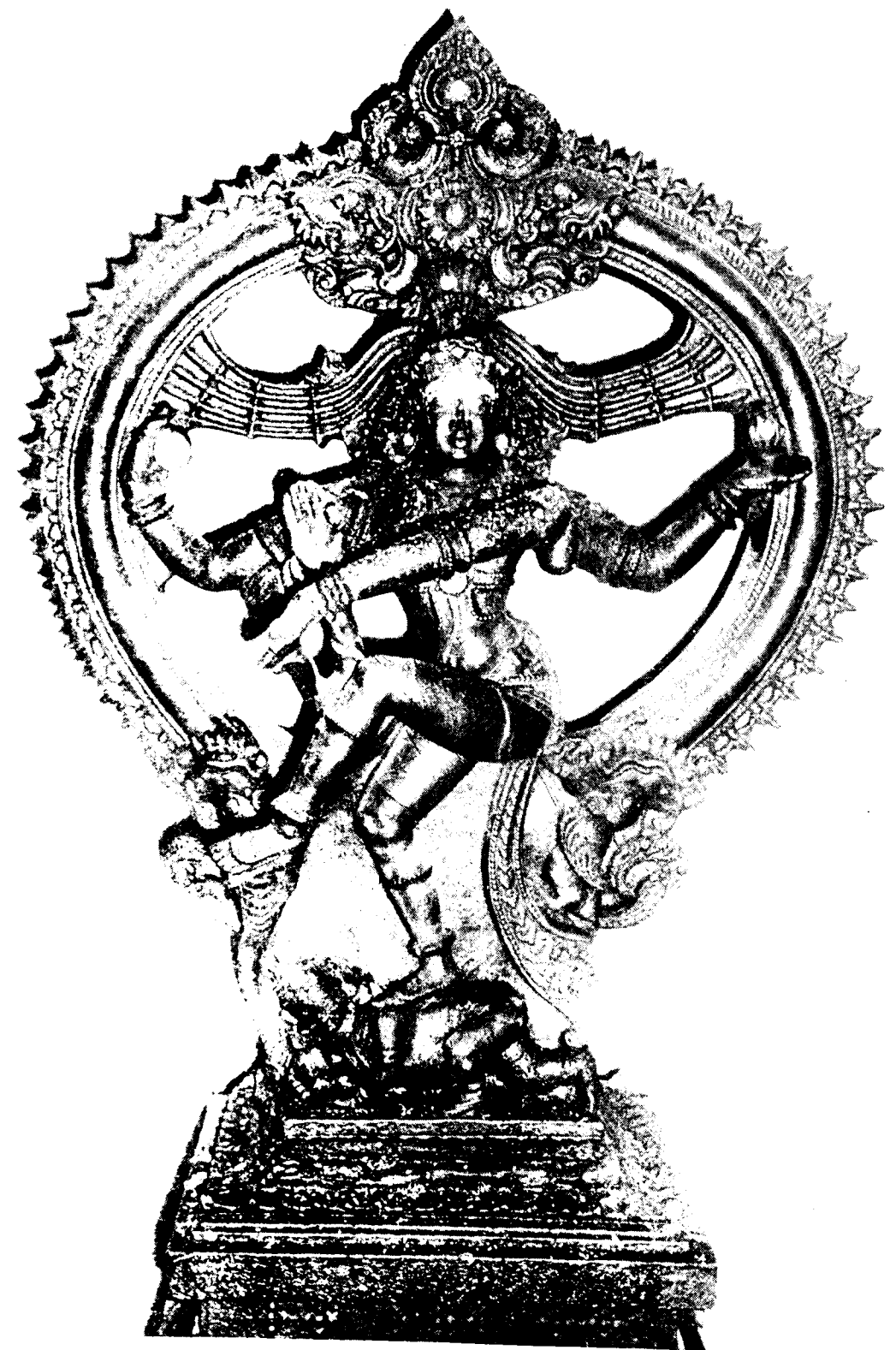
A view of the Goddess' shrine and the sacred tank in the temple of Sri Mulanathaswamy at Thenkarai



The impressive gopurams of Sri Edaganathaswamy Temple at Thiruvudagam



A beautiful view of the towers and vimanamams of the temple at Thiruvudagam



Sri Natarajar in the temple at Thiruvudagam

to the goddess's shrine. It is said that to spread the cult of bhakthi, goddess Parvathi once requested Lord Siva to send Sri Mulavar to the world. Sri Mulavar performed severe penance here and got the blessings of the Lord. Hence the presiding deity of this village is called Sri Mulanathar. The divine consort is known as Sri Akhilandeswari.

The temple facing east encloses an area of about 2.5 acres and has wide open space on the front side. The height of the Rajagopuram is about 20 feet. The vimanams about 18 feet high crown the garbhagruhas of Sri Mulanathar and Sri Akhilandeswari. The temple has two prakarams. There are as many as 87 pillars in the goddess's temple. The presiding deity is an installed Lingam.

Hereditary priests, well versed in Siva Agama perform poojas four times a day. The value of the jewels of the temple has been estimated at about Rs. 5,410. The temple owns sizable landed property, the income from which is utilised for the maintenance of the temple, performing festivals etc. The temple authorities run a library out of these funds.

The Thers (chariots) of the temple have to be repaired and overhauled. There are two palanquins and wooden vahanas of Rishaba, Swan, Lion, Nandhi, Elephant and Horse. The Brahmotsavam of the temple which was being celebrated in the Tamil month of Vaikasi (May-June) has been suspended for the past forty years.

There is a popular belief that a bath in the sacred tank of the temple will cure skin diseases including leprosy. It is said that the water in the tank which is supposed to have medicinal effect changes colour frequently. The goddess is considered very powerful. The affairs of the temple are managed by a Board of trustees having four members.

78. THIRUVEDAGAM (THIRUVELAGAM)

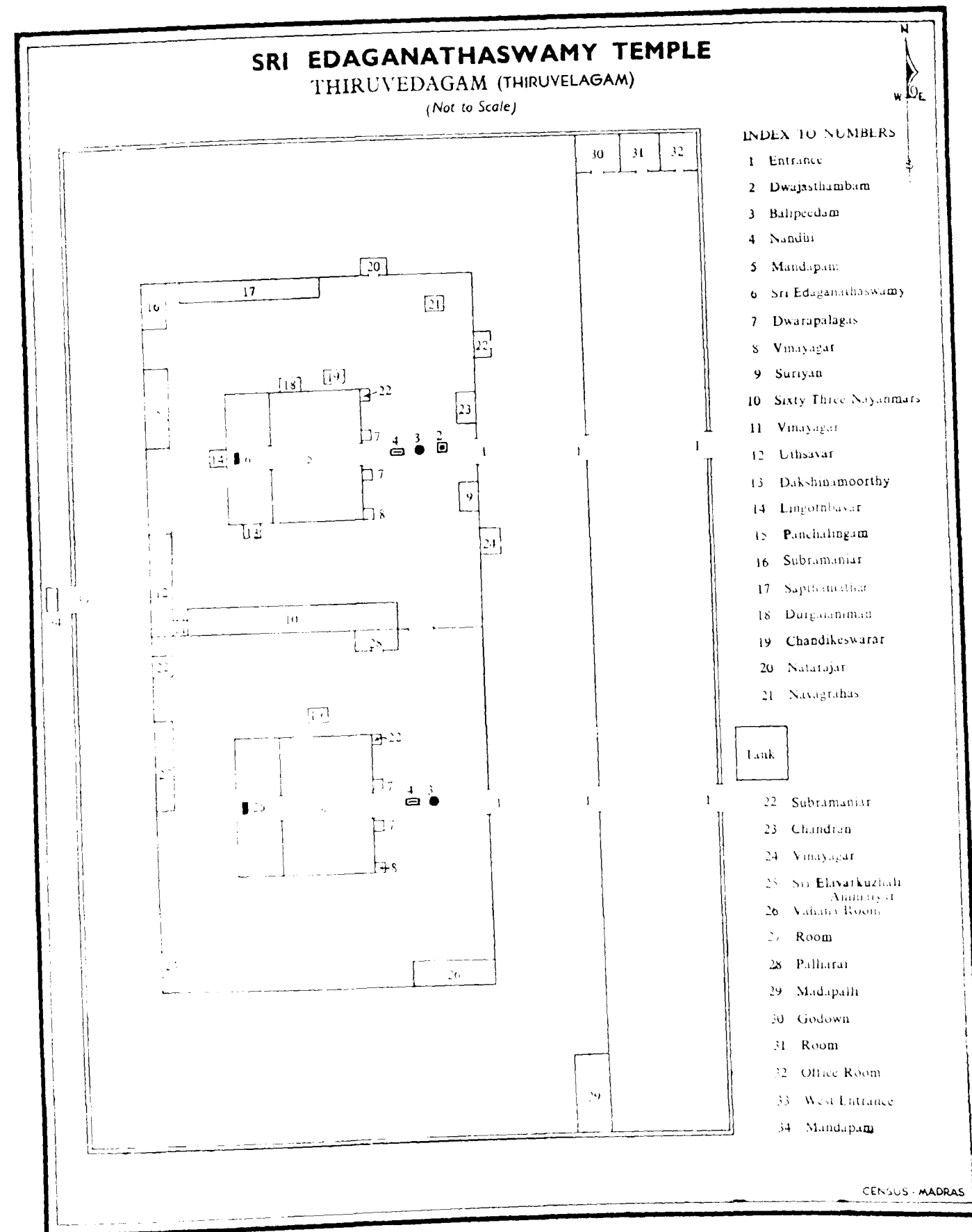
Sri Edaganatha Swamy Temple

Thiruvédagam which means the place of the 'sacred leaf' is one of the fourteen reputed Sivasthalams in Pandya Nad. Mention about this place is made in the celebrated 'Thevaram' hymns. This sacred sthalam

lies on the bank of the river Vaigai, in the Nilakottai taluk of the Madurai district. It is situated amidst verdant vegetation on the 12th mile stone, on the Madurai-Nilakottai Road. Sholavandan, at a distance of about 3 miles is the nearest Railway station. It is here that the great saint Sri Thirugnana Sambandar performed a wonderful miracle when he faced a challenge from the Jains. The Edu (palm leaf) containing the famous verse of the saint beginning with "Vazha Andanar" smoothly floated upstream against the current in Vaigai when it was in floods. When the saint sang another sacred verse, the Edu stopped at the spot on the river margin where the village now stands. It is well known that the saint brought back the hunch back Pandya King to the Hindu fold from Jainism.

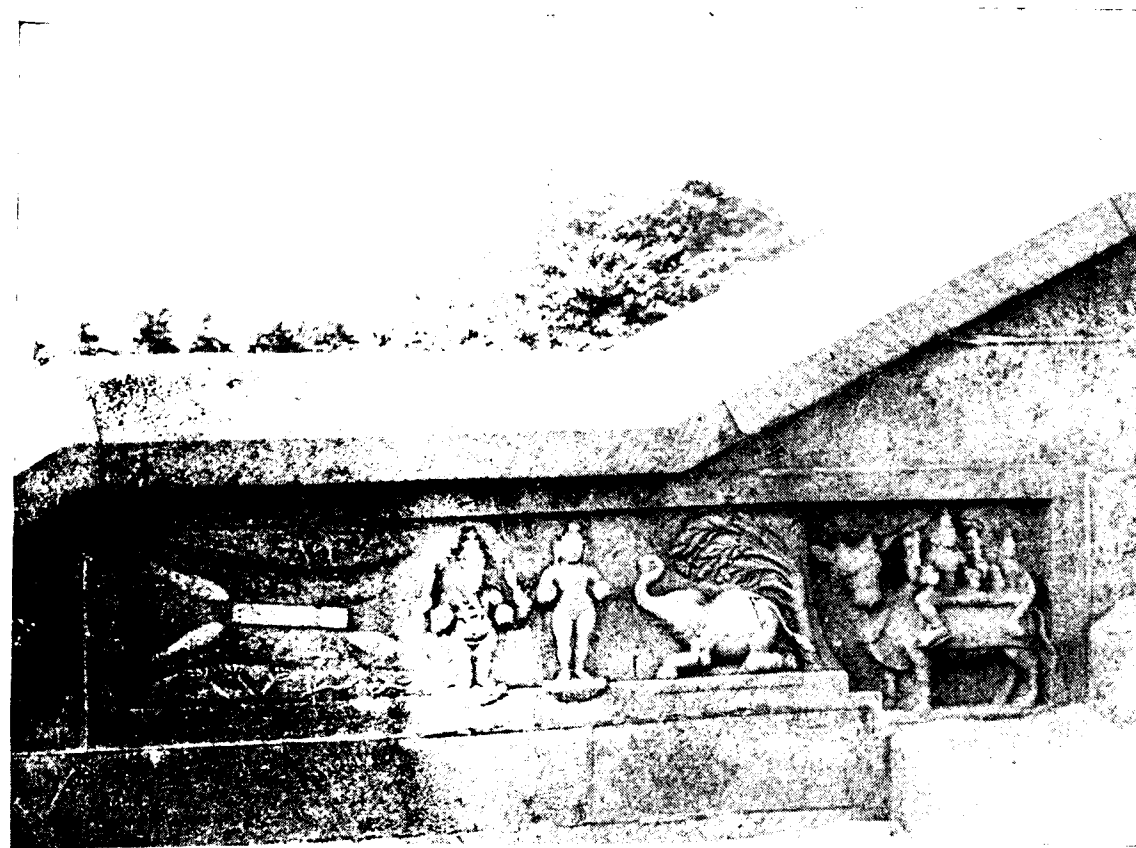
The temple is said to have been constructed by the rulers of this region during the life time of Sri Thirugnana Sambandar. Later on, several renovations were made by devotees. The present temple which stands magnificently with its tall gopurams and spacious corridors is a tribute to the deep devotion of the Nagarathar community who took a keen interest to renovate the shrine. A kumbabishegam was performed in 1930 on the completion of renovation work which commenced in 1910. Again in 1965 renovation and paintings were carried out. Several lakhs of rupees have been spent in this regard by devout and generous individuals. Sri O. Rm. M. S. S. Subramaniam Chettiar, the present trustee of the Devasthanam is one of the chief benefactors of this temple. It covers an area of about 5 acres. The temple facing east, has a single prakaram, two sanctum and 28 architecturally carved stone pillars, besides an arthamandapam and a sthapanamandapam. The two five-tiered gopuram viz., a Rajagopuram in the front and the other at the rear beautify this shrine with their architectural excellence.

The presiding deity of the temple, Sri Edaganathar, or Patrika Parameswarar is said to have been worshipped by Garudan, Adishesha and Thirumal. Now, there is an installed Lingam here. The Swayambu Lingam, it is said, is underneath the pedestal on which the present Lingam has been installed. His consort is known as Sri Elavar Kuzhali alias Sugantha Kunthalambal. The sacred vilva tree is the sthalaviruksham here. The sacred theerthams of this sthalam are the river Vaigai, which flows from north





The delightful festival idol of the great saint Thirugnanasambandar in Sri Edaganathaswamy Temple at Thiruvudagam



Carvings near the steps of the river Vaigai at Thiruvudagam depicting the event concerning the palm leaf

to south and the famous Brahma theertham in the form of a tank near the temple. It is popularly believed that such of those devotees who are mentally deranged can hope to be cured of their affliction after taking a dip in this tank.

Sri Thirugnana Sambandar has sung a beautiful "Thiruppadhigam" with eleven sacred "Pasurams" glorifying this sthalam. Thevaram, Kshethirakkovai Thiruthandagam, Sekkizhar's Peria Puranam and Arunagiri Nathar's Thiruppugazh speak the glory of this sthalam. The sthalapuranam of this temple written by one Sri Subramania Iyer consists of 13 "Padalams", containing 649 verses, of which the Thirugnana Sambandar Padalam, in which the legend pertaining to the origin of this shrine is narrated, deserves special mention. There is also a Vinayakar temple known as "Vadhuvendra Vinayakar Koil" in this place. It is said that Lord Vinayaka in the form of a fish arrested the movement of the Edu. On the banks of the river Vaigai near the temple some carvings relating to this incident have been made on the stone steps.

There are several stone inscriptions here, on the walls of the temple fortress as well as at the entrance of the eastern and western pagodas, belonging to the periods of Sri Maravarman Sundara Pandyan (1216-1235 A.D.), Sri Parakrama Pandyan, Sri Jadavarman Kulasekhara Pandyan (1190-1217 A.D.) and Sri Krishna Deva Rayar of Vijayanagar. They refer to this sthalam as "Pagunur Kutrathu Thiruvudagam" and the Lord as "Sri Thiruvudagamudaiya Nayanar". Most of these inscriptions speak of the endowments, made in the form of paddy fields for the upkeep and maintenance of the temple. One of them refers to the existence of a Thirumal temple here, while another speaks of the gift of lands to a group of twenty saints in the Thirugnana Sambandar's

Mutt. Yet another inscription registers the gift of land made to the temple by the famous King Sri Jadavarman Tribuvana Chakkravarthi.

Poojas are performed six times daily by hereditary Brahmin priests, who are in the enjoyment of service inam lands on a rotation basis. The temple owns both antique and modern jewellery worth about Rs. 65,974/- in the shape of gold, silver and diamond ornaments, mostly donated by devotees. The diamond studded gold crown deserves special mention. The immovable property of the temple comprises a few acres of wet lands and nine houses, which are leased out for an annual rent of Rs. 32,832/-. This amount is utilised towards the disbursement of salaries to the temple servants, the conduct of daily poojas and periodical festivals of the temple and for its general maintenance. The temple also gets an additional income of Rs. 50/- every year, through its hundi collections. Besides, the temple also collects a nominal fee for marriages performed within the temple premises. This provides an additional source of income.

Adi Pooram, Vinayaka Chaturthi, Navarathri, Deepavali, Annabishegam in Iyppasi, Thirukkarthigai, Skandha Sashti, Thiruvadhirai, Sankaranthi, Thai Poosam, Masi Magam, Maha Sivarathri, Panguni Uthiram, Tamil New Year's day, Vaikasi Visakam and Edu Edhireriya Vaikasi uthsavam are the regular festivals celebrated by the temple every year, of which the Navarathri and Edu Edhireriya Vaikasi uthsavam are the most important ones, which attract a large number of devotees from far and near.

The affairs of the temple are managed by a hereditary trustee, through an Executive Officer appointed by the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department.

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
NILAKOTTAI

Sl. No	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
1	1	Pachaimalayan kottai (P)	Pachaimala-yankottai	Sri Perumal Temple (V)	250	0.50	Sri Soundararaja-perumal	...	Ambaturai Railway station 3½ miles
2	9	Sevagampatti (P)	Sevagampatti	Sri Kundaleeswara Perumal Temple (V)	200	Below 0.01	Sri Kundaleeswara Perumal	...	Kodaikanal Road Railway station 12 miles
3	..	do	do	Sri Solamalai Alagar Temple (V)	100	0.05	Sri Solamalai Alagar	Sri Achiamman Sri Ramar	Kodaikanal Road Railway station
4	10	Mallanampatti (P)	Mallanampatti	Sri Kaliyuga Chidambareswarar Temple (S)	300	0.90	Sri Kaliyuga Chidambareswarar	...	Kodaikanal Road Railway station 10 miles
5	12	Nilakottai (P)	Nilakottai	Sri Ahobila Narasinga Perumal Temple (V)	200	0.02	Sri Ahobila Narasinga Perumal	Sri Nachiamman	Kodaikanal Road Railway station 6 miles
6	..	do	do	Sri Mariamman Temple (F)	75	0.01	Sri Mariamman	...	do
7	..	do	do	Sri Natarajaswamy Temple (S)	59	Below 0.01	Sri Natarajar	...	do
8	14	Malayagoundanpatti (P)	Malayagoundanpatti	Sri Muthalamman Temple (F)	200	Below 0.01	Sri Muthalamman	...	Kodaikanal Road Railway station

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property Value of Jewellery Rs.			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple	Vahanam		
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department									
200	Extent	not	stated	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Chettiar	...
200	...	...	4.00	...	...	...	...	No Poojas	Karthigai Deepam
750	...	4.50	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Naicker	Chithra Pournami
591	...	5.70	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Poosari	Sivarathri
2,650	Extent	not	stated	...	...	Value not stated	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Festival in Vaikasi
3,353	...	...	6.00	...	3,644	...	Vahanas-2	Twice a day by a Brahmin	Chithra Pournami
1,576	...	7.00	...	Building	...	...	Chapparams-2	Once a day by a Brahmin	Festival in Margazhi
594	...	5.23	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Gounder	...

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
NILAKOTTAI

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
9	16	Ammayanai- ckanur (P)	Oruthattu	Sri Kadhali Narasinga Perumal Temple (V)	900	2.00	Sri Kadhali Narasinga Perumal	Sri Kadhalees- warar	Kodaikanal Road Railway station 1 mile
10	..	do	do	Sri Pettai Vinayakar Temple (G)	60	0.03	Sri Pettai Vinayakar	...	do
11	..	do	Ammayanai- ckanur	Sri Mariamman Temple (F)	500	0.17	Sri Muthu Mariamman	...	do
12	..	do	do	Sri Kundala- malaiyaswamy Temple (O)	200	0.05	Sri Kundalama- laiyaswamy	...	Kodaikanal Road Railway station 1½ miles
13	..	do	do	Sri Uthamanachi amman Temple (F)	100	0.14	Sri Uthamana- chiamman	...	Kodaikanal Road Railway station 3 miles
14	..	do	do	Sri Gurunatha- swamy Temple (O)	200	0.05	Sri Gurunatha- swamy	...	Kodaikanal Road Railway station 1 furlong
15	21	Goovanathu (P)	Velankottai	Sri Ayyanar Temple (O)	500	0.02	Sri Ayyanar	...	Kodaikanal Road Railway station 15 miles
16	25	Kunnuvaran- kottai (P)	Kunnuvaran- kottai	Sri Eswaraswamy alias Visalakshi Viswanathar Temple (S)	300	0.25	Sri Viswana- thar	Sri Visalakshi Sri Subrama- niam Sri Valli Deivayanai Sri Bairavar	Usilampatti Railway station 11 miles

TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
447	48.00	...	...	...	...	100	Horse Lion Garuda Hanumar Sesha Chapparam	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Sri Jayanthi Uriyadi Vaikunta Ekadasi
1,000	...	3.00	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	...
320	1.50	5.00	...	Garden 1.75	...	1,000	...	Once a day by a hereditary Poosari	Festival in Vaikasi
300	...	5.00	...	...	...	...	...	No Poojas	...
310	...	6.00	...	2.00	...	...	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Mooppanar	Thai Pongal
3,040	...	7.00	...	...	...	...	...	No Poojas	...
349	...	2.00	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Naicker	...
828	3.53	5.19	...	...	...	60	...	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattar	Navarathri

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
NILAKOTTAI

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	No.	Name	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
17	25	Kunnuvaram kottai (P)	Kunnuvaram kottai	Sri Varadaraja Perumal Temple (V)	31	0.30	Sri Varadaraja-Perumal	Sri Naganathar Sri Kambathadiyar	Kodaikanal Road Railway station 7 miles
18	26	Batlagundu (P)	Batlagundu	Sri Lakshmi Narayanaswamy Temple (V)	150	0.12	Sri Lakshmi Narayanaswamy	Sri Hanumar	Kodaikanal Road Railway station 12 miles
19	"	do	do	Sri Viswanathaswamy and Visalakshiamman Temple (S)	500	0.35	Sri Viswanathaswamy	Sri Visalakshi Sri Natarajar Sri Sivakami Navagrahas	Kodaikanal Road Railway station 12 miles
20	"	do	do	Sri Mariamman Temple (F)	Not known	1.00	Sri Mariamman	Sri Muthu Karuppuswamy Sri Anjaneyar Navagrahas Sri Subramaniam Sri Valli Deivayanai	Kodaikanal Road Railway station 15 miles
21	"	do	do	Sri Kalliamman Temple (F)	100	0.02	Sri Kalliamman	...	Kodaikanal Road Railway station 12 miles
22	27	Batlagundu (Rural) (V)	Kottaiyapatti	Sri Chenroya Perumal Temple (V)	75	0.06	Sri Chenroya Perumal	Sri Mariamman	Kodaikanal Road Railway station 14 miles

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
600	0.78	9.21	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Naicker	...
985	7.00	...	...	...	...	100	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Navarathri
8,628	17.33	40.53	...	Garden 6.62	...	515	Silver Peacock Rishabam Car Sahadais-2 Chapparams-4 Rishabam Peacock Elephant Horse Bandicoot Suran	Twice a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	Festival in Vaikasi Navarathri Skandha Sashti Karthigai Deepam Thai Poosam Sivarathri Panguni Uthiram
3,901	3.24	2.35	...	Garden 1.36	...	2,000	Car Rishabam Kamadhenu Lion	Once a day by a hereditary Pillai	Mariamman festival in Vaikasi
974	2.88	...	...	Shops-2	...	1,000	Lion	Once a day by a hereditary Velar	Navarathri
285	1.20	11.00	...	...	...	1,900	...	Once a week by a hereditary Naicker	Festival once in two years in Panguni

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
NILAKOTTAI**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	No.	Name	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
23	40	Vilampatti (P)	Vilampatti	Sri Karuppanna-swamy Temple (O)	200	1'00	Sri Karuppanna-swamy	...	Sholavandan Railway station 10 miles
24	„	do	do	Sri Velayudha-swamy Temple (M)	200	0'17	Sri Velayudha-swamy	...	Vadipatti Railway station 7 miles
25	„	do	do	Sri Veyilund-amman Temple (F)	200	Below 0'01	Sri Veyilund-amman	...	
26	41	Mattaparai (P)	Mattaparai	Sri Kannimar Temple (O)	200	Below 0'01	Sri Kannimar	...	Vadipatti Railway station 3 miles
27	42	Ramaraja-puram (P)	Ramaraja-puram	Sri Muthalamman Temple (F)	Not known	0'01	Sri Muthalamman	Sri Kaliyamman Sri Bhagavathiamman Sri Ayyanar Sri Vinayakar	do
28	„	do	do	Sri Sivakameswariamman Temple (S)	100	0'10	Sri Sivakameswariamman	Sri Siva Sri Sanceswarar	do
29	„	do	do	Sri Venkatachalapathy Temple (V)	100	0'02	Sri Venkatachalapathy	Sri Alamelumangai Sri Kothainachiar	Vadipatti Railway station 3 miles
30	„	do	Ramapuram	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	100	0'02	Sri Vinayakar	...	do

TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
704	...	...	6.17	4.10	...	4,775	...	Once a week by a hereditary Pillai	Sivarathri
200	...	25.00	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Velar	Karthigai Deepam
	...	2.00	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a Velar	...
	614	1.60	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a Chettiar	...
1,725	3.05	...	...	Cocoanut trees-10	...	5,000	...	Poojas by a hereditary Poosari	Festival in Vaikasi
1,461	7.50	...	...	...	...	130	...	Thrice a day by a Brahmin	Sivarathri Thiruvadhirai Karthigai Deepam
805	1.51	7.78	...	...	...	35	...	Once a week by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Vaikunta Ekadasi Karthigai Deepam Sri Jayanthi
200	2.50	...	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Pillai	Festival in Vaikasi

and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)

92

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
NILAKOTTAI**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	No.	Name	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religions									
23	40	Vilampatti (P)	Vilampatti	Sri Karuppanna-swamy Temple (O)	200	1.00	Sri Karuppanna-swamy	...	Sholavandan Railway station 10 miles
24	„	do	do	Sri Velayudha-swamy Temple (M)	200	0.17	Sri Velayudha-swamy	...	Vadipatti Railway station 7 miles
25	„	do	do	Sri Veyilund-amman Temple (F)	200	Below 0.01	Sri Veyilund-amman	...	
26	41	Mattaparai (P)	Mattaparai	Sri Kannimar Temple (O)	200	Below 0.01	Sri Kannimar	...	Vadipatti Railway station 3 miles
27	42	Ramaraja-puram (P)	Ramaraja-puram	Sri Muthalamman Temple (F)	Not known	0.01	Sri Muthalamman	Sri Kaliyamman Sri Bhagavathiamman Sri Ayyanar Sri Vinayakar	do
28	„	do	do	Sri Sivakameswariamman Temple (S)	100	0.10	Sri Sivakameswariamman	Sri Siva Sri Sanceswarar	do
29	„	do	do	Sri Venkatachalapathy Temple (V)	100	0.02	Sri Venkatachalapathy	Sri Alamelumangai Sri Kothainachiar	Vadipatti Railway station 3 miles
30	„	do	Ramapuram	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	100	0.02	Sri Vinayakar	...	do

MADURAI DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Faali 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.									
Extent of immovable property (in acres)					Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam			
				Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple				
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(15)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
704	...	...	6.17	4.10	...	4,775	...	Once a week by a hereditary Pillai	Sivarathri
	...	25.00	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Velar	Karthigai Deepam
200	...	2.00	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a Velar	...
614	1.60	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a Chettiar	...
1,725	3.05	...	...	Cocoanut trees-10	...	5,000	...	Poojas by a hereditary Poosari	Festival in Vaikasi
1,461	7.50	...	...	...	...	130	...	Thrice a day by a Brahmin	Sivarathri Thiruvadhirai Karthigai Deepam
805	1.51	7.78	...	...	...	35	...	Once a week by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Vaikunta Ekadasi Karthigai Deepam Sri Jayanthi
200	2.50	...	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Pillai	Festival in Vaikasi

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
NILAKOTTAI

Sl. No	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
31	42	Ramaraja-puram (P)	Ramapuram	Sri Mariamman Temple (F)	100	Below 0.01	Sri Mariamman	...	Vadipatti Railway station 3 miles
32	„	do	do	Sri Mutha-lamman Temple (F)	100	0.02	Sri Mutha-lamman	—	do
33	43	Kulasekaran-kottai (P)	Kulasekaran-kottai	Sri Bala Dandayudhaswamy Temple (M)	40	0.50	Sri Bala Dandayudhaswamy	Sri Pillayar Nava-grahas	Vadipatti Railway station 2½ miles
34	45	Katchaikatti (P)	Kachaikattai (Karuppatty)	Sri Neelamega Perumal Temple (V)	150	0.75	Sri Neelamega Perumal	Sri Soundaravalli Thayar	Vadipatti Railway station 3 miles
35	53	Paraipatti (P)	Paraipatti	Sri Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	Not stated	Sri Ayyanar	...	Madurai Railway station 19 miles
36	55	Manikkampatti (P)	Manikkampatti	Sri Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	Not stated	Sri Ayyanar	...	Madurai Railway station 16 miles
37	„	do	do	Sri Kannimar Temple (O)	Not known	Not stated	Sri Kannimar	...	do
38	„	do	do	Sri Mutha-lamman Temple (F)	Not known	Not stated	Sri Mutha-lamman	...	do

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
500 } 500 }	2.50	...	...	Cocoanut trees-70	...	20	Car	Once a month by a hereditary Devar	Festival in Vaikasi
341	Extent	not	stated	...	...	Value not stated	Palanquin	Daily poojas by a hereditary Pandaram	Vaikasi Visakam
742	12.88	67.19	...	...	...	...	Horse Sesha Garuda Hanumar	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Festival in Chithrai Sri Jayanthi Navarathri Karthigai Deepam Vaikunta Ekadasi
550	Extent	not	stated	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Poosari	...
200	...	2.14	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Poosari	...
400	3.47	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a Poosari	...
300	...	1.61	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Poosari	Festival in Purattasi & Panguni

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
NILAKOTTAI

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religions									
39	62	Thanichiam (P)	Thanichiam	Sri Ayyanar Temple (O)	2,000	2.40	Sri Ayyanar	Sri Chandana-karuppu Sri Veeria-perumal Sri Badrakali Sri Pechiamman Sri Chonaiswamy	Madurai Railway station 13 miles
40	64	Andipatti (P)	Andipatti	Sri Perumal Temple (V)	Not known	0.02	Sri Perumal	...	Sholavandan Railway station
41	66	Nirethan (P)	Nirethan	Sri Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.02	Sri Ayyanar	Sri Chinna Ayyanar Sri Chonai-swamy Sri Kannimar	Vadipatti Railway station 2 miles
42	..	do	do	Sri Perumal Temple (V)	300	0.06	Sri Perumal	Sri Rukmani Sri Sathya-bama	Madurai Railway station 18 miles
43	..	do	do	Sri Vella Veera Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.02	Sri Vella Vecra Ayyanar	...	Vadipatti Railway station 1½ miles
44	..	do	do	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	200	Below 0.01	Sri Vinayakar	...	Vadipatti Railway station 2 miles
45	69	Karuppatti (P)	Karuppatti	Sri Venugopala-swamy Temple (V)	200	0.29	Sri Venugopala-swamy	...	Karupatti Railway station 1½ miles

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

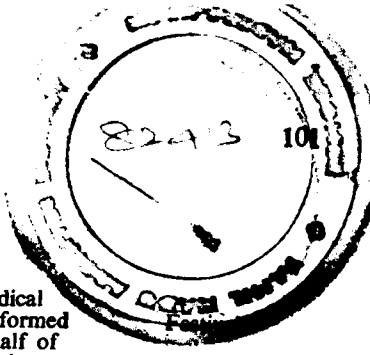
Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
1,474	15.31	1.57	...	...	...	200	...	Once a day by a hereditary Kulalar	Tamil New Year's Day Chithra Pournami Vaikasi Visakam Adi 18th day Vinayaka Chathurthi Karthigai Deepam Sivarathri Panguni Uthiram
1,150	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Bhattachariar	...
866	3.32	1.67	...	3.48	...	Value not stated	...	Poojas by a hereditary Kulalar	Festival in Purattasi
805	4.05	2.15	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Poosari	...
742	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Poosari	...
805	3.95	...	...	...	...	7	...	Once a week by a hereditary Poosari	Vinayaka Chathurthi Karthigai Deepam
1,044	...	...	3.29	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
NILAKOTTAI**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
53	75	Sholavandan (P)	Sholavandan	Sri Dhrowpathi-amman Temple (F)	250	0.02	Sri Dhrowpa-thiamman	...	Sholavandan Railway station 1 Furlong
54	"	do	do	Sri Janaka Mariamman Temple (F)	200	0.20	Sri Mariamman	...	do
55	"	do	do	Sri Pralaya-nathaswamy Temple (S)	92	0.69	Sri Pralaya-nathaswamy	Sri Sounda-ranayagi	Sholavandan Railway station ½ mile
56	"	do	do	Sri Santhana Gopalakrishna-swamy Temple (V)	100	0.06	Sri Santhana Gopala-krishnan	Sri Rukmani Sri Sathya-bama	Sholavandan Railway station ½ mile
57	76	Thenkarai (P)	Thenkarai	Sri Mulanatha-swamy Temple (S)	300	2.45	Sri Mulana-thaswamy	Sri Akhilan-deswari	Sholavandan Railway station ½ mile
58	"	do	do	Sri Navaneetha Krishnaswamy Temple (V)	38	0.01	Sri Navanee-tha Krishna-swamy	Sri Rukmani Sri Sathya-bama	do

**MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)**

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Apprai-sed by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Report-ed by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
387	0.81	...	...	Shop	...	360	Lion Horse	Once a day by a hereditary Pillai	Panguni Uthiram Festival in Chithrai Navarathri
6,377	2.80	...	...	Cocoanut Grove 0.32 Shops-6	5,568	...	Car, Lion Palanquin Chapparam Kedayam Rishabam Horse, Elephant Swan Bhootham Kamadhenu	Twice a day by a Vellalar	Festival in Vaikasi Vinayaka Chathurthi Navarathri Karthigai Deepam Thai Pongal Sivarathri
14,472	12.47	...	...	Cocoanut Trees-16	...	...	...	Thrice a day by a Bhattar	Vinayaka Chathurthi Navarathri Karthigai Deepam Thiruvadhirai Sivarathri
768	5.59	...	...	...	...	443	Garuda Palanquin	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Sri Jayanthi Navarathri Karthigai Deepam Vaikunta Ekadasi
10,850	30.84	4.49	...	Building	5,409	...	Car Palanquin	Four times a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	Festival in Vaikasi Karthigai Deepam Vinayaka Chathurthi Thiruvadhirai Masi Magam Tamil New Year's day
3,427	12.56	...	...	Cocoanut Trees-2 Building	...	360	...	Twice a day by an Archagar	Karthigai Deepam Thai Pengal Sri Rama Navami Tamil New Year's day Sri Jayanthi



TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
NILAKOTTAI

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	No.	Name	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religions									
46	69	Karuppatti (P)	Karuppatti	Sri Anjaneya-swamy Temple (O)	Not known	0.10	Sri Anjaneya-swamy	...	Karupatti Railway station 1½ miles
47	70	Kuruvithurai (P)	Koilkuruvithurai	Sri Chithra Ratha Vallaba Perumal Temple (V)	Not known	0.13	Sri Chithra Ratha Vallaba Perumal	Sri Shenbagavalli Sri Srinivasa Perumal Sri Lakshminarasimhar Sri Krishnar	Sholavandan Railway station 6 miles
48	71	Mannadimangalam (P)	Mannadimangalam	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple (S)	300	0.52	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar	Sri Meenakshi Sri Subramaniam Sri Visweswarar	...
49	..	do	do	Sri Narasinga Perumal Temple (V)	Not known	Not stated	Sri Narasinga Perumal	...	Sholavandan Railway station 3 miles
50	73	Mullipallam (P)	Mullipallam	Sri Varadaraja Perumal Temple (V)	37	0.06	Sri Varadaraja Perumal	Sri Jayalakshmi Sri Vijaya-lakshmi	Sholavandan Railway station ½ mile
51	74	Irumbadi (P)	Irumbadi	Sri Kasiviswanathaswamy Temple (S)	Not known	0.10	Sri Kasiviswanathar	Sri Visalakshmi	Karupatti Railway station ½ mile
52	75	Sholavandan (P)	Sholavandan	Sri Chidambara Vinayakar Temple (G)	100	0.03	Sri Vinayakar	Sri Subramaniam Nava-grahas	Sholavandan Railway station 3 furlongs

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
348	...	...	2.19	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...
6,571	11.69	16.82	...	...	...	1,000	...	Twice a day by an Archagar	Vaikunta Ekadasi
2,863	2.42	7.12	...	House	...	1,000	...	do	Navarathri
700	1.50	13.26	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	...
5,390	7.41	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a Bhattachariar	Sri Jayanthi Navarathri Karthigai Deepam Sri Rama Navami Vaikunta Ekadasi
3,087	10.11	3.65	...	...	...	15	...	Twice a day by Bhattar	Navarathri Vinayaka Chathurthi Karthigai Deepam Thiruvadhirai
576	...	...	4.33	...	...	...	...	do	...

and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
NILAKOTTAI

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
59	77	Melakkal (P)	Keelartham	Sri Gurunatha-swamy Temple (O)	60	0 02	Sri Gurunatha-swamy	...	Sholavandan Railway station 3 miles
60	78	Thiruvetagam (P)	Thiruvetagam	Sri Edaganatha-swamy Temple (S)	Not known	5 00	Sri Edaganathaswamy	Sri Elavar kuzhalai	do
61	81	Sithalangudi (P)	Sithalangudi	Sri Ayyanar Temple (O)	100	1 00	Sri Ayyanar	...	Sholavandan Railway station
62	"	do	do	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	Not known	0 02	Sri Vinayakar	...	Sholavandan Railway station
63	"	do	do	Sri Gurunatha-swamy Temple (O)	200	0 04	Sri Gurunatha-swamy	...	Samayanallur Railway station 2 miles
64	82	Kalvelipatti (P)	Kalvelipatti	Sri Vadakkuva Chelliamman Temple (F)	100	0 05	Sri Chelliamman	Sri Karuppu-swamy	Samayanallur Railway station 5 miles
65	95	Thandalai (P)	Thandalai	Sri Gurunatha-swamy Temple (O)	200	Below 0 01	Sri Gurunatha-swamy	...	Vilangudi Railway station 7 miles

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Concl'd.)									
845	1-00	0-75	...	...	...	...	Palanquin	Once a week by a hereditary Pcosari	Festival in Adi
32,832	Extent not stated		...	Houses-9. 66,974		...	...	Six times a day by a hereditary Bhattar	Festival in Margazhi Thiruvadhirai Navarathri Karthigai Deepam Skandha Sashti Masi Magam Sivarathri Thai Poosam Vaikasi Visakam
375	4-97	...	...	...	...	Value not stated	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Velar	Festival in Adi
281	0-96	2-17	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Velar	...
250	1-50	3-00	...	...	...	50	...	Once a day by a hereditary Pillai	Festival in Avani
5,066	...	5-54	...	...	...	1,270	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Poosari	Festival in Purattasi and Panguni
560	0-88	2-54	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Pillai	Festival in Vaikasi

and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Concl.)

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
NILAKOTTAI

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	No	Name	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples outside the Hindu Religions									
1	2	Jambuthara-kottai (P)	Jambuthara-kottai	Sri Uthamanachi- amman Temple (F)	600	0.10	Sri Uthama- nachiamman	...	Kodaikanal Road Railway station
2	14	Malayagoundanpatti (P)	Malayagoundanpatti	Sri Mariamman Temple (F)	600	0.70	Sri Peria Mari- amman	Sri Chinna Mariamman	Kodaikanal Road Railway station ½ mile
3	75	Sholavandan (P)	Sholavandan	Sri Ekameswara Sidhanandaswamy Temple (S)	100	0.02	Sri Ekameswara Sidhananda- swamy	...	Sholavandan Railway station
4	78	Thiruvetagam (P)	Thiruvetagam	Sri Karutha Vinayakar Temple (G)	Not known	Not stated	Sri Vinayakar	...	Sholavandan Railway station

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Concl'd.)

[illegible]

MELUR TALUK

42. VALAYAPATTI

Sri Kallalagar Temple

About 20 kilometres north-east of the city of Madurai, is situate on the sacred Alagar Hills the ancient and famous Vaishnavite shrine dedicated to Lord Kallalagar or Sundararajaswami. The temple is located in a picturesque spot surrounded by the dilapidated walls of a fort that existed once. The hill and the temple thereon have been worshipped for centuries by Vaishnavites in India, as is evidenced by the sacred compositions of famous saints such as Periyalwar, Peyalwar, Bhoothathalwar, Nammalwar, Andal and Thirumangai Alwar. There are 123 songs about this hill and its presiding deity in the Vaishnavite scripture known as Nalayira Prabandham. Reference is made to the temple also in the ancient scriptures -like Varaha, Brahmanda, Vamana and Agneya Puranas. Silappadhikaram, the ancient Tamil classic refers to this temple. Periyalwar who is supposed to have lived 3000 years before Christ addressed Lord Alagar, as "King of Solamalai enshrined in the fortified temple", thus testifying to the existence of the fortified shrine as early as that period.

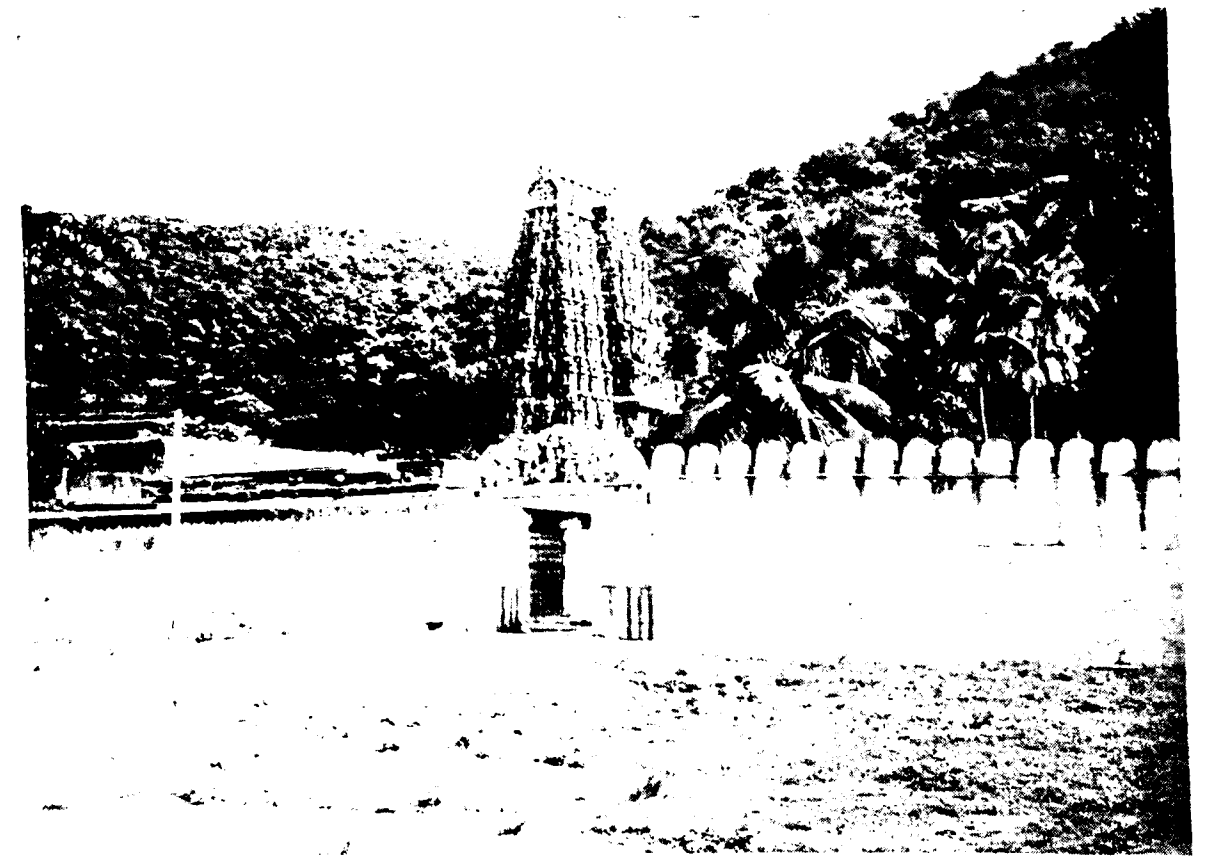
The temple is known by different names in Vaishnavite literature, as Thirumaliruncholaimalai, Solamalai, Thirumalkundram, Vrishabadri etc., and the Lord sanctified here is referred to as Sundararaja, Paramaswami, Vrishabhadrinatha and Solamalaikarasu. Alagar means the beautiful Lord. He is called Kallalagar because He is the tutelary deity of the Kallar tribe inhabiting these regions from very ancient times. The Skandhapuranam refers to this place as being sacred to both Vishnu and Skandha. Saints Nakkirar and Arunagirinathar have composed songs about this hill, as being sacred to Muruga in their immortal works Thirumurugatrupadai and Thirupugazh respectively. Nakkirar refers to it as Pazhamudhircholai, one of the favourite resorts of Lord Muruga. A ghat road leads to the Muruga shrine which is situated up the hill at a distance of about 3 kilometres.

The beautiful shrine with the 'Somachanda Vimanam' is believed to have been designed and constructed by none other than Viswakarma, the architect of the Gods. The legend in this connection states that Dharma Deva, after visiting all the sacred temples on earth, reached this place and enchanted by its beauty performed penance for several thousand years for propitiating Lord Vishnu. After obtaining darshan of Vishnu, He was actuated by a desire to build a sacred shrine at the spot and called upon Viswakarma to model a Vimanam in imitation of the beautiful Moon. The Somachanda Vimanam was accordingly designed and completed. Dharma Deva was pleased with it and invoked the Lord to bless this befitting shrine with His divine presence along with Goddesses Sri Devi and Bhudevi. The boon was granted and the Lord has remained here ever since blessing generations of devotees. A darshan of this vimanam is considered very holy by all Vaishnavite pilgrims. The temple with its beautiful prakarams and gopurams were subsequently constructed by King Malayadhwaja Pandya who also arranged for the uthsavamurthies in real gold. His successors enriched and beautified this temple further.

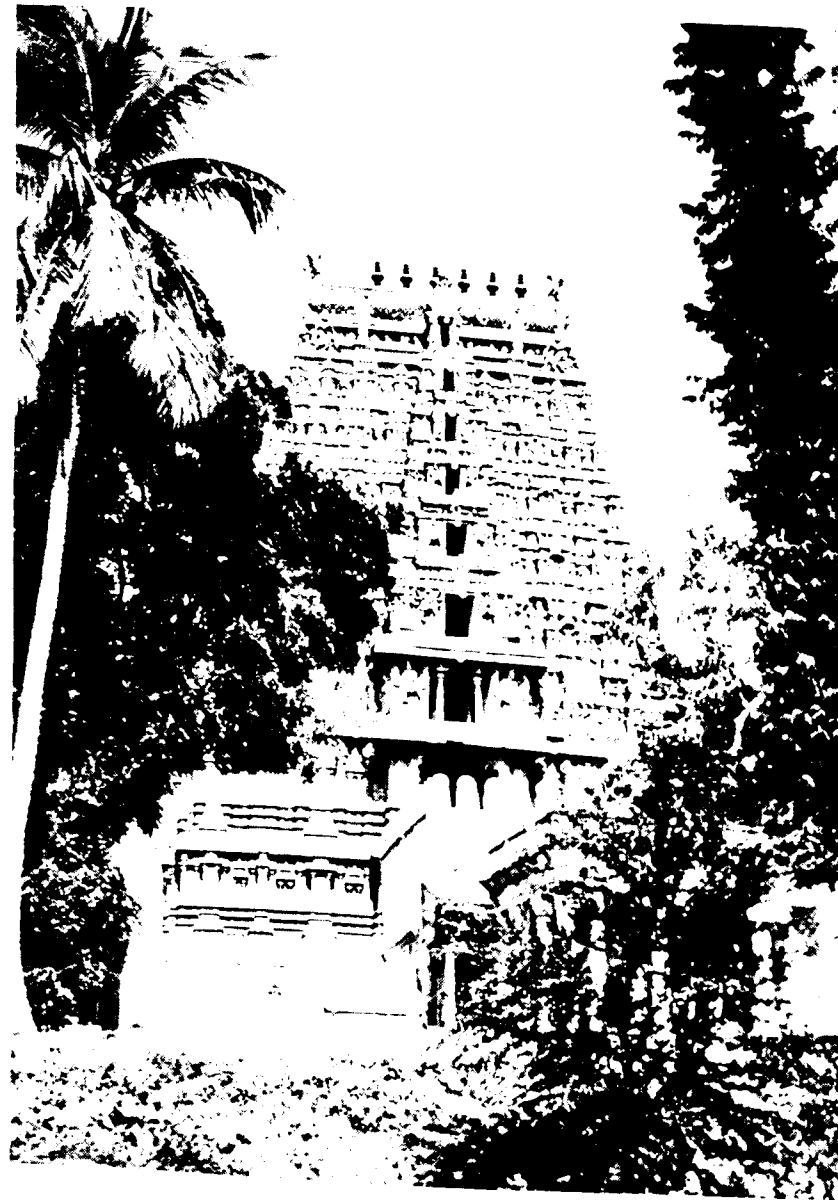
The temple city consists of two forts of which the outer one is called Alagapuri and the inner one Hiranyapuri. The two together comprise an area of 100 acres. The main temple is situated in the inner fort. Of the four gateways of this fort, the stone gateway at the south known as Hiranyan kottai vasal is the main entrance to the temple. Entering through this gate, one enters the Thirumalai Naik mandapam, a magnificent structure with attractive life-size sculptures of Thirumala Naik, his queen and brother. The Anna Vahana mandapam is another magnificent mandapam with sculptures depicting the leelas of Lord Vishnu. Passing this and the famous eighteen steps, one enters through the Vandivasal a big courtyard called 'Ethiraja muttam' and then the beautiful kalyana mandapam with full size statues of Narasimha, Sri Krishna, Garuda, Vishnu, Rati, Manmatha, Thiruvikrama and Lakshmi Varaha.



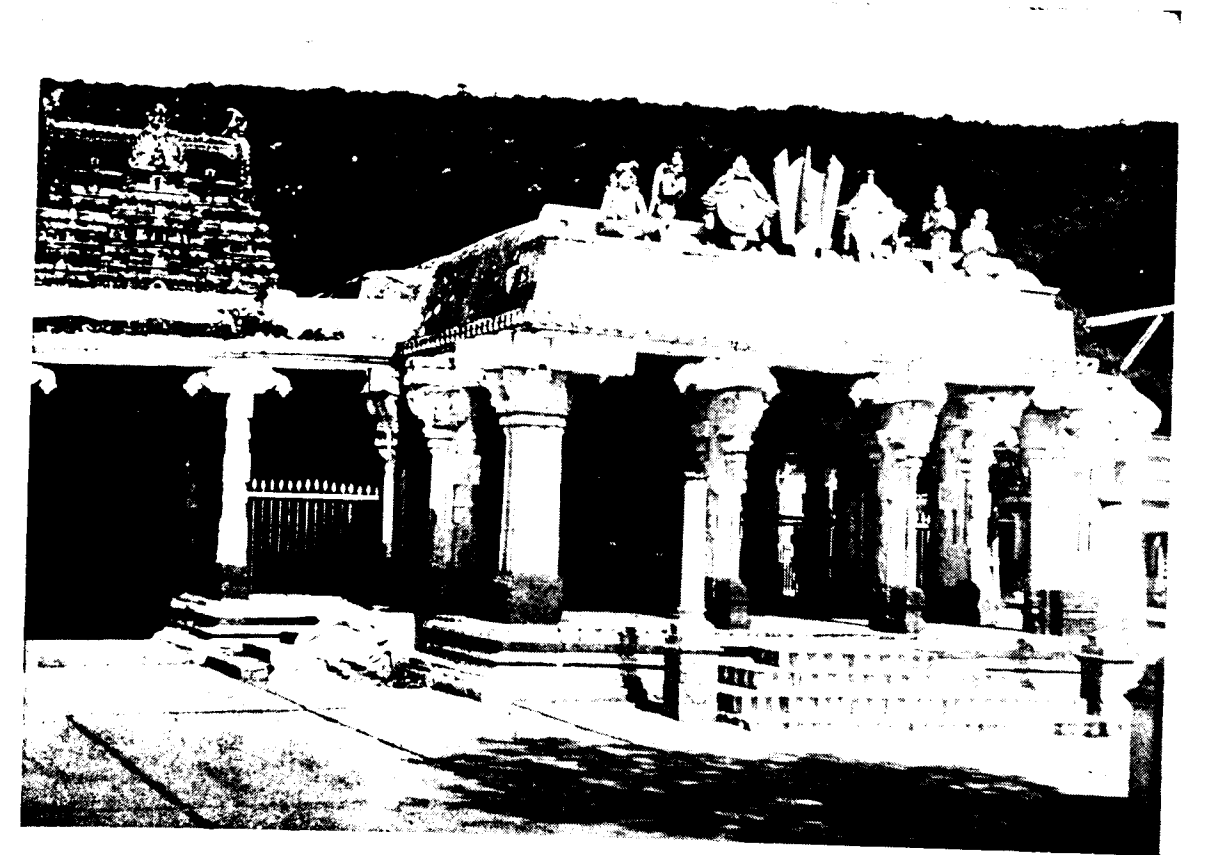
Entrance to Sri Kallazhagar Temple, Alagarkoil



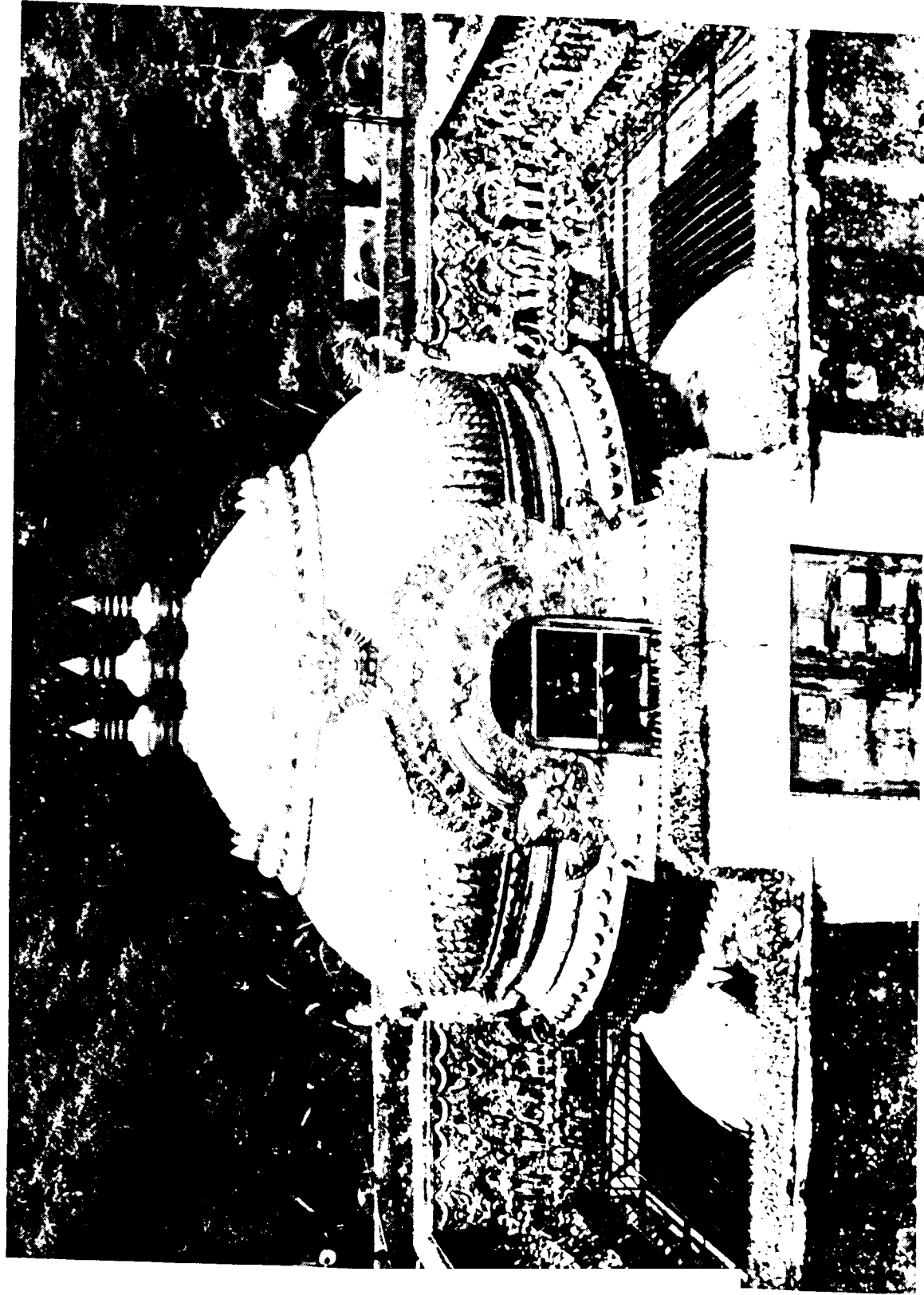
A picturesque view of the gopuram of Sri Kallazhagar Temple with the beautiful hills in the background



Another view of the inspiring gopuram of Sri Kallazhagar Temple Alagarkudi



A view of the Kalyanamandapam in Sri Kallazhagar temple



A close view of the gold-plated Sonachanda Vimanam and the artist's images around it in Sri Kallazhagar Temple



The festival image of the Goddess in Sri Kallazhagar temple



The sacred "Vel" of Lord Muruga at Pazhamudhircholai

The flag staff is gold plated and beyond this is the Aryan mandapam, where the Yalies with balls of stone rolling in their mouths attract the attention of any visitor. Then one comes to the Mahamandapam and through the Ayan Vasal to sacred prakaram where, from a particular spot, at the northern end, a darshan of the vimanam over the sanctum sanctorum can be had. The pilgrim now reaches the sanctum of Lord Paramaswami, the supreme deity. After worshipping the Lord, one moves on to the shrines of the two consorts of the Lord, Kalyanasundaravalli and Andal.

The Lord gives darshan to His devotees on the 'Thirukalyanam' day with the four goddesses—Sri Devi, Bhu Devi, Kalyanasundaravalli and Andal. This is said to be a custom peculiar to this temple. After worshipping the Goddesses, one worships Sudarsanar and Yoga Narasimhar. In the south-west corner of the third prakaram is the palliarai or bed chamber wherein is preserved even to-day the ivory bedstead donated by King Thirumala Naik.

Two other deities worshipped in this temple deserve special mention—Karuppannaswami and goddess Rakkayee Amman. The former is the most important deity of the Kallar tribe. He is popularly known as the Pathinettampadi Karuppannaswami. He has neither a shrine nor an idol in the temple. The massive doors of the temple over the famous eighteen steps are symbolically worshipped as this deity, poojas being offered to the door-steps by the temple attendants of the sannadhi. These doors are opened only on the eve of the annual Brahmothsavam. Swearing to prove one's innocence before these steps is a custom followed from ancient times and legally recognised even to-day. This deity is virtually guarding the temple and for almost everything, His sanction is obtained.

The sacred waters of the Noopura Ganga with which alone Paramaswami is given the daily bath, has to be brought before the steps and the individual carrying it should swear that it is the pure water of the Noopura Ganga, before it is taken to the sanctum sanctorum. Incidentally it may be mentioned that if the Lord is bathed with any other water, the idol automatically gets discoloured. The new moon and full moon days in the month of Adi are very important for Karuppannaswami and special poojas are offered

on these days. The padi vasal of Karuppannaswami is ranked second only to the sanctum sanctorum of Paramaswami.

Rakkayee Amman is supposed to be in complete control of the holy hills and the sacred theerthas thereon. The new moon day is considered very sacred for the worship of this goddess and there will be a good congregation of devotees on that day.

There are three holy theerthas on this hill, all of which are held in great veneration by the pilgrims—the Noopura Ganga, the Hanumar theertham and the Garuda theertham. Of these the Noopura Ganga, otherwise known as the Silampar is the most important. It is situated two miles north of the temple. Its source is not perceptible. It is believed to have emanated from the anklet of Lord Vishnu; much sanctity is therefore attached to it. The holy theertha is supposed to be rich in copper and iron contents and it is therefore having miraculous healing properties. Dwadasi (12th day of the brighter half of the month), new moon and full moon days are considered sacred for a bath in this theertham.

The Hanumar theertham is situate a mile and a half away and the Garuda theertham is at a distance of two miles from the temple on the top of the hill.

Of the festivals celebrated in the temple, the grandest and most important is the annual Chaithrothsavam (festival in Chithrai) for nine days. On the fourth day of the festival, Lord Alagar is taken in procession to Madurai where, after sojourning on the banks of river Vaigai for five days, He returns to the hill. There are a number of mandapams en-route where the deity halts for some time. The crowd in the city of Madurai is the biggest on the days of His arrival and departure. The processional icon of the deity is of rare beauty.

Other important festivals are Vasanthoathsavam for ten days in Vaikasi, Brahmothsavam for ten days in Adi, Thotti or Ennaikappu for 3 days in Iyypasi, Thirukalyanam in Panguni and Margazhi Thirunal in Margazhi. The Ennaikappu festival is very important. On the twelfth day (dwadasi) of the brighter half of the

month of Iyppasi Lord Alagar is taken in ceremonial procession to the fountain head of the Noopura Ganga and the Lord who is anointed with oil, is given a ceremonial bath at the fountain. A huge crowd will be present on the occasion to have a dip in the sacred water sanctified by the touch of the Lord. There are some cottages to accommodate pilgrims. Arrangements are being made to increase this facility.

The temple does not have much of landed properties. However, it has an annual income of about Rs. 2,42,090/-. The entire amount being obtained from devotees. More than Rs. 1 lakh is collected through hundies during the two main festivals. The other sources of income are by the sale of cattle and grain offered by the devotees and from the offering of tonsure by devotees.

The ornaments in the temple are estimated to cost about Rs. 8,06,690/-. The vahanas of the deity are made of silver, gold and ivory. The gold Horse vahanam is very important.

The structure of the temple speaks of the artistic skill of the builders. The inscriptions on the temple walls reveal the antiquity of the place, most of them have since been copied by the Epigraphists. An early inscription No. 80 of 1910 registers a gift of land to the temple by Raja Raja (Kesarivarman) *alias* Sri Raja Raja Deva Chola (1003 A.D.). An inscription on the inner side of the gate-way is dated Saka 1468 or 1546 A.D. (i.e.) the period of Rama Raya Tirumaladeva Maharaya of the Vijayanagar dynasty. The inscriptions are in Tamil and grantha characters and gives a geneology of the Kings of Aravidu dynasty.

The temple is administered by an Executive Officer appointed by the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department.

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE

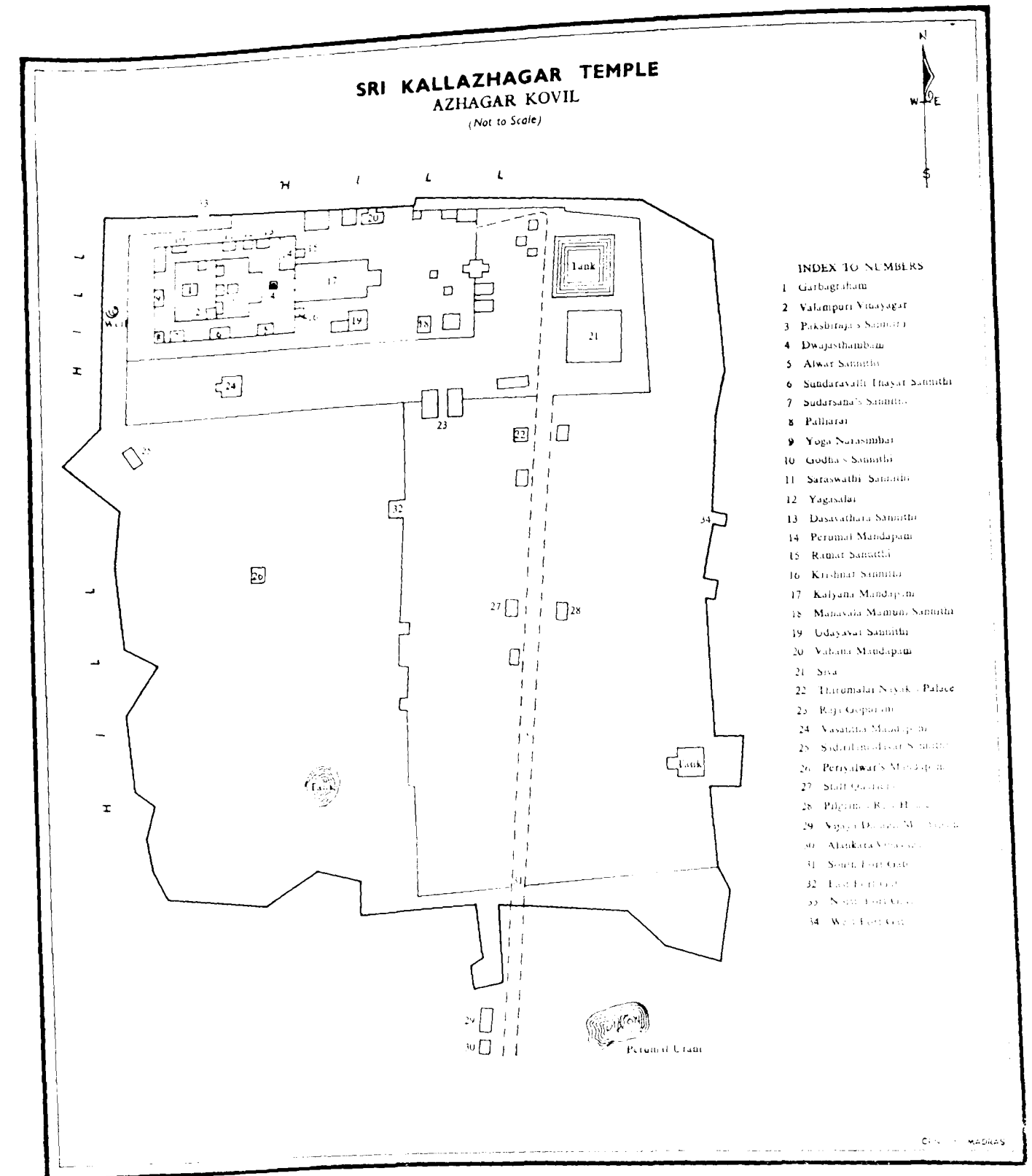
84. THIRUVADHAVUR (THIRUVADUR)

Sri Thirumarai Nathar Temple

Thiruvadhavur also called Thiruvadur, ten kilometres south of Melur is a place haloed by the birth of Saint Manickavasagar. As the pilgrim motors towards this sacred place along the winding road on the embankment of a picturesque tank, he gets a glimpse of the beautiful Alagar hills. An unusual centaurian image standing on the top of one of the sluices is bound to arrest the attention of the pilgrim as he is nearing the temple. The residents call it Purusha Mirugam, the guardian deity of the irrigation tank. Close under the embankment is another shrine dedicated to the village goddess, Pidari.

Thiruvadhavur is one of the renowned Sivasthalams in Pandya Nad. It is well connected by buses with other major places in the district. The old Siva temple in the village with its inspiring gopuram contains an example of a rare form of architecture. There are seven sacred theerthas in this sthalam. The famous Brahma theertham is located to the east of the main road leading to the temple. The "Ezham Thirunal Mandapam" is found to the right side of the entrance, opposite to the sacred dwajasthambam. It is learnt that it is here that the deity used to sojourn on the 7th day of the annual Brahmothsavam. Whenever the monsoon fails the villagers offer hundreds of cocoanuts to the Purusha Mirugam in the tank.

The sacred Bairava theertham is located in the southern part of the outer prakaram, on whose bank stands the divine magizha tree, which is the sthala-viruksham of the temple. The imposing 100-pillar mandapam built by Sri Manickavasagar himself, is found at the extreme corner of the right side of the southern prakaram. The pillars of this mandapam are beautifully carved; great efforts are being made by the





The impressive gopuram of Sri Thirumarainadhar temple at Tirumadhurai.

temple authorities to renovate them which are at present in a dilapidated condition.

There is a separate shrine for Ambal, Sri Arana-valliyar, in the southern prakaram. The image of Sri Idabadevar is installed in front of Her sannadhi. The portraits of the two Dwara Sakthies, painted beautifully on the outerwalls are very attractive to look at. At the entrance of the sannadhi, Sri Gajamukha Ganapathi offers darshan, while two other small Vinayakas are found on either side. In the Mahamandapam we find another image of Idabadevar. To his left side is seated Sri Chinthamani Ganapathy with a gracious look, while on His right Sri Subramaniaswamy with Valli and Deivayanai offer a beautiful darshan.

A noteworthy feature of this shrine is that the Ambal sannadhi is located to the right of the Swamy sannadhi, as in Madurai temple; generally in Siva temple it used to be on the left. The sannadhi of Sri Kaleesar is in the western prakaram, in front of a mandapam in which there is a Nandhi facing the sannadhi. At the entrance of the sannadhi, Sri Heramba Ganapathy offers a grand darshan, facing east. The entire northern prakaram is full of beautiful gardens, endowed by devotees.

Immediately on entering the inner prakaram, just before the entrance, Sri Dwara Vinayakar offers darshan. There are two Nagalingams on either side, apart from a Bandicoot vahanam, facing Him. Sri Surya Murthi facing west appears first in the southern prakaram. The uthsavavigraham of Sri Manickavasagar is located in the south-east corner, facing west. He is standing in the posture of a saint holding the "Thiruvasaga Suvady" in his hands, adjacent to the madappalli. The images of Sri Saneeswarar and Sundaramurthy Nayanar are installed side by side near the yagasala, in the northern end of the eastern prakaram.

There is an entrance in the southern prakaram which leads to the Ambal sannadhi. The artistically carved six-pillar mandapam is centrally situated. It is now in a dilapidated condition. Sri Anugnai Vinayakar offers a grand darshan in the mandapam which has an entrance leading to the sannadhi of Sri Natarajar and Thirumarai Nathar. At the extreme end of this prakaram is Sri Dakshinamurthy Swamy in the yoga posture.

The western prakaram is encircled by a mandapam in which the images of Sri Ganapathi and Sri Kasi Viswanathar with His consort Visalakshi are installed. Sri Idabadevar and Sri Chandeswarar are found very close to Him by the side of the uthsava mandapam. There is a separate sanctum for Sri Manickavasagar, in this prakaram facing east. His image is a wonderful piece of architecture. Sri Lingodbhavar is facing west, in this prakaram. Sri Subramaniaswamy with His consorts offers a beautiful darshan on a peacock vahanam in the north-west corner, adjacent to Sri Chandikeswarar, who is in the posture of meditation.

There is a separate shrine for Sri Natarajar in the northern prakaram in which Sri Natarajar along with His consort Sri Sivakami Amman, sages Vyagrapadhar and Pathanjali offers darshan. The images of Sri Subramaniam and Sri Manickavasagar are also found here. The sannadhi of Sri Bairavar is located at the extreme end of this prakaram.

There is a sixteen-pillar mandapam in front of the Moolavar sannadhi in which the Kodimaram, Bali-peedam and Nandhi are found in a row. The images of Sri Arjaneyar and Sri Manickavasagar who have visited this shrine and offered worship, are beautifully carved on the pillars of the mandapam. The Somavaramandapam is located on a raised platform, in which the famous 'Sangabishegam' takes place every year for Sri Veda Nayakar. The beautiful images of



The Sannadhi of Manickavasagar in Sri Thirumarai Nadhar Temple at Thiruvadhavur



The festival idols of the Lord with His consorts in Sri Kailashanar temple



A view of Sri Subramaniaswamy temple at Pazhamudhircholai



The path leading to the hill temple of Sri Subramaniaswamy at Pazhamudhircholai

the ancient Sri Kabila Vinayakar and Kabilar are found at one end in a corner of this mandapam. Sri Subramaniaswamy with His consorts offers a grand darshan at the other end of the mandapam. Select verses from the famous Thiruvasagam and Thiruvembavai are seen on the walls of the mahamandapam. There are several beautiful festival idols here for Sri Thirumaraianathar, Sri Aranavalliyar, Somaskandhar, Manickavasagar, Vinayakar, Eswarar, Subramaniam, Valli, Deivayanai, Chandrasekarar and His consort, Chandeswarar, etc. all made of panchalagam. They are all kept in a mandapam facing east.

The images of the two dwarapalagas at the entrance leading to the arthamandapam are of great sculptural value. There are also the images of Sri Ananda Ganapathi and Lord Muruga.

The Moolavar Sri Thirumaraianathar is a Swayambu Lingam here, who has been worshipped by Sri Vayudevar and by the sacred Vedas. He is also known as Sri Aathmanathar, Prananathar, Jivanathar and Vedapureesar. His consort Sri Aranavalliyar is seated by his side, in the posture of doing penance. As in the temple of Madurai, here also the sacred "Padhugais" otherwise known as "Thiruvadi Nilaigal" leading to the Palliarai are found to the right side of the Lingam.

There is a separate shrine in this village, for Sri Manickavasagar at a distance of two furlongs, west of Sri Thirumaraianathar's temple. Devotees still get thrilled when reading or hearing the legend of how Manickavasagar, the minister built a shrine to Siva at Avadayarkoil, spending the Pandya's money on it which had been ear-marked for the purchase of horses for the monarch's stables. The story of how the God himself came to the king as a horse dealer and how all the horses in the royal stable turned into howling jackals overnight is well known. Even to-day this event is

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE

commemorated with great eclat in the Madurai temple.

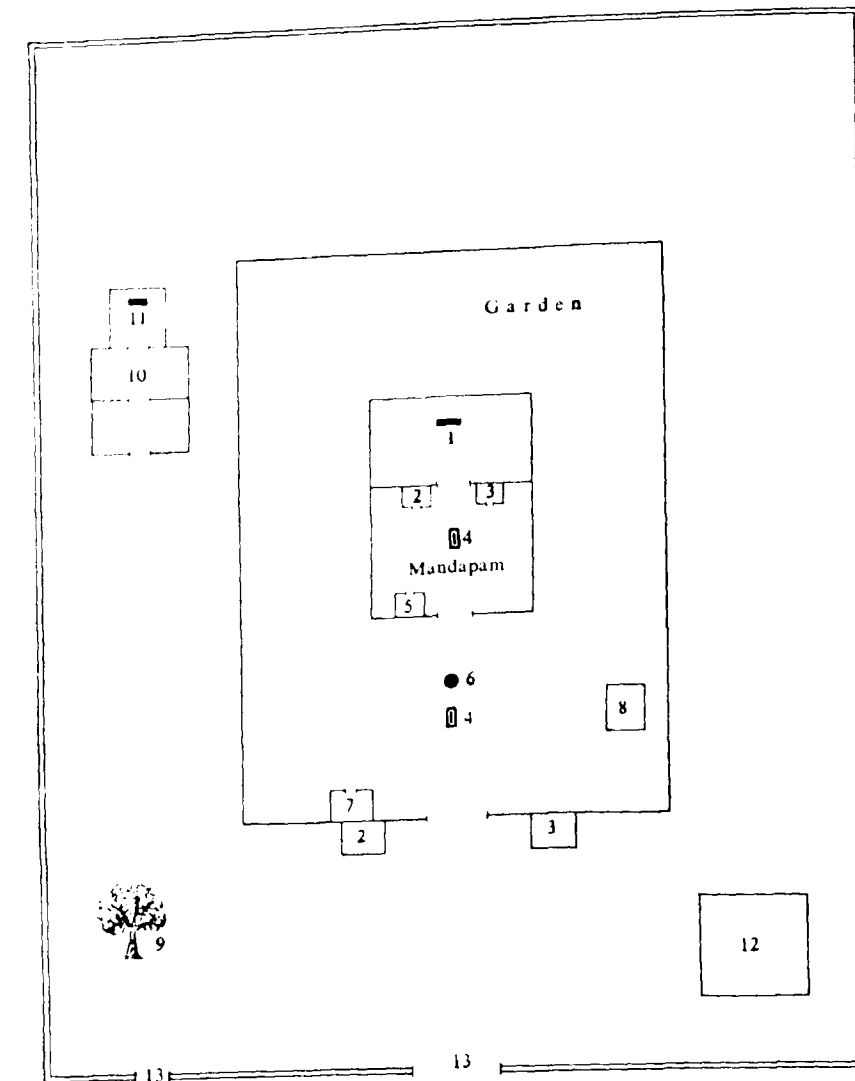
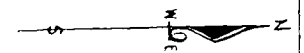
It is learnt that the saint's house has been converted into a temple for him. The present structure came into existence in 1934 through the untiring efforts of local citizens.

Poojas are performed in the Thirumaraianathar temple five times daily by hereditary Adi Saiva Brahmin Gurukkals in turn, strictly according to the principles laid down in the Agama Sastras. They are paid a monthly salary of Rs. 30/-, apart from a daily "Paditharam" of half a measure of rice from the temple revenues. The temple owns antique jewellery in gold, silver and diamonds worth about Rs. 3,000/- of which the following viz., pearl crown, golden kasumalai, vilvasaram, japamalai, pathakkam, mohana-malai, rudhrakshara kuvalai, thiruthodu, stone-studded pathakkams, nagabaranam and kavachams for Swamy, Ambal and Manickavasagar, deserve special mention.

The landed property of the temple comprises 1.50 acres of wet lands and 3.00 acres of dry lands, which are leased out for an annual rent of Rs. 847. This amount is spent towards the conduct of the daily poojas, disbursement of salaries to the temple servants, periodical festivals of the temple and for its general maintenance. The temple also gets an annual income of Rs. 60 through its hundi collections. Besides, archanas and abishegas fetch an additional income of Rs. 30 every year.

Pidariamman uthsavam in Chithirai, Vaikasi Brahmotsavam for a period of ten days, Ani festival, Adi Pooram, Puttu Thiruvizha during Avani Moolam, "Ambu Poduthal" by Sri Manickavasagar on the 10th day during Navarathri, Sangabishegam during Thirukarthigai, Margazhi Thiravadhirai and Masi Sivarathri are the regular festivals observed by

SRI THIRUMARAINATHASWAMY TEMPLE THIRUVADAVUR (THIRUVADUR) (Not to Scale)



INDEX TO NUMBERS

- 1 Thirumaraianathaswamy (Moolavar)
- 2 Vinayagar
- 3 Subramaniam
- 4 Nandhi
- 5 Kabilar
- 6 Balipectam
- 7 Manickavasagar
- 8 Navagrahas
- 9 Mahizha Maram (Sthalaviruksham)
- 10 Maha Mandapam
- 11 Vedanayagi
- 12 Hundred Pillared Mandapam
- 13 Entrance

the temple, of which the Brahmothsavam in Vaikasi and Margazhi Thiruvadhirai are the most important ones, which attract thousands of devotees from far and near.

The management of the temple vests in a Board of six trustees, functioning through an Executive Officer, all appointed by the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department.

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
MELUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
1	1	Pillayarnatham (P)	Kottapatti	Sri Mutha-lamman Temple (F)	300	Below 0·01	Sri Mutha-lamman	...	Kallupatti Railway station 11 miles
2	..	do	do	Sri Perumal Temple (V)	100	0·07	Sri Perumal	...	Kallupatti Railway station 10 miles
3	..	do	Parapatti	Sri Nallandavar Temple (O)	300	0·05	Sri Nallandavar	...	Kallupatti Railway station 15 miles
4	5	Kottaiyur (P)	Kottaiyur	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	300	Below 0·01	Sri Vinayakar	...	Madurai Railway station 36 miles
5	..	do	Kabilampatti	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	1,000	0·10	Sri Vinayakar	...	} Vadamadurai Railway station
6	..	do	do	Sri Mariamman Temple (F)	1,000	0·30	Sri Mariamman	...	
7	..	do	do	Sri Karunachi-amman Temple (F)	1,000	1·30	Sri Karunachi-amman	...	
8	..	do	Mangalapatti	Sri Pachainachi-amman Temple (F)	300	Below 0·01	Sri Pachainachi-amman	...	Ayyalore Railway station 18 miles

TALUK

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department									
300	...	6.82	...	...	...	200	Chapparam	Poojas by a hereditary Naidu	Festival in Vaikasi
1,988	...	11.0	...	Tamarind trees-5	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Naidu	...
300	...	6.18	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Naicker	Festival in Thai Kudhirai Eduppu festival once in three years
1,000	Extent not stated			...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Pandaram	Tamil New Year's Day Karthigai Deepam Panguni Uthiram Vinayaka Chathurthi
759	...	10.33	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a Poosari	...
...	...	9.56	...	...	...	15	...	No Poojas	Festival in Panguni
380	...	9.35	...	...	...	...	...	No Poojas	...
900	0.55	9.95	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Poosari	...

15

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
MELUR

Sl. No	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	No.	Name	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
9	12	Chokkampatti (P)	Chokkampatti	Sri Vellakudi Ayyanar Temple (O)	200	0.01	Sri Vellakudi Ayyanar	Sri Poorana Sri Pushkala Sri Karuppanaswamy Sri Pillayar	Madurai Railway station 34 miles
10	13	Manappacheri (P)	Manappacheri	Sri Seguttu Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.04	Sri Seguttu Ayyanar	Sri Kalikuruppar	Madurai Railway station
11	16	Sirugudi (P)	Sirugudi	Sri Ananthaswamy Temple (S)	400	0.53	Sri Ananthaswamy	Sri Vinayakar Sri Subramaniam Sri Ananthavalli	Madurai Railway station 31 miles
12	„	do	do	Sri Selva Vinayakar Temple (G)	300	0.10	Sri Selva Vinayakar	...	do
13	17	Avichipatti (P)	Ponnamalai	Sri Oorkaval Karuppanaswamy Temple (O)	300	Below 0.01	Sri Oorkaval Karuppanaswamy	...	Dindigul Railway station 25 miles
14	20	Punnapatti (P)	Punnapatti	Sri Karungal Ayyanar Temple (O)	200	0.60	Sri Karungal Ayyanar	...	Dindigul Railway station 20 miles
15	„	do	do	Sri Varadaraja Perumal Temple (V)	150	Not stated	Sri Varadaraja Perumal	...	Madurai Railway station 25 miles
16	„	do	Uluppakudi	Sri Karanthamalai Kannimar Temple (O)	200	Not stated	Sri Karanthamalai Kannimar	...	Madurai Railway station 25 miles

MADURAI DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
					Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
252	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Velar	Kudhirai Eduppu festival in Adi
1,010	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Velar	Kudhirai Eduppu festival in Adi
509	...	...	90.82	...	...	150	...	Once a day by a hereditary Poosari	Karthigai Deepam Sivarathri
1,980	9.80	4.00	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a Brahmin	...
500	...	7.14	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Valayar	...
291	...	2.38	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by trustee	Festival in Adi
595	...	11.83	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a Bhattachariar	...
1,152	...	19.13	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a Pandaram	Vana Bojana festival once in three years

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
MELUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
17	24	Reddiapatti (P)	Reddiapatti	Sri Pattatharasi- amman Temple (F)	150	0.01	Sri Pattatharasi amman	...	Madurai Railway station 18 miles
18	..	do	do	Sri Sorkelaveera- naswamy Temple (O)	150	Not stated	Sri Sorkelaveera- naswamy	...	do
19	25	Sathambadi (P)	Sathampatti	Sri Varadaraja Perumal Temple (V)	150	Not stated	Sri Varadaraja Perumal	...	Madurai Railway station 23 miles
20	27	Natham (P)	Koilpatti	Sri Veerai Hanumantha- swamy Temple (O)	200	10.0	Sri Veera Anjaneyar	...	Dindigul Railway station 22 miles
21	..	do	do	Sri Kailasanatha- swamy Temple (S)	400	2.00	Sri Kailasa- nathaswamy	Sri Murugar	do
22	..	do	Natham	Sri Angalamman Temple (F)	100	0.03	Sri Angalamman	...	Madurai Railway station 23 miles
23	..	do	Arichipatti	Sri Ettikulam Ayyanar Temple (O)	1,000	0.11	Sri Ettikulam Ayyanar	Sri Veera- badrar	Madurai Railway station 22 miles
24	..	do	do	Sri Gurunatha- swamy Temple (O)	200	0.01	Sri Gurunatha- swamy	...	Madurai Railway station 23 miles

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
200	2.98	...	...	...	...	200	...	Poojas by a hereditary Valayar	Amman festival once in three years
400	...	...	274	...	...	500	...	Poojas by a hereditary Valayar	...
200	...	10.74	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Bhattachariar	...
1,249	...	17.15	...	Shops	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattar	Karthigai Deepam Hanumantha Jayanthi
6,346	88.79	8.27	...	...	5,326	...	Palanquin Sahadais-3 Ratham	Four times a day by a hereditary Archagar	Brahmothsavam in Vaikasi Karthigai Deepam Panguni Uthiram Thiruvadhirai Vinayaka Chathurthi
200	1.18	8.54	...	...	...	...	...	Once a month by a hereditary Chettiar	Sivarathri
657	7.00	8.00	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Pillai	...
500	...	...	31.81	...	...	16	...	Once a week by a hereditary Asari	Sivarathri

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
MELUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	No.	Name	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
25	27	Natham (P)	Natham	Sri Mallandeswarar Temple (S)	150	0.03	Sri Mallandeswarar	...	Madurai Railway station 23 miles
26	..	do	do	Sri Mariamman Temple (F)	200	0.10	Sri Mariamman	...	do
27	28	Chellappa-naickenpatti (P)	Chellappa-naickenpatti	Sri Muthalamman Temple (F)	200	0.01	Sri Muthalamman	...	Madurai Railway station 24 miles
28	..	do	do	Sri Kaliamman Temple (F)			Sri Kaliamman	...	
29	29	Uralipatti (P)	Veppadappu alias Kathayanpatti	Sri Thirumeni-nathaswamy Temple (S)	1,000	0.01	Sri Thirumeni-nathaswamy	...	Thiruppuvanam Railway station 7 miles
30	30	Sekkipatti (P)	Sekkipatti	Sri Shenbaga Vinayakar Temple (G)	200	0.01	Sri Shenbaga Vinayakar	...	Dindigul Railway station 30 miles
31	..	do	do	Sri Odakulam Alankulam Ayyanar Temple (O)	200	0.10	Sri Ayyanar	Sri Karuppu-swamy	do
32	31	Kunnarampatti (P)	Kunnarampatti	Sri Melakattu Karuppanna-swamy Temple (O)	150	9.35	Sri Karuppanna-swamy	...	Dindigul Railway station 25 miles

TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)

and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)

1,185	Extent not stated			...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Brahmin	Vinayaka Chathurthi Karthigai Deepam Sivarathri
703	5.53	15.73	...	...	3,968	...	Lion Swan Horse Kedayam	Twice a day by a hereditary Naicker	Brahmothsavam in Masi Tamil New Year's day
1,495	...	5.00	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Naicker	Festival in Masi
270	...	5.00	...	...	...	...	...	Daily poojas by a hereditary Poosari	Festival in Vaikasi
430	...	...	10.77	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Pandaram	...
200	1.13	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Velar	Kudhirai Eduppu festival in Masi
200	...	3.30	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Naicker	...

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
MELUR**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	No.	Name	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religions									
33	31	Kunnarampatti (P)	Kunnarampatti	Sri Varadaraja Perumal Temple (V)	Not known	0.02	Sri Varadaraja Perumal	Sri Amman	Dindigul Railway station 26 miles
34	32	Ayyappatti (P)	Thiruchunai	Sri Agastheeswaraswamy Temple (S)	800	0.50	Sri Agastheeswarar	Sri Padagavalliamman Sri Subramaniam Sri Suryar Sri Bairavar Navagrahas Sri Vinayakar	Madurai Railway station 28 miles
35	34	Chokkalingapuram (P)	Chokkalingapuram	Sri Azhagiya Choleeswaraswamy Temple (S)	100	1.00	Sri Azhagia Choleeswarar	Sri Pillayar Sri Subramaniam Navagrahas Sri Bairavar Sri Ambal Sri Chandikeswarar	Karaikudi Railway station 28 miles
36	„	do	do	Sri Dhrowpathiamman Temple (F)	150	0.30	Sri Dhrowpathiamman	Sri Chinna Karuppar Sri Peria Karuppar Sri Chinna Veeran Sri Peria Veeran Sri Pillayar	do
37	35	Karungalakudi (P)	Vanjipatti	Sri Pattatharasiamman Temple (F)	100	0.08	Sri Pattatharasiamman	Sri Karuppuswamy Sri Peria Karuppuswamy Sri Kannimar	Madurai Railway station 28 miles
38	38	Kachirayanpatti (P)	Kachirayanpatti	Sri Dhrowpathiamman Temple (F)	400	5.80	Sri Dhrowpathiamman	Sri Karuppanaswamy Sri Vinayakar Sri Pechiamman Sri Rakkayiamman Sri Bairavar	Madurai Railway station 25 miles

**MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)**

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn. Department (Contd.))									
1,536	9.50	39.08	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	...
332	...	1.00	...	...	...	...	Chapparam	Four times a day by a Bhattar	Festival in Vaikasi
686	5.50	2.00	...	Cocoanut Grove 0.75	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
1,114	Extent not stated			...	...	500	...	Once a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	Festival in Adi
650	11.00	...	...	...	...	Value not stated	...	Once a day by a Pallar	Sivarathri
310	Extent not stated			...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Poosari	Festival in Panguni

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE

MELUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)

Temples under the Hindu Religions

39	42	Valayapatti (P)	Valayapatti	Sri Kallalagar Temple (V)	5,000	1.84	Sri Parama-swamy	Sri Devi Bhu Devi Sri Kalyana Sundaravalli Thayar Sri Andal Sri Karuppanna-swamy Sri Rakkayi-amman	Madurai Junction 13 miles
40	46	Pulipatti (P)	Puliampatti	Sri Varadaraja Perumal Temple (V)	40	0.02	Sri Varadaraja Perumal	...	Madurai Junction 25 miles
41	49	Sennagarampatti (P)	Sennagarampatti	Sri Ammachiar Temple (F)	70	0.10	Sri Ammachiamman	...	do
42	..	do	Ottipatti	Sri Karungal Karuppannaswamy Temple (O)	150	1.00	Sri Karungal Karuppannaswamy	...	} Madurai Junction 34 miles
43	..	do	do	Sri Kazhanceerudaya Ayyanar Temple (O)			Sri Kazhanceerudaya Ayyanar	...	
44	54	Kongampatti (P)	Semaniapatti	Sri Andi Balagar Temple (O)	Not known	0.02	Sri Andi Balagar	...	Madurai Junction 30 miles
45	57	Keelayur (P)	Keelayur	Sri Sidhi Vinayakar Temple (G)	100	0.02	Sri Sidhi Vinayakar	...	Madurai Junction 22 miles

MADURAI DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Faali 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Apprai- sed by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Report- ed by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
2,42,090	...	...	100.00	Buildings -20	8,06,690	...	Gold Palanquin Car Vahanas	Six times a day by a hereditary Bhattar	Brahmothsavam in Adi Festival in Chithrai Vasanthothesavam in Vaikasi Rapathu & Pagalpathu in Margazhi
602	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No Poojas	...
4,300	...	...	11.00	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Velar	Festival in Purattasi
1,626	3.50	3.00	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Kulalar	Vaikasi Visakam
1,200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Pandaram	...
538	...	...	6.42	Cocoanut trees	...	...	...	do	...

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
MELUR

Sl No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
46	58	Navinipatti (P)	Navinipatti	Sri Mangala Sidhi Vinayakar Temple (G)	66	Not stated	Sri Mangala Sidhi Vinayakar	...	Madurai Junction 22 miles
47	59	Melur (Rural) (P)	Melur	Sri Kalyanasundareswarar & Kamakshi-amman Temple (S)	120	0.30	Sri Kalyana Sundareswarar	Sri Kamakshi-amman	Madurai Junction 3 miles
48	75	Thaniaman-galam (P)	Thaniaman-galam	Sri Maha Ganapathy Temple (G)	60	0.02	Sri Maha Ganapathy	...	Sivaganga Railway station 15 miles
49	81	Panangudi (P)	Panangudi	Sri Veetrirundha Perumal Temple (V)	1000	0.20	Sri Varadaraja-perumal	Sri Devi Bhu Devi Sri Anjaneyar Sri Narasimhar	Sivaganga Railway station 12 miles
50	84	Thiruvadur (P)	Thiruvadur	Sri Manicka-vasagar Temple (S)	40	0.06	Sri Manicka-vasagar	...	Madurai Junction 16 miles
51	..	do	do	Sri Thirumarai Nathar Temple (S)	800	5.00	Sri Thirumarai-nathar	Sri Vedana-yagamman	do

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Concl'd.)									
723	Extent not stated			Buildings	...	5	...	Twice a day by a Brahmin	Vinayaka Chaturthi
8,557	Extent not stated			House	...	1,000	...	Twice a day by a Gurukkal	...
349	7.52	...	...	...	...	3	...	Twice a day by a Pandaram	Vinayaka Chaturthi Karthigai Deepam Tamil New Year's day
1,485	...	...	...	...	...	300	...	Once a day by a Bhattachariar	Sri Jayanthi
847	14.00	3.00	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a Bhattar	Manickavasagar Birth Day festival in Ani
...	...	...	20.00	...	...	2,000	Rishabams-2 Horse Kailasa Parvartham Lion, Elephant Kedayams-2 Bhootham Lotus Kama ihenu	Four times a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	Brahmothsavam in Vaikasi

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
MELUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples outside the Hindu Religions									
1	17	Avichipatti (P)	Avichipatti	Sri Ayyanar Temple (O)	403	2.00	Sri Ayyanar	...	Madurai Junction 26 miles
2	27	Natham (P)	Natham	Sri Peria Vinayakar Temple (G)	75	0.04	Sri Peria Vinayakar	...	Madurai Junction 23 miles
3	51	Attapatti (P)	Attapatti	Sri Peria Panaiyur Ayyanar Temple (O)	250	0.50	Sri Ayyanar	Sri Karuppu-swamy Sri Veerannan Sri Kali	Madurai Junction 25 miles
4	..	do	do	Sri Vadakkuvasal Chelliamman Temple (F)	15	Below 0.01	Sri Chelli-amman	Sri Karuppa-nnaswamy	do
5	60	Melur (P)	Melur	Sri Dharmarajar & Dhrowpathi-amman Temple (F)	250	0.53	Sri Dharmarajar	Sri Dhrowpa-thiamman	Madurai Junction 18 miles
6	78	Kurichipatti (P)	Kurichipatti	Sri Ezhai Kath-amman Temple (F)	300	0.30	Sri Ezhai Kathamman	...	Sivaganga Railway station 10 miles

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Concl'd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vabanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department									
150	...	10.00	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Pillai	Sivarathri Panguni Uthiram Vaikasi Visakam Adi 18th Day
100	1.12	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a Poosari	Vinayaka Chathurthi
800	...	...	96.61	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Kulalar	Kudhirai Eduppu in Vaikasi & Purattasi Karthigai Deepam Tamil New Year's Day
Not stated	...	...	1.00	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Poosari	Festival in Panguni
Not stated	12.31	9.65	...	...	...	1.50	Lion Kedayam	Twice a week by a hereditary Vellalar	Festival in Vaikasi
4,000	...	...	...	...	...	500	Car Horse	Once a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	Festival in Avani

MADURAI TALUK

55. THIRUMUGUR

Sri Kalamega Perumal Temple

As one travels from Madurai to Melur, one can see a huge rock called Anamalai resembling a seated elephant which has a rich legendary back-ground. To the east of this rock, at a distance of about 12 kilometres from Madurai, is the fertile village called Thirumugur or Thirumogur, which is one of the 108 places held sacred by Vaishnavites. The presiding deity of the famous temple in this village is known as Sri Kalamega Perumal. The Puranas refer to this place as Mohana Kshethram and Mohanapuram where the Lord distributed nectar to Devas in the guise of the mythological damsel of enchanting beauty, Mohini.

The shrine is glorified in the Mangala Sasanam of the great Vaishnavite saints Nammalwar and Thirumangai Alwar. The former refers to the rich vegetation of the place in the words “தரநாமந தடமாவியல் திருமெருர்”. The latter sings of “சீரநம்மாதிநத் தீரநத் திருமெருர்”. Manavala Mamunigal has also sung in praise of this temple.

The east-facing temple which covers an area of 2.55 acres has four spacious prakarams. The main entrance is not crowned by any gopuram. In the kambathadi mandapam, the pillars have been attractively carved. We find on the south the kalyana mandapam and on the north, the sanctum of Sri Pallikonda Perumal—the Lord in a reclining pose on the Adishesha.

Beyond the kambathadi mandapam is the entrance with a three tiered gopuram over it. Going in we find a number of sanctum—those of Udayavar, Alwars, Anjaneyar, Sri Mohana Valli Thayar, Chakkarathalwar, Andal and Sri Krishna in a dancing pose. In the Garuda mandapam situated at the centre, the pillars have magnificent carvings of images of Manmathan, Rati, Rama, Sita, Lakshmana and Anjaneya.

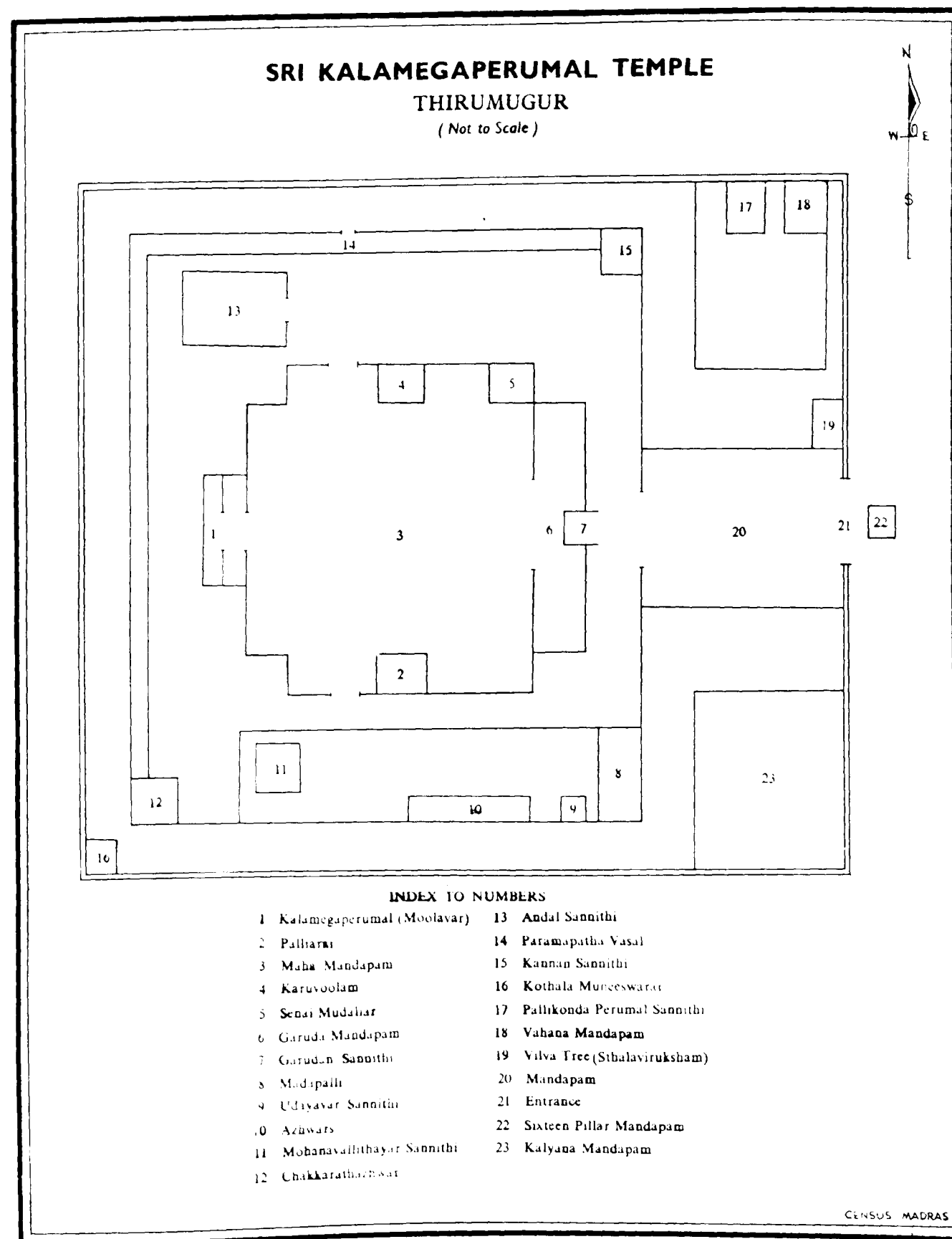
In the sanctum sanctorum which is crowned by a Chathurmukha vimanam the presiding deity, Sri Kalamega Perumal gives darshan in a standing posture along with His consorts. The images are very impres-

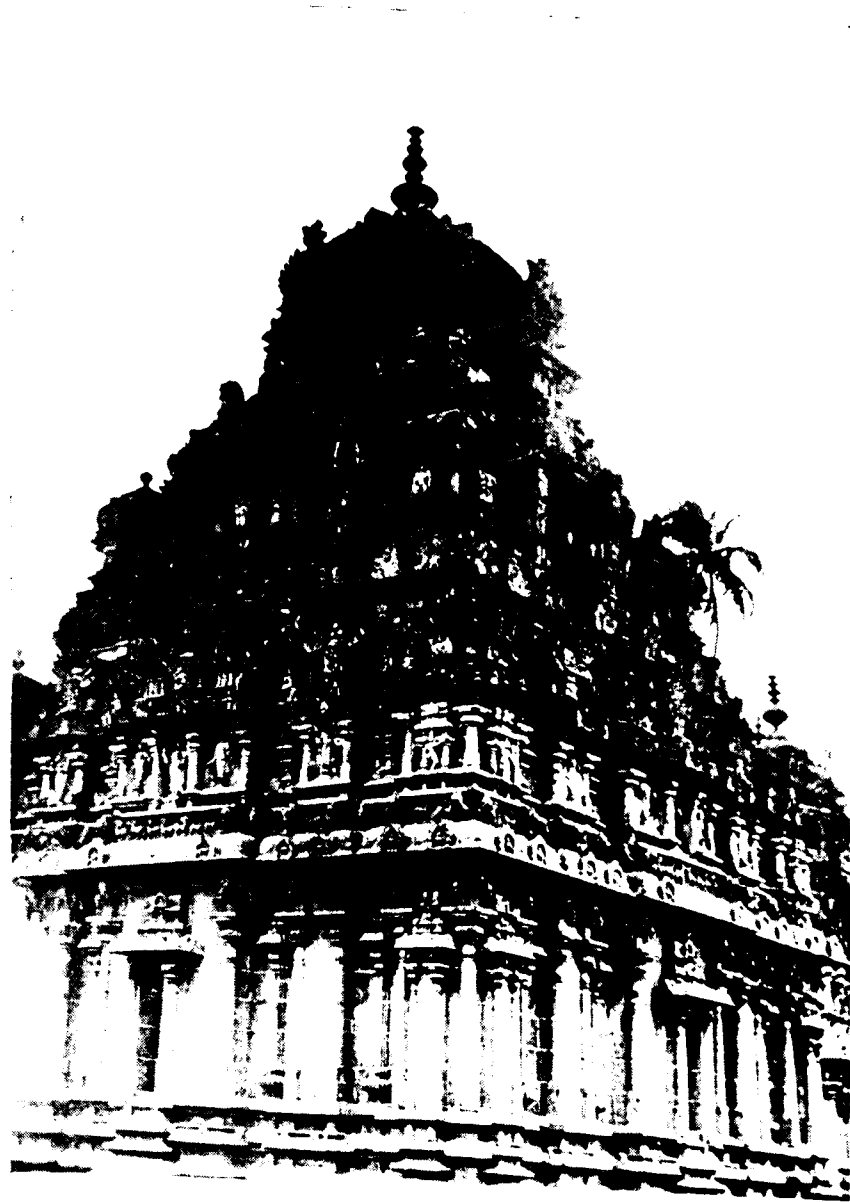
sive. The uthsava vigrahas are placed before the presiding deity. The uthsavar is called Thirumogur Apthan. There is a sixteen pillar mandapam opposite to the entrance to the temple. To the north of the temple are situated two tanks called Peria Thiruparkadal and Siria Thiruparkadal. The floating festival takes place in the Peria Thiruparkadal.

Renovations have been taking place in the temple now and then. In 1924, a kumbabishegam was performed after renovation out of temple funds. Thanks to the munificence of the Nagarathar community, the mandapams and other structures were repaired at a cost of about a lakh of rupees. The temple was electrified in 1958 with the help of donations from the trustees and the members of the Sourashtra community in Madurai. Recently some repairs were undertaken with the aid of Government grant. There are interesting inscriptions in the temple, which have since been copied and published. Some of the inscriptions relate to the 16th century.

Poojas are performed six times daily by hereditary Brahmin priests of the Vaishnavite sect. The temple owns antique jewellery in gold and silver, worth about Rs. 39,522.55. The landed properties of the temple comprise about 45 acres of wet lands, which fetch an annual income of Rs. 18,209 by way of rent; this sum is utilised for its maintenance. The annual hundi collections of the temple amount to Rs. 400 - while its income through the sale of archana and abishega tickets is Rs. 800 - per annum. The temple owns a Car, Palanquin and several vahanas, all made of wood.

Brahmothsavam in Vaikasi for a period of 10 days, Adi Pooram, Sri Jayanthi in Avani, Navarathri, Vaikunta Ekadasi in Margazhi, Gajendra moksham in Masi and Panguni Uthiram are the regular annual festivals celebrated here. During the Brahmothsavam the festival idol will be taken round on different vahanas. On one of these days, the Mohini Avatharam is commemorated. On the last day the Thiruparkadal tank is the venue of an impressive celebration. The Gajendra moksham festival in the month of Masi takes place in the neighbouring temple of Sri Narasimhaswami.

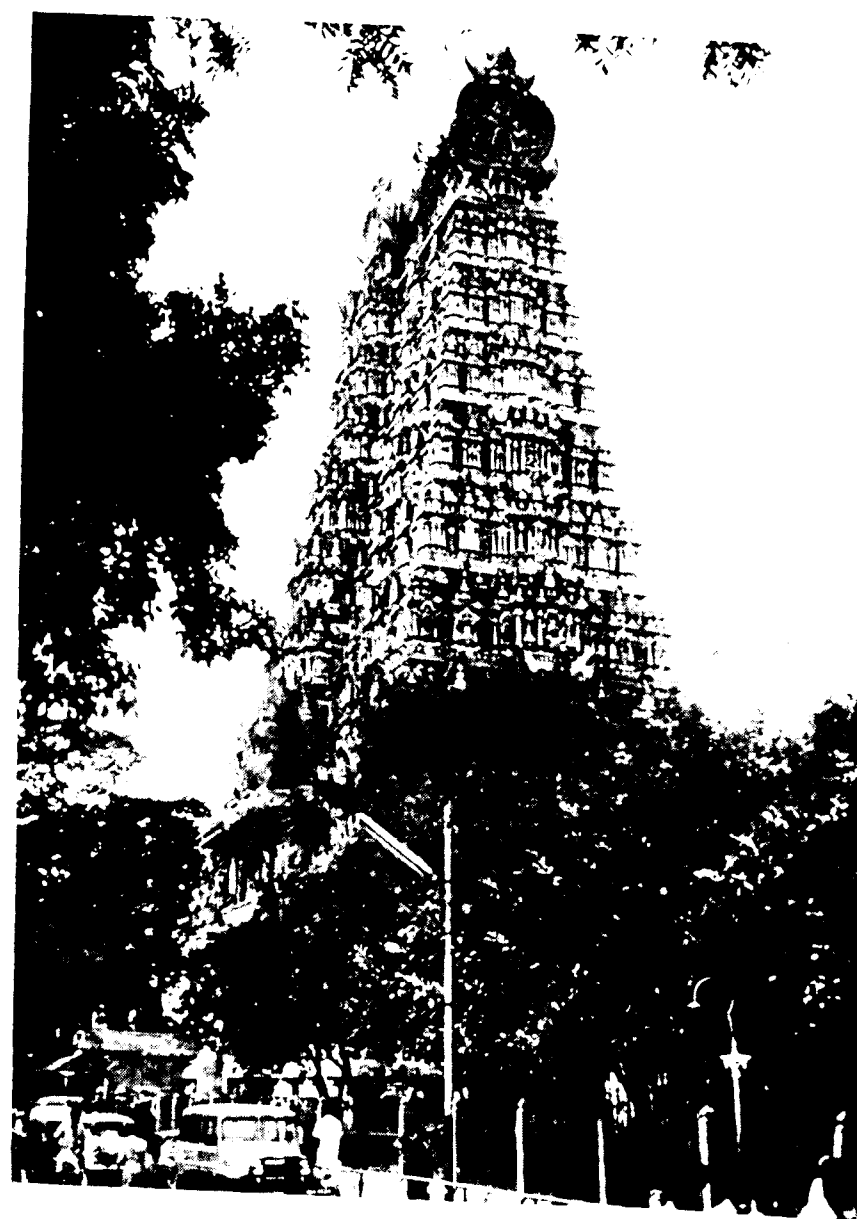




A close-up of the artistic vimanam in Sri Kalamega Perumal Temple at Thirumugur



Beautiful carvings of the images of Sri Rama and Sita on a pillar in the Garuda Mandapam of the temple at Thirumugur



A side view of the eastern tower

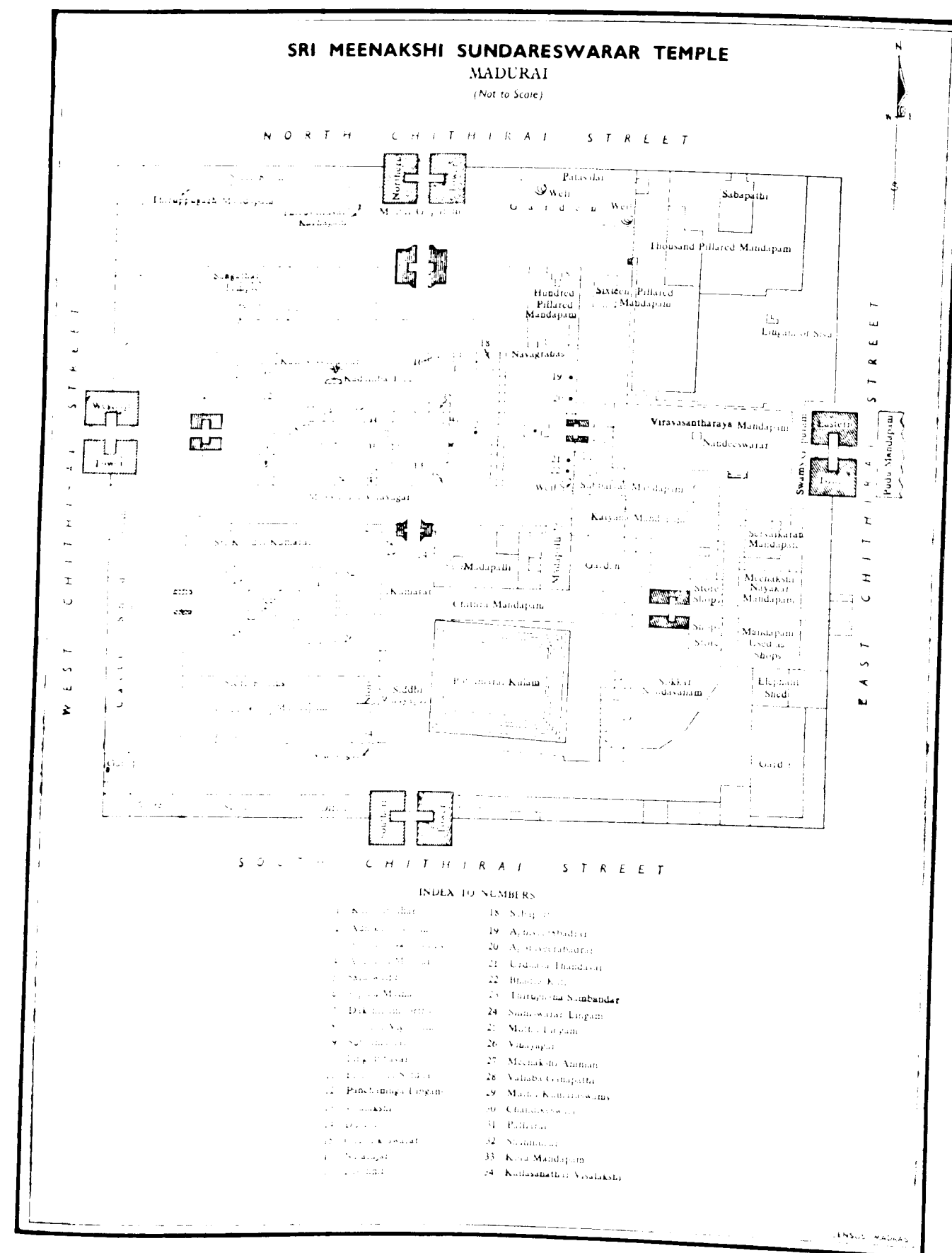
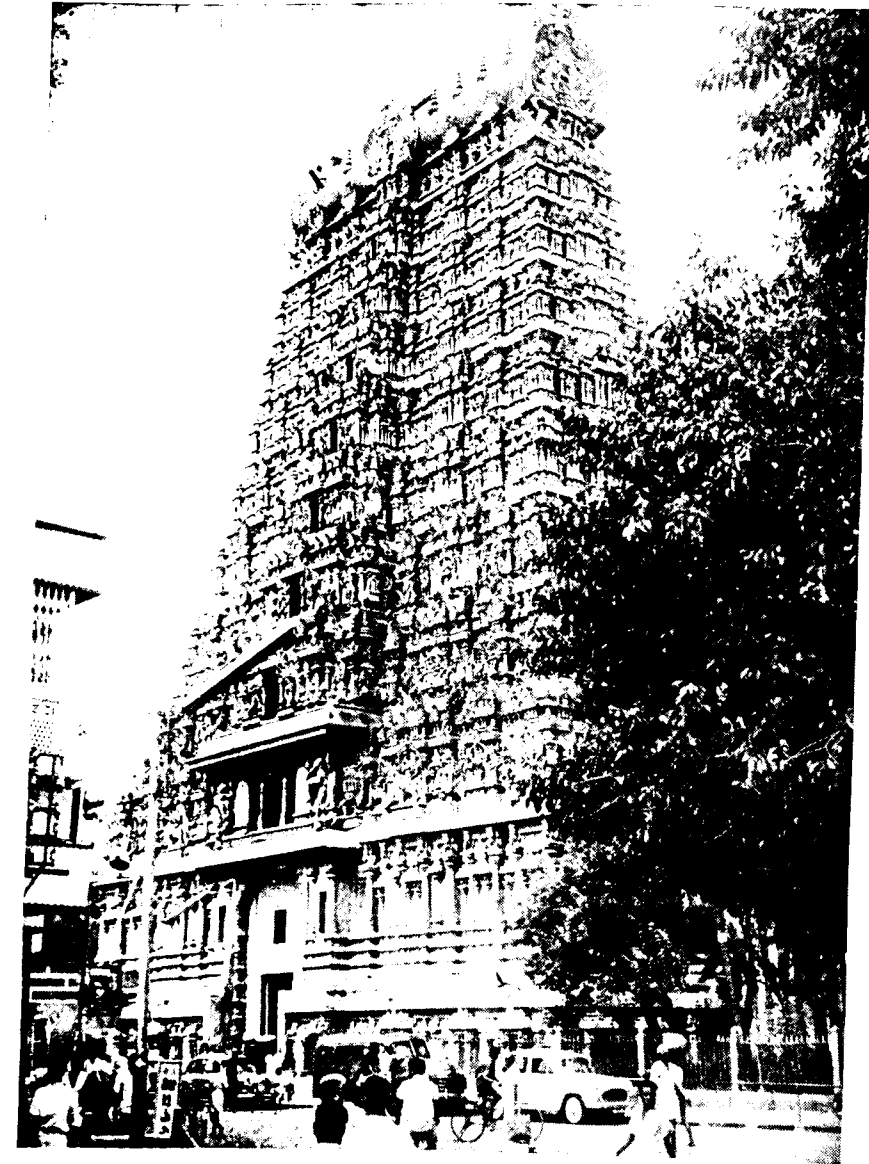




Image of Lakshmanar in the temple at Thirumangur



The eastern tower of Sri Meenakshi Temple at Madurai

Neighbouring temples

There is a beautiful cave temple dedicated to Sri Narasimha Perumal on Anamalai. The Lord is supposed to have been worshipped by great saints in days of yore. The other shrines near the temple of Thirumugur are the temples of Sri Veda Narayana Perumal, Sri Varada Vinayakar, Malaiswamy, Veeranaswamy, Rakkayee Amman, Karupannaswamy and Ayyan.

The following brief note on cave temples at Anamalai given by Mr. C. Sivaramamurthi in his book "Kalugumalai and Early Pandyan Rock-cut shrines" will be of interest to archaeologists :

"Eight miles by road from Madurai is Anamalai with a good road up to a mile from the hill-rock and a cart-track thereafter. The hill resembles a seated elephant with its trunk stretched forward between the fore legs. The legend associated with this hill is given in the *Thiruvilayadal Puranam*. A band of Jaina ascetics, invoked by their spells, a huge elephant to destroy the city of Madurai. Lord Siva used a lion-faced arrow to hit the elephant and petrified him into stone.

There are Jaina caverns and early inscriptions in the Brahmi script on the hill. There is also a cave temple dedicated to Narasimha, excavated in the rock. Vishnu as Narasimha, the lion-faced god, becomes the arrow of Siva here as Vishnu himself for Tripurantaka. Coupled with this is the existence on the hill of the Narasimha temple. The legend has been blended with the story of the hill. The inscription here in Grandha and Vatteluttu letters in Sanskrit and Tamil, records that the temple was constructed in A.D. 770 by the Chief Minister, *Uttaramantri* of the Pandya king Jatila Parantaka Nedunjadayan. It also mentions that before the temple could be completed, Marangari, or Madhurakavi as he was popularly called, died and it was actually his brother Maran Eyinan who consecrated it.

The multi-pillared mandapam, gopuram etc., are later additions. They have to be traversed before one reaches the main shrine, which resembles the early Pallava cave temple with two massive pillars and a pair of pilasters, a rock-cut cell as the shrine beyond the main mandapam. We had a similar experience in the Tirupparamkundram temple.

Not far, is another shrine locally styled as the temple of Ladamuni, but which in reality is a rock-cut cave of the same period as the Narasimha temple. It is dedicated to Subramania and his consort Devasena. The temple is cut in the rock with a flight of steps on either side. They lead to the mandapam which has two massive pillars and the usual pilasters. Beyond the mandapa is the shrine. At the entrance are two pilasters with two dwarf Ganas at the top as caryatids supporting the cornice. Flanking the door-way are two birds, a peacock and a cock. Farther on are two well-adorned human devotees, with garlands as offerings for the deity. These have replaced the usual dwara-palakas. There is also a figure of a seated attendant pointing towards the deity inside the shrine.

The deity is seated at ease with his consort, both the god and the goddess resting on the ground. Usual ornaments, including the crown, are provided. They are Devasenapathi, the God of War, with Devasena, the divine army personified as a damsel seated by him as his consort. Evidently Subramania was a favourite God in these areas. Not far off, at Tirupparamkundram, is another Subramania shrine in Pandya territory".

65. MADURAI

Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple

Madurai is the second largest city in Madras State and is known from ancient times as the City of Festivals. It was the seat of the ancient Pandya Kingdom as well as the centre of Tamil culture for centuries. The Meenakshi Sundareswarar temple which has become synonymous with the city of Madurai is an ancient Saivite shrine in the State. It is situated in the heart of the city only about half a mile from the Madurai Junction. Its unusually lofty gopurams are a landmark for miles around the city. The ancient origin of the temple is proved by the fact that saints Manickavasagar, Thirugnana Sambandar, Thirunavukkarasar and Nakkirar have composed devotional songs about this temple. The 11th and 12th Thirumurai contain several songs about this temple of Madurai and its presiding deities.

The anecdote about the origin of this temple runs thus :

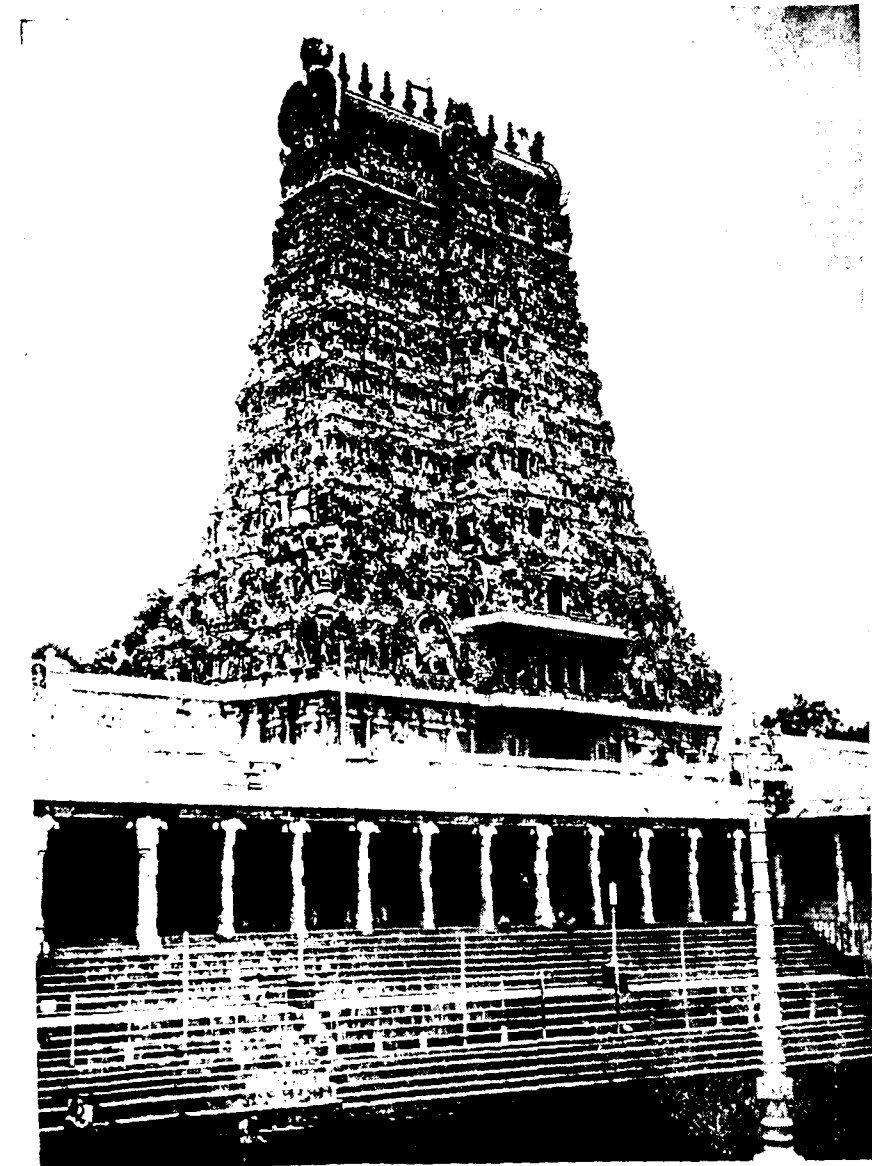
Lord Indra was once engaged in a combat with an asura by name Virudran. The asura fled in the course of the battle and hiding himself on a hill-top, started penance. Indra pursued him and killed him while engaged in penance, thereby violating an important norm of battle and incurring a great sin. Finding no way of getting himself absolved of this sin, he started on a pilgrimage to various sacred shrines and rivers and ultimately reached a forest full of 'Kadamba' trees in Pandya Nad. It would appear that there he experienced a miraculous thrill and a feeling of relief from the burden of the sin. On an investigation into the reason for this unusual experience, he came across a Sivalingam beneath a kadamba tree on the bank of a lake. Realising that the mysterious change occurred to him only due to the blessing of Lord Siva, he worshipped the Lingam and arranged for the construction of a vimanam over it. The Lingam that is enshrined in this temple is believed to be the same Swayambu Lingam which was then worshipped by Indra. The vimanam over the sanctum sanctorum of the supreme deity is even now, for this reason, called the Indra Vimanam. The golden lotus tank in the temple is believed to be the same lake, on the bank of which Indra discovered the Swayambu Lingam. The stump of a kadamba tree which is even now found in the temple of Lord Sundareswarar is all that remains now of this legendary forest of kadamba trees. Time passed on and Dhananjayan, a merchant of this place, reached this forest during one of his travels. He took shelter under the vimanam during the night and when he woke up in the morning, he found to his surprise, that the Sivalingam has been worshipped during the night. Being convinced that none else but the gods could have done it, he reported to the then Pandya ruler Kulasekhara about this discovery. Simultaneously, the king had a vision of Lord Siva in a dream, when he was directed to build a temple at the spot shown by Dhananjayan and to found a city around the temple. The devout king immediately proceeded to the spot, worshipped the Lingam and soon built a temple according to the divine behest. In short, it is believed that Lord Siva was Himself the architect of this holy shrine and this ancient city, around the temple.

Kulasekhara was succeeded by Malayadhwaja. Being childless, he and his consort Kanchanamala performed a sacrifice to propitiate Lord Siva and beget an offspring. By the grace of the Lord, there emerged

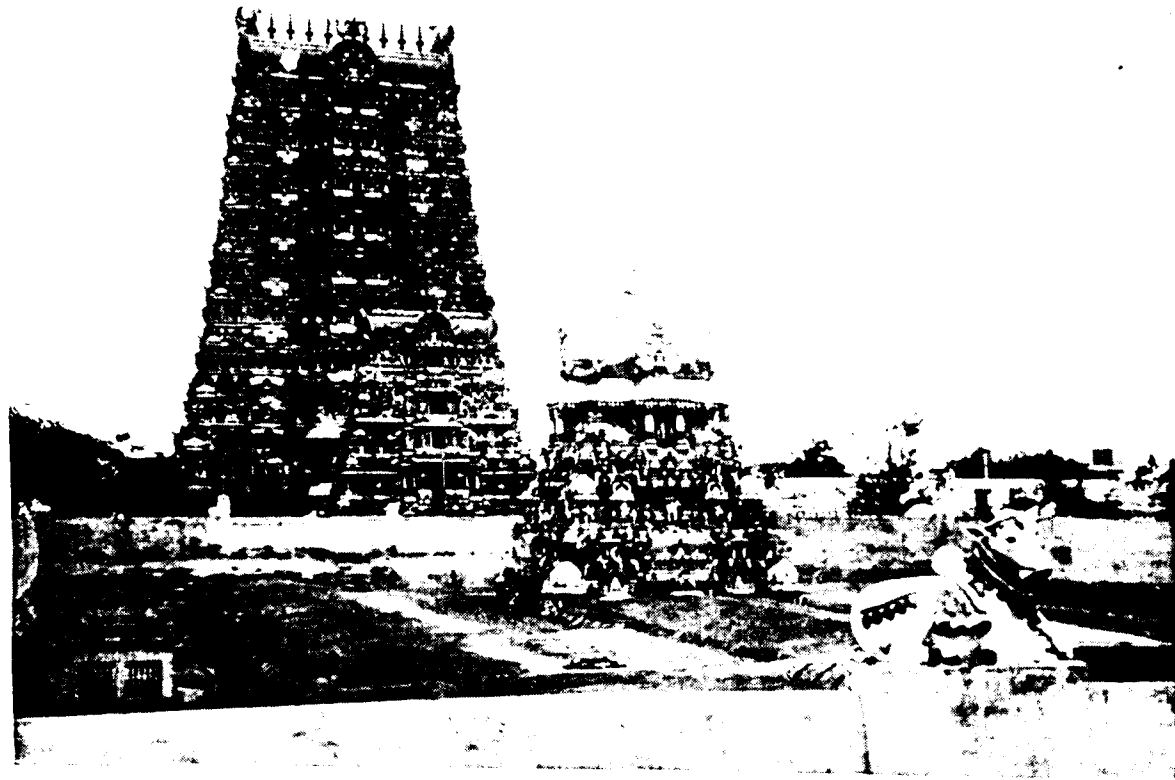
from the sacrificial fire a divine girl with three breasts. There was an aerial behest directing them to bring her up as a princess and to name her as Thadathagai. It was also prophesied that the unusual feature of a third breast would disappear when the girl met her future husband. The divine command was strictly followed and Thadathagai grew up to be a powerful princess. She succeeded to her father's throne, conquered many a powerful foe and marched in prowess to Mount Kailas. There, when she met Lord Siva in His celestial abode, her third breast disappeared. The Lord directed her to return to Madurai, promising that He would turn up on the eighth day, for their sacred wedding. On the day thus appointed, the wedding was celebrated in the royal city, in all pomp and glory and attended by the great sages and gods. Thadathagai came to be known as Meenakshi (the fish eyed goddess) and the Lord ruled over the country for long assuming the mortal name of Soundara Pandya. They ruled for long much to the prosperity of the subjects. In course of time, they begot a son, known as Ugra Pandyan who was none other than an incarnation of Lord Muruga and crowning him as their successor the couple is believed to have entered their respective shrines assuming their divine forms as Lord Sundareswarar and Goddess Meenakshi.

Various incidents connected with the reign of Lord Sundareswarar with Goddess Meenakshi which go by the name 'Thiruvilayadal' or divine miracles are enacted during the annual festivals. The Lord has on several occasions exhibited His divine prowess for safeguarding the safety of this city by warding off evil influences, natural calamities and onslaughts of enemies. Enemies are once stated to have despatched destructive forces in the shape of an elephant, a cow and a serpent to ruin the city and by His divine will, the Lord turned them into stones which are now identified as Yanimalai, Pasumalai and Nagamalai, the rocky hillocks which are seen on the outskirts of the city. The city of Madurai itself is so called because the effect of the poison vomitted by the serpent jewel of Lord Siva was warded off and the city purified by the rays of nectar (madhu) sprinkled from the crest jewel of the crescent moon worn by the Lord.

The Meenakshi temple which typifies Dravidian architecture was not built in a day. Its origin is shrouded in mythology. It has not yet been established when the King Kulasekhara Pandya, who first built the



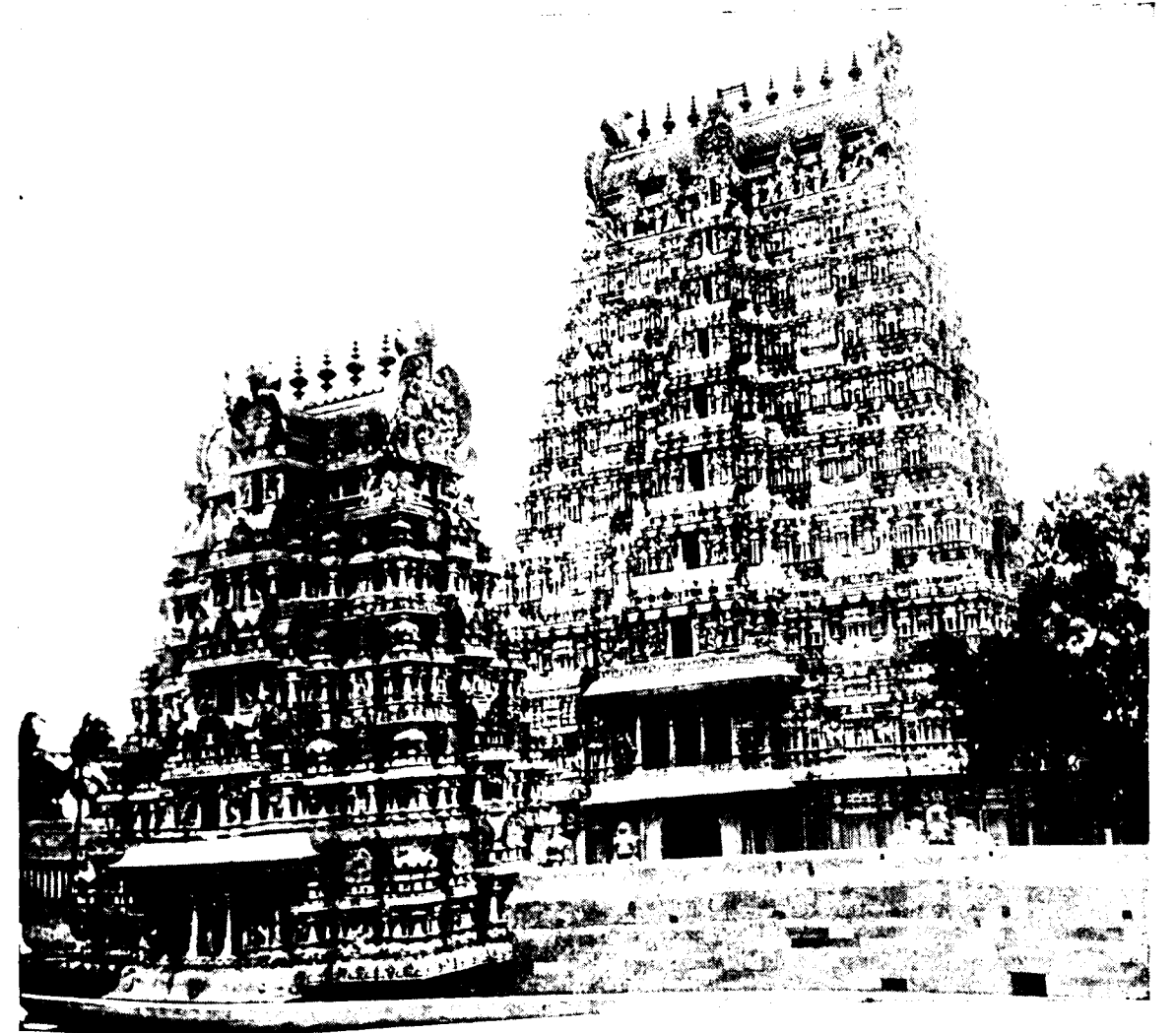
A view of the southern tower and tank of Sri Meenakshi Temple



The western tower and the gold plated vimanam over the Lord's sanctum in Sri Meenakshi Temple



Entrance to Sri Meenakshi Temple on the eastern side



A view of the northern towers of Sri Meenakshi Temple



A view of the corridor leading to the sanctum sanctorum of Sri Meenakshi Temple



Beautiful paintings on the ceiling of the Kilikattu Mandapam in Sri Meenakshi Temple



Sculpture of Siva as warrior in Sri Meenakshi Temple

temple held sway over this region. The city of Madurai has grown with the temple as the nucleus. The main roads are roughly parallel to its four sides.

The greater part of the temple with the exception of the innermost shrines of Meenakshi and Sundareswarar, is believed to have been built between the twelfth and eighteenth centuries. The massive outer walls of the temple form a rectangle, covering an area of about 14 acres. There is little doubt that the temple stands on the same site as it did in the earliest Pandya times. The old temple was almost razed to the ground in 1310 during the Muslim invasion of Madura by Malick Kafur. Walls, towers, buildings and streets were destroyed, the twin shrines of Meenakshi and Sundareswarar alone remained. Apparently they were spared more due to dissensions among the vandals rather than any reverence for the shrines.

It was Viswanatha Naik who in 1560 laid down the general plan of the temple and the construction of the outermost walls commenced during his reign. Generation after generation, kings and devout individuals zealously completed the structure without deviating from the original plan. It is said that it took 120 years to complete the temple and that carved and plaster figures alone number over 33 millions. The total cost of construction is put at about 12 million rupees. In the recent past, renovations were made in 1923 and during 1960-63.

The Lord's shrine is older than the goddess's shrine. The mandapam containing the shrine has got two corridors or prakarams. The entire Swamy temple is enclosed by the outer walls of the outer prakaram measuring 420 feet by 310 feet. Above the shrine of Lord Somasundara is the Indra Vimanam. This part of the temple contains 5 towers, four 5 tiered gopurams on the four outer walls and a 3 tiered gopuram on the inner eastern wall, forming the entrance to the Lord's shrine. Apart from the vimanams this three tiered tower was the first to be built.

The adjoining Amman temple is to the south of the Swamy temple. There is a vimanam over the shrine of the Amman. On the eastern side at the entrance to the Amman temple is a 3 tier gopuram of the 13th century. There is a 5 tier gopuram on the western side. There is a very small prakaram around the

Amman shrine and a prakaram around the mahamandapam. To the east of the Amman temple is the Golden Lily tank. Near the junction of the eastern and northern corridor of the Golden Lily tank stands a 7 tier gopuram, which serves as the eastern entrance to the Amman temple. Enclosing the Swamy and Amman temples is a common outer prakaram consisting of four open streets known as Adi Veedis. The eastern portion of Adi veedi is filled with buildings. The outer walls of the temple enclose the temple. The four imposing 9 tier towers which add to the grandeur of the temple crown the four entrances to the temple in the four directions. The temple also contains numerous mandapams and small shrines dedicated to other deities. Beyond the outer walls, there are four concentric sets of streets. Each set (north, south, east and west) contains four streets called Chithrai, Avani Moola, Masi and Veli (outer) streets. The city of Madurai is aptly compared to a Lotus, the temple being the central portion and the streets representing the petals.

The temple, as it is seen now, displays "an exuberance of fancy and a lavishness of labour rarely to be met with elsewhere". On the temple walls stand the four imposing 9 tier gopurams adding grandeur to the antiquity and divinity of the temple. Of the four towers, the southern one is the highest being 170' in height. The temple contains, on the whole, twelve gopurams of varying sizes, two vimanams, a beautiful tank and numerous mandapams with fine pillars.

The pilgrim usually enters first the Meenakshi temple through the eastern gate known as the Ashta Sakthi mandapam. It is so called because it is supported by eight pillars having the figures of the eight 'Sakthis'. From here, one enters the 160' long Meenakshi Nayakar mandapam which is supported by six rows of massive granite pillars. Next to this is the Mudali mandapam which is also called the dark mandapam where, among others, the beautiful sculptures of Bikshadanar, Mohini and Anasuya will arrest the attention of any visitor. From here, one can go to the Golden Lily tank known as Potramarai which is regarded as extremely sacred by the devout Hindus. According to tradition, Lord Indra bathed in this beautiful tank and got rid of his sin. The tank is so called since Indra worshipped the Lord with the beautiful golden flowers which grew in the water. There are numerous legends connected with the tank.

According to the 48th story of the sthalapurana, the Lord answered the prayers of a heron that no fish or frog should be in the tank. To this day no frog or fish inhabits the tank. On the northern and eastern walls of the Potramarai corridor, are painted beautiful pictures depicting the 64 famous miracles or Thiruvilayadals of Lord Sundareswarar. As one goes round the tank, one can have a view of the golden domes of the sanctum sanctorum of the God and Goddess. On the western side of the tank is the Rani Mangammal mandapam and on the northern end the Kilikkattu or parrot mandapam. The ceilings of both these contain beautiful paintings.

The regular worship starts from this point. The image of Sidhi Vinayakar is worshipped first and going round the balipeetam, one worships the image of Lord Muruga. Thereafter, one enters the shrine of Goddess Meenakshi. Two beautiful paintings relating to the coronation and the wedding respectively of the goddess are seen at the entrance. The darshan of the marvellous idol of the divine Mother, the fish-eyed goddess instils into any pilgrim a divine thrill. At the eastern end of the southern prakaram is located the beautiful sculpture of King Thirumala Naik and his family who were responsible for the major renovation of the additions to the temple.

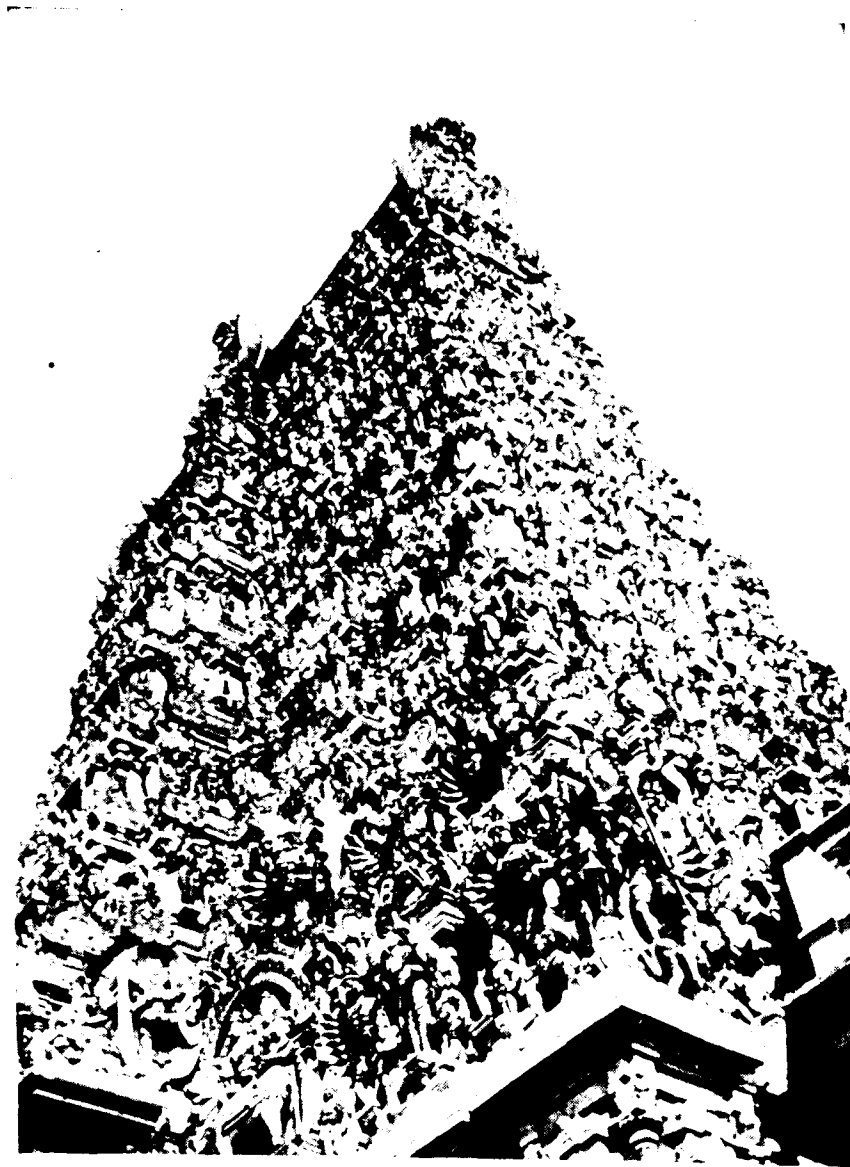
After completing a round of the shrine of the goddess, the devotee steps into the shrine of Lord Sundareswarar. Here he offers worship first to the Mukkurini Pillayar, a great monolithic figure. The image is said to have been found when the Vandiyur Theppakulam was excavated. The devotee then walks through three spacious and inspiring corridors. At the north-western end is the chapel of the famous Tamil Sangam. The Sangam, a great Tamil academy is a very ancient institution. Then he comes to the famous hall known as kambathadi mandapam the central portion of which rests on eight monolithic pillars. The different aspects of Siva as explained in the Sivapurana are carved on these pillars. In the centre of the hall is a Nandhi and a mandapam cut out of a single stone. Each dwarapalaka at the entrance to the shrine is 12' high. On the eastern side of the hall are four huge figures of Agni Veerabhadra, Agora Veerabhadra, Kali and Siva in dancing pose, carved out of the pillars themselves. Navagrahas, Palani Andavar and Vinayakar are the other gods worshipped in this hall. The sculptures of Ardhanareeswara and Sankara-

narayana deserve special mention for the meticulous care with which the details have been carved out. The sculpture depicting the wedding of Goddess Meenakshi is another classical one. Maha Vishnu as the brother of the goddess is pouring water into the hands of the bridegroom, Brahma is performing the homam and Vasishta is conducting the marriage. Other sculptures in this hall are those of Thripuranthaka, Kalasamharamurthi and Ravana lifting the Kailasa. Worshipping at the sannadhi of Sundareswarar is indeed a divine experience. The Lord is represented in the form of a Lingam. Going round the sannadhi, one can see the beautiful depiction in images of some of the Lord's Thiruvilayadals on the outer walls of the inner prakaram, Nataraja with his right foot raised, the idols of the 63 celebrated Saivite saints, Sahasralingam, Saraswathi, Dakshinamurthi, Somaskandhar, Lingodbhavar, Kasi Viswanathar, Durgai and Mahalakshmi. The depiction of dancing Nataraja with his right foot raised is a unique feature of this temple. The hall where Nataraja is said to have danced is known as Velliambalam or Rajatha Sabha or Silver Hall. On the northern corridor there is a stump of the sacred kadamba tree. On either side of the Kambathadi mandapam is the hundred-pillar mandapam and from this mandapam, one enters the thousand-pillar mandapam. This has been acclaimed to be a unique sculptural museum. Fergusson considers that the sculptures here surpass those of any other hall of its class he is acquainted with and remarks: "It is not the number of the pillars, but their marvellous elaboration that makes this hall the wonder of the place". The only other place of importance is the kalyanamandapam where the anniversary of the marriage of Goddess Meenakshi with Sundareswarar is celebrated. Briefly put, every sculpture seen in this temple is unrivalled and has been executed with remarkable perfection, to be an example of "work exhibiting difficulties overcome by patient labour", reflecting the great skill of the architects who executed them as well as the benevolence and culture of the patrons who directed them. It is said that in the past people suffering from mental disorder used to be brought to this temple in order that they might be cured by divine grace. Now this practice is not in vogue.

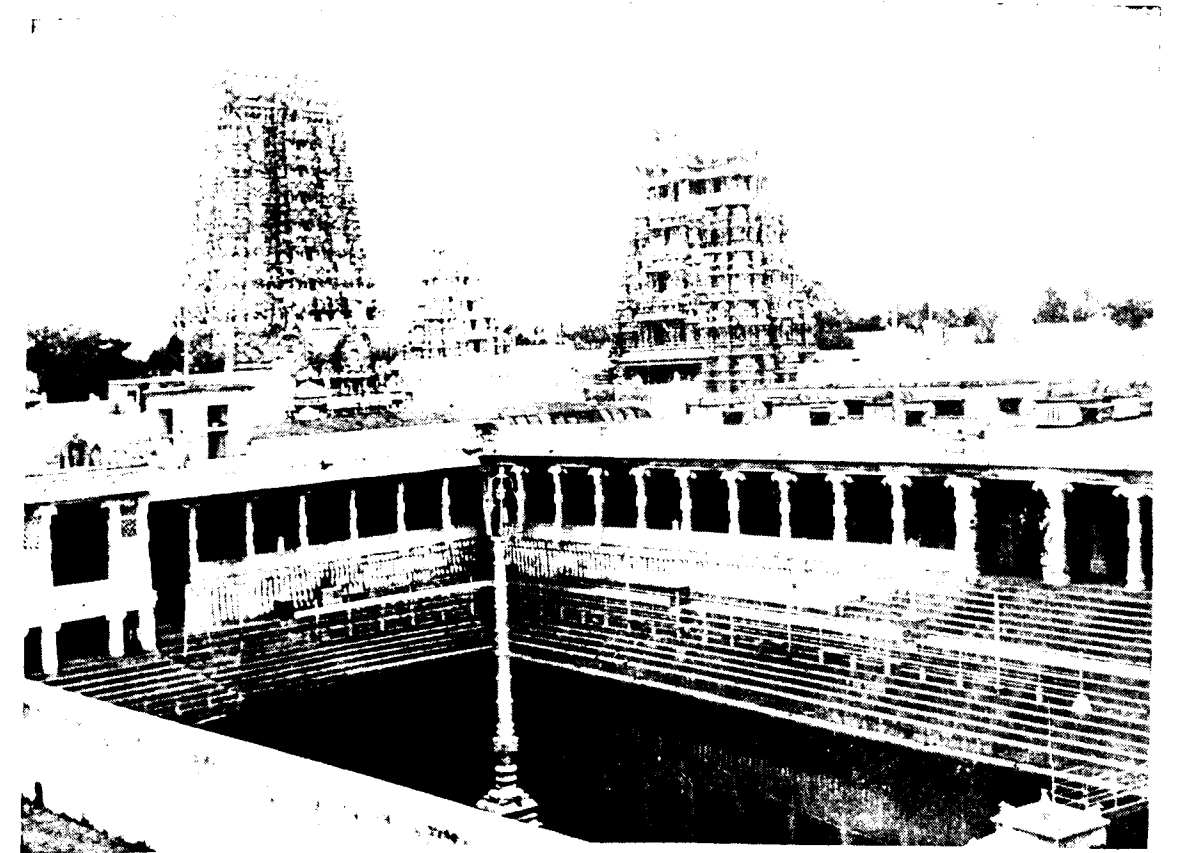
Six poojas are offered daily to the deities in this temple conforming to the stipulations in the Kamika and Karana Agamas.



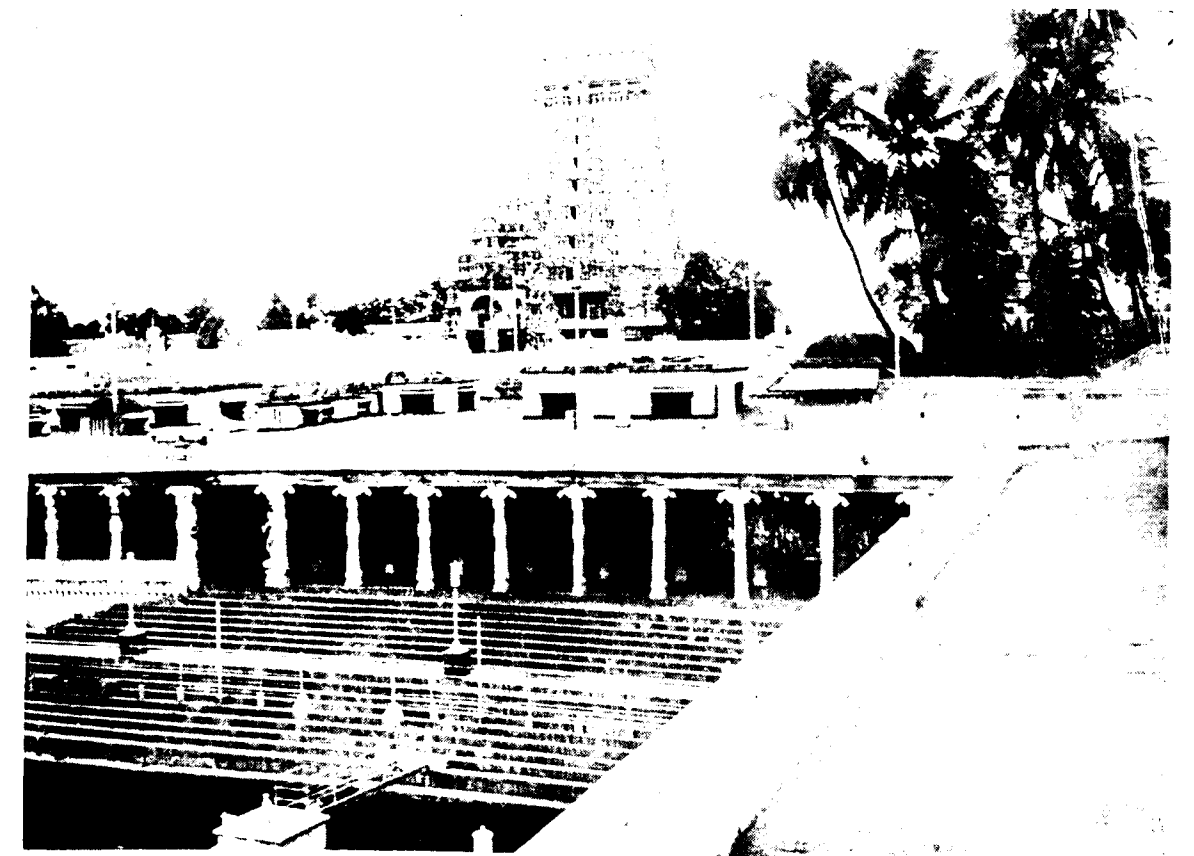
A rare carving of Lord Vinayaka in female form in Sri Meenakshi Temple



A close-up of the artistic southern tower



An impressive view of the Golden lily tank and the towers of Sri Meenakshi Temple



Another view of the tank and towers



Beautiful paintings of the sixty four Thiruvilayadals on the corridor wall



The graceful sculptured figure of Anasuya, a paragon of chastity in Hindu Mythology, in the Mudaliar Mandapam of Sri Meenakshi Temple



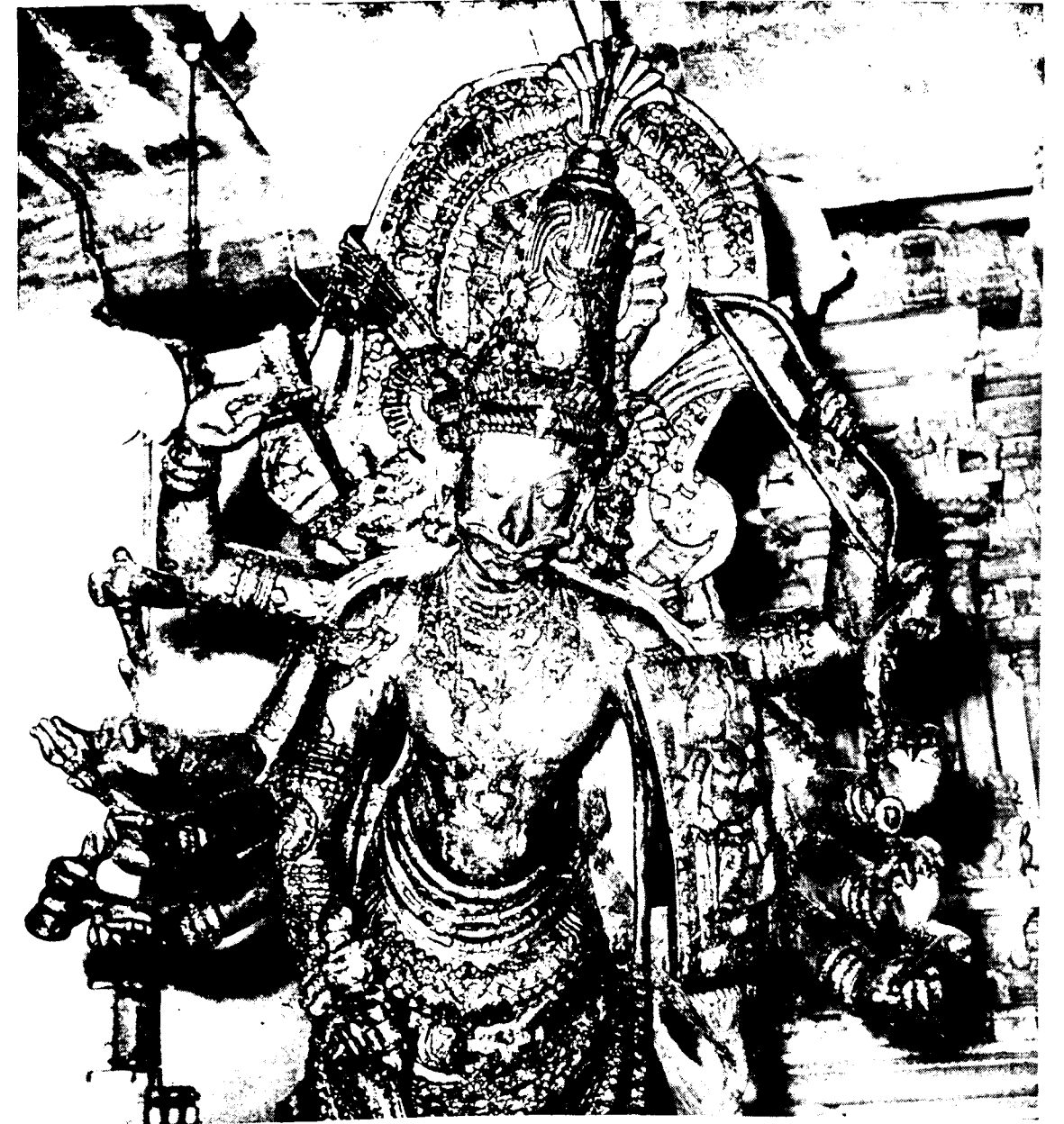
The sculpture of Lord Vishnu as Mohini in the Mudaliar Mandapam



Sri Mookarman Pillayar, the huge monolithic figure in Sri Meenakshi Temple



The awe-inspiring figure of Aghora Veerabhadrar in the Kambathadi Mandapam of Sri Meenakshi Temple



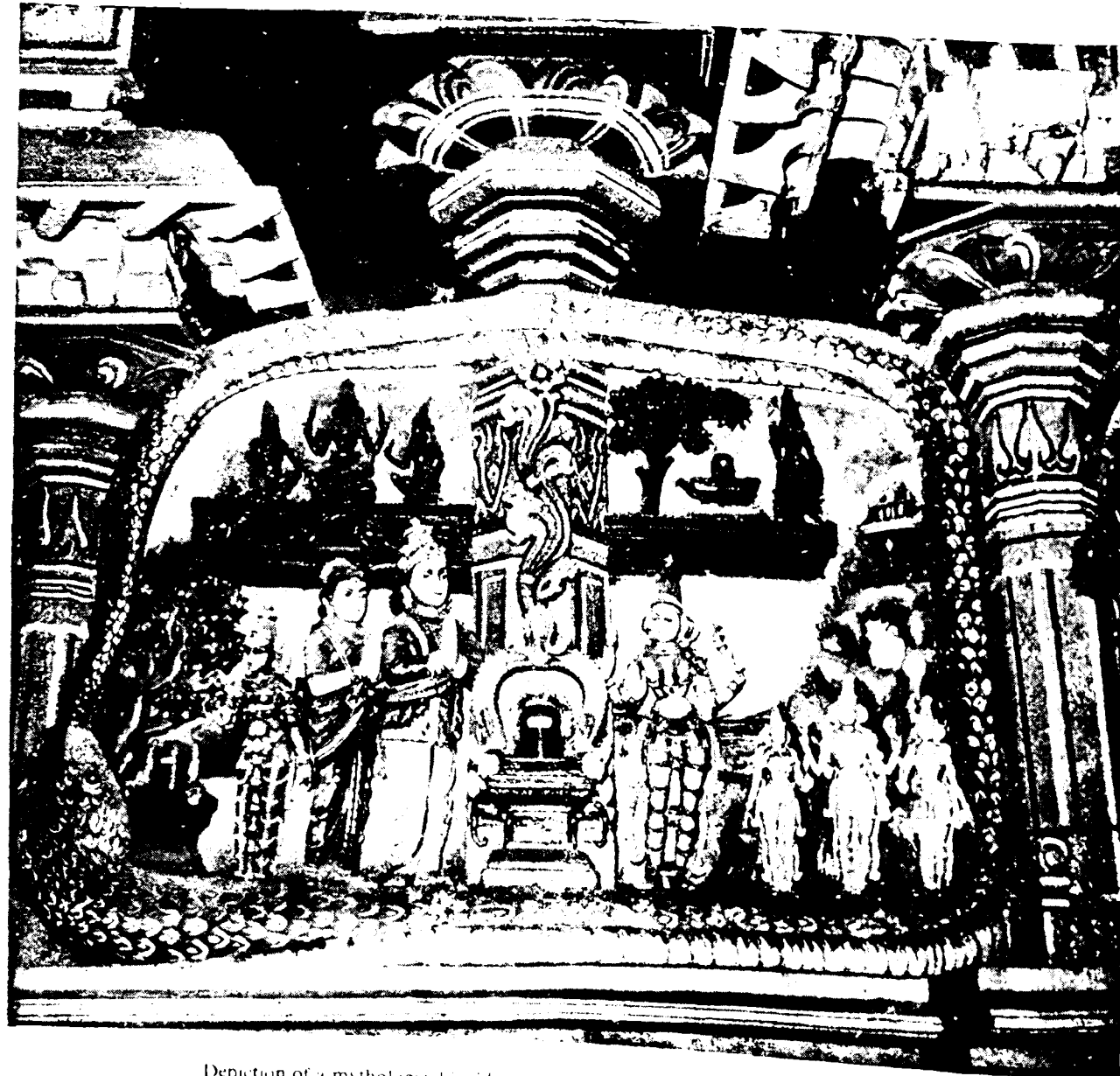
The imposing figure of Agni Veerabhadrar in the Kambathadi Mandapam



Sculpture depicting the Urdhva Thandavam of Lord Siva in the Kambathadi Mandapam



The impressive sculpture in the Kambathadi Mandapam depicting the marriage of Goddess Meenakshi



Depiction of a mythological incident concerning Goddess Meenakshi in the Temple

Festivals are celebrated in all months of the Tamil calendar, wherefor Madurai is called the City of Festivals. The most important, however, is the Chithrai festival celebrated for 12 days in April-May. It commences with the flag-hoisting on the first day. The celebration on the eighth day relates to the coronation of the goddess and that on the ninth day is her Digvijayam. The sacred wedding is celebrated with all pomp on the tenth day when the priests assume the role of the bride and bridegroom. The chariot festival is on the eleventh day and the festival concludes with the immersion ceremony on the last day. A record crowd will collect on every day and especially for the Thirukkalyanam. The procession during the festival is confined to the four Masi Streets.

The month of Vaikasi (May-June) is known for the celebration Vasanthotsavam for ten days. Processions on this occasion take place round the Chithrai streets. The ceremonial procession of the sixty three saints is a special feature of this festival.

The Unjal festival is celebrated for ten days in the month of Ani (June-July). On the day of the Uthiram star, Lord Nataraja and His consort are taken round in procession through the four Masi streets.

In the month of Avani (August-September) takes place the Avani Moolam festival for 18 days. During the first six days, the festival is in honour of Sri Chandrasekharar and for the next twelve days the importance is for the Panchamurthis. The coronation of Lord Sundareswarar is celebrated on the seventh day. Processions during this festival are confined to the Avani Moola streets.

In the month of Karthigai (November-December) there is the festival of lights for ten days. In Margazhi, (December-January), there is the Ennaikappu festival for nine days. The grand Theppotsavam takes place on the last day of the 12 day festival in Thai (January-February) in the big tank about 2 Kilometres away from the temple on the eastern side, which is the biggest and most beautiful one of its kind in the whole State. This tank commonly known as the Vandiyur or Mariamman Theppakulam measures 1,000 feet on the north and south and 950 feet on the east and west. It is an artificial reservoir built by Thirumala Naik in about 1645 for the use of the Goddess Meenakshi. In the

centre of the reservoir is a beautiful little island with green palms and flowering trees and a small temple with a tall tower. One can have a beautiful view of the city and the temple from the top of this tower. Devotees who come to the Meenakshi temple also offer worship at the Mariamman temple near the tank. The island can be reached in about ten minutes by means of country boats which ply frequently.

In the month Panguni (March-April), Kodai Vasanthotsavam is celebrated for nine days. On the morning of the Panguni Uthiram day, the Lord with His consort is taken in ceremonial procession to Tirupparamkundram to attend the anniversary of Lord Muruga's wedding with Deivayanai and returns the same night.

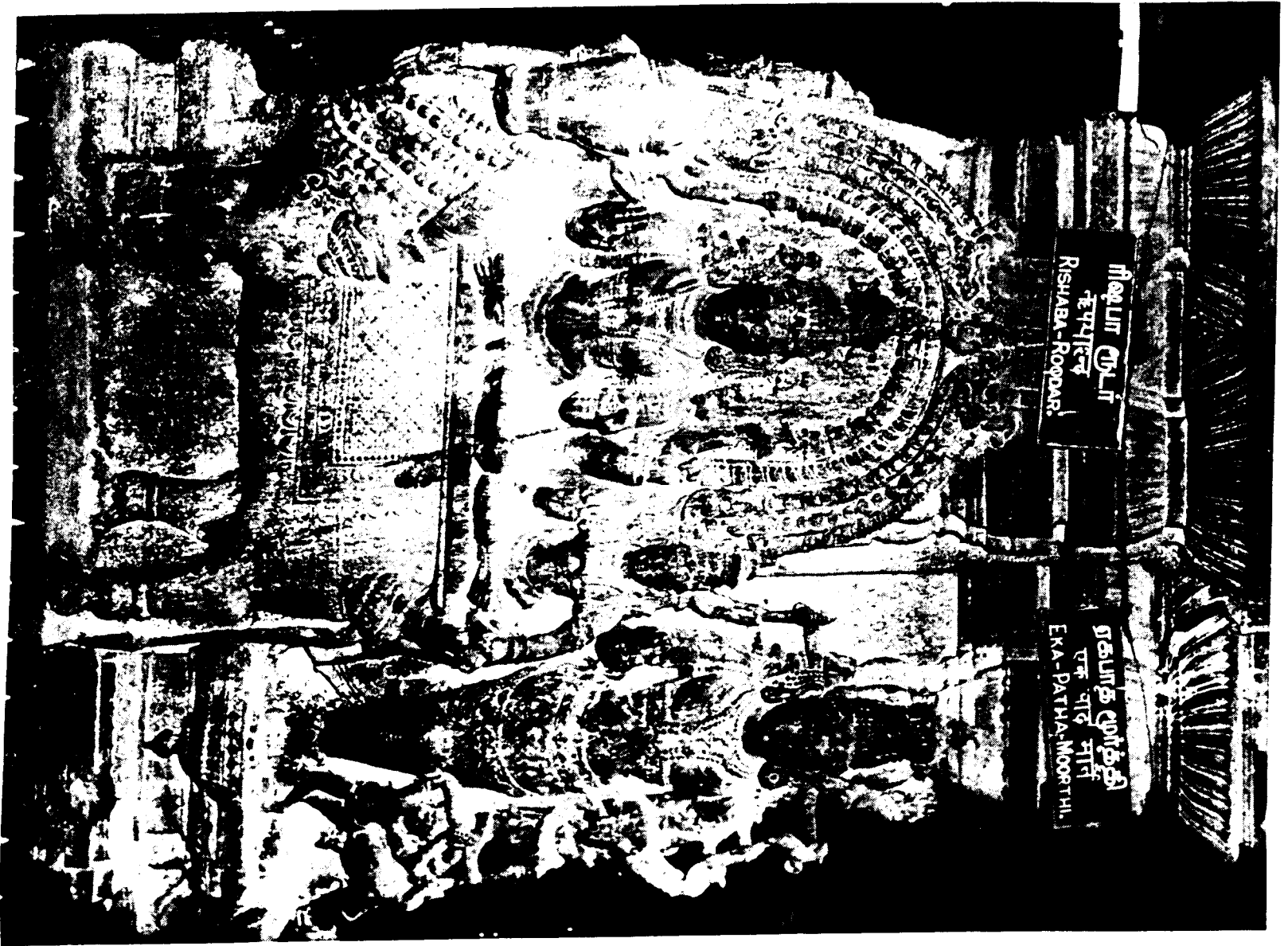
Out of the 64 famous Thiruvilayadals attributed to the Lord, four are enacted during the Chithrai festival and ten during the Avani Moolam festival. In the Thai and Panguni festivals, three and one are respectively celebrated.

The Temple has got 452 acres 99 cents of wet lands and 447 acres 89 cents of dry lands which yield an annual income of 1,017 kalams (one kalam equals 48 measures) of paddy. The total annual income is estimated to be about Rs: 7,15,374/-and includes income from lands, dastak allowance, rent from buildings and income from hundis.

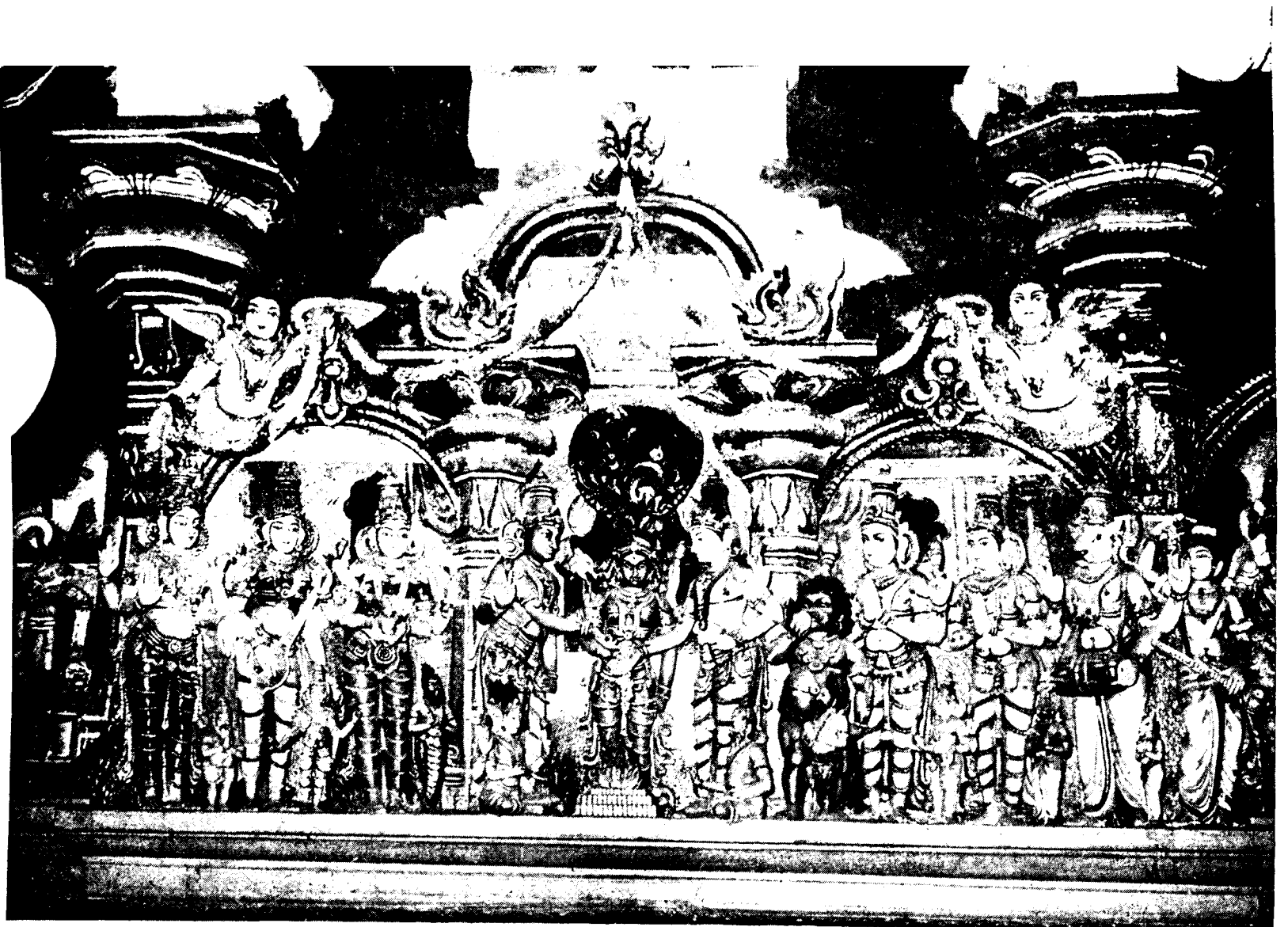
The Meenakshi temple is noted for its fine collection of jewels, some of which are invaluable. The value of jewels in the temple are assessed at Rs. 19,67,279/-. Among them a pendent offered by an ancient Pandya King, a head-dress studded with priceless gems, pearls and diamonds presented by King Thirumala Naik and a pair of gold stirrups offered by a former British Collector, Rous Peter, deserve special mention.

There are a number of inscriptions in the temple relating the Pandya and Naik kings. Many of them have been copied and published by the Archaeological Department. The temple is administered by an Executive Officer appointed by the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department.

There are a number of temples in Madurai which come under Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple.



Sculptures of Siva and Parvathi on Rishaba and the beautiful figure of Kapada Murti in the Kambathudi Mandapam



Images depicting Sri Meenakshi Kalyanam on the outer walls of the Lord's shrine

They are the temples of Thiruppudaiyar, Chockanathar, Kanchanamala, Hanumar, Thenthiruvallavoy, Bairavar, Chellathamman, Saptha Madhar, Veerabadrar, Mariamman, Subramaniaswamy at Thiruparamkundram, Thirumarainathar at Thiruvadavur and Muktheeswaram. Apart from these the city has many more temples. Some of which are: Nanmai Tharuvar temple, Kudalalagar temple, Srinivasa Perumal temple, Madanagopalaswamy temple and Muneeswarar temple.

It is the cherished desire of every devout Hindu from the Himalayas to Kanyakumari to visit once in his life time this temple which gives an inward vision of Hindu spiritual grandeur. Mahatma Gandhi voiced the sentiments of every such soul when he wrote after a visit to the temple "I am glad that the desire I had entertained for years is fulfilled today". A former French Ambassador wrote on a similar occasion "Here in Madurai, I discover the soul and heart of this Hindu faith, thought and culture going thousands of years back.....It is here that things of India which seem so mysterious take their real meaning".

Sri Kudalalagar Temple

It is likely that a casual visitor to Madurai may overlook a Vaishnavite temple in the heart of the city which apart from possessing many individual points of interest, can claim an antiquity at least as great as that of the Meenakshi temple itself. This temple facing east is close to the Madurai Junction. It is at a short distance from the Meenakshi temple.

The three famous Vaishnavite shrines venerated highly throughout the Pandya Nad in the past were Kallalagar, Kattalagar and Kudalalagar. While Thirumalirumcholai or Alagar koil near Madurai and the hill temple near Srivilliputhur are the abode of Kallalagar and Kattalagar respectively, "Thirukudal", in the heart of Madurai city is the abode of Kudalalagar. Madurai was also known as "Koodal" and "Alavoi" in those days. This sacred shrine has been referred to "Thirukudal" in the "Pasurams" of the great Alvars. Thirukudal is one of the 108 Vaishnavite centres.

With huge stone walls all round, the temple covers an area of about 2.5 acres. It has a 125' tall five-tier pagoda and imposing ashtanga vimanam besides two prakarams and a sanctum sanctorum on a raised

platform. The base of the ashtanga vimanam and the walls of the sanctum contain beautiful architectural carvings in granite stones. Sri Kudalalagar, Sri Madhuravalli Thayar and Sri Andal are the presiding deities of the temple. The Moolavar, facing east, in a sitting posture, is about 6 feet in height. Vaikunda Nathar and Vyuga Sundararajar are the other names of deity. The festival idol of the Lord, made of Panchalogam is about 4' high.

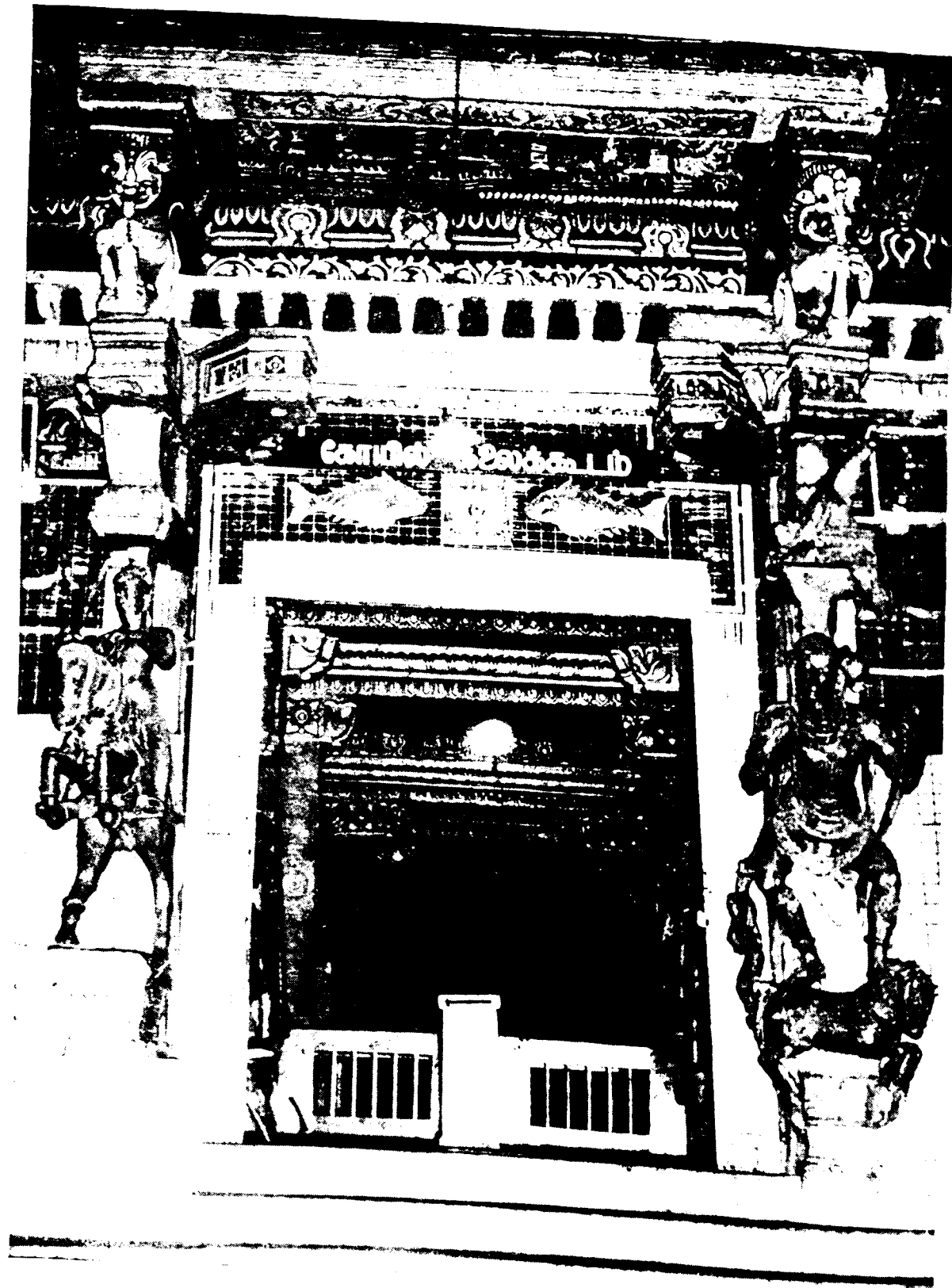
A characteristic feature of this shrine is that the Lord gives darshan in all the three forms here: sitting (amarndha kolam), standing (nindra kolam) and lying (kidandha kolam). The Moolavar is in a sitting posture with His consorts on either side. There are two tiers in the artistic ashtanga vimanam over the sanctum sanctorum. In the first tier there is an imposing image of the god in a standing posture. He is called Sri Suryanarayanamurthy. In the second tier the Lord's image has been carved out in a graceful reclining pose. He is called Kshirabdhinathar. Each of these two tiers has a prakaram. Visitors can visit these two tiers on a nominal payment.

To the north of Kudalalagar sannadhi, are the sannadhis of Sri Lakshminarasimhar, Ramar and Krishnar facing south. The Sannadhis of Andal, Narasimhar, Manavala Mamunigal and Navagrahas are found in the northern prakaram. A noteworthy feature about this shrine is the presence of the Navagrahas, which will generally be found only in Siva temples. The images of Sri Hanumar and Garudalwar are found to the south of Sri Ramar and to the east of Sri Kudalalagar respectively. There is a separate shrine here for Nachiar, to the south of Kudalalagar's sannadhi. Madhuravalli, Vagulavalli, Maragadhavalli and Varagunavalli are the different names of the goddess here. Just in front of the goddess's sannadhi to the south are found the sannadhis of Sri Udayavar, Desigar, Nadhamunigal and Alwars.

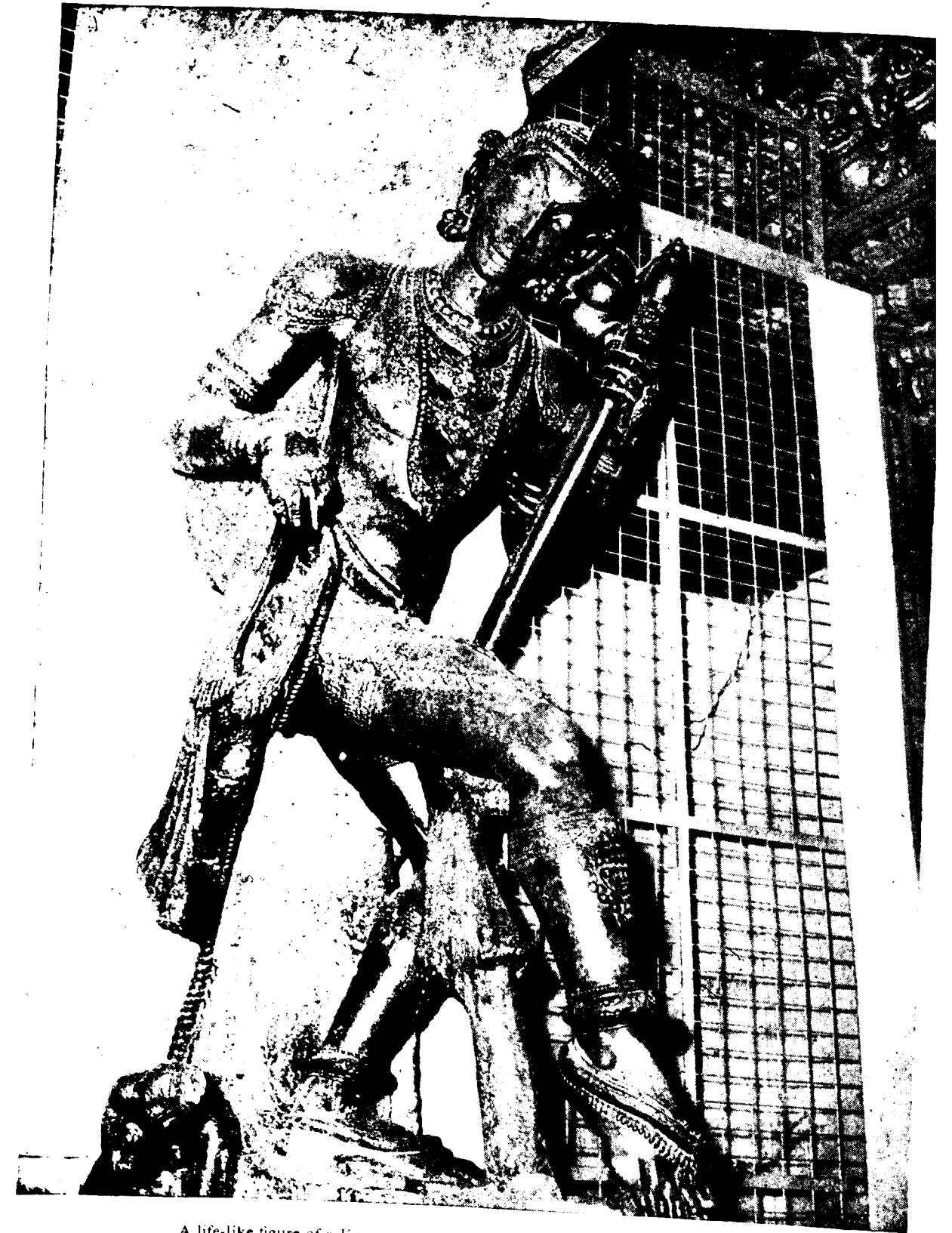
There are several stone inscriptions here and they refer to the presiding deity as "Kudal Azhagiya Perumal". They also throw light on the endowments made in the shape of villages, lands and houses for the proper conduct of the poojas and festivals of the temple and the supply of stones for the construction of the arthamadapam here. Thirumangai Alwar, Thirumazhisai Alwar and Perialwar have composed beautiful verses or pasurams in praise of this sthalam.



The stump of the sacred Kadamba tree in the northern corridor of the sanctum of Sri Sundareswarar



Entrance to the thousand pillar mandapam which has been converted into an Art Museum



A life-like figure of a Korava (gypsy) outside the thousand pillar mandapam



The figure of Korathi (gypsy woman) with her children outside the thousand pillar mandapam



An interior view of the thousand pillar mandapam which is a treasure house of art and sculpture

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUMANGALAM

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
40	135	Vannivelampatti (P)	Eswaraberi	Sri Agneeswaraswamy Temple (S)	608	0.10	Sri Agneeswaraswamy	Sri Chidambabar Sri Parvathy Sri Gomathy Sri Vinayakar	Tirumangalam Railway station 13 miles
41	136	Kallupatti (P)	Kallupatti	Sri Prasanna Hanumar Temple (O)	22	0.05	Sri Prasanna Hanumar	...	Kallikudi Railway station 9 miles
42	139	Puliampatti (P)	Puliampatti	Sri Kothandaramaswamy Temple (V)	40	0.20	Sri Kothandaramar	Sri Sita Sri Lakshmanar	Kallikudi Railway station 4 miles
43	140	Kalligudi (P)	Lalapuram	Sri Varadaraja Perumal Temple (V)	60	0.20	Sri Varadaraja Perumal	Sri Perundevi Sri Alli Thayar	Kallikudi Railway station 2½ miles
44	..	do	Kallikudi	Sri Eswarar Temple (S)	1,500	0.40	Sri Eswarar	Sri Meenakshiamman	Kallikudi Railway station 1½ miles
45	154	Kurayur (P)	Kurayur	Sri Venugopala-swamy Temple (V)	400	1.00	Sri Venugopala-swamy	...	Kallikudi Railway station 4 miles
46	160	Villur (P)	Villur	Sri Rajagopala-swamy Temple (V)	300	0.50	Sri Rajagopala-swamy	...	Kallikudi Railway station 5 miles
47	161	Karaikeni (P)	Karaikeni	Sri Chockanathaswamy Temple (S)	767	Below 0.01	Sri Chockanathaswamy	Sri Meenakshiamman	Kallikudi Railway station 9 miles

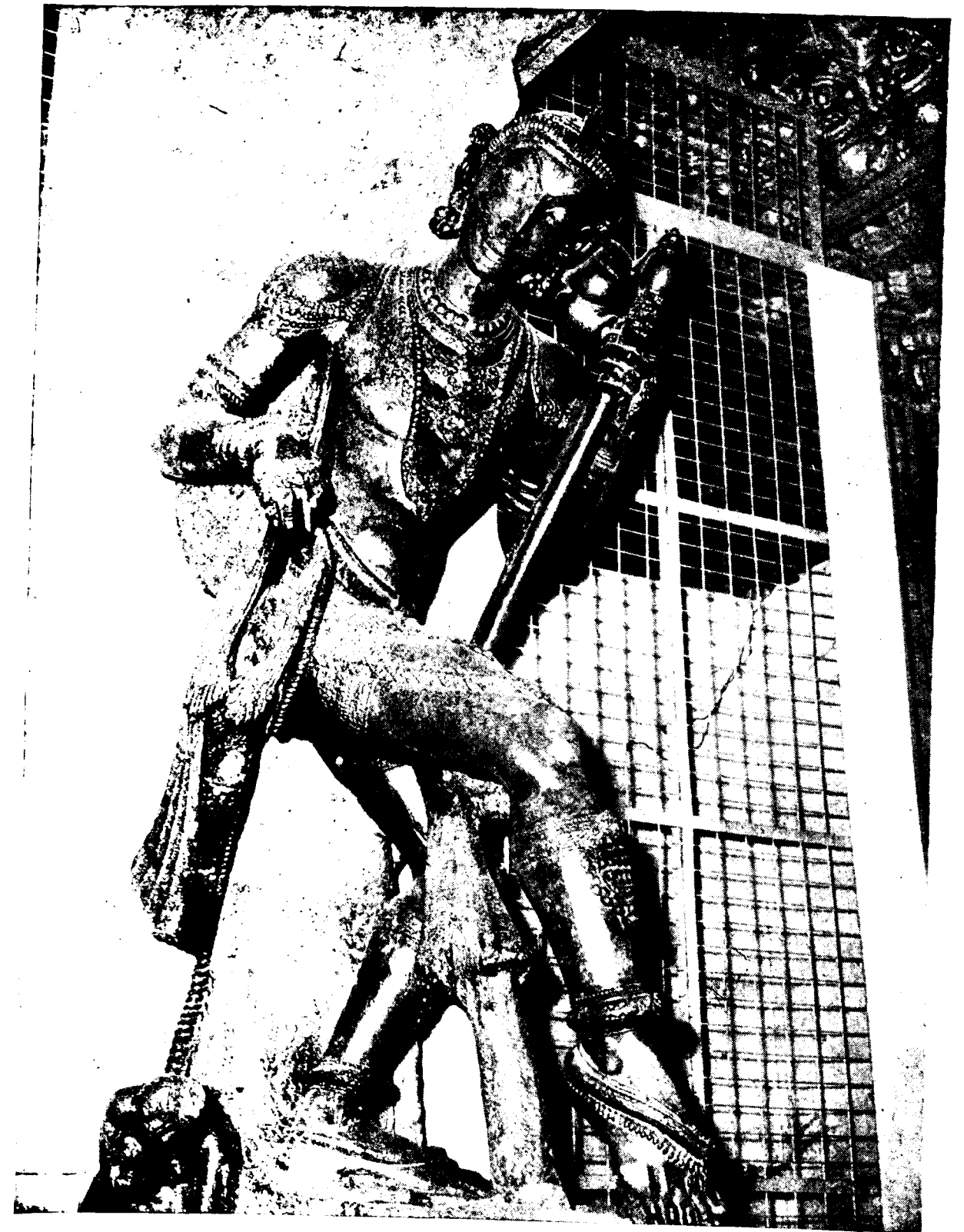
MADURAI DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

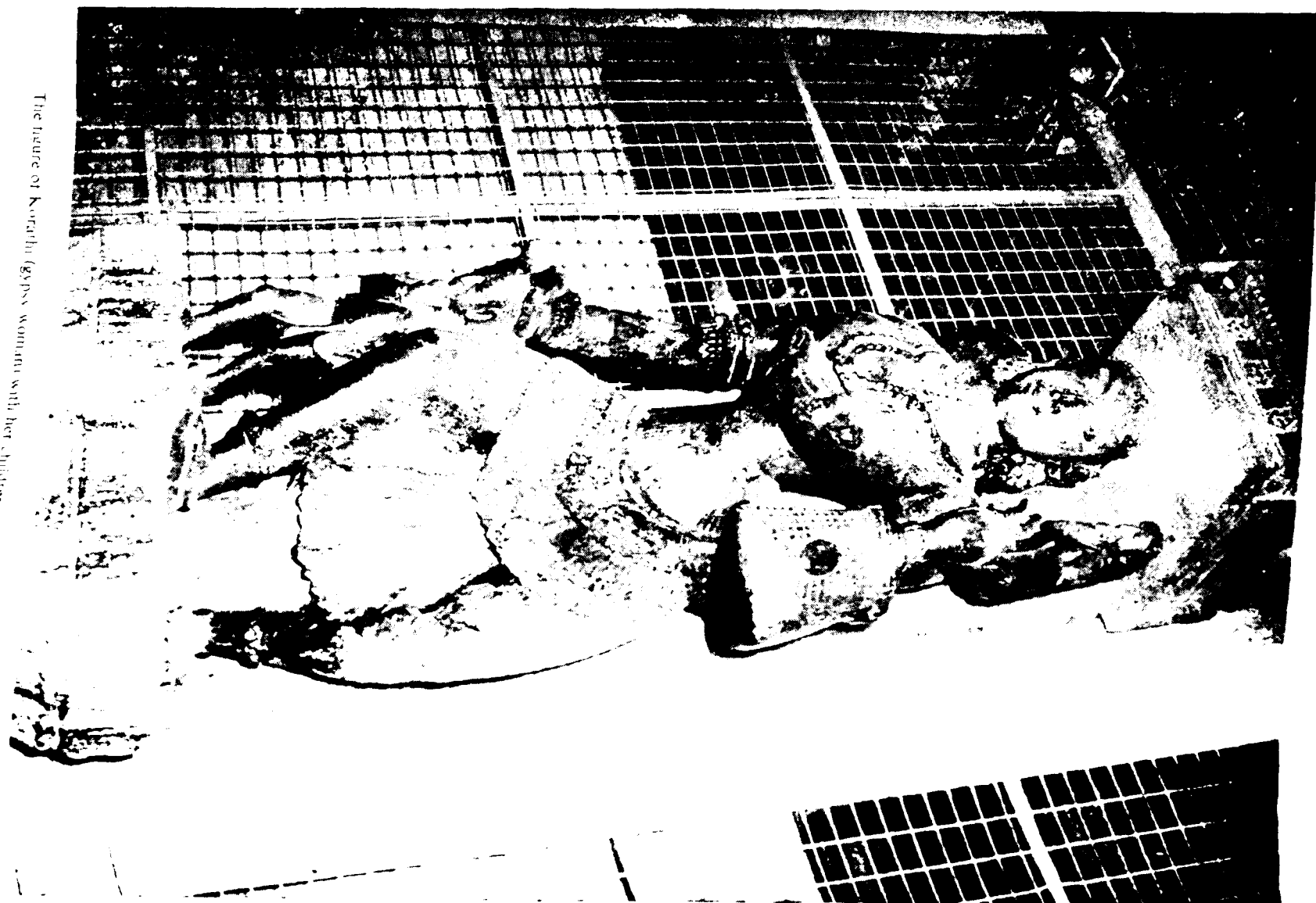
Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
1,589	...	...	...	...	...	...	Rishabam	Twice a day by a Brahmin	Tamil New Year's Day
580	2.74	5.28	...	Shops-2	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Rao	...
723	...	12.00	...	...	...	...	Chapparam	Poojas by a Brahmin	Festival in Panguni
285	3.00	4.00	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Brahmin	...
557	...	...	...	...	...	...	Chapparam Peacock	Poojas by an Archagar	Sivarathri Skandha Sashti Arudhra Dharisanam Navarathri
225	38.38	34.17	...	...	...	Value not stated	Horse Garuda	Twice a day by a Bhatta-chariar	Navarathri Karthigai Deepam Vaikunta Ekadasi Sri Jayanthi
432	Extent not stated			...	...	4,000	Car Palanquin	Twice a day by a Bhatta-chariar	Vedhantha Desikar Uthsavam Navarathri Brahmothsavam in Panguni
489	Extent not stated			...	...	Value not stated	...	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattar	...



Entrance to the thousand pillar mandapam which has been converted into an Art Museum.



A life-like figure of a Korava (gypsy) outside the thousand pillar mandapam



The figure of Kordali (gesso woman) with her children and other figures in the temple



An interior view of the thousand pillar mandapam which is a treasure house of art and sculpture

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUMANGALAM

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
48	161	Karaikeni (P)	Karaikeni	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	100	0.01	Sri Selva Vinayakar	...	Kallikudi Railway station 7 miles
49	174	Keelapatti S. (P)	Keelapatti	Sri Navaneetha Krishnaswamy Temple (V)	320	0.25	Sri Navaneetha Krishnan	Sri Rukmani Sri Sathyabama	Tirumangalam Railway station 24 miles
50	180	Chittoor (P)	Chittoor	Sri Chennakesava Perumal Temple (V)	Not known	0.04	Sri Chenna-Kesava Perumal	Sri Alamelu-mangai Sri Lakshmi	Kokkalanjeri Railway station 2½ miles
51	193	Aralasooram-patti (P)	Kokkilanchery	Sri Kamakshi-amman Temple (S)	Not known	0.02	Sri Kamakshi-amman	...	Kokkalanjeri Railway station 1 furlong
Temples outside the Hindu Religious									
1	38	Karumathur (P)	Karumathur	Sri Nallakurumbadiyar Temple (O)	60	5.76	Sri Nallakurumbadiyar	Sri Rukku-nachi-amman	Sekkanurani Railway station 4 miles
2	55	Uthapuram (P)	Uthappuram	Sri Bala Vinayakar Temple (G)	14	Below 0.01	Sri Bala Vinayakar	...	Usilampatti Railway station 11 miles

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property Value of Jewellery Ra.			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple	Vahanam		
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Concl'd.)									
244	0.47	2.40	...	...	...	...	...	Six times a day by a hereditary Devar	...
526	2.84	24.42	...	...	...	200	Horse Garuda	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattar	Chithra Pournami Sri Jayanthi Karthigai Deepam Vaikunta Ekadasi
990	Extent	not	stated	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a Bhattachariar	...
385	20.00	80.00	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a Brahmin	Sivarathri
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department									
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No Poojas	...
100	...	...	1.22	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Pillai	...

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUMANGALAM

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religions									
48	161	Karaikeni (P)	Karaikeni	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	100	0.01	Sri Selva Vinayakar	...	Kallikudi Railway station 7 miles
49	174	Keelapatti S. (P)	Keelapatti	Sri Navaneetha Krishnaswamy Temple (V)	320	0.25	Sri Navaneetha Krishnan	Sri Rukmani Sri Sathyabama	Tirumangalam Railway station 24 miles
50	180	Chittoor (P)	Chittoor	Sri Chennakesava Perumal Temple (V)	Not known	0.04	Sri Chenna-Kesava Perumal	Sri Aamelumangai Sri Lakshmi	Kokkalanjeri Railway station 2½ miles
51	193	Aralasoorampatti (P)	Kokkilanchery	Sri Kamakshi-amman Temple (S)	Not known	0.02	Sri Kamakshi-amman	...	Kokkalanjeri Railway station 1 furlong
Temples outside the Hindu Religions									
1	38	Karumathur (P)	Karumathur	Sri Nallakurumbadiyar Temple (O)	60	5.76	Sri Nallakurumbadiyar	Sri Rukunachiamman	Sekkannurani Railway station 4 miles
2	55	Uthapuram (P)	Uthappuram	Sri Bala Vinayakar Temple (G)	14	Below 0.1	Sri Bala Vinayakar		Usilampatti Railway station 11 miles

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Concl'd.)									
244	0.47	2.40	...	...	...	...	...	Six times a day by a hereditary Devar	...
526	2.84	24.42	...	...	...	200	Horse Garuda	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattar	Chithra Pournami Sri Jayanthi Karthigai Deepam Vaikunta Ekadasi
990	Extent	not	stated	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a Bhattachariar	...
385	20.00	80.00	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a Brahmin	Sivarathri
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department									
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No Poojas	...
100	...	...	1.22	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Pillai	...



Saraswathi, the goddess of learning in the thousand pillar mandapam



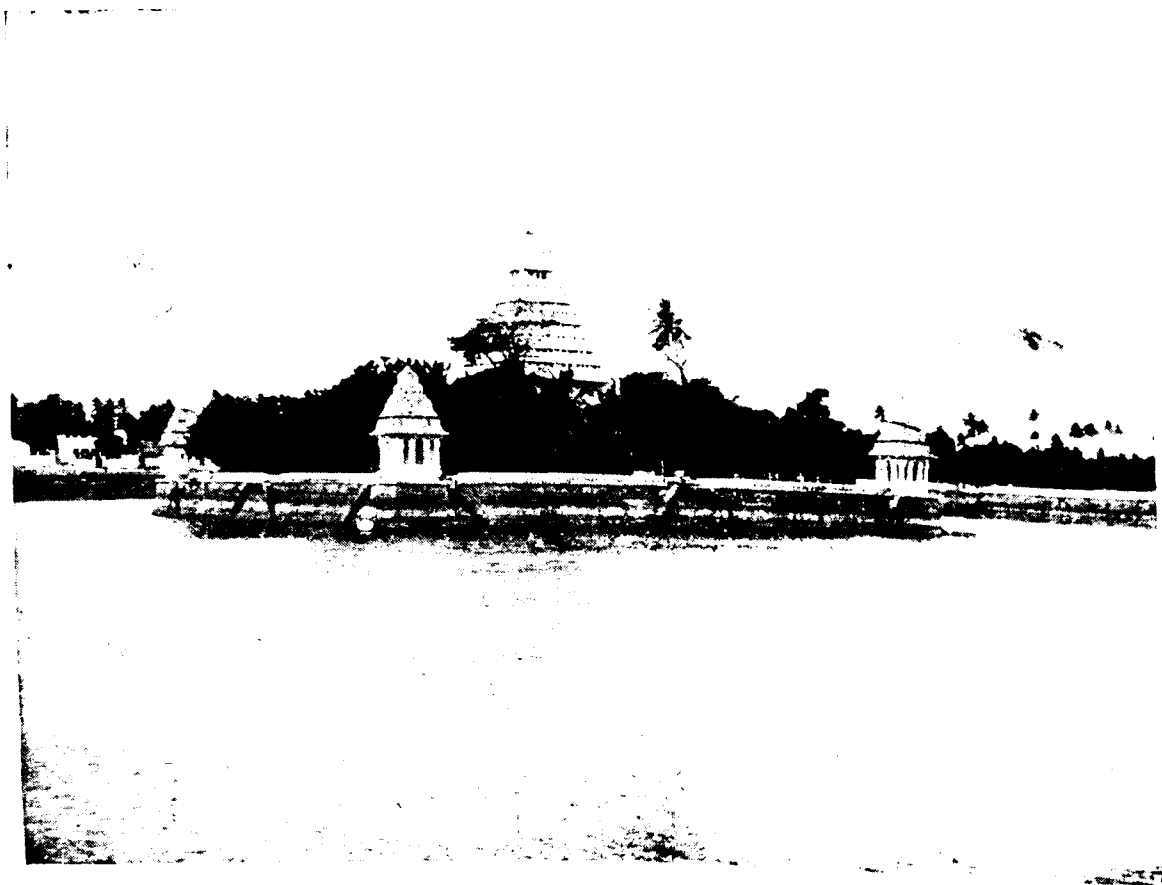
A beautiful sculpture of Lord Vinayaka

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUMANGALAM

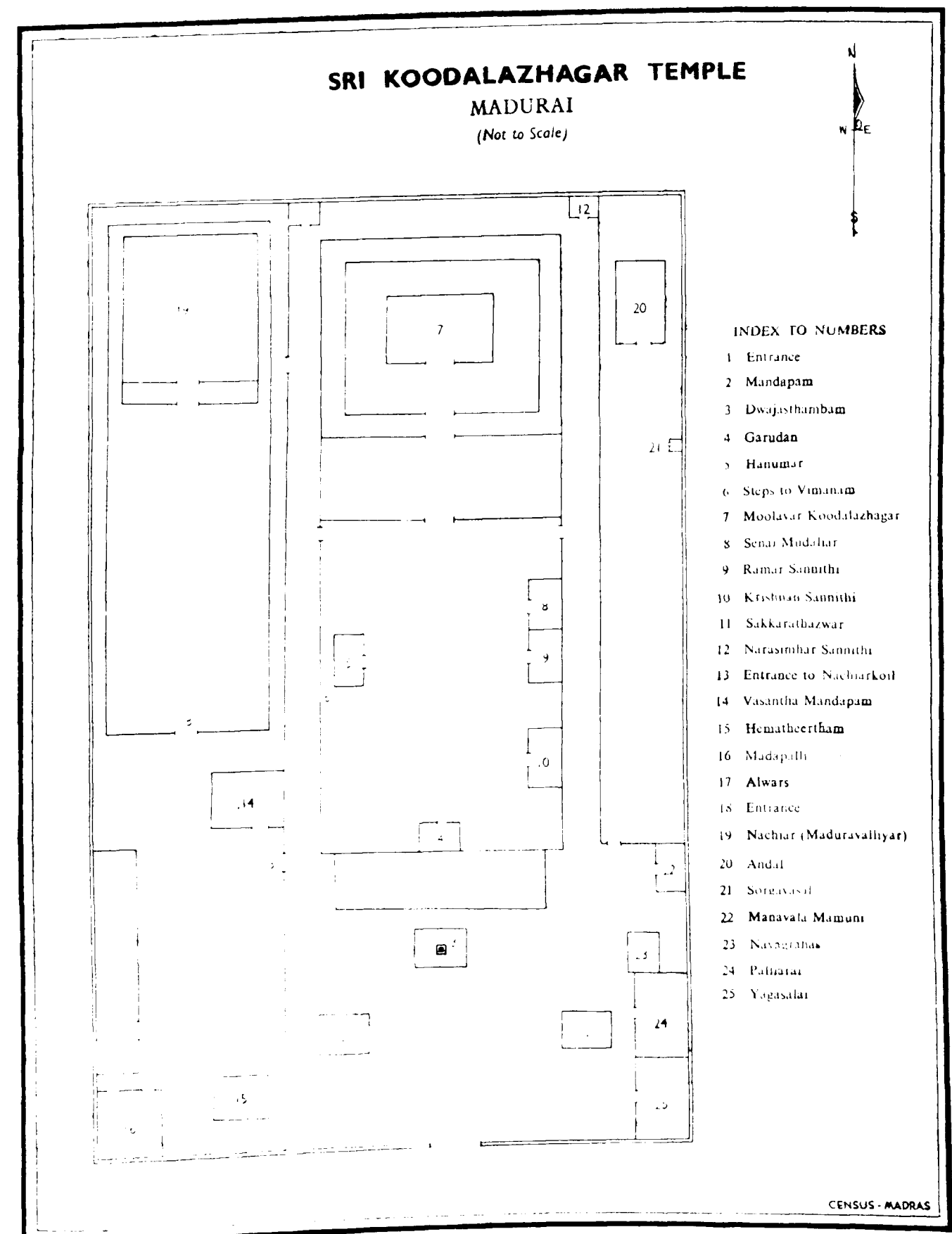
Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	No.	Name	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples outside the Hindu Religions									
3	61	Thirumani-ckam (P)	Thirumani-ckam	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	800	0.01	Sri Vinayakar	...	Usilampatti Railway station 10 miles
4	"	do	do	Sri Perumal Temple (V)		00.3	Sri Perumal	...	
5	"	do	do	Sri Kamakshi-amman Temple (S)		00.2	Sri Kamakshi-amman	...	
6	"	do	do	Sri Irulappa-swamy Temple (O)		0.01	Sri Irulappa-swamy	...	
7	"	do	do	Sri Ayyanar Temple (O)		0.04	Sri Ayyanar	...	
8	119	Pudupatti T. (P)	Pudupatti	Sri Perumal Temple (V)	120	0.07	Sri Perumal	...	Tirumangalam Railway station 6 miles
9	161	Karaikeni (P)	Karaikeni	Sri Lakshminarayana Perumal Temple (V)	100	0.05	Sri Lakshminarayana Perumal	...	Kallikudi Railway station 7 miles
10	163	Nallamaram (P)	Nallamaram	Sri Pudunayanar alias Panayamoorthy-swamy Temple (O)	155	1.56	Sri Pudunayanar	Sri Karuppannaswamy Sri Pechi-amman	Kallikudi Railway station 11 miles
11	170	Ammapatti P. (P)	Ammapatti	Sri Chenroya Perumal Temple (V)	60	0.02	Sri Chenroya Perumal	...	Tirumangalam Railway station 7½ miles

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Concl'd.)

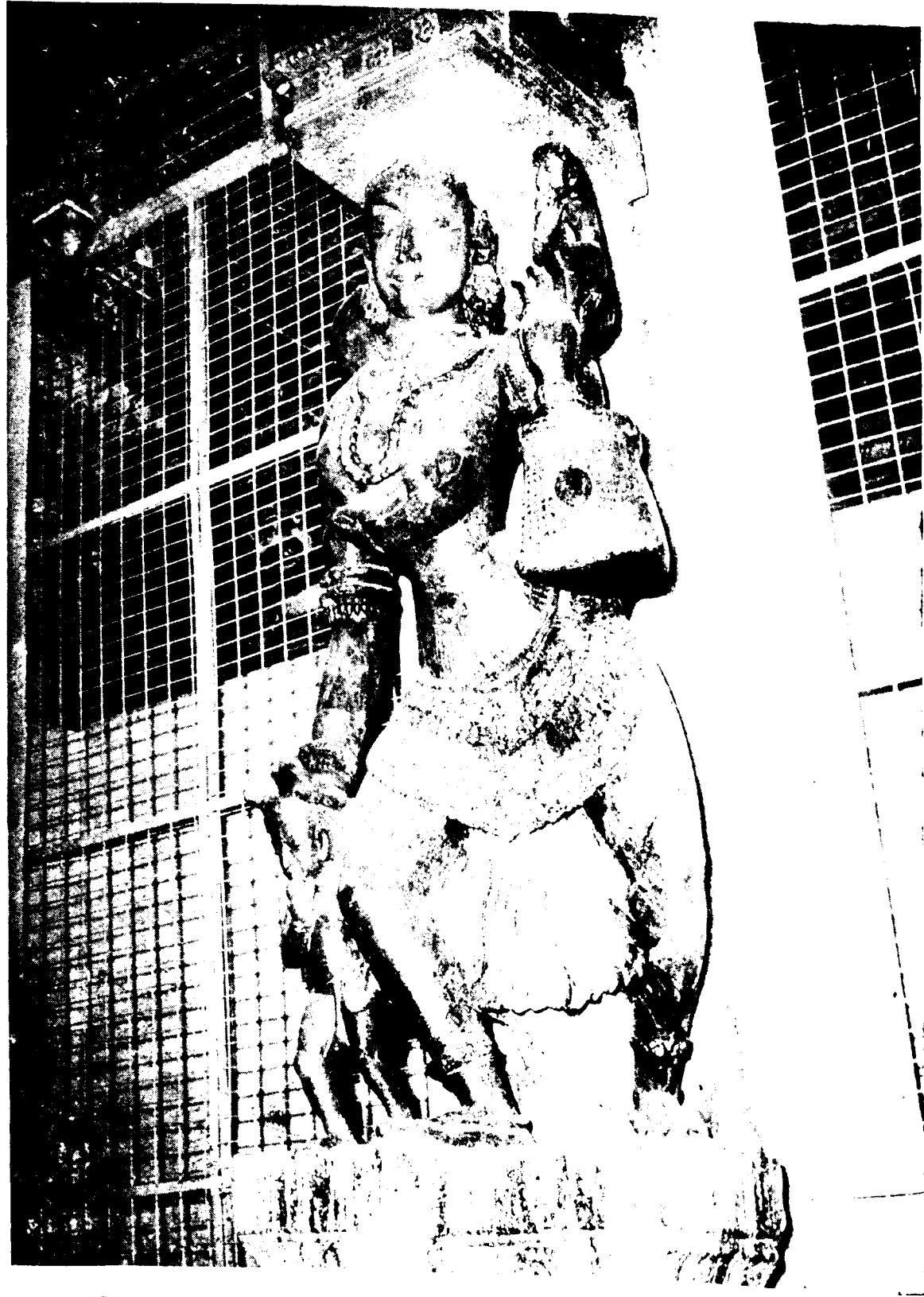
Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Concl'd.)									
500	...	1.72	...	...	}	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Poosari	...
2,000	...	23.02	...	...					
400	...	3.34	...	...					
200	...	8.70	...	...					
1,000	...	10.16	...	...					
250	...	4.38	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Gounder	Festival in Purattasi
104	...	0.49	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Rao	...
1,000	37.56	2.14	...	...	...	...	Car	Once a week by a hereditary Poosari	Sivarathri Festival in Ani
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Gounder	...



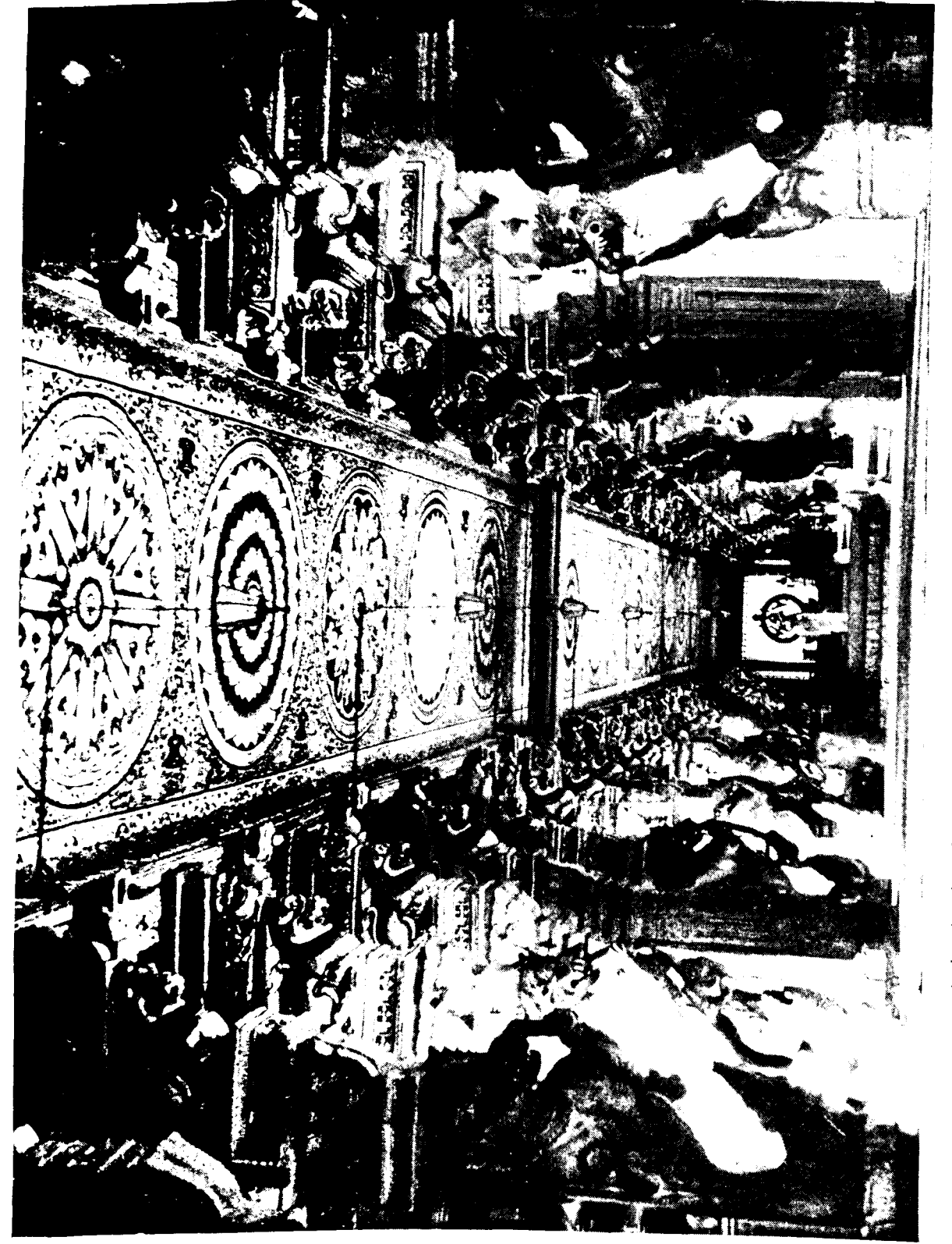
A pleasing view of the Mariamman Teppakulam with a garden temple at its centre in Madurai



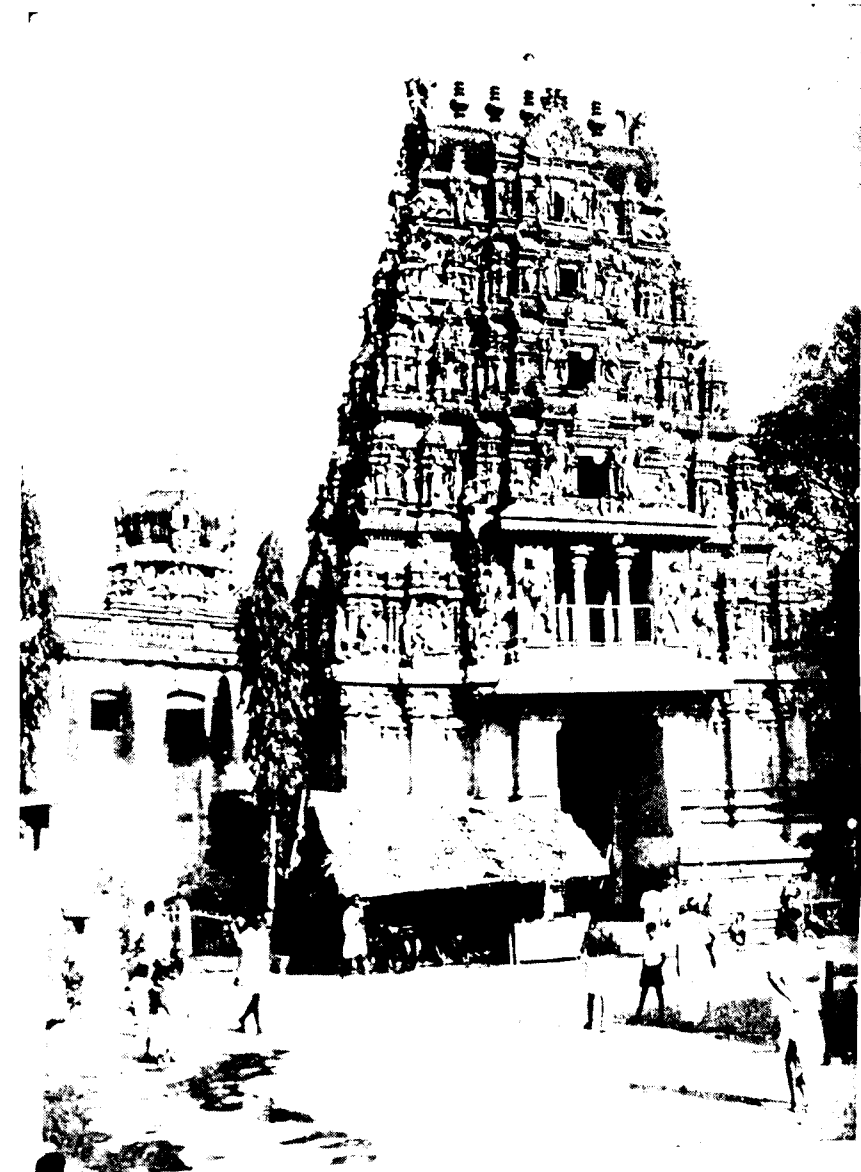
RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT



The figure of Korathi (gypsy woman) with her children outside the thousand pillar mandapam

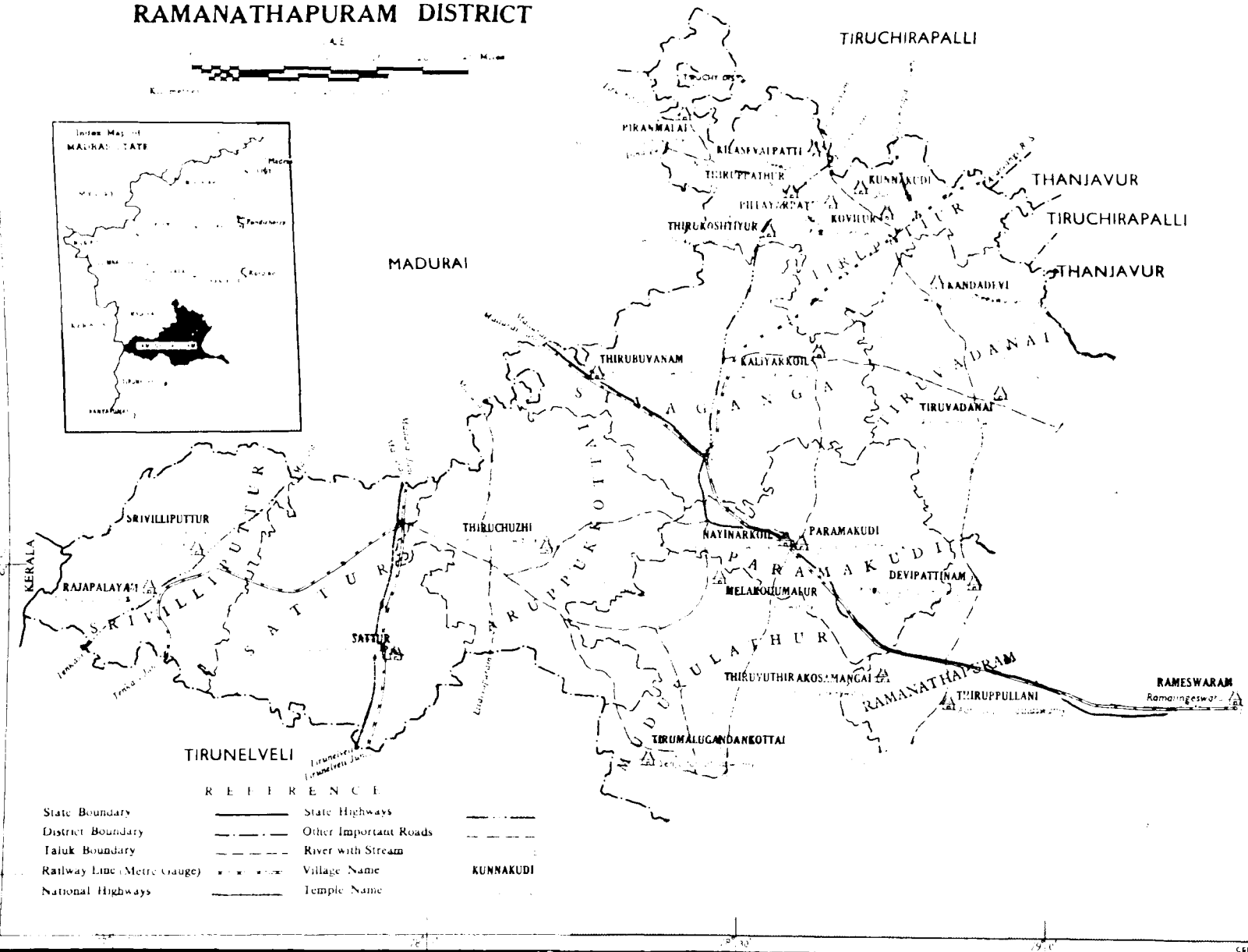
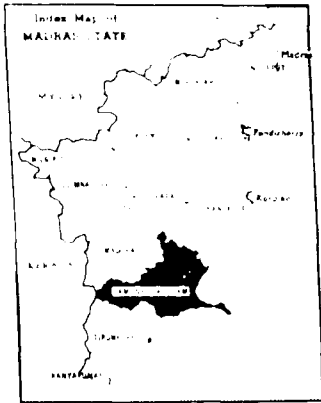


An interior view of the thousand pillar mandapam which is a treasure house of art and sculpture



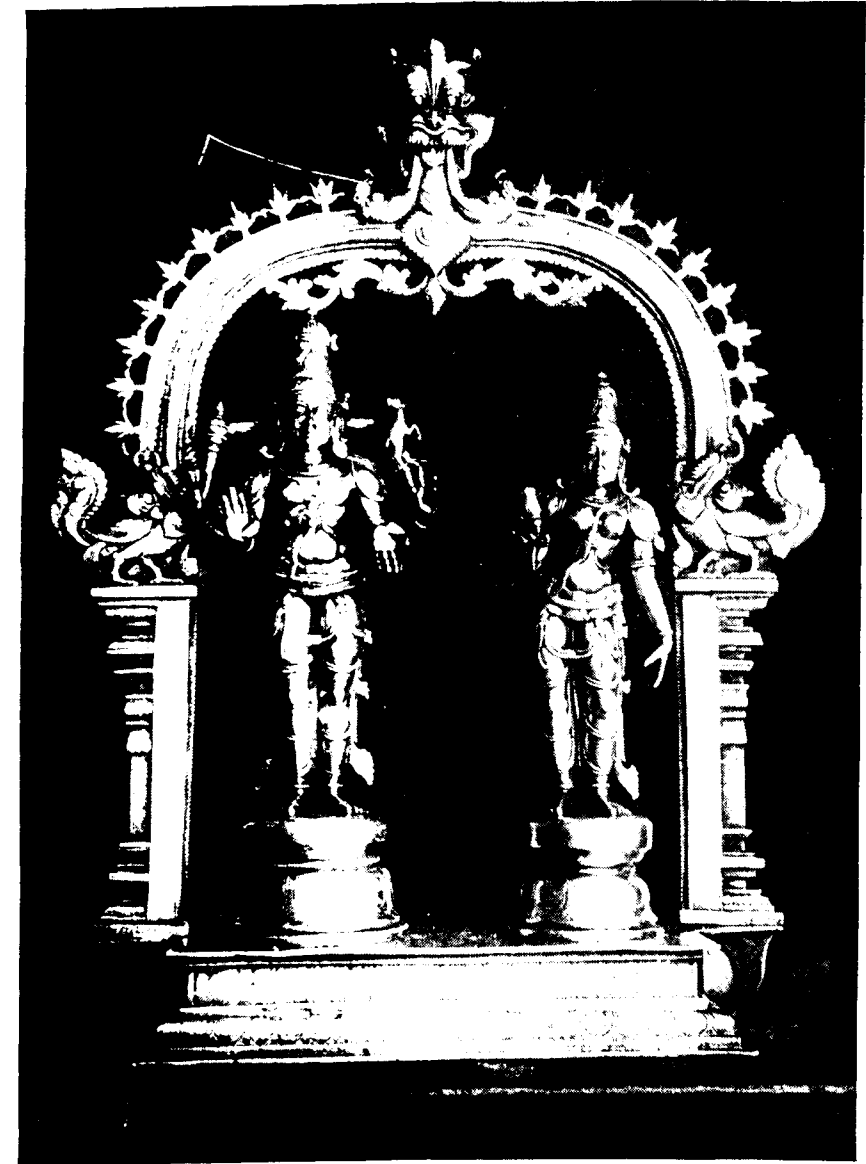
A view of the gopuram and Ashtanga Vimanam of Sri Kudalazhagar Temple in Madurai

LOCATION OF IMPORTANT TEMPLES
IN
RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT





Sri Shanmugar with Valli and Deivayanai in Sri Thiruappudaiyar temple at Thiruappanur



The silver festival images of the God and Goddess in Sri Thiruappudaiyar Temple

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

INTRODUCTION

The district of Ramanathapuram is part of the ancient kingdom of Pandyas. It consists of several sacred shrines which show a high standard of art, architecture and sculpture of the past. Two great Poligars or local chieftains, the Sethupathy of Ramanathapuram and the Raja of Sivaganga, who became independent after the fall of Naiks early in the 18th century have done great service to the cause of Hindu Religion by undertaking construction, renovation and administration of temples. A number of inscriptions are found in the district which show the great antiquity of the temples.

Ramanathapuram contains seven of the fourteen reputed Sivasthalams in the Pandya country, which have been visited by the Saivite saints Appar, Sambandar, Sundarar and Manickavasagar. They are Piranmalai (Thirukodungundram), Tirupattur, Rameswaram, Tiruvadanai, Tirukkanapper (Kaliyarkoil), Tiruppuvanam and Thiruchuli (Thiruchuliyal). These saints have composed hymns in praise of these centres.

The most memorable spot is the tiny Rameswaram island which is separated from the main land by the Pamban channel. It is an important pilgrim centre of North Indians as Benares is to the South Indians. The sanctity of the place is attributed to the fact that the Linga at Rameswaram is presumed to be the one installed by Sri Rama himself. It is considered as one of the twelve Jyothir Linga Kshethras of India. Noted for its sacred waters or theerthams, Rameswaram attracts many pilgrims throughout the year. It is believed that couples desirous of getting children, achieve their object if they bathe in the theerthams and worship the Lord at Rameswaram. The temple is noted for its superb architecture, elaborate carvings and lengthy corridors. The Sethupathis of Ramanathapuram have spent lot of money on construction and extension of the temple. The title of 'Sethupathy' meaning the 'Lord of the Cause-way', was conferred on the chiefs of this dynasty, who had the right to

control the passage from the mainland to Rameswaram.

Tiruppuvanam in Sivaganga Taluk is one of the famous Sivasthalams of Pandya Nad. It has an ancient Siva temple, whose hereditary trustee is the Raja of Sivaganga. Tirupullani or Darbhasayanam where a temple is dedicated to Sri Adi Jagannatha Perumal and Devipatnam or Navapashanam which has Siva and Vishnu temples, form part of the Sethusthalam and like Rameswaram, they are associated with the stories of Ramayana. They are important centres of pilgrimage.

Srivilliputtur is a well-known pilgrim centre of Vaishnavites and has an impressive temple dedicated to Sri Andal, one of the greatest saintess of Tamil Nad and to Lord Vishnu known as Sri Vadapathrasayee. Another famous Siva temple nearby is dedicated to Sri Vaidyanathaswamy. Around Srivilliputtur are found ancient temples like Sri Alagar temple and Srinivasa Perumal temple.

The old temple dedicated to the Swayambu Lingam called Sri Mangaleswarar in Tiruthirakosamangai has been visited by saints like Manickavasagar and Arunagirinathar. They had sung about the shrine in their Manivasagam and Thirupugazh. It has been renovated by the Ramanathapuram Samasthanam. The cave temples dedicated to Lord Vinayaka in Pillayarpatti and Lord Muruga in Kunnakudi are of archaeological and historical importance. Apart from these shrines, the district has also many temples dedicated to village gods and goddesses.

Out of 518 temples found in Ramanathapuram district, 355 are under the administrative control of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department; of the remaining 163, 91 come under the Sivaganga Devasthanam, 56 under the Ramanathapuram Samasthanam and the remaining 16 are under private management.

The taluk-wise break-up of temples is as follows :—

Name of Taluk	Temples				Total
	Under the H. R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	Under the Sivaganga Devasthanam	Under the Ramanathapuram Samasthanam	Outside the H.R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	
1. Tirupattur	96	47	...	4	147
2. Sivaganga	39	24	...	1	64
3. Tiruvadanai	28	11	15	2	56
4. Paramakudi	33	7	3	...	43
5. Ramanathapuram	12	...	16	...	28
6. Mudukulathur	19	...	12	3	34
7. Aruppukottai	42	2	10	2	56
8. Sattur	40	...	...	4	44
9. Srivilliputtur	46	...	...	...	46
Total ...	355	91	56	16	518

As may be seen from the above statement more than half the number of temples are concentrated in the taluks of Tirupattur, Sivaganga and Tiruvadanai. Tirupattur taluk has the largest number of temples

namely 147, closely followed by Sivaganga which has 64 shrines. Ramanathapuram taluk has the least number of temples viz., 28.

A classification of the temples according to the presiding deities reveals the following interesting details :—

Presiding deities	Temples				Total
	Under the H.R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	Under the Sivaganga Devasthanam	Under the Ramanathapuram Samasthanam	Outside the H.R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	
Siva and His Consort	91	61	33	4	189
Vishnu and His Consort	48	8	11	5	72
Murugar	20	2	4	...	26
Goddesses (Village Deities)	81	10	5	2	98
Vinayakar	46	4	2	4	56
Other Deities	66	6	1	1	74
Total ...	352	91	56	16	515

More than 50% of the temples are those for Siva and village deities. Saivite temples are greater in number than Vaishnavite shrines. There are 189 Siva

temples, 56 Vinayakar temples and 26 shrines dedicated to Lord Muruga. There are 72 Vaishnavite shrines.

The following statement shows the area covered by the temples.

Extent	Temples				Total
	Under the H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Under the Sivaganga Devasthanam	Under the Ramanathapuram Samasthanam	Outside the H.R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	
Below 5 cents	101	10	5	3	119
5 cents and above but below 20 cents	89	17	12	5	123
20 cents and above but below 1 acre	112	54	26	5	197
1 acre and above but below 2 acres	25	6	5	...	36
2 acres and above but below 5 acres	16	3	1	1	21
5 acres and above but below 10 acres	1	...	2	...	3
10 acres and above	1	...	...	...	1
Area not stated	7	1	5	2	15
Total ...	352	91	56	16	515

It may be seen from the above statement that while only a single temple covers an area of 10 acres and more, 119 shrines are small ones covering less than 5 cents. The majority of temples, namely 320 out of 515, occupy an extent ranging from 5 cents to an acre. Temples which cover an area of one acre and more is less than 12 per cent, as the number of such shrines is only 61. The 15 temples which have not furnished the information under this head may be treated as small ones. Thus more than 85 per cent of the temples are those, which cover an area of less than an acre.

In 39 out of 189 Siva temples, the presiding deity is a Swayambu Lingam while in the remaining 150 shrines the Moolavar is an installed one. There are only peetams in 5 temples and in 3 shrines neither peetam nor idol is found. Excluding 18 temples, where their position is not specified, the posture of

the presiding deities in other than Siva temples is as follows :—

Standing pose	...	183
Sitting pose	...	110
Lying pose	...	3
Stone without figure	...	3
Trident	...	1
Total	...	300

Saivite Gurukkals and Vaishnavite Bhattachariars are generally employed to perform poojas in the Siva and Vishnu temples respectively. The remuneration paid to them is low. Before they are permitted to enter the sanctum, they should be duly initiated according to the rules prescribed in the Agamas or Pancharatras.

MADURAI DISTRICT

From the point of view of architectural style one can make a clear distinction between this shrine and the Meenakshi temple. In the case of the latter the lofty towers are visible from miles on end and as one approaches it one discerns that the size of the internal towers are diminishing, ending up with the smallest one over the central deity. In the Kudalalagar temple, however, the principal tower is centrally situated right above the deity and all other towers are subordinated to this one and this heightens the effect.

Mr. J.P.L. Shenoy, I.C.S., in his book "Madurai, The Temple city", states as follows with regard to the Kudalalagar temple. "In this temple the structure has been strictly confined to the barest essentials of worship and simplicity is the keynote of the style. The 1000 pillared hall, so prominent in other South Indian temples, is conspicuously absent, as also the miscellaneous pavilions, mandapams, cloisters and corridors. The central tower is in the shape of a perfect pyramid and has a circular cupola at its apex, ending in a pointed golden spear-head. The style of Sri Meenakshi temple is altogether more complex and involved. Both types however satisfy the highest aims of art and it would appear from the dates of construction of the two temples that the simpler preceded the more complex in accordance with the normal laws of historical evolution. According to Fergusson, the dome of this temple surpasses anything of its kind to be found in South India". On the ashtanga vimanam there are beautiful plaster images depicting scenes from Ramayana, Maha Bharatha and other mythologies.

Poojas are performed six times daily by hereditary priests belonging to the Thenkalai sect of Vaishnavism. They are in the enjoyment of service inam lands, together with a portion of the income, derived from the sale of archana and abishega tickets by the temple. The temple owns antique jewellery in gold and silver, worth about Rs. 1,14,245/- donated by devotees, of which the Thirumangalyam studded with precious stones and the big blue stone pathakkam of the Thayar deserve special mention. The immovable property of the temple comprises 9.90 acres of wet lands, apart from a few buildings, which are leased out for an annual rent of Rs. 35,182/-. This amount is spent towards salary to the temple servants, the conduct of the daily poojas and periodical festivals of the temple and for the general

maintenance. The other sources of income are the hundi collections and the charges levied for performing archanas, abishegas etc. In all about Rs. 7,000 is received per annum through these sources.

The temple owns a Car, two Palanquins and as many as 7 vahanas such as Swan, Lion, Horse, Elephant Garuda and Hanumar, all made of wood and mostly donated by devotees.

The major festivals of the temple are : Udayavar uthsavam in Chithrai, Vaikasi Peruvizha, Ani Swathi, Adi Pooram, Sri Jayanthi and Uriyadi in Avani, Garuda Servai in Purattasi, Navarathri, Vijayadhasami, Deepavali in Iyppasi, Thirukarthigai, Vaikunta Ekadasi in Margazhi, Kanuppari vettai in Thai, Theppa uthsavam in Masi, Gajendhra Moksham, Govardhana Giri and Thirukkalyanam in Panguni. The Car festival, the Dasavathara Leelas enacted on the Theerthavari day of the Vaikasi Peruvizha, which spreads over a period of thirteen days and the Masi Theppa uthsavam are the most important ones, which attract a big crowd numbering not less than 3,000 from far and near.

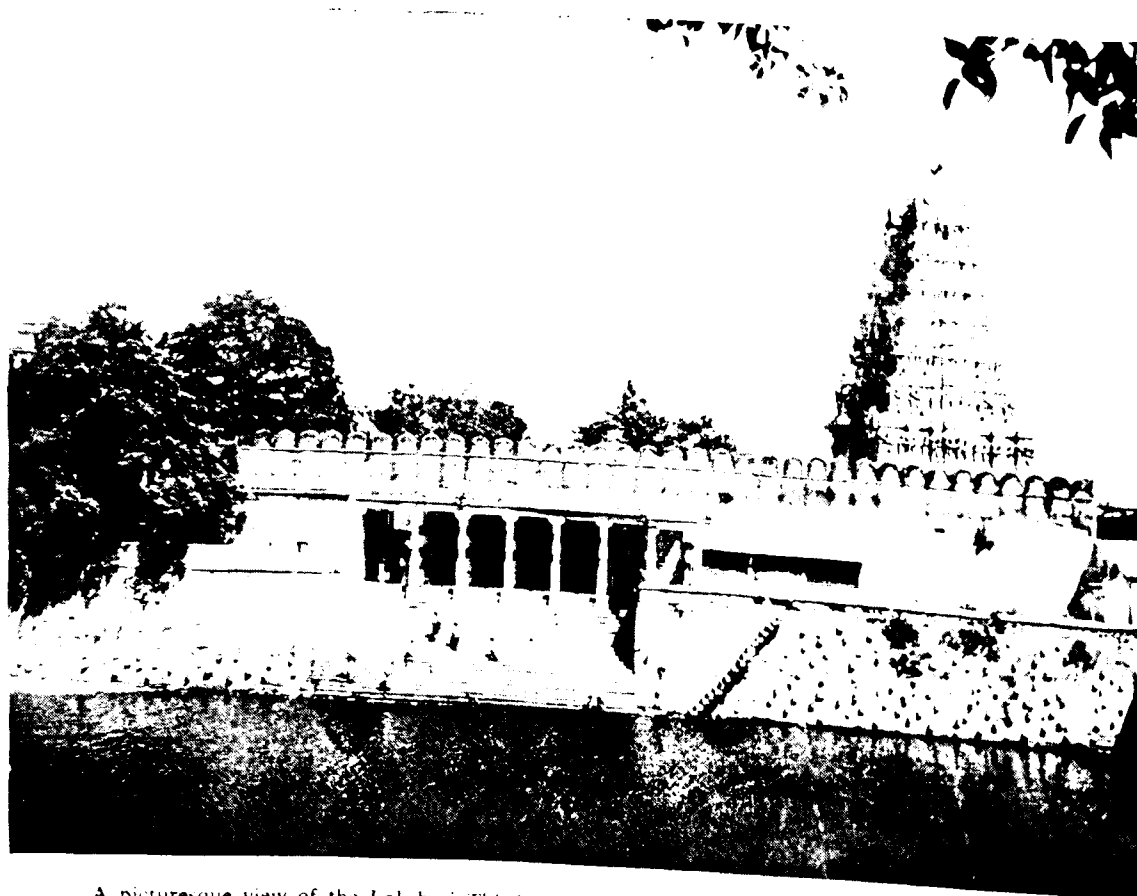
The affairs of the temple are managed by a Board of three trustees, through an Executive Officer, appointed by the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department.

Thiru Appudaiyar Temple

There are several shrines in our land which although their modest appearance now, were once considered very great and sacred. The temple dedicated to Thiru Appudaiyar at Thiruappanur is one among them. A sub-temple of Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple, it is at a distance of about 2.5 kilometres from the latter.

Situated on the northern bank of the river Vaigai, this is one of the 14 sacred Saivite centres in Pandya Nad which are popularly known as Padalpetra sthalams. This ancient temple has a single prakaram. The stone and festival images, especially those of Sri Natarajar and Sri Sivakami Amman are of exquisite workmanship.

The interesting legend concerning the origin of the temple is as follows :—Long ago, this region was ruled over by a Pandya king called Cholandakan. Once he happened to sojourn with his retinue at this spot on the northern bank of Vaigai. He could not cross the



A picturesque view of the Lakshmi Thirtham and gopuram of Sri Subramanyaswamy Temple at Tirupparamkundram

Poojas are performed in all except 7 temples, where there are no priests. The following statement regarding poojas will be of interest :—

Names of deities	Temples under the H.R. & C.E. (A) Dept.				Temples under the Sivaganga Devasthanam				Temples under the Ramanathapuram Samasthanam				Temples outside the H.R. & C.E. (A) Dept.				Total	
	Where the priest belongs to				Where the priest belongs to				Where the priest belongs to				Where the priest belongs to					
	Where poojas are performed	Brahmin community	Other community		Where poojas are performed	Brahmin community	Other community		Where poojas are performed	Brahmin community	Other community		Where poojas are performed	Brahmin community	Other community	Where poojas are performed	Brahmin community	Other community
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)			
Siva & His consort	...	90	86	4	61	60	1	32	31	1	3	3	...	186	180	6		
Vishnu & His consort	...	47	46	1	8	8	...	11	11	...	5	5	...	71	70	1		
Murugar	...	20	15	5	2	2	...	4	3	1	...	...	...	26	20	6		
Vinayakar	...	46	29	17	4	4	...	2	1	1	4	4	...	56	38	18		
Goddesses (village deities)	...	80	32	48	10	3	7	5	1	4	2	...	2	97	36	61		
Other deities	...	64	4	60	6	...	6	2	1	1	1	1	...	72	6	66		
Total	...	347	212	135	91	77	14	56	48	8	15	13	2	508	350	158		

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

In the majority of temples dedicated to Siva, Vishnu, Vinayakar and Murugar, the priests belong to the Brahmin community, while there are a good number of shrines where priests of other communities offer poojas. In 158 out of 508 temples, persons other than Brahmins offer poojas. Brahmin priests are found only in 42 out of 169 temples for village goddesses and other deities. In 18 out of 56 temples

for Vinayakar, there are priests belonging to communities other than Brahmins.

In major Siva temples, after the recitation of Vedas in Sanskrit by the Gurukkals, Thevaram is sung in Tamil by Pandarams who are known as Odhuvars. In Vishnu temples, the Bhattachariars recite Vedas in Sanskrit and Thiruvaimozhi in Tamil.

No ornaments are found in 203 temples. 13 temples have not furnished any details under the head. The classification of the remaining 299 temples according to value of jewellery owned by them is as follows:—

Value of the jewellery	Temples				Total
	Under the H.R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	Under the Sivaganga Devasthanam	Under the Ramanathapuram Samasthanam	Outside the H.R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	
Rs. 500 and below	66	28	18	5	117
501 - 1,000	26	13	1	1	41
1,001 - 5,000	37	7	5	1	50
5,001 - 10,000	9	1	3	...	13
10,001 - 50,000	22	15	2	...	39
50,001 - 1,00,000	9	7	2	...	18
1,00,001 - 5,00,000	9	6	3	...	18
5,00,001 - 10,00,000	2	...	...	...	2
Above ten lakhs	1	...	...	...	1
Total	181	77	34	7	299

The following are the three temples, which own ornaments worth more than rupees five lakhs.

1. Sri Ramanathaswamy temple, Rameswaram
2. Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar temple, Keelasevalpatti

3. Sri Andal and Vadapathrasayee temple, Srivilliputtur

The value of jewellery in Sri Ramanathaswamy temple of Rameswaram is estimated at about Rs. 30,00,948/-.

river due to heavy floods. He was in the habit of taking his food only after worshipping Lord Siva. His Ministers were anxious that the king should not skip the lunch on account of the absence of a Siva temple there. They therefore got an Appu or wedge, decorated it with gorgeous clothes and informed the king that it was a Lingam. The pious king accordingly worshipped it. To the surprise of all, it became a Lingam and soon a temple was constructed here. There is another legend according to which the Lord enabled a devout priest to turn sand into rice at a time when there was famine in the area. He is therefore known as Anna Lingeswarar. The divine consort is known as Sugantha Kunthalambal or Kuravang Kamazh Kuzhalal.

The Pandya kings had made endowments to the temple. The Uchikala pooja is being performed with the help of endowments made by the Raja of Sivaganga.

The temple facing east, extends over an area of about 2.03 acres. There are two chief sanctum containing attractive plaster images in the Dravidian style of Architecture. The Rishaba theertham inside the temple and the river Vaigai nearby, are the sacred theerthas of the temple. The famous Saivite saint Thirugnana Sambandar had visited this shrine during his sojourn in Madurai as a guest of the queen Mangayarkarasi and sung a sacred Padhigam or verse about this sthalam, praising the Lord and the temple. He also points out in the verse that he who sincerely worships the Lord of Thiruappanur is sure to be absolved of all sins.

The temple has got a modest property in terms of jewels, lands and houses. Besides a dastic allowance of about Rs. 424/- given by the Government every year, the temple also derives an annual income of Rs. 500/-, through the sale of archana and abishega tickets, which is utilised for its maintenance. There is a beautiful silver Rishaba vahanam here. Navarathri and Masi Magam are the important annual festivals celebrated by the temple, when about 2,000 devotees from far and near muster here. The inspiring silver idols of the god and goddess is taken in procession round the temple during Pradhosham once in a fortnight. It is understood that for the past 40 years, the Brahmoth-savam is not taking place in the temple. On the Panguni Uthiram day, Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar comes here from the Madurai temple and returns on the Rishaba vahanam in the evening. A Kumbabishegam

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE

was performed in 1927 after renovation. Initiative for this renovation was taken by some pious citizens. About 50 to 60 marriages take place here in a year.

109. TIRUPPARAMKUNDRAM

Sri Subramaniaswamy Temple

Tirupparamkundram, the first among the celebrated Arupadaiveedu or six places where Lord Muruga as the generalissimo of the divine forces sojourned before quelling the demon Surapadman, is about eight kilometres to the south of Madurai city. The place which was formerly an outpost of Madurai figures in the latter's chequered history. Tirupparamkundram can be reached by bus from Madurai.

The famous temple of Sri Subramania is situated on the northern portion of a hillock which is about 1,050 feet high. It is believed that the granite of this hillock was used in the construction of Sri Meenakshi temple. The main shrine is an early cave temple. The other structures are comparatively of recent origin belonging to the late Naik period. The hillock is known by a number of names — Tirupparamgiri, Gandhamadanam, Kandhamalai and Paramkundram. Saints Nakkirar and Arunagirinathar and many other devotees have been blessed in this sthalam. Its greatness has been brought out well in the literature of the Sangam age. Thevaram, Thirupugazh, Kandha-puranam and other great Tamil works speak of the glory of this shrine. Thirumurugatrupadai of Nakkirar refers to this place as kundru or hillock in the following lines: —

“கந்தர்வமேகை மலர், கந்தர்வமேகை மலர்
அந்தர்வமேகை மலர், அந்தர்வமேகை மலர்
கந்தர்வமேகை மலர், கந்தர்வமேகை மலர்.”

Tirupparamkundram is sanctified by the marriage of Lord Muruga with Sri Deivayanai.

The formation of the temple is rather interesting. Crossing a spacious hall called asthana mandapam which has a number of artistic pillars, we reach the entrance which is towered by a magnificent seven-tier gopuram about 150 feet high. After worshipping Sri Vinayakar who is facing east, we reach the kalyana-mandapam. Generally this beautiful hall is the venue of music concerts, lectures and other activities on festive occasions.

To the east of this mandapam is the sacred tank called Lakshmitheertham. From the kalyanamanda-



Another view of Lakshmi Thirtham with the hillock in the background

Except 2 temples, the remaining shrines have immovable properties. Barring eight other temples which have not given details of income, the classification of 505 temples which derive an annual income from immovable properties is shown below :—

Annual income	Temples				Total
	Under the H.R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	Under the Sivaganga Devasthanam	Under the Ramanathapuram Samasthanam	Outside the H.R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	
Rs. 500 and below	143	23	10	8	184
501 - 1,000	87	23	7	5	122
1,001 - 5,000	76	32	20	...	128
5,001 - 10,000	19	7	3	...	29
10,001 - 50,000	16	3	12	...	31
50,001 - 1,00,000	9	...	...	...	9
Above one lakh	2	...	...	...	2
Total	352	88	52	13	505

The annual income accruing from immovable properties exceeds Rs. 10,000 in 42 shrines. The following are the two temples whose annual income is Rs. 1,00,000/- and above

1. Sri Ramanathaswamy temple, Rameswaram
2. Sri Andal and Vadapathrasayee temple, Srivilliputtur

Sri Ramanathaswamy temple of Rameswaram gets the maximum income of Rs. 5,26,733/-. Sri Naganathaswamy temple of Nainarkoil and Sri Ramanathaswamy temple of Rameswaram get an annual income of about Rs. 30,000/- each under hundi collections; while the latter also gets an additional income of Rs. 90,000/- every year, through the sale of archana and abishega tickets.

Out of 515 temples, only 3 temples are running public institutions like choultries, libraries, hospitals and primary or secondary schools. Sri Subramaniaswamy temple of Kunnakudi, Sri Ramanathaswamy temple of Rameswaram and Sri Andal and Vadapathrasayee temple of Srivilliputtur are running a religious school and a library respectively for the benefit of educating poor children on religious lines.

446 temples have no temple Cars or Thers, while 506 have no Rathams. 69 temples alone own Thers and 9 have Rathams. Only 66 temples are having Palanquins and 210 shrines are in possession of vahanas like Peacock, Rishabam, Elephant, Horse etc. These vahanas are generally made of wood or brass. The bigger and more famous temples have gold and silver plated vahanas.

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

191

Annual festivals are celebrated in 240 out of 515 temples, while there are no festivals in the remaining 275 shrines. The classification of temples according to the number of festivals observed is as follows :—

Name of festivals in a year	Temples				Total
	Under the H. R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	Under the Sivaganga Devasthanam	Under the Ramanathapuram Samasthanam	Outside the H.R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
One festival	96	17	8	3	124
Two festivals	28	4	3	1	36
Three festivals	18	8	6	...	32
Four festivals	15	2	1	...	18
5—10 festivals	20	7	3	...	30
Total	177	38	21	4	240

The size of the crowd that gathers for the festivals exceeds 1,000 in 89 temples.

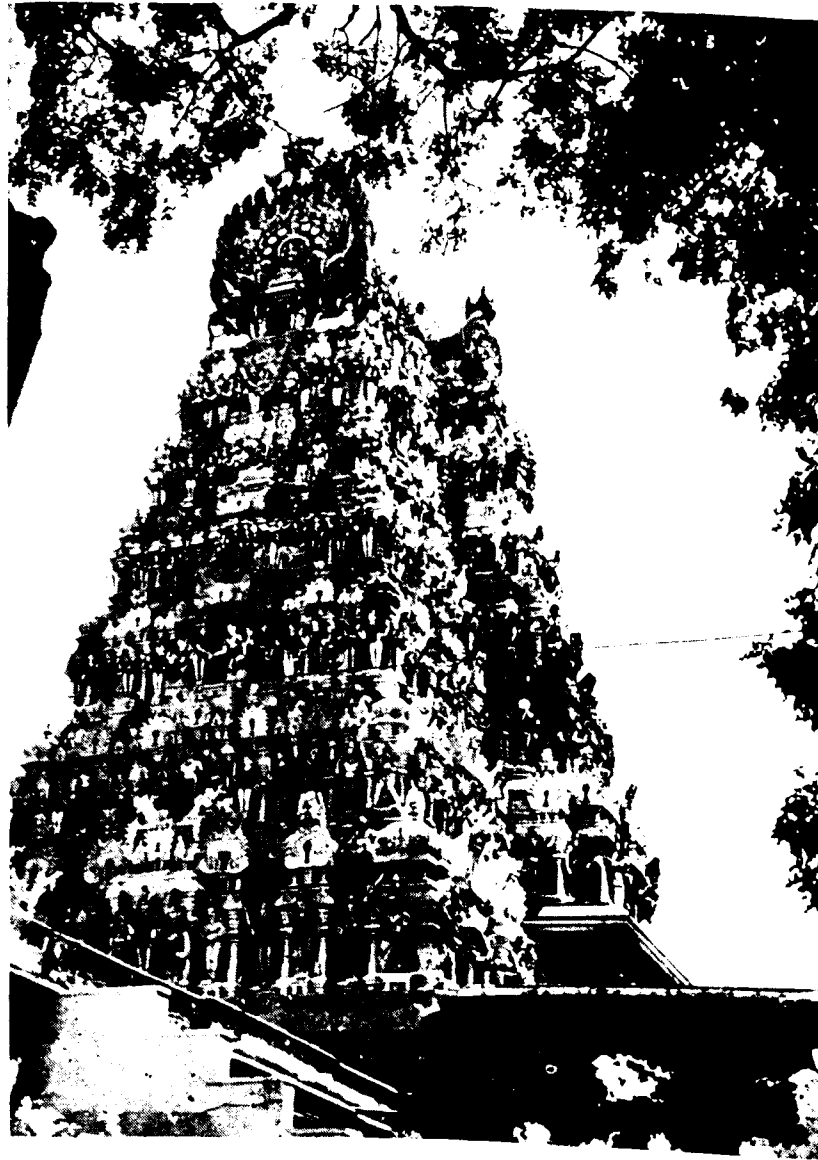
Out of 352 temples under the control of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department, paid Executive Officers have been appointed by the Department only for 22 temples.

There are no trustees for 20 temples. There is a single trustee for 200 temples and a Board consisting of more than one trustee is in charge for 132 temples. Each of the 91 temples under the control of the Sivaganga Devasthanam is administered by a Manager, appointed by the Sivaganga Raja, who is the hereditary trustee of the temple. So also, each of the 56 temples under the control of the Ramanathapuram Samasthanam is managed by the Diwan or Administrative

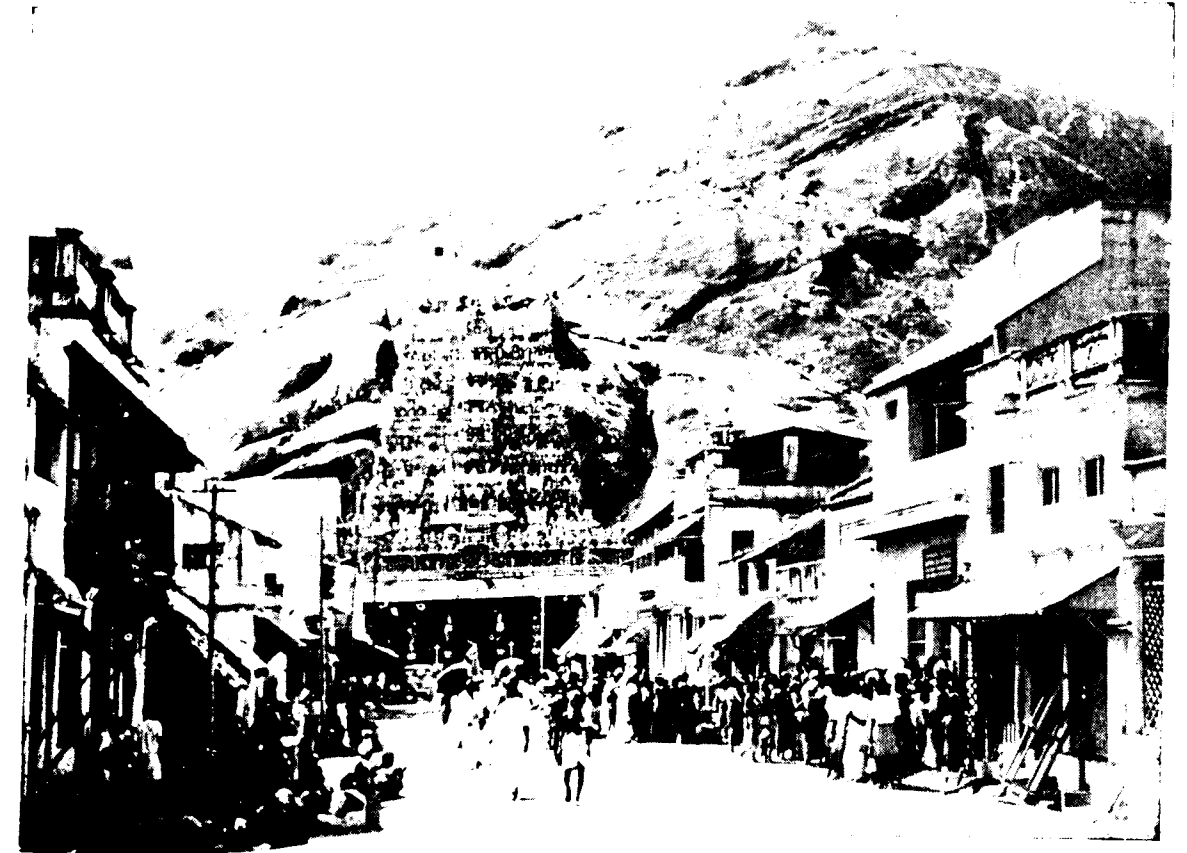
Secretary, appointed by the Raja of Ramanathapuram who is the hereditary trustee of the temple.

An analysis of the details given in the schedules reveals the following position regarding the age of the temples in the district.

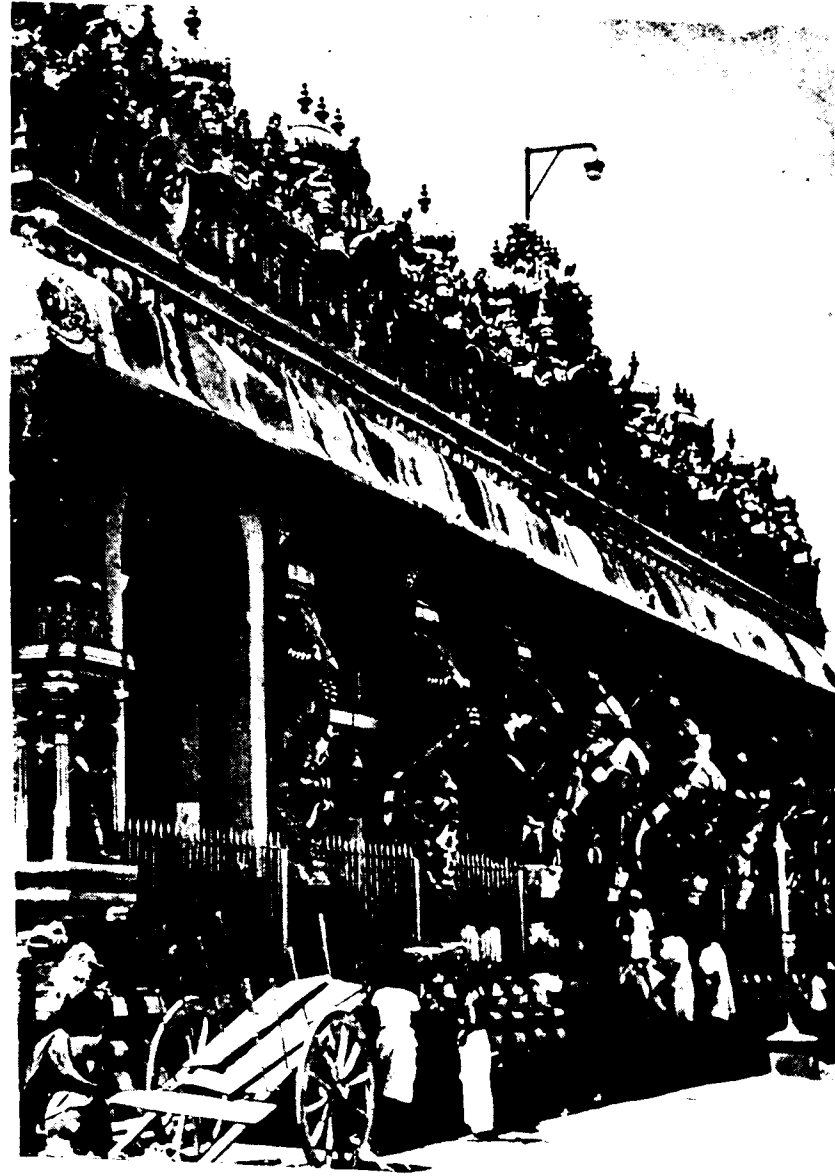
Before Christ	...	6
Prior to 7th century	...	1
7th century to 1,750	...	158
After 1,750 (modern)	...	201
Details not given	...	149
Total	...	515



A close-up of the gopuram of Tirupparamkundram Temple



A view of Sri Subramanyaswamy temple at Tirupparamkundram with the hillock



The artistic front mandapam of the temple at Tirupparamkundram



Sculpture of Varaha Eswarar on a pillar in the Thiruvachi Mandapam of the Temple at Tirupparamkundram

TIRUPATTUR TALUK

15 PIRANMALAI

Sri Nallamangaibagaswamy Temple

Thirukodungundram or Piranmalai is the fifth among the fourteen sacred Sivasthalams in Pandya Nad. In his famous Thirupugazh, Sri Arunagiri-nathar has sung about this temple. The village of Piranmalai in which this hill temple dedicated to Sri Nallamangaibagaswamy stands, is located at a distance of 8 kilometres from Chathurvedhimarigalam on Tirupattur—Dindigul road. It is at a distance of 24 kilometres from Tirupattur. It is linked with Madurai, Sivaganga, Tirupattur and Pudukottai by regular bus service. According to a legend Lord Siva offered darshan with his consort Sri Parvathi in 'Thirumanakolam' (marriage pose) to Sage Agasthya, as requested by him. The presiding deity is therefore called Sri Nallamangaibagaswamy.

Piranmalai was ruled by Sri Pari, one of the seven reputed philanthropists who endowed his Car (Ther) to help a creeper struggling in the air for support. Prachandagiri and Kadoragiri are the other names of this place. According to mythology there was a fight between Adi Sessa and Vayu Bhagavan. Adi Sessa coiled round the Great Mount Meru and Vayu with all his ferocity dashed against it and blew it to pieces. Several chips of the Mount Meru fell in different places which later became sacred hills. Piranmalai which is in the form of a Lingam is one such sacred hill. It is also called Prachandagiri, after Vayu.

The hill temple covers an area of 30 acres. It has a beautiful rajagopuram with attractive figures made of plaster. Marudu brothers and the Raja of Ramnad contributed substantially to the renovation of the temple. Three prakarams are found in the temple, apart from six sanctum sanctorum and five beautiful vimanams. The presiding deity Sri Mangai Nayagar with His consort Thenambigai is in a sitting posture, in his 'Thirumanakolam'. Separate sanctum are also found for Sri Thirukodungundranathar and His consort Sri Kuyilamudhanayagi alias Amudheswari, Sri Kasi Viswanathar, Visalakshi, Dakshinamurthy, Vinayakar,

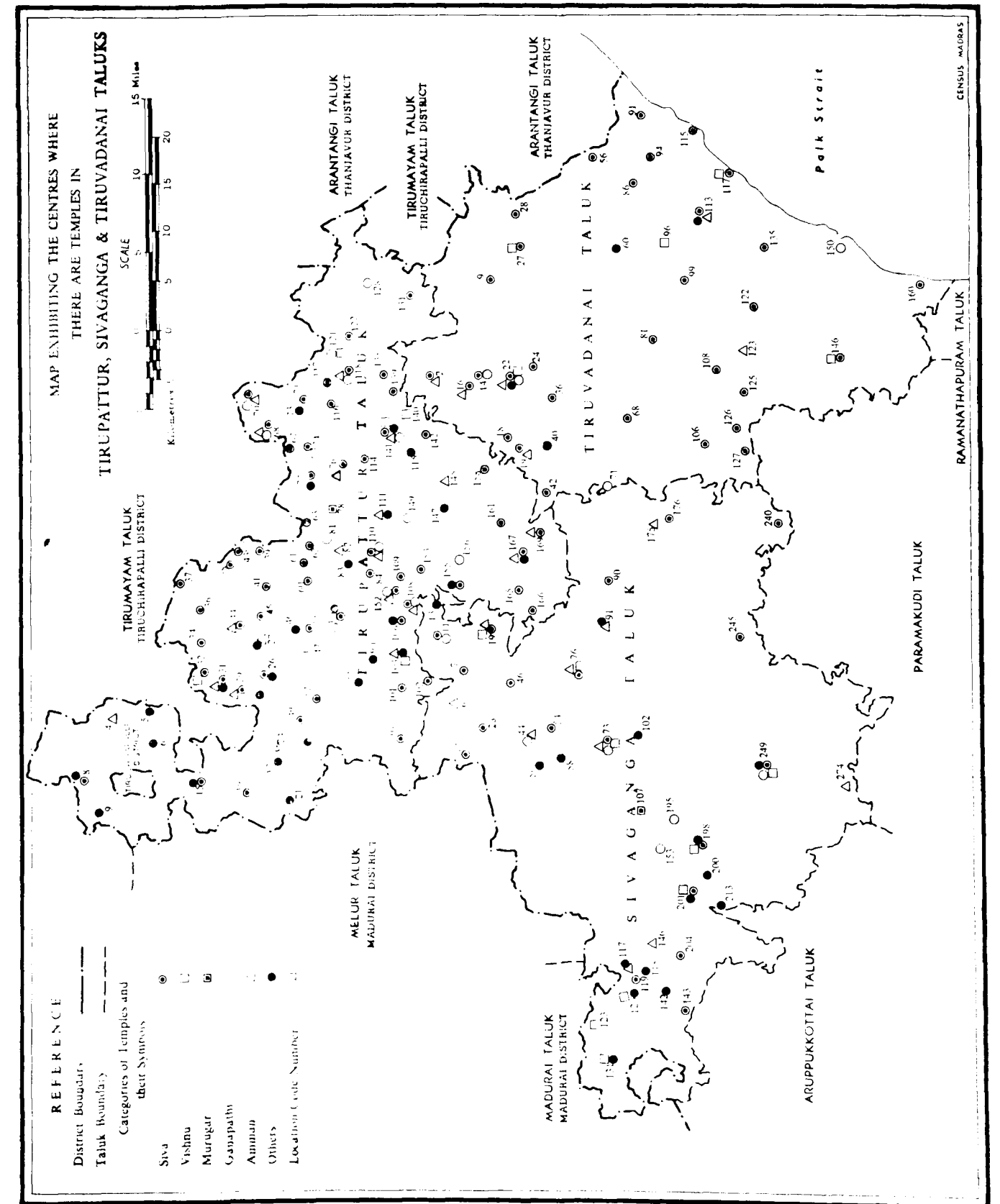
Subramaniam, Chockalingar, Meenakshi, Natarajar, Sivakami, Chandikeswarar, Chandikeswari, 63 Nayanmars and Navagrahas are the other deities here. Separate shrine is also found for Sri Bairavar who is in the form of Ugramurthy. A grand festival is celebrated in the month of Thai every year in honour of this deity.

It is also said that Lord Brahma, Saraswathi, Subramaniam, Ambal, Nandhi Devar and Upamanyu have performed severe penance here and attained 'Moksha'. Saint Thirugnana Sambandar has also composed 11 beautiful verses in his famous Thevaram in praise of the deity. A noteworthy feature of this temple is that there is an Elephant vahanam before the sannadhi of Lord Muruga instead of a Peacock. There are as many as 57 sacred waters or theerthams associated with the temple.

Poojas are performed six times daily by hereditary Brahmin priests, who enjoy service inam lands. The temple possesses ancient jewels and ornaments in gold, silver and diamond worth more than Rs. 1 lakh. A few were donated by Sri Marudu Pandyan. The landed properties of the temple comprise about 34.97 acres of wet lands and 9.55 acres of dry lands, apart from a coconut grove of 68.81 acres, which fetch an annual income of Rs. 64,400/- by way of rent. The annual hundi collections is Rs. 300/- and income from archana and abishega charges is Rs. 250/-. There are four big Thers, two Palanquins and several vahanas made of wood, apart from three silver Rishabams and a Kedayam.

Brahmothsavam in Chithrai, which spreads over a period of 10 days, Vinayaka Chathurthi, Navarathri, Karthigai Deepam and Arudhra Dharisanam are the most important festivals. The Chithrai Brahmothsavam attracts more than 10,000 devotees.

The temple which is under the control of the Anjukoil Devasthanam of Kunnakudi is managed by the head of the Kunnakudi-Tiruvannamalai Adheenam, who is the hereditary trustee of the temple.

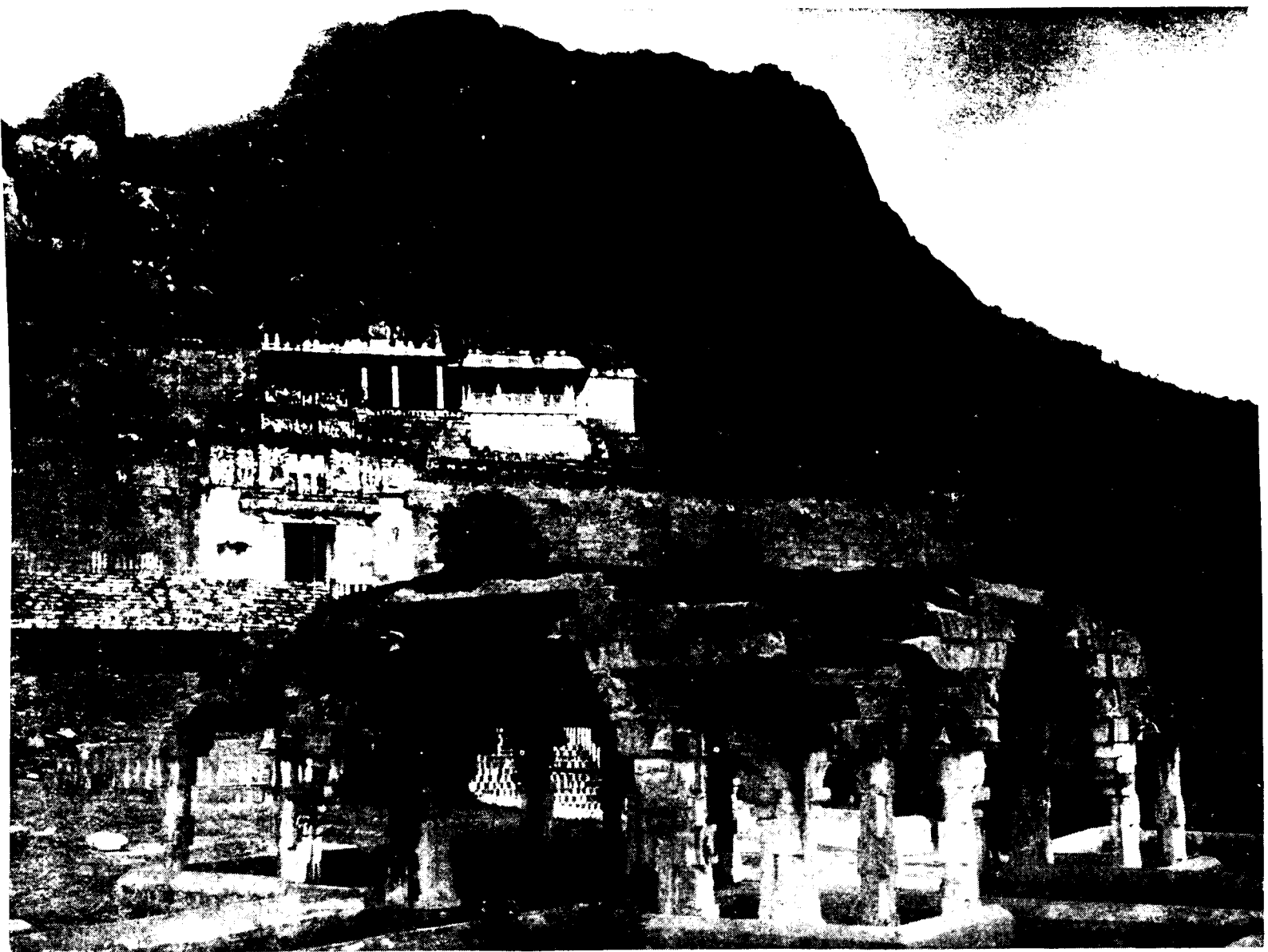




Varaha Avatharam carved in the temple at Tirupparamkundram



An impressive carving of Narasimhavatharam in the Tirupparamkundram temple



A panoramic view of Piranmalai hill and temple



The beautiful carving of Maha Vishnu in Tirupparamkundram temple



A brilliant depiction of the cosmic dance of Lord Siva



Parvathi, Nandi and Devas watch the cosmic dance of
Siva as an orchestra keeps time



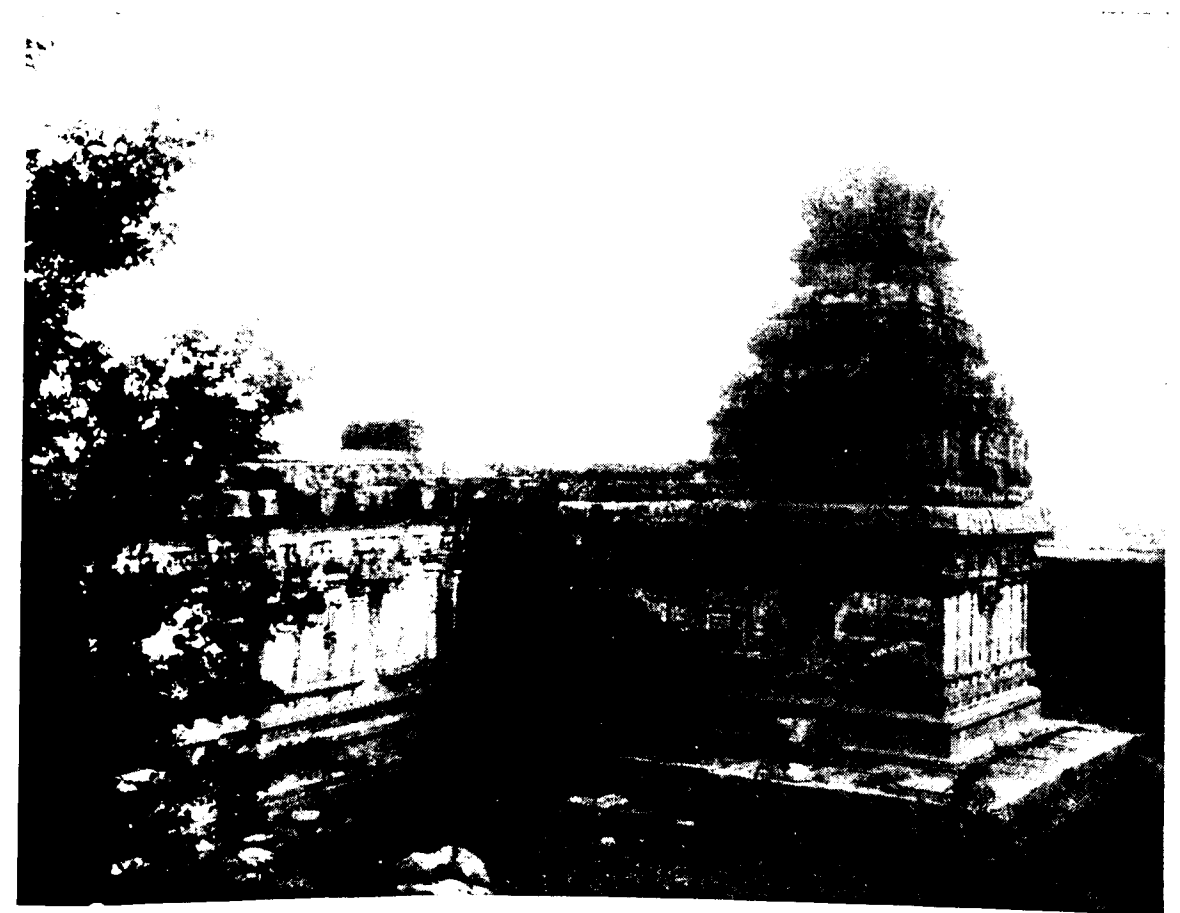
Saravana Poigai, the sacred tank near the temple at Tirupparamkundram



Steps leading to the hill temple



A side view of the hill temple with the front mantapam



The shrine of Sri Bairavar



A view of the vimanam on a rock over the sanctum sanctorum

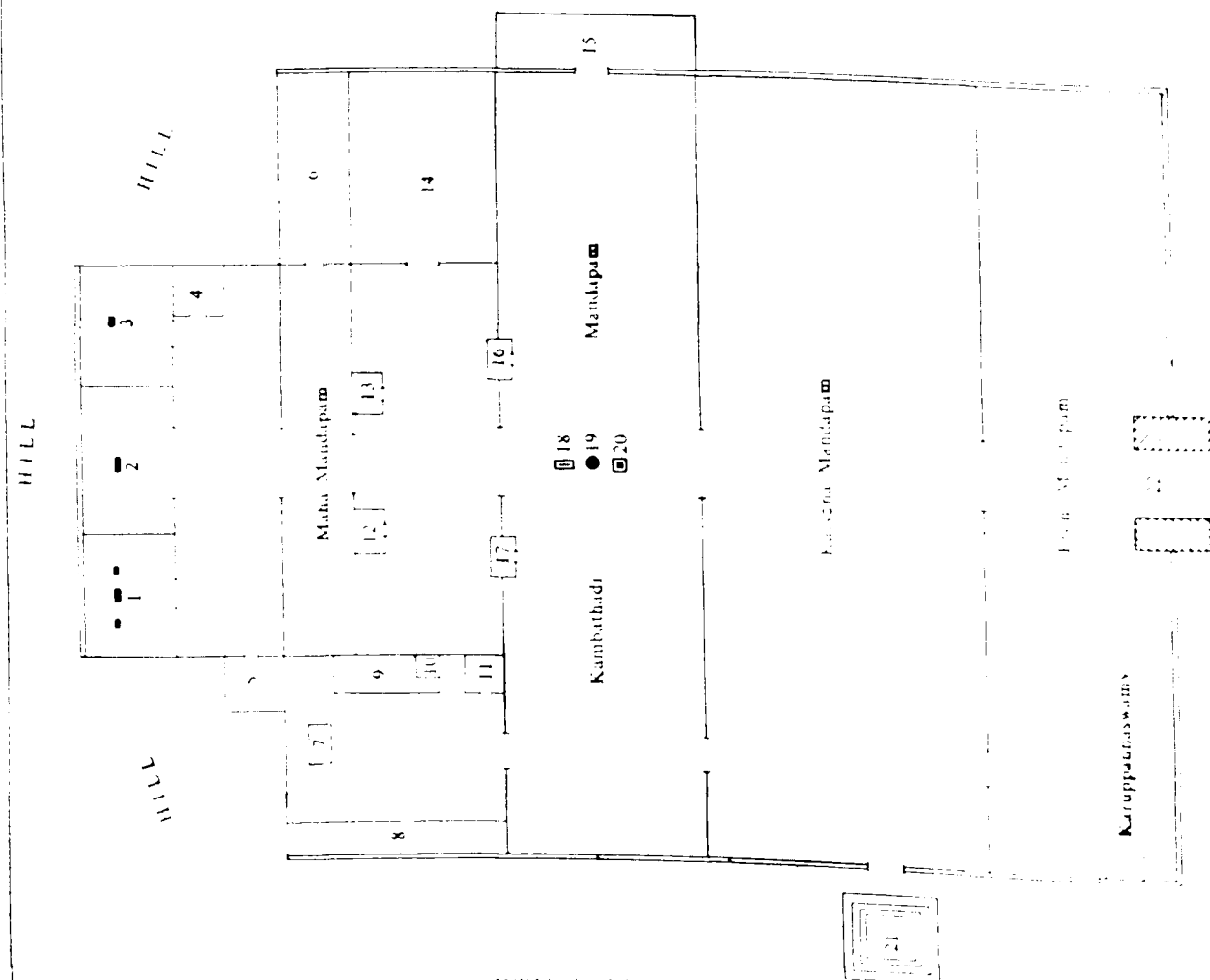


The huge tridents before the sanctum of Sri Bairavar

SRI SUBRAMANIASWAMY TEMPLE

TIRUPPARAMKUNDRAM

(Not to Scale)



INDEX TO NUMBERS

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1 Subramaniam, Deivayanai & Naradar (Moolavar) | 12 Adhikara Nandhi |
| 2 Durga Amman | 13 Retti Vinayagar |
| 3 Maha Ganesha | 14 Subramaniam & Deivayanai (Uthavar) |
| 4 Siva Kundam & Sathyagireeswarar | 15 Madapathi |
| 5 Vishnu & Lakshmi | 16 Ugramoorthy |
| 6 Govardhanar & Padmayathi | 17 Andrabaranar |
| 7 Shanmugam | 18 Nandhi |
| 8 Sixty Three Nayamars | 19 Bilipeedam |
| 9 Paucanugam | 20 Dwajathambam |
| 10 Tiruchendur Murugar | 21 Lakshmi Theertham |
| 11 Saneeswarar | 22 Entrance with Gopuram |

CENSUS - MADRAS

pam, after climbing a few steps, the kambathadi-mandapam can be reached where we find the dwajas-thambam. From there, we can proceed to the mahamandapam and the arthamandapam in two stages after climbing a few more steps. Thus the four mandapams are situated at different elevations. The front mandapam, the horse-court of the temple is a fine example of Naik architecture. There are a number of mandapams on the western portion of the temple. The temple on the whole, belongs to a high type of architecture.

As is usual in cave temples, there are big pillars flanked by pilasters with three cells in the main wall facing the mandapam and two side cells. The structural plan bears resemblance to early cave temples of the Pallavas. In the two cells facing each other, there are the images of Lord Vishnu (Pavalakanivoy Perumal) and a Lingam respectively. Lord Vishnu appears with Sri Devi, Bhu Devi and sage Mathanga. In the three central cells we find Lord Muruga, Goddess Durga and Sri Vinayakar. A characteristic feature of this Vinayakar image is that only fruit and sugarcane are found in His hands. It is a thrilling sight which the divine Mother presents flanked by Her two sons.

Lord Muruga, the presiding deity is in a sitting posture with His consort Deivayanai. To His right is the image of sage Naradar. Above the presiding deity we find the images of Suryar and Chandrar. On the sides are the images of Sri Vinayakar, Sri Brahma, Goddess Saraswathi and Devendra. Abishegam is made only to the silver Vel in the hands of the presiding deity.

Two panels depicting the cosmic dance of Siva are found on the outside wall of the cell containing the Lingam. The magnificent panels which remain unaffected despite the efflux of time are a fitting tribute to the excellence of early Pandya cave sculpture which compares well with the beautiful carvings in the early Pallava caves. The two panels are separated by pilasters. In one of the them Siva is dancing in the "Chathura" pose over the back of the dwarf Apasmara. In the other panel which is a continuation of the scene depicted in the first, an orchestra keeps time while Parvathi, Nandhi and Devas watch the dance. There are several other carvings plastered on the rock in which the touch of the master sculptor is discernible.

To the west of the mahamandapam is a sanctum where we can worship Govardhanambikai. Festival idols are to be seen in the mahamandapam. There are separate sanctum for Sri Arumuga and Lord Saneeswarar. It should be noted that there are no Navagrahas in this temple.

Apart from the tank within the temple precincts, there is another sacred tank called Saravana Poigai about 2 furlongs to the east of the temple. With beautiful steps and hillock on the southern side this big tank presents a pleasing view. Ardent devotees make it a point to take bath in this tank before offering worship in the temple. On the southern and western part of the hillock, there are caves having interesting sculptures. The temple and the mandapams and caves around it are a paradise for archaeologists and art-loving public.

There are a number of inscriptions in the temple, which belong to the Pandya, Vijayanagar and Naik rulers. Details regarding these inscription are contained in the Annual Reports on South Indian Epigraphy for the years 1890-No. 49, 1903-No. 37 1917 No. 860-861 and 1918 No. 336-339.

The following interesting incident which took place towards the close of the 18th century is given in one of the inscriptions: An European regiment seized this town and was trying to enter the temple. The priests who wanted to safeguard the sanctity of the temple prevailed upon a man called Kutty to throw himself down from the tall gopuram as a protest. When the man performed the feat, the regiment withdrew in a state of panic. Kutty who survived the fall was given a grant in appreciation of his heroic action.

On every Kirthigai day devotees visit this temple in large numbers. The Brahmothsavam which is celebrated for fourteen days in Panguni, the Skandha Sashti festival in Iyppasi, the ten day Karthigai festival, Vaikasi Visakam and the floating festival in Thai are attended by thousands of people. There are two Rathams and a number of vahanas some of which are silver and gold plated. The jewellery of the temple cost nearly three lakhs of rupees.

The temple has sizable landed property and derives good income from hundi collections, archanas and abishegas. Hundreds of marriages take place every year. A nominal fee of Rs. 4 per marriage is collected. Poojas are performed eight times daily by qualified priests.

A Board of trustees consisting of five members and an Executive Officer are managing the affairs of the temple. On the summit of the hill is the tomb of Sikkander, a fakir, which is worshipped by Muslims. One of the chief places sacred to Lord Muruga, Tirupparamkundram attracts pilgrims round the year, from all parts of the country.

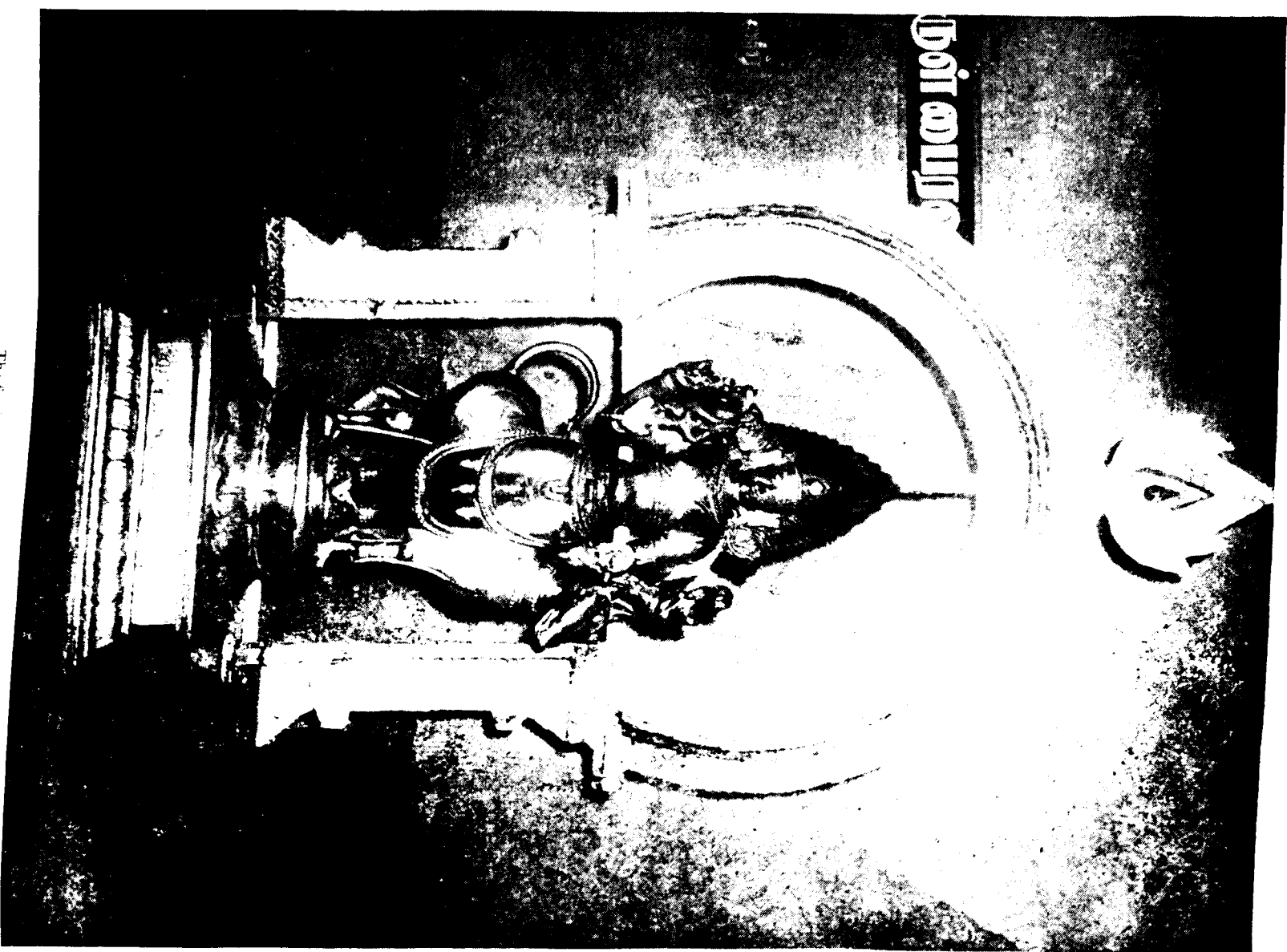
TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
MADURAI

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
1	7	Manjampatti (P)	Manjampatti	Sri Mutha-lamman Temple (F)	200	Below 0.01	Sri Mutha-lamman	...	Madurai Junction 11 miles
2	11	Kavanur (P)	Therku Puthampatty	Sri Kondamman Temple (F)	Not known	0.01	Sri Kondamman	...	Madurai Junction 9 miles
3	13	Velliakundram (P)	Appanthirupathy	Sri Srinivasa Perumal Temple (V)	200	0.91	Sri Srinivasa Perumal	Sri Alamelu-mangai Nachiar	do
4	23	Karuvanur (P)	Manthakulam	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	15	0.01	Sri Vinayakar	...	Madurai Junction 8 miles
5	24	Kulamangalam (P)	Vadugapatty	Sri Navaneetha Krishnaswamy Temple (V)	140	Below 0.01	Sri Krishna-swamy	...	Madurai Junction 9 miles
6	27	Podumbu (P)	Pothumbu	Sri Kaliyuga Meyya Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.05	Sri Kaliyuga Meyya Ayyanar	Sri Vinayakar Sri Poorana Sri Pushkala	Madurai Junction
7	..	do	do	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	150	Below 0.01	Sri Vinayakar	...	do
8	..	do	do	Sri Srinivasa Perumal Temple (V)	Not known	0.02	Sri Srinivasa Perumal	Sri Sri Devi Bhu Devi	do

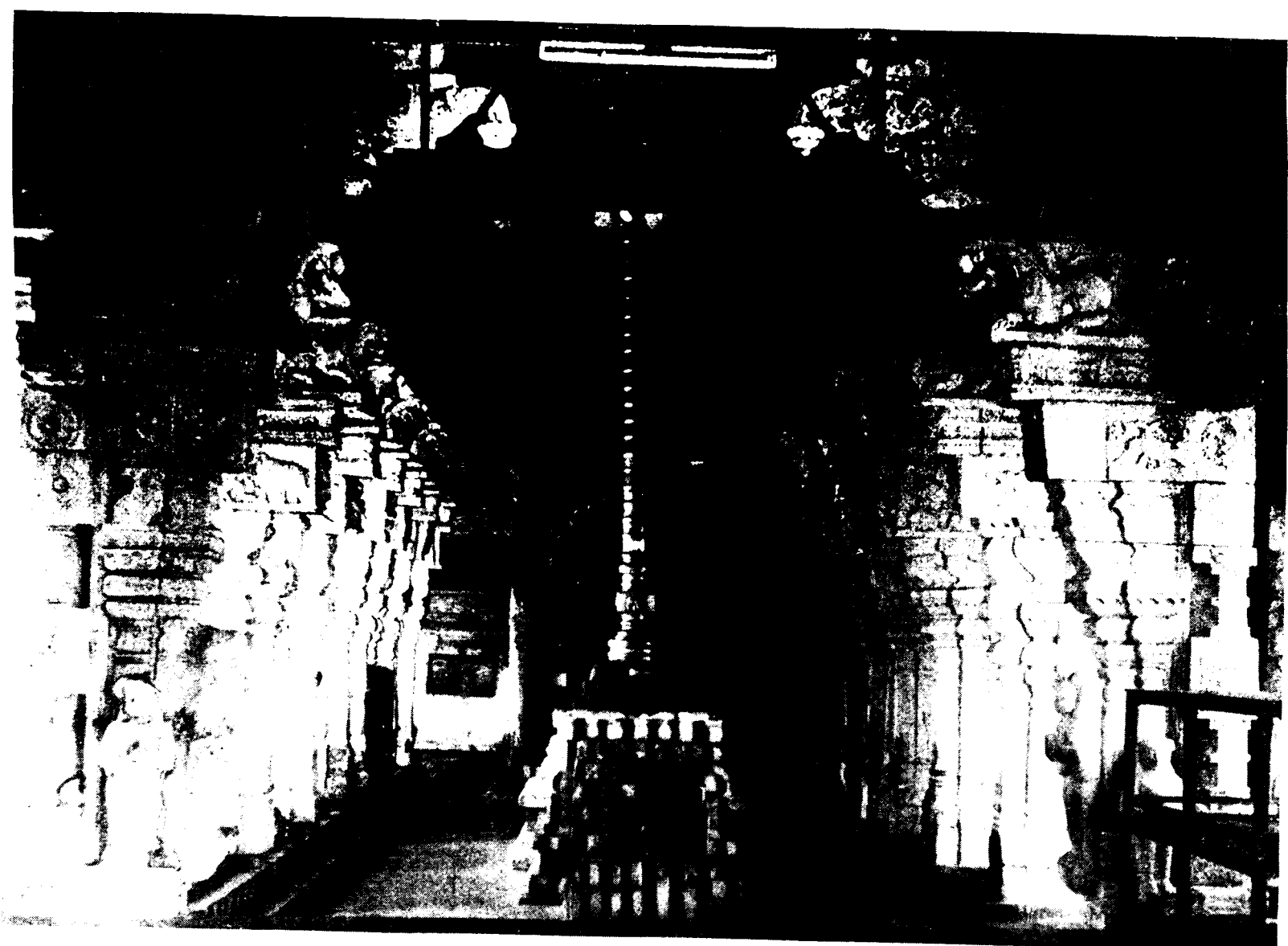
MADURAI DISTRICT

TALUK

Annual income assessed for Fasil 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.				
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	Appraised by H. R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple	Vahanam	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department									
500	1.24	...	...	...	...	1,000	...	Poojas by a hereditary Gounder	Festival in Panguni
311	7.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a Gounder	...
1,000	...	...	25.30	...	...	...	...	Thrice a day by a Bhattachariar	...
1,621	...	...	8.00	House	...	...	...	Once a day by a Brahmin	...
396	1.35	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	...
409	1.42	11.43	...	...	...	Not stated	Horse Palanquin Sesha	Once a day by a hereditary Velar	...
381	3.04	3.79	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Velar	...
924	1.01	2.04	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Bhattachariar	...



The festival image of Sri Ravana



Entrance to Sri Thiruthalinathar temple, Tiruppattur

39 KEELASEVALPATTI

Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple

In Keelasevalpatti, a village about 19 kilometres from Karaikudi, there is a famous temple dedicated to Lord Siva. The presiding deity Sri Sundareswarar is an installed Lingam here. The divine consort is called Sri Meenakshi Amman. The temple is said to have been built some 90 years back by the Nattukottai Nagarathar community and is well maintained. It is connected by both bus and train, the nearest railway station being Tirumayam at a distance of about 13 kilometres. Madurai the district headquarters and Tirupattur the taluk headquarters are 90 and 13 kilometres away respectively.

The temple facing east covers an area of about 14 cents and has two prakarams. There is a huge tank in front of it. There are four small gopurams in the temple on all the four sides. There is a separate sanctum for Goddess Meenakshi Amman, whose beautiful image is in a standing pose. Sri Vinayakar, Subramaniam, Bairavar, Chandikeswarar and Navagrahas are the other deities here. There are also several festival idols made of panchalogam.

Poojas are performed five times daily by non-hereditary Brahmin priests who are paid a decent monthly salary, strictly according to the principles of Saiva Agamam. The temple possesses ancient jewels and ornaments in gold, silver and diamond worth about Rs. 5,21,625/- mostly donated by devotees. The immovable properties of the temple comprise about 15.57 acres of wet lands and 18.67 acres of dry lands apart from several buildings and vacant plots, which fetch an annual rent of Rs. 15,931/-; this amount is utilised for its upkeep and general maintenance. The annual hundi collections amount to Rs. 100/- while its income under archana and abishega charges is Rs. 200/- per annum.

The temple owns a silver Ratham, a silver Palanquin, a gold plated Horse and the following silver vahanas: Peacock, Bandicoot, Kedayam and Rishabam.

Tamil New Year's day, Skandha Sashti, Navarathri and Karthigai Deepam are the regular annual festivals celebrated by the temple, of which the Skandha Sashti is the most important one.



The place where Sage Valmiki performed penance



The Vimanam view with the Sthalavruksham

59 TIRUPATTUR

Sri Thiruthalinathar Temple

Tirupattur is one of the 14 sacred shrines of Lord Siva in Pandya Nad. The Saivite Saints Sri Appar and Sambandhar have composed several sacred padhigams in praise of this sthalam in their famous Thevaram. According to a legend, Lord Siva performed here the famous 'Gowri Thandavam' as Natarajar, at the request of his divine consort Sri Parvathi. It is also said that sages Agasthya and Valmiki, Thirumagal and Jayanthan, son of Devendra have offered worship and attained salvation at this place. A grand festival known as 'Jayanthan Pooja' is celebrated every year during the first Friday in the month of Chithrai in memory of Jayanthan. Tirupattur is situated at a distance of 21 kilometres from Karaikudi, the nearest railway station. It is linked by bus transport with Madurai, Pudukottai, Ramanathapuram, Sivaganga, Tiruchirapalli and Thanjavur. It is the headquarters of the taluk of Tirupattur. Before Independence, this town was the scene of several skirmishes, when Chinna Marudu the popular chieftain played a notable role in opposing the British.

The temple covers an area of 15 acres and has a beautiful vimanam over the sanctum with attractive plaster figures on it. It has four prakarams and three sanctum sanctorum. The presiding deity Sri Thiruthalinathar is a Swayambu Lingam facing east. His divine consort is known as Sri Sivakami Amman. There are separate sanctum for Sri Natarajar, Thirumal, Thirumagal and Agastheeswarar. Pushpavaneswari alias Sapthamadhari, Angalaparameswari, Anjaneyar and Navagrahas are the other deities installed in the temple. A noteworthy feature is the existence of a separate shrine for Yoga Bairavar in the posture of meditation in the northern prakaram, facing west. It is rarely found in other Siva temples. Several attractive idols are found made of panchalogam, of which those of Sri Ramar, Sita Devi and Lakshmanar deserve special mention. The sacred konnai tree is the sthalaviruksham of the temple.

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
MADURAI

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
9	27	Podumbu (P)	Pothumbu	Sri Sangili Karuppanna-swamy Temple (O)	Not known	0.05	Sri Sangili Karuppanna-swamy	Sri Vinayakar Sri Subramaniam Nandhi	Madurai Junction
10	33	Todaneri (P)	Thodaneri	Sri Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	Below 0.01	Sri Ayyanar	---	Samayanallur Railway station 2½ miles
11	35	Samayanallur (P)	Samayanallur	Sri Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.02	Sri Ayyanar	...	Samayanallur Railway station
12	„	do	do	Sri Veerabadra-swamy Temple (O)	300	0.04	Sri Veerabadra-swamy	...	do
13	„	do	Sarikalikudi	Sri Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	Below 0.01	Sri Ayyanar	...	Samayanallur Railway station 1½ miles
14	36	Paravai (P)	Oomachikulam	Sri Vellai Vinayakar Temple (G)	Not known	0.09	Sri Vinayakar	...	Samayanallur Railway station
15	„	do	Paravai	Sri Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.09	Sri Ayyanar	...	Paravai Railway station
16	„	do	do	Sri Karuppanna-swamy Temple (O)	Not known	0.05	Sri Karuppanna-swamy	...	do

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property Value of Jewellery Rs.			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple	Vahanam		
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
539	1.62	4.80	...	...	...	Not stated	...	Poojas by a hereditary Vellalar	Karthigai Deepam Vaikasi Visakam Adi Pooram
1,000	1.46	2.00	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Velar	Festival once in 5 years
250	1.44	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Velar	Festival once in 3 years
299	...	...	2.25	...	...	...	Horse	Once a day by a hereditary Pillai	Festival once in three years in Vaikasi
416	1.62	1.43	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Velar	...
450	2.06	0.57	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...
260	1.68	0.72	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Velar	Fes ival in Purattasi
1,715	5.48	1.20	...	...	...	Not stated	...	Poojas by a Poosari	Tamil New Year's day Thai Pongal

and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
MADURAI**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)	
	No.	Name								
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	
Temples under the Hindu Religious										
17	36	Paravai (P)	Oomachikulam	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	Not known	0.10	Sri Vinayakar	...	Paravai Railway station	
18	..	do	do	Sri Paravai Nayagiamman Temple (F)	Not known	0.15	Sri Paravai Nayagi-amman	...	do	
19	38	Kovilpapa-gudi (P)	Kovilpapa-gudi	Sri Shenbaga-moorthy Karpagasidhi Vinayakar Temple (G)	80	0.05	Sri Shenbaga-moorthy Karpaga Vinayakar	...	Madurai Junction	
20	41	Anaiyur (P)	Anaiyur	Sri Kannimari-amman Temple (F)	Not known	0.01	Sri Kannimari-amman	...	Madurai Junction 5 miles	
21	..	do	do	Sri Ayyanar Temple (O)	51	0.12	Sri Ayyanar	...	do	
22	..	do	do	Sri Karuppanna-swamy Temple (O)	Not known	Not stated	Sri Karuppanna-swamy	...	Madurai Junction 3 miles	
23	55	Thirumugur (P)	Thirumugur	Sri Kalamega Perumal Temple (V)	400	2.55	Sri Kalamega Perumal	Sri Mohana-valli Thayar Sri Andal	Madurai Junction 7 miles	
24	59	Otakadai (P)	Otakadai	Sri Kothanda-ramaswamy Temple (V)	75	Not stated	Sri Kothanda-ramaswamy	Sri Sita Sri Lakshmanar Sri Anjaneyar	Madurai Junction 6 miles	

**MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)**

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Apprai- sed by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Report- ed by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
394	2.40	...	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a Poosari	...
500	1.35	1.93	...	...	...	...	Lion Rishabam	Once a day by a hereditary Poosari	Festival in Purattasi Thai Pongal
647	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...
889	3.65	..	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Velar	Festival in Avani
435	3.60	...	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Velar	Festival in Avani Kudhirai Eduppu festival in Vaikasi
200	5.37	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Velar	...
18,209	5.00	...	...	...	39,522	...	Car Palanquin Vahanas	Six times a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Gajendra Moksham Vaikunta Ekadasi Brahmothsavam in Vaikasi
3,676	10.00	...	...	Choultry	...	...	...	Twice a day by a Bhattar	Gajendra Moksham in Masi Festival in Panguni

Several stone inscriptions are found on the walls of the temple and they refer to this sthalam as 'Kerala Singa Vala Nattu Brahmatheyamana Tirupattur'. The presiding deity of the temple is known as Sri Thalipparamesurar, Thiruthaliyandanayanar, Kailasamudaiyanayanar and Thiruthali Perumanadigal, while his consort is known as Sri Kamakkottamudaiya Nachiar and Thiruppalliyarai Nachiar. Inscriptions are important historical records and furnish interesting information regarding the landed endowments and other gifts made to the temple by many devotees.

Poojas are performed five times daily by hereditary Brahmin priests, who are in the enjoyment of service inam lands. The temple owns antique jewellery in gold, silver and diamond worth about Rs. 1,12,998/- of which the pathakkams studded with costly stones and pearls deserve special mention. The temple owns extensive landed properties, the income from which is spent for its general maintenance. The annual hundi collections amount to Rs. 200/- while its income under archana and abishega charges is Rs. 450/- per annum. There are three big Cars, two Rathams, two Palanquins and several vahanas made of wood found in the temple, besides three silver Rishabams and two Kedayams.

Vinayaka Chathurthi, Navarathri, Karthigai Deepam, Sivarathri, Thiruvadhira, Vaikasi Visakam and Jayanthan pooja are the regular annual festivals celebrated in this temple. Jayanthan Pooja is the most important, attended by 10,000 people.

The temple is managed by the head of the Kunnakudi-Tiruvannamalai Adheenam, the hereditary trustee of the temple, under the control of the Anjukoil Devasthanam of Kunnakudi.

78 KUNNAKUDI

Sri Shanmuganathar temple

About 14 kilometres from Karaikudi in Tirupattur taluk is Kunnakudi which is noted for its hill temple dedicated to Lord Muruga. It is said that Kunnakudi derived its name from the sacred hillock or kundru in the town. The place is also known by different names such as Mayuranagaram, Arasava-

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE

nam, Krishnanagaram and Mayuragiri. It is connected with Karaikudi by bus.

Apart from the shrine on the hillock, there is a cave temple dedicated to Siva at the foot of the hill on the western side. The hill temple has a five tier gopuram. The image of six faced Muruga popularly known as Shanmuga, mounted on His peacock and facing east is seen in the sanctum sanctorum. His consorts Valli and Deivayanai are on His either side. To the south of the sanctum sanctorum, the impressive festival idol of Sri Shanmuga is placed in the beautiful Alankara mandapam. There are sannadhis for Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar, Vinayakar, Dakshinamurthy, Kuzhandai Vadivelar, Kuthapiran, Navagrahas, Chandeswarar etc. In the front mandapam the images of Veerabahu and Idumban are installed.

Saint Arunagirinathar has sung in praise of this temple in his Thirupugazh. According to the temple authorities the name of Marudu Pandyan has been engraved at the foot of the festival idol. The God of this temple is believed to grant liberally the prayers of His devotees. Naturally a number of endowments have been made by the rulers and people of the region. The temple has silver and golden Rathams, diamond head dress for the diety, gold kavacham etc. About Rs. 15,000 is received annually from hundi collections. The temple possesses a number of vahanas.

Among the many festivals celebrated in the temple, Thaipoosam, Panguni Uthiram and Karthigai Somavaram are important. During Thaipoosam and Panguni Uthiram, Ther, silver and golden Rathams will be used to take the deity in procession. About 30,000 devotees congregate here for these festivals. Some go round the hill on these occasions with great veneration. Many come with Pal kudam, Pal Kavadi and Agni kavadi and have darshan of the Lord. Poojas are performed six times daily by priests belonging to Sivachariar community. The temple is now administered by Sri Kunrakudi Adigal.

The cave temple dedicated to Siva at the foot of the hillock is of great archaeological and artistic value. Sri R. Nagaswamy, Director of Archaeology, Government of Madras has analysed the salient archaeological features of the temple in an article entitled "Some contributions of the Pandya to South Indian Art" in the journal *Artibus Asiae*, (Institute of Fine Arts:



Sri Somaskandar (Uthavar)

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
MADURAI

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
25	65	Madurai (M)	Anuppanadi	Sri Gurunatha-swamy Temple (O)	250	0.10	Sri Gurunatha-swamy	Sri Angala Parameswari Sri Vinayakar Sri Veera-badrar Sri Irulappa-swamy Sri Karuppanna-swamy Sri Irulayi-amman Sri Pechiamman Sri Kali Sri Rudhra-murthy	Madurai Junction 1½ miles
26	..	do	West Masi Street	Sri Balasidhi Vinayakar Temple (G)	400	0.02	Sri Balasidhi Vinayakar	...	Madurai Junction ½ mile
27	..	do	South Masi Street	Sri Kamakshi & Sri Ekambareswaraswamy Temple (S)	350	1.30	Sri Kamakshi-amman & Sri Ekambareswarar	...	do
28	..	do	do	Sri Srinivasa-Perumal Temple (V)	150	0.02	Sri Srinivasa Perumal	...	Madurai Junction
29	..	do	North Masi Street	Sri Yadhava Navaneetha Krishnaswamy Temple (V)	200	1.25	Sri Navaneetha Krishna-swamy	Sri Rukmani Sri Sathyabama Sri Udayavar Sri Nammalwar Sri Thirumangai Alwar Sri Hanumar Sri Garuda	Madurai Junction ½ mile

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple	(18)	(19)	(20)
2,795	...	...	2.42	House Coconut trees	...	100	...	Once a week by a Pillai	Sivarathri
636	Extent not stated			Houses	...	...	...	Poojas by a Brahmin	...
5,053	...	...	2.62	Vacant Plot	...	5,859	...	Once a day by a hereditary Archagar	Navarathri Thai Pongal Festival in Karthigai
200	...	...	...	Building	...	Not stated	...	Once a day by a Brahmin.	...
22,491	Extent not stated			Vacant Plots Buildings	13,847	...	Palanquin	Five times a day by a Bhatta-chariar	Sri Jayanthi Vasanthasavam in Vaikasi Navarathri Theppam in Masi Thirukkalyanam in Panguni



A side view of Sri Shanmuganathar temple, Kunnakudi

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

New York University), Quarterly Asian Art and Archaeology for scholars and connoisseurs vol. XXVII, 3. The relevant extract which is of interest to research workers is given below :—

“Two miles away from Pillayarpatti is Kunnakudi, well known for its hillside temple of Subramania. On the western slope of the same hill, at ground level, are three closely set excavated caves in a line, their natural facades hidden behind later structures. The first has several sculptures; the second doorway guardians and one interior deity; while the third has none. To the right of the first cave and on line with it is carved a seated figure in yogic pose. The head wears a *Jatabhara*, or low coiffure. On the figure's right is a longhandled axe. Locally this being is known as Agasthya and it has also been called “the axe-bearing Rama,” Parasurama. However the only saint known to South Indian artists who is intimately connected with Siva and holds the *Parasu* battle-axe as his emblem is Chandikeswara, invariably represented in Siva temples. The *Agamas* describe Various iconographic types; the representation shown here, in the *Dhyana* pose, is attested nowhere else.

The first cave is rectangular in plan, like the Pallava ones with its sanctum and a rock-cut Sivalinga scooped out of the center of the rear wall. Its facade is of the so-called Mahendra type with two square pillars; the sculptures are placed on the side walls. On the left side is carved the Garudantika form of Vishnu. The god is here given four arms, of which the upper pair hold the *Sankha* and *Cakra*; the lower right hand rests on the hip, and the left elbow rests on the shoulder of the attendant Garuda. This posture of Vishnu recalls that of the *Vrsabhantika* bronze from Tiruvenkadu, now in the Tanjore Art Gallery*. The lord is shown with a high *Kirita*, a thin upavita or sacred thread, and a girdle, *Udarabandha*. The (*Sankha*) conch and wheel have prominent flames and are shown parallel to the wall plane, instead of with their edges to the front as in early Pallava sculptures. The antariya skirt is ankle-length.

On Vishnu's left Garuda stands with arms crossed over his chest in the *Vinaya pose* of humility. There are no wings or beak; his head is inclined slightly to his left, topped by a low coronet.

On the left side of the sanctum, facing the front, is carved a triad centering on the tall figure of Siva as Lingapuradeva. Here he has four arms; the upper two hold the *parasu* and *mriga* (axe and antelope) attributes, while the lower are in the *Varada* and *Katyavalambita* positions. On the head is a *Jatabhara* low coiffure instead of the highpiled *Jatamakuta*. A garland crosses the thighs, all below it being rendered in low relief as is the Linga. The top portion of the Linga is shown with an arch and a garland. On Siva's right Brahma stands in the *anjali* pose of worship, distinguished by his three heads and a miniature swan above him. His upper two arms hold *aksamala* and *kundika*, rosary and water-pot. On the other side a four-armed Vishnu stands in the same pose, holding his characteristic conch and wheel; however there is no miniature boar to match the swan.

On the wall to the right of the entrance are carved two sculptures, an eight-armed Durga and a four-armed Harihara. The goddess stands on the head of a buffalo, holding various emblems. Her lowest left arm is bent across her body, holding a flaming fire between her breasts, a detail not often seen. The right arm, extended in the *Varada* pose, seems to point to a small seated figure below who is cutting off his head, evidently to offer a *Navakanda* sacrifice. The corresponding figure on the other side kneels with folded hands. Above the head of the Devi extends an aureole.

The Harihara holds *Parasu* and *Sankha* as the attributes of Siva and Vishnu. The lowered right hand makes the *Abhaya Mudra* while the left rests on the hip. The head-dress on the right is Siva's *Jatamakuta* and his under-garment a short tiger's-skin; on Vishnu's side one sees instead a *Kirita* crown and a *Nilamsuka* skirt reaching to below the knee. Unlike the Harihara of Pillaiarpatti, this one has no attendants.

On the right side wall is an excellent sculpture of an eight-armed Natesa. Siva here holds in three of his right hands the *Damaru* drum, the *Parasu*, and the *Vrsadhvaja* or bull banner (or perhaps the trisula), while the fourth makes the *Tarjani Mudra* with the index finger raised in warning. The upper

* R. Nagaswamy, Trans. of the Archaeol. Soc. of So. India, Madras, 1959-60,

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
MADURAI

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religions									
30	65	Madurai (M)	South Chithrai Street	Sri Hanumar Temple (O)	435	2.50	Sri Anjaneyar	Sri Srinivasa Perumal Sri Lakshmi-narasimhar Sri Ganapathy	Madurai Junction ½ mile
31	..	do	Simmakkal	Sri Hanumar Temple (O)	Not known	0.94	Sri Veera Hanumar	Sri Lakshmi-narasimhar Sri Garuda Sri Vinayakar	Madurai Junction ½ mile
32	..	do	Krishna Rayar Tank Street	Sri Hanumar Temple (O)	60	1.75	Sri Anjaneyar	...	Madurai Junction
33	..	do	North Veli Street	Sri Kamakshi amman Temple (S)	54	0.04	Sri Kamakshi-amman	...	Madurai Junction ½ mile
34	..	do	South Veli Street	Sri Kaliamman Temple (F)	100	0.04	Sri Kaliamman	Sri Ramar Sri Sonaiswamy	Madurai Junction 1½ miles

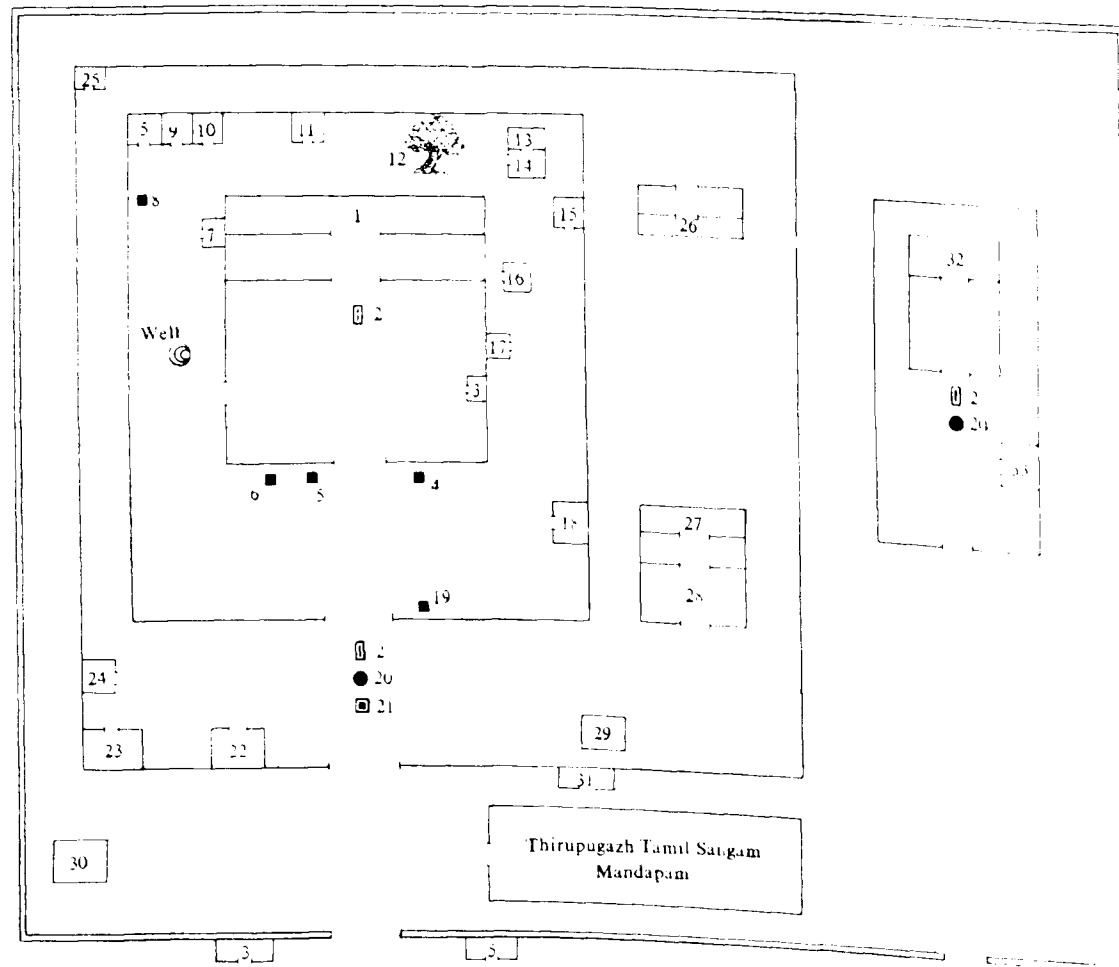
MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property		Vahanam	Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.				
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Reported by temple	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
2,121	...	...	7.00	Shops-6	...	50	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Gurupooja in Chithrai Narasimha Jayanthi Vasanthasavam in Vaikasi Vinayaka Chathurthi Sri Jayanthi Vaikunta Ekadasi Hanumantha Jayanthi in Margazhi Sri Ramanavami
9,527	...	...	...	Shops-4	...	700	...	Twice a day by an Archagar	Festival in Adi Navarathri Sri Rama Navami
2,265	...	...	...	Shops	...	300	...	Once a day by a Madhwa Brahmin	Sri Hanumantha Jayanthi Karthigai Deepam
344	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Poosari	...
805	...	...	...	House	...	58	...	Once a day by a hereditary Poosari	Sivarathri Vinayaka Chathurthi Deepavali Karthigai Deepam Tamil New

SRI THIRUTHALINATHAR TEMPLE

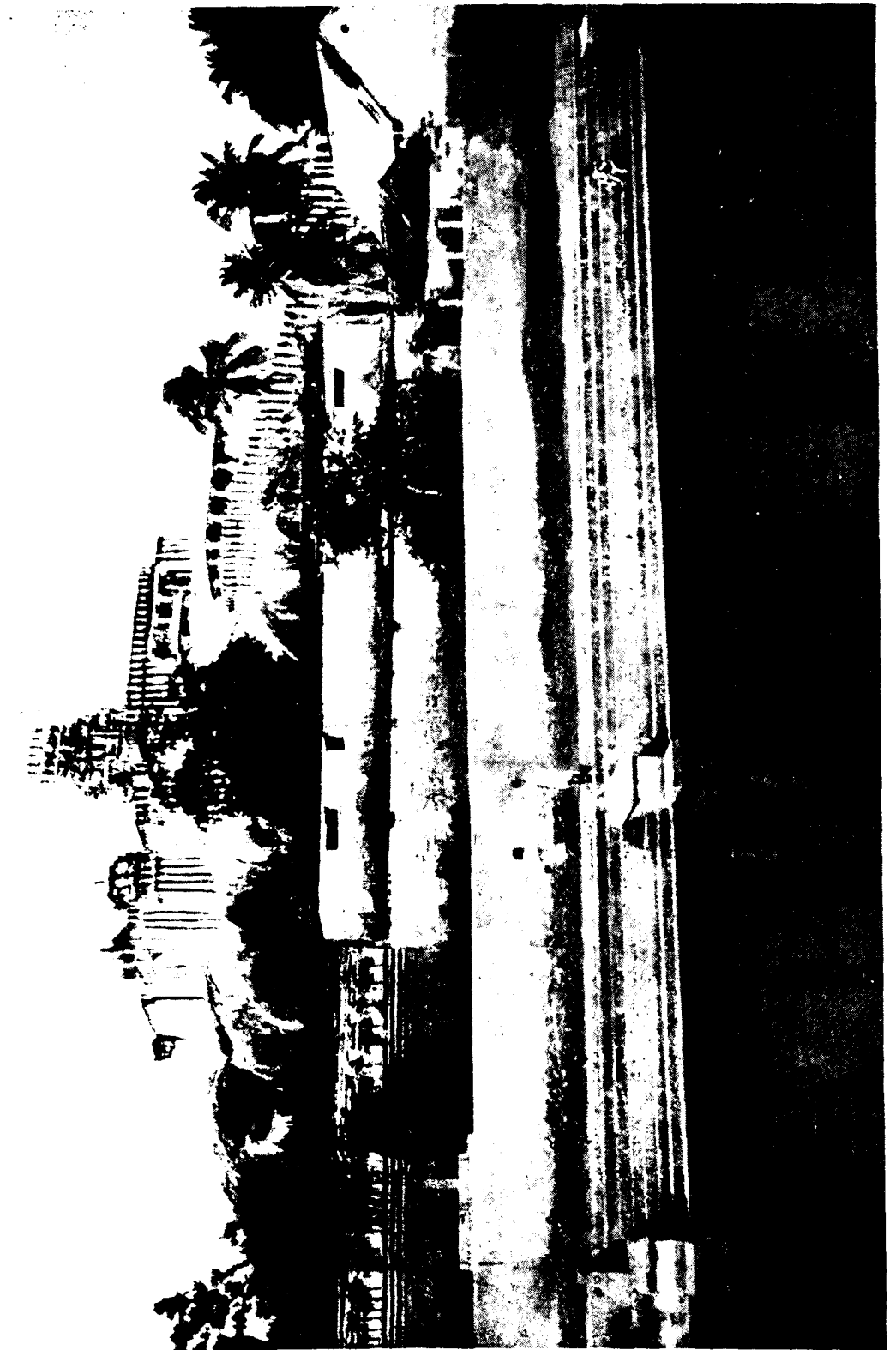
TIRUPPATTUR

(Not to Scale)



INDEX TO NUMBERS

- | | | |
|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1 Thiruthalinathar | 12 Sthalavruksham (Stalakottar) | 23 Madapath |
| 2 Nandhi | 13 Agasthya Lingam | 24 Subramaniam Valli & Deivayanar |
| 3 Natarajar, Sivakami & Manickavasagar | 14 Mahalakshmi | 25 Vanniyadi Vinayagar |
| 4 Subramaniam Valli & Deivayanar | 15 Maha Vishnu & Bhudevi | 26 Batraavar |
| 5 Vinayagar | 16 Chandikeswarar | 27 Nageswarar |
| 6 Nalvar | 17 Durgai Amman | 28 Mandapam |
| 7 Dakshinamoorthy | 18 Natarajar & Sivakami Ambal (Moolavar) | 29 Navaratri |
| 8 Saptamadhars | 19 Jayanthar | 30 Elephant Stable |
| 9 Somaskandhar | 20 Balipeedam | 31 Yaganam |
| 10 Varuna Devar | 21 Dwajasthambam | 32 Sivakami Ambal |
| 11 Viswanathar & Venkateswari | 22 Vahana Mandapam | 33 Palharai |



A view of the hill temple at Kunnakudi with the tank

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
MADURAI

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
35	65	Madurai (M)	Keelathurai	Sri Dhrowpathi- amman Temple (F)	100	0.01	Sri Dhrowpathi- amman	...	Madurai Junction 2½ miles
36	..	do	Raja Mills (Mahadeva swamy Road)	Sri Mahadeva- swamy Temple (S)	500	0.10	Sri Mahadeva- swamy	Sri Angales- wariamman Sri Vinayakar Sri Subrama- niam Nandhi Sri Veerabadrar	Madurai Junction 1 mile
37	..	do	Sandhai Pettai	Sri Moolakotha- lam Jadamuni Temple (O)	300	0.09	Sri Jadamuni	...	Madurai Junction 2 furlongs
38	..	do	Dalavoy Agraharam	Sri Narasimha- swamy Temple (V)	Not known	Below 0.01	Sri Narasimha- swamy	...	Madurai Junction
39	..	do	Manjanakkara Street	Sri Parceswara Gurunatha- swamy Temple (O)	300	1.00	Sri Parceswara Gurunatha- swamy	Sri Veeraba- drar Sri Karuppan- naswamy Sri Pechiamman	Madurai Junction 1 mile
40	..	do	Agasalai	Sri Periyannayanar Temple (O)	300	Not known	Sri Vetrattes- warar	Sri Mallaiya Sri Selliamman Sri Ayiamman Sri Oorudayanayakar Sri Vinayakar Alwars	Madurai Junction

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
687	...	...	9.00	Buildings	...	...	...	Poojas by a Pillai	Sivarathri Thai Pongal Tamil New Years' Day
2,849	...	...	...	Vacant plot	...	...	...	Once a day by a Pillai	Sivarathri Karthigai Deepam Vinayaka Chathurthi Thai Pongal Tamil New Year's Day Chithra Pournami Deepavali
1,362	...	...	...	Shops	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Poosari	Festival in Masi Thai Pongal Festival in Adi
200	...	...	...	House	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...
3,713	...	...	...	Shops House	...	3,381	...	Poojas by a hereditary Poosari	Sivarathri
577	...	...	...	Mango Groves 4.75	...	1,000	...	Once a day by a Poosari	Festival in Vaikasi

left arm is extended in the *Lambahasta* pose (outstretched arm). The next hand holds something like a book, the third fire in torch form and the bottom most a cobra. The bent right leg is held on tiptoe behind the left. The *Jata* (matted hair) moves sideways and downwards and the head is gracefully inclined to maintain the rhythm of the composition. There is no Apasmara demon underfoot but a dwarf musician on either side, one playing *Kudamusa* (a type of drum) and the other cymbals. Above extends a wide-arching aureole edges with flames.

Unfortunately all these sculptures have been plastered and painted in recent years.

The other faces of the side walls are also carved. Two door guardians with heavy clubs are shown, one on either side. On the left-hand wall, beyond the *dwarapalaka*, is shown a four-armed figure standing erect, which fortunately has escaped restoration. The emblems in the upper pair of hands are unclear; the lower right makes the *Abhaya Mudra* and the left rest on the hip. The earrings are heavy; a broad necklace enriches the neck and there is an emphatic *Upavita*. Closer examination reveals that the figure must represent Subramania, the South Indian equivalent of Karttikeya, the god of war. The attributes held, though indicated only as faint outlines, may be identified as a cock, *Kukkuta*, in the right hand and a *Vajra* in the left. The treatment of the head-dress, draperies, etc. is consistent with the Subramania type found in early Pallava and Chola sculptures. Figures similar to this are a Subramania image in the Trimurti cave and a bronze of the Pallava-Chola transition now worshipped at Tandanthottam village, Kumbakonam Taluk*. Most Subramania figures wear across the upper body the crossed lines of the *Channavira* instead of the sacred thread, but the use, as here of the *Upavita* is known elsewhere, though rare. Thus there is now in Gangaikonda-cholapuram a beautiful bronze figure of Subramania wearing the *Upavita*, which holds in its upper hands the cock and the thunderbolt (on left and right respectively) and in the lower one a shield.†

The second Kunnakkudi cave resembles the first in plan but has only one interior sculpture apart from the door guardians; a group showing the Garudantika Vishnu on the left-hand wall of the hall (i.e. in the same position as the Vishnu and Garuda in the first cave), here is luckily unrestored. The god stands in the "hip-shot" *Tribhanga* pose, wearing a high crown and across his breast—by a very unusual substitution—a *channavira*. Of the attributes held by the upper arms only the conch—now without flames—is preserved. The lower left elbow again rests on Garuda's shoulder, while the right arm is bent and makes a *Mudra* suggesting the *Varada*. A slender, long garland of beads hanging from the left shoulder almost as far as the right ankle is probably a *Vanamala*. The attendant stands in the same asymmetrical pose as his lord, with arms crossed in the *Vinaya* fashion; he wears a peculiar cap and is shown winged.

Between the second and third caves the rock face contains a small Sivalinga carved in low relief.

The third cave, otherwise like the first and second, is totally devoid of sculptures.

On a pillar of the first cave there is an old inscription in *Vattaluttu* characters which gives the name of the temple as Masileechuram. Paleographic considerations place it and the cave in the eighth or ninth centuries A.D.

Certain general features of the Kunnakudi sculptures deserve mention. The figures are flatly conceived and heavily treated. They show an archaic tendency in the treatment of bodily features. The *Varada Mudra* is made with the fingers closed. Attendant figures are common. Though certain set patterns have evolved in representing the deities, variations are still possible".



Steps leading to the hill temple with mandapams en route



The shrine of Pillayar at the top of the hill



Sri Shanmuganathar, the presiding deity

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
MADURAI**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	No.	Name	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)

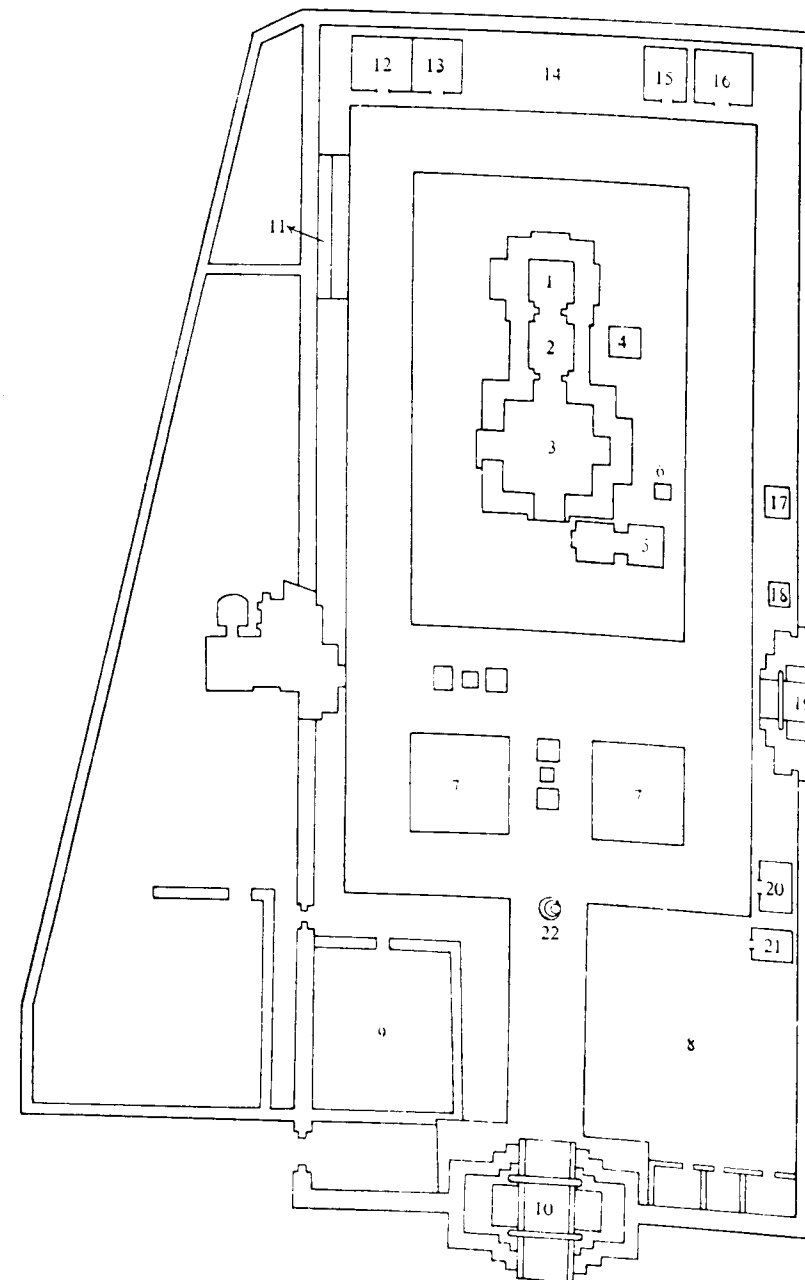
Temples under the Hindu Religion

41	65	Madurai (M)	Nadar's Vidvasalai Street	Sri Ponnodai Karuppanna-swamy Temple (O)	150	2-07	Sri Ponnodai Karuppanna-swamy	Sri Veerabadraswamy Sri Irulappa-swamy	Madurai Junction 1 mile
42	..	do	do	Sri Angala Parameswari Temple (F)			Sri Angala Parameswari	...	
43	..	do	Dindigul Road	Sri Rajarajeswari Thandumariamman Temple (F)	300	0-01	Sri Mariamman	...	do
44	..	do	Pacharisi kara Street	Sri Pandimuneeswarar Temple (O)	50	0-01	Sri Pandi Muneeswaraswamy	...	Madurai Junction
45	..	do	Gnana Pothiyandal	Sri Vellaiamman alias Pudukottai Mariamman Temple (F)	100	0-02	Sri Vellaiamman	...	do
46	..	do	Tballakulam	Sri Ekantha Ramaswamy Temple (V)	116	Below 0-01	Sri Ekantha Ramaswamy	Sri Lakshmanar Sri Anjaneyar	Madurai Junction 1½ miles
47	..	do	Madurai	Sri Kudalalagar Temple (V)	1,200	2-47	Sri Kudalalagar	Sri Madhura Valli Thayar Sri Andal	Madurai Junction 1 furlong

**MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)**

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
3,302	2-00	...	...	Rice Mill	...	150	...	Once a day by a Poosari	Sivarathri
2,782	...	...	...	House	...	4,000	Lion Bhootham	Once a day by trustee	Festival in Pangni
684	...	...	...	Houses-2	...	...	...	Once a day by a Devar	...
484	...	...	...	Buildings	...	200	Lion	Twice a day by a Pandaram	Mariamman Festival in Panguni
643	Extent	not	stated	...	...	Not stated	...	Poojas by a Bhattachariar	...
35,182	9-90	...	—	Building	114,245	...	Car Swan Lion Hanumar Garuda Horse Elephant Palanquin	Six times a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Festival in Vaika Theppam in Mas Adi Pooram Sri Jayanthi Uriyadi Garudaservai in Purattasi Navarathri Vaikunta Ekadas Parivettai in Thai Gajendramoksham in Panguni Thirukkalyanam in Panguni

SRI KARPAGA VINAYAGAR TEMPLE PILLAYARPATTI



INDEX TO NUMBERS

- 1 Maruthangudi Nayanar (Marutheesar)
- 2 Artha Mandapam
- 3 Maha Mandapam
- 4 Chandeesar
- 5 Vadamalamangai
- 6 Maruthamaram (Sthalaviruksham)
- 7 Thirumurai & Thirumalai Mandapam
- 8 Alankara Mandapam
- 9 Madapalli
- 10 Raja Gopuram
- 11 Nalvar, Agoramurthi, Saptha Kannimata & Katchi Vinayagar
- 12 Thaniamman & Somaskandhai
- 13 Prakara Vinayagar
- 14 Viswanathar, Visalakshi, Arumugaswamy, Valli, Deivayanar & Pasupatheesar
- 15 Dandayudhapani
- 16 Durga, Lakshmi & Saraswathi
- 17 Bairavar
- 18 Navagrahas
- 19 Raja Gopuram (Pillayar Sanurthi)
- 20 Pallharai
- 21 Sivakamamman
- 22 Well

CENSUS - MADRAS



A view of Sri Karpaga Vinayakar temple with the huge tank at Pillayarpatti

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
MADURAI

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
48	65	Madurai (M)	Madurai	Sri Madana Gopalaswamy Temple (V)	200	2.00	Sri Madana Gopalaswamy	...	Madurai Junction 3 furlongs
49	„	do	do	Sri Santhana Vinayakar Temple (G)	44	0.03	Sri Santhana Vinayakar	Sri Danda-yudhapani	Madurai Junction 1 mile
50	„	do	Dhanappa Mudaliar Street	Sri Melakarup-pannaswamy Temple (O)	Not known	0.06	Sri Melakarup-pannaswamy	Sri Irulappa-swamy Sri Vinayakar Sri Vannia-swamy Sri Irulayi- amman	Madurai Junction ½ mile
51	„	do	Madurai	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple (O)	450*	14.00	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar	Sri Kadamba Vanasundarar Sri Abhirama Sundarar Sri Kalyana Sundarar Sri Soma-sundarar	Madurai Junction 3 furlongs
52	„	do	do	Sri Thenthiru valavayaswamy Temple (S)	300	0.13	Sri Sundareswarar	Sri Meenakshi	Madurai Junction 3 furlongs

* Present Temple

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

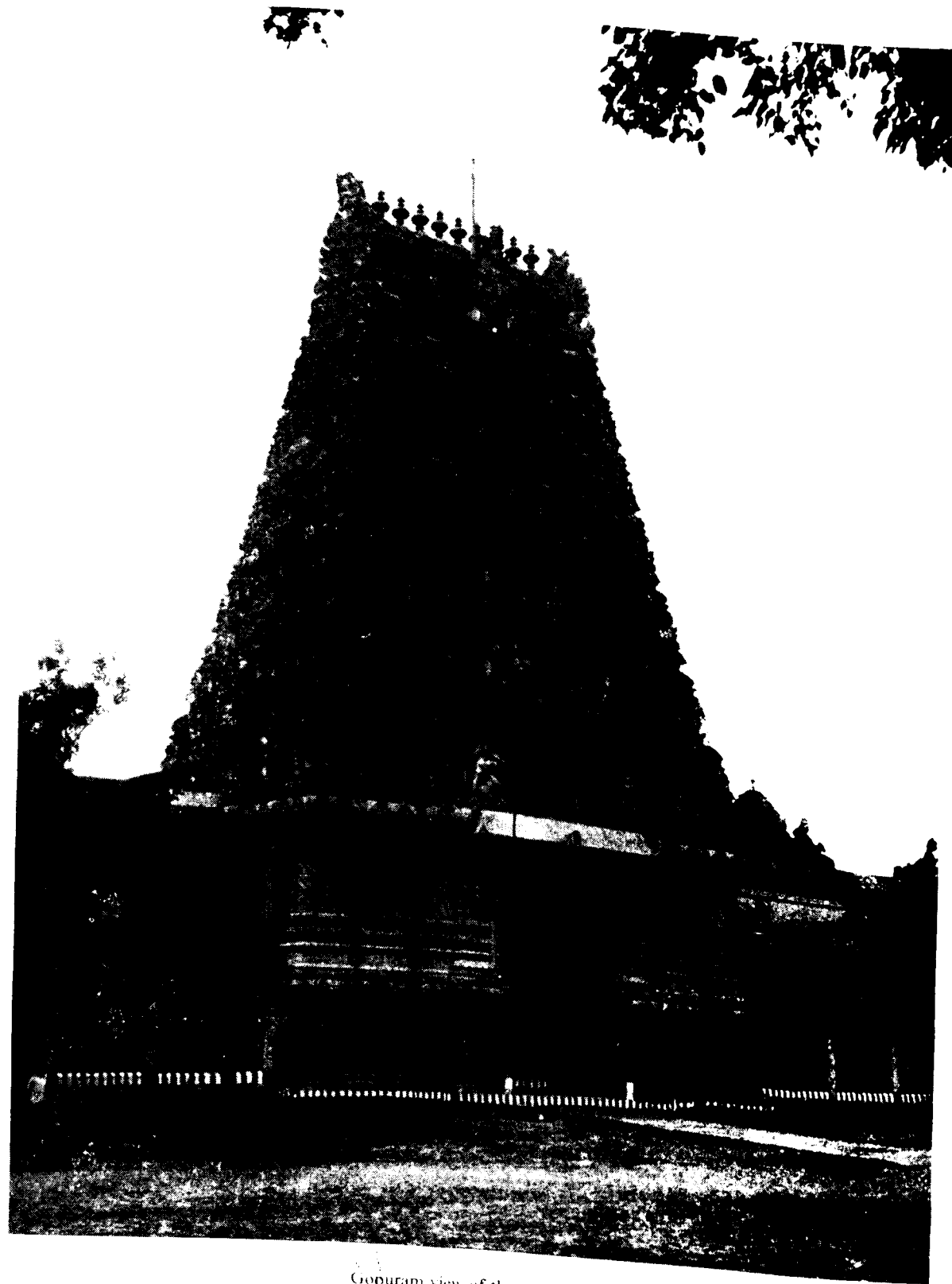
Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
13,019	28.00	...	...	...	...	500	Horse Garuda	Twice a day by a Bhattachariar	Vaikunta Ekadasi
2,246	...	...	...	Houses-4	...	...	...	Twice a day by a Pillai	Festival in Thai Vinayaka Chathurthi
1,232	...	...	...	Shops-5 House	...	105	..	Twice a day by a hereditary Poosari	Tamil New Year's day
715,374	Extent not stated			Houses 63	19,67,279	...	Diamond Cars-2 Gold Palanquins 2 Sahadai	Six times a day by a hereditary Bhattar	Festival in Chithrai Vasantha-uthsavam in Vaikasi Oonjal uthsavam in Adi Festival in Avani moolam Navarathri Theppa uthsavam in Thai Festival in Karthigai Thiruppalli Ezhuchi Ennaikappu festival in Margazhi Kodai Festival in Panguni
...	...	...	...	Shops-3	...	...	...	Four times a day by a hereditary Bhattar	...

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
MADURAI

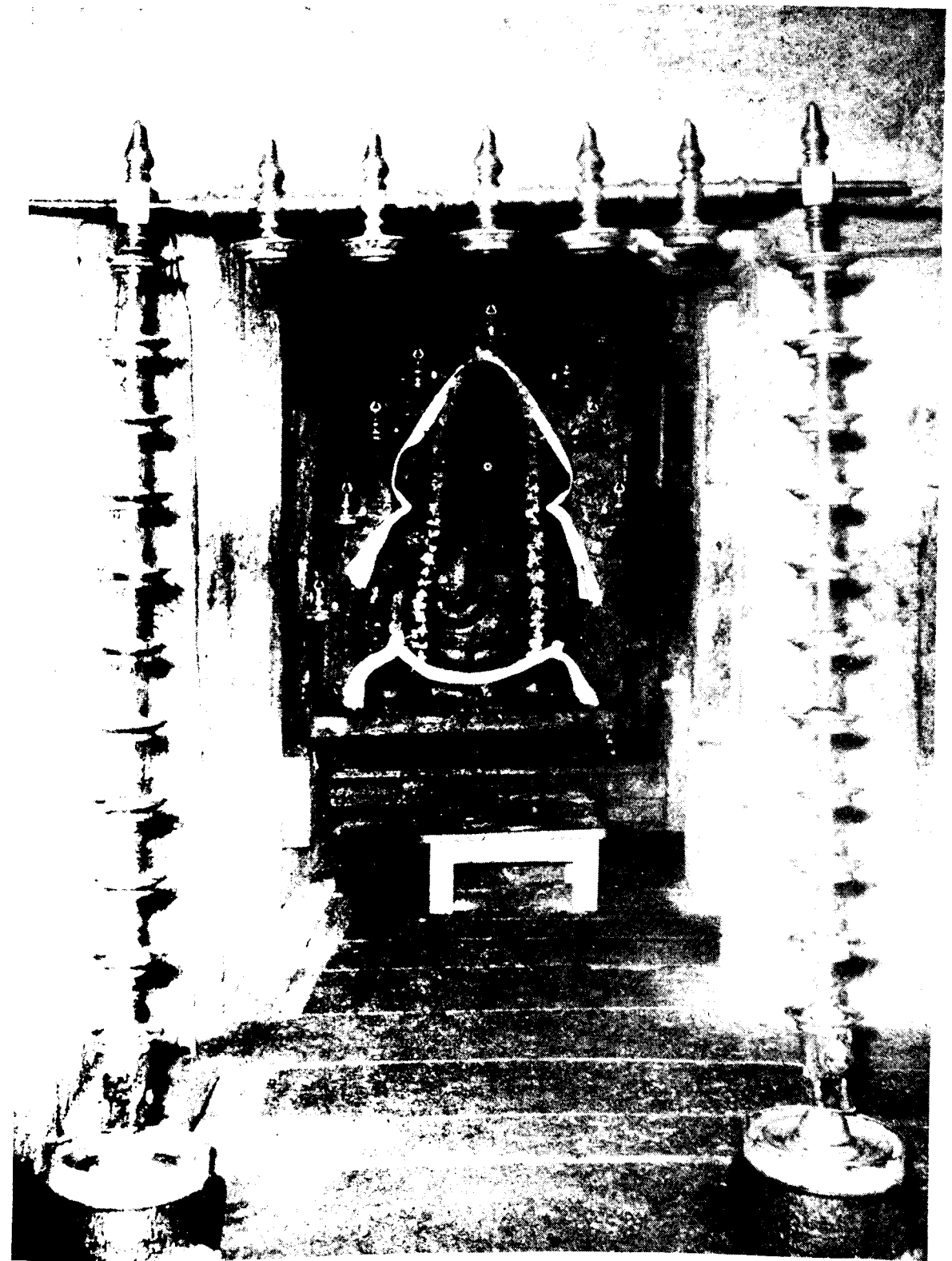
Sl No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religion									
53	65	Madurai (M)	Madurai	Thiru Appu-daiyar Temple (S)	300	2.03	Appanathar	Sri Sankathakola-mbigai	Madurai Junction 3 furlongs
54	„	do	do	Sri Vadathiru-valavayaswamy Temple (S)	500	0.01	Sri Chocka-nathaswamy or Meenakshi Sundareswarar	...	
55	„	do	do	Sri Veeraraghava Perumal Temple (V)	500	1.00	Sri Veeraraghava Perumal	Sri Kanagavalli Thayar Sri Andal Sri Ranganathar	Madurai Junction 1 mile
56	„	do	do	Sri Uchimahali- amman Temple (F)	Not known	Not stated	Sri Uchimahali- amman	..	Madurai Junction
57	„	do	do	Sri Angala Parameswari amman Temple (F)	Not known	0.02	Sri Angala Parameswari	...	do
58	„	do	Manjanakara Street	Sri Muthuswamy Temple (O)	300	0.04	Muthuswamy	Sri Mariamman Sri Madurai Veeran	Madurai Junction 1 mile
59	„	do	Madurai	Sri Pilavadi Karuppannaswamy Temple (O)	100	0.05	Sri Karuppannaswamy	...	Madurai Junction
60	„	do	South Masi Street	Sri Chetty Gurunathaswamy Temple (O)	300	0.50	Sri Chetty Gurunathaswamy	Sri Angala Parameswari Sri Karuppan-	Madurai Junction 1 mile

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals	
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam			
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple				
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)										
925	Extent not stated				Houses-2	...	Value not stated	Silver Rishabam	Six times a day by a hereditary Bhattar	Navarathri Annual festival in Masi
					..	...	Value not stated	Silver Peacock	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattar	Navarathri
1,222	6.61	1.47	...	...	...	573	Palanquin Horse Garuda	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Brahmothsavam in Chithrai Navarathri Vaikunta Ekadas	
2,899	...	...	...	Building	...	1000	Lion	Once a week by a Poosari	Festival in Vaikasi	
847	...	...	...	Buildings-2	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Asari	...	
509	...	...	...	House	...	200	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Poosari	Festival in Masi Thai Pongal Sivarathri	
1,018	...	...	...	Buildings	...	...	...	Once a day by an Asari	...	
1,038	...	...	...	Buildings-3	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Pillai	Sivarathri	



Gopuram view of the temple



The rock-cut image of Sri Karpaga Vinayakar, the Moolavar

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
MADURAI

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
61	65	Madurai (M)	Dindigul Road	Sri Ayodhi Gurunathaswamy Temple (O)	200	0.05	Sri Ayodhi Gurunathaswamy	...	Madurai Junction
62	..	do	Pandya Vellaier Street	Sri Badrakali-amman Temple (F)	100	0.03	Sri Badrakali amman	Sri Vinayakar Sri Karuppannaswamy	do
63	..	do	Simmakkal	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	Not known	0.01	Sri Vinayakar	...	do
64	67	Kochadai (P)	Kochadi	Sri Velayudha mudaya Ayyanar Temple (O)	300	0.46	Sri Muthayyaswamy	...	Vilangudi Railway station
65	71	Keelamathur (P)	Keelamputhur	Sri Manikandeeswarar Temple (S)	200	0.13	Sri Manikandeeswarar	...	Samayanallur Railway station 1 mile
66	..	do	do	Sri Sundaramanicka Perumal Temple (V)			Sri Sundaramanicka Perumal	...	
67	73	Kodimangalam (P)	Kodimangalam	Sri Nagamalai Theertha Nageswarar Temple (O)	400	Not stated	Sri Nagamalai Theertha Nageswarar	...	Samayanallur Railway station 1½ miles
68	83	Avaniyapuram (P)	Villapuram	Sri Kaliamman Temple (F)	Not known	0.09	Sri Kaliamman swamy	Sri Sonai swamy Sri Ayyanar	Madurai Junction 3 miles
69	..	do	do	Sri Muniandiswamy Temple (O)			Sri Muniandiswamy	...	

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Apprai- sed by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Report- ed by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
nd Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
1,380	...	...	...	Houses-3	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Pillai	Sivarathri
1,007	...	...	...	Houses-3 Shop	...	1000	Chapparams-2	Once a day by a Poosari	Festival in Masi
2,407	...	...	...	Building Shop	...	...	...	Once a day by a Poosari	Vinayaka Chathurthi
454	5.43	...	...	...	...	2,000	Horse Rishabam	Once a week by a hereditary Velar	...
414	5.19	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a Brahmin	...
	0.73	...	...	...	...	...	...		...
530	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a month by a hereditary Poosari	...
835	...	...	...	Garden 0.22 Groves 1.09 Shop	...	450	...	Poojas by a Velar	...



The rock-cut image of Sri Karpaga Vinayakar, the Moolavar (a closer view)

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

Lord Ganesa carved on the wall of the ancient rock-cut cave temple in the village. In the heart of the village is the temple with its picturesque tank. Dedicated to the favourite and powerful God in the Hindu Pantheon, Pillayarpatti's temple is popular in the region and attracts a large number of devotees at all times.

It is opined that the original rock-cut temple was built by the Pallava King Narasimha Varman during the 642-668 A.D. He is said to have directed his artisans to carve out the images of Lord Ganesa, a Lingam known as Thiruveesar with himself between the two Gods. Other views are also held about the temple. The Nattukottai Nagarathar community have been evincing a keen interest in the expansion and upkeep of this temple. According to the sthalapuram published by Sri Sa. Ganesan, the temple has been under the care of the Nagarathar community from the 13th century onwards. Before the cave temple, a big wall was constructed with a doorway. Vimanams were built over the sanctum of Lord Ganesa and Sri Thiruveesar. A rajagopuram was also constructed at the Pillayar sannadhi. Later to the north of the cave temple and adjoining it came up the temple of Sri Marudeesar which has an inspiring rajagopuram.

The entire temple occupies an area of about 14 cents. The chief deities of the temple are Sri Karpaga Vinayakar also known as Sri Desi Vinayaka Pillayar, Sri Thiruveesar, Sri Sivakami Amman, the divine consort of Thiruveesar and Sri Vadamalar Mangai, the consort of Sri Marudeesar. The sketch of the temple given separately will enable to have a clear idea of the lay out.

As already mentioned, the cave temple consists of two rock-cut shrines. The east facing shrine contains the rock-cut Linga. The other facing north has the image of Ganesa carved on the south wall. Lord Ganesa or Pillayar is seated with two arms, the left being placed on the waist and the right holding a Modhaka. The trunk is turned to the right, as is usual in early Ganesa sculptures. A noteworthy feature of the Ganesa sculpture is the absence of upavita or holy thread and representation of three strands as udarabandha.

The festival idols made of panchaloga which were excavated about 70 years ago during the renovation of the temple are said to belong to the 11th century. Devotees especially females observe Chathurthi Vratam and worship Lord Ganesa in this temple. Among the festivals celebrated in the temple, the ten day Brahmothsavam in the Tamil month of Vaikasi (May-June), Vinayaka Chathurthi in Avani (August-September) and Thiruvadhirai in Margazhi (December-January) are important. The Vinayaka Chathurthi festival is celebrated for ten days with great eclat. The deity is taken in procession round the streets on all the days in different vahanas. Hundreds of devotees worship the God during this festival. There are 16 vahanas, a Palanquin and a Ther. There are gold plated and silver plated Mushika vahanam (bandicoot mount), the Chief mount of Lord Ganesa. During Thiruvadhirai festival the idols of Lord Nataraja and goddess Sivakami are taken in procession. The accounts relating to the landed property of the temple are read out to the public on this occasion. This is based on the belief that Lord Nataraja reconciled his consort to himself after a feigned separation by reading out the details of his property. The temple has an annual income of Rs. 2,000 from landed property. A Brahmin priest of the Sivachariar community does poojas five times in a day. The temple which comes under the control of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department is managed by a Board of trustees with sixteen members. Two more temples dedicated to Kongu Nachi Amman and Ayyanar come under the administration of this Devasthanam.

There are a number of inscriptions in this ancient temple. Some scholars have made special studies of the origin and archaeological importance of the temple. In this connection, an extract from an article entitled, "Some contributions of the Pandya to South Indian Art", by Sri R. Nagaswamy, Director of Archaeology, Government of Madras which appeared in the journal "Artibus Asiae" (Institute of Fine Arts, New York University), Quarterly of Asian Art and Archaeology for Scholars and Connoisseurs, Vol. XXVII, 3, which may be of interest to research workers in the field is reproduced below:—

"It is clear that the Pandya, in addition to their military and political power, made significant contributions to South Indian Art. A case in point is the

cave temple at Pillaiyarpatti, about seven miles from Karaikkudi railway station and forty-eight from Madurai, which is important both for its sculptures and for an inscription.

A beautiful Ganesa is carved facing the entrance, which is oriented towards the north. The figure, referred to as "Desivinayakar" in the cave's inscription, is still widely worshipped in the area. Its iconographic type is interesting in that there are only two arms and the trunk turns to the right.

The other panel in the same wall has a unique two-armed image, crowned with a high head-dress. The pose is the *Samabhangā*, straight-standing; the left hand rests on the hip in the *Katyavalambita* position, while the opened right makes the *Varada* gesture of boon-giving. The figure is flanked by two standing attendants. The absence of any conventional distinguishing marks has made it difficult to identify the group convincingly. The suggestion has been made that the central figure is the portrait of a Pallava king*, but against this stands the unlikelihood that Pallava rule was ever established in the region. In addition, this theory fails to account for the two attendants.

Another suggestion is that main figure is Siva or Subrahmanya†. Nothing substantiates the second name. As to the first, a close study reveals certain differences in the treatment of the head-dress on the two sides. The right side is a beautiful *Jatamakuta*, high-piled hair, while the left has an elegant *Kirita* crown. Only to representations familiar to Indian iconography justify such a composite head-dress. One is the figure of Ardanarīśvara, the half-male, half-female manifestation of Lord Siva. There, however, though the right side of the head bears the *Jatamakuta*, the crown on the other side has the *Karandamakuta* form, composed of inverted pot shapes, rather than the *Kirita*. In addition, of course, the left half of the body is conspicuously female. It is the

other representation, Harihara, the composite of Vishnu and Siva, that seems to have been intended here, since the *Kirita* is always Vishnu's headgear.

In other instances, Harihara figures are usually shown with four arms; the right upper hand wielding the *Parasu*, Siva's battle-axe and the upper left holding the *Chakra*, Vishnu's wheel emblem. Sometimes other attributes are held instead, helping to identify the right side as Siva and the left as Vishnu; and occasionally the lower garment may also be treated so as to mark the difference. The right leg will wear a tiger's skin reaching to the middle of the thigh, while the left will have a silken garment reaching to the ankle. However, Harihara figures are also found with the lower garment treated alike on both sides, as for example on the northern face of the Dharmarajāratha at Mamallapuram. The Pillaiyarpatti image is of this sort, since its lower garment is ankle-length on both sides. The difference in the two sides of the head-dress is very pronounced; and the belt, *Udarabandha*, is shown only around the right half. As we have seen, there are only two arms, without emblems.

Who are the attendant deities? Since the right half of the main figure is Siva and the left Vishnu, it is likely that the attendant on the right is Candesa and the other Garuda. At Badami a beautiful Harihara figure is flanked by the two god's respective consorts, dwarfs‡. It is thus clear that the idea of presenting attendant deities on either side of a Harihara is well attested. In the Pillaiyarpatti sculpture, the left-hand figure is readily identifiable as a Garuda, even though it lacks wings and a pointed beak. The hands are held across the chest in an attitude of submission; there are many Garudantikamurti representations where Garuda is shown in almost the same pose. If so, one would expect the figure on the right to be Nandikesvara. In South India, however, the latter is represented in early caves as one of the entrance guardians; he is distinguished by his horned crown and is familiarly known as the horned Dvarapalaka**. Since the present figure has

* Annual Report on South Indian Epigraphy, 1937 p. 59. "On the north wall of this shrine is a panel containing an unfinished image of an unidentified deity (?) with two arms i.e. the Lingodhava of our fig. 3). This seems to have been left incomplete for some unknown reason and the same figure is completely sculptured in detail in another panel to the south of the entrance into the shrine. It consists of a tall, well-knit standing figure, probably of God Siva with two arms, the left in the *Katyavalambita* and the right in the *Varada* pose. The folds of the lower garment and the *Yajnopavita* passing over the right elbow proclaim the archaic nature of the sculpture. The coiffure is in the *Jatamakuta* style. This is an obvious error, for only the right side is *Jatamakuta*, the left being a *Kirita* closely similar to the crown of an Anantāsai Vishnu in the rock-cut cave at Tirumayam, not far from Pillaiyarpatti. On either side of the god is a devotee with hands joined in worship. The identity or sex of these attendants is not possible to decide owing to the damaged condition of the figures. Popularly they are understood to represent a certain mythical king called Nandiraja and his queen. to whom is attributed the excavation of several other caves in the region." The same account ascribes the cave's inscription to the 7th century. See also Sa. Ganesan, Pillaiyarpatti (in Tamil), Karaikkudi, 1952.

† C. Sivaramamurthi, Kalugumalai and Early Pandyan Rockcut Caves, Bombay, 1961

‡ T. A. Gopinatha Rao, Elements of Hindu iconography, Madras, 1916

** C. Sivaramamurthi, Royal Conquest and Cultural migrations in South India and the Deccan, Calcutta, 1955



Image of Lord Nataraja in the temple



Sri Thiruveesar near the Moolavar



An interesting panel in the temple. It is said to depict a Pallava King with two attendants

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
MADURAI

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
70	83	Avaniyapuram	Avaniyapuram	Sri Kalyana Sundareswara-swamy Temple (S)	Not known	0.80	Sri Kalyana Sundareswara-swamy	Sri Balamee-nambigai	Madurai Junction 3 miles
71	88	Melamadai (P)	Melamadai	Sri Pandimuneeswarar Temple (O)	120	1.55	Sri Pandimuneeswarar	Sri Andiswamy Sri Samaya-swamy	Madurai Junction 4½ miles
72	„	do	do	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	80	0.01	Sri Vinayakar	...	Madurai Junction 3½ miles
73	98	Kunnathoor (P)	Kunnathoor	Sri Neelakandeswaraswamy Temple (S)	200	0.04	Sri Neelakandeswarar	...	Silaiman Railway station
74	104	Panaiyur (P)	Panaiyur	Sri Sowrimalai Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.25	Sri Sowrimalai Ayyanar	...	Madurai East Railway station 3 miles
75	109	Tirupparam-kundram (P)	Tirupparam-kundram	Sri Veilu Kanthamman Temple (F)	500	0.04	Sri Veilu Kanthamman	...	Tirupparam-kundram Railway station
76	„	do	do	Sri Subramania-swamy Temple (M)	1,000	2.58	Sri Subraman-niar	Sri Devasena Sri Karpaga-Vinayakar Sri Durgai Sri Pavala-Kanivoi Perumal Sri Sakthigireeswarar	Tirupparam-kundram Railway station 3 furlongs

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
6,009	40.83	3.15	...	House Vacant plot	...	500	Rishabam Peacock Bandicoot	Thrice a day by a Bhattar	Navarathri Arudhra Dharisanam
782	...	...	...	...	...	100	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Poosari	...
403	3.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	Daily pooja by a Brahmin	...
847	...	...	8.00	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Bhattar	...
391	...	1.24	5.59	...	...	50	Elephant Palanquin	Once a day by a hereditary Poosari	Festival in Vaikasi Sivarathri Karthigai Deepam
200	2.57	2.70	...	...	...	Not stated	...	Once a day by a hereditary Pillai	Amman festival in Masi
...	2.00	5.00	...	...	2,89,311	...	Gold Cars-2 Horse Peacock Rishabam Silver Bhootham Elephant Ivory Palanquin Chapparam Rishabam Swan, Sesha Horse	Six times a day by hereditary Bhattars	Unjal festival in Ani Theppothsavam in Thai Brahmothsavam in Panguni Skandha Sashti Karthigai Deepam Navarathri Vaikasi Visakam

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
MADURAI

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religions									
77	117	Toppur (P)	Toppur	Sri Perumal Temple (V)	500	Not stated	Sri Perumal	...	Kappalur Railway station 3 miles
78	..	do	do	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	500	0.07	Sri Vinayakar	...	do
79	..	do	do	Sri Ayyanar Temple (O)	500	Not stated	Sri Ayyanar	...	do
80	..	do	do	Sri Ammachiar Temple (F)	500	Not stated	Sri Ammachiar	...	do
Temple under the control of Government									
1	65	Madurai (M)	Thallakulam	Sri Veera Anjaneyar Temple (O)	300	0.02	Sri Veera Anjaneyar	...	Madurai Junction 2 miles
Temple under the control of Government									
1	..	do	Madurai City	Sri Inmayilum Nanmaitharuar Temple (S)	Not known	1.04	Sri Inmayilum Nanmaitharuar	Sri Madhya Purinayagi	Madurai Junction 2 furlongs

MADURAI DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Concl'd.)									
400	Extent not stated		...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Naidu	Festival in Purattasi
260	Extent not stated		...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Pillai	Festival in Purattasi
200	Extent not stated		...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Chettiar	Festival in Purattasi
300	Extent not stated		...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Chettiar	Festival in Purattasi
of Ramanathapuram Samasthanam									
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Thrice a day by a Brahmin	Annual festival in Chithrai
of Sivaganga Devasthanam									
9,580	12.45	...	...	...	Houses-2	39,198	Silver Rishabam Car Palanquins-2 Horse Sahadais-8 Peacock Bandicoot Lion Kailasa Parvatham Elephant	Five times a day by hereditary Bhattars	Brahmothsavam in Masi Navarathri Karthigai Deepam Skandha Sashti Ani Uthiram Thiruvadhirai

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

no such attribute, I propose to identify it as the South Indian saint Candesa, to whom was granted the unique privilege of being always by the side of his Lord, as the guardian deity of Saivite temple property. As late as the twelfth century A. D. all temple transactions were carried out in his name. Two version of the relationship between God and worshipper are familiar in South Indian Art. The kneeling figure of the saint, found from the early Pallava temples on, is the basis for the so-called Candesanugrahamurti aspect of Siva*. The standing figure, which identifies the Candesantikamurti, is also fairly well known, though the less popular of the two. In the Dharmarajarahata at Mamallapuram two groups in the second story show Siva as Candesantikamurti and Vishnu as Garudantikamurti. The latter group is repeated at the Arjunarahata. What we see at Pillaiyarpatti is apparently a version not known elsewhere, in which the two standing worshippers are combined with the dual image of Harihara.

The third Pillaiyarpatti sculpture is on the side wall of the sanctum. It also is two armed, with the same hand positions as the Harihara but is shown only as far down as the waist. Except that the head-dress is a complete *Jatamakuta*, there is a close resemblance throughout to the Harihara. The absence of both emblems and attendant is an apparent obstacle to identification; however the figure is clearly a Lingodbhavamurti, Siva manifest in the Linga, since the portion below the waist shows the outline of square pillar. Though this iconographic type, in which the top of the Linga is not carved with the swan and boar forms of Brahma and Visnu respectively is rare, it is found elsewhere in the Pandya region. At Kunnakkudi, not far from Pillaiyarpatti, another Lingodbhava is represented with the portion below the waist shown—though faintly—as a square pillar; there Brahma and Visnu take the forms of attendants on either side in the attitude of adoration. At another nearby site, Tirumayam, an early Pandya cave has a still different variant, in which the Linga is a cylindrical pillar reaching from ground to ceiling, with a two-armed Siva emerging from the waist up at its centre. Again the presence of the other two gods is merely implied.

The Pillaiyarpatti sanctum is excavated in the Gajasthala or "elephant-back" form facing east, with a

rock-cut Linga at its centre. The inscription, which makes the shrine a landmark in South Indian archaeology, is found on a pilaster on the left side of the sanctum and mentions "Ikkatturu, Kotturu, Ainjan"—probably the person responsible for the excavation. It has been claimed by the inscription's first publisher that it is "in archaic *Vatteluttu* characters of about the seventh century A. D.†. This opinion is however, based neither on paleographic principles nor on any historic event, but merely on a conclusion drawn from the inscription of Mahendravarman Pallava (ca. 600-630) at the Mandagapattu cave. The latter states that "King Vicitracitta (one of the titles of Mahendra) caused this temple dedicated to Brahma, Visnu, and Siva to be made without the use of brick, wood, metal or mortar‡." This has been interpreted as indicating that Mahendra claimed to be the first to make an important use of stone in religious architecture; it is argued that earlier buildings, in the perishable materials "brick, wood, metal, and mortar", have failed to survive because of the passage of time and the climate of the South.

Paleographically, on the other hand, the Pillaiyarpatti inscription is akin even to the Brahmi inscriptions found in the natural caverns of the Tamil area, ascribed to the second and third centuries A. D. It is almost unthinkable that it should post-date Mahendra, the so-called introducer of rock-cut shrines; even the script employed by the latter's grandfather Simhavarman is much more evolved and should be a century or two later. This assumption is justified by the admitted fact that the Pillaiyarpatti inscription is in "archaic characters". Since it is found inside the cave shrine, it almost unquestionably refers to the excavation, which at the latest should thus be placed around the fifth century.

As for the Mandagapattu inscription, a more reasonable interpretation of Mahendra's statement is that most of the earlier temples in the Tamil country has been built of all five materials, including stone; the Pallava King merely claimed that he had at Mandagapattu used stone only, dispensing with the other four. The absence of early structures in South India is not due only to the employment of perishable materials, but also to the practice of renovation. All the early temples were sanctified by the visits of Saiva

* C. Meenakshi, "A Pallava Sculpture of Candesanugrahamurti" *Journal of the Benares Hindu University*, II, 1938.

† *Ann. Rep. So. Indian Epig.*, 1936.

‡ *Epigraphia Indica*, XVII, 17.

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
MADURAI

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	No.	Name	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples outside the Hindu Religions									
1	37	Adalai (P)	Athalai	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	300	0.02	Sri Vinayakar	...	Madurai Junction 8 miles
2	65	Madurai (M)	Kallarai Street	Sri Srinivasa Perumal Temple (V)	100	0.05	Sri Srinivasa Perumal	...	Madurai Junction
3	..	do	do	Sri Navaneetha Krishnaswamy Temple (V)	150	0.50	Sri Navaneetha Krishnaswamy	...	do
4	..	do	Madurai	Sri Kannadiyan Veerabadrasswamy Temple (O)	250	0.02	Sri Veerabadrasswamy	...	do
5	..	do	Therku Veli Street	Sri Angala Parameswari- amman Temple (F)	30	0.03	Sri Angala Parameswari	Sri Veerabadrasswamy Sri Madurai Veeran	Madurai Junction 1 mile
6	..	do	South Masi Street	Sri Prasanna Venkatesa Perumal Temple (V)	200	0.10	Sri Prasanna Venkatesa Perumal	...	Madurai Junction
7	..	do	Mangalapuram	Sri Kadambavaneeswaraswamy Temple (S)	Not known	0.06	Sri Kadambavaneeswarar	Sri Karpaga Valliamman Sri Vinayakar	Madurai Junction 1 mile

MADURAI DISTRICT

TALUK (Concl'd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department									
...	0.91	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a Pillai	Vinayaka Chathurthi
...	Extent not stated		...	...	...	Value not stated	...	Thrice a day by a Brahmin	...
...	...	...	...	Buildings Shops	...	1,000	Garuda Horse Elephant	Six times a day by a Brahmin	Brahmothsavam in Vaikasi
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Kannadiyar	.
...	Extent not satted		...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a Pillai	...
...	Extent not stated		...	...	...	5,000	Garuda Elephant Horse	Six times a day by a Brahmin	Brahmothsavam in Vaikasi
...	do		...	...	...	...	...	...	...

TIRUMANGALAM TALUK

60. MELATHIRUMANICKAM

Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple

In Melathirumanickam, a village about 17 kilometres from Usilampatti, there is an old temple dedicated to Siva. The presiding deity is a Swayambu Lingam known as Sri Manicka Chockanathar. The divine consort is called Sri Meenakshi Amman. The temple is said to have been built during the regime of Thirumala Naik. The sanctum of Sri Subramania was later added to the temple by the Zamindar of Elumalai, a place adjoining the village. Melathirumanickam is not on the bus route. It is about 5 kilometres from Elumalai which is connected with Usilampatti by bus. One can reach the village from Elumalai by walk or cart.

The shrine occupies an area of a little over 48,000 square feet. There are two gopurams in the temple. In the mandapam near the sanctum of Sri Subramania there are artistically carved pillars.

The following interesting legend is told concerning this place. Once Melathirumanickam was a forest. A devout Brahmin who worshipped a king cobra which was living in an ant-hill was daily rewarded by the rodant with a precious gem (manickam). Some years later when he went on a pilgrimage to Banares, he entrusted the work of worshipping the cobra to his son. The son who was misled by his greedy concubine struck the cobra one day, after performing the usual worship in order to get the original gem known as Jeevarathnam. Frightened by the terrific hissing of the cobra, the Brahmin lad and his paramour ran away and fell down dead. The father of this lad who returned from Banares was horrified at this tale of woe of his son. He emptied his vessel containing the holy Ganges water in the neighbouring Kaundiya river and constructed three thottis or small water tanks. Two of the thottis are now open and one is closed. The closed thotti is highly venerated as Kasi theertham. The water for daily bath of the deities is taken from the thottis.

Poojas are performed four times a day by a Brahmin priest. The jewels of the temple are worth about Rs. 813 -. The temple gets an annual income of Rs. 4,868 - from its properties. The ten-day Thiruvadhirai festival is the biggest festival of the temple, when about 2,000 persons muster here. The principal god and goddess of the shrine are said to be very powerful.

The temple is managed by a Board of trustees consisting of three members.

128. PALAYUR

Sri Alagarswamy Temple

Years ago, a portion of the south-western part of Tirumangalam taluk was popularly known as Saptur zamin. Palayur is a tiny village in this area which has a fairly big Reserve Forest. The zamindars of Saptur have evinced a keen interest in the upkeep of an old shrine here dedicated to Sri Sundararaja Perumal. Palayur is about 38 Kilometres from Tirumangalam railway station. Though not served by bus, it is connected well by road with places like Saptur and Peraiyur.

The temple authorities state that the original shrine was constructed in the year 1685 A.D. The front mandapams were, however, added later on. The temple is electrified, thanks to a devout trustee who is a descendent of the individual who constructed the temple in the 17th century.

The shrine which has a small gopuram occupies an area of about 65 cents. In the sanctum sanctorum beautiful image of Sri Sundararaja Perumal has been installed with His consorts Sri Devi and Bhu Devi. The deity is in standing posture. There is also a separate sanctum for the goddess. We can worship in this temple some of the great Vaishnavite

MADURAI DISTRICT

preceptors and saints. The mandapam before the Lord's sanctum and some pillars of the temple contain artistic images depicting mythological scenes like Dasavatharam, Krishna Leela etc. There is no printed sthalapuram for this shrine, though a manuscript is said to exist pertaining to its history.

Poojas are performed in the temple four times a day by Vaishnava priests in accordance with Pancharatra Agama. The temple has a modest jewellery. About 96 acres of cultivable land and some groves are owned by the shrine. The income from this property is utilised for the general maintenance of the temple and performance of festivals.

The most important annual festival here is the 11 day Brahmotsavam which takes place in the Tamil month of Chithrai (April-May). The tenth day of this festival always coincides with Chithra pournami. On all the eleven days, the festival idols are taken in procession round the streets both in the morning and evening. On the seventh day, the Thirukkalyanam

or the marriage of the Lord is celebrated with great eclat. On the tenth day, the God with His consorts on the Horse mount is taken from Palayur to Saptur. On that night Vidyathi celebration takes place at Vadamalaikurichi. The next day, the idols are brought back to Palayur. Thousands of devotees from far and near witness this grand festival. The other festivals, celebrated in the temple are : Sri Krishna Jayanthi, Navarathri, Vaikunta Ekadasi etc. Special worship is made on Saturdays in the Tamil month of Purattasi (September-October). The vahanas or mounts of the temple which are made of wood are : Horse, Elephant, Swan, Hanumar, Lion, Garuda and Adishesha. All the vahanas except the Lion were made about 200 years ago. The Lion mount was made only 35 years ago. The temple has some stone inscriptions relating to matters like endowments made to the temple etc. To this day, hereditary trustees have been looking after the affairs of the temple which comes under the purview of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department.

and Vaisnava saints and so underwent a number of renovations in succeeding generations. An example is the Nataraja temple of Chidambaram, in which the Chola family deity was housed from very ancient times; yet there is no such cult structure now extant which can be ascribed to a time earlier than Raja Raja I or Rajendra I (i.e. prior to about A. D. 1050).

If the above suggestion is accepted, a reorientation in the study of South Indian art and archaeology will become necessary. Further research is clearly justified."

103 TIRUKOSHTIYUR

Sri Sowmya Narayana Perumal temple

Tirukoshtiyur is a famous Vaishnavite pilgrim centre of Pandya Nad. It is located on the 16th mile stone of the Tirupattur-Sivaganga road. It is a fertile village, surrounded by several hillocks. The river Manimuthar flows at a distance of about a mile and a half to the south of the temple. Buses ply frequently from Madurai, Tirupattur, Sivaganga and Karaikudi to this place.

The term "Thirukku Otti" in Tamil refers to getting rid of one's sins and hence the name Tirukoshtiyur. It is believed that devotees who visit this sthalam will get rid of their sins and receive the Lord's blessings. Another view on the origin is that it was here that Thirumal, Brahma, Indra and Rudra met as a group or 'Koshti' before the destruction of the demon Hiranya. It is said that the temple was in existence even before the period of Sri Ramanuja. There are several stone inscriptions here.

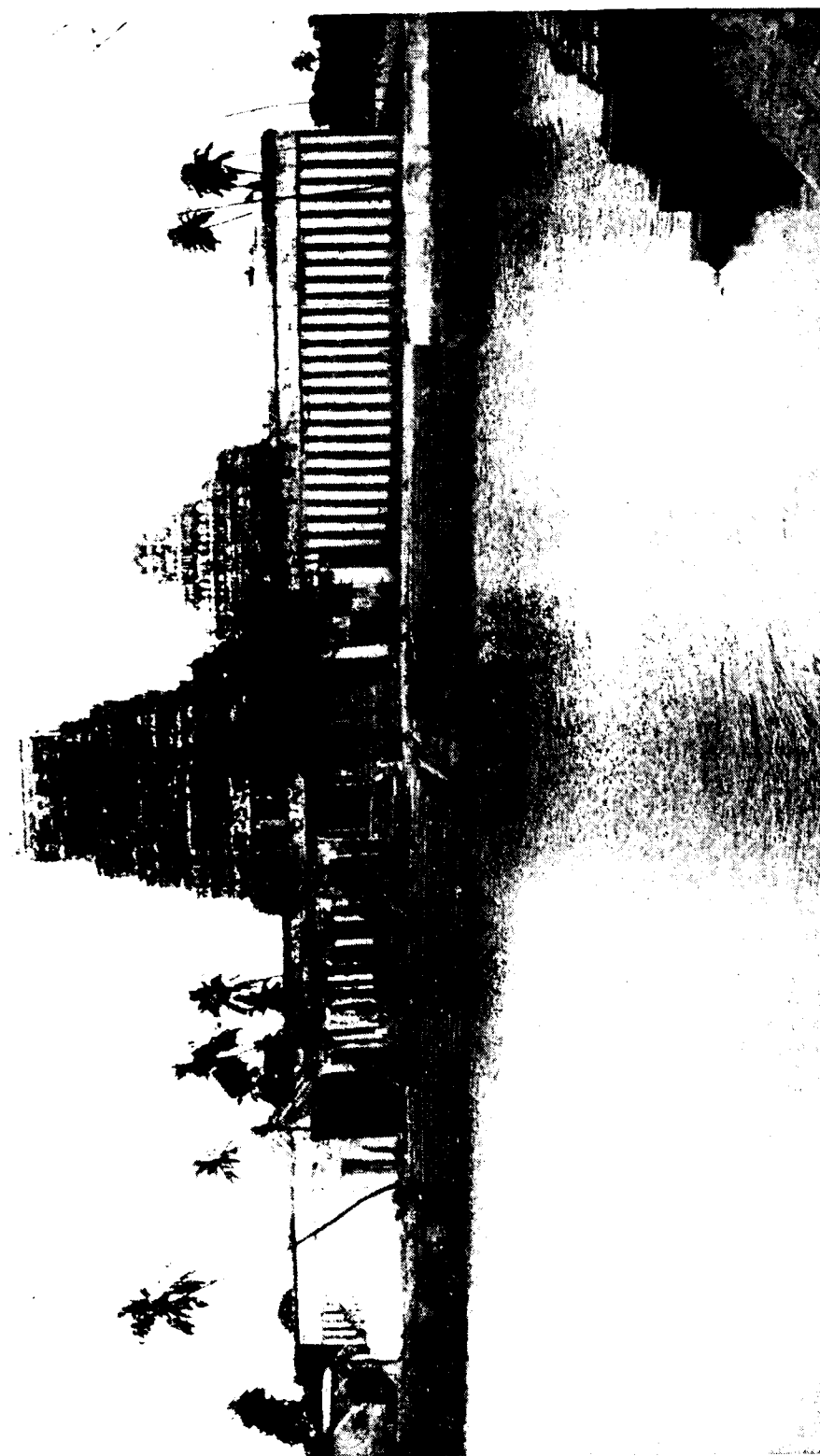
Renovations were made to this ancient temple by the Pandya kings and the kings of Tanjore. The temple covers an area of 0.50 acre. It has a 85 feet high six-tiered pagoda and an ashtanga vimanam, 96 feet in height with a golden kalasam at its top. A noteworthy feature of this shrine is that just like the Tanjore Gopuram, here also the shadow of the ashtanga vimanam never falls on the ground. The holy Amara Pushkarani is the sacred theertham here.

The presiding deity of this shrine Sri Parama Padhanathar with his consorts Sri Devi and Bhu Devi is in a lying posture. There are beautiful vigrahas, one depicting the fight between Lord Narasimha and

Hiranyasura and the other showing the destruction of Hiranyasura by the Lord in the northern prakaram outside the temple. A peculiar feature of this temple is the presence of a Swayambu Lingam, dedicated to Sarabeswarar which is rare in a Vaishnavite shrine. Besides this, the ashtanga vimanam which is a wonderful piece of architecture contains several emblems of Lord Siva, which testifies to the harmonious relationship of Saivism and Vaishnavism prevalent in those days. There are several uthsava vigrahas here, for Sri Madhavar alias Sowmya Narayana Perumal and Ubaya Nachiars all made of silver. The idol of Sri Nindra Nayanar who is also known as Sri Nirai Nambi and Upendhrar is in a standing posture. The uthsavamurthy of the presiding deity is in a sitting posture. Sri Yoga Narasimhar is seated on the Narasimha mandapam. There are also separate sannadhis here for the goddess Sri Andal, Ramar, Krishnar and Ramanujar.

For this sacred place, there is sthalapuram in Sanskrit. There are also several works in prose and verse relating to this place. Tirukoshtiyur has also been praised in the Mangalasanam by saints Pariyalwar, Thirumangaiar, Peyalwar, Bhoothathalwar and Thirumazhisaiar. There is an interesting legend according to which Sri Ramanujar, who learnt the divine Thirumandhiram from Sri Tirukoshtiyur Nambigal with great pains, had gone to him eighteen times to learn it. He showed his essential disinterestedness by revealing the Thirumandhiram to others in the larger interest of humanity, despite his Guru's strict instructions that the disclosure of the Thirumandhiram to others would lead him to Hell.

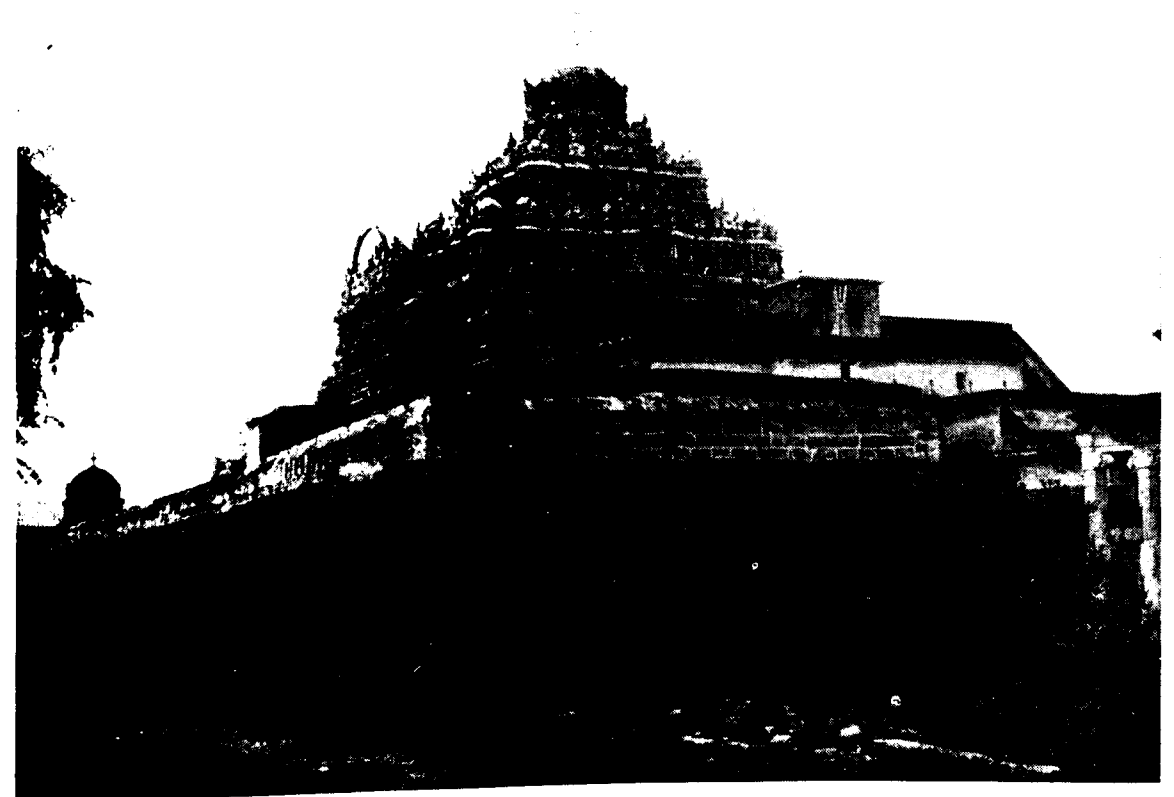
Poojas are performed six times a day by hereditary Bhattachariars according to the principles laid down in the Vaikanasa Agamam. Besides inam lands, these Bhattachariars are entitled to a portion of the offerings of the devotees. The temple owns antique jewellery in gold, silver and diamonds worth about Rs. 3,43,262/- and these were donated by ancient kings and devotees. Jewels of importance are the rathna kireetams of the Perumal, Sri Devi and Bhu Devi, gold head ornaments of the moolavar and uthsavar, the pathakkam and chandraharam. The landed properties of the temple include a few acres of wet and dry lands, which are leased out for an annual rent, apart from the dastic allowance of Rs. 26,670/- given by the Government. This amount is utilised towards the payment of salaries to the temple servants, for the



Front view of the Thirukoshtiyur temple and the tank



The Rajagopuram of the Thirukoshtiur temple



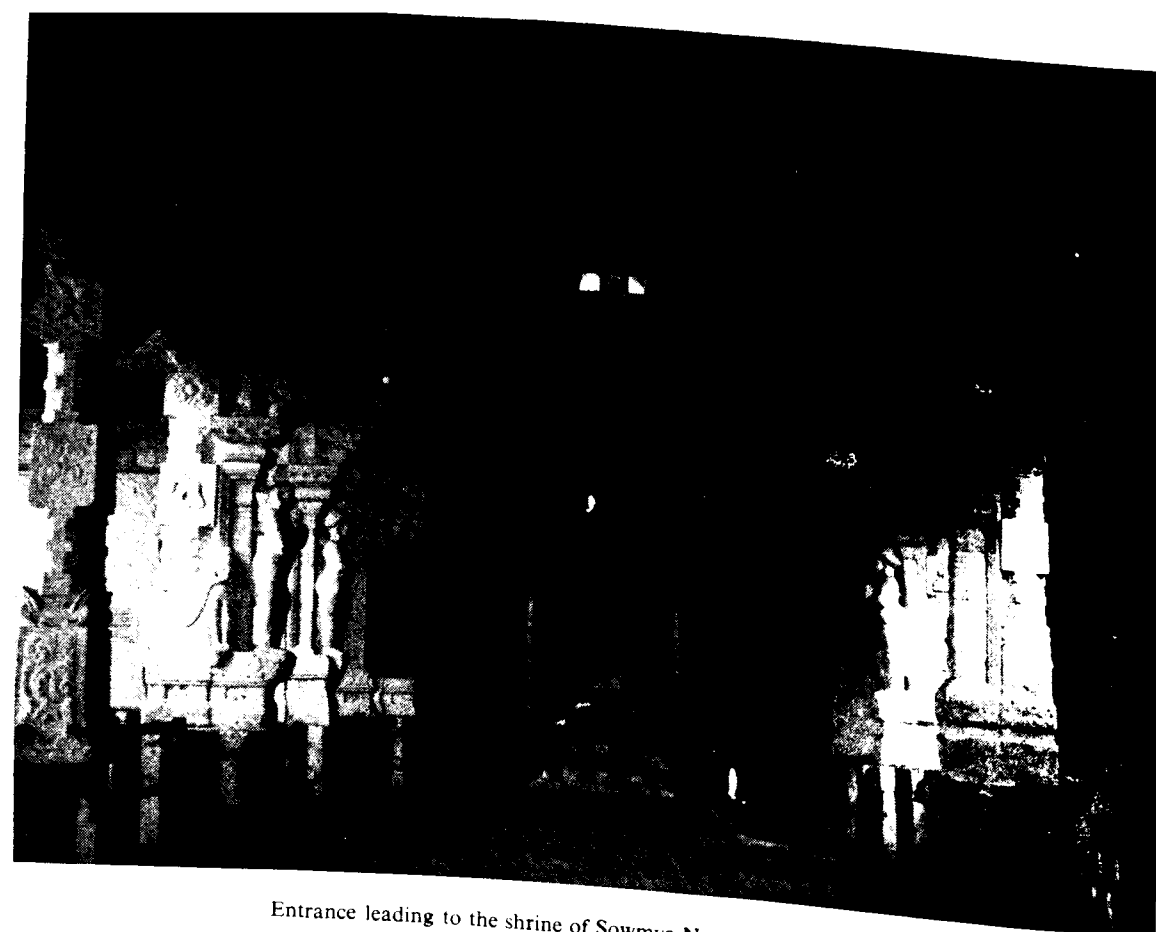
A view of the beautiful Ashtanga Vimanam from the outer prakaram

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUMANGALAM

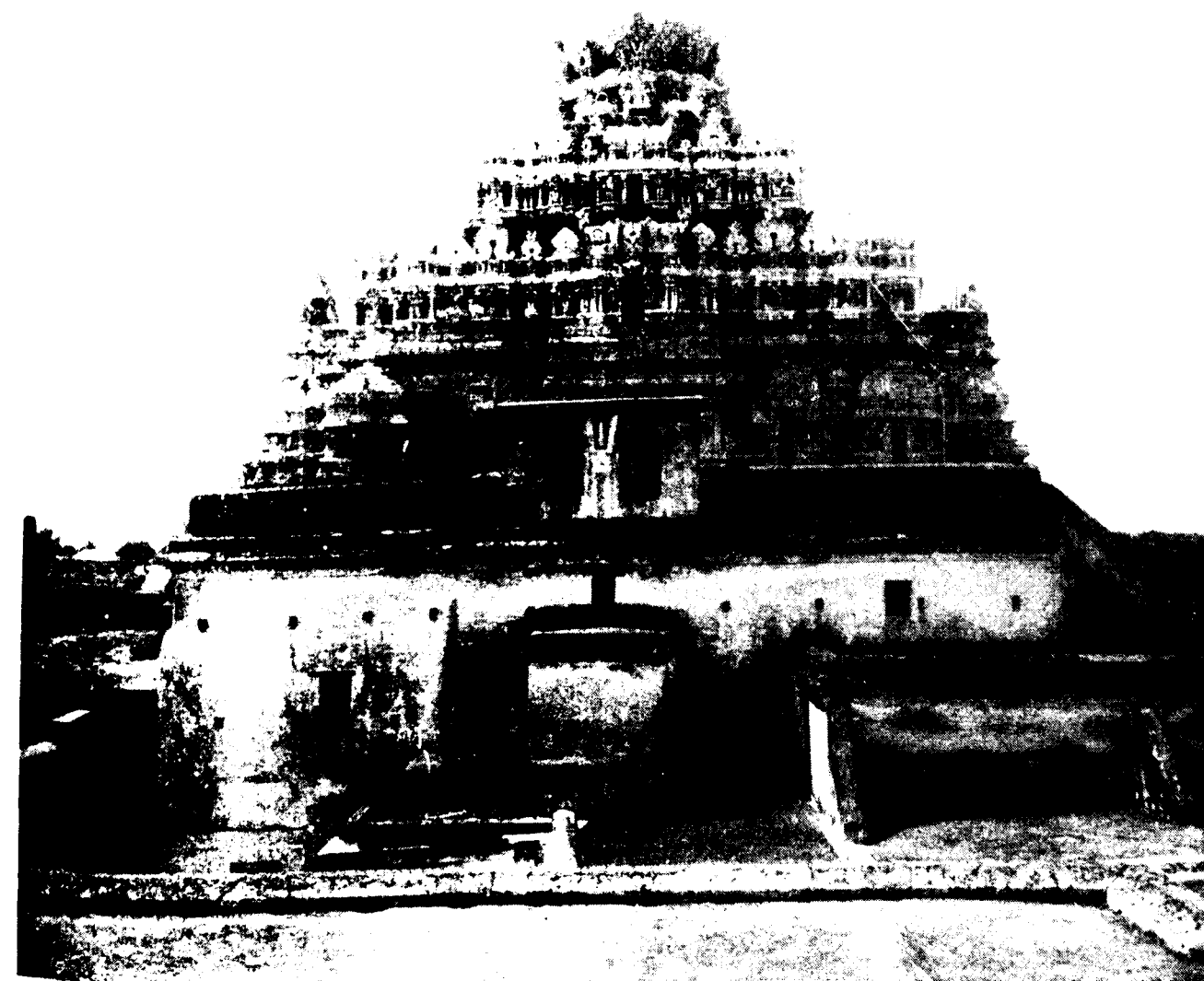
SL. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
1	4	Sakkarappa-naickenur (P)	Melaperumalpatty	Sri Perumal Temple (V)	200	0.03	Sri Perumal	...	Sholavandan Railway station 12 miles
2	5	Vikramangalam (P)	Vikramangalam	Sri Sundaramoorthy Vinayakar Temple (G)	18	0.20	Sri Sundaramoorthy Vinayakar	...	Sholavandan Railway station 4 miles
3	11	Uthappanai-ckanur (P)	Uthappanai-ckanur	Sri Subramania-swamy Temple (M)	300	0.28	Sri Subramaniam	Sri Valli Deivayanai	Usilampatty Railway station 3 miles
4	23	Valandur (P)	Velanthur	Sri Angalamman Temple (F)	100	0.20	Sri Angalamman	Sri Gurunathaswamy	Valandur Railway station 3 furlongs
5	25	Kattukaruppanpatti (P)	Anayur	Sri Iravatheeswaraswamy Temple (S)	300	0.80	Sri Iravatheswaraswamy	Sri Meenakshiamman	Valandur Railway station 3 miles
6	30	Meikilarpatti (P)	Puthur (Sithampatty)	Sri Subramania-swamy Temple (M)	200	0.10	Sri Subramaniaswamy	...	Usilampatty Railway station 2 miles
7	31	Seemanuthu (P)	Seemanuthu	Sri Perumal Temple (V)	163	1.56	Sri Kallathu Perumal	Sri Pillayar	do

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department									
200	...	4.56	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Udayar	...
375	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a Pandaram	...
388	...	70.12	...	...	...	50	Peacock	Twice a day by a hereditary Archagar	Karthigai Deepam Navarathri
980	2.55	17.75	...	...	...	255	Horse	Poojas by a hereditary Poosari	Sivarathri
721	Extent	not	stated	...	...	...	Elephant	Thrice a day by a hereditary Bhattar	Navarathri Karthigai Deepam
287	...	35.00	...	...	...	100	Horse Peacock	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattar	Karthigai Deepam
595	...	...	17.00	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Brahmin	...
500	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Poosari	...



Entrance leading to the shrine of Sowmya Narayana Perumal



A side view of the vimanam

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUMANGALAM**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
9	37	Thidiam (P)	Thidiam	Sri Kailasanatha-swamy Temple (S)	Not known	0.06	Sri Kailasa-nathaswamy	Sri Periya Nayagi-amman	Valandur Railway station 2½ miles
10	44	Ponnaman-galam (P)	Ponnaman-galam	Sri Narasimha Perumal Temple (V)	300	1.17	Sri Narasimha Perumal	Sri Lakshmi	Tirumangalam Railway station 7 miles
11	47	Sindupatti (P)	Sindupatti	Sri Venkatachala Perumal Temple (V)	650	0.19	Sri Venkata-chala Perumal	Sri Alamelu-mangai Thayar	Valandur Railway station 4 miles
12	56	Elumalai (P)	Elumalai	Sri Thiruvengkata-nathaswamy Temple (V)	600	0.34	Sri Thiruvengkata-nathaswamy	Sri Nachiar	Usilampatti Railway station 12 miles
13	..	do	do	Sri Mathathan Subramania-swamy Temple (M)	400	0.28	Sri Subrama-niar	Sri Valli Deivayanai Sri Vinayakar Sri Agilanda-nayagi	Usilampatti Railway station 13 miles
14	60	Melathiru-manickam (P)	Melathiru-manickam	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple (S)	800	1.11	Sri Manicka Chockanathar	Sri Meenak-shiamman	Usilampatti Railway station 12 miles
15	62	Athikaraipatti (P)	Athangaraipatti	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	15	Below 0.01	Sri Vinayakar	...	Pasumalai Railway station

**MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)**

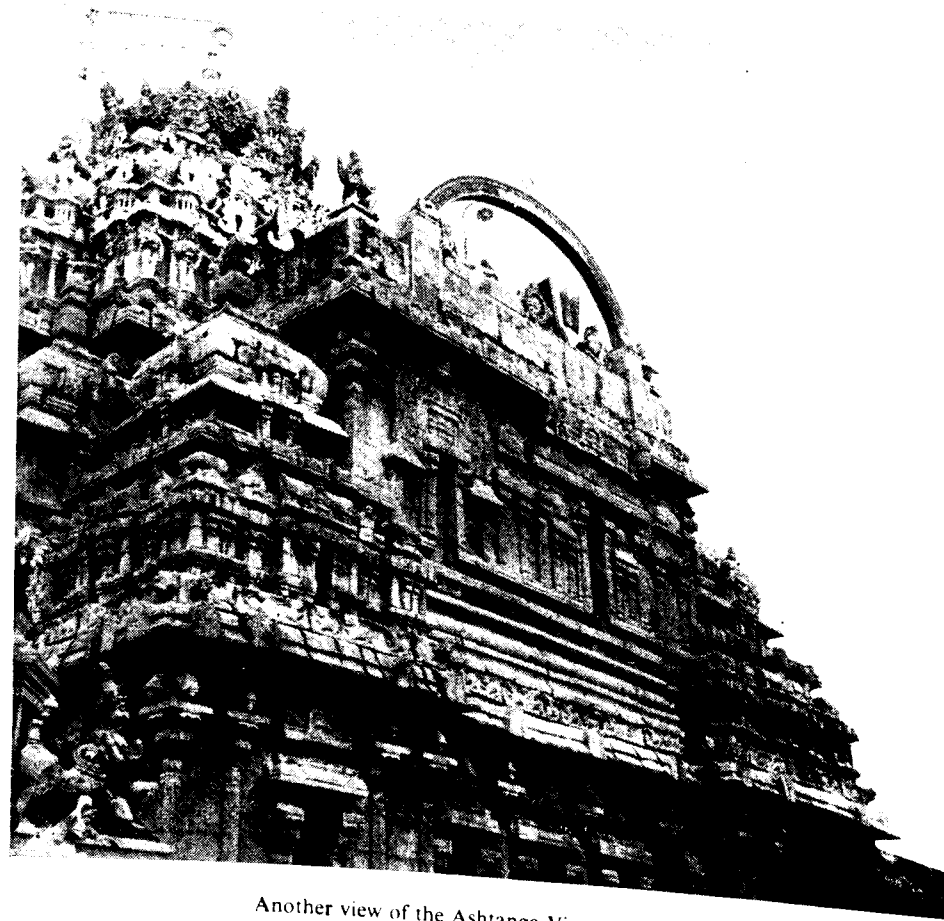
Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Apprai-sed by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Repor- ted by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
2,393	2.04	...	...	...	...	...	Horse Rishabam	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattar	Navarathri Karthigai Deepam Arudhra Dharisanam
283	3.35	5.49	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Gounder	...
2,305	Extent not stated			...	12,336	...	Ratham Palanquin Swan, Lion Hanumar Sesha Garuda Horse Elephant Chapparam	Thrice a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Navarathri Brahmothsavam in Vaikasi Vaikunta Ekadasi Sri Jayanthi Karthigai Deepam Chithra Pournami
306	...	...	...	...	...	100	Palanquin	do	Chithra Pournami Sri Jayanthi Vaikunta Ekadasi
223	...	80.48	...	...	...	198	Peacock	Once a day by a hereditary Brahmin	Chithra Pournami Festival in Margazhi
4,868	3.27	25.08	...	...	...	812	Palanquin	Four times a day by a Brahmin	Thiruvadhirai Tamil New Year's Day Avani Moolam Navarathri Karthigai Deepam
500	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a Pillai	...

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUMANGALAM

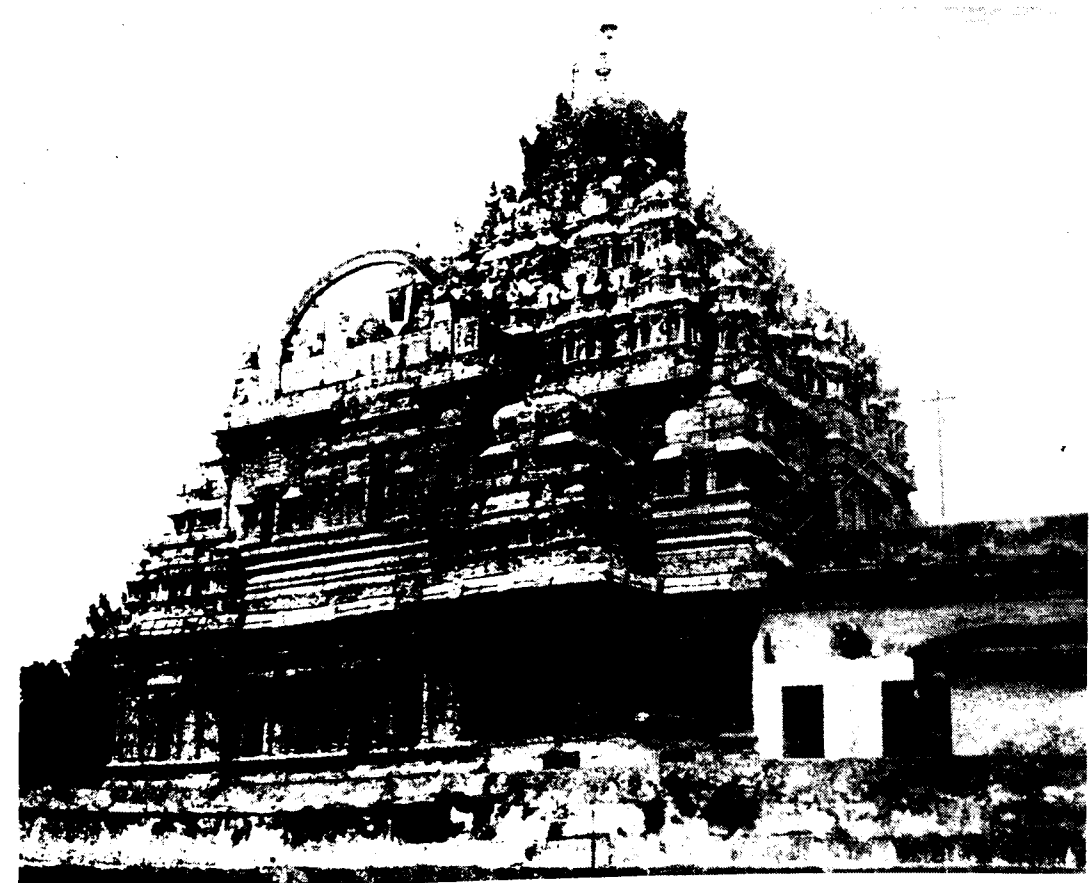
Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religions									
16	65	Perungama-nallur (P)	Perungama-nallur	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	120	0.02	Sri Karpaga Vinayakar	...	Usilampatti Railway station 8 miles
17	77	Tirumangalam (P)	Tirumangalam	Sri Badrakali- amman Temple (F)	Not known	0.30	Sri Badrakali- amman	...	Tirumangalam Railway station ½ mile
18	..	do	do	Sri Gurunatha- swamy Temple (S)	200	0.05	Sri Gurunatha- swamy	...	Tirumangalam Railway station 2 furlongs
19	..	do	do	Sri Kumaraswamy Temple (M)	200	0.05	Sri Subrama- niam	Sri Valli Deivayanai Sri Durgai Sri Ugramurthi	do
20	..	do	do	Sri Meenakshi Chockanatha swamy Temple (S)	200	0.05	Sri Meenakshi Chockanathar	...	do
21	..	do	do	Sri Hanumar Temple (O)	108	0.03	Sri Anjaneyar	...	Tirumangalam Railway station 11 miles
22	79	Ammapatty A. (P)	Ammapatty	Sri Chenroya Perumal Temple (V)	100	0.02	Sri Chenroya Perumal	...	Tirumangalam Railway station 7 miles
23	80	Pannikundu (P)	Modaham	Sri Gopalanatha- swamy Temple (V)	Not known	Not stated	Sri Gopala- natha- swamy	Sri Rukmani Sathyabama Sri Adi Sayana Ranganathar Sri Ramar Sri Lakshmanar Sri Sita Sri Nachiar- amman	Virudhunagar Railway station

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
400	...	...	7.68	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Pandaram	...
12,600	...	0.35	...	Tamarind trees Iluppai trees	17,630	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Pandaram	...
1,597	...	...	...	Shops	...	Value not stated	Horse Kedayam	Poojas by a Pandaram	Sivarathri
4,190	8.89	...	...	Shops-12	...	691	Horse Peacock	Thrice a day by a Brahmin	Skandha Sashti
273	Extent	not	stated	...	...	500	Horse Rishabam	Thrice a day by a Gurukkal	Navarathri Thiruvadhirai Thai Poosam Masi Magam
272	Extent	not	stated	...	...	288	...	Twice a day by a Brahmin	...
300	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Gounder	...
1,874	...	...	...	...	...	1,000	...	Once a day by a hereditary Brahmin	Sri Jayanthi Vaikunta Ekadasi Tamil New Year's Day



Another view of the Ashtanga Vimanam



A closer view of the Vimanam

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUMAGALAM

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religions									
24	81	Thangalacheri (P)	Thangalacheri	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	50	0.02	Sri Vinayakar	...	Tirumangalam Railway station 8 miles
25	84	Kuppalnatham (P)	Karupala-natham	Sri Venkatachala-pathy Perumal Temple (V)	200	1.50	Sri Venkata-chalapathy Perumal	...	Usilampatti Railway station 10 miles
26	86	Sedapatti (P)	Jambalapuram	Sri Muthalagiri Perumal Temple (V)	100	0.02	Sri Muthalagiri Perumal	...	Usilampatti Railway station 12 miles
27	..	do	do	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	100	0.01	Sri Vinayakar	...	do
28	88	Kudipatti (P)	Kailasapuram	Sri Kailasanatha-swamy Temple (S)	Not known	0.08	Sri Kailasa-natha-swamy	Sri Ananda-valli-amman	Tirumangalam Railway station 24 miles
29	99	Sowdarpatti (P)	Sowdarpatti	Sri Meenakshi Chockanatha-swamy Temple (S)	300	0.50	Sri Meenakshi Chockanatha-swamy	...	Tirumangalam Railway station 8½ miles
30	..	do	do	Sri Lakshminarayana Perumal Temple (V)	100	0.05	Sri Lakshmi-narayana Perumal	...	do
31	101	Naduvakottai (P)	Naduvakottai	Sri Narasimha Perumal Temple (V)	Not known	0.01	Sri Narasimha Perumal	...	Tirumangalam Railway station 7 miles

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple	(18)	(19)	(20)
300	...	7.00	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Pandaram	...
300	...	17.33	...	...	...	...	Horse	Once a day by a hereditary Brahmin	Chithra Pournami
500	}	...	50.00	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Bhattachariar	...
500								Twice a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...
445	...	...	...	...	...	...	Horse Risbabam	Four times a day by a Brahmin	Chithra Pournami
283	2.10	0.50	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Brahmin	Karthigai Deepam Thiruvachirai Sivarathri
320	8.61	15.28	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by an Archagar	Karthigai Deepam Sri Jayanthi
1,076	...	8.64	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Poosari	...

and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)



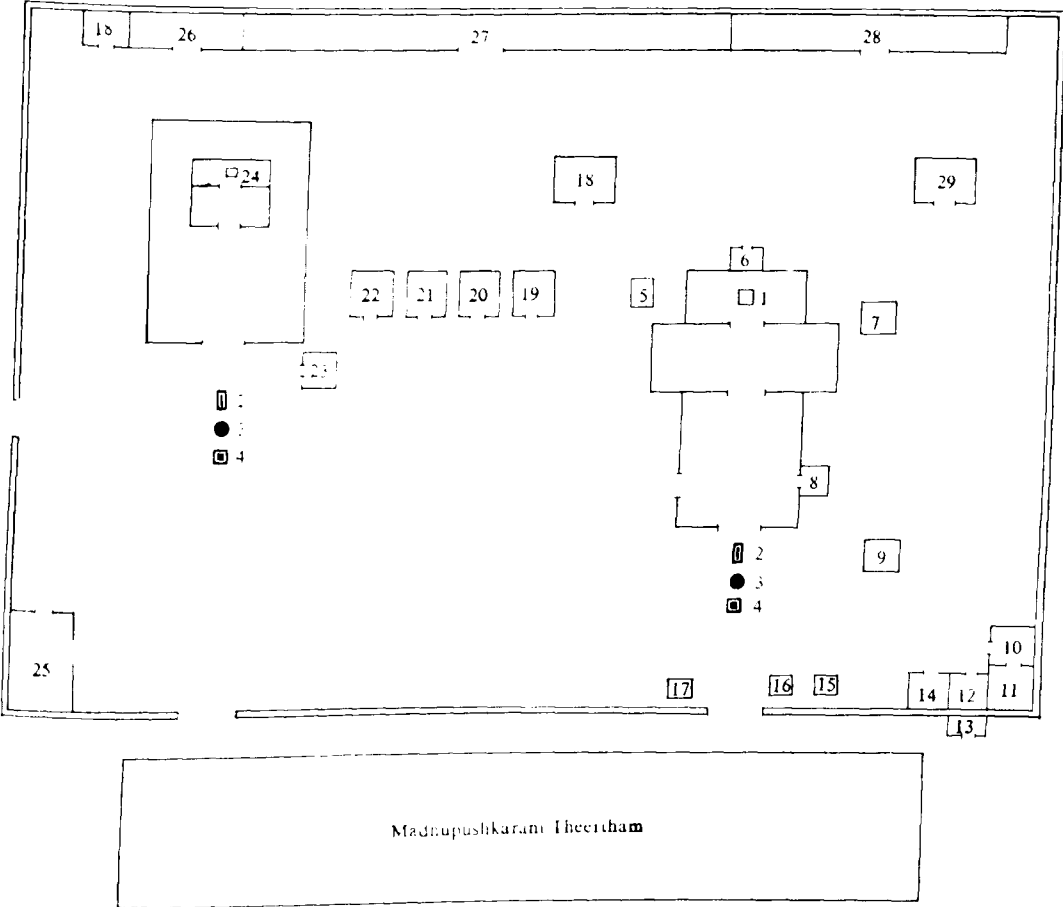
The image of Sri Devi now kept in the prakara...



SRI KOTRAVALEESWARAR TEMPLE

KOVILUR (Karaikudi)

(Not to Scale)



INDEX TO NUMBERS

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| 1 Kotra Valeeswarar | 15 Sanceswarar |
| 2 Nandhi | 16 Chandran |
| 3 Balipeedam | 17 Suriyan |
| 4 Dwajastambam | 18 Ganapathi |
| 5 Dakshinamoorthy | 19 Somaskandhar |
| 6 Lingodhbavar | 20 Kailasanathar |
| 7 Chandikeswarar | 21 Kasi Viswanathar & Visalakshi |
| 8 Nataraja, Sivakami Ambal & Manickavasagar (Uthasavars) | 22 Nithya Kalyani Amman |
| 9 Navagrahas | 23 Pallharai |
| 10 Alankara Mandapam | 24 Thirunellai Ambal |
| 11 Karuvoolam | 25 Madapalli |
| 12 Yagasalai | 26 Store Room |
| 13 Vanni Vinayagar | 27 Vahana Godown |
| 14 Balaravar | 28 Record Room |
| | 29 Subramaniam, Valli & Deivayanai |

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUMANGALAM**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	No.	Name	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religion									
32	101	Naduvakottai (P)	Naduvakottai	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	25	0.02	Sri Vinayakar	...	Tirumangalam Railway station 7 miles
33	122	Kavundanpatti (P)	Kavandampatty	Sri Ayyanar Temple (O)	700	1.00	Sri Sekutthi Ayyanar	Sri Karuppu-swamy	Usilampatti Railway station 5 furlongs
34	125	Mathakalai (P)	Mathakalai	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	250	Below 0.01	Sri Vinayakar	...	DoIdappanaya- kkanur Railway station 1½ miles
35	128	Palayur (P)	Palayur	Sri Alagar Temple (V)	282	0.65	Sri Sundara- raja Perumal	Sri Chakkara- thalwar Sri Udayavar Sri Kuruthal- war Sri Nammalwar	Tirumangalam Railway station 24 miles
36	129	Saptur (P)	Saduragiri Hills	Sri Sundaramaha- lingaswamy Temple (S)	Not known	Not stated	Sri Sundara- mahalinga- swamy	...	Srivilliputhur Railway Station
37	133	Peraiyur (P)	Peraiyur	Sri Badrakali- amman and Sri Mariamman Temple (F)	150	0.25	Sri Badrakali- amman	Sri Mari- amman	Tirumangalam Railway station 17 miles
38	..	do	do	Sri Melaparangiri Subramania- swamy Temple (M)	300	0.56	Sri Subramania- swamy	...	Tirumangalam Railway station 17 miles
39	..	do	do	Sri Venkatesa Perumal Temple (V)			Sri Venkatesa Perumal	...	

**MADURAI DISTRICT
PALUK (Contd.)**

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet		Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
	Wet	Dry	Apprai- sed by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.		Report- ed by temple				
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
nd Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
1,178	...	...	7.85	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a Poosari	Vinayaka Chathurthi
300	...	95.00	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Pillai	Ayyanar festival in Purattasi
950	...	4.86	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Pillai	...
2,214	11.00	85.00	...	Grove 0.02	...	190	Horse Elephant Swan, Lion Hanumar Garudan Sesha	Four times a day by a Poosari	Chithra Pournami Sri Jayanthi Navarathri Karthigai Deepam Vaikunta Ekadasi
8,454	...	...	35.7	...	...	125	...	Twice a day by an Archagar	Navarathri
3,050	...	...	...	Shops	...	...	Swan, Lion Rishabam	Once a day by a hereditary Nadar	Festival in Panguni or Vaikasi
1,455	...	...	...	Grove 7.85	...	488	Horse Elephant Rishabam Peacock Garuda	Poojas by a Bhattar	...

nd Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

conduct of daily poojas and periodical festivals of the temple and for its upkeep and general maintenance. The other sources of income to the temple are the hundi collections amounting to Rs. 300 - and the charges levied for performing archanas, abishegas, etc., coming up to Rs. 500 -.

The temple also possesses Thers, a Ratham, an ivory Palanquin, a silver Elephant vahanam and 7 other vahanas viz., Lion, Anjaneyar, Garuda, Elephant, Horse, Sessa and Swan.

Chithrai Brahmothsavam, Vaikasi Vasantha uthsavam, Nambigal uthsavam, Adi Pooram, Pavithrothsavam, Purattasi Navarathri, Vijayadhasami, Iyppasi Tholu uthsavam, Margazhi Manavala Mamuni uthsavam, Athiyana uthsavam, Vaikunta Ekadasi, Masi Theppa uthsavam and Panguni uthiram are the regular annual festivals celebrated by the temple, of which the Chithrai Brahmothsavam, Vaikunta Ekadasi and Masi Theppa uthsavam are the most important ones, which attract a crowd of not less than 10,000 devotees from far and near. Besides this, all Saturdays in the month of Purattasi are considered sacred by the devotees and they strongly believe that an offering of Pongal (Thaligai) to Perumal during these days will enable them to get His blessings.

The temple is administered by the Sivaganga Raja, who is the only hereditary trustee.

114 KOVILUR

Sri Kotravaleeswarar Temple

Kovilur is noted for its ancient and famous Siva temple dedicated to Sri Kotravaleeswarar, who is an installed Lingam. His divine consort is known as Sri Thirunellai Amman. The old temple here, said to have been built by the reputed Pandya King Sri Veerasekhara Pandya, presents an inspiring view.

Legend has it that once the Pandya King who came here on a hunting expedition got separated from his retinue while chasing a deer. The deer suddenly disappeared on the very spot where the temple stands now. The disappointed king who felt thirsty drank the water from the sacred Madhupushkarani nearby. He rested under a big vanni tree and soon fell asleep. At that time a Rishi was doing penance near the spot. The King woke up suddenly, on hearing a huge noise and saw the Rishi fighting for his life with a tiger. Immediately he searched for his sword, but could not find it. He came to the rescue of the Rishi with his bare hands risking his life. To his surprise, the Rishi and the tiger disappeared all of a sudden. Meanwhile, the King's attendants arrived there searching for him.

The King and his followers looked out for the sword and were wonder-struck when they found it by the side of a beautiful Lingam. The King at once erected a temple and installed the Lingam. From that day onwards, the presiding deity came to be known as Sri Kotravaleeswarar and a sword supposed to be that of Sri Veerasekhara Pandya is still kept here in commemoration of this incident.

Kovilur is situated at a distance of about 20 kilometres from Tirupattur, the taluk headquarters, and 80 kilometres from Madurai, the district headquarters. It is connected by both bus and train, the nearest railway station being Karaikudi at a distance of about 5 kilometres. The temple which covers an area of 1.52 acres has a single prakaram and four sanctum sanctorum, apart from an arthamandapam, a mahamandapam and an alankara mandapam. There are four beautiful rajagopurams here, on all the four sides of the temple. The pagodas of the Swamy and Sri Natarajar have five tiers while those of the Amman and Sri Kailasanathar have only three tiers. There are several artistically carved stone pillars in the Amman sannadhi bearing the images of Sri Kangalanathar, Agora Veerabadrar, Shanmugar, Saraswathi, Meenakshi, Vallabha Ganapathy, Kali and Veerasekharapandyan, which are very attractive to look at. There are also several festival idols all made of panchalogam. The sacred vanni tree is the sthalaviruksham of the temple.

Poojas are performed four times daily by hereditary Brahmin priests, who are in the enjoyment of service inam lands. The temple owns modern jewellery in gold, silver and diamond worth about Rs. 1,59,967/- mostly donated by devotees, of which the stone-studded diamond Thirumangalyam of the Amman deserves special mention. The landed properties of the temple comprise about 16.06 acres of wet lands, apart from a cocoanut grove of 10.32 acres, which fetch an annual income of about Rs. 8,000/- by way of rent; this sum is utilised for its maintenance. The temple owns a valuable Ther, a Palanquin and as many as nine vahanas all made of wood, apart from two silver Rishabams and a Kedayam.

Adi Pooram which spreads over a period of 11 days, Navarathri and Thiruvadhirai are the regular annual festivals celebrated here. Of these, Adi Pooram is the most important one, when about 10,000 devotees from far and near congregate here.

The temple which comes under the purview of the Sivaganga Devasthanam is managed by the Raja of Sivaganga, who is the hereditary trustee of the temple.

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUMANGALAM

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	No.	Name	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
40	135	Vannivelampatti (P)	Eswaraberi	Sri Agneeswaraswamy Temple (S)	608	0.10	Sri Agneeswaraswamy	Sri Chidambabar Sri Parvathy Sri Gomathy Sri Vinayakar	Tirumangalam Railway station 13 miles
41	136	Kallupatti (P)	Kallupatti	Sri Prasanna Hanumar Temple (O)	22	0.05	Sri Prasanna Hanumar	..	Kallikudi Railway station 9 miles
42	139	Puliampatti (P)	Puliampatti	Sri Kothandaramaswamy Temple (V)	40	0.20	Sri Kothandaramar	Sri Sita Sri Lakshmanar	Kallikudi Railway station 4 miles
43	140	Kalligudi (P)	Lalapuram	Sri Varadaraja Perumal Temple (V)	60	0.20	Sri Varadaraja Perumal	Sri Perundevi Sri Alli Thayar	Kallikudi Railway station 2½ miles
44	..	do	Kallikudi	Sri Eswarar Temple (S)	1,500	0.40	Sri Eswarar	Sri Meenakshi- amman	Kallikudi Railway station 1½ miles
45	154	Kurayur (P)	Kurayur	Sri Venugopala- swamy Temple (V)	400	1.00	Sri Venugopala- swamy	..	Kallikudi Railway station 4 miles
46	160	Villur (P)	Villur	Sri Rajagopala- swamy Temple (V)	300	0.50	Sri Rajagopala- swamy	..	Kallikudi Railway station 5 miles
47	161	Karaikeni (P)	Karaikeni	Sri Chockanathaswamy Temple (S)	767	Below 0.01	Sri Chockanathaswamy	Sri Meenakshi- amman	Kallikudi Railway station 9 miles

MADURAI DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property Value of Jewellery Ra.			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple	Vahanam		
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
1,589	...	...	...	...	...	...	Rishabam	Twice a day by a Brahmin	Tamil New Year's Day
580	2.74	5.28	...	Shops-2	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Rao	...
723	...	12.00	...	...	...	...	Chapparam	Poojas by a Brahmin	Festival in Panguni
285	3.00	4.00	...	...	...	...	...		
557	...	...	...	...	...	...	Chappar: Peacock		
225	38.38	34.17	...	...	...	Value not stated	Horse Garuda		
432	Extent not stated			...	...	4,000	Car Palanquir		
489	Extent not stated			...	...	Value not stated	...		

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUPATTUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
1	4	Ulagampatti (P)	Ulagampatti	Sri Ulaganayakar and Ulaganayaki-amman Temple (F)	41	0.50	Sri Ulaganayakar	Sri Ulaganayaki-amman Sri Vinayakar Sri Subramaniam Sri Valli Deivayanai	Namana-samudram Railway station 23 miles
2	5	Manthakudi-patti (P)	Manthakudi-patti	Sri Adaikalam Katha Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.04	Sri Adaikalam Katha Ayyanar	Sri Karuppar	Manapparai Railway station 31 miles
3	6	Neduvayal (P)	Palaya Neduvayal	Sri Adirama-linga Ayyanar Temple (O)	200	Below 0.01	Sri Adirama-linga Ayyanar	...	Namana-samudram Railway station 27 miles
4	8	Karisalpatti (P)	K. Pudupatti	Sri Sastha Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.06	Sri Sastha Ayyanar	...	Manapparai Railway station 26 miles
5	9	Dharmapattikondapalayam (P)	Kariampatti	Sri Marakattur Ayyanar Temple (O)	100	0.07	Sri Marakattur Ayyanar	...	Manapparai Railway station 25 miles
6	15	Piranmalai (P)	Piranmalai	Sri Kaliyuga Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.60	Sri Kaliyuga Meiya Ayyanar	Sri Karuppannaswamy	Karaikudi Junction 30 miles
7	25	Thokkur A. (P)	Thokkur	Sri Pachai Mugiludaya Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	2.00	Sri Pachai Mugiludaya Ayyanar	Sri Karuppar	Karaikudi Junction 22 miles
8	26	Thokkur A. (V)	Athikkudi (Vadakkur)	Sri Thamarai-kattu Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	1.25	Sri Thamarai-kattu Ayyanar	Sri Adaikalam Katha Ayyanar	do

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK

[illegible]

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUPATTUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	No.	Name	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
9	27	Mahibalan-patti (P)	Mahibalan-patti	Sri Poonkundra Ayyanar Temple (O)	40	0.25	Sri Poonkundra Ayyanar	Sri Karuppar Sri Kali-amman	Karaikudi Junction 15 miles
10	"	do	do	Sri Jayamkondanayaki alias Poonkundramman Temple (F)	Not known	0.02	Sri Jayamkondanayaki	Sri Vinayakar Sri Ayyanar	do
11	29	Olagumangalam (V)	Olagumangalam	Sri Varam Valangi Amman Temple (F)	Not known	0.10	Sri Varam Valangi Amman	Sri Karuppar Sri Kannimar Sri Changiliyan	Karaikudi Junction 22 miles
12	31	Nerkuppai (P)	Nerkuppai	Sri Pidari-amman Temple (F)	100	0.11	Sri Pidari Amman	...	Karaikudi Junction 25 miles
13	"	do	do	Sri Alaga Nachi-amman Temple (F)			Sri Alaga Nachi Amman	...	
14	"	do	do	Sri Murali Katha Ayyanar Temple (O)	100	0.05	Sri Murali Katha Ayyanar	...	do
15	36	Sevvur (V)	Sevoor	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple (S)	42	0.31	Sri Chockalingar	Sri Meenakshiamman	Namansamudram Railway station 17 miles
16	38	Avinipatti (P)	Avithipatti	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple (S)	50	0.01	Sri Sundareswarar	Sri Meenakshiamman	Karaikudi Junction 16 miles

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

VALUK (Contd.)									
Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property Value of Jewellery Rs.			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple	Vahanam		
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
756	15-00	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Velar	...
992	16-00	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Kambar	Festival in Panguni
212	6-64	...	...	...	...	380	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattar	Annual festival in Panguni
863	4-00	...	...	...	...	...	...	do	...
729	4-00	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Velar	...
671	...	...	...	Houses-3	...	422	...	Four times a day by a Bhattar	...
1,424	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a Gurukkal	...

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUPATTUR**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
17	39	Keelaseval-patti (P)	Keelaseval-patti	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple (S)	90	0.14	Sri Meenakshi sundareswarar	...	Tirumayam Railway station 8 miles
18	41	Shenbagam-pettai (P)	Iraniyur	Sri Alkondanathaswamy Temple (S)	100	0.14	Sri Alkondanathaswamy	Sri Sivapuram Deviamman	Tirumayam Railway station 10 miles
19	43	North Illayathangudi (V)	Illayathan-gudi	Sri Kailasanathar and Nithyakalyaniammam Temple (S)	800	0.62	Sri Kailasanathaswamy	Sri Nithyakalyaniammam	Chettinad Railway station 15 miles
20	..	do	do	Sri Okkur-Naganathar Kailasa Vinayakar Temple (G)	Not known	0.06	Sri Kailasa Vinayakar	Sri Subramaniam Sri Valli Deivayanai	Tirumayam Railway station 10 miles
21	44	Velangudi (P)	Velangudi	Sri Periya Nayagi amman Temple (F)	70	0.20	Sri Periya-nayagi-amman	...	Kottaiyur Railway station 1 furlong
22	..	do	do	Sri Sivakandeeswarar Temple (S)	300	0.75	Sri Sivakandeeswarar	Sri Kamakshi-ambal	Kottaiyur Railway station 1 furlong

**RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)**

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
15,931	15.57	18.67	...	Buildings 50	5,21,625	...	Silver Palanquin Bandicoot Kedayams-2 Peacock Ratham Rishabams-2 Horse	Five times a day by Gurukkals	Tamil New Year's Day Skandha Sashti Navarathri Karthigai Deepam
4,933	Extent	not	stated	...	22,977	...	Car	Five times a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	Navarathri Karthigai Deepam
54,765	...	...	453	Houses	1,33,879	...	Silver Palanquin Tholuk- kiniyan Rishabams-3 Peacock Lion Cars-2 Horse Sahadais-3	Five times a day by a Gurukkal	Navarathri Thiruvadhirai Annual festival in Panguni
1,500	...	...	34.00	...	...	500	Bandicoot Peacock	Twice a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	Vinayaka Chathurthi
1,079	...	...	...	...	...	3,000	Silver Kedayam Lion Rishabam Horse Peacock	Twice a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	Brahmothsavam in Chithrai
2,142	...	...	...	...	...	1,500	Kedayams-2 Rishabam Bandicoot	Four times a day by a Gurukkal	...

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUPATTUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
30	61	Sirukudalpatti (V)	Vairavanpatti	Sri Bairava-swamy Temple (S)	100	3-00	Sri Bairava-swamy	Sri Soundara-nayagi-amman	Karaikudi Junction 10 miles
31	"	do	Sirukudalpatti	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple (S)	50	0-30	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar	Sri Meenakshi-amman	Karaikudi Junction 11 miles
32	62	Attangudi K. (P)	Attangudi	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple (S)	55	1-17	Sri Sundareswarar	Sri Meenakshi-amman	Chettinad Railway station 4 miles
33	63	Nemmam (V)	Nemmam	Sri Jayamkonda-soleeswarar Temple (S)	Not known	4-00	Sri Jayamkonda-soleeswarar	Sri Soundaranayagi Ambal	Karaikudi Junction 7 miles
34	67	Nerpugapatti (P)	Chockalinga-pudur	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple (S)	47	0-07	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar	...	Chettinad Railway station 3 miles
35	"	do	Poovanipatti	Sri Desiganatha-swamy and Avudayanayagi-amman Temple (S)	100	0-18	Sri Desiganathar	Sri Avudayanayagi-amman	Chettinad Railway station 1½ miles
36	68	Kanadukathan (P)	Kanadukathan	Sri Chidambara Vinayakar Temple (G)	100	0-10	Sri Chidambara Vinayakar	Sri Kali Sri Nagar	Chettinad Railway station 1 mile

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
5,726	...	...	50-00	...	...	571	Silver Horse	Four times a day by hereditary Gurukkals	...
448	...	...	...	...	...	50	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
600	...	...	...	...	...	282	Rishabam Peacock Horse Kedayams-2 Palanquin	Four times a day by a Gurukkal	Festival in Chithrai
7,660	2-00	1-00	...	...	...	5,000	Silver Rishabam Rishabam Sahadais-2 Peacock Swan Bandicoot Kedayams-2	Four times a day by hereditary Gurukkals	...
655	...	...	...	Houses	1,63,888	...	...	Four times a day by a Gurukkal	...
3,135	30-00	15-00	...	...	20,008	...	...	Five times a day by a Gurukkal	...
1,692	...	...	...	...	34,762	...	...	Four times a day by a Pillai	...

and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUPATTUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
23	46	Kandavarayan-patti (P)	Paiyur	Sri Kadapillai Ayyanar alias Sri Valanatha Karuppaiah Temple (O)	Not known	0.01	Sri Kadapillai Ayyanar	Sri Subramaniam Sri Chinna Karuppaiah	Karaikudi Junction 13 miles
24	47	Kavaiyur (P)	Kavaiyur	Sri Alagia Manavala Perumal Temple (V)	150	2.00	Sri Alagia Manavala Perumal	Sri Devi Bhudevi	Karaikudi Junction 17 miles
25	52	Madhavara-yanpatti (P)	Kilamilai	Sri Neelameswaramudayar Temple (S)	800	0.30	Sri Neelameswaramudayar	Sri Pushpavaneswari Sri Bairavar Sri Karuppar	Karaikudi Junction 20 miles
26	55	Sunnamberuppu (V)	Sunnambiruppu	Sri Kumbalai Katha Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.01	Sri Kumbalai Katha Ayyanar	Sri Vinayakar Sri Subramaniam Sri Karuppar	Karaikudi Junction 19 miles
27	59	Tirupattur (P)	Tirupattur	Sri Kalangarai Katha Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.06	Sri Kalangarai Katha Ayyanar	Sri Poorana Sri Pushkala	Karaikudi Junction 14 miles
28	"	do	do	Sri Adheenamilagia Ayyanar Temple (O)		0.05	Sri Adheenamilagia Ayyanar	Sri Chinnaiah Sri Karuppar	
29	60	Nedumaram (V)	Nedumaram	Sri Kailasanathaswamy Temple (S)	100	0.16	Sri Kailasanathaswamy	Sri Karpagavalli	Karaikudi Junction 15 miles

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam	Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
363	6.00	2.00	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Velar	...
439	20.00	6.00	...	...	...	700	Garuda Horse Tholukkiniyans-2	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	...
514	33.25	18.68	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
317	9.50	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Velar	...
413	16.00	...	...	...	...	...	50	Once a day by a hereditary Velar	Festival in Chithrai
	4.00	...	...	...	...	...	50		
516	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	Once a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUPATTUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religions									
37	68	Kanadukathan (P)	Kanadukathan	Sri Azhaga Nachiamman Temple (F)	Not known	0.15	Sri Azhaga Nachiamman	...	Chettinad Railway station 2 miles
38	70	Kottamangalam (V)	Lakshmipuram	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple (S)	100	1.0	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar	Sri Meenakshiamman	Chettinad Railway station 4 miles
39	..	do	Kothamangalam	Sri Pidari Ulaganachi amman Temple (F)	500	0.19	Sri Ulaganayagi amman	Sri Pillayar Sri Muthukaruppar	do
40	71	Pallathur (P)	Pallathur	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple (S)	100	0.69	Sri Meenaashi Sundareswarar	...	Chettinad Railway station 3 miles
41	73	Kothadi (V)	Kothadi	Sri Solai Vallathu Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	Below 0.01	Sri Solai Vallathu Ayyanar	Sri Karuppar Sri Vinayakar	Chettinad Railway station 1 mile
42	76	Siruvayal C. (V)	Siruvayal	Sri Iravatheswarar and Soundaranayagi amman Temple (S)	102	0.50	Sri Iravatheswarar	Sri Soundaranayagi amman	Karaikudi Junction 5 miles
43	..	do	do	Sri Ponnalagi amman alias Alagianayagi amman Temple (F)	103	0.14	Sri Alagianayagi amman	...	do

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
515	5.9	...	...	...	...	50	Horse	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattar	Brahmothsavam in Chithrai and Vaikasi
242	...	...	...	...	...	3,000	Silver Rishabam Bandicoot	Twice a day by a Gurukkal	...
295	2.00	...	...	...	...	612	Car Swan Palanquin Horse Kedayam	Twice a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...
2,717	...	...	...	Buildings-10	6,278	...	Sahadais-5 Rishabams-3 Bandicoot Peacock Lion Parrot, Swan Bhootham Horses-5 Suran Elephant Kedayams-4 Kailasa Parvatham	Five times a day by a Gurukkal	Brahmothsavam in Ani
771	13.00	...	...	...	...	...	Horse Elephant	Twice a day by a hereditary Velar	Chithra Pournami
10,673	90.00	65.00	...	...	37,199	...	Horse Rishabams-3 Bandicoot Peacock Palanquin	Five times a day by a Gurukkal	Navarathri
5,925	13.27	...	...	...	74,576	...	Car	Four times a day by a Gurukkal	Annual festival in Chithrai Vaikasi Visakam

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUPATTUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
44	77	Palavangudi (P)	Palavankudi	Sri Karaimel Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.10	Sri Karaimel Ayyanar	Sri Karuppar Sri Kali	Karaikudi Junction 6 miles
45	„	do	do	Sri Alathikadu Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.10	Sri Alathikadu Ayyanar	Sri Karuppar Sri Kali	do
46	„	do	do	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple (S)	70	0.09	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar	Sri Meenakshi-amman	do
47	81	Pillayarpatti (P)	Pillayarpatti	Sri Karpaga Vinayakar Temple (G)	1,300	0.14	Sri Karpaga Vinayakar	Sri Marudeeswar Thiruneesar Sri Vadamar-mangai	Karaikudi Junction 10 miles
48	90	Thanipatti (P)	Thanipatti	Sri Periakarup-pannaswamy Temple (O)	Not known	Below 0.01	Sri Peria Karuppannaswamy	..	Karaikudi Junction 18 miles
49	103	Tirukoshtiyur (P)	Tirukoshtiyur	Sri Vadakkuva Chelliamman Temple (F)	Not known	Below 0.01	Sri Vadakkuva Chelliamman	Sri Manakkudayar Amman Sri Karuppar	do
50	„	do	T. Vairavan-patti	Sri Thaneer Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.06	Sri Thaneer Ayyanar	Sri Kaliamman Sri Karuppayi	do

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & G. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
400	5.22	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Velar	..
287	2.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	do	Sivarathri
240	...	...	...	House	...	1,200	...	Four times a day by a Gurukkal	...
33,245	176.00	175.00	...	...	71,451	...	Gold Bandicoot Silver Rishabams-3 Bandicoot Peacock Kedayam Elephant Swan, Lion Car, Lotus Palanquin Elephant Horse Bandicoot Sahadais-3 Bhootham Suran	Five times a day by a Brahmin	Brahmothsavam in Vaikasi Vinayaka Chathurthi Navarathri Sivarathri Karthigai Deepam Arudhra Dharisanam
250	7.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Ambalar	...
475	46.00	25.00	...	...	...	...	Lion Kedayam	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattar	Brahmothsavam in Chithrai
212	2.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Velar	...

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religions									
51	106	Pattamangalam West (P)	Keelapathamangalam	Sri Alathu Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.05	Sri Alathu Ayyanar	Sri Karuppar Sri Vinayakar	Kallal Railway station 10 miles
52	..	do	do	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple (S)	38	0.43	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar	Sri Meenakshi-amman	do
53	108	Pattamangalam East (P)	Nainarappanendal	Sri Karumbeswarar Temple (S)	Not known	0.15	Sri Karumbeswarar	Sri Mangalanayagi	do
54	110	Kambanur (P)	Kambanur	Sri Umamahe-swaraswamy Temple (S)	Not known	0.25	Sri Umamahe-swaraswamy	Sri Umamahe-swari Sri Vinayakar	do
55	..	do	do	Sri Ilayanachi-amman Temple (F)	Not known	0.05	Sri Ilayanachi-amman	Sri Karuppar	do
56	..	do	Nachiarpuram	Sri Nachiar-amman Temple (F)	60	Below 0.01	Sri Nachiar amman	...	Karaikudi Junction 9 miles
57	111	Illangudi (P)	Illangudi	Sri Andarnayinar Temple (O)	Not known	0.04	Sri Andarnayinar	Sri Amman	Karaikudi Junction 7 miles
58	..	do	do	Sri Pattanayagi amman Temple (F)		0.02	Sri Pattanachiamman	Sri Petta-mman	

TALUK (Contd.)									
Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
200	...	...	34'00	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Velar	...
1,186	28'26	2'39	...	...	51,302	...	Silver Rishabams-3 Bandicoot Peacock Horse Kedayams-2 Karpaga Viruksham	Four times a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	Navarathri Thiruvadhirai Karthigai Deepam
879	25'00	9'00	...	...	...	1,500	...	Once a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
1,375	30'00	...	...	Cocoanut Grove 95'00	...	...	...	Four times a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
340	4'00	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattar	...
817	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Four times a day by a Brahmin	...
372	10'01	...	...	...	}	...	...	Once a day by a Brahmin	...
	6'25	...	...	...		...	...		

28

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUPATTUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
59	111	Illangudi (P)	Illangudi	Sri Pagachala-murthi Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.28	Sri Pagachala-murthi Ayyanar	...	Devakottai Road Railway station 7 miles
60	115	Karaikudi (V)	Sankaravayal <i>alias</i> Sankarapuram	Sri Poi Solla Mei Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.40	Sri Poi Solla Mei Ayyanar	...	Karaikudi Junction 2 miles
61	116	Kottaiyur (P)	Kottaiyur	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple (S)	100	2.00	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar	Sri Meenakshi Amman	Kottaiyur Railway station $\frac{1}{2}$ mile
62	118	Kandanur (P)	Kandanur	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple (S)	100	0.69	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar	Sri Meenakshi Amman	Kandanur Pudukvayal Railway station 1 mile
63	..	do	do	Sri Sellayee-amman Temple (F)	150	0.22	Sri Sellayee-amman	Sri Karuppar Sri Pillayar	do
64	..	do	do	Sri Urani Pillayar <i>alias</i> Karpaga Vinayakar Temple (G)	150	0.01	Sri Urani Pillayar	...	Kandanur Pudukvayal Railway station $\frac{1}{2}$ mile
65	..	do	Palaiyur	Sri Kailasanathaswamy Temple (S)	100	0.12	Sri Kailasanathaswamy	Sri Nithyakalyani Ambal	Kandanur Pudukvayal Railway station $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Faali 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
356	...	...	3.94	...	...	501	...	Once a day by a hereditary Velar	...
1,011	...	...	9.52	...	9,646	...	Car	do	Sivarathri
664	...	...	...	Houses-5 Bus stand Building	...	1,500	...	Four times a day by a Gurukkal	..
5,616	...	...	40.00	...	98,561	...	Silver Lion Rishabams-3 Horses-2 Parrot Peacock Kedayam Bandicoot Rishabam Elephant	Four times a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	Brahmothsavam in Ani Navarathri Skandha Sashti
868	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	Brahmothsavam in Chithrai
200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a Gurukkal	...
516	...	...	...	...	...	...	Horse	Twice a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUPATTUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
66	121	Puduvayal (P)	Puduvayal	Sri Kailasa Vinayakar Temple (G)	45	0.50	Sri Kailasa Vinayakar	...	Kandanur Puduvayal Railway station ½ mile
67	..	do	do	Sri Narayana Perumal <i>alias</i> Narayana Sundara Perumal Temple (V)	50	0.06	Sri Narayana Sundara Perumal	...	Kandanur Puduvayal Railway station ½ mile
68	128	Jayankondan (V)	Jayankondan	Sri Karpaga Vinayakar Temple (G)	70	Below 0.01	Sri Karpaga Vinayakar	Sri Subramaniam	Kandanur Puduvayal Railway station 4 ½ miles
69	138	Mathur (V)	Mathur	Sri Ayanootheeswarar <i>alias</i> Iravatheeswarar and Perianayagi- amman Temple (S)	200	3.00	Sri Ayanootheeswarar	Sri Perianayagi amman Sri Varadaraja Perumal	Karaikudi Junction 3 miles
70	139	Illuppakudi (V)	Illupakudi	Sri Swayamprakaseeswarar Temple (S)	1250	0.69	Sri Swayamprakaseeswarar	Sri Soundarayanagi amman Sri Bairavar	Karaikudi Junction 2 miles

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.									
Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property Value of Jewellery Rs.			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals	
Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple	Vahanam			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
1,266	...	...	...	Shops	...	300	Kedayam	Twice a day by a Gurukkal	...
879	12.00	...	...	Buildings-8	...	555	...	Four times a day by a Bhatta-chariar	...
222	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Gurukkal	Panguni Uthiram
3,173	...	...	...	...	38,663	...	Silver Rishabam Cars-2 Horse, Elephant Lion Kedayam Parrot Swan Kamadhenu Peacock Bandicoot Sahadais 2	Four times a day by hereditary Gurukkals	...
7,577	...	...	292.73	...	1,23,961	...	Silver Rishabams-2 Car Palanquin Rishabam Bandicoot Karpaga Viruksham Kamadhenu Elephant Horses-2 Sahadais-3	Four times a day by a Brahmin	Brahmothsavam in Chithrai Navarathri Thiruvadhirai

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUPATTUR**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
75	141	Karaikudi (M)	Karaikudi	Sri Sundareswarar Temple (S)	400	Below 0.01	Sri Sundareswarar	Sri Meenakshi Sri Vandadum Poonguzhali Sri Sanjeeswarar	Karaikudi Junction 2 miles
76	„	do	Naganathapuram	Sri Krishnaswamy Temple (V)	...	...	...	...	NOT
77	„	do	do	Sri Naganathaswamy Temple (S)	...	...	...	...	NOT
78	„	do	Meenakshipuram	Sri Muthumariamman Temple (F)	7	0.01	Sri Muthumariamman	...	Karaikudi Junction 2 miles
79	„	do	Senjoi	Sri Ezhuvaramkonda Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	Below 0.01	Sri Ezhuvaramkonda Ayyanar	Sri Karuppar Sri Bairavar	do
80	„	do	do	Sri Pillayar Temple (G)	Not known	0.08	Sri Pillayar	Sri Anjaneyar Sri Subramaniam	do
81	142	Amaravathi (V)	Amaravathiputtur	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple (S)	55	0.75	Sri Sundareswarar	Sri Meenakshi Sri Bala Vinayakar Sri Annamalaiar Sri Bairavar	Devakottai Road Railway station 1 mile
82	145	Sethuregunathapattinam (V)	Sethuregunathapuram	Sri Ulaganayagamman Temple (F)	100	0.14	Sri Ulaganayagamman	Sri Pillayar Sri Ayyanar Sri Kaliyamman Sri Kattamman	Devakottai Road Railway station 5 miles

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

TALUK (Contd.)									
Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
1,044	24'00	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
REPORTED									
REPORTED									
4,066	...	...	...	...	8,090	...	...	Twice a day by a Poesari	Brahmothsavam in Masi or Panguni Karthigai Deepam Navarathri
244	3'00	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Velar	...
900	...	...	...	Huts-40 Shops-8	...	20	...	Twice a day by a Pillai	...
1,105	...	...	...	Garden Shop House	...	20	...	Twice a day by a Gurukkal	...
1,188	8'30	...	21'48	Cocoanut Grove 2'65	...	1,450	...	...	...

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUPATTUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census No.	Name	Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
71	140	Ariyakudi (V)	Ariyakudi	Sri Thiruvankada Mudayar Temple (V)	150	1.14	Sri Thiruvankada Mudayar	...	Karaikudi Junction 2½ miles
72	141	Karaikudi (M)	Karaikudi	Sri Koppudayanayagi amman Temple (F)	150	0.42	Sri Koppudayanayagi amman	Sri Vinayakar Sri Subramaniam	Karaikudi Junction 2 miles
73	..	do	do	Sri Muthalamman Temple (F)	150	0.50	Sri Muthalamman	Sri Pechi amman Sri Karuppar	do
74	..	do	do	Sri Nagara Sivankoil alias Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple (S)	120	1.00	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar	Sri Meenakshi Sri Subramaniam Sri Valli Deivayanai	do

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property Value of Jewellery Rs.			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet		Dry		Wet & Dry		Others		
	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple	Vahanam		
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
10,710	Extent not stated				3,09,643	...	Gold Horse Garuda Silver Hanumar Sessa Palanquin Tholukkiniyan Ratham Sessa Garuda Car Palanquins-2 Swan, Horse Elephant Hanumar	Six times a day by a Brahmin	Tamil New Year's day Sri Jayanthi Panguni Uthiram Brahmothsavam in Vaikasi Navarathri Vaikunta Ekadasi Adi Pooram
62,049	12.00	15.00	9.00	Shops-50 House Shandy	1,09,530	...	Silver Kedayams Lion, Horse Horse Kamadhenu Swan	Four times a day by hereditary Gurukkals	Tamil New Year's Day Navarathri Brahmothsavam in Chithrai
4,421	...	...	...	Houses Shops	26,145	...	Lion, Horse Kedayam	Twice a week by a Chettiar	Sivarathri
6,868	23.65	0.70	...	...	51,747	...	Silver Kailasa-vahanas-3 Rishabam Peacock Bandicoot Horse Elephant Palanquin Peacock Kamadhenu Horse Elephant Suran, Swan Kedayams-3 Lion Sahadai, Car	Four times a day by hereditary Gurukkals	Chithra Pournam, Masi Magam Brahmothsavam in Adi Navarathri Sivarathri Thiruvadhirai

and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUPATTUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
83	147	Pilar (P)	Devapattu	Sri Rathnamudaya Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.07	Sri Rathnamudaya Ayyanar	Sri Bairavar Sri Karuppar	Kallal Railway station 3 miles
84	149	Alangudi (P)	Melamahanam	Sri Karpaga Vinayakar Temple (G)	50	0.01	Sri Karpaga Vinayakar	Sri Subramaniam	Karaikudi Junction 8 miles
85	152	Kandavamanickam (P)	Kandramanickam	Sri Manickanachiamman Temple (F)	22	0.11	Sri Manickavalliamman	...	Kallal Railway station 6 miles
86	..	do	Thekkupattu	Sri Manickanachiamman Temple (F)	Not known	0.04	Sri Manickanachiamman	Sri Vinayakar	Kallal Railway station 8 miles
87	155	Sembanur (P)	Sembanur	Sri Muthukottai Ayyanar Temple (O)	150	0.07	Sri Muthukottai Ayyanar	Sri Saruga Perumal Ayyanar	Kallal Railway station 3 miles
88	166	Mummudisampatti (P)	Natarajapuram	Sri Ramanatheswarar and Parvathavardhiniamman Temple (S)	50	0.04	Sri Ramanatheswarar	Sri Parvathavardhiniamman	Panangudi Railway station 2 furlongs
89	169	Vediyur (P)	Vettiyur	Sri Annapurniamman Temple (F)	100	0.20	Sri Annapurniamman	Sri Vinayakar Sri Bairavar	Aramanai Siruvayal Railway station 5 miles
90	..	do	do	Sri Arunthateswarar Temple (S)			Sri Arunthateswarar	Sri Soundaranyagi	

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

TALUK (Contd.)									
Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Concl'd.)									
265	...	...	3.08	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Velar	...
330	2.00	10.20	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Brahmin	...
1,795	...	...	...	...	...	3,780	...	Four times a day by a Gurukkal	Brahmothsavam in Chithrai
302	13.00	...	...	...	...	1,050	Silver Kedayam Sahadais-2	do	Brahmothsavam in Chithrai
484	3.75	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Velar	...
200	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 Bandicoot Rishabams-2 Peacock Kedayam	Four times a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
1,716	15.00	75.00	...	...	Cocoanut Grove 2.00	...	30 Sabadai Lion, Horse Kedayam Palanquins-2 Bandicoot Peacock	Twice a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUPATTUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the control of Anjukoil									
1	15	Piranmalai (P)	Piranmalai	Sri Nallamangai bagaswamy Temple (S)	2,000	Not stated	Sri Kodungundranainar	Sri Thenammal Sri Bairavar Sri Jayanthan Sri Viswanathar Sri Visalakshi	Karaikudi Junction 30 miles
2	24	Sathuvadamangalam (P)	Sathuvadamangalam	Sri Rudra Koteeswaraswamy Temple (S)	2,000	Not stated	Sri Rudra Koteeswaraswamy	Sri Amman Sri Viswanathar Sri Visalakshi	Karaikudi Junction 25 miles
3	37	Tirukkalakudi (V)	Tirukkalakudi	Sri Tirukkolanathar Temple (S)	Not known	0.26	Sri Kakkolapureswarar	Sri Athmanayagi Sri Sivadharmapureswarar Sri Maragathavalli Sri Agasthyar Sri Pulesthyar	Namansamudram Railway station 11 miles
4	59	Tirupattur (P)	Tirupattur	Sri Tiruthalinathar Temple (S)	2,000	Not stated	Sri Tiruthalinathar	Sri Sivakami Ambal Sri Bairavar	Karaikudi Junction 13 miles

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property Value of Jewellery Rs.			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals	
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple	Vahanam			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	
Devasthanam, Kunnakudy										
	34.97	9.55	...	Cocoanut, Grove 68.81	1,06,211	...	Silver Rishabams-3 Kedayam Cars-4 Peacock Bandicoot Horses-2 Elephants-2 Palanquins-2 Kedayams-6 Sahadais-2 Parrot Karpaga Viruksham Swan Bhootham, Lion Kamadhenu	Five times a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	Brahmothsavam in Chithrai Jayanthan festival in Chithrai Vinayaka Chathurthi Navarathri Arudhra Dharisanam Karthigai Deepam Sivarathri	
1,94,227	...	...	0.20	...	20,358	...	Car, Sahadais-2 Bandicoot Peacocks-2 Elephant Horse Palanquins-3 Kedayams-6 Lion	Four times a day by hereditary Bhattars	Vinayaka Chathurthi Navarathri Karthigai Deepam Sivarathri Masi Magam	
	27.18	68.53	...	Vacant plot Houses-4	26,511	...	Silver Rishabams-2 Cars-2 Bhootham Palanquin Kedayam Kailasa Parvatham	Four times a day by a hereditary Gurukkals	Brahmothsavam in Ani Vinayaka Chathurthi Navarathri Karthigai Deepam Sivarathri	
	Extent not stated				...	112,998	...	Silver Rishabams-3 Kedayams-2 Bandicoot Horses-2 Palanquin Kailasa Parvatham Kedayams-2 Sahadais-2 Tholukkiniyan Cars-3 Bhootham Swan, Lion	Five times a day by a hereditary Gurukkals	Vinayaka Chathurthi Navarathri Karthigai Deepam Sivarathri Jayanthan festival in Chithrai Vaikasi Visakam Thiruvadhirai

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUPATTUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the control of									
5	78	Kunnakudi (P)	Kunnakudi	Sri Shanmuganathar Temple (M)	400	Not stated	Sri Shanmuganathar	Sri Valli Deivayanai	Karaikudi Junction 5 miles
6	82	Siravayal (V)	Thenakshi-amman koil	Sri Thenakshi-amman Temple (F)	2,000	Not stated	Sri Thenakshi-amman	Sri Bairavar Sri Viswanathar Sri Visalakshi	Karaikudi Junction 10 miles
Temples under the control of									
1	8	Karisalpatti (P)	Karisalpatti	Sri Kailasanathaswamy Temple (S)	Not known	0.22	Sri Kailasanathar	Sri Kamalam-bikai Amman	Manaparai Railway station 25 miles
2	17	A. Kalapoor (P)	Kalapoor	Sri Ilangamudaya Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.06	Sri Ilangamudaya Ayyanar	Sri Vadakkuva Chelli-amman	Karaikudi Junction 25 miles
3	19	D. Singampunari (P)	Sivapuri	Sri Swayampratheswarar Temple (S)	Not known	0.25	Sri Swayampratheswarar	Sri Dharma-samvardhini-amman	Karaikudi Junction 27 miles
4	21	Singampunari (P)	Singampunari	Sri Sevugaperumal Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.93	Sri Sevugaperumal Ayyanar	Sri Adaikkalamkatha Ayyanar Sri Poorana Sri Pushkala	do

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
Anjukoil Devasthanam Kunnakudy (Concl'd.)									
...	Extent not stated			...	4,76,889	...	Gold Ratham Silver Kedayams-2 Ratham Peacock Bandicoot Lion Elephant Cars-2 Kedayam Palanquins-2 Bhootham Ajah, Horse Sahadai Suran	Five times a day by hereditary Gurukkals	Panguni Uthiram Vaikasi Visakam Adi Kirthigai Vinayaka Chathurthi Navarathri Sivarathri Karthigai Deepam Skandha Sashti Thai Poosam
...	Extent not stated			...	6,192	...	Car, Lion Kedayams-3 Kamadhenu	Four times a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	Navarathri Karthigai Deepam Sivarathri
Sivaganga Devasthanam									
765	27.39	15.08	...	...	...	77	...	Twice a day by hereditary Gurukkals	...
541	Extent not stated			...	...	198	...	Once a day by a hereditary Velar	...
6,000	9.72	17.00	...	Cocoanut Grove 5.36	16,817	...	...	Four times a day by hereditary Gurukkals	...
8,400	103.20	93.60	29.14	Shops-6 Cocoanut Grove 13.23	27,227	...	Cars-2 Sahadai, Lion Bandicoot Rishabam Sesha Bhootham Palanquin	Thrice a day by a hereditary Velar	Brahmotsavam in Vaikasi

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUPATTUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the control of									
5	23	Soorakudi (P)	M. Soorakudi	Sri Sevittu Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	Not stated	Sri Sevittu Ayyanar	...	Karaikudi Junction 30 miles
6	26	A. Thokkur (V)	Athikkadu Vadakkur	Sri Sarvaloka-nathar Temple (S)	Not known	0.22	Sri Sarvaloka-nathar	Sri Sarvaloka Nayagi	} Karaikudi Junction
7	„	do	Vanjinipatti	Sri Tirumanjana Udayar Temple (V)	Not known	0.02	Sri Tirumanjana Udayar	...	
8	29	Olagumangalam (V)	Olagumangalam	Sri Tirumeni-nathaswamy Temple (S)	Not known	0.04	Sri Tirumeni-nathar	Sri Soundara-nayagi	
9	31	Nerkuppai (P)	Nerkuppai	Sri Manamotha kandeewarar Temple (S)	Not known	0.51	Sri Manamotha Kandeewarar	...	} Karaikudi Junction 26 miles
10	32	Nerkuppai D. (V)	Periamarutham Patti	Sri Periyamarun-theeswarar Temple (S)	Not known	0.53	Sri Periyamar-untheeswarar	Sri Paranjothi Amman	
11	„	do	do	Sri Sevuga-perumal Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.52	Sri Sevuga-perumal Ayyanar	Sri Poorana Sri Pushkala	
12	34	Thuvar (P)	Thuvar	Sri Vallinayaga-swamy Temple (M)	Not known	0.36	Sri Vallinayagar	...	Karaikudi Junction

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
Sivaganga Devasthanam (Contd.)									
1,800	...	...	...	...	37,493	...	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Poosari	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Gurukkal	...
3,150	14.35	4.56	...	...	...	738	...	do	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Four times a day by Gurukkals	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	1,266	Rathams-3	Four times a day by hereditary Gurukkals	Thiruvadhirai
2,200	5.29	10.75	...	...	Cocoanut Grove 5.18	13,385	...	do	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Velar	Annual festival in Ani
711	13.23	...	...	...	...	...	775	Four times a day by a hereditary Velar	...

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUPATTUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the control of									
13	44	Velangudi (P)	Velangudi	Sri Rudrapathi Nayabar Temple (S)	1,000	0.49	Sri Rudrapatheeswarar	Sri Maragatha Valli Sri Vinayakar Sri Bairavar	Karaikudi Junction 20 miles
14	45	Sundakkadu (P)	Sundakkadu	Sri Athmanathar Temple (S)	Not known	0.32	Sri Athmanathar	Sri Sivayogavalli	
15	49	Muraiyur (P)	Muraiyur	Sri Meenakshi Chockanathar Temple (S)	Not known	0.36	Sri Chockanathaswamy	Sri Meenakshi-amman	Karaikudi Junction
16	58	K. Vairavanpatti (V)	Vairavanpatti	Sri Tirumeigana Vairavaswamy Temple (S)	Not known	0.72	Sri Tirumeigana Vairavaswamy	Sri Bagampiriyal	Karaikudi Junction 20 miles
17	63	Nemmam (V)	Nemmeni	Sri Valmeegana-thaswamy Temple (S)	350	0.86	Sri Valmeegana-thaswamy	Sri Alliyinkothai	Kandanur Pudukayal Railway station 10 miles
18	68	Kanadukathan (P)	Kanadukathan	Sri Sivaloganathaswamy Temple (S)	200	0.10	Sri Sivaloganathaswamy	Sri Soundaranyagi-amman	Chettinad Railway station 2 miles
19	70	Kottamangalam (V)	Kottamangalam	Sri Tirumennathaswamy Temple (S)	500	0.72	Sri Tirumennathaswamy	Sri Soundaranyagi-amman	Chettinad Railway station 5 miles

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
Sivaganga Devasthanam (Contd.)									
1,270	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...
3,450	5.68	0.40	...	...	23,915	...	Sahadai-2 Rishabams-2 Horse, Swan Kamadhenu Bandicoot	Four times a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	Annual festival in Ani
3,750	10.94	0.52	...	...	...	1,013	Rishabam	do	Thiruvadhirai
759	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	Once a day by a Brahmin	...
150	...	...	...	...	2,35,436	...	Silver Elephant Kailasa Parvatham Rishabams-3 Swan Kedayam Peacock Bandicoot Tholukkiniyan Cars-2	Four times a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	Annual festival in Ani
800	9.82	0.59	...	...	2,300	...	Silver Bandicoot Palanquin Ratham	do	...

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	No.	Name	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the control of									
20	74	Soorakudi (V)	Vanniyan Soorakudi	Sri Chockanatha swamy Temple (S)	300	1.05	Sri Chockanatha-swamy	Sri Meenakshi-amman	Chettinad Railway station 3 miles
21	..	do	do	Sri Kannirainda Perumal Temple (V)	150	Below 0.01	Sri Kannirainda Perumal	Sri Devi Bhu Devi	do
22	83	Thenkarai (V)	Thenkarai	Sri Andarswamy Temple (O)	100	0.01	Sri Andarswamy	...	Karaikudi Junction 10 miles
23	84	Alagapuri (P)	Alagapuri	Sri Alagiamunee-swaraswamy Temple (S)	300	0.10	Sri Alagiamunee-swarar	...	do
24	98	Vadavanpatti (P)	Vadavanpatti	Sri Piriyavidai Nayanar Temple (S)	Not known	0.09	Sri Vanamabeswarar	Sri Swarnavalli	Kallal Railway station 18 miles
25	101	Eriyur (P)	Eriyur	Sri Maruntheeswarar Temple (S)	Not known	Below 0.01	Sri Oushadha-girceswarar	...	Kallal Railway station 15 miles
26	102	Aralikottai (P)	Aralikottai	Sri Choleswarar Temple (S)	150	0.04	Sri Choleswarar	Sri Tambiratti amman	Sivaganga Railway station 14 miles

Annual income assessed for 1375 y H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple (19)	Festivals (20)
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. (16)	Reported by temple (17)			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)		
vaganga Devasthanam (Contd.)									
3,800	...	...	...	Cocoanut Grove 2:37	12,195	...	...	Four times a day by a hereditary Brahmin	Sivarathri
120	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
50	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	do	...
637	...	...	...	...	...	33	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
2,600	...	...	...	Rest House Graneries-3	...	335	...	Four times a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	Vaikasi Visakam
							Vahanas-4	Twice a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	Annual festival in Panguni
90	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUPATTUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the control of									
27	103	Tirukoshtiyur (P)	Tirukoshtiyur	Sri Sowmyanarayana Perumal Temple (V)	Not known	2.92	Sri Sowmyanarayana Perumal	Sri Tirumagal Sri Andal	Sivaganga Railway station 17 miles
28	108	Pattamangalam East (P)	Pattamangalam	Sri Alagia Soundariamman Temple (F)	250	0.22	Sri Alagia Soundari	...	Kallal Railway station 10 miles
29	..	do	do	Sri Mariathakanda Vinayakar Temple (G)		0.23	Sri Mariathakanda Vinayakar	...	
30	109	Veliyathur (P)	Veliyathoor	Sri Kailasanathaswamy Temple (S)	Not known	0.22	Sri Kailasanathaswamy	Sri Soundaranyagi	Kallal Railway station 6 miles
31	110	Kambanur (P)	Kambanur	Sri Kottai Pillayar Temple (G)	200	0.18	Sri Kottai Pillayar	Sri Chockanathar Sri Meenakshi	Karaikudi Junction 9 miles
32	..	do	Kattunachi (Nachiapuram)	Sri Kattu Nachiamman Temple (F)	350	0.13	Sri Kattunachi- amman	...	Karaikudi Junction 8 miles

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
Sivaganga Devasthanam (Contd.)									
26,670	93.21	21.12	...	Cocoanut Grove 3.77	3,49,528	...	Ivory Palanquin Silver Elephant Cars-2 Garuda Lion, Horse Sahadai Hanumar Elephant Sesha	Six times a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Annual festival in Vaikasi Vaikunta Ekadasi Brahmothsavam in Chithrai Adi Pooram Navarathri Festival in Margazhi Theppothsavam in Masi Panguni Uthiram Sri Jayanthi
2,497	20.82	0.25	...	..	...	1,586	Cars-2, Lion Horse Elephant, Swan Rishabam Kedayam Bhootham Suran Bandicoot	Four times a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	Annual festival in Panguni
400	Extent not stated			...	...	813	...	Once a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
455	11.97	2.74	...	...	...	360	Bandicoot Horse Kedayam	do	...
490	...	...	...	...	...	649	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattar	...

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUPATTUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under control of									
33	114	Kovilur (V)	Kalanivasal	Sri Kotravalee-swaraswamy Temple (S)	450	1.53	Sri Kotravalee-swaraswamy	Sri Nellai-amman	Karaikudi Junction 3 miles
34	117	Kallangudi (V)	Kallangudi	Sri Thirupagatheeswarar Temple (S)	300	0.33	Sri Thirupagatheeswarar	Sri Yogambal Sri Balambal	Kandanur Pudukavayal Railway station 1½ miles
35	122	Sakkottai (P)	Sakkottai	Sri Veerasekharaswamy Temple (S)	500	1.01	Sri Veerasekharaswamy	Sri Umayambigai Sri Uyya vandamman	do
36	131	Mitravayal (V)	Thiruthangoor	Sri Naganathaswamy Temple (S)	300	1.69	Sri Naganathaswamy	Sri Swarna Valli	Kandanur Pudukavayal Railway station 10 miles
37	142	Amaravathi (V)	Pudur	Sri Vantharuleeswaraswamy Temple (S)	150	0.31	Sri Vantharuleeswarar	Sri Vazhavanthanayagi Amman	Devakottai Road Railway station 1 mile
38	152	Kandavamanickam (P)	Kandaramanickam	Sri Kailasanathaswamy Temple (S)	100	0.20	Sri Kailasanathaswamy	Sri Periana-yaki	Kallal Railway station 5 miles
39	..	do	do	Sri Alagiakanda Vinayakar Temple (G)		0.06	Sri Alagiakanda Vinayakar	...	

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
Sivaganga Devasthanam (Contd.)									
8,000	16.06	...	...	Cocoanut Grove 10.32	1,59,967	...	Silver Rishabams-2 Kedayam Kailasa Parvatham Bandicoot Peacock, Car Karpaga Viruksham Kamadhenu Lion, Swan Elephant Horse	Four times a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	Adi Pooram Navarathri Thiruvadhirai
2,500	4.97	...	...	Garden 0.68	29,553	...	Car	do	Festival in Chithrai
7,075	4.39	10.53	...	Garden 0.53 Vacant plots 3.17	1,95,075	...	Silver Rishabams-3 Horse, Swan Kedayam Bandicoot Lion Cars-3	do	Brahmothsavam in Ani Adi Pooram
1,500	...	...	...	...	11,920	...	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...
486	...	...	...	...	...	30	...	Once a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	Sivarathri
290	...	...	...	...	1,26,345	...	Sabadai Peacock Horse Bandicoot Suran Kedayam	Four times a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUPATTUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the control of									
40	153	Kallupattur (P)	Perichikoil	Sri Andapillai Nayanar Temple (S)	200	0.38	Sri Andapillai Nayanar	Sri Sameepa Valli	Kallal Railway station 4 miles
41	155	Sembanur (P)	Sembanoor	Sri Kandeewaraswamy Temple (S)	100	0.30	Sri Kandeewarar	Sri Nithyakalyaniammam	Kallal Railway station 1 mile
42	156	Kallal (P)	Kallal	Sri Pagachalai Vinayakar Temple (G)	500	0.58	Sri Pagachalai Vinayakar	Sri Somasundareswarar Sri Soundaranyaki	do
43	158	Visalayan-kottai (P)	Sannavanam	Sri Sannavanathaswamy Temple (S)	200	0.41	Sri Sannavanathaswamy	Sri Darisanavalli	Devakottai Road Railway station 4 miles
44	161	Keelapoongudi (P)	Keelapoongudi	Sri Markandeeswaraswamy Temple (S)	300	0.18	Sri Markandeeswaraswamy	Sri Ezhuvar-kuzhali	Kallal Railway station 3 miles
45	165	Panangudi (P)	Panangudi	Sri Perianayagi- amman Temple (F)	300	0.22	Sri Perianayagi- amman	...	Panangudi Railway station 1 mile
46	167	Siruvayal (P)	Aranmanai Siruvayal	Sri Mummudinathaswamy Temple (S)	300	0.44	Sri Mummudinathaswamy	Sri Karuna Kadakshi	Aramanai Siruvayal Railway station 1 furlong
47	..	do	Pullikuthi	Sri Pulikuthi- amman Temple (F)	200	0.11	Sri Pulikuthi- amman	...	do

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
Sivaganga Devasthanam (Concl'd.)									
1,382	9.93	...	...	...	...	...	Kedayam	Twice a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
450	Extent not stated			...	...	248	Rishabam Peacock Horse	Four times a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
647	...	..	...	Shops-5	53,579	...	Silver Kedayam Rishabams-2 Peacock Car	do	Brahmothsavam in Masi
980	8.08	14.98	...	...	...	64	...	Once a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...
306	...	...	...	...	...	22	...	Once a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
634	...	...	...	...	...	11,064	Car, Saahadi Horse Rishabam Swan, Lion Bandicoot Kedayam	Thrice a day by a hereditary Achari	Navarathri Karthigai Deepam
502	3.57	...	...	...	...	5,045	...	Four times a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
133	...	...	...	...	...	169	...	Once a day by a hereditary Kambar	...

244

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUPATTUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	No.	Name	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples outside the Hindu Religion									
1	59	Tirupattur (P)	Tirupattur	Sri Nindra Narayana Perumal Temple (V)	400	0.01	Sri Nindra Narayana Perumal	Sri Ubaya Nachiar Sri Andal	Karaikkudi Junction 13 miles
2	70	Kottamangalam (V)	Kottamangalam	Sri Ayinoottu Vinayakar Temple (G)	100	0.10	Sri Ayinoottu Vinayakar	...	Chettinad Railway station 4 miles
3	121	Puduvayal (P)	Puduvayal	Sri Ranganatha Perumal Temple (V)	60	0.02	Sri Ranganatha Perumal	Sri Ubaya Nachiar Sri Andal	Kandanur Puduvayal Railway station 1 mile
4	167	Siruvayal A. (P)	Siruvayal	Sri Thiagaraja-swamy Temple (S)	60	0.24	Sri Thiagaraja-swamy	Sri Thiruloganayagi amman	Karaikkudi Junction 10 miles

MANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

ALUK (Concid.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)

nd Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department

460	...	...	...	...	...	1,000	Horse Garuda Tholukkiniyan	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	...
700	Extent not stated		...	Shops	...	25	...	Thrice a day by a Gurukkal	...
600	...	...	...	...	...	400	Garuda	Twice a day by a Bhattachariar	...
500	...	...	...	...	...	50	...	Twice a day by a Gurukkal	...

SIVAGANGA TALUK

90 KALAIARKOIL

Sri Swarna Kaleeswarar Temple

Thirukanapper or Kalaiarkoil is one of the 14 sacred shrines of Lord Siva in Pandya Nad which have been visited by Saivite saints. The village of Somanathamangalam where this renowned shrine is situated, is at a distance of 18 kilometres from Sivaganga.

Legend has it that once Goddess Parvathi was cursed by Lord Siva for having upset the entire universe by playfully closing His eyes. As a result, she had to be on the earth in the form of Kali. As desired by the Devas She killed a demon by name Chandasuran who was harassing the Devas. After a terrific fight with the demon, Kali reached this holy place and offered worship to Lord Siva. Later, she regained her original form and joined her husband. Since Siva was worshipped by Kali, the presiding deity is known as Kaleesar.

There are several legends according to which many including the Devas and gods got redemption from curse, after worshipping the presiding deity at this place.

The place is known by a variety of names such as Dakshina Kalipuram, Jothivanam, Mandaravanam, Mokshapradam, Saiva Kshethram, Gandharam, Devadaruvanam, Bhooloka Kailasam, Agasthya Kshethram and Maha Kalapuram. There are a number of theerthams or sacred waters here called Sivaganga, Kali, Vishnu, Lakshmi, Dikpalaka, Sudarsana, Rudra and Chandra Pushkarani. According to one of the legends, Sage Agasthya is said to have bathed in Sivaganga theertham.

Three Lingas have been installed in the temple with their respective consorts. They are: Swarna-kaleeswarar and his consort Sri Swarnavalli Amman, Sri Somanathar and his consort Sri Soundaranayaki and Sri Somasundarar and his consort Sri Meenakshi Amman. This temple was famous in the Sangam age. The magnificent rajagopuram before the sanctum of Sri Somanathar, built by the Marudu brothers is facing east. This big rajagopuram consisting of 9 tiers is 157' in height. The rajagopuram before the sanctum of Sri Kaleeswarar is of five tiers. This was built by Varaguna Pandyan. The rajagopuram before the sanctum of Somanathar is flanked on either side by the two temples dedicated to Vinayakar and Murugar.

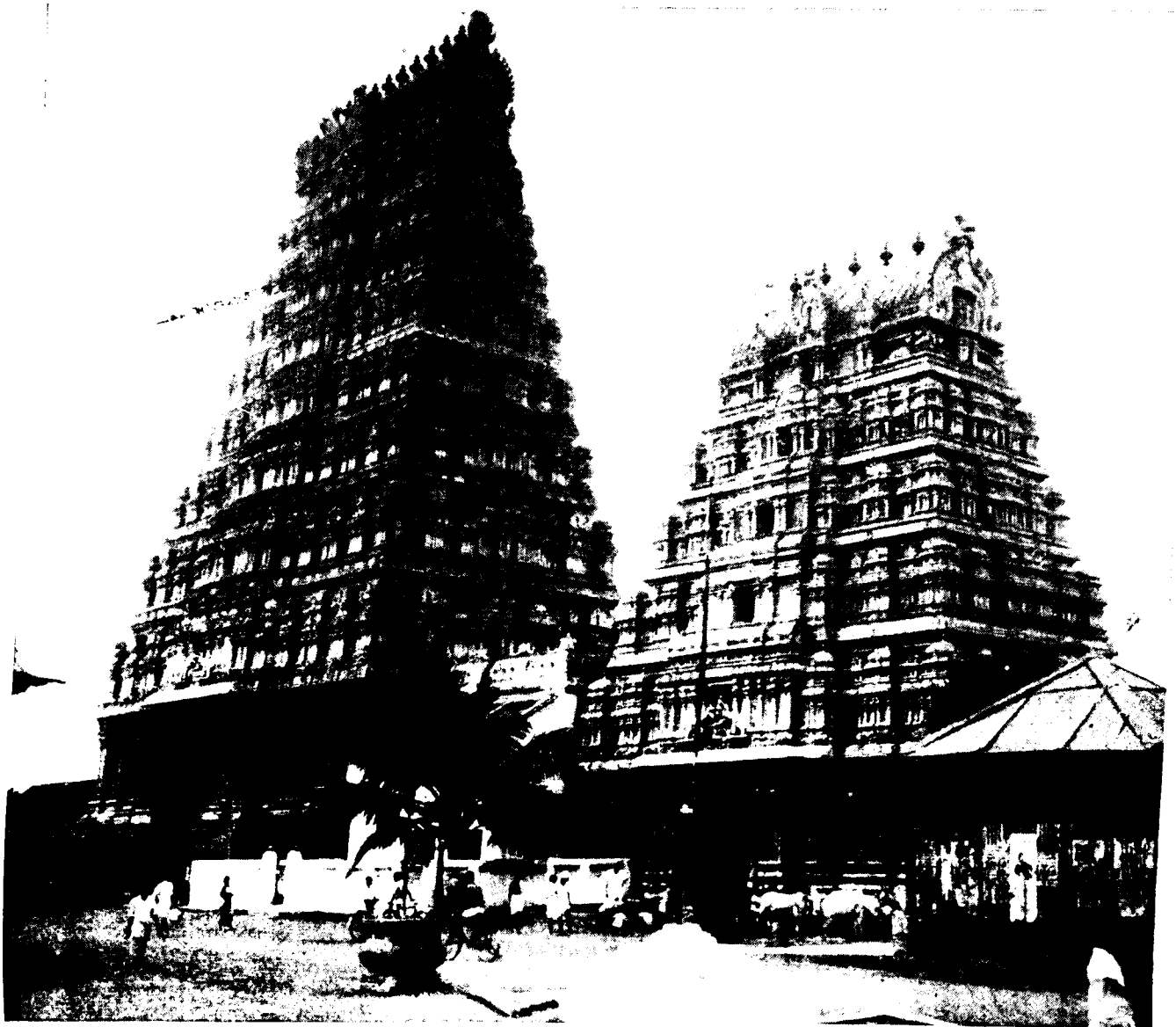
Passing the rajagopuram, one can reach the sanctum of Sri Somanathar. The sanctum of the Goddess Soundaranayaki Amman is before the flag-mast, facing south. The deity with her four hands presents a graceful appearance.

In the huge mandapam before the sanctum of Somesar is seen a separate temple, facing south, dedicated to Sri Natarajar, his consort Sivagami Amman and Sri Manickavasagar. To the south of this is seen Sri Somaskandhar, the festive idol.

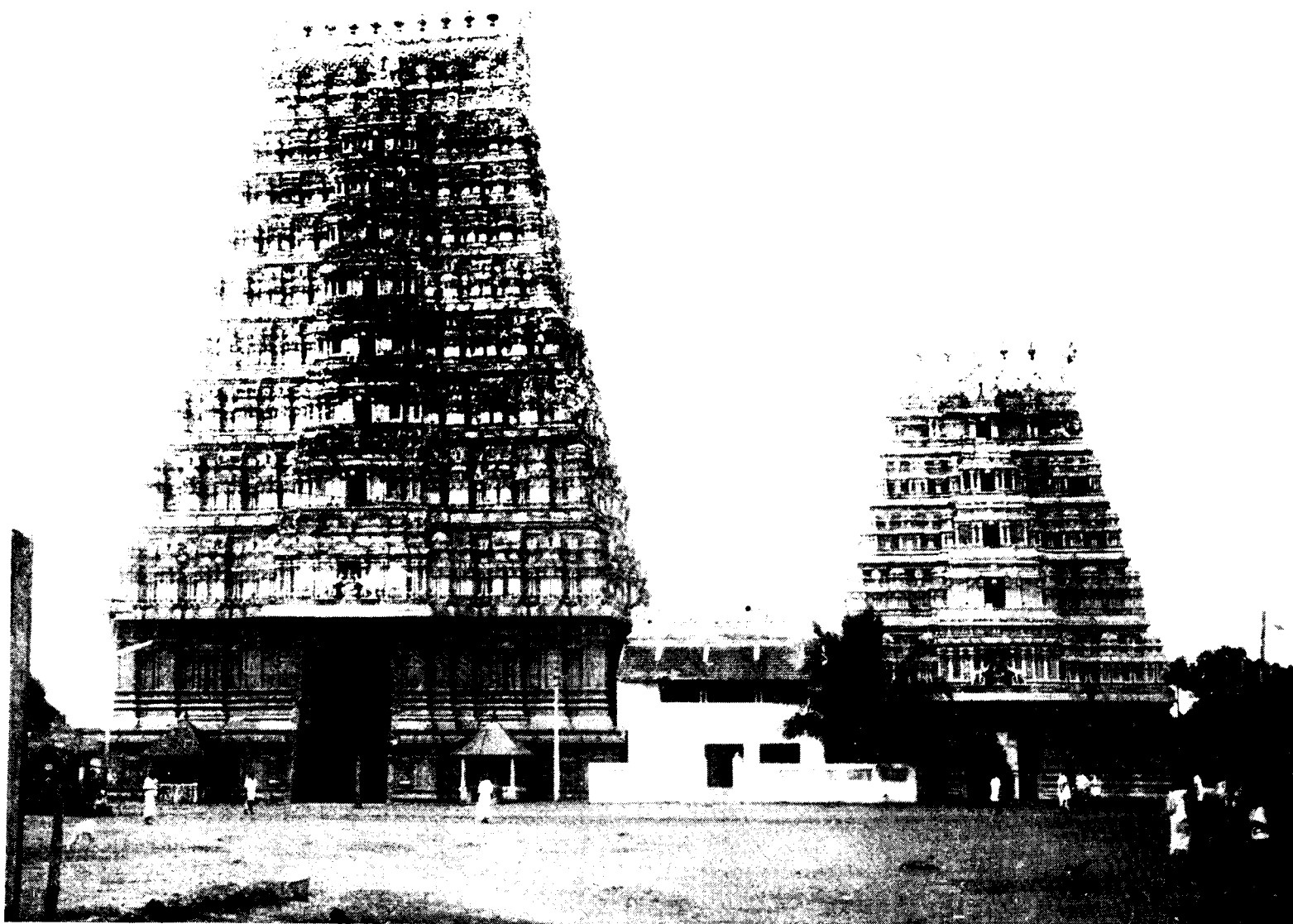
On the west side of the prakaram are the idols of Sri Suganthavana Perumal and his consort Sri Bhudevi. The Murugan temple is found on the north-west corner of the prakaram. In the eastern corner are seen the festive idols of the four saivite saints and the images of Sri Chandrasekharar, Bikshadanar and Murugar. Sri Bairavar is facing south. After worshipping Somesar one reaches the flag-mast. In the south-east corner of the outer prakaram, the madapalli is located. To the south of this lies the Selva Vinayakar temple. The



The magnificent Rajagopuram of the temple at Kalaiarkoil



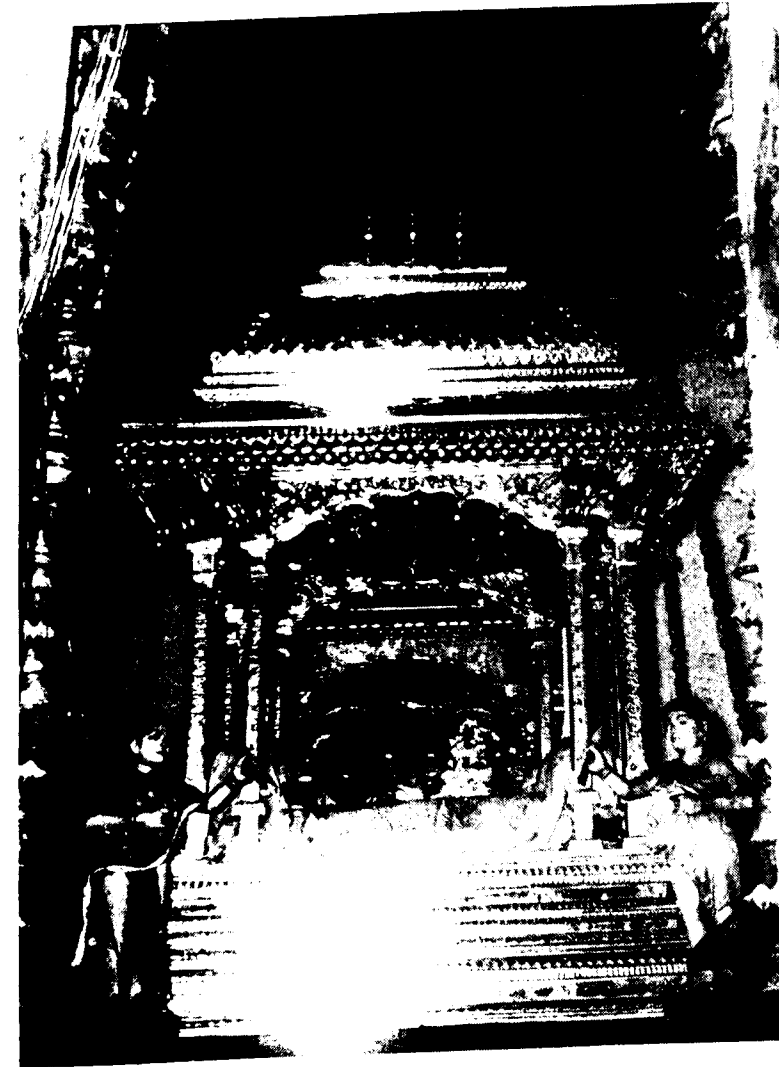
The Rajagopuram and the ancient gopuram recently renovated



A front view of the gopuram



Somaskandhar : the festival idol



The golden Unjal in the Palliyarai



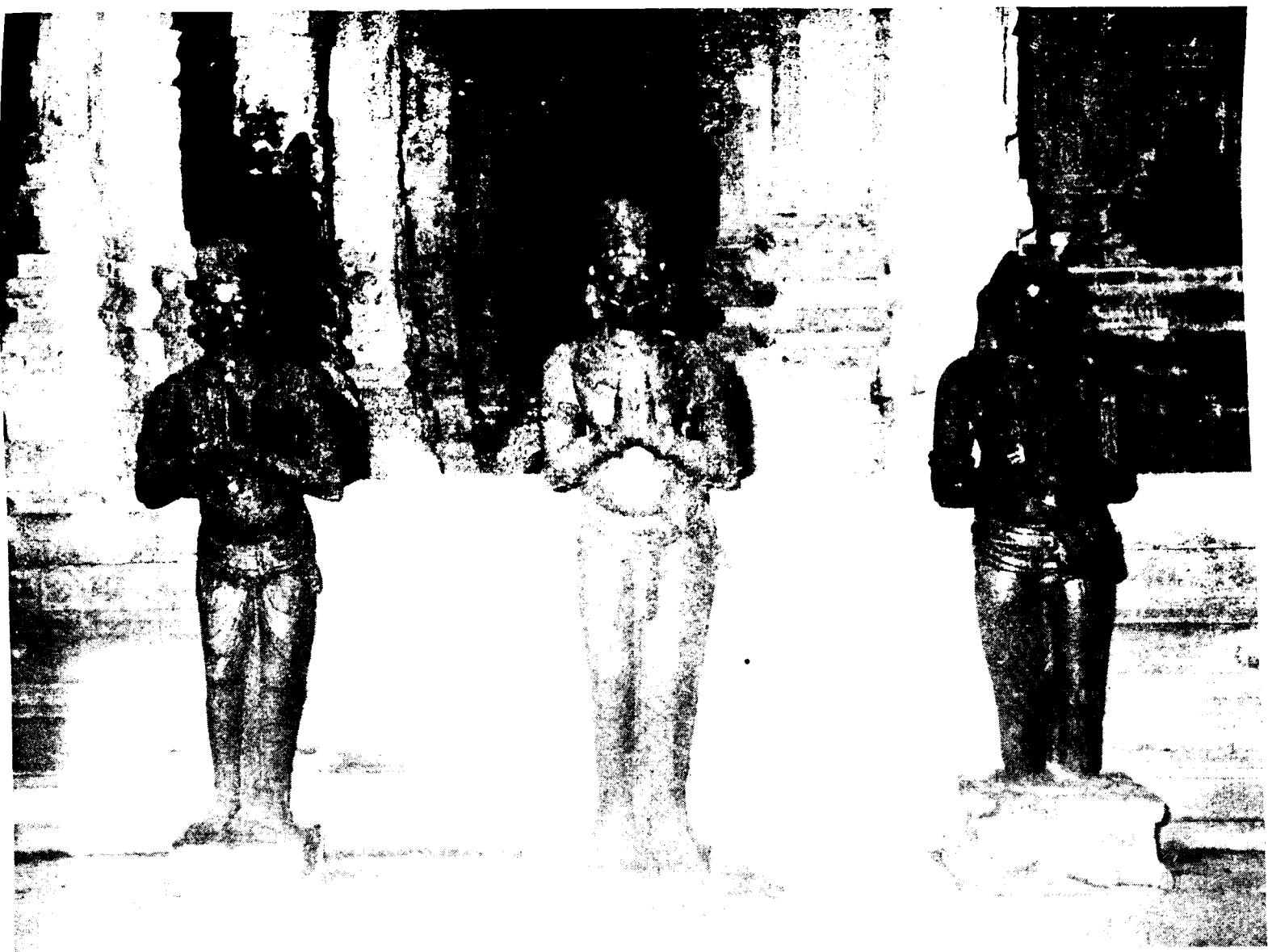
The sacred tank of the temple with a huge mandapam at its centre



Another view of the tank with its mandapam

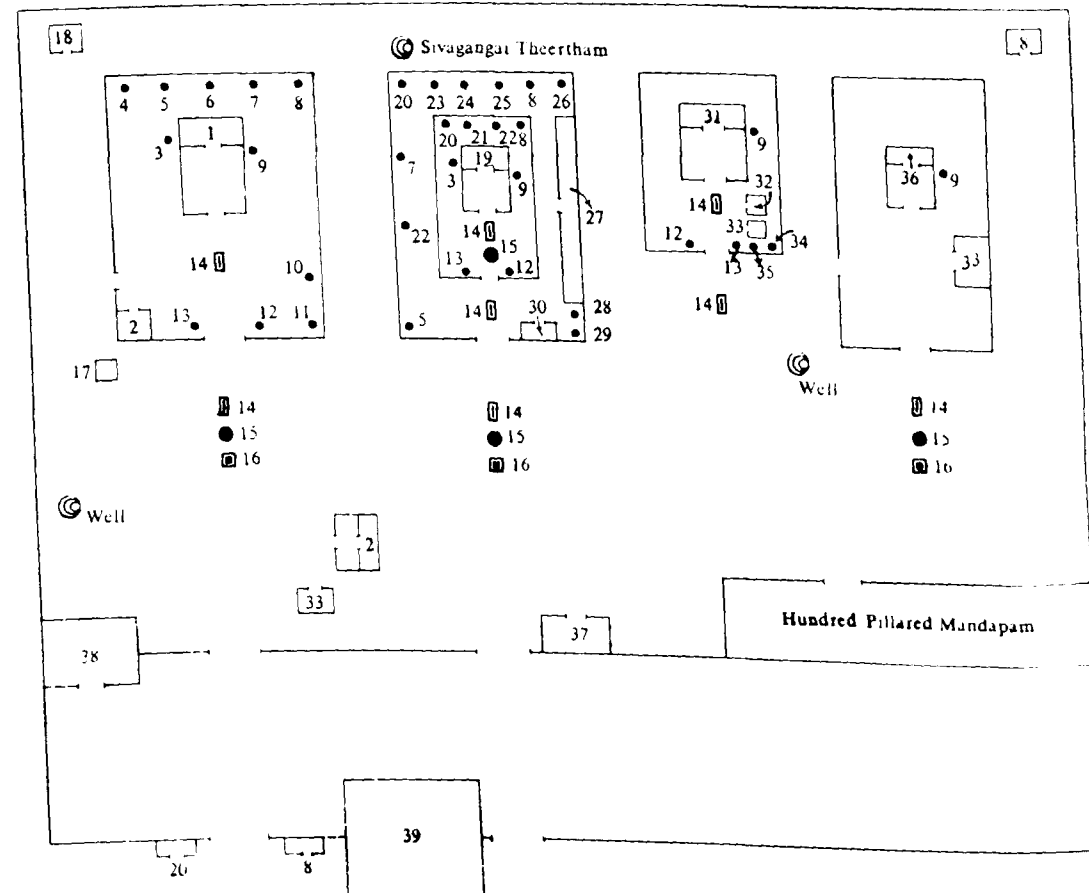


Another view of the huge tank and mandapam where the annual Theppotsavam is celebrated



Statues of Marudu Pandya and his brothers, the Chief architects of the temple

SRI SWARNAKALEESWARAR TEMPLE KALIYARKOIL (Not to Scale)

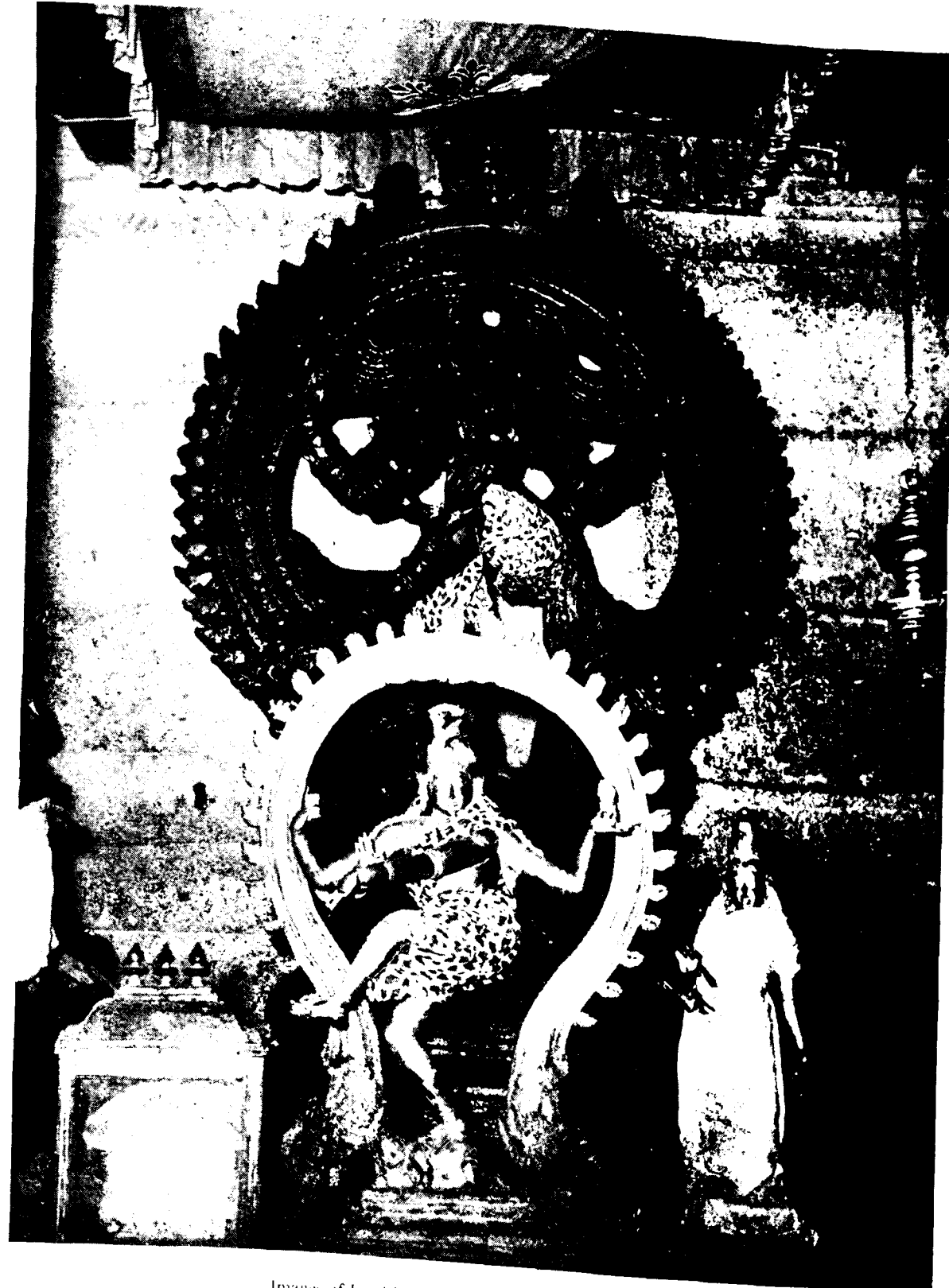


INDEX TO NUMBERS

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 Someswarar (Moolavar) | 14 Nandhi | 27 Vessels Room |
| 2 Soundhara Nayagi | 15 Balipeedam | 28 Natarajar |
| 3 Lakshinamoorthy | 16 Dwajasthambam | 29 Bairavar |
| 4 Someswarar (Uthavar) | 17 Sahasralingam | 30 Vahana Room |
| 5 Nalvar | 18 Selva Vinayagar | 31 Sundareswarar (Moolavar) |
| 6 Suganthavanaperumal | 19 Kaleswarar (Moolavar) | 32 Meenakshi |
| 7 Sapthamadhar | 20 Vinayagar | 33 Pattarai |
| 8 Subramaniam, Vathil & Deivayanai | 21 Brahma | 34 Natarajar |
| 9 Chandikeswarar | 22 Lingodbhavar | 35 Navagrahas |
| 10 Natarajar, Sivakami & Manickavasagar | 23 Somaskandhar | 36 Suvarnavalli Amman (Moolavar) |
| 11 Bairavar | 24 Panchalingam | 37 Yagasalai |
| 12 Chandran | 25 Ashla Lakshmi | 38 Madapathi |
| 13 Suriyan | 26 Varunalingam | 39 Office |



The Rajagopuram view of Pushpavaneswarar temple at Tiruppuvanam



Images of Lord Nataraja: Moolavar and Uthsavar

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

temple tank known as Sivagangai theertham is situated on the western side of the prakaram. The sanctum of Sri Shanmugar is found in the north-west direction and in the eastern corner is seen the renovated hundred pillar mandapam.

The sanctum of Sri Kaleesar lies to the east of Sri Somesar temple. Here the images of the Sethupathi as an old man and the brothers Peria Marudu and Chinna Marudu are found. The idol of Ganapathi graces the second prakaram. In the southern direction, the 63 idols of the Saivite Nayanmars are found. The sanctum of Sri Kaleesar is built with artistic stone slabs. Before the sanctum, one finds the beautiful copper images of the dwarapalakas. In the inner prakaram the idols of Sri Vinayakar, Dakshinamurthi, Lingodbhavar and Brahma are seen.

The temples of Meenakshi Sundareswarar and Swarnavalli Amman are situated to the north of Kaleesar temple. The image of Varaguna Pandya who built the Meenakshi Sundareswarar temple is found here. The artistically made festive idols of Swarnavalli, Kaleesar, Meenakshi and Sundareswarar grace the place in the same way as sung by the Saivite saint Thirunavukkarasar in his songs. The Navagrahas can be worshipped in the Sundareswarar temple.

The temples of the consorts were renovated by the Marudu brothers in the 18th century. The Somanathar temple, Swarnavalli temple, Kaleesar temple etc. were renovated by some pious individuals. Besides, many philanthropists have made and continue to make endowments for renovation.

The original rajagopuram and small gopuram have also been renovated. After completion of these renovation work, Maha Kumbabishegam was celebrated on a grand scale in these temples on 11th November 1959.

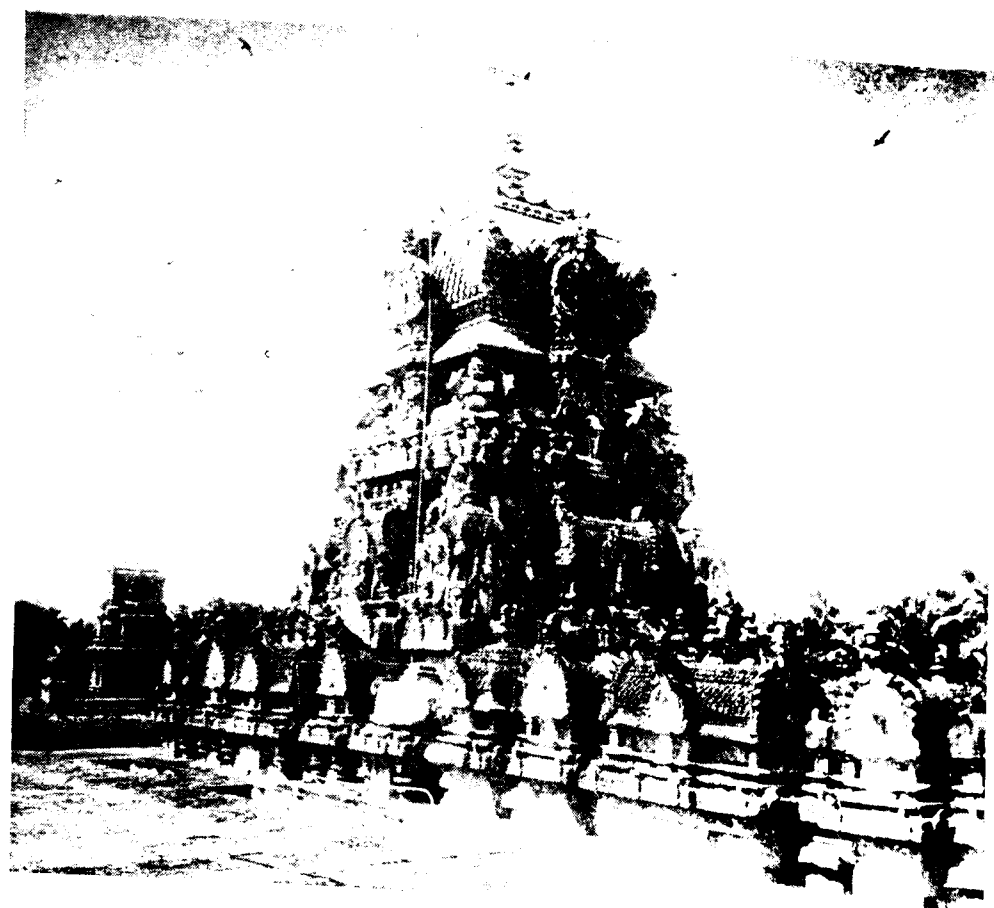
The big and beautiful temple tank known as 'Yanai madu' with a mandapam in its centre is situated to the south of the temple. In the month of Vaikasi on the full moon day a floating festival takes place here for the Lord, on a very large scale. At a distance of 300 yards before the temple of Kaleesar, lies the tomb of Marudu brothers. It is said that in order to make these famous feudal lords surrender, the English threatened to destroy the temple. Thereafter, the Marudu brothers voluntarily surrendered to save the temple and were later executed. As desired by them, their bodies were interred before the temple. In Margazhi, theertha festival is got up for Sri Swarnavar.

Poojas are performed six times daily. The temple possesses silver mounts and gold ornaments. There are two wooden Cars. In the month of Vaikasi, a festival is celebrated for 10 days for Lord Somesar. The festival for Kaleesar takes place in the month of Thai (January-February) for 10 days and Theerthavari is got up in Pooram asterism during that month. Adi Pooram festival is celebrated for the Goddess Swarnavalli. In Karthigai month, 1008 Sangu abishegam is performed. Monthly festivals are celebrated for Meenakshi Sundareswarar on a considerable scale.

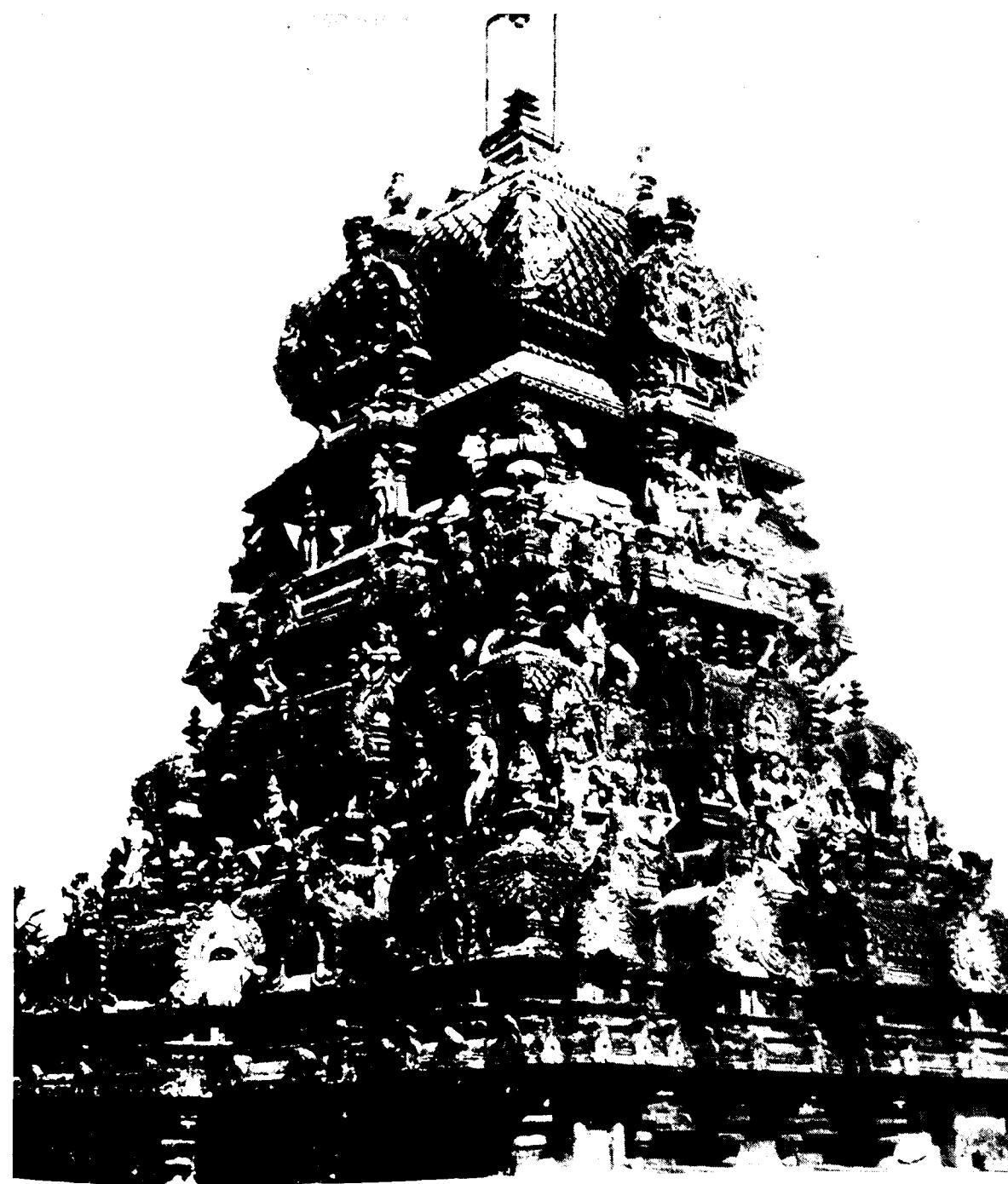
119 TIRUPPUVANAM

Sri Pushpavaneswarar Temple

Tiruppuvanam is in Sivaganga taluk of Ramanathapuram district. It is situated at a distance of 18 kilometres to the east of Madurai. The place is accessible both by rail and road. The railway station bearing the same name is on the Madura-Rameswaram railway line. This famous and beautiful temple is dedicated to Lord Pushpavaneswarar or Poovannanathar and His consort Sri Soundaranayaki. The name of the deity is said to have been derived from 'Pushpavanam' which means a place full of flower plants. Another interpretation is as follows: vannam



The vimanam over the sanctum sanctorum



Another view of the beautiful vimanam

means beautiful. As the deity here is as beautiful as a flower, He is called Pushpavanneswarar. 'Poo' is the Tamil equivalent of the sanskrit term 'pushpa', meaning flower. The temple is just half a mile from Tiruppuvanam railway station.

There are many legends concerning this ancient temple. Tiruppuvanam is one of the renowned sivas-thalams in Pandya Nad. The Swayambu Lingam is said to have been worshipped by Sun God. Thirasanan, a Vedic scholar who worshipped the goddess here but failed to offer his worship to the Lord first, was cursed to turn into a demon. Later he realised his fault through Narada, bathed in the sacred tank Brahma theertham, worshipped the Lord and was relieved of this curse. Dhunnannan a notorious robber, while fleeing from the palace after plundering it fell into the sacred tank "Manikarnikai" accidentally and attained salvation. A devout Brahmin called Dharumanjan interned his father's mortal remains after his death into this sacred tank which turned into a lotus. Brahma, Thirumal, Lakshmi and Parvathi installed Lingams here, offered worship to the Lord and got redemption. The sacred tanks here are called Manikundam, Vaigai, Vasishta theertham and Indra theertham. Ablutions offered to the ancestors after a dip in these sacred tanks are supposed to be received by them in person. It is believed that Nala Maharaja with his wife and children on his way back from a pilgrimage offered worship to the Lord here and conducted a festival for him. It is also said that goddess Kali installed a Lingam in this place, worshipped him and thereby got relieved of the sin of challenging Lord Siva in a dance.

According to the temple authorities the Pandya rulers constructed the temple. It occupies an area of 3.03 acres. The site is rectangular. The temple compound runs to a length of 403', the breadth being 327'. The rajagopuram of the Lord is 75' in height and the tower before the consort is 25' tall. The two temples have separate entrances. Both the temples

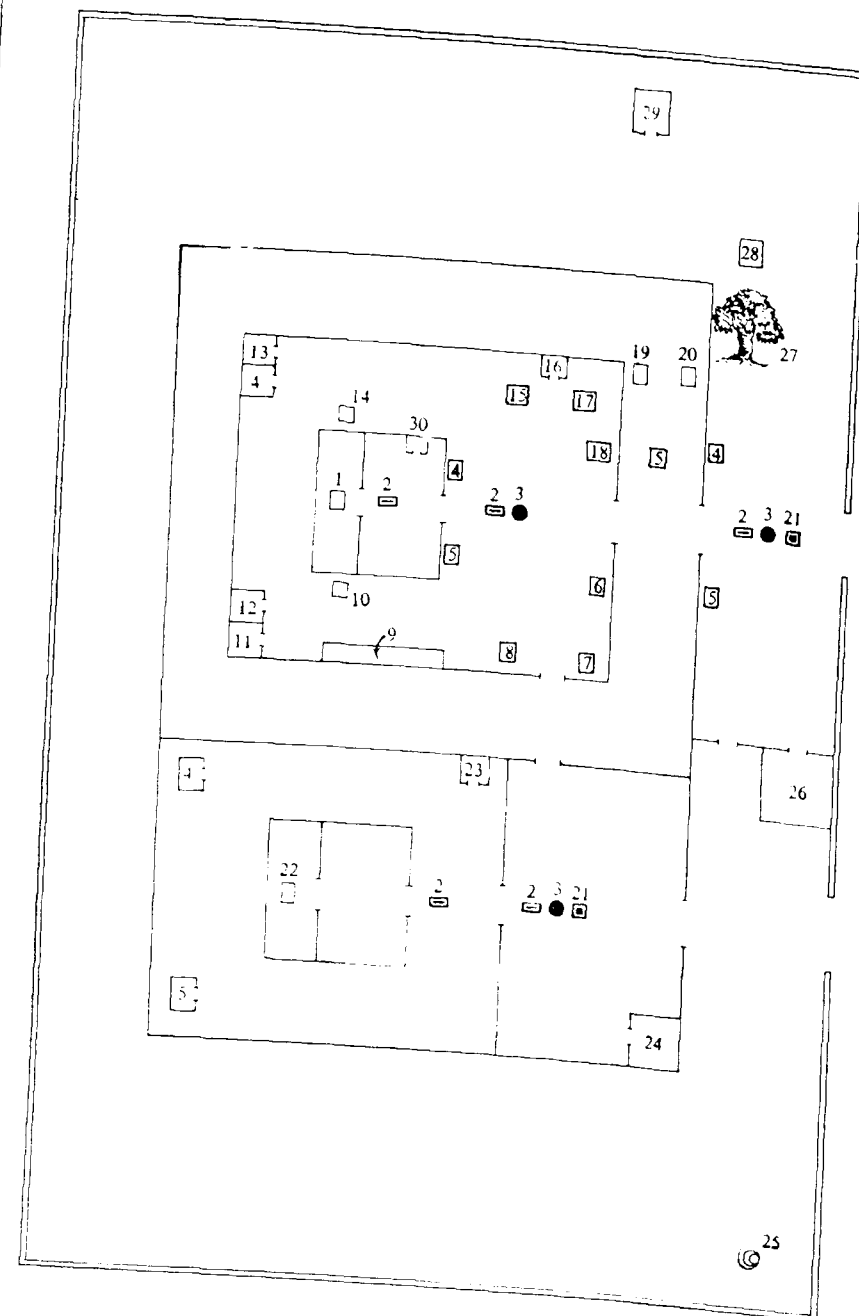
are encompassed by the sacred prakaram. Entering the rajagopuram which is facing east, one has to cross the flag-mast to reach the Natarajar mandapam. The temple dedicated to Sri Natarajar is on the right side here, facing southwards. Crossing this, one reaches the mahamandapam which contains in it the arthamandapam and the sanctum sanctorum of the Lord. The presiding deity is in the form of a Swayambu Lingam facing east. There is also an inner prakaram. In the first prakaram adjoining the Natarajar mandapam are seen the idols of the 63 Saivite Nayanmars. The temple of the consort found on the right side of the second prakaram faces east. In the same prakaram, one finds the three sacred tanks and the Suryavinayakar temple. Passing the prakaram, one enters the dwajasthamba mandapam of the consort which contains the flag-mast, the temple kitchen and the sacred Chandra theertham. This mandapam leads to the mahamandapam and the sanctum of the consort Sri Soundaranayaki or Minnammai. A bed chamber is also found here on the right side of the mahamandapam.

The festival idols in these temples are noted for their beauty. The most beautiful is that of Lord Poovannanathar itself. The following interesting story of the Thiruvilayadal Puranam is associated with this idol. A danseuse by name Rudrakannika or Ponnanaiyal who lived here long ago, desired to cast a golden image of the deity and looked forward for sufficient quantity of gold. Impressed by her devotion to Him, Siva came in the guise of a Siddhar and converted iron and copper into gold and handed it over to her, to accomplish her desire. A golden image was cast and possessed by the beauty of it, Ponnanaiyal caressed the cheek of the Lord and kissed it. Her nail-mark on the cheek of the idol can be seen even to-day. The festive idols here in addition to the Lord and the consort are the idols of Sri Pillayar, Murugar, Valli, Deivayanai, the three Saivite saints, Sri Chandrasekharar, Chandeswarar etc.



A sculpture depicting the Sthalapuram of the temple

SRI PUSHPAVANESWARAR TEMPLE **THIRUPUVANAM** (Not to Scale)



- INDEX TO NUMBERS**
- 1 Pushpavaneswarar (Moolavar)
 - 2 Nandhi
 - 3 Balipeedam
 - 4 Subramaniam, Valli & Deivayanai
 - 5 Vinayagar
 - 6 Suriyan
 - 7 Sayanaperumal
 - 8 Nalvar
 - 9 Sixty Three Nayanmars & Sapthamadhars
 - 10 Dakshinamoorthy
 - 11 Maha Ganapathi
 - 12 Somaskandhar
 - 13 Mahalakshmi
 - 14 Chaudikeswarar
 - 15 Pathanjali Munivar
 - 16 Natarajar, Sivakami & Manickavasagar (Uthsavar & Moolavar)
 - 17 Vyagrapadha Munivar
 - 18 Chandran
 - 19 Navagrabas
 - 20 Sadeeswarar
 - 21 Dwajasthambam
 - 22 Soundara Nayaki (Moolavar)
 - 23 Palliarai
 - 24 Madapilli
 - 25 Manikarnagar Theertham
 - 26 Office
 - 27 Sthalaviruksham
 - 28 Surya Theertham
 - 29 Bhaskara Vinayagar
 - 30 Karuvoolam

CENSUS MADRAS

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

As already mentioned, there are many sacred tanks here. The deity and the consort have been sung in praise by the three Saivite saints in their Thevaram and by Saint Manickavasagar in his Thiruvagasam. This sthalam is considered as 'Dakshin Kasi' (Benares of the south).

The temple contains antique jewellery worth about Rs. 67,000. They include three precious pendants. There are many mounts in the temple. Except Rishaba vahanam which is silver plated, all others are made of wood. The temple wooden Car is decorated with diamonds, when taken in procession. Other immovable properties of the temple include about 170 acres of cultivable lands, cocoanut groves and a market.

The annual income of the temple is estimated to be about Rs. 30,000. There are hereditary priests attending to the temple poojas. Service inam and offerings from the devotees constitute the income to

them. There are two inscriptions in the temple dating back to the time of Pandya kings.

Poojas are performed six times daily. The festivals celebrated include Adi Pooram, Navarathri in Purattasi, Kolatta uthsavam (10 days) in Iyppasi, Arudhra festival in Margazhi, Brahmothsavam in Panguni, Karthigai Deepam etc. The festivals in the months of Adi and Panguni are celebrated on a grand scale. About 5000 persons congregate on such occasions. On the day of Car procession, devotees from nearby villages participate in large numbers.

The temple is managed by Sivaganga Raja family, the hereditary trustees. There is no Executive Officer, though the temple comes under the Hindu Religious and charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department. Additions to temple were made 60 years ago, by a philanthropic family of Devakottai. Renovation work was carried out and Kumbabishegam was performed in 1961.

250

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
SIVAGANGA

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religions									
1	7	Madagupatti (V)	Madagupatti	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple (S)	46	0.41	Sri Sundareswarar	Sri Meenakshi-amman Sri Jambukeswarar Sri Agilandeswari	Nattarasankottai Railway station 7 miles
2	11	Kattiapatti (P)	Kattapatti	Sri Arasadi Pillayar Temple (G)	Not known	0.02	Sri Pillayar	...	Kallal Railway station 6 miles
3	13	Kilakottai Part (V)	Keelakottai	Sri Adheenamudaya Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.30	Sri Adheena-mudaya Ayyanar	...	do
4	26	Keelapoongudi (V)	Keelapungudi	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple (S)	90	0.35	Sri Sundareswarar	Sri Meenakshi-amman	Sivaganga Railway station 10 miles
5	44	Nalukkottai (V)	Nalukkottai	Sri Ekala Devi Amman Temple (F)	Not known	0.02	Sri Ekala Devi Amman	...	Sivaganga Railway station 8 miles
6	..	do	do	Sri Sundara Vinayakar Temple (G)	Not known	Below 0.01	Sri Sundara Vinayakar	...	do
7	46	Kilamangalam alias Kalayarmangalam Part (V)	Kalimangalam	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple (S)	60	0.25	Sri Sundareswarar	Sri Meenakshi-amman	Nattarasankottai Railway station 4 miles

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam	Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
540	...	...	...	...	...	100	Rishabams-3 Peacock Bandicoot Horse Kedayam Sahadais-2 Palanquin	Four times a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
200	1.73	...	...	...	...	10	Bandicoot	Once a day by a hereditary Pandaram	...
230	24.89	...	...	...	...	147	Elephant Peacock Bandicoot Horse	Twice a day by a hereditary Vellalar	Sivarathri
3,947	81.18	5.08	...	...	Buildings-13	737	Rishabams-4 Horse Peacock Bandicoot Kedayams Sahadais-2	Four times a day by a Gurukkal	...
250	4.03	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Pillai	...
234	1.50	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a Brahmin	Adi Pooram
200	...	...	...	...	...	...	Rishabam Peacock Palanquin	Four times a day by a Gurukkal	...

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
SIVAGANGA

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religions									
8	56	Idayamelur (P)	Esani	Sri Seruvalinga Ayyanar alias Kasilingam Mahalingaswamy Temple (O)	Not known	0.15	Sri Seruvalinga Ayyanar	Sri Karuppar Sri Kaliyamman	Sivaganga Railway station 5 miles
9	"	do	Idayamelur	Sri Varadamuneeswarar Temple (O)	Not known	Below 0.01	Sri Varadamuneeswarar	...	Sivaganga Railway station 6 miles
10	73	Sivaganga (P)	Sivaganga	Sri Sundararaja Perumal Temple (V)	200	0.13	Sri Sundararaja Perumal	Sri Sowmya Narayana Perumal	Sivaganga Railway station 1 mile
11	"	do	do	Sri Vadakkuveethi Dhrowpathi-amman Temple (F)	200	1.15	Sri Dhrowpathi-amman	...	do
12	"	do	do	Sri Gowri Vinayakar Temple (G)	Not known	0.12	Sri Gowri Vinayakar	...	do
13	91	Kollangudi (P)	Ariyakurichi	Sri Vettudayar Kaliyamman Temple (F)	500	0.35	Sri Vettudayar Kaliyamman	Sri Vettudayar Ayyanar Sri Poorana Pushkala Sri Kaliyamman Sri Senai-karuppar	Nattarasankottai Railway station 7 miles

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
1,045	6.63	...	...	—	...	...	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Velar	Kudhirai Eduppu in Masi
255	...	9.10	...	...	...	800	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Poosari	Panguni Uthiram
901	Extent not stated			...	...	600	Ratham Garuda Horse Chapparam Palanquin Hanumar Sesha	Twice a day by a Brahmin	Tamil New Year's Day Sri Jayanthi Karthigai Deepam Brahmothsavam in Vaikasi
450	...	...	...	Shops	...	241	...	Once a day by a hereditary Pillai	...
600	...	...	...	Shops-2 Cocoanut trees-10	...	1,750	Kedayam	Once a day by a Gurukkal	Vinayaka Chathurthi
33,250	6.05	8.14	15.04	...	70,166	...	Palanquin Car Kedayams-2 Bandicoot Swan, Lion Kamadhenu Bhootham Rishabam Horse Chapparams-2 Swan	Twice a day by a hereditary Vellalar	Brahmothsavam in Panguni Adi 18th day

and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
SIVAGANGA**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religions									
14	91	Kollangudi (P)	Kollangudi	Sri Poisolla Mei Ayyanar Temple (O)	500	0.06	Sri Poisolla Mei Ayyanar	Sri Kali-amman Sri Karuppu-swamy	Nattarasankottai Railway station 3 miles
15	117	Madapuram (V)	Madapuram	Sri Adaikkalam katha Ayyanar Temple (O)	150	0.82	Sri Ayyanar	...	Tiruppuvanam Railway station 1 mile
16	..	do	do	Sri Badrakali-amman Temple (F)			Sri Badrakali-amman	...	
17	118	Tiruppuvanampudur Part (V)	Tiruppuvanampudur	Sri Mottaya-swamy Temple (O)	Not known	0.01	Sri Mottaya-swamy	Sri Karuppannaswamy Sri Kali-amman Sri Ayyanar	Tiruppuvanam Railway station 1 furlong
18	120	Tiruppuvanam Neelamudikarai (V)	Neelamudikarai	Sri Adhigamudaya Ayyanar Temple (O)	500	0.16	Sri Ayyanar	...	do
19	..	do	Tiruppuvanam kottai	Sri Ranganatha Perumal Temple (V)	80	0.36	Sri Ranganatha Perumal	Sri Ubaya-nachiamman Sri Ranganayaki	Tiruppuvanam Railway station 3 furlongs
20	123	Manaiur (V)	Manaloor	Sri Adaikalam katha Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.07	Sri Ayyanar	...	Silaiman Railway station 2 miles
21	131	Kondagi (P)	Kondagai	Sri Kaikkugaia-yaramudaya Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.05	Sri Kaikkugaia-yaramudaya Ayyanar	...	Silaiman Railway station 4 miles

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

TALUK (Contd.)									
Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
200	6.56	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Vellalar	...
1,749	4.57	1.80	...	Cocoonut Grove 2.30	...	5,000	...	Once a day by a Poosari	...
600	0.67	...	...	Shops-3 Tea-stall Bus stand	...	...	...	Twice a week by a Chettiar	...
724	14.49	...	...	...	...	3	...	Once a day by a hereditary Poosari	...
881	5.05	...	...	...	...	1,100	Palanquin	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	...
200	5.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Velar	...
704	2.00	1.00	...	Cocoonut trees-7	...	500	...	Once a day by a hereditary Velar	...

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
SIVAGANGA**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religion									
22	131	Kondagi (P)	Kondagai	Sri Deivanayaga Perumal Temple (V)	Not known	0.01	Sri Deivanayaga Perumal	Sri Varamangai Thayar	Silaiman Railway station 4 miles
23	142	Allinagaram (V)	Allinagaram	Sri Thandeeswara Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.03	Sri Thandeeswara Ayyanar	...	Tiruppuvanam Railway station 3 miles
24	143	Melarangiam (V)	Keelarangiam	Sri Viswanathaswamy and Visalakshiamman Temple (S)	Not known	0.30	Sri Viswanathaswamy	Sri Visalakshiamman	Tiruppuvanam Railway station 5 miles
25	146	Vadanendal (V)	Vadanendal	Sri Veeramahali-amman Temple (F)	150	0.11	Sri Veeramahali-amman	...	Tiruppuvanam Railway station 3 miles
26	153	Vembathur (P)	Vembathur	Sri Pillayar Temple (G)	Not known	0.30	Sri Pillayar	...	Tiruppachetti Railway station 3 miles
27	195	Siriakottai (P)	Periakottai	Sri Abathukatha Vinayakar Temple (G)	Not known	0.45	Sri Abathukatha Vinayakar	Sri Kailasanathar	Sivaganga Railway station 9 miles
28	198	Idaikattur Part (V)	Idaikathur	Sri Karuvudaya Ayyanar <i>alias</i> Nirthamudaya Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.04	Sri Ayyanar	Sri Irulayiamman Sri Irulappar Sri Karuppar	Muthanendal Railway station 1½ miles
29	..	do	do	Sri Karia Manicka Perumal Temple (V)	Not known	0.28	Sri Karia Manicka Perumal	Sri Devi Bhu Devi	Muthanendal Railway station 2 miles

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
8.6	Extent not stated			Cocoanut trees-4	...	750	Chapparam Tholukkiniyan	Twice a day by a Bhattachariar	...
413	4.97	...	...	...	...	456	...	Once a day by a hereditary Velar	Annual festival Chithrai
468	12.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Bhattar	...
345	...	6.00	...	...	...	5	...	Once a day by a hereditary Pandaram	...
800	5.00	...	...	...	...	100	...	Once a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...
200	7.68	...	...	Cocoanut trees-99	...	...	Peacock Bandicoot	Once a day by a Gurukkal	...
415	4.60	...	...	Vacant plot 0.44	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Velar	...
450	5.25	...	1.75	Vacant plot 1.00	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattar	...

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
SIVAGANGA

SL No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
30	198	Idaikathur Part (V)	Idaikathur	Sri Manikandeswarar and Soundaranayagi-amman Temple (S)	250	0.68	Sri Manikandeswarar	Sri Soundaranayagi-amman	Muthanendal Railway station 1½ miles
31	200	Vellikurichi (P)	Vellikurichi	Sri Purakkosudaya Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	Below 0.01	Sri Ayyanar	...	Tiruppachetti Railway station 1 furlong
32	201	Thiruppachetti South (V)	Thiruppachetti	Sri Malaimandala Perumal Temple (V)	500	0.10	Sri Malaimandala Perumal	Sri Alamelumangai Sri Ubayanachiar	do
33	..	do	do	Sri Maruthudaya Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.06	Sri Maruthudaya Ayyanar	Sri Poorana Pushkala	Tiruppachetti Railway station 1½ miles
34	204	Piramanur (P)	Piramanur	Sri Kailasanathaswamy Temple (S)	600	0.78	Sri Kailasanathaswamy	Sri Kamakshi Amman Sri Vinayakar	Tiruppuvanam Railway station 3½ miles
35	213	Marana 'u Part (V)	Maranadu	Sri Karuppannaswamy Temple (O)	Not known	0.30	Sri Karuppannaswamy	Sri Badrakali-amman	Tiruppachetti Railway station 3 miles
36	249	Manamadurai (P)	Manamadurai	Sri Nirthalamudaya Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.15	Sri Ayyanar	...	Manamadurai Junction 1 furlong
37	..	do	do	Sri Thiaga Vinoda Perumal Temple (V)	Not known	0.03	Sri Thiaga Vinoda Perumal	...	Manamadurai Junction ½ mile

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property Value of Jewellery Rs.			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple	Vahanam		
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
273	...	...	3.60	...	...	40	Peacock Elephant Kedayam Horse	Twice a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	Karthigai Deepam Panguni Uthiram Vinayaka Chathurthi Navarathri Thiruvadhirai Sivarathri
225	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Velar	...
335	8.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	...
235	4.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Velar	...
760	4.13	30.50	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...
300	6.64	...	...	Vacant plot 0.50	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Poosari	...
334	...	...	...	Building Shops-2	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Velar	...
288	1.75	...	...	...	...	Value not stated	Garuda	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattar	...

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
SIVAGANGA

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	No.	Name	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religions									
38	249	Manamadurai (P)	Manamadurai	Sri Sangu Vinayakar Temple (G)	Not known	1.50	Sri Sangu Vinayakar	...	Manamadurai Junction 1½ miles
39	274	Maravattikari-salkulam (P)	Enathi Sengottai	Sri Angala Parameswari Temple (F)	Not known	0.50	Sri Angala Parameswari	Sri Irulayi-amman Sri Veerabadrar Sri Irulappa-swamy Sri Chandana Karuppar	Sudiyur Railway station 2 miles
Temples under the control of									
1	6	Alavakottai (P)	Ammachipatti	Sri Manakoli-amman Temple (F)	Not known	0.13	Sri Manakoli-amman	...	Sivaganga Railway station 15 miles
2	11	Kattiapatti (P)	Chockanathapuram	Sri Thirukannankudy Nayanar Temple (S)	Not known	0.72	Sri Thirukannankudy Nayanar	Sri Siruthenmozhiyal	Kallal Railway station 7 miles
3	19	Paganeri (P)	Paganeri	Sri Neelakandeswaraswamy Temple (S)	300	0.38	Sri Neelakandeswaraswamy	Sri Karunakadakshi Amman	Panangudi Railway station 3 miles
4	..	do	do	Sri Pulvanayagi amman Temple (F)	250	0.16	Sri Pulvanayagi amman	...	
5	..	do	do	Sri Vinnavanna Perumal Temple (V)	400	0.22	Sri Vinnavanna Perumal	Sri Andal	

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

TALUK (Contd.)									
Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property Value of Jewellery Rs.			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple	Vahanam		
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Concl.)									
693	...	...	...	...	...	200	Kedayam	Twice a week by a hereditary Pillai	Annual festival in Vaikasi
549	1.00	...	20.00	...	...	150	Peacock	Once a day by a hereditary Pillai	Brahmothsavam in Masi
Sivaganga Devasthanam									
Not stated	6.86	...	...	...	...	5.8	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Velar	...
1,100	...	...	...	...	...	628	Rishabams-2 Horse Peacock Bandicoot Kedayam Tholukkiniyan	Four times a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	1,964	Silver Rishabam Rishabam Peacock Kedayam Sooran Bandicoot	Four times a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	Skandha Sashti Navarathri Thiruvadhirai Karthigai Deepam Masi Magam
4,330	11.63	...	...	...	...	70,208	Silver Rishabam Car, Palanquin Rishabam Bhootham Horse Kamadhenu	Five times a day by a hereditary Poosari	Navarathri Karthigai Deepam Annual festival in Ani
...	...	...	...	...	...	715	Palanquin Garuda Horse	Four times a day by a Bhattachariar	Sri Jayanthi Navarathri

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
SIVAGANGA

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the control of									
6	28	Tirumalai (Koneripatti) (V)	Thirumalai	Sri Thirumalai-nathaswamy Temple (S)	Not known	0.03	Sri Malaikozhuththeswarar	Sri Bagam-piriyal Ambal	Sivaganga Railway station 12 miles
7	54	Sholapuram (P)	Sholapuram	Sri Arulmozhi-nathaswamy Temple (S)	800	0.62	Sri Arulmozhi-nathaswamy	Sri Aramvalarthanayagi	Sivaganga Railway station 6 miles
8	73	Sivaganga (P)	Sivaganga	Sri Viswanathaswamy Temple (S)	100	0.50	Sri Viswanathaswamy	Sri Visalakshi	Sivaganga Railway station 1 mile
9	"	do	do	Sri Sasivarneswarar Temple (S)	Not known	0.31	Sri Sasivarneswarar	Sri Periyanyaki	do
10	76	Nattarasankottai (P)	Nattarasankottai	Sri Karikala Choleswarar Temple (S)	Not known	0.41	Sri Karikala Choleswarar	Sri Sivakami amman	Nattarasankottai Railway station 1 1/4 miles
11	"	do	do	Sri Venkatachalapathy Perumal Temple (V)	350	0.86	Sri Venkatachalapathy Perumal	Sri Andal	Nattarasankottai Railway station 1 1/4 miles

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
Sivaganga Devasthanam (Contd.)									
2,350	31.90	...	...	...	...	381	...	Four times a day by hereditary Gurukkals	...
3,827	6.63	2.65	...	...	32,795	...	Silver Rishabams-2 Kamadhenu Parrot Sahadai Palanquin Kedayam Swan Bhootham Peacock Lion	Five times a day by hereditary Gurukkals	Brahmothsavam in Ani
1,113	2.48	...	...	Vacant plot	...	2,433	Car, Peacock Rishabam Horse, Swan Elephant	Four times a day by a Gurukkal	Navarathri Skandha Sashti Karthigai Deepam Thiruvadhirai Panguni Uthiram
3,982	0.66	...	...	...	...	666	Horse Kedayam	Five times a day by hereditary Gurukkals	Navarathri Karthigai Deepam Arudhra Dharisanam
403	...	...	...	...	49,209	...	Silver Rishabams-3 Peacock Bandicoot Ratham	Four times a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
100	...	...	...	...	56,809	...	Gold Garuda Silver Kedayam Palanquin Elephant Horse, Lion Hanuman	Four times a day by a Bhatta-chariar	Vasanthothesavam in Panguni Navarathri Vaikunta Ekadasi

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
SIVAGANGA

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under control of									
12	76	Nattarasankottai (P)	Nattarasankottai	Sri Kannudayanayagamman Temple (F)	400	0.44	Sri Kannudayanayagi	...	Nattarasankottai Railway station ½ mile
13	90	Kaliarkoil (P)	Somanathamangalam	Sri Someswarar, Kaleeswarar, Chockanathaswamy Temple (S)	Not known	4.32	Sri Someswarar Sri Swarnakaleeswarar Sri Chockanathar (Sundareswarar)	Sri Soundarayanayagi Sri Sournavalli Sri Meenakshi	Sivaganga Railway station 11 miles
14	102	Kadampankulam (V)	Keezhavaniyangudi	Sri Maruthappa Ayyanar Temple (O)	180	0.20	Sri Maruthappa Ayyanar	Sri Konnasi Karuppar	Sivaganga Railway station 2 miles
15	107	Kovanur (V)	Kovanur	Sri Subramania-swamy Temple (M)	500	0.62	Sri Subramania-swamy	Sri Valli Deivayanai	Sivaganga Railway station 6 miles
16	119	Tiruppuvanam pudur Part (P)	Tiruppuvanam	Sri Pushpavaneswarar Temple (S)	Not known	3.02	Sri Pushpavaneswarar (Sri Poovana-nathar)	Sri Soundarayanayagi	Tiruppuvanam Railway station ½ mile

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
Sivaganga Devasthanam (Contd.)									
2,986	4.84	...	...	...	1,93,235	...	Silver Ratham Kedayam Horse Lion, Swan Kamadhenu, Car Palanquins-2 Horse Elephant Bhootham	Five times a day by a hereditary Poosari	Festival in Vaikasi Navarathri Festivals in Thai Adi and Iyppasi
34,640	49.15	23.48	...	Houses-2 Cocoanut Grove 75.17	2,51,298	...	Silver Rishabams-4 Bandicoot Cars-3 Tholukkiniyans-2 Kedayams-7 Lion, Swan Kamadhenu Peacock, Horse Elephant Palanquins-4 Sahadais-3 Rishabam	Six times a day by hereditary Gurukkals	Brahmothsavam in Vaikasi Thai Poosam Karthigai Deepam Arudhra Dharisanam Adi pooram Navarathri
Not stated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Velar	...
4,508	...	Not stated	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Gurukkal	...
30,000	145.40	24.25	...	Cocoanut Grove 10.28 Market	70,409	...	Silver Rishabam Kamadhenu Chapparams-5 Sahadais-2 Cars-2 Rishabams-2 Elephants-2 Bhootham, Swan Peacock Bandicoot Palanquin Kedayams-3 Parrot Karnaga	Six times a day by hereditary Bhattars	Navarathri Arudhra Dharisanam Brahmothsavam in Panguni Adi Pooram Karthigai Deepam

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
SIVAGANGA

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples outside the Hindu Religious									
1	245	Periakannanur (P)	Nachiar-Kannanur	Sri Selva Vinayakar, Viswanathar, Visalakshi amman Temple (S)	Not known	0.10	Sri Selva Vinayakar, Sri Viswanathar, Sri Visalakshi amman	...	Sivaganga Railway station 12 miles

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Concl.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festiv
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Apprai-sed by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Repor-ted by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department									
700	16.81	3.76	...	Cocoanut Grove 4.66	...	...	...	No Pooja	...

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
SIVAGANGA

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the control of									
17	175	Marakathur (P)	Puliyurani (Uruvatti)	Sri Uruvatti Perianayagi amman Temple (F)	Not known	0.24	Sri Perianayagi-amman	...	Sivaganga Railway station
18	176	Marathur (V)	Marathur	Sri Murthi-nayanar Temple (S)	700	0.38	Sri Murthi-nayanar	Sri Soundara-nayaki	Sivaganga Railway station 20 miles
19	201	Thiruppachetti South (V)	Thiruppachetti	Sri Thirunokkiya Azhagianathar Temple (S)	Not known	0.51	Sri Thirunokkiya Azhagianathar	Sri Marunokkum Poonguzhali	Tiruppachetti Railway station 18 miles
20	240	Marandai (P)	Seithur	Sri Chandrasekharaswamy Temple (S)	400	0.48	Sri Chandrasekharaswamy	Sri Maragatha Valli	Paramakkudi Railway station 14 miles
21	249	Manamadurai (P)	Manamadurai	Sri Somanathaswamy Temple (S)	Not known	0.72	Sri Somanathaswamy	Sri Anandavalli	Manamadurai Junction
22	"	do	do	Sri Appan Perumal Temple (V)	Not known	0.19	Sri Appan alias Srinivasa-Perumal	Sri Devi Bhu Devi	Manamadurai Junction 2 furlongs
23	"	do	do	Sri Veerazhagar Temple (V)	500	0.59	Sri Veerazhagar	Sri Sundararajaperumal Sri Soundaravalli	Manamadurai Junction
24	"	do	Nettoor	Sri Sornavareeswarar Temple (S)	500	1.00	Sri Sornavareeswarar	Sri Santhanayaki	Kamuthakudi Railway station 2 miles

AMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

ALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple	(18)	(19)	(20)
Sivaganga Devasthanam (Concl'd.)									
821	...	...	...	...	10,667	...	Car	Thrice a day by a hereditary Konar	Festival in Panguni
1,917	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
2,300	...	...	...	Cocoanut Grove 17.79	...	417	Kedayams-4 Peacock Horse Rishabam Bandicoot	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattar	...
4,265	...	...	...	...	...	252	Rishabam	Four times a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
6,600	...	...	...	Cocoanut Grove 1.16	23,776	...	Silver Rishabam Cars-2 Palanquin Kedayams-3 Elephants-2 Horses-2 Rishabams-2 swan, Parrot Kamadhenu Peacock	Four times a day by a hereditary Bhattar	Festival in Chithrai Navarathri Pidari festival in Panguni Skandha Sashti Karthigai Deepam Thiruvadhirai
365	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattar	...
1,269	...	...	...	...	...	1,769	Horse Elephant Sesha, Garuda Hanumar Palanquin	Four times a day by a hereditary Bhattar	Festival in Chithrai Vaikunta Ekadasi Brahmothsavam in Adi
6,500	...	...	...	Shops	...	35	Car, Palanquin Rishabams-2 Elephant Swan, Peacock Horse	Four times a day by a Brahmin	Brahmothsavam in Ani

TIRUVADANAI TALUK

14 KANDADEVI

Sri Swarnamurtheeswarar (*alias*) Siragilinathaswamy Temple

The etymology of the names of certain places in South India reveals interesting associations with some well known mythological incidents. Kandadevi about 4 kilometres from Devakottai is an instance in point. It is said that the Devas met the divine Mother here and requested Her to kill the formidable demon Chanda-suran. Kali did accordingly and later worshipped Siva in Kaliyarkoil in order to regain her form of Parvathi. "Kanda" in Tamil means seen. Since the Devi was seen by the Devas at this place it got the name of Kandadevi.

There is a popular Siva shrine here, dedicated to Sri Swarnamurtheeswarar or Siragilinathar. In the month of Ani, a big festival is celebrated in the temple for a period of 10 days. The divine consort here is known as Sri Perianayaki Amman. It is said that the present temple was built some 300 years ago, though the original shrine is supposed to have been there for a long time. Renovations have been made now and then by the Raja of Sivaganga, who is the hereditary trustee of the temple.

Kandadevi is linked with several sacred centres by bus and train, the nearest railway station being Devakottai Road at a distance of about 11 kilometres. Madurai the district headquarters and Tiruvadanai, the taluk headquarters are 100 and 38 kilometres away respectively.

The temple which covers an area of about 1.09 acres has a 85 feet high rajagopuram. It has two sanctum sanctorum, two prakarams, an arthamandapam, a mahamandapam and an outer mandapam. The Moolavar Sri Swarnamurtheeswarar is a pradhishtha Lingam here, facing east. In a separate sanctum facing south stands the enchanting image of His divine consort Sri Perianayaki Ambal. Sri Vinayakar, Subramaniam and Natarajar are the other deities here. There are several festival idols here, all made of panchalogam. There is also a separate shrine for Sri Kunguma Kali

Amman, which is a sub-temple attached to this shrine.

A hereditary Brahmin Gurukkal offers four poojas daily. He is in the enjoyment of service inam lands. Besides, he is also entitled to the offerings of devotees. The ornaments in the temple in gold and silver are worth over Rs. 56,790/-. The temple owns about 45.09 acres of wet lands and 13.09 acres of dry lands, which are leased out for an annual rent of Rs. 6,814/-. This amount is utilised towards the salary of the temple servants, for the conduct of the daily poojas, periodical festivals of the temple and for its general maintenance. The annual hundi collections of the temple amount to Rs. 250/- while its income under archana, abishega and mudi prarthana charges is Rs. 150/- per annum. The temple owns an attractive Ther and three Rishaba vahanas, which are silver plated.

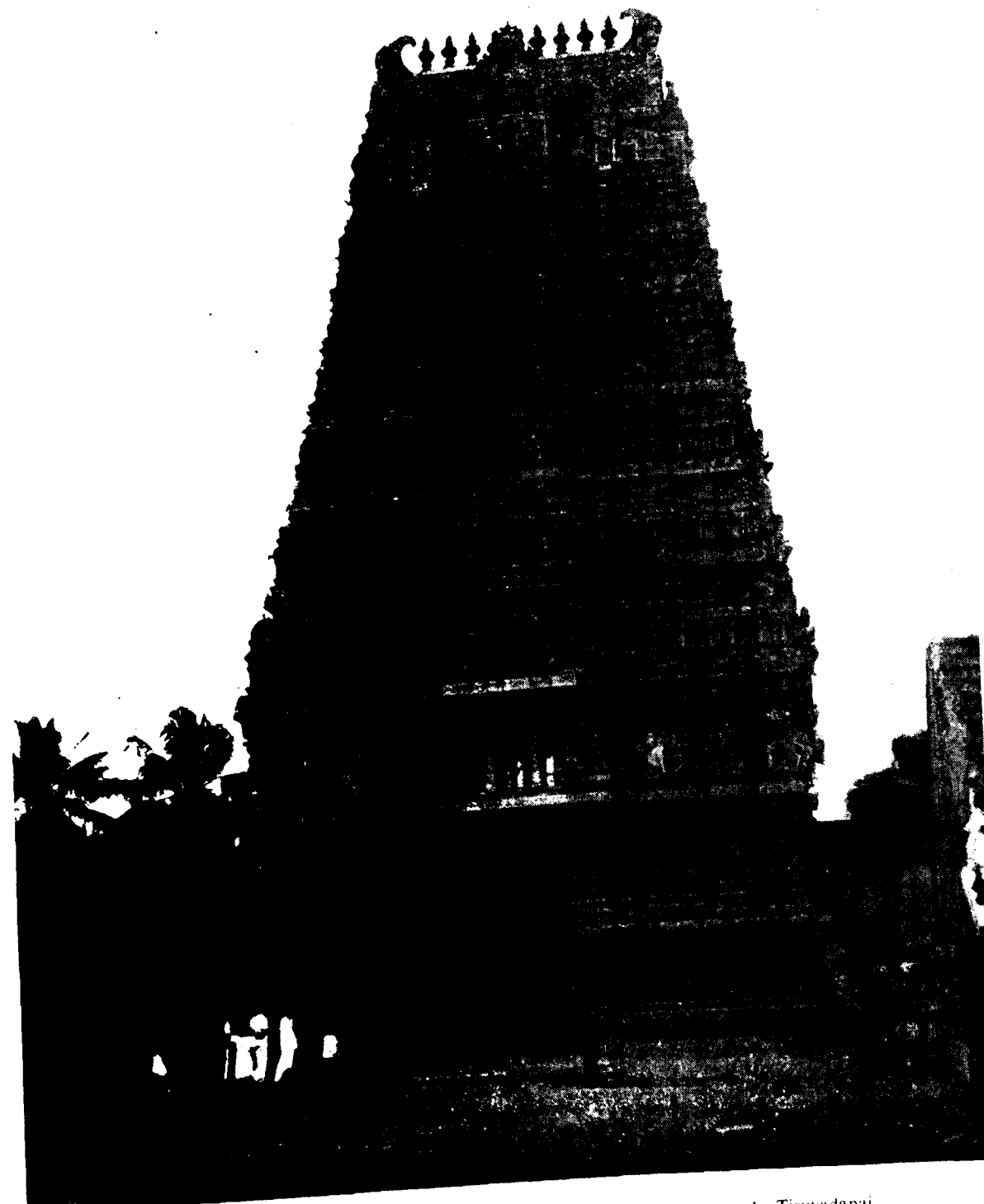
The temple comes under the Sivaganga Devasthanam.

99 TIRUVADANAI

Sri Adirathneswarar Temple

Tiruvadanai, which is popularly known as "Ajagajapuram" in Sanskrit, is the ninth among the fourteen sacred Sivasthalams in Pandya Nad. The temple is said to have been built by Pandya Kings. It was well maintained by the Naik Kings of Madura. The inscriptions in the temple throw light on its antiquity. This reputed shrine which is now under the patronage of the Raja of Ramanathapuram has been visited by the great Saivite saint Thirugnanasambandar who has composed a sacred Padhigam in praise of this sthalam. Sri Arunagirinathar has also glorified this sthalam in his famous Thiruppugazh.

The presiding deity Sri Adirathneswarar is a Swayambu Lingam here. His divine consort is known as Sri Snegavalliambal. Legend has it that once sage Brigu who went to sage Durvasa forgot to pay homage



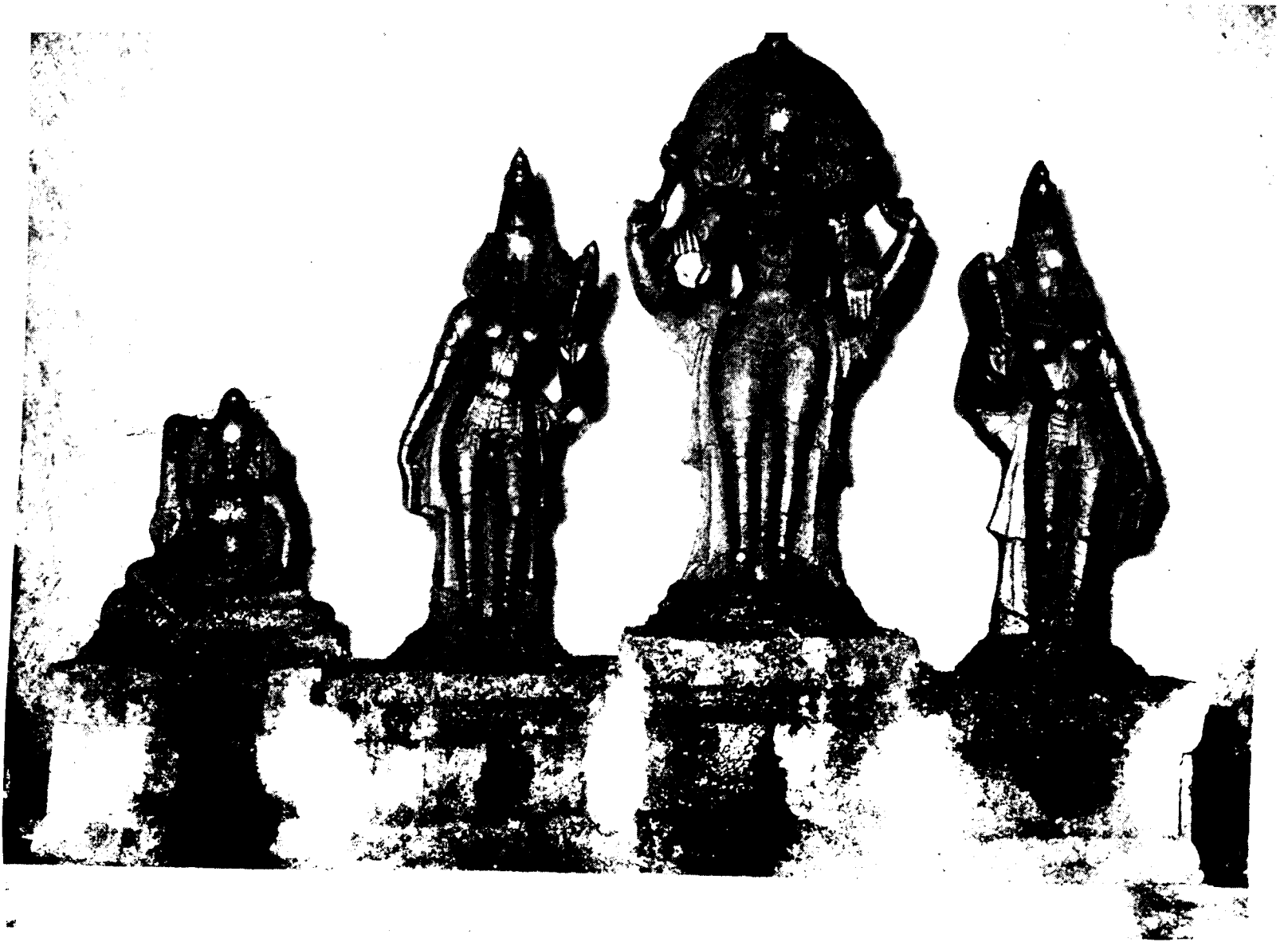
The front view of the enchanting Rajagopuram of Adirathneswarar temple, Tiruvadanai



Some of the beautiful images on the Rajagopuram of the temple



Festival images of Lord Natarajar and Sivakamy Amman



Images of Candikeswarar with Suryan—a rare feature



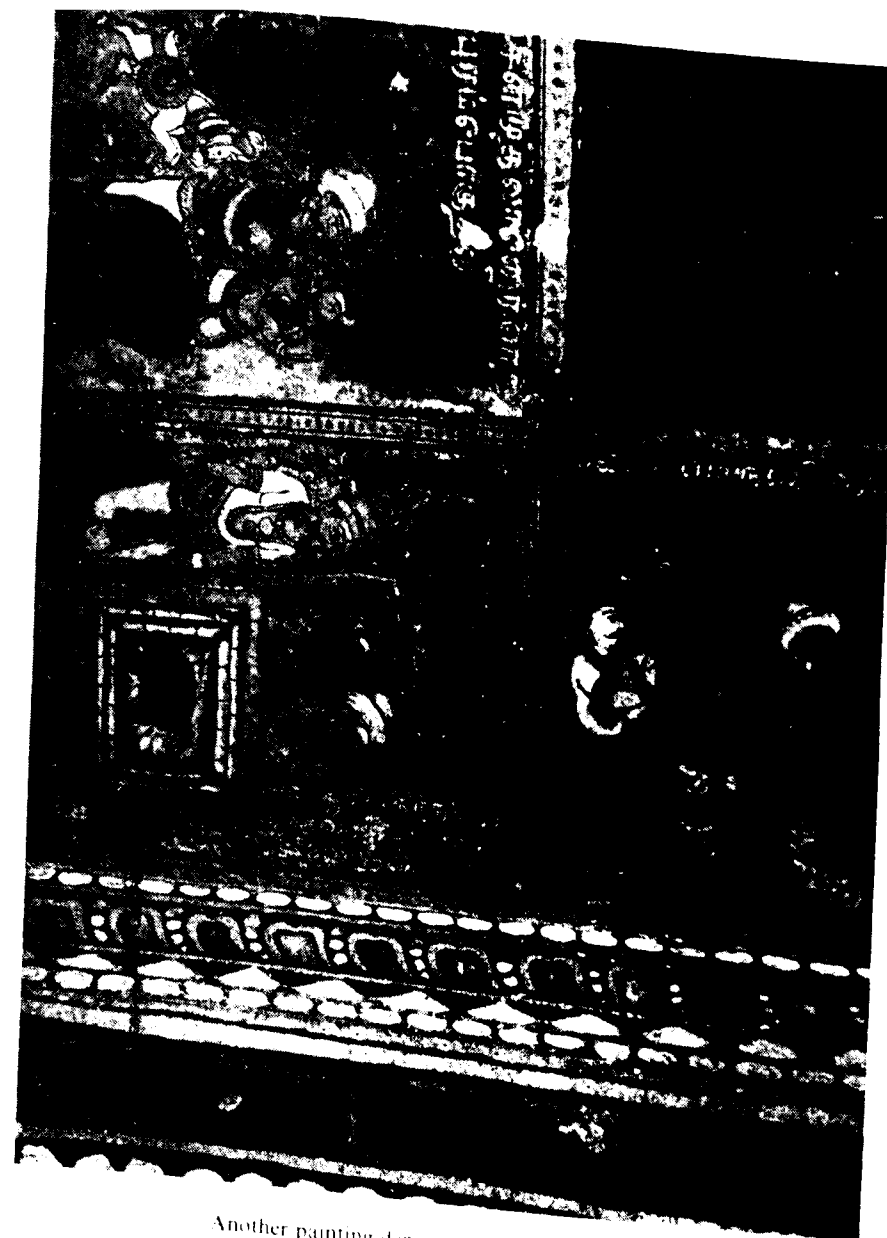
A view of the gopuram and Vimanams



One of the paintings of the Sthalapuranam of the temple

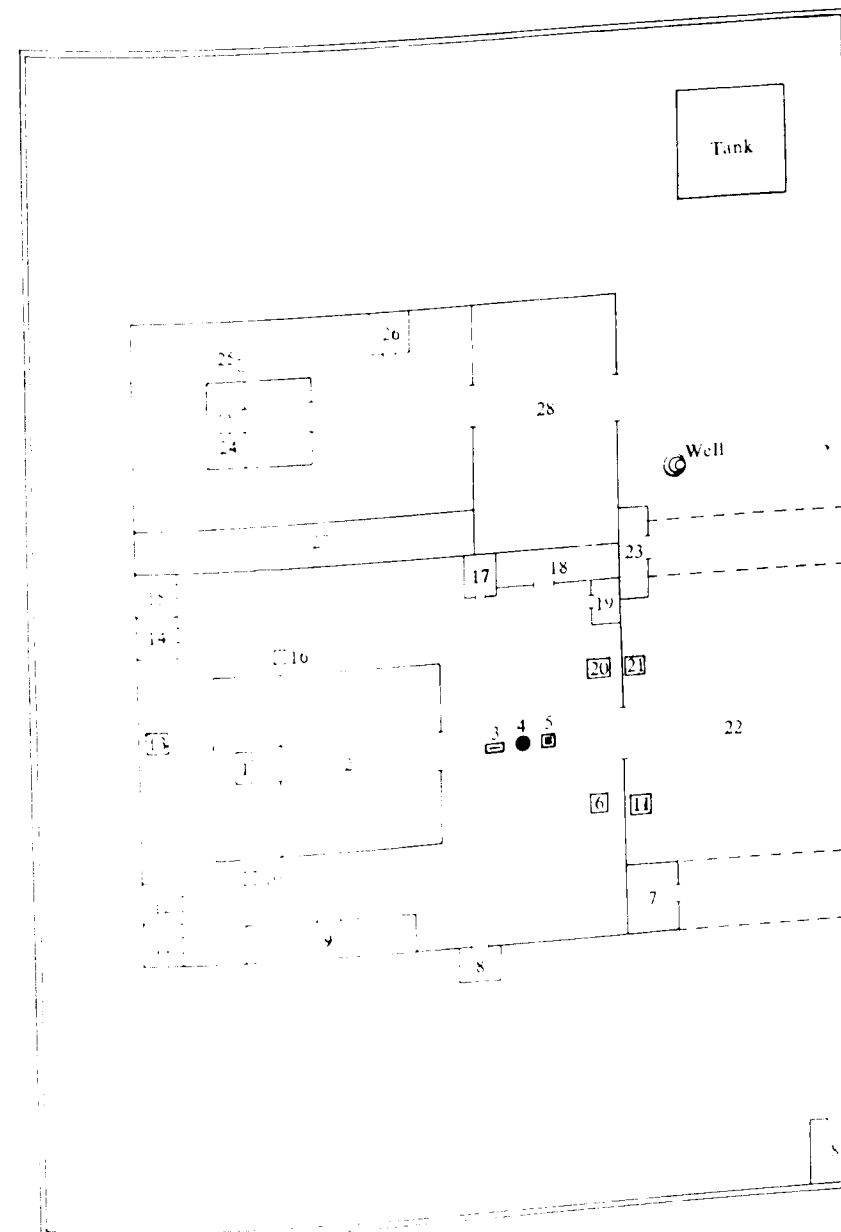


Another painting of the Sthalapuranam



Another painting depicting the Sthalapuranam

SRI ADI RATHNESWARAR TEMPLE **TIRUVADANAI** *(Not to Scale)*



INDEX TO NUMBERS

- 1 **Adi Rathneswarar (Moolavar)**
- 2 Mandapam
- 3 Nandhi
- 4 Balipeedam
- 5 Dwajasthambam
- 6 Suriyan
- 7 Kalyana Mandapam
- 8 Madapalli
- 9 Sixty Three Nayanmars
- 10 Dakshinamoorthy
- 11 Vinayagar
- 12 Somaskandhar
- 13 Varunalingam, Viswanathar,
Visalakshi & Bhudevi
- 14 Subramaniam, Valli & Deivayanai
- 15 Mahalakshmi
- 16 Chandikeswarar
- 17 Natarajar, Sivakami & Manickavasagar
- 18 Karuvoolam
- 19 Vairavar
- 20 Chandron
- 21 Dandayudhapani
- 22 Front Mandapam
- 23 Yagasalai
- 24 Snegavalli Ambal (Moolavar)
- 25 Chandikeswari
- 26 Palliarai
- 27 Vahana Mandapam
- 28 **Mandapam**

to him. This enraged the sage, who cursed him to become Ajagajam, an animal with the head of a goat (Ajam in sanskrit and Adu in Tamil) and the body of an elephant (Gaja in sanskrit and Yanai in Tamil). Thus reduced, Brigu found it difficult to sustain his huge body with the food taken through the small goat's mouth. He worshipped the Lord here, got rid of his sin and regained his original form. The presiding deity is therefore, called Thiru Adanainathar or Ajagajeswarar. The place also came to be known as Tiruvadanai and Ajagajapuram.

Tiruvadanai, where this famous shrine stands, lies at a distance of about 37 kilometres from Devakottai which is also the nearest railway station. This is on the bus route from Devakottai and Madurai to Tondi. The temple which covers an area of about 10 acres has a gigantic 139 feet high rajagopuram with nine tiers and presents an inspiring view. The gopuram is a specimen of Dravidian art. It was recently renovated. It has two prakarams and two sanctum sanctorum, apart from a beautiful mandapam in front of the Swamy sannadhi called Chockattanchari mandapam which consists of about 291 artistically carved granite pillars.

The Moolavar Sri Adirathneswarar is facing east. Situated in a separate sanctum stands His divine consort Sri Snegavalli, who is also known as Ambayiravalli. According to a legend, it is said that Sri Surya Bhagavan or Sun made this beautiful Lingam from a blue diamond, installed it here, offered worship to it and regained His lost powers, when one of the wheels of His divine Chariot and one of His seven horses stopped, all of a sudden. The sacred Surya theertham is also supposed to have been created by Sun God. It is also said that the great sages Agasthyar, Vasisthar, Markandeyar, Romesar and the Devas Sri Varunar, Varuni, Kamadhenu and Arjuna and

King Musukunda had offered worship to the Lord here and attained salvation. Sri Viswanathar, Visalakshi, Varadaraja Perumal, Sri Devi, Bhu Devi, Suryar, Chandrar, Saneeswarar, Bairavar, Vinayakar, Subramaniam, Dakshinamoorthy and the Panchalingas are the other deities here. There are also several festival idols here, all made of panchalogam.

Poojas are performed six times daily by hereditary Adi Saiva Brahmin priests, who are paid a decent monthly salary. The ornaments in the temple in gold and silver are worth over Rs. 74,698. The temple owns extensive landed property in different villages, several buildings and a few vacant plots which are leased out for an annual rent of about Rs 37,947; this sum is utilised for its maintenance. The annual hundi collections of the temple amount to Rs 75; while its income under archana and abishega charges is Rs. 100 per annum. The temple owns two Thers, two Palanquins and several vahanas, all made of wood, apart from three Rishabams, a Peacock, a Bandicoot and a Kedayam which are silver plated.

Of the several festivals celebrated here, the Vaikasi Vasanthotsavam and Adi Pooram are the most important ones, when about 4,000 devotees from far and near congregate here.

The temple which comes under the Ramanathapuram Samasthanam is managed by the Raja of Ramanathapuram who is the hereditary trustee of the temple.

About 2 kilometres from the coastal town of Tondi is a small but impressive road-side temple of Tondi Vinayakar. This deity is of famous origin and is said to have been worshipped by Sri Rama and great saints like Sankara.

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUVADANAI**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religions									
1	14	Kandadevi (P)	Thanichurani	Sri Karpaga Vinayakar (Sri Karpaga-muthu Vinayakar) Temple (G)	Not known	Below 0.01	Sri Karpaga Muthu Vinayakar	Sri Danda-yudhapani	Devakottai Road Railway station 8 miles
2	16	Melachemban-mari (P)	Aravayal (Shanmuganathapuram)	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple (S)	Not known	0.20	Sri Sundareswarar	Sri Meenakshi amman	Devakottai Road Railway station 24 miles
3	..	do	do	Sri Kaliyamman Temple (F)	Not known	0.22	Sri Durgai-amman	...	
4	19	Eluvankottai (V)	Eluvankottai	Sri Vadakkuva Chelliamman Temple (F)	150	0.11	Sri Vadakkuva Chelliamman	...	Devakottai Road Railway station 6 miles
5	22	Devakottai (M)	Eravasari	Sri Adheenamilagia Ayyanar and Kaliyamman Temple (O)	80	3.00	Sri Ayyanar	Sri Kaliyamman	Devakottai Road Railway station 7 miles
6	..	do	Devakottai	Sri Kailasanathar and Nithya Kalyaniamman Temple (S)	50	2.15	Sri Kailasanathar	Sri Nithya Kalyani amman Sri Bairavar	Devakottai Road Railway station 6 miles
7	..	do	do	Sri Nagara Sivan alias Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple (S)	120	4.00	Sri Sundareswarar	Sri Meenakshi amman	Devakottai Road Railway station 7 miles

**RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK**

Annual income assessed for Pashi 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam	Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
2.5	...	...	...	...	...	500	Bandicoot	Twice a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
709	...	...	...	...	...	4,200	...	Four times a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
513	...	...	24.00	...	...	1,500	...	do	Annual festival in Vaikasi
1,308	Extent not stated	...	...	...	17,611	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Velar	Sivarathri
2,150	112.00	130.00	...	Houses-5	55,524	...	Silver Rishabams-2 Peacock Lion Bandicoot Horse Kedayams 3	Four times a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	Panguni Uthiram Navarathri Karthigai Deepam Sivarathri Thiruvadhirai Chithra Pournami
5,289	...	...	...	Houses-5	1,24,985	...	Silver Ratham Rishabam Peacock Lion Bandicoot	Thrice a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	Navarathri Skandha!

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUVADANAI

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
8	22	Devakottai (M)	Devakottai	Sri Ranganatha Perumal Temple (V)	83	0.11	Sri Ranganathar	...	Devakottai Road Railway station 7 miles
9	1	do	do	Sri Chilambani Chidambara Vinayakar Temple (G)	170	0.07	Sri Chidambara Vinayakar	Sri Periyayagi amman	do
10	..	do	do	Thinnappa Chettiar Urani Sri Kailasa Vinayakar Temple (G)	250	0.22	Sri Kailasa Vinayakar	Sri Viswanathar Sri Visalakshiamman Sri Saneeswarar Sri Dandayudhapani Sri Dakshinamurthy	do
11	..	do	Thalayur	Sri Thalayuramman Temple (F)	Not known	Below 0.01	Sri Koothandi Perianayagi amman	Sri Hariharaputhrar	Devakottai Road Railway station 10 miles
12	..	do	do	Sri Kottaiamman Temple (F)	30	0.03	Sri Kottaiamman	...	Devakottai Road Railway station 6 miles
13	36	Thirumanavayal (P)	Kottur	Sri Agastheeswarar and Soundaranyagi amman Temple (S)	60	2.00	Sri Agastheeswarar	Sri Soundaranyagi amman Sri Pillayar Sri Bairavar Sri Subramaniam	Devakottai Road Railway station 12 miles

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
1,332	...	...	...	Houses-2 Vacant plot	...	1,500	Car Palanquins-2 Tholukkiniyans-2 Lion, Hanumar Garuda, Sesha Elephant Horse Kedayam Swan	Thrice a day by a Bhattachariar	Brahmothsavam in Chithrai Navarathri Vaikunta Ekadasi
25,531	...	...	...	Buildings Vacant plot Cocoanut Grove	14,566	...	Bandicoots-3 Palanquins-2	Thrice a day by a Gurukkal	Vinayaka Chathurthi
4,708	...	...	...	Shops-9 Houses-8 Vacant plot 0.57 Garden 0.55	48,861	...	Silver Rishabam Bandicoot Kedayam Chapparam	Four times a day by a Gurukkal	Vinayaka Chathurthi Karthigai Deepam Sivarathri Masi Magam
941	...	...	...	...	...	250	...	Once a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
1,000	...	...	...	Houses-2	...	500	...	Poojas by a hereditary Pandaram	...
5,367	Extent	not	stated	...	31,888	...	...	Four times a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUVADANAI**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
14	40	Kallangudi (P)	Kallangudi	Sri Ulagamulathudaya Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.03	Sri Ulagamulathudaya Ayyanar	Sri Kaliyamman	Devakottai Road Railway station 12 miles
15	56	Sirukannaiyur (P)	Sirukannaiyur	Sri Ekambaranathaswamy Temple (S)	Not known	0.01	Sri Ekambaranathaswamy	Sri Kamakshi- amman	Devakottai Road Railway station 23 miles
16	60	Kunjakulam (P)	Keelakottai	Sri Hanumar Temple (O)	Not known	0.06	Sri Hanumar	...	Devakottai Road Railway station 16 miles
17	71	Uruthikottai (P)	Uruthikottai	Sri Pillayar Temple (G)	Not known	Below 0.01	Sri Veda Vinayakar	Sri Nagar	Devakottai Road Railway station 25 miles
18	81	Karkalathur (P)	Thalakkavur	Sri Mudeeswarar Temple (S)	Not known	0.02	Sri Orumudeeswarar	Sri Agilandeswari	Devakottai Road Railway station 27 miles
19	94	Pullur (P)	Pullur	Sri Thirana Jotheeswarar alias Andar Temple (S)	300	0.25	Sri Thirana Jotheeswarar	Sri Arianayagi	Devakottai Road Railway station 25 miles
20	113	Thalermarungur (P)	Thalermarungur	Sri Ayyanar Temple (O)	200	0.07	Sri Ponnukanda Ayyanar	...	Devakottai Road Railway station 30 miles
21	..	do	do	Sri Badrakali- amman alias Amarthozhu Nayagiamman Temple (S)	200	0.04	Sri Badrakali amman	...	do

**RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)**

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
518	11.25	4.50	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Velar	...
200	10.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
295	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Bhattachariar	...
619	15.00	10.00	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
250	7.50	...	...	...	...	...	...	do	...
1,817	27.00	1.50	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Bhattachariar	...
413	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Velar	...
468	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattar	...

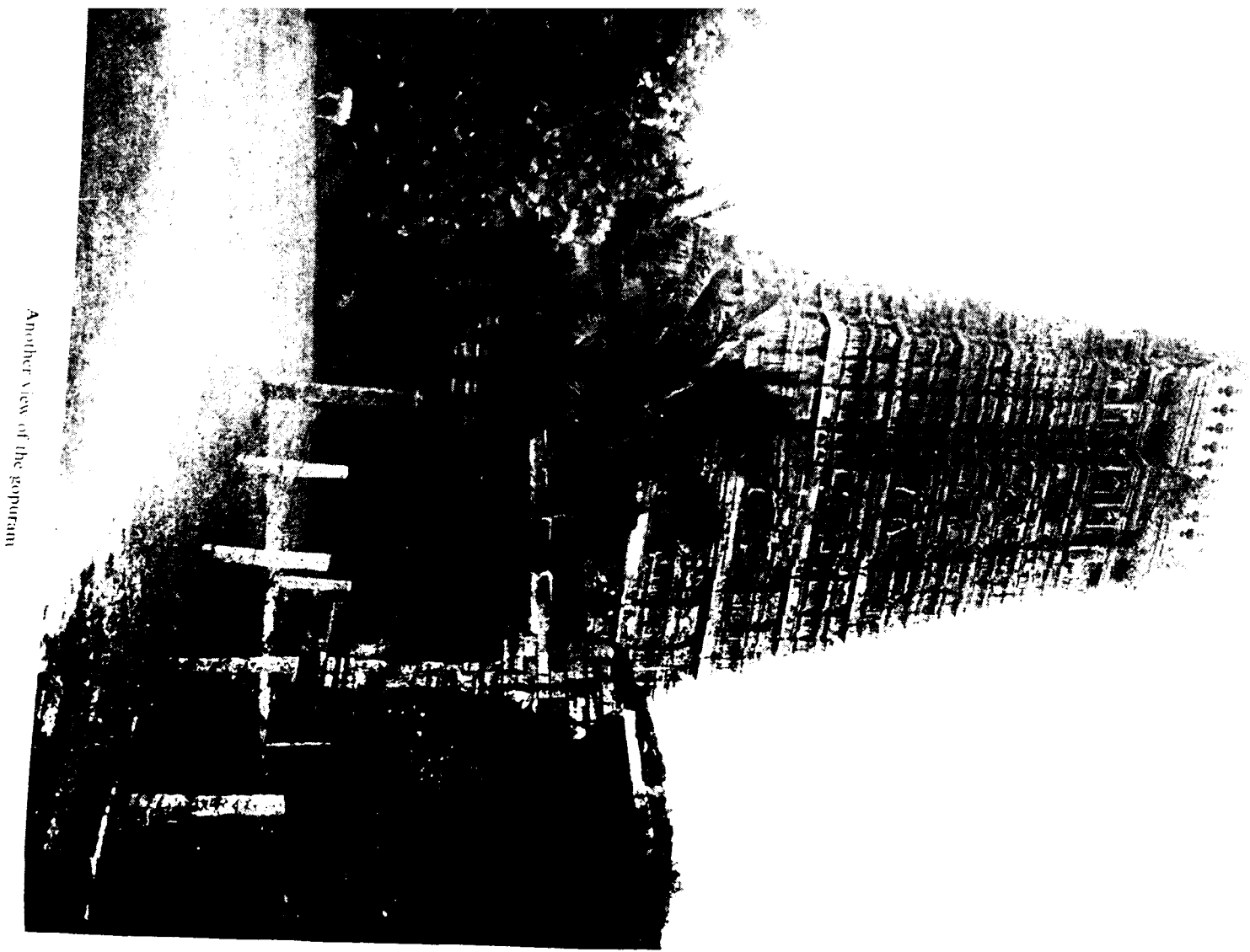
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TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUVADANI

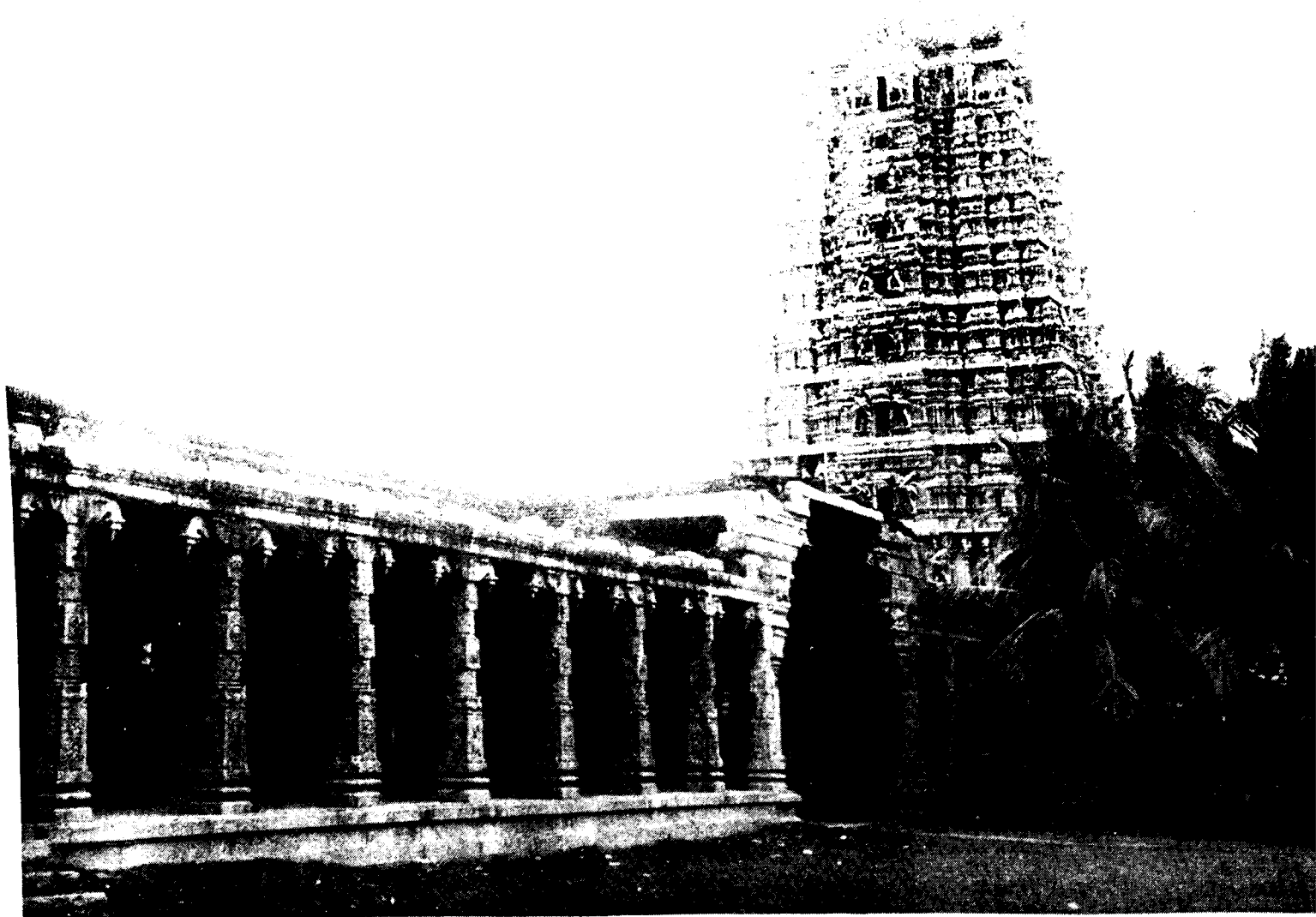
Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religions									
22	113	Thalermarun-gur (P)	Thalermarun-goar	Sri Brahmapureswarar Temple (S)	200	0.09	Sri Brahmapureswarar	Sri Brahannayagi	Devakottai Road Railway station 30 miles
23	"	do	do	Sri Ulageswarar Temple (S)	100	0.07	Sri Ulageswarar	Sri Soundarayanagi	do
24	115	Vattanam (P)	Vattanam	Sri Viswanathar and Visalakshiamman Temple (S)	300	0.06	Sri Viswanathar	Sri Visalakshiamman	Devakottai Road Railway station 35 miles
25	117	Tondi (P)	Tondi	Sri Unthi Pootha Perumal Temple (V)	200	0.12	Sri Unthi Pootha Perumal	Sri Upayanachiar	Devakottai Road Railway station 26 miles
26	122	Melapanaiyur (P)	Melapanaiyur	Sri Sundareswarar Temple (S)	100	Not stated	Sri Sundareswarar	Sri Azhagiannayagi-amman Sri Ganapathi Sri Subramaniam	Devakottai Road Railway station 25 miles
27	123	Gudalur (P)	Ponniyendal	Sri Mariamman Temple (F)	30	0.04	Sri Jagamariamman	...	Devakottai Road Railway station 24 miles
28	146	Rajasingamangalam (P)	Rajasingamangalam	Sri Kariamanicka Perumal Temple (V)	400	1.00	Sri Kariamanicka Perumal	Sri Devi Bhudevi	Ramanathapuram Railway station

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

TALUK (Contd.)									
Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Concl.)									
430	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...
253	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	do	...
302	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
784	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Bhattar	...
619	10.00	...	...	Vacant plot 0.03	...	...	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	Karthigai Deepam
1,723	1.00	3.00	...	...	...	...	Sahadai Kedayam Lion	Once a day by a hereditary Poosari	...
230	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by an Archagar	...



Another view of the gopuram



A side view of the front mandapam with gopuram

200

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUVADANAI**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the control of									
1	2	Unjanai (P)	Unjanai	Sri Thribhuvana Chakravartheeswaraswamy Temple (S)	250	0.22	Sri Thribhuvana Chakravarthiswamy	Sri Soundaranyagi Ambal	Karaikkudi Junction 5 miles
2	..	do	do	Sri Deivakali amman Temple (F)	50	0.03	Sri Unjamakali amman	...	do
3	14	Kandadevi (P)	Kandadevi	Sri Siragilinaswamy or Sri Swarnamurtheeswarar Temple (S)	300	0.09	Sri Swarnamurtheeswarar	Sri Perianayagiambal Sri Kungumakali amman	Devakottai Road Railway station 7 miles
4	18	Eluvankottai (P)	Kottavayal	Sri Naganathaswamy Temple (S)	150	0.33	Sri Naganathaswamy	Sri Brahadambal	Devakottai Road Railway Station 10 miles
5	19	do	Eluvankottai	Sri Viswanathaswamy Temple (S)	200	0.62	Sri Viswanathaswamy	Sri Agilandeshwari amman	Devakottai Road Railway station 8 miles
6	42	Vethiyangulam (V)	Karkudi	Sri Agastheeswaraswamy Temple (S)	Not known	0.20	Sri Agastheeswarar	...	Sivaganga Railway station
7	68	Thiruvegampet (P)	Thiruvegampet	Sri Ekambaranathaswamy Temple (S)	500	0.83	Sri Ekambaranathaswamy	Sri Snegavalliamman	Devakottai Road Railway station 20 miles
8	106	Radhanur (P)	Radhanoor	Sri Thillainayagaswamy Temple (S)	500	0.50	Sri Thillainayagaswamy	Sri Soundaranyagi amman	Devakottai Road Railway station 24 miles

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam	Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
Sivaganga Devasthanam									
575	10.13	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Gurukkal	...
322	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Poosari	...
6,814	45.03	13.09	...	...	56,790	...	Silver Rishabams-3 Car	Four times a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	Brahmothsavam in Ani
Not stated	1.17	0.24	...	...	...	121	...	Once a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...
930	3.93	...	...	...	18,135	...	Car	Twice a day by a hereditary Brahmin	Vaikasi Visakam
103	...	...	...	...	...	40	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
3,904	...	...	...	...	...	712	Car	Four times a day by a Gurukkal	Navarathri Karthigai Deepam Arudhra Dharisanam
459	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	Once a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUVADANAI

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the control of									
5	27	Kanrangudi (P)	Athangarai	Sri Antalavara-swamy Temple (S)	600	0.23	Sri Ambalavana-swamy	...	Devakottai Road Railway station 22 miles
6	28	Kandiyur (P)	Pullugudi	Sri Kailasanatha-swamy Temple (S)	600	Not stated	Sri Kailasa-nathar	Sri Nithya-kalyani	Ramanatha-puram Railway station 38 miles
7	86	Kattivayal (P)	Akkalur	Sri Kailasanatha-swamy Temple (S)	700	0.41	Sri Kailasa-nathar	Sri Yogambal	Devakottai Road Railway station
8	91	Kallikadam-banur (P)	Pullakadamban <i>alias</i> Tittandadanam	Sri Sagalatheer-thamudayavar Temple (S)	Not known	0.63	Sri Sarvatheer-theswarar	Sri Peria-nayaki	Devakottai Road Railway station 40 miles
9	96	Kodanoor (P)	Alambadi	Sri Kariamanicka Perumal Temple (V)	Not known	Not stated	Sri Kariamanicka Perumal	...	Devakottai Road Railway station 26 miles
10	99	Tiruvadanai (P)	Tiruvadanai	Sri Adi Rathneswarar Temple (S)	Not known	10.00	Sri Adi Rathneswarar	Sri Snegavalli	Devakottai Road Railway station 23 miles

AMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

'ALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
Ramanathapuram Samasthanam (Contd.)									
773	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a Gurukkal	...
846	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
1,375	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	Once a day by a Brahmin	...
2,909	...	...	...	...	...	33	...	Once a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
266	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	...
37,947	...	...	...	Buildings Vacant plots	74,698	...	Silver Rishabams-3 Bandicoot Peacock Kedayam Cars-2 Palanquins-2 Rishabam Elephant Bhootham Kailasa Parvatham Kamadhenu Horse, Peacock Sahadais-4	Six times a day by hereditary Gurukkals	Vasantha uthsavam in Vaikasi Adi Pooram Karthigai Deepam Arudhra Dharisanam Thiruvadhirai Vinayaka Chathurthi Skandha Sashti Navarathri

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUVADANAI

(1)	Station code unit opted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
9	116	Anandoor (P)	Anandoor	Sri Thirumeni- nathaswamy Temple (S)	500	0.17	Sri Thirumeni- nathaswamy	Sri Kanagavalli amman	Devakottai Road Railway station 24 miles
10	127	Sathanur (P)	Sathanur	Sri Thiruvalees- waraswamy Temple (S)	500	0.17	Sri Thiruvalees- waraswamy	...	Devakottai Road Railway station 25 miles
11	135	Thiruvathiyur (P)	Thiruvathiyur	Sri Valmikana- thaswamy Temple (S)	500	0.25	Sri Valmikana- thaswamy	Sri Bagam- piriyal	Devakottai Road Railway station 32 miles
Temples under the control of									
1	9	Siruvachi (P)	Muthunadu	Sri Sivandha- padhamudayar Temple (S)	700	0.24	Sri Sivandha- padhamuda- yavar	Sri Sivakami- amman	Devakottai Road Railway station 13 miles
2	24	Thalakkavayal (P)	Velimuthi (Vazhimukthi)	Sri Pazhampathi- nathar Temple (S)	500	0.43	Sri Pazham- pathinathar	Sri Periya- nayaki	Devakottai Road Railway station
3	27	Kannangudi (P)	Kappalur	Sri Narasinga- Perumal Temple (V)	300	0.20	Sri Narasinga Perumal	Sri Devi Bhu Devi Sri Santha- murthi	Devakottai Road Railway station 20 miles
4	..	do	Kannangudi	Sri Pasupathees- warar Temple (S)	600	0.65	Sri Pasupathees- warar	Sri Parvathi- amman	Devakottai Road Railway station

TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property Value of Jewellery Rs.			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Apprai- sed by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Report- ed by temple	Vahanam		
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
Sivaganga Devasthanam (Concl'd.)									
428	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
264	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	do	...
3,500	82.76	31.16	...	...	26,479	...	Silver Rishabam Car	Four times a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	Brahmothsavam in Chithrai
Ramanathapuram Samasthanam									
2,046	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
1,139	...	...	...	...	...	224	Rishabams-2 Kedayam	do	...
279	...	...	...	...	...	20	...	Once a day by a Bhatta- chariar	...
5,173	...	...	...	...	...	2,560	Palanquin Rishabam Elephant Bhootham Swan, Horse	Four times a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	Brahmothsavam in Ani Amman festival in Vaikasi

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
TIRUVADANAI

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the control of									
11	108	Pudukurichi Pidanendal (P)	Pidanendal	Sri Vedapureeswarar Temple (S)	Not known	Not stated	Sri Vedapureeswarar	Sri Pushpavalliamman	Devakottai Road Railway station 28 miles
12	125	Thiruthervalai (P)	Thiruthervalai	Sri Andukondeswarar Temple (S)	600	Not stated	Sri Andukondeswarar	Sri Avudainayakiamman	Devakottai Road Railway station 20 miles
13	146	Rajasingamangalam (P)	Rajasingamangalam	Sri Kailasanathaswamy Temple (S)	1,000	Not stated	Sri Kailasanathar	Sri Bhuvaneshwari amman	Ramanathapuram Railway station 22 miles
14	150	Kadaur (P)	Uppur (Lavanapuram)	Sri Veyilugantha Vinayakar Temple (G)	Not known	0.14	Sri Vinayakar	...	Ramanathapuram Railway station 28 miles
15	160	Thiruppalakudi (P)	Thiruppalakudi	Sri Manthranathaswamy Temple (S)	Not known	0.32	Sri Manthranathar	Sri Nallamangai	Ramanathapuram Railway station 15 miles
Temples outside the Hindu Religious									
1	22	Devakottai (M)	Devakottai	Sri Kothandaramaswamy Temple (V)	60	0.19	Sri Kothandaramar	Sri Devi Bhu Devi Sri Lakshmanar Sita Sri Hanumar	Devakottai Road Railway station 8 miles
2	117	Tondi (P)	Tondi	Sri Arul Ambalavanar alias Chidambareswarar Temple (S)	200	0.49	Sri Chidambareswarar	Sri Sivakami amman	Devakottai Road Railway station 32 miles

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Concl'd.)

TALUK (Concl'd.)									
Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Apprai- sed by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Report- ed by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
Ramanathapuram Samasthanam (Concl'd.)									
6,206	...	...	...	...	...	143	...	Twice a day by a Gurukkal	...
963	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Gurukkal	...
3,968	...	...	...	...	...	187	Rishabam Lion, Swan Peacock Bandicoot Parrot	Poojas by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
13,520	...	...	...	...	63,785	...	Silver Vahanam	Four times a day by a Gurukkal	Vinayaka Chathurthi Brahmothsavam in Avani
1,572	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Thrice a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department									
60	...	...	...	...	...	100	Car Palanquin Horse Hanumar Elephant Sesha, Garuda Kedayam	Four times a day by a hereditary Archagar	Sri Rama Navami Navarathri Vaikunta Ekadasi
...	Extent not stated				...	...	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...

PARAMAKUDI TALUK

95 PARAMAKUDI

Sri Sundararaja Perumal and Chandrasekharaswamy temple

Paramakudi also known as Parambakudi is on Manamadurai-Rameswaram railway line. It is at a distance of 72 kilometres from Madurai. The Sourashtra community of this area have constructed two temples here, one dedicated to Vishnu and the other to Siva. They are called respectively, Sri Sundararaja Perumal and Sri Chandrasekharaswamy temples.

The Sourashtras, also known as the Patnulkars, are a caste of enterprising weavers who originally came from the Sourashtra country. They are said to be Brahmins and in support of this, there is a Sasana issued by Queen Mangammal.

Sri Sundararaja Perumal temple

According to the temple trustee, the images of the Perumal and his two consorts as well as the two dwarapalakas were unearthed long ago. What was a Bajanai madam of the Sourashtra community became a temple for these deities due to the efforts of the members of this community. Later, the temple was expanded by stages. The present area of the temple is 16,289 sq. feet. There are two prakarams here. The rajagopuram is about 59' high. There is a beautiful vimanam over the sanctum sanctorum which is about 11' high. There are small vimanams over the sanctum of Thayar and Sri Andal. The pillars in the Dwajasthamba mandapam are artistic. The presiding deity is in the standing posture. Sri Padmavalli Thayar is in the sitting posture. The festival idols of the deities are in the same form as the original deities in the sanctum. Poojas are performed five times daily according to the Pancharatra Agama.

Special worship is made in the temple on Ekadasi and Amavasya days. The important annual festivals of the temple are as follows:—Chaithrothsavam (10 days), Brahmothsavam in Adi (10 days) Vaikunta Ekadasi in Margazhi, Kanu uthsavam in Thai and Thirukkalyanam in Panguni (5 days).

Sri Chandrasekharaswamy Temple

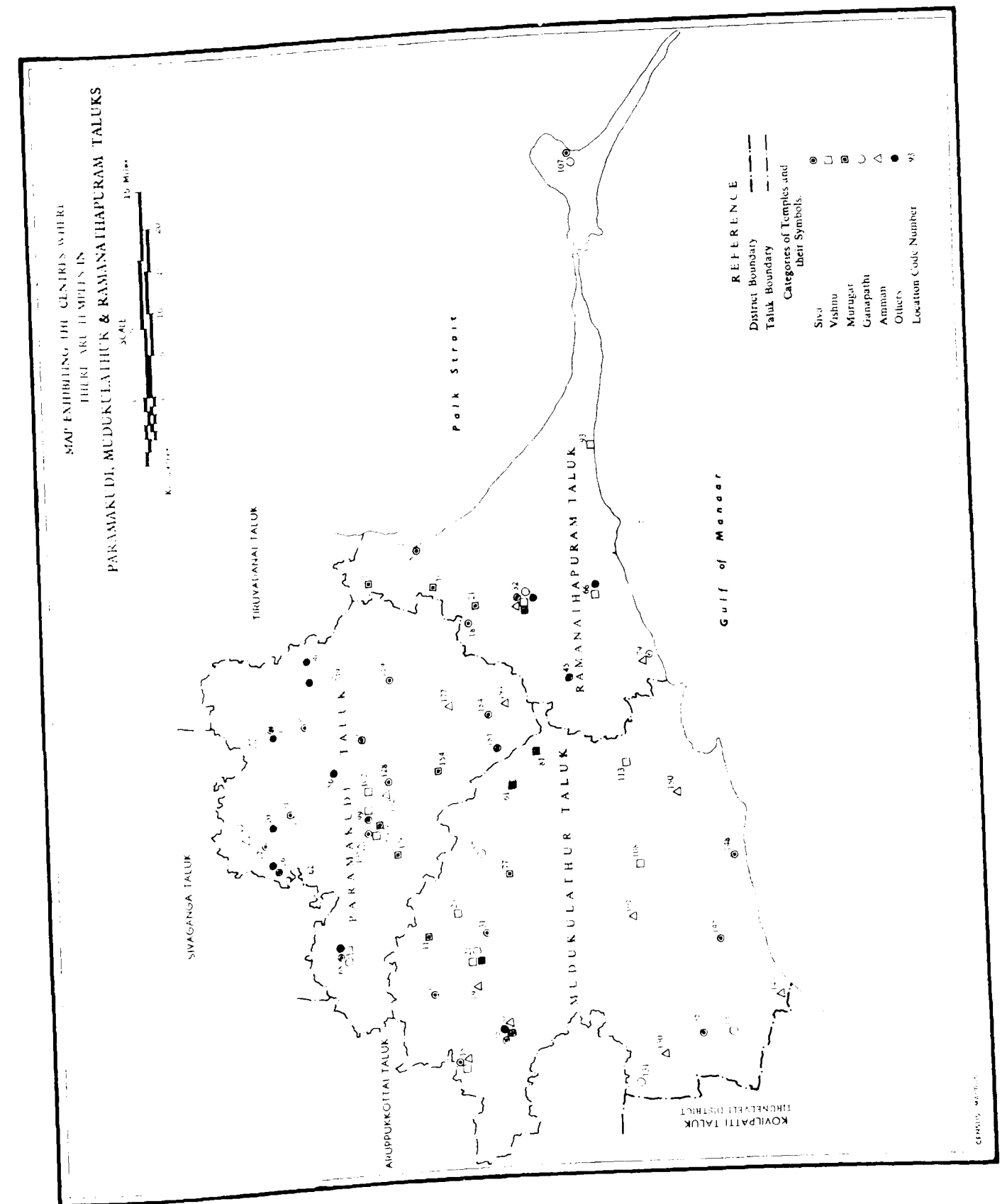
Sri Chandrasekharaswamy temple was originally in a state of disrepair. In the year 1916, the Sourashtra people in Paramakudi and Madurai took interest in the temple and renovations and expansions were made during the period 1917 to 1935 and a Maha kumbabishegam was performed. This temple now occupies an area of 13,920 sq. feet. There are two prakarams.

The presiding deity of this temple is a Swayambu Lingam. The divine consort, Sri Visalakshi Amman, is in a standing posture. There is a nine feet high vimanam with plaster images, over the sanctum sanctorum. There is also a small vimanam over the sanctum of Sri Natarajar is of superb workmanship. He gives darshan with His consort Sri Sivakami Amman. The various mandapams and sannadhis in the temple were constructed with the generous help received from many individuals belonging to the Sourashtra community. Poojas are performed twice daily by a paid Gurukkal. The important annual festivals of the temple are: the 11-day Brahmothsavam in the month of Chithrai, Navarathri, the 10 day Arudhra darshan and one day Kalabairava Ashtami in Margazhi. Both the temples have a number of vahanas and jewels. They own buildings and lands, the income from which is used for their administration. The other sub-temples are Sri Sundararaja Perumal temple, Sri Karupannaswamy temple in Kakathope and Sri Subramaniaswamy temple. There is a Board of trustees consisting of five members belonging to the Sourashtra community who manage the affairs of the temples which come under the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department.

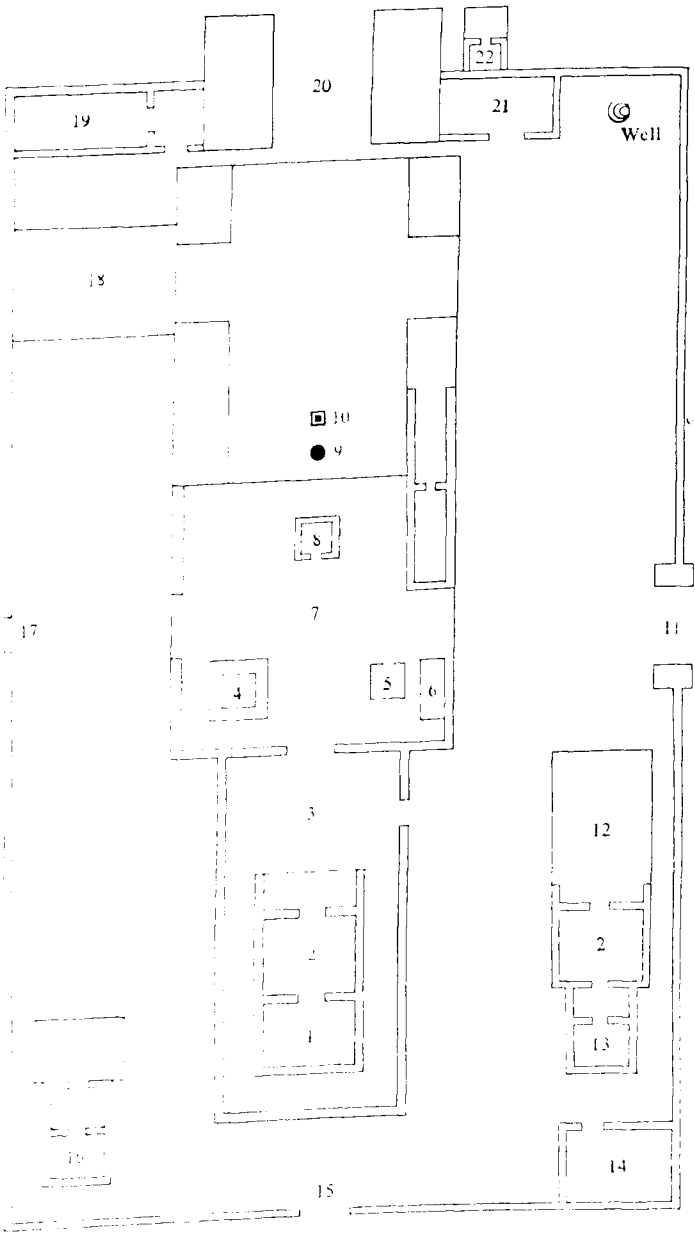
105 NAINARKOIL

Sri Naganathaswamy temple

Nainarkoil, a small village 14 kilometres off Paramakudi is well known for its ancient Siva temple dedicated to Sri Naganathaswamy, who is a Swayambu



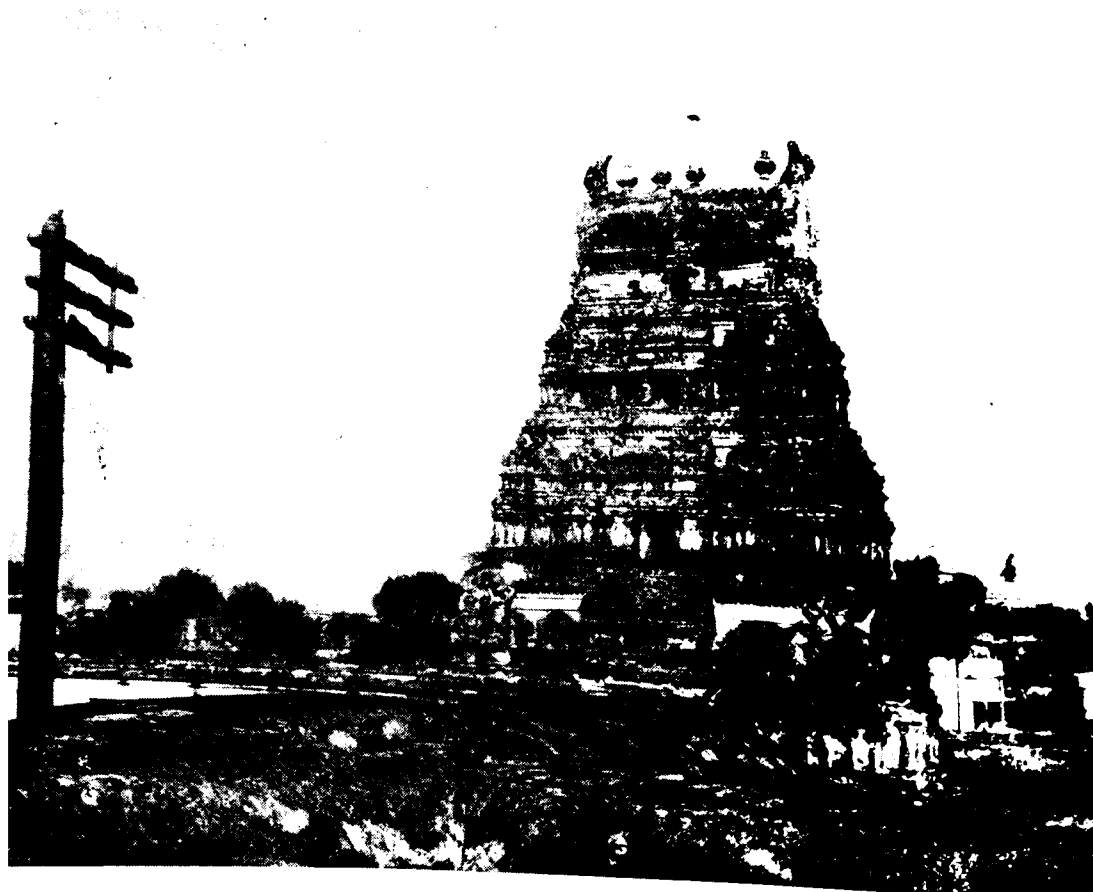
SRI SUNDARARAJAPERUMAL TEMPLE
PARAMAKUDI TOWN
(Not to Scale)



- INDEX TO NUMBERS**
- 1 Sundararajaperumal (Moolavar)
 - 2 Mandapam
 - 3 Maha Mandapam
 - 4 Navagrahas
 - 5 Thiruvazhi Alwar
 - 6 Alwars
 - 7 Garuda Mandapam
 - 8 Garudalwar
 - 9 Balipeedam
 - 10 Dwajasthambam
 - 11 East Entrance
 - 12 Vaikunta Ekadasi
 - 13 Soundharavalli Thayar
 - 14 Madapalli
 - 15 South Entrance
 - 16 Andal
 - 17 West Entrance
 - 18 Thirukalyana Mandapam
 - 19 Yagasalai
 - 20 Main Entrance
 - 21 Store Room
 - 22 Karuppannaswamy



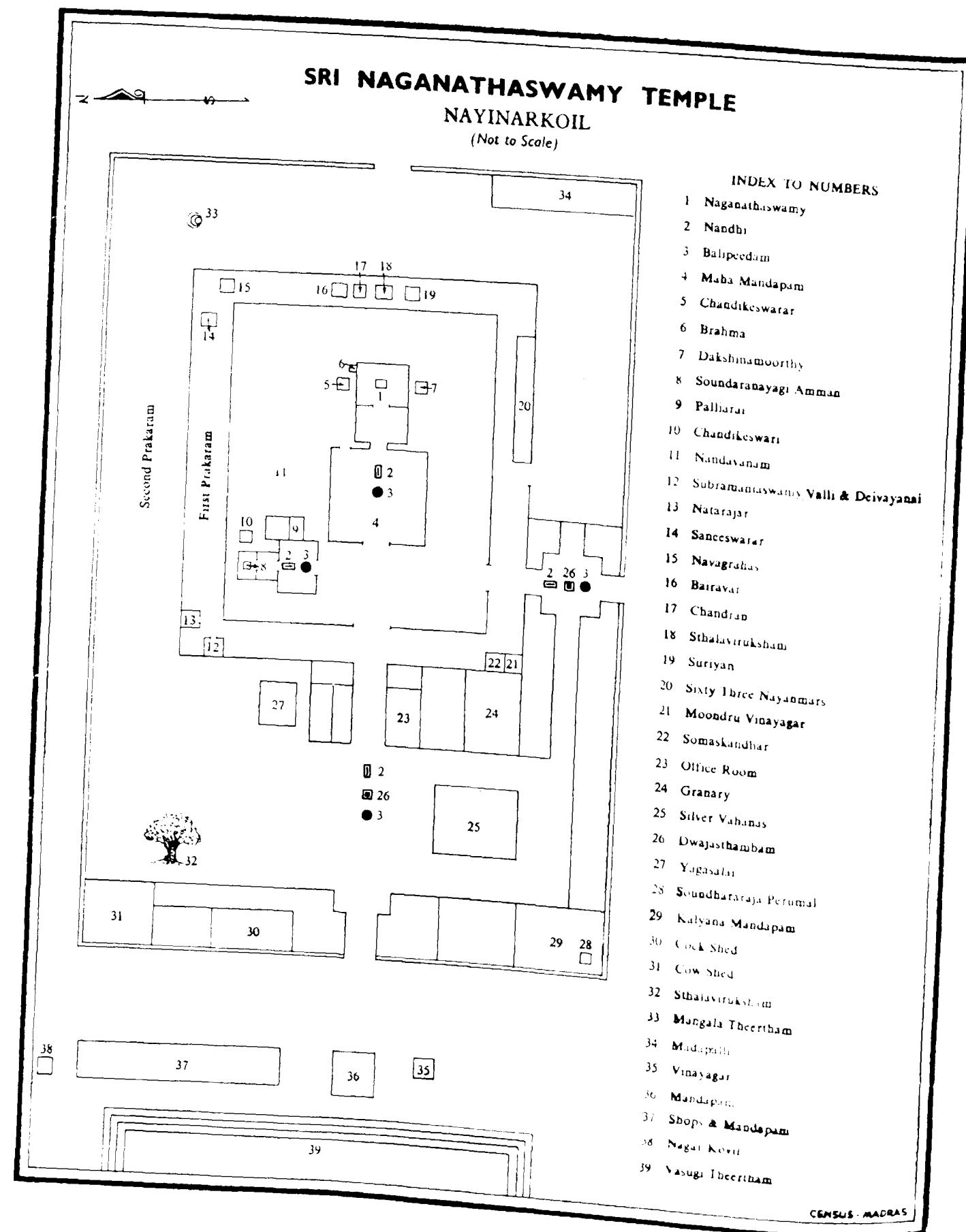
A view of Sri Naganathaswami temple, Nayinarkoil



A rear view of the gopuram



The huge car gifted to the temple by the Rajah of Ramnad



RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

289

Lingam. The divine consort here is known as Sri Soundaranayagi Amman. The place is linked with several sacred centres by bus and train, the nearest railway station being Paramakudi. Madurai, the district headquarters and Paramakudi, the taluk headquarters are 88 and 13 kilometres away respectively. Legend has it that in ancient days a Muslim girl, who was congenitally dumb began to speak miraculously when she came here and worshipped the Lord. Since then the village came to be called Nainarkoil by the Muslim population. It attracts Muslim devotees now, besides Hindus.

According to a popular legend, a hunter who was chased by a tiger came here, got upon a vilva tree nearby and kept awake the whole night without food or water. In order that he might not go to sleep and fall a prey to the tiger, he plucked the leaves of the vilva tree one by one and dropped them on the ground. It so happened that there was a Sivalingam under the tree and all the leaves he had dropped had fallen on the Lingam. Pleased with his virtuous deed which he did unknowingly, Lord Siva offered him a darshan and the hunter was blessed to enjoy Heavenly bliss. It is said that this Swayambu Lingam is Sri Naganathaswamy. The sacred vilva tree which is covered by a beautiful silver kavacham is the sthalaviruksham of the temple. It is also said that originally the Lord was facing east but subsequently turned towards west at the request of Sri Namadeva, one of his staunch devotees, who had sung a sacred song in praise of Him.

The temple which covers an area of about 1.64 acres has a 45 feet-high front gopuram. Besides, it has a beautiful 21 feet high vimanam over the sanctum with attractive plaster figures on it. There are two prakarams and two sanctum sanctorum here, apart from an arthamandapam, a mahamandapam and a kalyanamandapam. There are several stone inscriptions in the sannadhi of Sri Dakshinamoorthy. It is said that several additions and renovations were made to this ancient temple, some 50 years back by the Rajas of Ramanathapuram. The divine consort Sri Soundaranayagiamman whose image is in a separate shrine here is in a standing posture. Sri Vinayakar, Subramaniam, Dakshinamoorthy, Puthadi Nagar, Dhrowpathiamman, Ayyanar and Pidariamman are the other deities here.

The festival idols of the Swamy and Ambal are very enchanting and are made of panchalogam.

The sthalapuranam of this shrine has been written by one Sri Sitrambala Kaviroyar, son of Sri Subramania Kaviroyar of Sirukambaiyur in Tiruvadanai. The presiding deity of this shrine is very powerful and there is a popular story in vogue which says that the Lord had offered a darshan to a blind devotee by name Thalai Malai Kanda Marudu Devar, who got back his power of vision by the grace of the Lord when he came here and sung a devotional song in praise of the Lord.

Poojas are performed six times daily by hereditary Brahmin priests of the Saivite sect, who are in the enjoyment of service inam lands. The temple owns both antique and modern jewellery in gold and silver worth about Rs. 2,94,203/-, mostly donated by the Rajas of Ramanathapuram. The landed property of the temple comprises about 69.37 acres of wet lands and 179.08 acres of dry lands which fetch an annual income of about Rs. 13,520/- by way of rent; this sum is utilised for the upkeep and general maintenance of the temple. The annual hundi collections of the temple amount to Rs. 30,000/-, while its income under archana and abishega charges is Rs. 12,846/- per annum. The temple owns a big Ther, five Rathams, three Palanquins and several vahanas made of wood, apart from a number of silver-plated vahanas viz., Rishabam, Parrot, Swan, Bhootham, Horse, Elephant, Nandhi, Kamadhenu, Peacock, Lion and Bandicoot.

Vasanthotsavam in Vaikasi for a period of 10 days, Adi Pooram for 15 days, Thai Poosam and the 10 day uthsavams for Dhrowpathiamman, Ayyanar and Pidariamman in Panguni and Chithrai months respectively are the regular festivals celebrated, of which, the first two are the most important. About 25,000 devotees from far and near congregate here, for the first two festivals.

The temple which comes under the purview of the Ramanathapuram Samasthanam is managed by the Raja, who is the hereditary trustee of the temple.

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
PARAMAKUDI**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)	
(1)	No.	Name								(3)
Temples under the Hindu Religious										
1	17	Thugavoor (P)	Thugavoor	Sri Kalyana Sundara Virayakar Temple (G)	200	0.01	Sri Sundara Vinayakar	...	Paramakudi Railway station 19 miles	
2	..	do	do	Sri Subramania-swamy Temple (M)			Sri Subramania-swamy	...		
3	20	Tiruvalloor (V)	Thiruvalloor	Sri Al'agia Varada Ayyanar Temple (O)	300	0.45	Sri Alagia Varada Ayyanar	Sri Veeramakali	Paramakudi Railway station 19 miles	
4	23	Thayamangalam (P)	Thayamangalam	Sri Muthumariamman Temple (F)	300	0.25	Sri Muthumariamman	...	Paramakudi Railway station 13 miles	
5	26	Vijayangudi A. (V)	Maruthangannallur	Sri Thiruvettai Ayyanar Temple (O)	100	0.01	Sri Thiruvettai Ayyanar	...	Paramakudi Railway station 13½ miles	
6	31	Ilayangudi (P)	Ilayangudi	Sri Val Mel Nanthamman Temple (F)	90	0.16	Sri Val Mel Nanthamman	...	Paramakudi Railway station 8 miles	
7	46	Sathanur (V)	Sathanur	Sri Maha Sastha Ayyanar Temple (O)	150	0.01	Sri Maha Sastha Ayyanar	...	Paramakudi Railway station 17 miles	
8	49	Vadavaneri (V)	Vadavaneri	Sri Pillayar Temple (G)	200	Below 0.01	Sri Vinayakar	...	Paramakudi Railway station 21 miles	

**RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK**

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Apprai- sed by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Report- ed by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department									
265	...	...	1.36	...	...	...	...	Once a day by the hereditary trustee	...
538	...	...	14.64	Garden 0.55	...	362	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Velar	Sivarathri
23,518	29.59	...	...	...	...	4,900	Car Palanquin Bhootham Swan, Lion Kamadhenu Kedayam	Twice a day by a Pandaram	Annual festival in Panguni
413	...	3.32	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Velar	Sivarathri Festival in Vaikasi
421	...	...	...	Vacant plot	...	556	Lion Horse	Once a day by a Gurukkal	Navarathri Tamil New Year's Day
600	17.00	15.00	...	...	...	...	Horse	Twice a day by a hereditary Velar	Festival in Chithrai
317	4.45	10.48	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...

292

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
PARAMAKUDI

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
9	56	Kottaiyur (V)	Vani	Sri Karuppanna-swamy Temple (O)	300	0.50	Sri Karuppanna-swamy	...	Paramakudi Railway station 6½ miles
10	62	Keelanettur (V)	Keelanettur	Sri Alangara Perumal Temple (V)	500	0.50	Sri Alangara Perumal	...	Paramakudi Railway station 12 miles
11	68	Melaparthi-banur (P)	Parthibanur	Sri Annadhana Vinayakar Temple (G)	300	0.21	Sri Annadhana Vinayakar	Sri Viswanathar Sri Visalakshi Sri Subramaniam Sri Valli Deivayanai	Sudiyur Railway station 3 miles
12	..	do	do	Sri Chockanatha-swamy Temple (S)	160	0.73	Sri Chockanathaswamy	Sri Meenakshi-amman	do
13	..	do	do	Sri Perumal alias Venugopala-swamy Temple (V)	300	0.31	Sri Venugopala-swamy	Sri Rukmani Sri Sathyabama	do
14	..	do	do	Sri Pugaleeswararamudaya Ayyanar Temple (O)	300	0.70	Sri Pugaleeswararamudaya Ayyanar	Sri Ariaswamy	do
15	95	Paramakudi (P)	Paramakudi	Sri Hanumar Kothandarama-swamy Temple (V)	100	0.19	Sri Kothandaramar	Sri Lakshmanar Sita	Paramakudi Railway station 1 mile

AMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.	Vahanam			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. (16)	Reported by temple (17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
413	2-00	6-00	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Devar	...
579	20-00	2-00	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Bhatta-chariar	...
619	11-16	15-00	...	Vacant plot 0-04 Garden 0-08	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Brahmin	Panguni Uthiram
619	18-93	...	...	...	...	20	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattar	...
604	...	...	...	...	...	105	...	Once a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...
435	6-00	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Velar	Sivarathri
1,666	...	...	...	...	Houses 1,449 Vacant plots	...	...	Twice a day by a Bhatta-chariar	Karthigai Deepam Vinayaka Chathurthi

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
PARAMAKUDI

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census	No.	Name	Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	
Temples under the Hindu Religions										
16	95	Paramakudi (P)	Paramakudi		Sri Maniakara-kula Vellala Subramania swamy Temple (M)	52	0.02	Sri Subramania-swamy	Sri Valli Deivayanai Sri Vinayakar	Paramakudi Railway station 1 mile
17	..	do	do		Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple (S)	400	0.91	Sri Sundareswarar	...	do
18	..	do	do		Sri Mutha-lamman Temple (F)		0.36	Sri Mutha-lamman	Sri Karuppa-nnaswamy Sri Bairavar	
19	..	do	do		Sri Sundararaja Perumal Temple (V)	250	0.37	Sri Sundararaja Perumal	Sri Nachiar	do
20	..	do	do		Sri Chandrase-karaswamy Temple (S)		0.32	Sri Chandrase-karaswamy	Sri Vinayakar Sri Subraman-iar	

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
					Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)

and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)

1,856	...	...	..	Shops-5 Vacant plot	...	...	Peacock Elephant Horse Ajah, Lion	Twice a day by a Bhattar	Skandha Sashti Vaikasi Visakam
16,444	Extent not stated		...	Buildings 55	11,535	...	Silver Rishabam Cars-2 Elephant Kamadhenu Rishabams-3 Karpaga Viruksham Bandicoot Peacock Garuda	Thrice a day by a Bhattar	Brahmothsavam in Chithrai
							Car, Lion Bhootham Swan, Parrot Horses-2	do	Brahmothsavam in Panguni
19,639	Extent not stated			Buildings	24,872	...	Palanquin Elephant Sesha Lion, Swan Hanumar Tholukkiniyan	Five times a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Festival in Chithrai Vasanthoathsavam in Vaikasi Brahmothsavam in Adi Uriyadi Navarathri Karthigai Deepam Vaikunta Ekadasi
							Palanquin Bhootham Kedayams-2 Rishabams-2 Horse Bandicoot Elephant Kailasa Parvatham Kamadhenu Lion Peacock	Twice a day by a Gurukkal	Vinayaka Chathurthi Navarathri Thai Poosam Karthigai Deepam Arudhra Dharisanam Brahmothsavam in Chithrai



The Sthalavriksham of the temple



Image of Lord Dakshinamurthi

298

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
PARAMAKUDI

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
28	135	Kattuparama-kudi (V)	Kattuparama-kudi	Sri Dhrowpathi-amman Temple (F)	150	0.03	Sri Dhrowpathi-amman	...	Paramakudi Railway station 1 mile
29	136	Ayakudi West (P)	Melayakudi	Sri Kumara-kadavul <i>alias</i> Subramaniaswamy Temple (M)	150	0.50	Sri Subramania-swamy	...	Paramakudi Railway station 5 miles
30	154	Manjoor (V)	Velusamunadam	Sri Dandayudha-paniswamy Temple (M)	150	0.01	Sri Dandayu-dhapanay	Sri Vinayakar	Paramakudi Railway station 10 miles
31	177	Mannendhi-nagachi (P)	Mannendhi	Sri Veera Mahali-amman Temple (F)	500	0.01	Sri Veera Mahali-amman	...	Paramakudi Railway station 19 miles
32	184	Bogalur (P)	Bogalur	Sri Kalyana Sundareswarar Temple (S)	Not known	0.29	Sri Sundares-warar	Sri Sivakami-amman	Sattirakkudi Railway station 1 mile
33	194	Theyanoor (V)	Theyanoor	Sri Madartheertha Amman (Idartheertha Amman) Temple (F)	100	0.30	Sri Idartheertha Amman	...	Sattirakkudi Railway station 4½ miles

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

TALUK (Contd.)									
Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property Value of Jewellery Rs.			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple (19)	Festivals (20)
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Apprai-sed by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Report-ed by temple	Vahanam		
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Concl'd.)									
1,372	...	...	...	Vacant plot 0.50	...	...	Lion	Twice a day by a hereditary Pillai	...
434	...	44.47	...	...	...	...	Elephant Peacock Rishabam Suran	Once a day by a Brahmin	Skandha Sashti Vaikasi Visakam Panguni Uthiram Karthigai Deepam
619	16.00	43.03	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a Bhattar	Thai Poosam Karthigai Deepam Skandha Sashti
1,470	16.81	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Poosari	...
775	4.50	...	...	...	...	...	Chapparam	Once a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
200	5.09	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Pandaram	...

and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Concl.)

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
PARAMAKUDI**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religion									
21	95	Paramakudi (P)	Paramakudi	Sri Subramania-swamy Temple (M)	150	0.14	Sri Subramania-swamy	Sri Valli Deivayana	Paramakudi Railway station 1 mile
22	99	Emaneswaram (P)	Emaneswaram	Sri Varadaraja Perumal Temple (V)	300	0.34	Sri Varadaraja Perumal	Sri Perundevi Amman	do
23	„	do	do	Sri Emaneswara Udayar Temple (S)	800	1.50	Sri Emaneswara Udayar	„	Paramakudi Railway station 2 miles
24	102	Ilamanoor (P)	Ilamanoor	Sri Kothandaramaswamy Temple (V)	300	0.50	Sri Kothandaramar	Sita Sri Lakshmanar Sri Anjaneyar	Paramakudi Railway station 6 miles
25	119	Koluvoor (P)	Koluvoor	Sri Naganathaswamy Temple (S)	100	0.04	Sri Naganathar	Sri Anjaneyar	Paramakudi Railway station 13 miles
26	128	Urapuli (V)	Muthuvarnapuram	Sri Chockanathaswamy Temple (S)	Not known	0.50	Sri Chockanathaswamy	Sri Amman	Paramakudi Railway station 3 miles
27	132	Urapuli (P)	Urapuli	Sri Angalaparameswariammam Temple (F)	300	0.50	Sri Angalaparameswari	Sri Irulappaswamy Sri Pechiamman Sri Dhanukodi-amman	do

**RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)**

TALUK (Contd.)									
Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(15)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
1,701	...	...	...	Buildings 10	...	...	Palanquin	Twice a day by a Brahmin	Navarathri Skandha Sashti
1,303	4.50	...	...	Market	...	...	Palanquin Horse Elephant Lion Garuda Sesha	Thrice a day by a Bhattachariar	Vasanthotsavam in Vaikasi
783	...	...	24.00	Vacant plot	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattar	Karthigai Deepam Arudhra Dharisanam
1,011	30.00	...	...	...	...	20	...	Once a day by a Bhattachariar	...
621	20.00	16.00	...	...	...	...	Car Sesha Lion Kedayam Rishabam	Once a day by a hereditary Brahmin	Vasanthotsavam in Vaikasi Tamil New Year's Day Vinayaka Chathurthi Navarathri Karthigai Deepam Sivarathri Thai Poesam
2.00	10.63	2.90	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattar	...
661	...	26.65	...	...	...	242	Lion Rishabam Horse Kedayam	Once a day by a Poosari	Sivarathri

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
PARAMAKUDI

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the control of									
1	6	Aranmanai-kari (V)	Aranmanai-kari	Sri Karumeni-amman Temple (F)	4,000	0.18	Sri Karumeni-amman	...	Paramakudi Railway station 14 miles
2	26	Vijayangudi A. (V)	Vijayangudi	Thirukannee-swaraswamy Temple (S)	Not known	0.05	Thirukanneeswaraswamy	Sri Santhanayaki-amman	do
3	27	Nagamukunthankudi (V)	Nagamugunthankudi	Sri Naganathaswamy Temple (S)	Not known	0.40	Sri Naganathaswamy	Sri Soundarayanayi	Paramakudi Railway station 11 miles
4	31	Illyangudi (P)	Illyangudi	Sri Madana Venugopala Perumal Temple (V)	Not known	0.34	Sri Madana Venugopala Perumal	...	Paramakudi Railway station 7 miles
5	„	do	do	Sri Rajendracholeswarar Temple (S)	Not known	0.39	Sri Rajendracholeswarar	Sri Gnanambi-gaigamman	do
6	50	Pudukottai (V)	Pudukottai	Sri Vannamayuramudaya Ayyanar Temple (O)	200	0.10	Sri Vannamayuramudaya Ayyanar	Sri Poorana Pushkala Sri Chinnayiamman	Kamudakudi Railway station 3 miles
7	68	Melaparthibanur (P)	Parthibanur	Sri Azhagiamanavala Perumal Temple (V)	Not known	Below 0.01	Sri Azhagiamanavala Perumal	Sri Devi Bhu Devi	Sudiyur Railway station 1½ miles

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Apprai- sed by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Report- ed by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
Sivaganga Devasthanam									
1,464	...	...	...	...	...	106	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Pcosari	...
539	...	...	...	Shop	...	3	...	Once a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...
702	...	...	...	...	...	36	...	Four times a day by a hereditary Bhattar	...
457	...	...	...	...	...	786	Garuda	Twice a day by a Bhatta- chariar	Sri Jayanthi Vaikunta Ekadasi
1 385	...	...	...	...	...	2,971	Rishabams-3 Peacock Kedayam Bandicoot Sahadai	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattar	Vinayaka Chathurthi Karthigai Deepam Arudhra Dharisanam
560	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	Once a day by a hereditary Velar	...
150	6.70	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a Bhattar	...

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
PARAMAKUDI

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the control of									
1	40	Salaigramam (P)	Salaigramam	Sri Varaguna Eswarar Temple (S)	350	0.29	Sri Varaguna Eswarar	Thirukamakoteeswari Sri Vinayakar Sri Chandikeswarar Sri Mahalingaswamy	Paramakudi Railway station 14 miles
2	105	Nainarkoil (V)	Nainarkoil	Sri Naganathaswamy Temple (S)	Not known	1.64	Sri Naganathaswamy	Sri Soundaranyaki- amman Sri Nagar	Paramakudi Railway station 8 miles
3	181	Ariakudi- puthur (P)	Puthur	Sri Sundara- pandeeswarar Temple (S)	500	0.23	Sri Sundara- Pandeeswara- swamy	Sri Bala Ganapathy Sri Subra- maniar	Chathirakudi Railway station 3 miles

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Concl'd.)

PALUK (Contd.)									
Annual income assessed for Faali 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Apprai- sed by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Report- ed by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
Ramanathapuram Samasthanam									
327	...	4 57	...	...	...	25	...	Once a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...
13,520	69.37	179.08	...	...	2,94,203	...	Silver Risha- bams-3 Parrot Swan Bhootham Horses-2 Elephants-2 Lotus Peacock Lion Palanquin Bandicoot Car Rathams-2 Sahadais-3 Karpaga Viruksham Kamadhenu Kedayams-6 Palanquins-3 Rishabams	Six times a day by hereditary Bhattars	Vasanthothsavam in Vaikasi Amman Festival in Panguni Adi Pooram Thaipoosam Ayyanar and Pidariamman festival in Chithrai
327	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...

RAMANATHAPURAM TALUK

8 DEVIPATNAM

Sri Thilakeswarar and Kadaladaitha Perumal temple

The coastal town of Devipatnam or Navapashanam, 16 kilometres to the north of Ramanathapuram is a place considered sacred. It is in the holy Sethu sthalam which extends upto Dhanushkodi, with Devipatnam and Darbhasayanam or Tirupullani forming the northern and western limits respectively.

According to a popular legend Sri Rama worshipped Lord Vinayaka and Lord Siva who is known as Sri Thilakaswamy. After getting the blessings of the divine Mother, Sri Rama installed nine stones (Navapashana) representing the Navagrahas. The spot here is therefore known as Navapashanam. The place got the name Devipatnam since it was founded by Devi or Goddess to commemorate the destruction of the demon Mahishasura by Her. The demon was causing untold miseries to Devas and Gods. She also ordained that whoever takes bath in the sacred sea waters of Navapashanam would be absolved of all sins. Pilgrims therefore throng in this bathing ghat to have a dip in the holy waters.

The shrines of Sri Thilakeswarar, Sri Kadaladaitha Perumal and Sri Ulaganayaki Amman have walls all around, which measure 85' x 136', 64' x 136' and 68' x 158' respectively.

There is a small gopuram over the sanctum sanctorum of Sri Thilakeswarar. The presiding deity of this temple is an installed Lingam. His consort is Sri Soundaranayaki Amman. There are five festival images in this temple. The presiding deity of the Perumal temple is Sri Adi Jagannatha Perumal.

There are festival idols for Sri Rama, Sita, Lakshmanar, Hanumar and Chakkarathalwar, besides the images of Perumal and Sri Padmasini Amman. It is said that the Lord prevented the sea from washing away three of the Navagrahas installed by Sri Rama. Hence the name Kadaladaitha Perumal (Perumal who checked the sea). There is no image in Sri Ulaganayaki or Loganayaki Amman temple. There is only a Peetam or a holy seat.

The temples have considerable landed property. Ramanathapuram Samasthanam had contributed liberally for the maintenance of the temples. Poojas are performed twice daily.

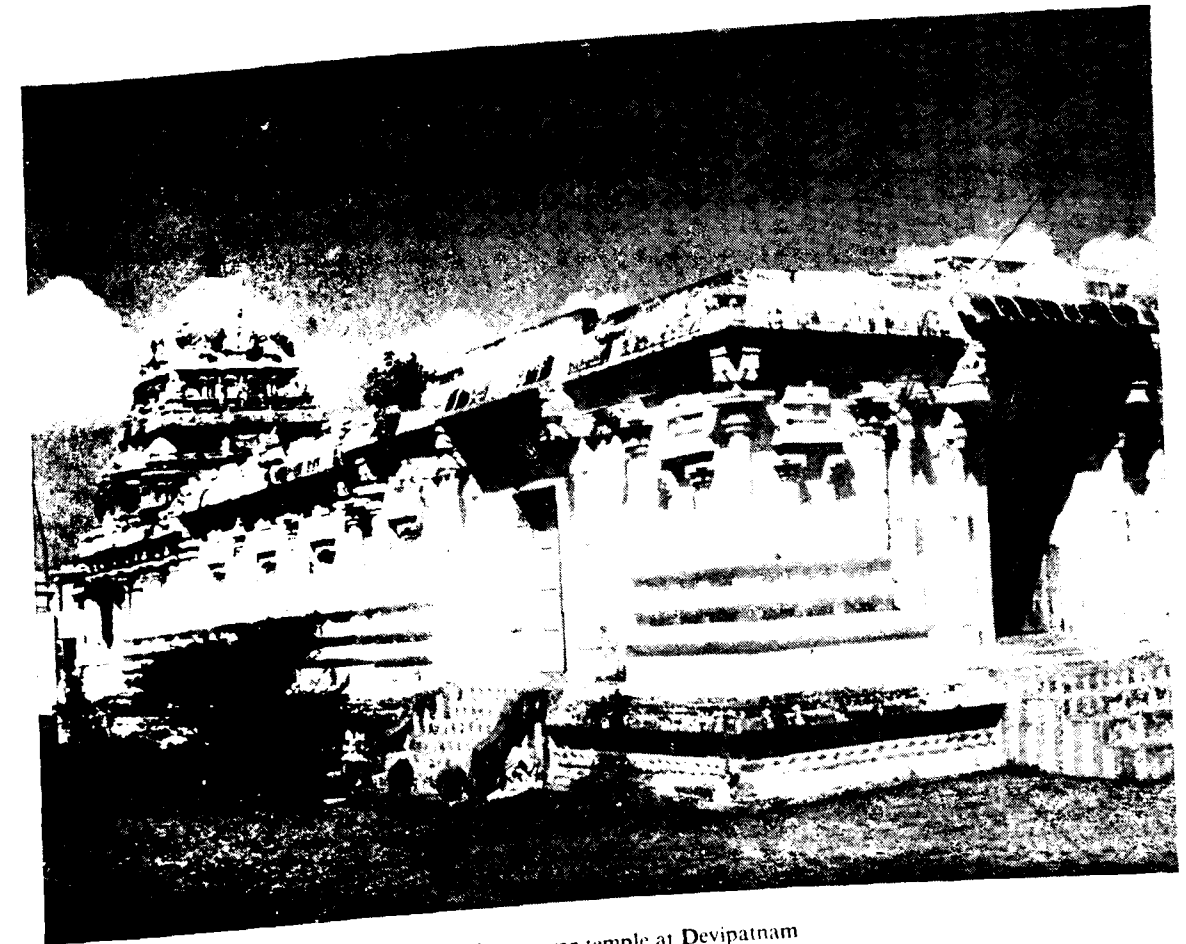
45 TIRUTHIRAKOSAMANGAI

Sri Mangalanathaswamy temple

Uthirakosamangai has been one of the famous sthalams of Pandya Nad from time immemorial. The 'Manivasagam' of saint Manickavasagar and the Thirupugazh of saint Arunagirinathar contain hymns in praise of the presiding deity of this temple known as Sri Mangalanathar, a Swayambu Lingam. The divine consort is known as Mangaleswari. This sacred place is situated at a distance of about 16 kilometres south-west of Ramanathapuram. The Ramanathapuram Samasthanam has renovated the ancient temple. There are several legends associating the shrine with Kings Manu, Nalan etc.

The following legend is found in the Sthala puranam:—Once when goddess Parvathi (Mangai) requested Siva (Mangainayakar) to point out the truth of Vedas (Kosa), the Lord preached (Uttara) the same to her. When the details were being given, Muruga hid himself in the tresses of Parvathi as a bee and overheard the sermon. Siva became wild and cursed Muruga to turn into a fish. He cursed Parvathi to become a sea-nymph and to vanish into the ocean. Parvathi fell before the Lord to pardon Her and sought advice as to how she could free Herself from the curse. The Lord informed her that She would be caught in the nets by King Vikrama. She would be his adopted daughter when He would come and marry Her and release Subramania also from the curse.

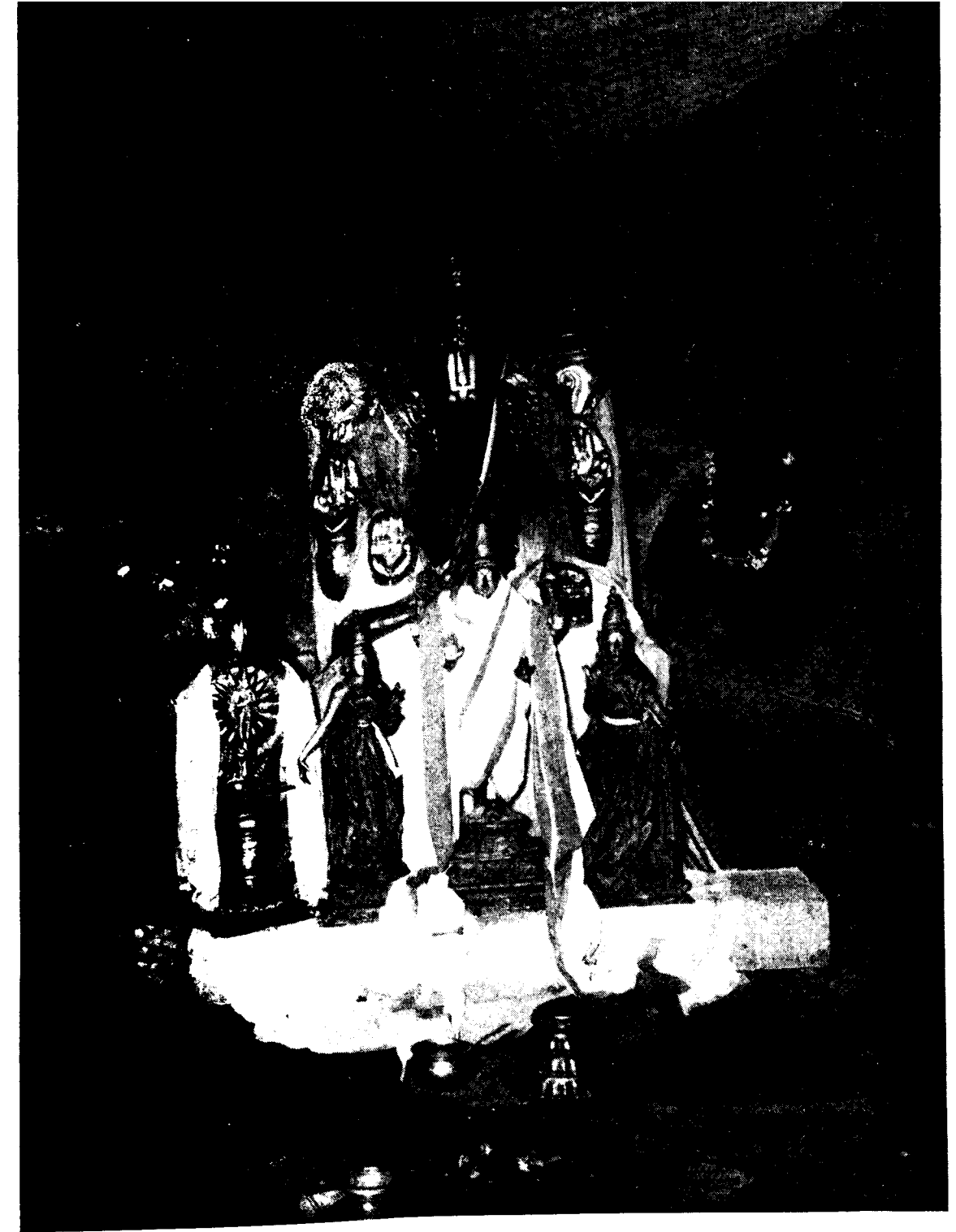
Accordingly Parvathi became a mermaid while Muruga moved into the sea as a giant fish. King Vikrama came to that shore once. The fisherfolk got the mermaid in their nets while fishing and gave the "catch" to the king. The king who had no issues, was extremely happy to take the gift as his heir. As years passed, the marriage problem of the daughter cropped up and the Royal couple were worried as to how to find a suitable match.



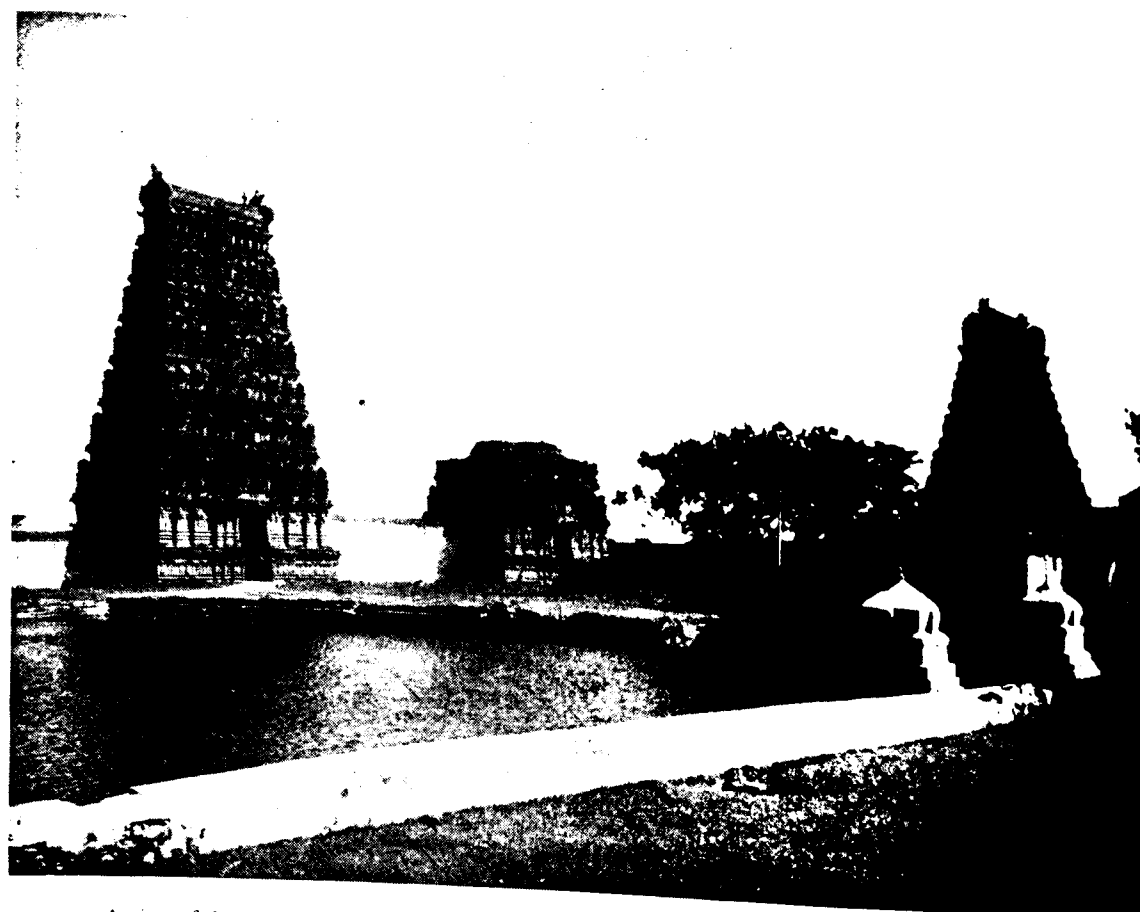
Sri Thilageswarar temple at Devipatnam



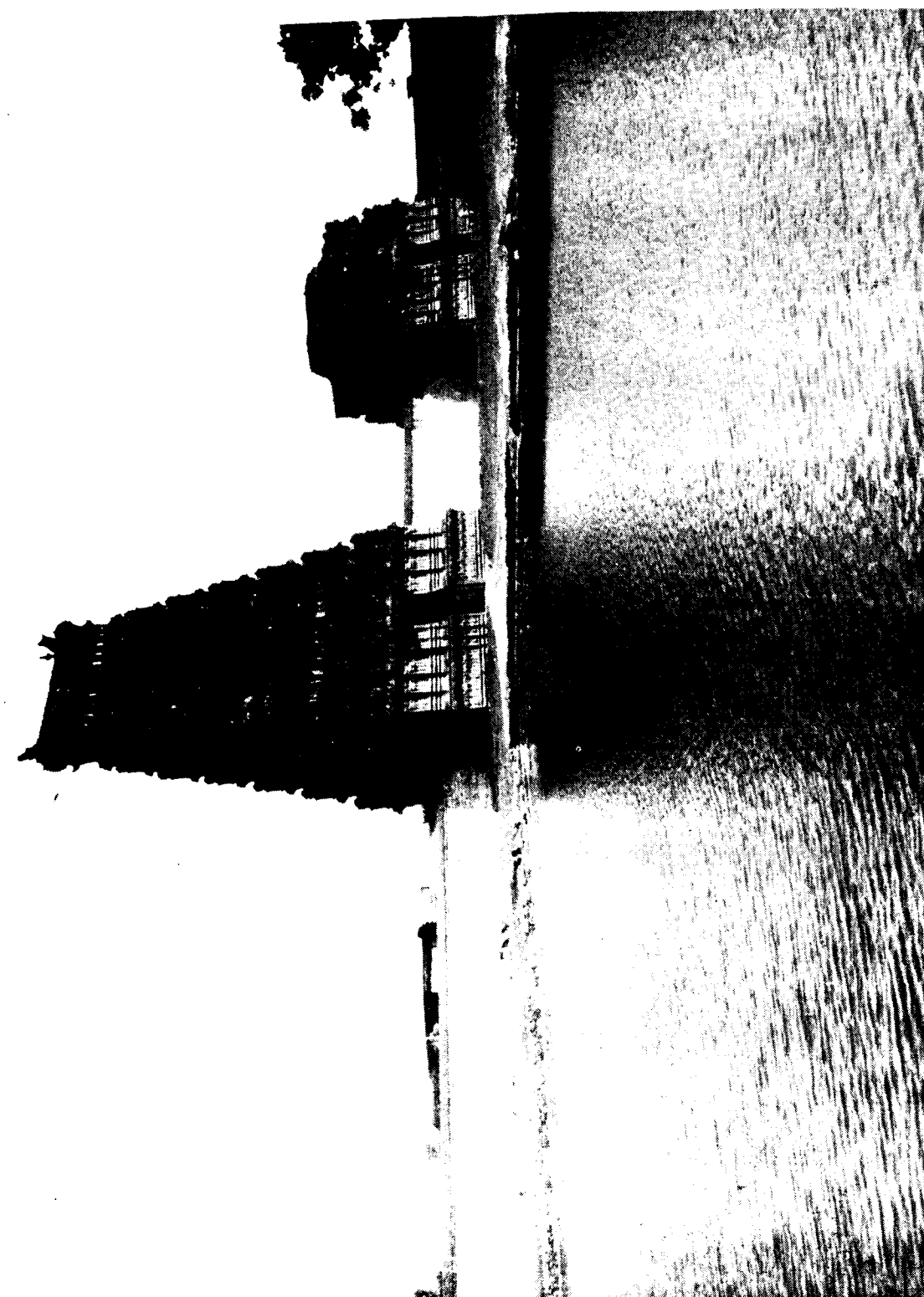
Sri Kadaladaitha Perumal temple, Devipatnam



Moolavar and Uthsavar of Sri Kadaladaitha Perumal

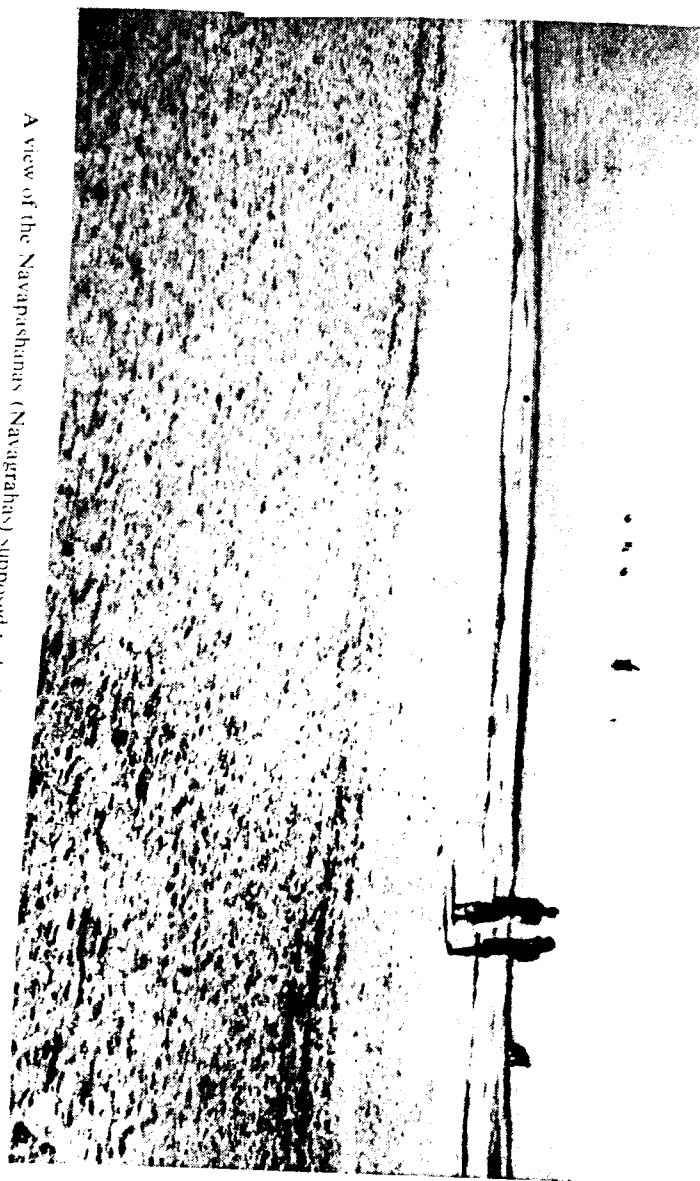


A view of the Agni theertha inside the Mangalanathaswami temple at Thiru Uthirakosamangai



A view of the Agni theertha inside the Mangalanathaswami temple at Thiru Uthirakosamangai (another view)

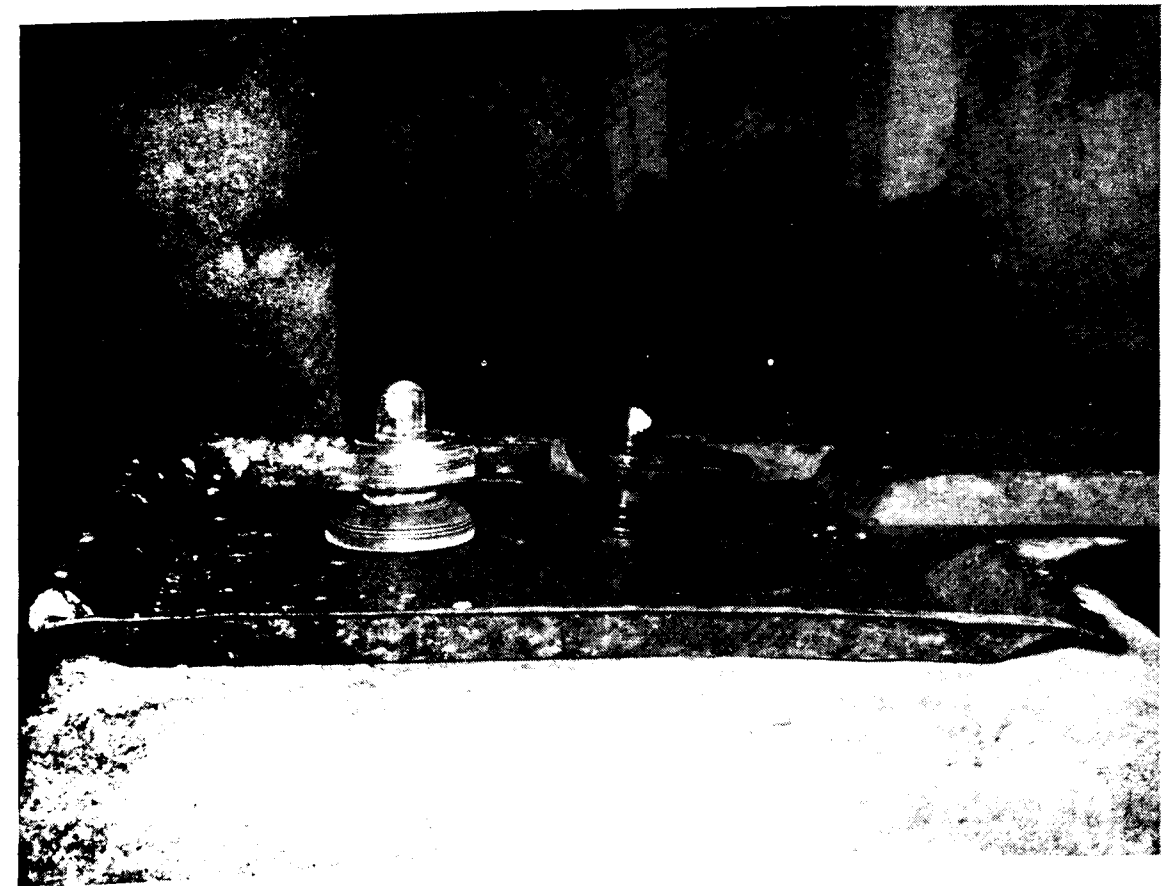
A view of the Navapashanas (Navagrahas) supposed to be installed by Sri Rama at Devipatnam



A closer view of Navapashanas. Three of them are submerged and invisible



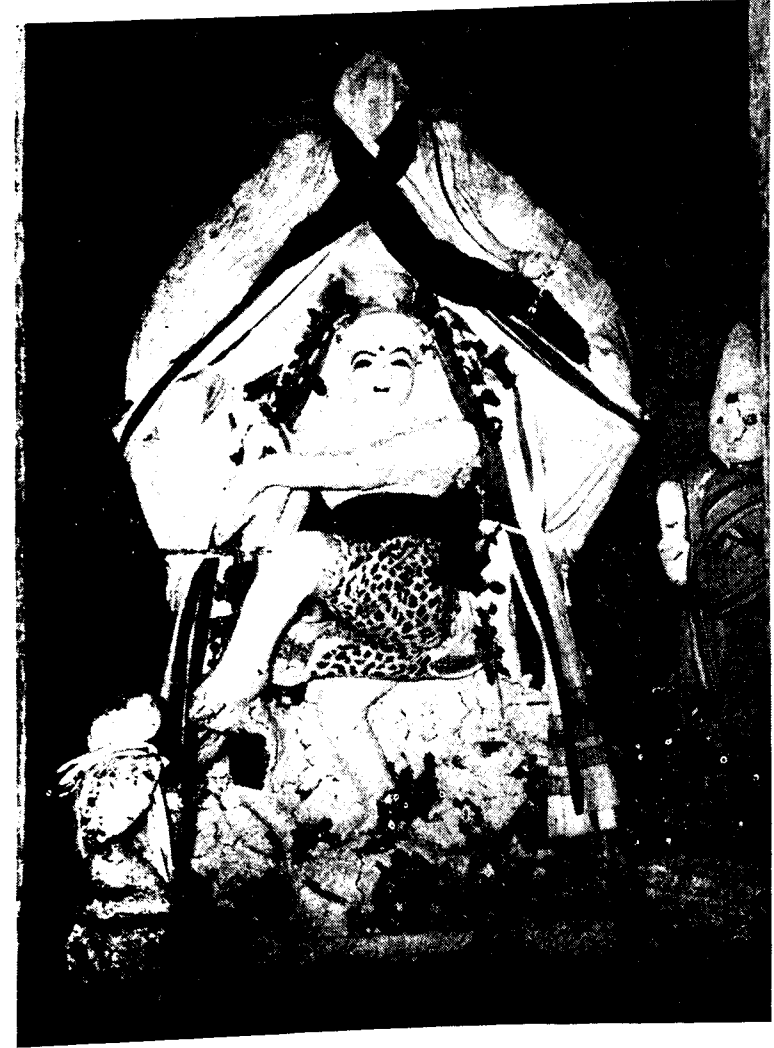
The Beautiful festival idol of Amman



The spatika and emerald Lingams



Lord Natarajar: Uthsavar



The Emerald Natarajar, anointed with sandal paste



The stone chariot

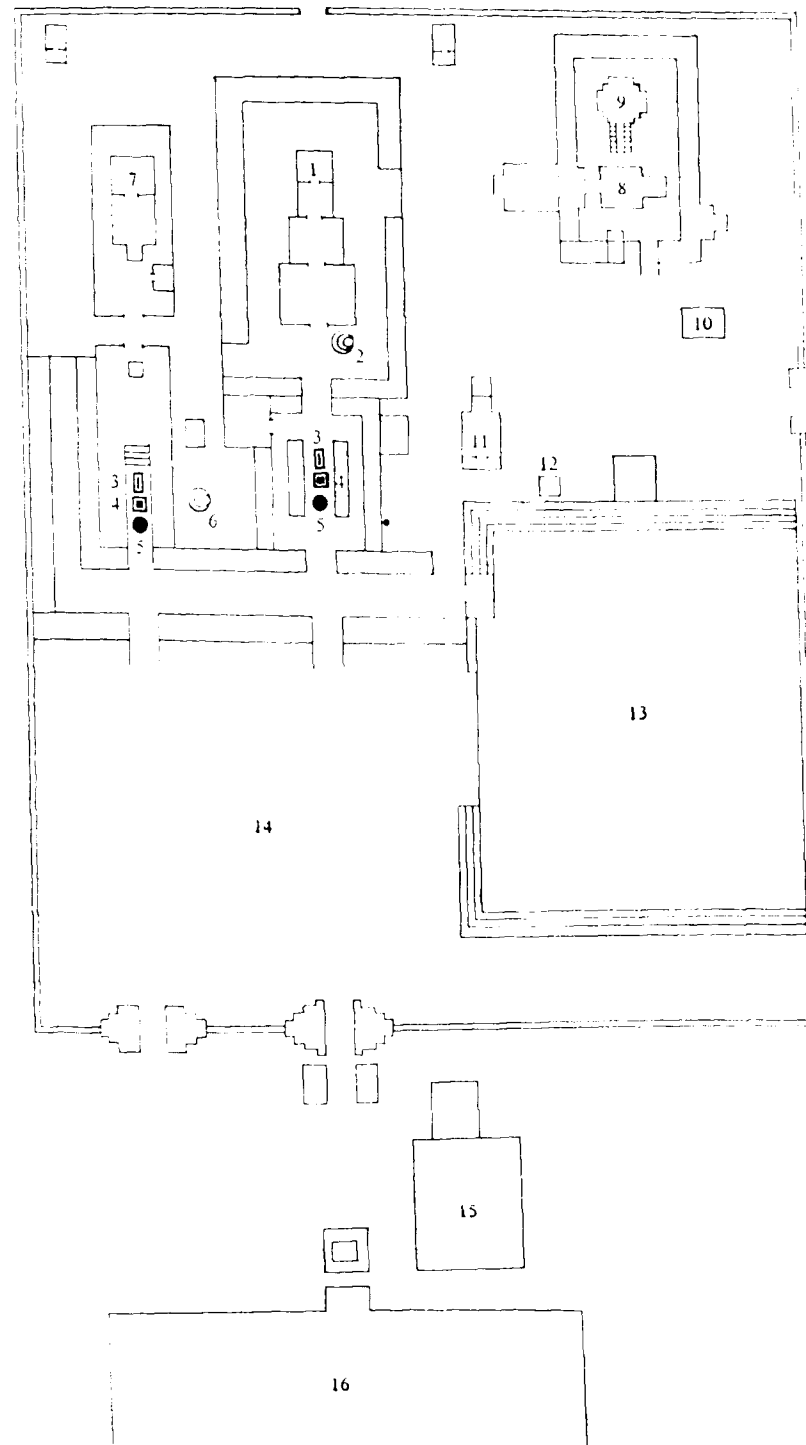


One of the four carved pillars, erected for constructing another gopuram and perhaps left unfinished

SRI PRALAYAKESWARAR TEMPLE

THIRUVUTHIRAKOSAMANGAI

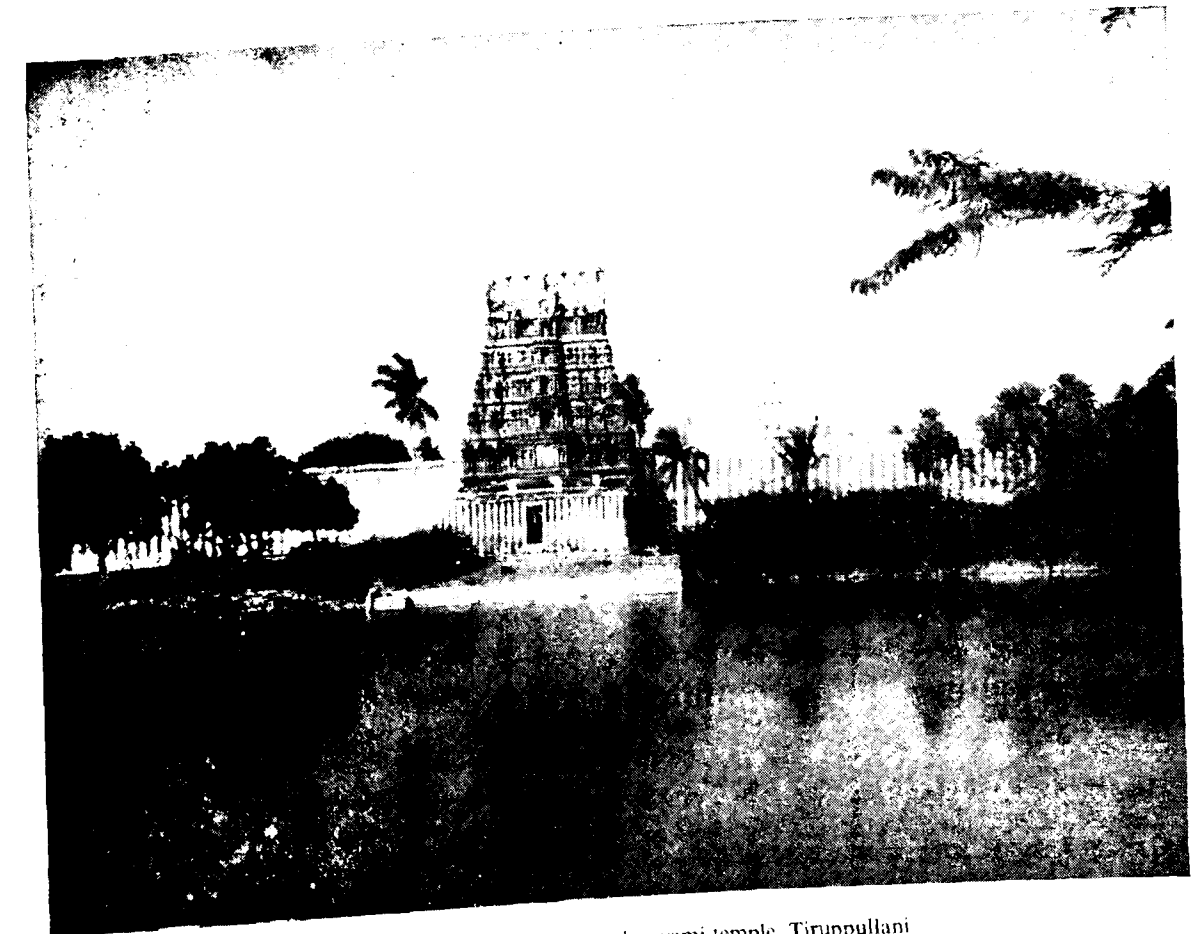
(Not to Scale)



INDEX TO NUMBERS

- 1 Mangalanathaswamy (Moolavati)
- 2 Haridwaja Theertham
- 3 Nandini
- 4 Dwajasthambam
- 5 Batipecadam
- 6 Devi Theertham
- 7 Mangalanayagi
- 8 Nadana Sabhapathi
- 9 Uma Maheswarar
- 10 Stone Car
- 11 Sabhara Lingam
- 12 Manickavasagar
- 13 Agni Theertham
- 14 Mandapam
- 15 Pilgrim's Choultry
- 16 Brahma Theertham

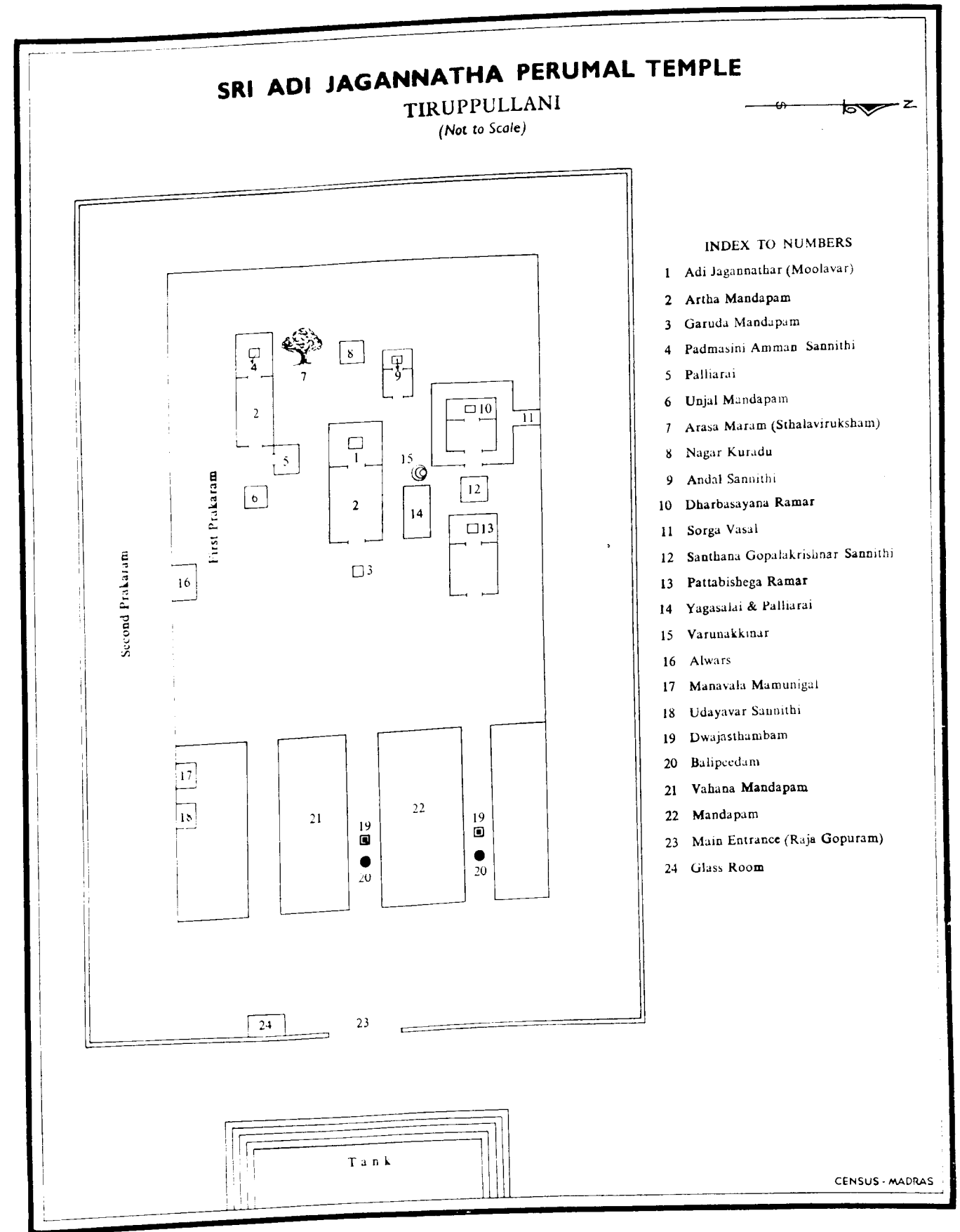
CENSUS - MADRAS



A view of Sri Adijagannathaswami temple, Tiruppullani



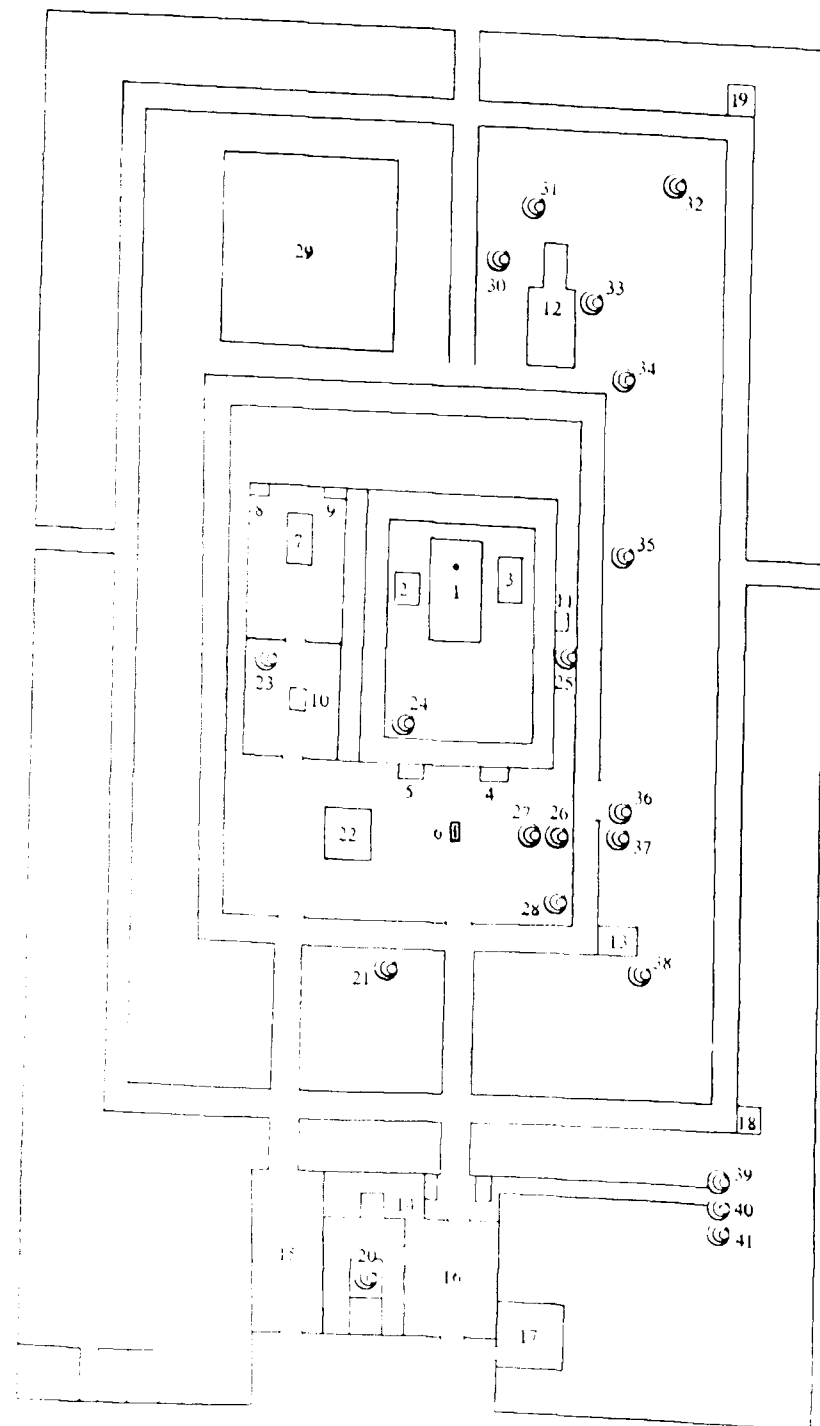
The image of Vibheeshana, brother of Ravana



SRI RAMANATHASWAMY TEMPLE

RAMESWARAM

(Not to Scale)



INDEX TO NUMBERS

- 1 Ramanathaswamy Sannidhi
- 2 Uthsavamurti
- 3 Viswanathar
- 4 Murugar
- 5 Maha Ganapathi
- 6 Nandhi
- 7 Ambal
- 8 Santhana Ganapathi
- 9 Pallikonda Perumal
- 10 Sakrasara Savukara
- 11 Visalakshi
- 12 Sethumadhavar
- 13 Karuvoolam
- 14 Mahalakshmi
- 15 Kalyana Mandapam
- 16 Anuppu Mandapam
- 17 Anjaneyar
- 18 Sabhapathi
- 19 Ramalingam
- 20 Mahalakshmi Theertham
- 21 Chikkara
- 22 Siva
- 23 Sathyamrudha
- 24 Sarva
- 25 Koda
- 26 Ganga
- 27 Yamuna
- 28 Gaya
- 29 Sethumadhavar
- 30 Kaudhamadham
- 31 Neela
- 32 Kavaya
- 33 Kavatchi
- 34 Nala
- 35 Brahmarshatti Vimochana Theertham
- 36 Surya Theertham
- 37 Chandra
- 38 Sanyu
- 39 Savathi
- 40 Gayathri
- 41 Sathavathi

In the meanwhile Muruga in the form of a giant fish was causing trouble in the sea. He was paralysing the sea traffic. The king announced that whosoever destroyed the fish, would take the hands of his pretty daughter.

Siva came in the guise of a saint and offered his services to the king to destroy the fish. The king readily agreed and assured to keep up his promise. The Almighty killed the fish and brought relief to the king and to his subjects. Meanwhile the king's wife and her adopted daughter became grief-stricken at the proposed marriage and ultimately died. The saint consented to take the hands of the dead body. The adopted daughter came to life when touched by the "Creator" and all were surprised at the enchanting power of the monk and concluded that he was Lord Mangainathar himself. The king's wife also was brought back to life by His grace. On an auspicious day, the divine marriage was celebrated. The place is also known as "Kalyanamangalam". The God is called 'Kalyananayakan' and the Goddess, 'Kalyanayaki'.

The temple covers an area of about seven acres. Among the other deities in the temple mention may be made of Sri Natarajar, Sahasra Lingam, Narthana Ganapathy, Subramaniam, Manickavasagar, Durgai etc. Saint Manickavasagar is said to have had Aksharabyasam and Gnanopadesam at this place. A noteworthy feature of this temple is the beautiful emerald-made idol of Lord Nataraja called 'Rathnasabapathy'. Throughout the year, with the exception of Arudhra darshan day, the idol is covered with sandal paste. The emerald idol is exposed to devotees only on this festival in the Tamil month of Margazhi which attracts a large number of devotees. The other big festivals in the temple are the Thirukkalyanam during the uthsavam in the Tamil month of Chithirai and the Manickavasagar festival in Margazhi. Two tanks called Agni theertham (inside the temple) and Brahma theertham (outside the temple) are considered sacred.

The temple possesses rare and rich jewels. The precious head dress, the diamond belt, stone-studded athakkams, the diamond thirumangalyam, valampuri onch and the Yagnopaveethams are some of the important items. The festival idols in the temple are those of Somaskandhar, Ambal and Natarajar. The Ramanathapuram Rajas who have been traditionally

maintaining the temple had originally endowed about 52 villages to the temple. But now the temple is in receipt of only dastic allowance from the Government.

66 TIRUPULLANI

Sri Adi Jagannatha Perumal Temple

Tirupullani or Darbhasayanam which forms part of Sethu sthalam has sacred associations with the epic Ramayana. After having a holy dip in all the sacred waters of Rameswaram, worship of Lord Jagannatha, the presiding deity of the famous temple here, is considered beneficial. The temple is 8 kilometres south-east of Ramanathapuram railway station.

Sri Rama, the prince of Ayodhya, in the course of his quest for Sita with his brother Lakshmana came to this place. In order to reach Lanka along with his 'Vanara', force, he invoked the help of the Sea-God by lying on a bed of Darbha grass. Later he caused a bridge to be constructed over the sea with the co-operation of the Sea-God and the help of skilful Nala, the son of Viswakarma, the great architect and engineer. Subsequently Ravana was killed, Sita was rescued. It is said that while returning to Ayodhya in the Pushpaka Vimanam Sri Rama pointed out to his consort this place where he lay on the Darbha bed for three days to get the help of the Sea-God. It was here that Vibhishana the righteous brother of Ravana sought Sri Rama's refuge. Adi Sethu where Sri Rama commenced the construction of the mythological bridge is nearby.

The temple of Sri Adi Jagannatha Perumal has a 120' high gopuram and occupies an area of about 1.37 acres. The present temple is said to have been originally constructed by Sri Rajasekara, Raja of Ramanathapuram Samasthanam. The divine consort is known as Padmasini Thayar. The other deities in the temple are Sri Andal, Sri Rama in a reclining pose and Sri Pattabhi Rama. There are two prakarams in the temple. The temple has been visited by saint Thirumangaialwar who has sung in praise of the Lord.

Poojas are performed four times daily by Vaishnavite priests in accordance with Vaikanasa Agama Sastra. The temple possesses jewellery worth



The Ananthasayanam at Tiruppullam



The images of Samudraraja and his wife (Mahodhari)

Rs. 1,96,189 most of which were given by the Sethupathi Rajas of Ramanathapuram, the Rajas of Cochin and Trivandrum and a few devout individuals. There are 179 antique and 20 modern jewels. The temple has considerable property; now it is in receipt of dastic allowance from the Government. There are Ther, Palanquin and a number of vahanas in the shrine. Among the festivals celebrated in the temple, the Brahmotsavam in the Tamil months of Chithrai and Panguni and the 20-day festival in Margazhi are important. People in large numbers attend these festivals. On auspicious occasions many pilgrims visit this place.

The temple which comes under the purview of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department is managed by a hereditary trustee.

108 RAMESWARAM

Sri Ramanathaswamy Temple

पाण्डव्य देशेति विमले स्थितं रामेश्वरं हरम्
दृष्ट्वा स्वर्गमवाप्नोति यदि स्यात्पापकृत्तमः *

(Vishnu Puranam)

Rameswaram is popularly known as the Benares of the South. It is situated at the south-eastern end of the Indian peninsula on an island in the Palk Bay. It is associated with the great epic Ramayana. The legend has it that Sri Rama worshipped Lord Siva on this island to expiate the sin of having killed Ravana. It is believed by Hindus that one could visit Rameswaram and take a dip in its holy waters after a pilgrimage to Varanasi or Benares. It is noted for the greatness of Murthi, Theertham and Sthalam. Both Saivites and and Vaishnavites consider this a place of worship. Couples desirous of having children visit Rameswaram, bathe in the sacred waters, perform Naga Prathishtai and worship the Lord. It is considered to be one of the 12 Jyothir Linga Kshethrams in India.

Rameswaram is about 160 kilometres from Madurai and can be reached by a branch line off Pamban on the Dhanushkodi route. One can travel upto

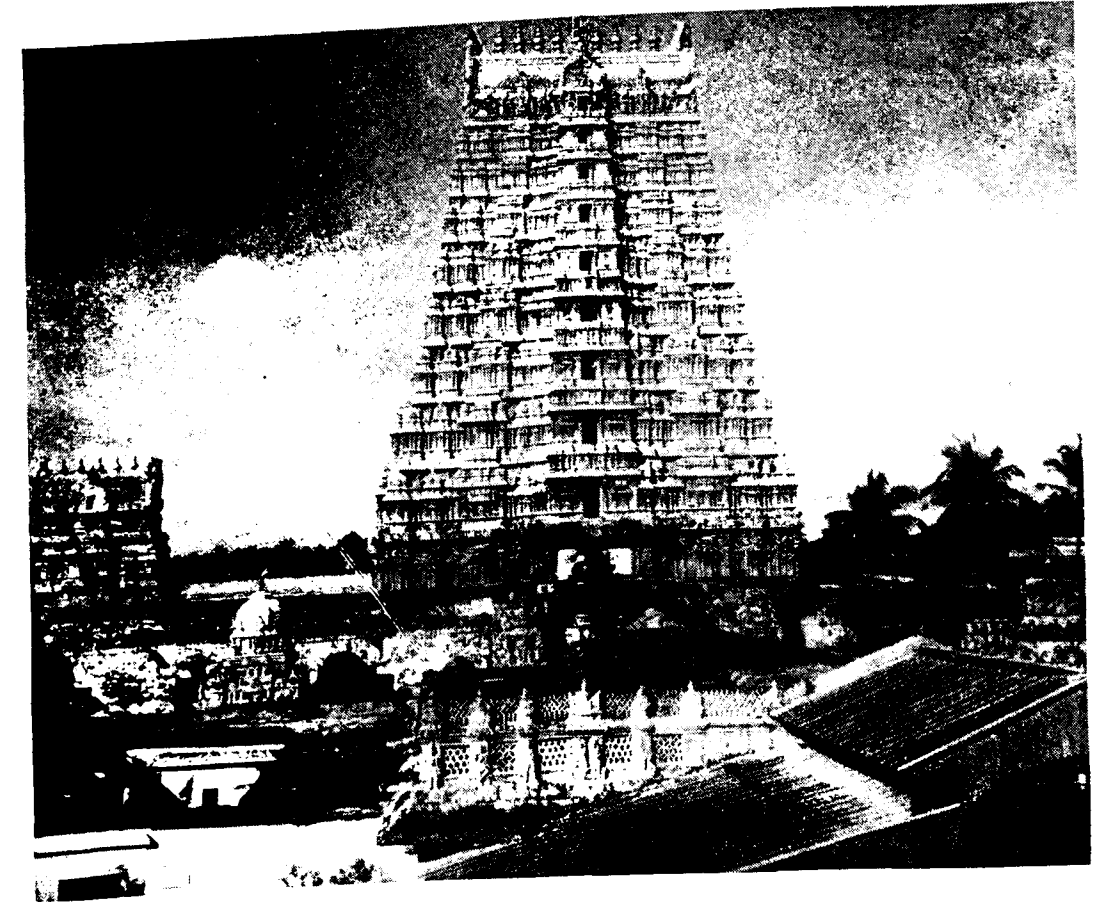
Mandapam by road and cross over to Rameswaram by rail. Adequate facilities exist in the island itself for the stay of pilgrims.

The island is in the form of Vishnu's conch. It is a beautiful sandy area with swaying palms. No ploughing is done and as such no cultivation takes place on any large scale.

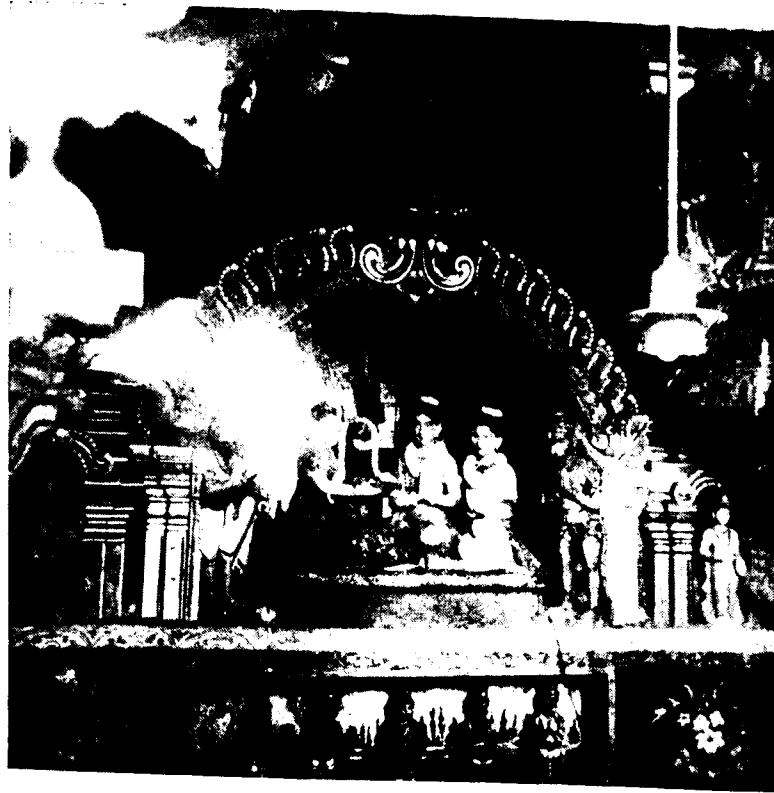
One could get a good view of the island from the Gandhamadhana Parvatham which is the highest spot of the island and a place of pilgrimage. The island has three railway stations, viz., Pamban, Thangachimadam and Rameswaram. The station Rameswaram Road exists but there is no rail traffic to that place. Dhanushkodi and Dhanushkodi Pier stations have been totally destroyed by the fierce cyclone in December 1964.

The following legendary account of the shrine is given by the Devasthanam authorities:

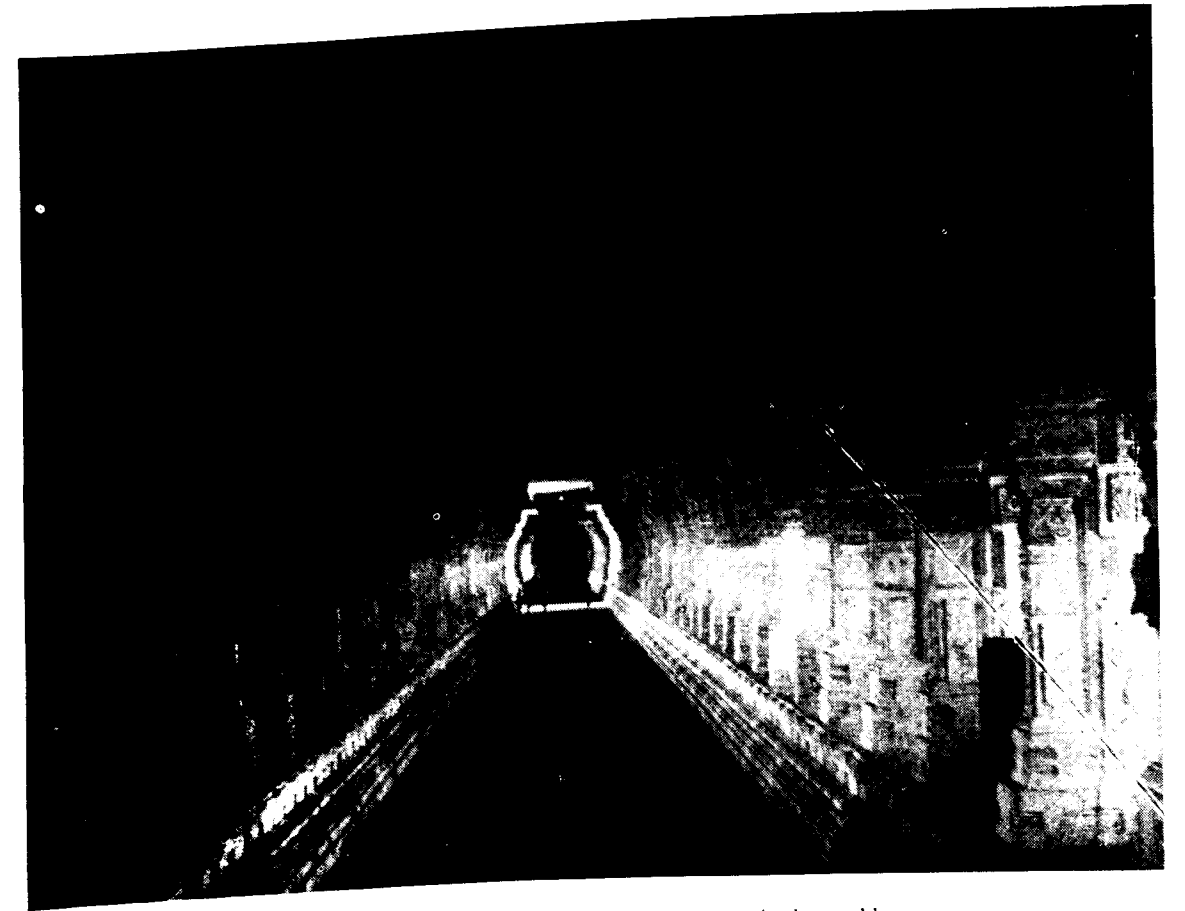
"To purify himself from the sin of Brahminicide (Brahmahatya) committed by killing Ravana, who was the son of a Brahmin by a Rakshasa woman, Rama was advised by Rishis to offer Poojas, establishing a Lingam. An auspicious moment was fixed for the purpose and Hanuman was sent to Mount Kailas to bring a Lingam from there. The return of Hanuman was delayed. With a view not to miss the auspicious occasion, the Linga, moulded by Sita out of local sand, was established and poojas were performed by Rama. This Linga is called Ramalinga, Ramanatha or Rameswarar. It is on account of this the island got the name of Rameswaram. On his return from Kailas with two Lingas, Hanuman found that all his labours had been in vain and was very disappointed. Seeing the intensity of the disappointment of his most devout Bhaktha, Sri Rama consoled him not to feel sad. One of the Lingas brought by Hanuman was installed a little north and it was established that this Hanuman Linga should have precedence over Sri Ramanatha in all honours. This Linga is variously called Viswanathar, Kasilingam, Hanumalingam and so on. It is now the practice for the pilgrim to offer his prayers to Sri Visalakshi, Sri Viswanathar and then to Sri Ramanathar and Parvathavardhini.



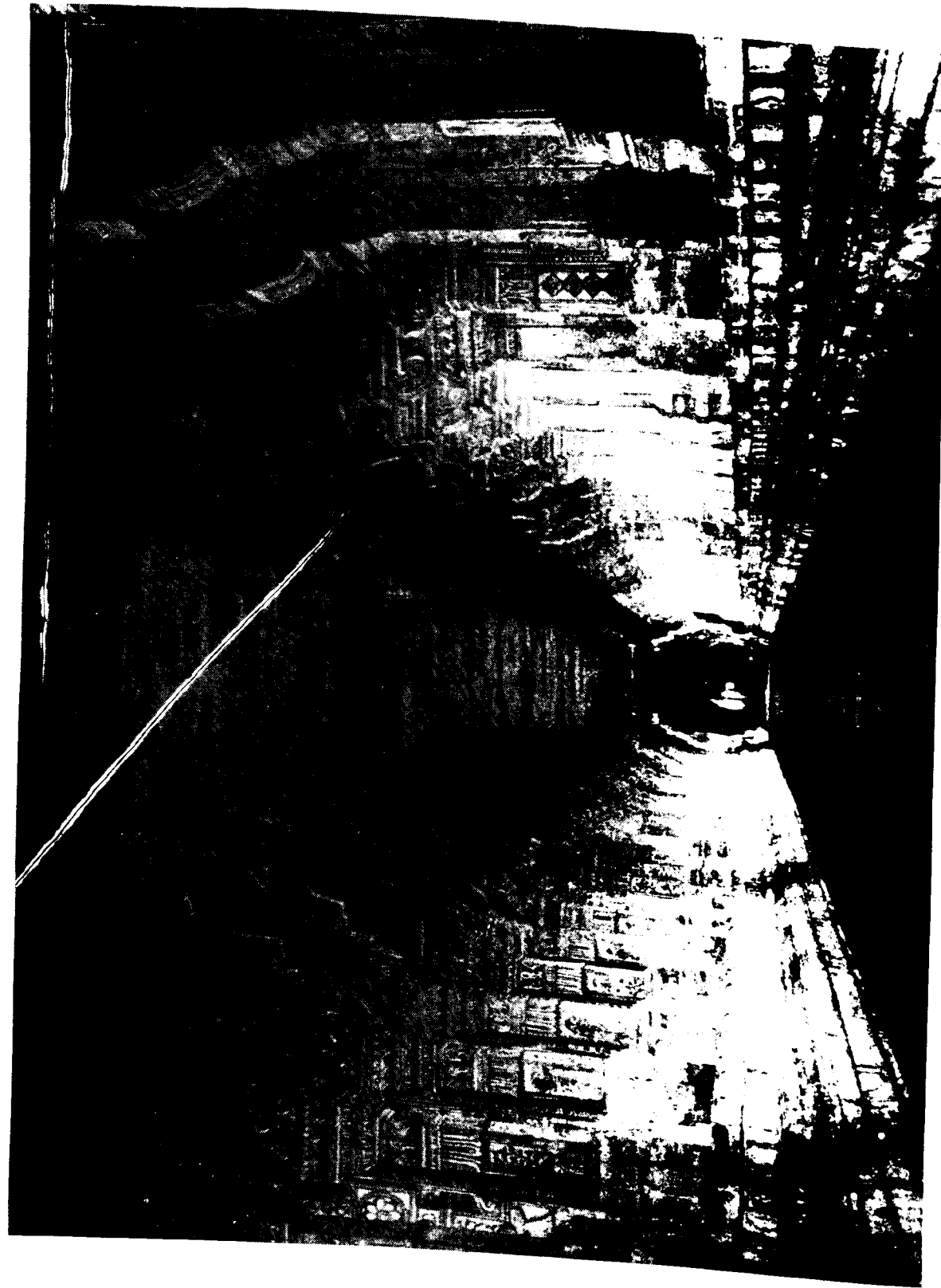
A view of the Rajagopuram - Rameswaram



Images depicting the Sthalapuranam at Rameswaram



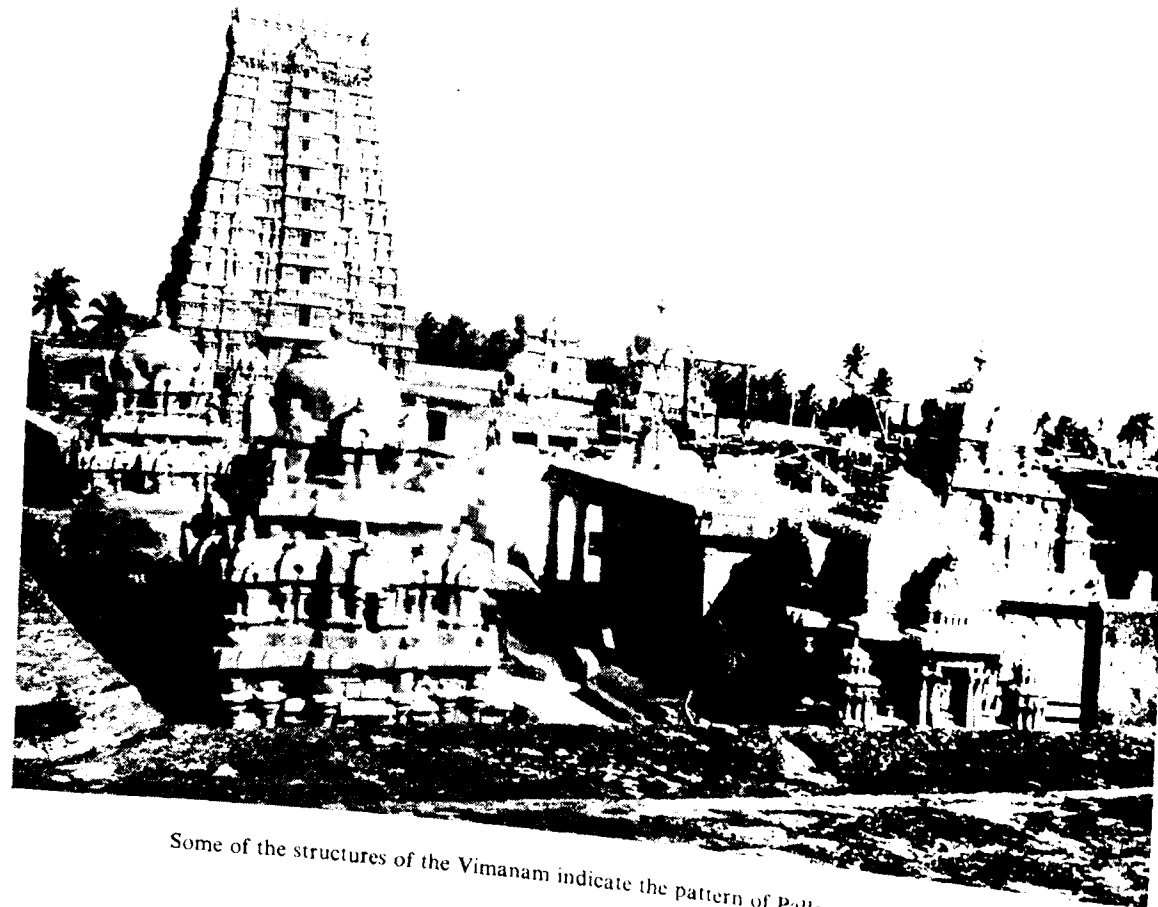
The third corridor supposed to be the biggest in the world



Another view of the third corridor



The gigantic Nandhi before the Sannadhi of Sri Prananathar



Some of the structures of the Vimanam indicate the pattern of Pallava architecture

There is a legend attached to the deity in this shrine situated behind the main shrine in between the second and third outer corridors. Once upon a time the Pandya King Punyanidhi, who was ruling in Madurai, started on a pilgrimage to Sethu and on his way rested in Gandhamadhana Parvatha and after worshipping Ramalinga performed a Yaga to please Vishnu. To test his devotion, Lord Vishnu sent Lakshmi in the form of an orphan. The king who had no daughters took pity on her and took her into his protection and both he and his queen Vidyavathi looked after her very well. Lord Vishnu in the form of a typical old Brahmin devotee with Ganges water in two pots in a Kavadi over his shoulder, an umbrella and fan in his hands and with Vibhuthi and Rudraksham, dropped clandestinely into the nandavanam of the princess and held her hand. The ladies-in-waiting reported the matter to the king and he had the old man chained and imprisoned inside the Rameswara Temple. In the night the king dreamt that the old man was in reality Lord Vishnu with his foster daughter by His side as Lakshmi. He woke up and went to see his foster daughter. It was the same sight in her chamber also. Next morning he took the princess to Rameswaram Temple and saw Vishnu in chains. He repented for his hasty action. His penitence was genuine and Lord Vishnu comforted the king by saying that the chains were in reality emblems of the chain of love and devotion he bore to Him and Lakshmi and so He said He and Lakshmi would stay in the same place, He, (bearing the name Sethumadhava) with the chains and Lakshmi by his side. He is also known as Svethamadhava as the idol is made of white marble (Svetha=white). The Lord also ordained that pilgrims who after a bath in Sethumadhava theertham nearby worship Him and Lakshmi will be blessed with all the fruits of a holy bath in Sethu and that those who with sand from Dhanushkodi perform poojas in his presence

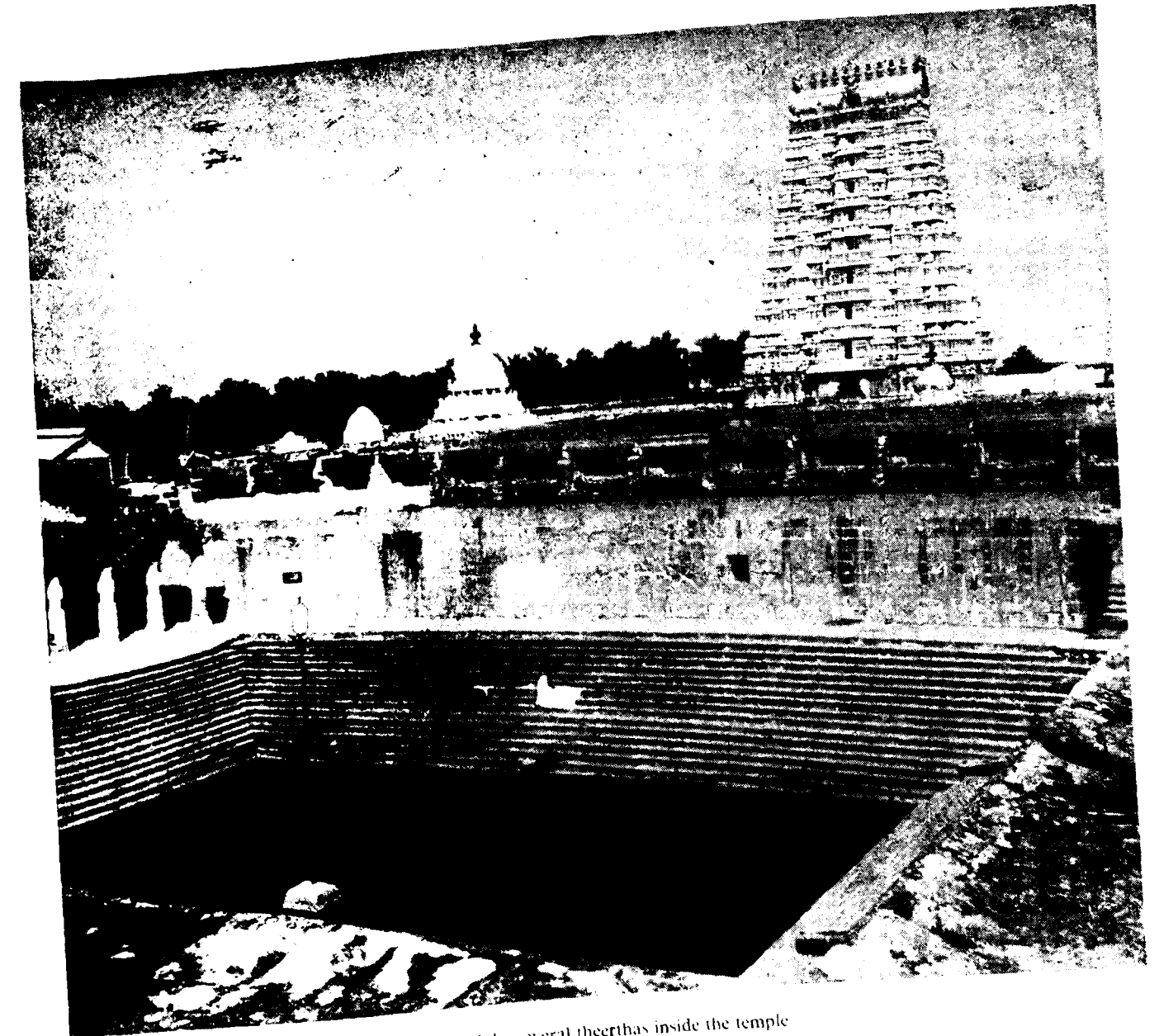
would acquire all the merits of Kasi Yathra. Rameswaram is thus a great place of pilgrimage for Vaishnavite devotees also.

Apart from this most important part of the sacred history of the island, a number of anecdotes are recorded detailing how great heroes of the epics, puranas, etc., have obtained relief from sin, difficulties and the like by taking baths in the sacred waters of the island and worshipping the Lord here".

The presiding deity of the temple is popularly known as Sri Ramanathaswamy or Sri Ramalingam. The divine consort is known as Sri Parvathavardhini. The huge temple on an area of about 15.5 acres is close to the sea, near the Agni theertham. It has massive walls on all the four sides measuring 865 feet from east to west and 657 feet from north to south. It possesses lofty gopurams and a huge Nandhi 17 feet in height, 22 feet in length and 12 feet in breadth. A noteworthy feature of the temple is its beautiful pillared corridor. Its total length is 4,000 feet and is wide by 20' to 30'. Rich carving on the pillar is noted for its workmanship.

It is said that until the twelfth century, the deity was housed in a thatched shed under the charge of Sanyasis. It is remarkable that such a simple shrine should have been a great centre of pilgrimage in olden times in spite of transport and communication difficulties. The present temple is impressive and is in the Dravidian style. The first masonry structure around the inner shrine was built by Parakrama Bahu, King of Ceylon in 1173 A.D. In some parts of the temple the original soft sand stone has been replaced by granite. A statement showing the details of renovation made by Sethupathi Rajas of Ramanathapuram and others is given below. Efforts are continued to make further renovations.

Date of construction	By whom constructed	Particulars of construction	Remarks
1173 A.D.	Parakrama Bahu, a King of Ceylon	Masonry structure around the inner shrine	...
1434 A.D.	Udayan Sethupathy and a Komati of Nagoor near Nagapattinam Western tower; Built entirely of hewn stone—Height: 78 feet	Western tower and outer compound wall	...
1450 A.D.	Additions by a wealthy Hindu from Madura	Ambal Prakaram and other additions	...
1540 A.D.	Thirumalai Sethupathy	Portions of Southern second corridor	The statue of Thirumalai Sethupathy and that of his son Ragunatha stand by the side of south entrance into the Amman temple. They are honoured with offerings of flowers etc., every Friday night.
1568 A.D.	Chinna Udayan Sethupathy Katta Thevar—then a feudatory of Viswanath Naicker of Madurai whose statue and that of his son Krishnappa were installed in front of Nandhi	Nandhimandapam and other structures within the temple	Nandhi—a giant structure—Sudhai work: Height 17 feet Length 22 feet Breadth 12 feet
1649 A.D.	Commenced by Dalavoy Sethupathy	Portion of the eastern Gopuram	...
1702 A.D.	Hiranya Barahayaji Ravi—Vijaya Ragunatha Sethupathy	Palliyarai of the Amman temple and the mandapam in front	In this mandapam there are the statues of the said Sethupathy and his brother Kadamba Thevar
1740 to 1770	Completed by Muthuramalinga Sethupathy	Third corridor	The statues of Sri Muthuramalinga Sethupathy and his two Manthris, Muthirulappa Pillai and Krishna Iyengar are conspicuous in the western entrance of the corridor
		Dimensions of the third corridor	Outer abutting the eastern wall—east to west—690 feet, north to south—435 feet, inner-east to west 649 feet, north to south 395 feet. Height—22' 7½" Number of pillars: 1212
1897 to 1904	Thiruppani funds in the hands of AL. AR. family of Devakottai	Completion of the eastern tower	Height 126 feet. Nine storeys



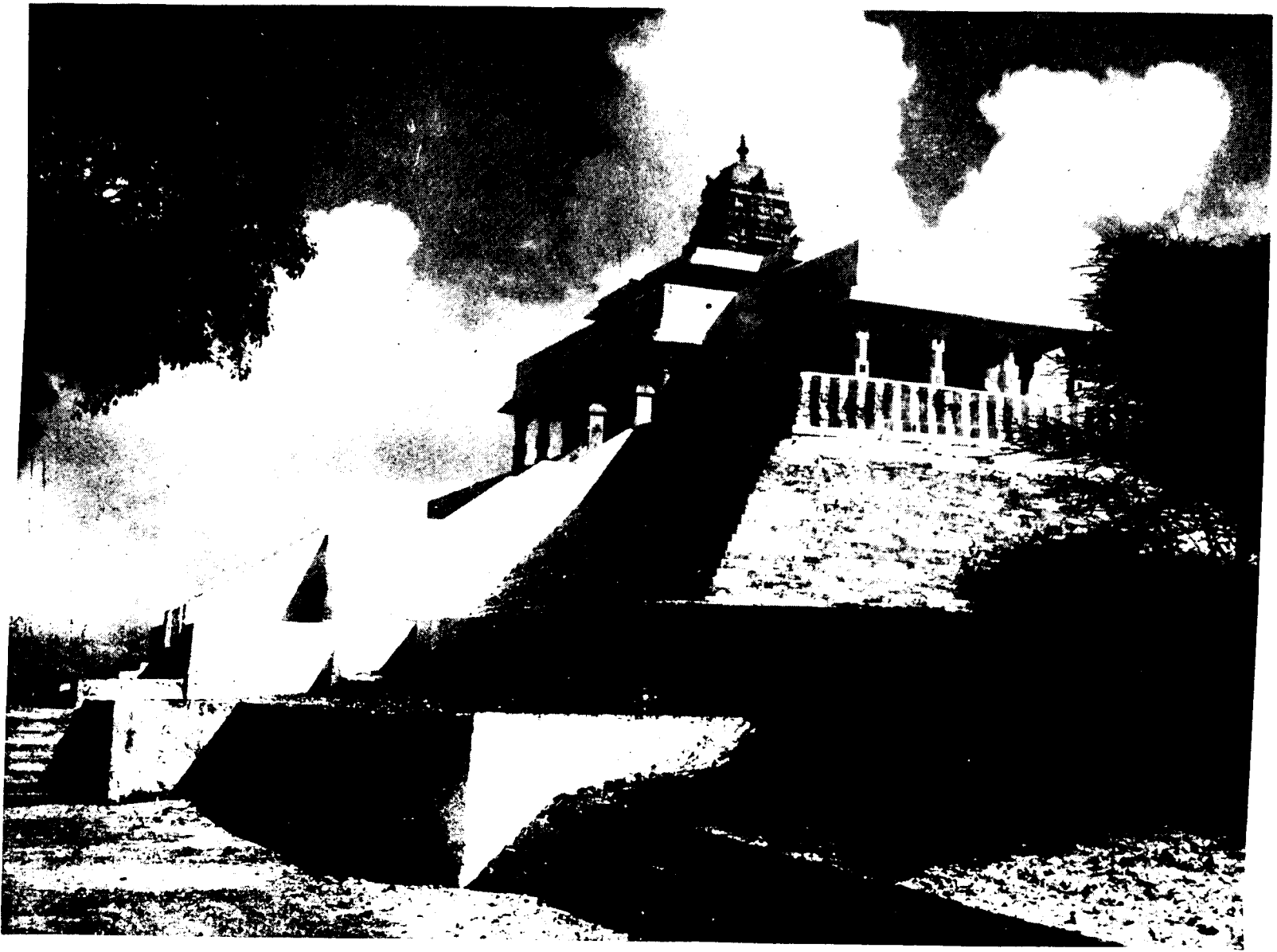
One of the several theerthas inside the temple



A sea-side view of the Rameswaram temple



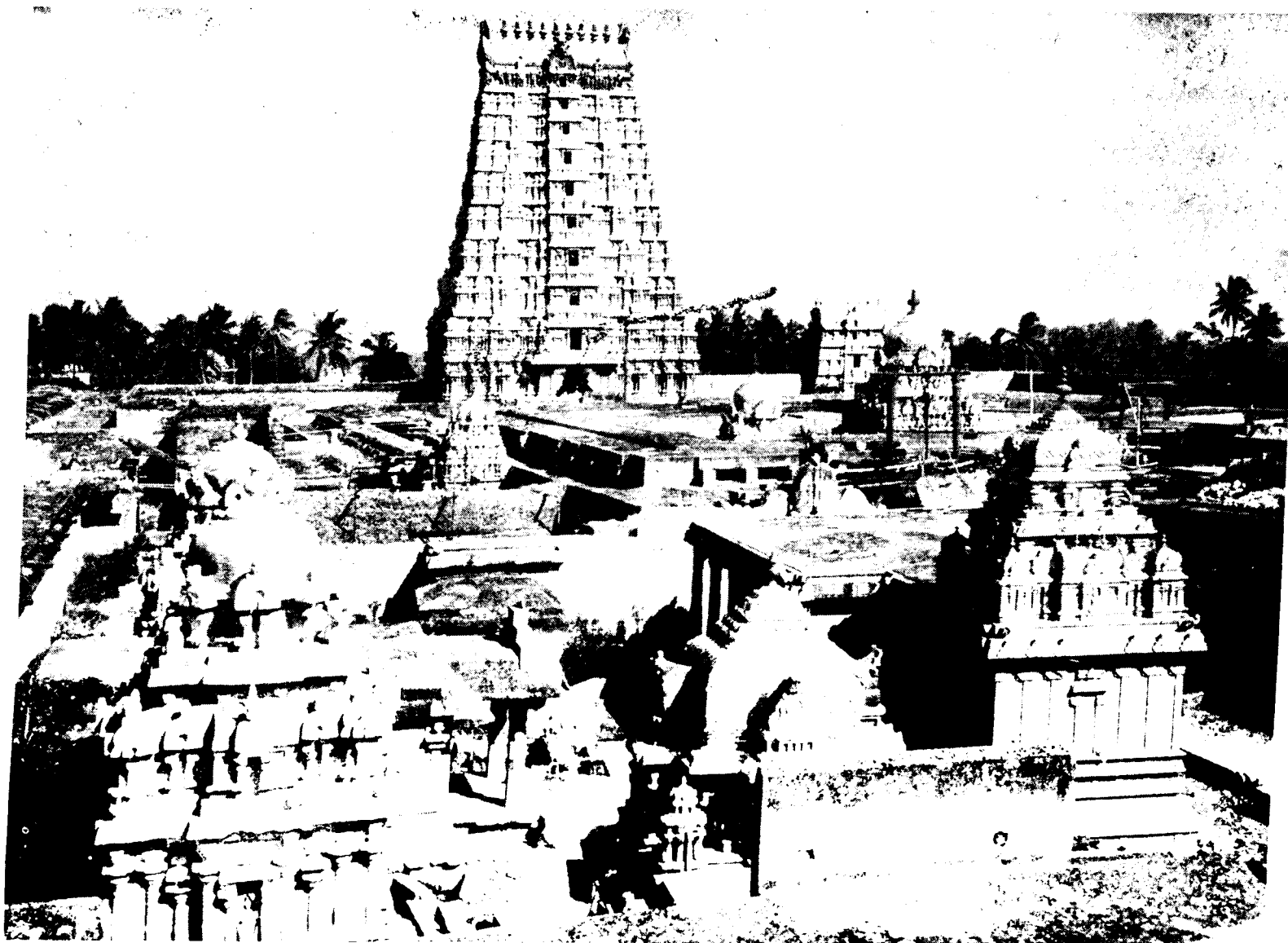
Another sea-side view of the Rameswaram temple



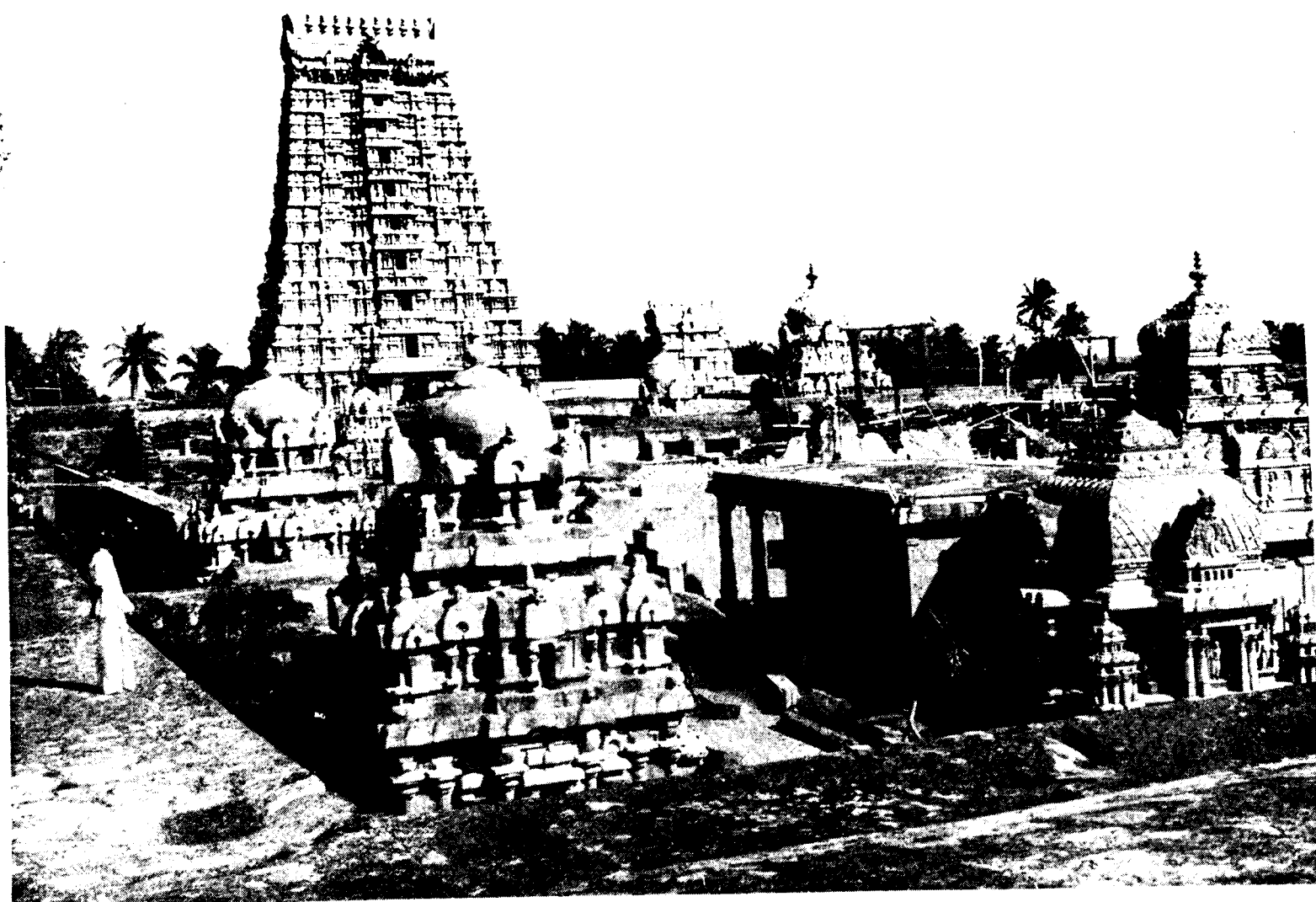
The Gandhamadanaparvatha where the shrine for Sree Rama's padam or foot prints is situated



The holy foot-prints of Sri Rama



An aerial view of Sri Ramanathaswamy



Another view of the temple gopuram and Vimanams

310

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
RAMANATHAPURAM

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census	Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Temples under the Hindu Religious								
1	5	Naranamaangalam (V)	Vaigai (Keelapatnam)	Sri Subramania-swamy Temple (M)				NOT
2	18	Kavanoor (P)	Kavanur	Sri Nataraja-swamy Temple (S)	64	0.13	Sri Natarajar	Sri Sivakama-Sundari Ramanathapuram Railway station 5 miles
3	21	Thoruvalur (P)	Thoruvalur	Sri Subramania-swamy Temple (M)	50	0.06	Sri Subramaniaswamy	Ramanathapuram Railway station 4 miles
4	32	Ramanathapuram (M)	Velupatnam	Sri Dharma Vinayakar Temple (G)	80	0.34	Sri Dharma Vinayakar	Ramanathapuram Railway station 5 furlongs
5	"	do	do	Sri Muthalaparameswariammam Temple (F)			Sri Muthala Parameswariammam	
6	"	do	do	Sri Kannika Parameswari Temple (F)	20	0.11	Sri Kannika Parameswari	Sri Hanumar Sri Krishnar Ramanathapuram Railway station 1½ miles
7	"	do	do	Sri Kurisastha Ayyanar Temple (O)	100	1.00	Sri Ayyanar	Sri Pooma Porkodi Sri Karuppannaswamy Ramanathapuram Railway station

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK

TALUK									
Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department									
REPORTED									
322	4 19	14.98	...	...	...	70	Sahadai Palanquins-2 Rishabam Peacock Bandicoot	Twice a day by a Velar	Thiruvadhirai Vinayaka Chathurthi Ani Thiruman- janam Vaikasi Visakam
200	...	...	5.00	...	...	1,500	Peacock Bandicoot Suran	Twice a day by a Bhattar	Panguni Uthiram Karthigai Deepam Skandha Sashti
951	...	10.00	...	Houses-5 Shops-2 Garden 2.00	...	2,500	Silver Bandicoot Car Palanquin Horse, Lion Elephant Kamadhenu Rishabam Peacock	Twice a day by a Gurukkal	Sivarathri Vinayaka Chathurthi
2,510	...	...	...	Buildings-7	...	Value not stated	...	do	Navarathri Karthigai Deepam Sivarathri
1,271	...	10.00	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Velar	...

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

Date of construction	By whom constructed	Particulars of construction	Remarks
1907 to 1925	AL. AR. family of Devakottai and Thiruppani funds in their hands	Renovation of the 1st prakaram and the inner shrine by re-placing the old limestones by black granite and provision for free light and air	...
6-2-1925	Ashta Bandhana Maha Kumbabishegam by AL. AR. family and Nattukottai Nagarathars	...	...
27-2-1947	Last Kumbabishegam performed	...	...

On the structure of the temple Fergusson says, "If it is proposed to select one temple which should exhibit all the beauties of the Dravidian style in their greatest perfection and at the same time exemplify all its characteristic defects of design, the choice would almost inevitably fall on that of Rameswaram".

Great saints like Appar, Thirugnana Sambandar, Thayumanavar and Arunagirinathar have visited this temple and composed songs in praise of the deity. The main festivals of the temple take place in the Tamil months of Ani (June-July), Adi (July-August) and Masi (February-March). Thirukkalyanam in the month of Adi and Maha Sivarathri in the month of Masi which are the Brahmothsavams, attract people from all over India. In Ani the festival of Sri Ramalinga Pradhishta commemorating the installation of the Lingam by Sri Rama is celebrated with great enthusiasm.

The temple is open from 5 A.M. in the morning till 10 P.M. at night. Poojas are performed six times daily by Brahmin priests who belong to Maharashtra. The Spatikalinga Pooja at 5 A.M. and Palliyarai pooja at 9-30 P.M. attract a large number of devotees. Special poojas are performed on every Friday night and the goddess Sri Parvathavardhini is taken round in a golden Palanquin. Gold and silver vahanas and the silver Chariot are impressive.

Besides the monthly salary, the priests get a share in the income from archanas and abishegas. The temple owns jewels estimated at about Rs. 30 lakhs. Many of these were presented by the Rajas of Ramanathapuram and other rulers. The diamond crown is of exquisite beauty. The average income of the temple is Rs. 5 lakhs, which includes compensation and dastic allowance granted by the Government, the revenue

from existing properties of lands, buildings, and income from hundies and sale of archana and abishega tickets. Temple lands are found in the district of Ramanathapuram, Tirunelveli and Thanjavur and in Jaffna in Ceylon. Regular kattalais have been established for performing poojas on behalf of the Maharajas of Travancore, Mysore, the Raja of Pudukottai, Prime Minister and Marshal of Nepal and many individuals.

There are 36 sacred theerthams in Rameswaram. Of these, 22 are within the temple. Each theertham has its own sanctity and is said to possess mineral and medicinal properties. Baths in these waters are believed to yield good results like purification of body and soul.

Other important places of visit by the pilgrims to Rameswaram are the sacred Gandhamadhana Parvatham which is connected with the town by a good road, Sri Kothandarama temple, 8 kilometres away from the town which can be reached only by walk and the near-by Sri Sankara Mutt. After the cyclone of 1964, Dhanushkodi has become a lost city and cannot be reached without difficulty.

Under the control of temple come the main temple of Sri Ramanathaswamy, 14 temples in the island and 12 temples on the mainland. It is managed by a Board of trustees through an Executive Officer. The temple comes under the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department.

Rameswaram has been visited by many kings, saints, savants and dignitaries. Swamy Vivekananda had also visited the sthalam. As one of the distinguished visitors to the temple recorded, "It is one of the temples which link India with a remote past by a living chain and it is very satisfactory that the temple without losing its time honoured sanctity, benefits by the methods of modern management."

312

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
RAMANATHAPURAM**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religions									
8	32	Ramanathapuram (M)	Ramanathapuram	Sri Vazhividu Murugan Temple (M)	22	0.10	Sri Murugar	Sri Vinayakar Sri Nagar	Ramanathapuram Railway station 2 furlongs
9	79	Keelakarai (V)	Keelakkarai	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar alias Chocka-nathaswamy Temple (S)	Not known	0.35	Sri Chocka-nathar	Sri Meenakshi Sri Vinayakar	Ramanathapuram Railway station 1 1/2 miles
10	„	do	do	Sri Ukkira Mahali amman Temple (F)	62	0.11	Sri Ukkira Veeramahali amman	Sri Pechi-amman Sri Vinayakar Sri Naganathar	Ramanathapuram Railway station 10 miles
11	107	Rameswaram (P)	Rameswaram	Sri Ramanathaswamy Temple (S)	800*	15.50	Sri Ramanathaswamy	Sri Parvadhavardhini Sri Viswanathar Sri Visalakshi	Rameswaram Railway station 1 mile
12	„	do	do	Sri Vinayakar and Angalamman Temple (G)	300	Below 0.01	Sri Ganesar	Sri Angalamman	Ramanathapuram Railway station

**RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)**

TALUK (Contd.)									
Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Concl.)									
1,261	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a Velar	Panguni Uthiram
931	Extent not stated			...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...
1,971	...	...	...	Shops-13 Market	...	...	...	Once a day by a Poosari	Navarathri
5,26,733	Extent not stated			Buildings Groves	30,00,948	...	Gold Palanquin Silver Ratham Cars-2	Six times a day by Gurukkals	Thirukkalyanam in Adi Sivarathri Annual festival in Ani
669	Extent not stated			...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Poosari	Navarathri

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
RAMANATHAPURAM

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the control of									
6	32	Ramanathapuram (M)	Ramanathapuram	Sri Swaminathaswamy Temple (M)	190	0.30	Sri Swaminathaswamy	Sri Valli Deivayanai	Ramanathapuram Railway station 1 mile
7	..	do	do	Sri Brahmapureswarar Temple (S)	80	0.15	Sri Brahmapureswarar	Sri Muthambigai Sri Vinayakar Sri Subramaniam Sri Valli Deivayanai	Ramanathapuram Railway station 2 miles
8	..	do	do	Sri Mariamman Temple (F)	300	0.04	Sri Mariamman	Sri Karuppannaswamy Sri Vinayakar	Ramanathapuram Railway station 1 mile
9	..	do	do	Sri Rajarajeswariammam Temple (F)	400	0.10	Sri Rajarajeswariammam	Sri Krishnan Sri Anjaneyar	do
10	..	do	do	Sri Vanasankariammam Temple (F)	300	0.10	Sri Vanasankariammam	Sri Bairavar	Ramanathapuram Railway station 1½ miles
11	..	do	do	Sri Kottaiwasal Vinayakar Temple (G)	200	0.05	Sri Kottaiwasal Vinayakar	...	Ramanathapuram Railway station 1 mile
12	..	do	do	Sri Balasubramaniaswamy Temple (M)	250	0.07	Sri Balasubramaniaswamy	Deivayanai	Ramanathapuram Railway station 1½ miles

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
Ramanathapuram Samasthanam (Contd.)									
3,731	...	...	...	Vacant plot	...	110	Peacock	Twice a week by a Gurukkal	Navarathri Thai Poosam Karthigai Deepam Skandha Sashti Panguni Uthiram
1,000	...	6.96	...	House	3,089	...	...	Twice a day by a Brahmin	...
2.5	...	...	...	...	...	364	Parrot	Twice a day by a hereditary Velar	Panguni Uthiram Navarathri
Not stated	...	...	...	...	...	15,668	Silver Chapparam Lion Kedayam	Twice a day by a Brahmin	Navarathri
Not stated	...	...	...	...	...	...	Lion	do	do
Not stated	...	...	...	...	6,451	...	Kedayams-2	Twice a day by a Velar	Navarathri Sivarathri Tamil New Year's Day
1,101	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a Brahmin	...

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
RAMANATHAPURAM

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the control of									
1	8	Devipatnam (P)	Devipatnam	Sri Thilakeswarar Temple (S)	Not known	0.13	Sri Thilakeswarar	Sri Soundarayanayaki- amman Sri Kada- ladaitha Perumal Sri Ulaga Nayaki- amman	Ramanathapuram Railway station 10 miles
2	10	Peruvayal (V)	Peruvayal	Sri Ranabali Murugar Temple (M)	225	1.07	Sri Murugar	Sri Valli Deivayanai Sri Vinayakar Sri Ramanathaswamy Sri Muppidari- amman Sri Parvadhavardhini- amman	Ramanathapuram Railway station 9 miles
3	32	Ramanathapuram (M)	Lakshmipuram	Sri Muthuramalingaswamy Temple (S)	350	0.52	Sri Muthuramalingaswamy	Sri Parvathavardhini- amman	Ramanathapuram Railway station
4	..	do	do	Sri Kothandaramaswamy Temple (V)	200	0.71	Sri Kothandaramaswamy	Sita Sri Lakshmanar Sri Anjaneyar	do
5	..	do	Ramanathapuram	Sri Chockanathaswamy Temple (S)	350	0.57	Sri Chockanathaswamy	Sri Meenakshi Amman	do

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Apprai- sed by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Report- ed by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
Ramanathapuram Samasthanam									
2,236	...	...	...	Vacant plot	...	310	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...
13,791	...	...	...	...	...	7,500	Vahanams-24	Four times a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	Masi Magam Skandha Sashti Festival in Avani
4,904	...	...	...	...	...	Value not stated	Rishabams-3 Kedayam Peacock Bandicoot	Twice a day by a hereditary Brahmin	Brahmothsavam in Avani
11,392	...	...	...	...	5,940	...	Car Palanquin Garuda, Lion Elephant Hanumar Sessa, Horse Tholukkiniyan	Twice a day by a Bhattachariar	Vaikunta Ekadasi Annual festival in Ani Sri Rama Navami
Not stated	...	...	...	...	...	941	Palanquin Rishabams-2 Peacock Bhootham Swan Bandicoot Kamadhenu Indra Vimanam	Four times a day by a hereditary Brahmin	Annual festival in Chithrai Arudhra Dharisanam

MUDUKULATHUR TALUK

11 MELAKODUMALUR

Sri Kumaraiah alias Subramaniaswamy Temple

Melakodumalur is situated at a distance of about 24 kilometres from Manamadurai, which is also the nearest railway station. Madurai the district headquarters and Mudukulathur, the taluk headquarters are 77 and 34 kilometres away respectively. The place is accessible both by rail and road. This old temple which is popular in this region is dedicated to Sri Subramaniaswamy who is also called Sri Kumaraiah. The presiding deity is six feet high and is in a standing posture. Legend has it that the idol was discovered at the foot of a tree by a Brahmin priest and later on installed in the temple. Renovations were carried out twice in the years 1901 and 1920 by the public.

The temple which covers an area of about 22 cents has an attractive vimanam over the sanctum sanctorum. There is a single prakaram. The Lord of this temple is considered very powerful. Sri Kaviraja Pandithar of Vembathur has composed a sacred prabandham known as "Gnana Ula" in praise of the Lord. Sri Javadhupulavar has also sung a sacred verse about this sthalam. Besides, Sri Nallamuthu Pillai of Mudukulathur has also glorified the Lord in his famous Pillaithamizh and Kuravanji.

Poojas are performed daily by a hereditary Brahmin priest strictly according to the principles of Saiva Agamam. The temple owns antique jewellery in gold and silver worth about Rs. 2,868 mostly donated by devotees. The landed properties of the temple comprise about 2.75 acres of wet lands, which fetch an annual rent of about Rs. 3,062; this sum is utilised for its upkeep and general maintenance. The annual hundi collections of the temple amount to Rs. 200, while its income under archana, abishega and mudi prarthana charges is Rs. 1,000 per annum.

"Muppazha Thiruvizha" in Vaikasi and Panguni Uthiram are the regular annual festivals celebrated

here, of which the former is the most important one, when special poojas are offered to the Lord along with the Neivedhyam of the three fruits namely, mango, plantain and Jack. About 3,000 devotees from far and near attend this famous festival.

The temple which is under the control of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department is managed by a Board of trustees consisting of four members.

135 THIRUMALUGANDHANKOTTAI

Sri Senjadainathaswamy Temple

Thirumalugandhankottai, a small village 35 kilometres off Mudukulathur is well known for its old Siva temple dedicated to Sri Senjadainathar, who is a pradhista Lingam. The divine consort here is known as Sri Karunakadakshi Ambal. The place is linked with several sacred centres by bus and train, the nearest railway station being Manamadurai. Madurai, the district headquarters and Mudukulathur, the taluk headquarters are 96 and 35 kilometres away respectively. There is a popular legend to the effect that Lord Vishnu who is also known as Thirumal, had a liking for this place and hence the name Thirumalugandhankottai. Since Lord Siva is said to have appeared here with matted hair, He is known as Senjadainathar.

The temple which covers an area of about 2 acres has a beautiful vimanam over the sanctum sanctorum, apart from a prakaram. It is said that the temple was built some 400 years ago by some kings of this region. Subsequently, several additions and renovations were made by the Rajas of Ramanathapuram. There are several stone inscriptions here, which are not decipherable. The image of the divine consort Sri Karunakadakshi Ambal, is in a separate sanctum. There are several uthsava vigrahams here, all made of panchalogam.

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

Poojas are performed twice daily by hereditary Adi Saiva Brahmin priests who are in the enjoyment of service inam lands strictly according to the principles of the Agama Sastras. The temple possesses several ancient gold and silver ornaments, worth about Rs. 475 mostly donated by devotees. The landed properties of the temple fetch an annual income of about Rs. 11,636 by way of rent; this amount is spent towards the daily poojas and periodical festivals of the temple and for its general maintenance. The temple owns Peacock and Rishabam mounts made of wood.

The festivals celebrated here include Skandha Sashti, Vaikasi Visakam and Panguni Uthiram. The festivals in the months of Vaikasi and Panguni are celebrated on a grand scale. About 2000 devotees from the neighbouring villages congregate on such occasions.

The temple which comes under the Ramanathapuram Samasthanam is managed by the Raja of Ramanathapuram, who is the hereditary trustee of the temple.

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
RAMANATHAPURAM

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the control of									
13	45	Tiruthirakosamangai (P)	Thiru-Utharakosamangai	Sri Mangalanathaswamy Temple (S)	Not known	7.19	Sri Mangalanathaswamy	Sri Mangaleswari Sri Natarajar	Uthirakosamangai Railway station 4½ miles
14	65	Tirupullani (P)	Tirupullani	Sri Adi Jagannathaswamy Temple (V)	Not known	1.37	Sri Adi Jagannatha Perumal	Sri Padmasini Thayar Sri Andal Sri Ramar	Ramanathapuram Railway station 5 miles
15	..	do	Sedukkarai	Sri Hanumar temple (O)	500	0.03	Sri Hanumar	...	Ramanathapuram Railway station 9 miles
16	93	Pudumadam (P)	Agasthiatheertham	Sri Srinivasa Perumal Temple (V)	500	0.08	Sri Srinivasa Perumal	...	Ramanathapuram Railway station 8 miles

ANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
UK (Concl'd.)

Annual income assessed for li 1375 H. R. C. E. Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property Value of Jewellery Rs.			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Apprai- sed by H. R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	Report- ed by temple	Vahanam		
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
Ramanathapuram Samasthanam									
080	...	...	...	...	2,79,624	...	Palanquins	Six times a day by a hereditary Brahmin	Brahmothsavam in Chitbrai Arudhra Dharisanam Thiruvadhirai
...	...	...	...	...	2,04,761	...	Silver Garuda Tholuk- kiniyan Car Palanquin Surya Prabhai Lion Hanumar Garuda Sesha Elephant Swan, Horse	Four times a day by a Bhatta- chariar	Brahmothsavam in Panguni Vaikunta Ekade- Rapatu Pagalpathu festival
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Brahmin	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a Brahmin	...

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
MUDUKULATHUR**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religions									
1	11	Melakodumalur (P)	Melakodumalur	Sri Kumara Kadavul alias Subramania-swamy Temple (M)	500	0.22	Sri Subramania-swamy	...	Manamadurai Junction 18 miles
2	15	Mandalamanickam (P)	Mandalamanickam	Sri Kailasanathaswamy Temple (S)	120	0.25	Sri Chockanathaswamy	Sri Arumbavananayagi	Manamadurai Junction 25 miles
3	"	do	do	Sri Vazhavadhamman Temple (F)	300	0.04	Sri Vazhavadhamman	Sri Kaliyamman Sri Irulayiamman	do
4	"	do	do	Sri Venkatachalapathy Temple (V)	200	0.03	Sri Venkatachalapathy	Sri Ubayanachiar	Manamadurai Junction 28 miles
5	21	Abiramam (P)	Abiramam	Sri Arunagiri Vinayakar Temple (G)	70	0.01	Sri Arunagiri Vinayakar	...	Manamadurai Junction 18 miles
6	"	do	do	Sri Sivasubramaniaswamy Temple (M)	45	0.20	Sri Sivasubramaniaswamy	Sri Valli Deivayanai	do
7	"	do	do	Sri Varadaraja Perumal Temple (V)	300	0.10	Sri Varadaraja Perumal	Sri Devi Bhudevi	Paramakudi Railway station 22 miles

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Apprai- sed by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Report- ed by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department									
3,062	2.75	...	...	...	...	2,868	...	Once a week by a hereditary Brahmin	Annual festival in Vaikasi Panguni Uthiram
317	6.00	...	...	Shops-3 House	...	625	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Brahmin	Brahmothsavam in Ani Navarathri Skandha sashti Karthigai Deepam
569	8.40	...	...	...	...	...	Lion	Once a day by a hereditary Velar	Annual festival in Purattasi
335	4.00	...	...	...	...	Value not stated	Palanquin Garuda Tholukkiniyan	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Chithra Pournami
299	...	...	...	Buildings-4 Vacant plots	...	Value not stated	...	Twice a day by a Brahmin	...
2,329	...	...	...	Buildings 18	...	1,950	Sahadai Peacock Horse Bandicoot	Twice a day by a Brahmin	Navarathri Karthigai Deepam Thaiposam
700	6.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	...

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
MUDUKULATHUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	No	Name	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
8	35	Kamuthi (P)	Kamuthi	Sri Muthumari-amman Temple (F)	200	0.34	Sri Muthumari-amman	...	Paramakudi Railway station 24 miles
9	..	do	do	Sri Pettai Kitanji Vinayakar Temple (G)			Sri Kitanji Vinayakar	...	
10	..	do	do	Sri Santhi Vinayakar Temple (G)	200	0.04	Sri Santhi Vinayakar	...	Manamadurai Junction 24 miles
11	..	do	do	Sri Subramania-swamy Temple (M)	150	0.01	Sri Subramania-swamy	Sri Valli Deivayanai	do
12	..	do	do	Sri Vazhi Vitta Ayyanar Temple (O)	600	3.00	Sri Vazhi Vitta Ayyanar	...	Virudhunagar Junction 25 miles
13	..	do	do	Sri Ananda Vinayakar Temple (G)	Not known	Below 0.01	Sri Ananda Vinayakar	...	Paramakudi Railway station 27 miles
14	..	do	do	Sri Ragunatha Vinayakar Temple (G)	250	Below 0.01	Sri Vinayakar	...	Manamadurai Junction 26 miles
15	57	Vilangalathur (P)	Vilangalathur	Sri Selva Vinayakar Temple (G)	58	0.25	Sri Vinayakar	...	Paramakudi Railway station 12 miles

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

TALUK (Contd.)									
Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
1 848	...	...	...	Shops-14	...	3,000	Palanquin Rishabam Horse Peacock Lion Elephant Bandicoot	Four times a day by a Bhattar	Annual festival in Panguni
1 087	...	...	...	Shops-3	...	150	...	Twice a day by a Bhattar	...
2,120	1.01	...	...	Vacant plot 0.93 Shops-7	...	750	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattar	...
695	...	51.44	...	...	...	100	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Velar	Sivarathri
301	...	10.00	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a Pandaram	...
560	1.10	Not stated	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Pandaram	...
600	1.62	15.24	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...

and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
MUDUKULATHUR**

Sl. No	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
16	61	Pirukkalur (P)	Pirubukkalur	Sri Balasubramaniaswamy Temple (M)	50	Below 0.01	Sri Balasubramaniaswamy	...	Pandikanmoi Railway station 3 miles
17	81	Valanadu (P)	Valanadu	Sri Subramaniaswamy alias Kumarakadavul Temple (M)	100	Below 0.01	Sri Subramaniam	...	Sattirakudi Railway station 2 miles
18	130	Perunali (P)	Perunali	Sri Mariamman Temple (F)	34	0.06	Sri Muthumariamman	...	Virudhunagar Junction 38 miles
19	143	Kannirajapuram (P)	Kannirajapuram	Sri Badrakali- amman Temple (F)	500	0.50	Sri Badrakali- amman	Sri Uchi Mahali	Paramakudi Railway station 37 miles
Temples under the control of									
1	13	A. Tharaikudi (P)	Tharakudi	Sri Tharaneswarar Temple (S)	Not known	0.34	Sri Tharaneswarar	Sri Pushpavaneswari- amman	Manamadurai Junction 22 miles
2	19	Pappanam (P)	Anaiyur	Sri Angalaparameswari Temple (F)	100	0.06	Sri Angalaparameswari amman	...	Manamadurai Junction 32 miles
3	23	Sirukudi (P)	Perungarunai	Sri Varadaraja Perumal Temple (V)	250	0.34	Sri Varadaraja Perumal	Sri Devi Bhu Devi	Manamadurai Junction 18 miles
4	35	Kamuthi (P)	Kamuthi	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple (S)	500	0.34	Sri Sundareswarar	Sri Meenakshi- amman	Manamadurai Junction 24 miles

**RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)**

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam	Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Concl'd.)									
619	15.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Pandaram	...
455	...	17.50	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Brahmin	...
1,000	...	...	...	...	...	200	...	Twice a day by a Poosari	...
244	...	...	...	Vacant plot 1.30	...	...	Sabadai	Twice a day by a Pulavar	Brahmothsavam in Avani
Ramanathapuram Samasthanam									
1,227	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a Brahmin	...
205	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Asari	...
1,734	...	...	...	...	...	200	...	Once a day by a Bhatta- chariar	...
6,623	...	0.53	...	Building	...	1,500	...	Four times a day by a Gurukkal	..

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
MUDUKULATHUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the control of									
5	77	Mudukulathur (P)	Mudukulathur	Sri Subramania-swamy Temple (M)	Not known	0.46	Sri Subramaniam	Sri Valli Deivayanai	Paramakudi Railway station 16 miles
6	105	Appanur (P)	Appanur	Sri Arianachi- amman Temple (F)	Not known	0.06	Sri Arianachi- amman	...	Paramakudi Railway station 29 miles
7	108	Marandhai (P)	Maranthai	Sri Lakshmi Varaha Perumal Temple (V)	400	0.01	Sri Lakshmi Varaha Perumal	Sri Vinayakar	Paramakudi Railway station 19 miles
8	113	Painkulam (P)	Athankothan- kudi	Sri Srinivasa Perumal Temple (V)	400	Below 0.01	Sri Srinivasa Perumal	Sri Alamelu mangai Thayar Sri Andal	Paramakudi Railway station 20 miles
9	135	T. M. Kottai (P)	Thirumalugan- dhankottai	Sri Senjadai-nathaswamy Temple (S)	400	2.00	Sri Senjadai-nathaswamy	Sri Karunai-kadakshi amman	Manamadurai Junction 50 miles
10	145	Sayalkudi (P)	Sayalgudi	Sri Kailasa-nathaswamy Temple (S)	250	0.75	Sri Kailasa-nathaswamy	Sri Akilandes-wari	Manamadurai Junction 42 miles
11	148	Mariyur (P)	Mariyur	Sri Poovendra-nathar Temple (S)	1,000	0.75	Sri Poovendra-nathaswamy	Sri Kanaka-valli-ambigai	Paramakudi Railway station 32 miles
12	150	Keelakidaram (P)	Kidaram	Sri Uyyavandha Amman Temple (F)	Not known	0.02	Sri Uyyavandha-amman	...	Ramanatha-puram Railway station

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property Value of Jewellery Rs.			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Apprai- sed by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Report- ed by temple	Vahanam		
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
2,015	...	...	...	Buildings-2	...	...	Car Kedayam Peacock	Once a day by a Bhattar	...
154	...	...	...	...	...	36	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Pandaram	...
Not stated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a Brahmin	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Brahmin	Skandha Sashti Panguni Uthiram Vaikasi Visakam
11,686	...	...	...	...	...	474	Peacock Rishabam	Twice a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...
600	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	do	...
3,005	...	...	...	...	...	176	...	Twice a day by a Bhattar	...
48	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Pandaram	...

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
MUDUKULATHUR**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples outside the Hindu Religious									
1	31	Manalur (P)	Manalur	Sri Agastheeswarar <i>alias</i> Chockanatha- swamy Temple (S)	700	2.12	Sri Agasthee- swarar	...	Manamadurai Junction 25 miles
2	131	T. Valasubra- maniapuram (P)	T. Valasubra- maniapuram	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	Not known	Not stated	Sri Sidhi Vinayakar	...	Virudhunagar Junction 30 miles
3	140	Sethuraja- puram (P)	Sethuraja- puram	Sri Shenbaga- sundara Vinayakar Temple (G)	Not known	Not stated	Sri Shenbaga- sundara Vinayakar	...	Kovilpatti Railway station 32 miles

TAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK (Concl'd.)

Annual income assessed for Asli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property Value of Jewellery Rs.			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Apprai- sed by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Repor- ted by temple	Vahanam		
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
ad Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department									
450	14.01	72.00	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Brahmin	...
500	...	68.00	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a Brahmin	...
600	...	27.00	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a Gurukkal	...

ARUPPUKOTTAI TALUK

162 THIRUCHULI

Sri Thirumeninathaswamy Temple

Thiruchuli which was formerly known as Thiruchuliyal is the tenth of the fourteen ancient Padalpetra Sthalams in Pandya Nad. In the recent past, it has been haloed by the birth of Ramana Maharishi the famous saint of Tiruvannamalai. The house where he was born is a place of pilgrimage. The great Saivite saint Sundaramurthy Nayanar had, in the company of Cheraman Perumal, worshipped Lord Siva in this sacred place. In the following Thevaram hymn the saint describes the beauty of this place and the greatness of the presiding deity.

ஊனாய் உயிர் புகலாய் அகல் இடமாய் முகில் பொழியும்
வானாய் வரும்மதியாய் விதிவருவான் இடம்பொழியின்
தேனா தரித்திசைவன் டினம்மிறுற்றும் திருச்சுழியல்
நானா விதம்நினைவார் தமைநலியார் நமன் தமரே

கவ்வைக் கடல்கதறிக் கொணர்முத்தம் கரைக்கேற்றக்
கொவ்வைத் துவர்வாயார் குடைந்தாடும் திருச்சுழியல்
தெய்வத் தினைவழிபாடு செய்தெழுவார் அடிதொழுவார்
அவ்வத் திசைக்கரசா குவாஅலரான் பிரியாளே

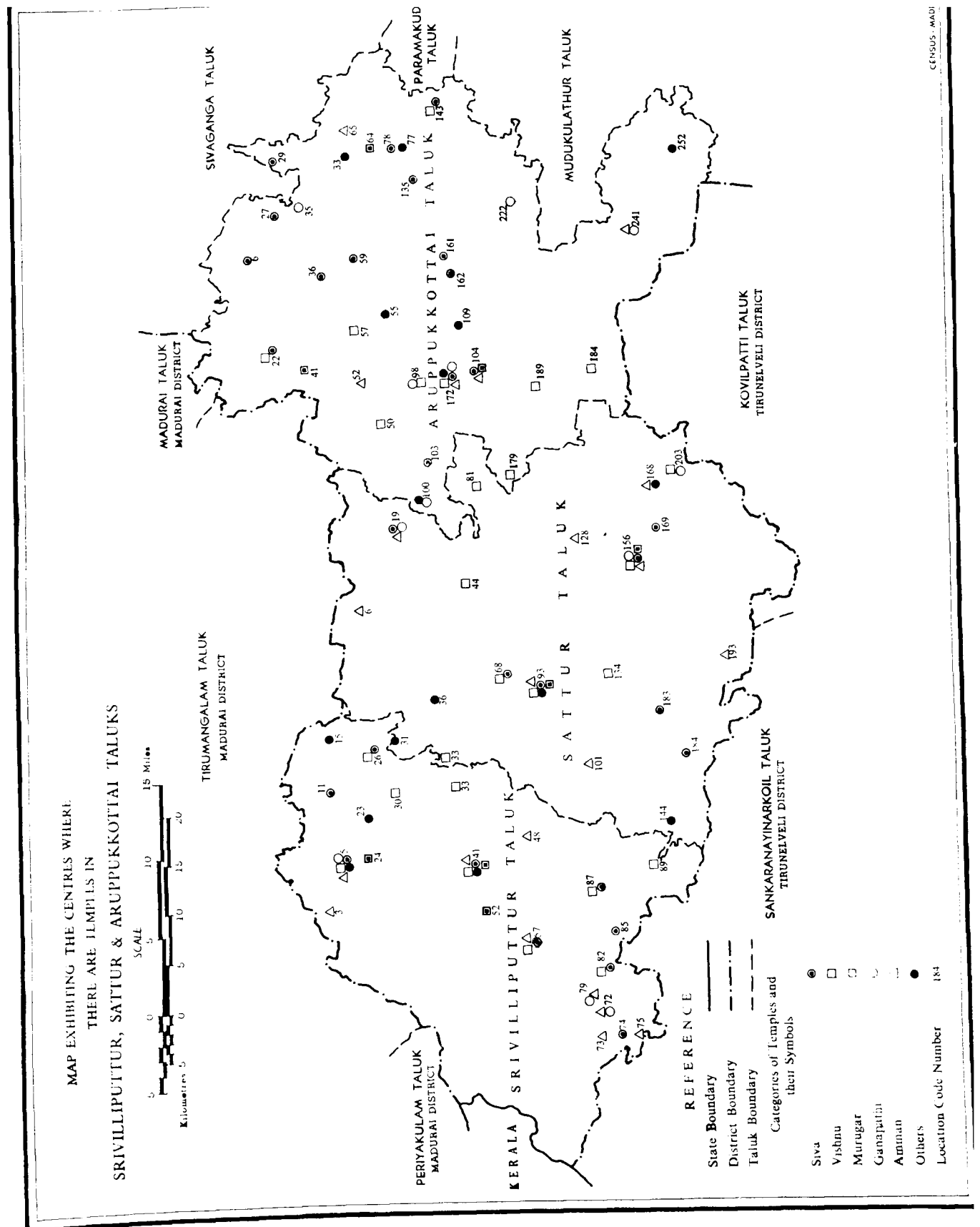
Thiruchuli is a railway station on Manamadurai-Virudhunagar line. It is at a distance of 32 kilometres from Manamadurai. It is also connected by bus with places like Madurai, Virudhunagar etc. It is now the headquarters of a sub-taluk of the same name. Sri Thirumeninathaswamy temple in this place is one of the many temples in the district which have been managed well for long by the Rajas of Ramanathapuram. Though a small place, there are a number of choultries and buildings constructed by the Ramanathapuram Samasthanam as well as the Nagarathar community, where pilgrims can stay. Facilities for performing marriages are also available in some choultries.

The present temple occupies an area of 43,500 square feet. According to the temple authorities, originally it was constructed by the Pandya King Brihath Balan. Sri Bhaskara Sethupathy, Raja of

Ramanathapuram took initiative in 1898 to renovate the old temple. The work went on till 1917 when a Kumbabishegam was performed. In 1957 another kumbabishegam was performed after some repairs and additions to the temple structure. The main gopuram of the temple is 40' high. There are three prakarams.

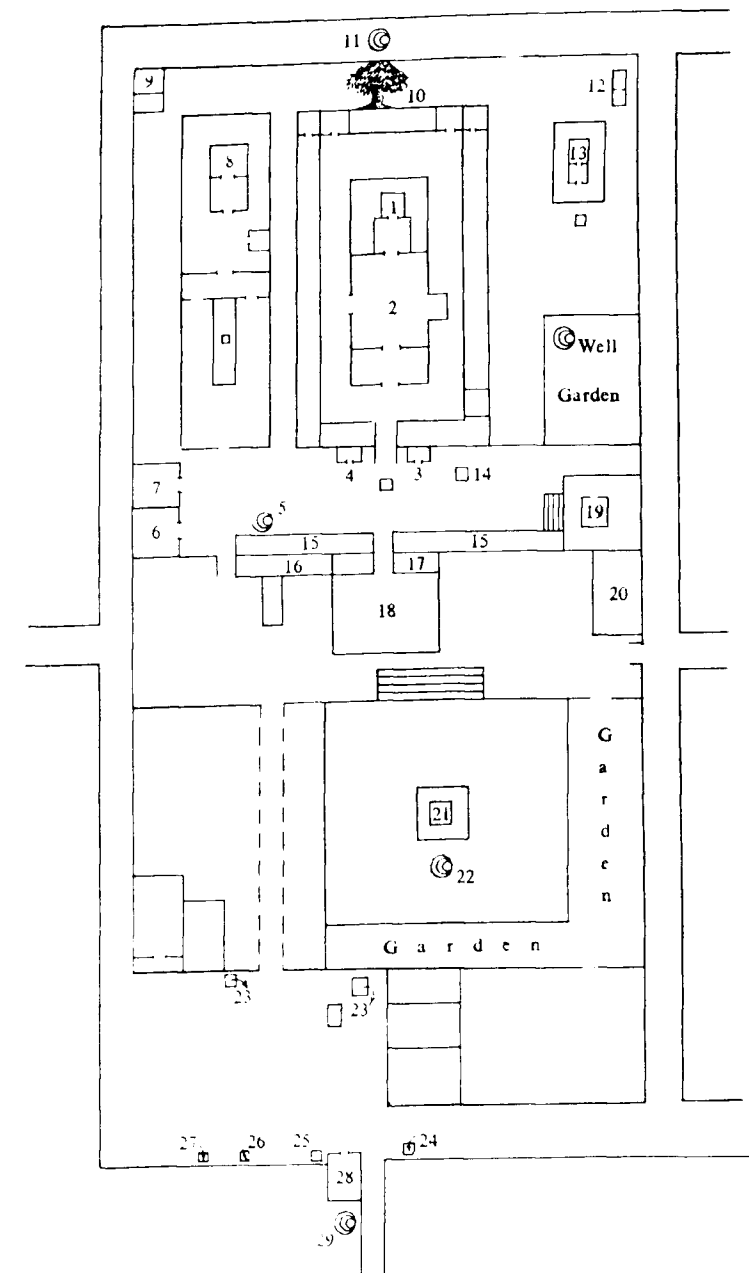
The presiding deity, a Swayambu Lingam is called Sri Thirumeninathar. His other names are Sri Bhumesar, Bhuvanesar, Manakkolanathar, Chulikesar etc. The divine consort is Sri Thunaimalaiammai. There are Ashta Lingas or eight Lingams in the temple. They are: Velliambalanathar and Somasekharar (worshipped by Pandya Kings), Kaundinya Lingam (worshipped by sage Kaundinya), Kalava Lingam (worshipped by sage Kalava), Kanva Lingam (worshipped by sage Kanva), Kameeswara Lingam (worshipped by Manmatha), Krithanthakeswara Lingam (worshipped by the demon called Krithanthaka), Dinakeswara Lingam (worshipped by Sun God) and Kalyana Sundarar who gave darshan to sage Gouthama. There are as many as ten theerthams or sacred waters in and around the shrine.

The temple is facing east. It has around it Ratha Veedhis on the eastern, southern and western sides and Mada Veedhi on the northern side. There is a beautiful tank with a central mandapam within the temple. Kauvaikadal, as it is called, is one of the sacred waters of the shrine. One can worship Dharmathavara Vinayakar and Bodhi Vinayakar before entering the main eastern gate. There is an Asthana mandapam facing the Lord's sanctum. The goddess's sannadhi is to the south of the Lord's sannadhi. The other important deities in the temple are Sri Vinayakar, Sri Subramaniar, Pralaya Vidangar and Palani Andavar. There is also a Navagraha mandapam. Punnai tree is the sthalaviruksham of the temple. The Veladi Vinayakar temple is at a distance of a furlong to the north of the main temple. The other sub-temples of this temple are: Chuligai Chockiamman temple and Mariamman temple which are near the Teppakulam in the



THIRUCHUZH

(Not to Scale)



INDEX TO NUMBERS

- 1 Thirumeninathar
- 2 Mandapam
- 3 Subramaniam
- 4 Kodavatai Vinayagar
- 5 Kodi Theertham
- 6 Madapalli
- 7 Venjana Room
- 8 Ambal
- 9 Vinayagar
- 10 Sthalaviruksham
- 11 Gnana Theertham
- 12 Subramaniam
- 13 Pralayavidangar
- 14 Navagrahas
- 15 Vahana Room
- 16 Thirukalyana Mandapam
- 17 Office Room
- 18 Asthana Mandapam
- 19 Palani Andavar
- 20 Thirupugazh Sabbhai
- 21 Kavai Kadal
- 22 Soola Theertham
- 23 Dharmathavarabodhi Vinayagar
- 24 Swamy
- 25 Amman
- 26 Vinayagar
- 27 Subramaniam Theradi
- 28 Elephant Stable
- 29 Bhoomi Theertham

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
ARUPPUKOTTAI

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
1	6	S. Kallunadai (P)	Kallumadai	Sri Thirunageswaramudayar Temple (S)	600	0.17	Sri Thirunageswaramudayar	Sri Thirugnanambigai	Thiruppuvanam Railway station 8 miles
2	22	Kambikudi (P)	Kambikudi	Sri Meenakshisundareswarar Temple (S)	1150	0.07	Sri Meenakshisundareswarar	Sri Meenakshi	Kalligudi Railway station 10 miles
3	..	do	do	Sri Venugopalaswamy Temple (V)	150	0.03	Sri Venugopalaswamy	Sri Rukmani Sathyabama	do
4	27	Eluvani (Part) (P)	Eluvani	Sri Shenbagalingaswamy alias Thennayiramudaya Ayyanar Temple (O)	300	1.89	Sri Siva Shenbaga Thennayiramudaya Ayyanar	Sri Karuppannaswamy	Thiruppuvanam Railway station 13 miles
5	33	Ulakudy (P)	Ulakkudi	Sri Gurunathaswamy and Angalamman Temple (O)	175	Below 0.01	Sri Gurunathaswamy	Sri Angalamman	Narikkudi Railway station 2 miles
6	35	Alagapuri (Part) (P)	Alagapuri	Sri Sidhi Vinayakar Temple (G)	100	0.03	Sri Vinayakar	...	Thiruppuvanam Railway station
7	41	Kariapatty (P)	Kariapatti	Sri Subramaniaswamy Temple (M)	60	0.64	Sri Subramaniaswamy	Sri Valli Deivayanai Sri Vinayakar	Madurai Railway station 18 miles

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property Value of Jewellery Rs.			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet		Wet & Dry		Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.		Vahanam		
	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department									
280	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No Pooja	...
223	7.30	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a Brahmin	...
237	7.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a Bhattachariar	...
435	1.68	...	9.13	Garden 0.36	...	Value not stated	...	Once a day by a hereditary Velar	...
452	5.70	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Pillai	Sivarathri
990	5.00	...	...	...	...	250	Rishabam	Once a day by a hereditary Poosari	Vinayaka Chaturthi Tamil New Year's Day
2,959	4.18	...	...	Shops 19	...	Value not stated	...	Twice a day by a Brahmin	...

northern part of Thiruchuli and the Pillayar and Anjaneyar temples in the south.

Poojas are performed six times daily by hereditary priests of Sivachariar community. The important annual festivals of the temple are: Amman Thapasu uthsavam in the month of Adi (10 days), Palani Andavar uthsavam in Thai (10 days) and Brahmothsavam in Panguni. Before the Brahmothsavam, the festivals of the village deities Sri Chuligai Chockiamman and Mariamman are celebrated in a grand manner. The temple possesses considerable gold and silver jewellery. There are two attractive silver-plated Rishaba vahanas, one for the god and the other

for the goddess. There are Thers, palanquins and other vahanas as well. Efforts are being taken to repair the two big Thers of the god and goddess. The temple gets a dastic allowance of Rs. 20,910 from the Government.

This ancient temple is very popular in this area. Many devotees have been benefited by taking bath in the sacred theerthams here and worshipping Sri Thirumeninathaswamy and Sri Thunaimalaiamman. The hereditary trustee of this temple is the Raja of Ramanathapuram. The shrine comes under the purview of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department.

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
ARUPPUKOTTAI**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
8	50	Mallanginar (P)	Mallanginar	Sri Chennakesava-perumal Temple (V)	300	0.76	Sri Chennakesava-perumal	Sri Sengamala Nachiar	Virudhunagar Junction 7 miles
9	52	Thenugal (P)	Thenugal	Sri Veyilukandhamman Temple (F)	Not known	0.10	Sri Veyilukandhamman	Sri Vinayakar	Virudhunagar Junction 10 miles
10	55	P. Pudupatty (V)	P. Pudupatty	Sri Mahamayee alias Guruswamy temple (O)	100	0.02	Sri Guruswamy	...	Tiruchchuli Railway station 5 miles
11	57	Kilavaneri (P)	Kilavaneri	Sri Rukmani Satyabama Sametha Krishnaswamy Temple (V)	250	0.37	Sri Krishnaswamy	Sri Rukmani Sathyabama	Tiruchchuli Railway station 7 miles
12	65	Irunjirai (P)	Irunjirai	Sri Perianayaki amman and Karanamalai Ayyanar Temple (F)	300	0.25	Sri Perianayagamman	Sri Karanamalai Ayyanar	Manamadurai Junction 10 miles
13	77	N. Mukkulam (Part) (P)	Veerakudi	Sri Muruga Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	2.50	Sri Muruga Ayyanar	...	Manamadurai Junction 13 miles
14	98	Ramanujapuram (P)	Ramanujapuram	Sri Chennakesava Perumal Temple (V)	70	1.00	Sri Chennakesava Perumal	...	Virudhunagar Junction 15 miles

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fash: 1375 by H. R. & C. E (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Apprai- sed by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Report- ed by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
1,859	..	60.00	...	...	9,156	...	Car Sesha Hanumar Chapparam Garuda Horse Swan, Lion Elephant Palanquin	Twice a day by a Bhattar	Vaikunta Ekadasi Adi Pooram Tamil New Year's Day Vaikasi Visakam Brahmothsavam in Panguni Karthigai Deepam Navarathri Thiruvadhirai Sri Jayanthi
2,835	...	...	4.61	Shandy	...	...	...	Twice a day by a Pandaram	...
250	2.00	...	...	...	...	200	...	Once a day by a Poosari	...
500	...	5.12	...	...	...	...	...	No Pooja	...
251	10.99	...	...	...	...	Value not stated	...	Once a day by a hereditary Poosari	...
955	31.77	220.32	...	...	...	700	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Velar	Sivarathri
524	Extent not stated			...	...	115	Horse Kedayam	Twice a day by a Bhatta- chariar	Sri Ramanavami

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
ARUPPUKOTTAI**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
15	98	Ramanuja-puram (P)	Ramanuja-puram	Sri Ramalinga Vinayakar Temple (G)	45	Below 0.01	Sri Ramalinga Vinayakar	...	Virudhunagar Junction 15 miles
16	100	Periavalli-kulam (P)	Periavalli-kulam	Sri Swamy Urani Selva Vinayakar Temple (G)	300	Below 0.01	Sri Selva Vinayakar	...	Virudhunagar Junction 2 miles
17	..	do	do	Sri Periaswamy Eswariamman and Kalaswamy Temple (O)	300	Below 0.01	Sri Periaswamy	Sri Eswariamman Sri Kalaswamy	do
18	104	Palayampatti (P)	Palayampatti	Sri Subramania-swamy Temple (M)	250	0.60	Sri Subraman- niam	Sri Valli Deivayanai Sri Natarajar Sri Bairavar Sri Viswa- nathar	Aruppukottai Railway station 1 mile
19	..	do	do	Sri Mutha-lamman Temple (F)		0.50	Sri Mutha-lamman	Sri Andhi- veeraswamy	
20	..	do	do	Sri Viswanatha-swamy Temple (S)		0.50	Sri Kasiviswa-nathar	Sri Visalakshi	Virudhunagar Junction 12 miles
21	109	Puliyooran (V)	Puliyoorani	Sri Sidhanatha-gurunatha-swamy Temple (O)	Not known	0.43	Sri Sidhanatha-gurunatha-swamy	...	Virudhunagar Junction 16 miles
22	172	Aruppukottai (M)	Aruppukottai	Sri Amirtha-lingaswamy Temple (S)	70	1.00	Sri Amirtha-lingeswarar	Sri Amirtha-valliamman	Virudhunagar Junction 12 miles
23	..	do	do	Sri Muthu Mariamman Temple (F)		0.07	Sri Mariamman	...	

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Apprai- sed by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Repor- ted by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
373	Extent not stated		...	...	...	5	...	Twice a day by a Bhattachariar	...
5,168	...	22.06	...	Shops-8	...	31	...	Once a week by a Brahmin	Vinayaka Chathurthi Thai Poosam Sivarathri
1,712	...	0.74	...	Buildings-2	...	200	...	Twice a day by a Poosari	Sivarathri
10,667	2.00	6.00	...	Shops Houses	3,502	...	Peacock Rishabam Horse Bandicoot	Twice a day by Bhattars	Skandha Sashti Festival in Panguni
4,447	7.48	...	16.85	Buildings-29	...	515	Chapparams-3 Rishabam Bandicoot	Thrice a day by a Bhattar	...
258	4.51	1.50	...	..	...	500	Chapparam Rishabam	Once a day by a hereditary Poosari	...
12,139	82.14	117.33	...	Buildings-20 Shops-23 Houses-2	...	16,000	Palanquin Kedayams-4 Vahanams-24	Four times a day by an Archagar	Vaikasi Visakam Navarathri Festival in Panguni

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
ARUPPUKOTTAI**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
31	172	Aruppukottai (M)	Aruppukottai	Sri Panduranga Temple (V)	50	0.02	Sri Panduranga	...	Aruppukottai Railway station 2 furlongs
32	..	do	Peria Puliam-patti	Sri Mahali-amman Temple (F)	150	0.08	Sri Mahali-amman	...	do
33	..	do	do	Sri Mariamman Temple (F)	47	0.07	Sri Ayiramkan Mariamman	...	do
34	..	do	do	Sri Sivan Vinayakar Temple (G)	200	0.07	Sri Vinayakar	...	do
35	..	do	Puliam-patti	Sri Thathan-kulam Vinayakar Temple (G)	400	0.03	Sri Vinayakar	Sri Varadaraja Perumal	Virudhunagar Junction 12 miles
36	..	do	do	Sri Soundamman Temple (F)	160	0.02	Sri Soundamman	...	Aruppukottai Railway station 2 furlongs
37	..	do	do	Sri Muthumalai Vinayakar Temple (G)	65	Below 0.01	Sri Vinayakar	...	Aruppukottai Railway station 2 furlongs
31	179	Koothapara (P)	Malaipatti	Sri Krishnan alias Navaneetha Balakrishna-swamy Temple (V)	100	0.06	Sri Balakrishnan	...	Virudhunagar Junction 7 miles

**RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)**

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals	
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam			
					Appraised by H. R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple				
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)										
617	4.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a Chettiar	...	
5,430	...	...	...	House Shops-56	12,475	...	Palanquin Horse Rishabam Elephant Suran Bandicoet Kamadhenu	Twice a day by a Brahmin	Navarathri	
1,395	...	...	...	Houses-15	7,476	...	Lion	do	Brahmothsavam in Panguni	
787	...	...	...	House Shops-8	...	Value not stated	Peacock Kedayam	do	Vinayaka Chathurthi Skandha Sashti	
2,764	...	...	...	Shops-12	...	200	Peacock	do	Vinayaka Chathurthi	
688	...	...	...	Shops-6	...	600	Horse Chapparam Palanquin	Twice a day by a Chettiar	Annual festival in Panguni	
489	...	...	...	Building	...	...	...	Once a day by a Brahmin	...	
1,445	Extent not stated				...	...	500	Garuda	Twice a day by a Bhatta-chariar	Sri Jayanthi Vaikunta Ekadasi Tamil New Year's Day

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
ARUPUKOTTAI

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
24	172	Aruppukottai (M)	Aruppukottai	Sri Malaiaresan Temple (O)	300	0.14	Sri Nithyanandhaswamy	...	Aruppukottai Railway station 2 miles
25	..	do	Pottalpatti	Sri Pambalamman Temple (F)	200	0.11	Sri Pambalamman	...	Aruppukottai Railway station 2 furlongs
26	..	do	Chockalingapuram	Sri Navaneetha-krishnaswamy Temple (V)	100	0.05	Sri Navaneetha Krishnaaswamy	Sri Nadana-krishnan	Virudhunagar Junction 12 miles
27	..	do	do	Sri Pattabhiraman Temple (V)	55	0.40	Sri Pattabhiraman	...	do
28	..	do	do	Sri Ramalinga Chowdambigai- amman Temple (F)	200	0.10	Sri Ramalinga Chowdambigai	...	do
29	..	do	do	Sri Vazhavan-dhamman Temple (F)	800	0.41	Sri Vazha Vandhamman	...	do
30	..	do	do	Sri Chockanathaswamy Temple (S)	800	0.39	Sri Chokkanathar	Sri Meenakshiamman	do

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
524	...	40.00	...	...	...	...	Garuda	Twice a day by a hereditary Brahmin	Vaikunta Ekadas
413	...	...	...	Houses-25	...	...	Rishabam	Once a day by a Poosari	Thiruvadhirai
413	...	...	...	Shops-4	...	...	Garuda Sesha	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	...
1,763	...	0.48	...	Buildings-8	...	120	...	Twice a day by a Bhattar	...
10,368	...	...	...	Houses Shops	15,382	...	Silver Rishabam Horses-2 Rishabams-2 Lion, Suran	Twice a day by a hereditary Devangar	Navarathri
479	...	...	...	...	...	3,000	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Pandaram	Navarathri
4,324	10.00	...	...	Shops-14 Kalyana-mandapam	...	35,000	Sahadais-2 Bandicoot Cars-2 Kamadhenu Peacock Elephant Rishabams-2 Bhootham Horse, Swan	Four times a day by a Bhattar	Brahmothsavam in Ani

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
ARUPPUKOTTAI**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	S. b-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
39	189	Chettikurichi (P)	Chettikurichi	Sri Varadaraja Perumal Temple (V)	200	0.25	Sri Varadaraja Perumal	Sri Devi Bhu Devi	Aruppukottai Railway station 6 miles
40	222	Iluppaiyoor (V)	Iluppaiyur	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	60	0.07	Sri Vinayakar	Sri Nagar	Virudhunagar Junction 26 miles
41	241	Thopilakkarai (V)	Thoppilakkarai	Sri Uchimahali-amman Temple (F)	100	0.02	Sri Mahali-amman	...	Aruppukottai Railway station
42	252	Poolangal (V)	Poolangal	Sri Periakkudi Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.07	Sri Ayyanar	...	Aruppukottai Railway station 20 miles
Temples under the control of									
1	64	Manoor (P)	Manoor	Sri Subramania-swamy Temple (M)	500	0.21	Sri Subramania-swamy	Sri Valli Deivayanai Sri Soundaranyagi	Sudiyur Railway station 15 miles
2	78	Narikudi (P)	Narikudi	Sri Virupakshinathaswamy Temple (S)	500	0.20	Sri Virupakshinathaswamy	Sri Nagavalliamman	Manamadurai Junction

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property Value of Jewellery Rs.			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple	Vahanam		
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
500	...	149.19	...	...	...	...	Garuda Rishabam	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	...
567	Extent not stated			Buildings	...	...	...	Once a day by a Pandaram	...
274	...	6.00	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a Poosari	...
1,221	...	35.84	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Velar	Sivarathri
Sivaganga Devasthanam									
655	...	...	...	...	...	138	Car Elephant Peacock	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattar	Brahmothsavam in Panguni Karthigai Deepam Thai Poosam
925	...	...	3.82	...	...	3	...	Once a day by a hereditary Gurukkal	...

346

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
ARUPPUKOTTA**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	No.	Name	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the control of									
1	29	P. Vagaikulam (V)	P. Vagaikulam	Sri Pathaleswarar Temple (S)	500	0.50	Sri Pathaleswarar	Sri Pathaleswari	Virudhunagar Junction 30 miles
2	36	Mudukkan-kulam (P)	Mudukkan-kulam	Sri Ambalavanaswamy Temple (S)	Not known	0.23	Sri Ambalavanaswamy	Sri Sivakami ambal	Madurai Junction 25 miles
3	59	Sooranur (P)	Sooranur	Sri Kailasanathaswamy Temple (S)	600	0.96	Sri Kailasanathar	Sri Anandavalli	Madurai Junction 27 miles
4	103	Palavanatham (P)	Palavanatham	Sri Kailasanathaswamy Temple (S)	Not known	0.53	Sri Kailasanathar	Sri Anandavalliamman	Virudhunagar Junction 5 miles
5	104	Palayampatti (P)	Palayampatti	Sri Venugopala-swamy Temple (V)	Not known	1.54	Sri Venugopala-swamy	Sri Devi Bhu Devi	Virudhunagar Junction 14 miles
6	135	Vidathakulam (P)	Vidathakulam	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple (S)	300	0.06	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar	Sri Avudainavaki amman	Manamadurai Junction 25 miles
7	143	Veerasolam (P)	Veerasozhapuram	Sri Kailasanathar Temple (S)	300	0.11	Sri Kailasanathaswamy	Sri Avudainayaki amman	Manamadurai Junction 18 miles
8	141	Pallimadam (V)	Pallimadam	Sri Kailasanathaswamy Temple (S)	1,500	0.28	Sri Kailasanathaswamy	Sri Swarnavalli amman	Virudhunagar Junction 20 miles

**RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)**

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Apprai- sed by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Report- ed by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
Ramanathapuram Samasthanam (Contd.)									
700	...	1.00	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a Brahmin	...
2,545	...	...	...	...	...	16	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattar	...
3,930	...	...	...	...	...	38	Horse Bandicoot Peacock Chapparam	do	...
4,970	...	...	...	...	...	1,902	Car Palanquin Kedayams-5 Vahanams-11	Five times a day by a Bhattar	Brahmothsavam in Chithrai
1,401	...	...	...	...	...	1,020	Elephant Horse Garudas-2 Swan Hanumar Lions-2 Car	Twice a day by a hereditary Battachariar	Brahmothsavam in Vaikasi
315	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No pooja	...
502	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by a Brahmin	...
3,588	...	...	...	...	...	29	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
ARUPPUKOTTAI

Sl. No	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)

Temples under the control of

9	162	Thiruchuli (P)	Thiruchuli	Sri Thirumeni-nathaswamy Temple (S)	Not known	1.00	Sri Thirumeni-nathaswamy	Sri Thunai-malay-amman	Virudhunagar Junction 20 miles
10	184	Pandalkudi (P)	Pandalakudi	Sri Kariamala-zhagar Temple (V)	500	0.37	Sri Karia malazhagar	Sri Devi Bhu Devi	do

Temples outside the Hindu Religious

1	143	Veerasolam (P)	Veerasolam	Sri Harichakra Moorthy Perumal Temple (V)	Not known	0.18	Sri Harichakra Moorthy Perumal	Sri Soundra-valli Thayar Sri Andal	Parthibanur Railway station 10 miles
2	241	Thopilakurai (V)	Thoppilakkerai	Sri Ramalinga Vinayakar Temple (G)	75	Below 0.01	Sri Vinayakar	...	Aruppukottai Railway station

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK (Concl'd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)

Ramanathapuram Samasthanam (Concl'd.)

21,090	0.78	9.00	...	...	35,594	...	Cars-5 Palanquins-4 Sahadais-3	Six times a day by hereditary Brahmins	Brahmothsavam in Adi, Thai and Panguni
317	...	...	...	...	...	200	Garuda Horse	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	...

and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department

300	Extent not stated		...	...	6	...	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	...
500	2.00	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by an Archagar	Vinayaka Chathurthi

SATTUR TALUK

156 SATTUR

Sri Venkatachalapathy Temple

Situated on the bank of the river “Vaipparu” in Sattur town, the 800 year-old Vaishnavite temple commands a good view. The presiding deity of this temple is Sri Venkatachalapathy, who is also popularly known as “Satturappan”. His divine consorts Sri Devi and Bhu Devi are in a standing posture.

Legend has it that this temple came into existence through the efforts of a devout blind king, who ruled over the neighbouring place. He got back his power of vision miraculously by the grace of the Lord when he came here on his way to Tirupathi and stayed for 20 days, offering worship. Soon, this shrine became popular and started attracting devotees from different parts of the district.

Several renovations were made by the Zamindar of Ettayapuram and a Kumbabishegam was performed some 40 years back. There are several stone inscriptions on the northern and southern outer walls of the arthamandapam here, which confirm the view that the temple existed years ago.

The temple which covers an area of about 45 cents has a beautiful vimanam over the sanctum with attractive plaster figures on it. It is linked with several sacred centres by bus and train, the nearest railway station being Sattur at a distance of about one kilometre. The temple has an arthamandapam, a mahamandapam and a manimandapam. To the west of the temple is a beautiful tank with a small mandapam at its centre. The sacred Arasu tree (Ficus Religiosa) is the sthala-viruksham here. The festival idol of the Lord and His consorts Sri Devi and Bhu Devi placed before the Moolavar are made of panchalogam. There is a separate shrine for Sri Andal in the north-western part of the temple. Sri Krishnar, Srinivasa Perumal,

Narasimhamurthy, Nammalwar, Senaimudaliyar, Chakkarathalwar, Manavala Mamunigal and Thirumangai Mannan are the other deities. The images of all the reputed Alwars are kept in a row in the north-eastern part of this shrine. Garudalwar is locally known as Moolai Garudan here, who is supposed to be very powerful and a great Varaprasadhi. It is usual here for devotees to offer cocoanuts to him and get his blessings.

Poojas are performed four times daily by non-hereditary Brahmin priests of the Vaishnavite sect strictly according to the principles of the Vaikanasa Agamam. The temple owns antique jewellery in gold and silver worth about Rs. 15,388/- all donated by devotees. The immovable properties of the temple comprise about 30 acres of dry lands, 46 houses, 23 shops and 38 vacant plots which fetch an annual income of Rs. 15,873/- by way of rent. This amount is spent towards salary to the temple servants, for the conduct of the daily poojas and periodical festivals of the temple and for its general maintenance. The annual hundi collections of the temple amount to Rs. 300/-, while its income under archana and abishega charges is Rs. 2,000/- per annum. The temple owns a big Ther, a Palanquin and as many as five vahanas viz., Elephant, Lion, Horse, Garuda and Swan all made of wood, apart from a silver Garuda and a Hanumar.

Of the several festivals celebrated here, the Car festival during the Ani Brahmothsavam and Chithra Pournami are the most important ones, when about 10,000 devotees from far and near congregate here.

The affairs of the temple are managed by an Executive officer and a Board of trustees consisting of three members, all appointed by the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department.

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
SATTUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
1	6	Sengundra-puram (P)	Sengundra-puram	Sri Ellaiamman Temple (F)	200	0.50	Sri Ellaiamman	...	Virudhunagar Junction 7 miles
2	..	do	do	Sri Mariamman Temple (F)	100	0.12	Sri Mariamman	...	Virudhunagar Junction 6 miles
3	19	Virudhunagar (M)	Virudhunagar	Sri Chetti Neravi Vinayakar Temple (G)	100	0.07	Sri Vinayakar	...	Virudhunagar Junction
4	..	do	do	Sri Chockanatha-swamy Temple (S)	700	1.09	Sri Chockana-thaswamy	Sri Meenakshi Ambal	Virudhunagar Junction ½ mile
5	..	do	do	Sri Kaliamman Temple (F)	100	Below 0.01	Sri Kaliamman	...	Virudhunagar Junction 2 furlongs
6	..	do	do	Sri Parasakthi Mariamman etc. Temple (F)	100	0.03	Sri Mariamman	Subramaniam Sivan Sri Velukan-dhamman	do
7	..	do	do	Sri Sidhi Vinayakar Temple (G)	100	Below 0.01	Sri Vinayakar	...	Virudhunagar Junction

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department									
1,030	1.16	1.50	...	Shops-2	...	100	Horse Lion Peacock	Once a day by a hereditary Naidu	Festival in Masi Karthigai Deepam
820	0.50	6.00	...	...	...	...	Rishabam Lion Bandicoot Bhootham	Once a day by a Pandaram	Festival in Panguni
3,090	Extent not stated			Shops Houses	...	70	...	Once a day by a Gurukkal	Tamil New Year's Day Vinayaka Chathurthi Navarathri Karthigai Deepam Thiruvadhirai Sivarathri
4,691	6.31	...	...	...	...	2,063	Palanquins-2 Vahanams-22	Four times a day by a hereditary Bhattar	Navarathri Skandha Sashti Karthigai Deepam Thiruvadhirai
2,368	...	0.50	...	House Shop	...	200	...	Once a day by a Brahmin	Festival in Panguni
53,067	...	...	...	Buildings Houses Shops	...	50,000	Elephant Horses-2 Rishabams-2 Peacock Car	Twice a day by a Bhattar	Festival in Panguni Thirukkalyanam in Thai Festival in Masi
200	...	...	...	Houses-2	...	...	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Brahmin	Vinayaka Chathurthi

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
SATTUR**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religions									
8	19	Virudhunagar (M)	Virudhunagar	Sri Velayudha Thevar Pillayar Temple (G)	120	Below 0.01	Sri Pillayar	...	Virudhunagar Junction ½ mile
9	..	do	do	Sri Veru Pillayar Temple (G)	100	0.06	Sri Veru Pillayar	...	Virudhunagar Junction
10	..	do	do	Sri Kalamman Temple (F)	200	Below 0.01	Sri Kalamman	...	Virudhunagar Junction 2 furlongs
11	..	do	do	Sri Varasidhi Vinayakar Temple (G)	100	0.29	Sri Varasidhi Vinayakar	...	Virudhunagar Junction
12	..	do	do	Sri Uchimahali amman Temple (F)	61	Below 0.01	Sri Uchimahali amman	...	do
13	31	Krishnapuram (P)	Krishnapuram	Sri Koodamudaya Ayyanar Temple (O)	100	Below 0.01	Sri Ayyanar	...	Srivilliputhur Railway station 14 miles
14	33	Thatchakudi (P)	Thatchakudi	Sri Koneriraja Perumal Temple (V)	300	Below 0.01	Sri Raja Perumal	...	Sivakasi Railway station 9 miles
15	36	Kalayarkurichi (P)	Kalayarkurichi	Sri Koodamudaya Ayyanar Temple (O)	500	1.00	Sri Koodamudaya Ayyanar	...	Sivakasi Railway station 8 miles

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property Value of Jewellery Rs.			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple	Vahanam		
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
7,548	Extent not stated			Shops Houses	...	...	Chapparam	Thrice a day by a Bhattar	...
200	...	...	...	Shops-4	...	...	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...
4,500	...	...	...	Buildings Shops	...	...	...	Poojas by a hereditary Bhattar	Festival in Panguni
1,020	...	...	...	Shops-5	...	...	...	Once a day by a Pillai	...
300	...	...	...	Houses	...	...	...	Twice a day by an old Woman	...
328	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Poojas by hereditary Velars	...
466	2.23	26.35	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Brahmin	...
780	1.74	21.70	...	Garden 9.90	...	...	Horse Rishabam	Twice a day by a hereditary Chettiar	Sivarathri

and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
SATTUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religions									
16	44	Ondipulinai-ckanur (P)	Ondipulinai-ckanur	Sri Venkatachala-pathy Temple (V)	Not known	0.28	Sri Venkata-chalapathy	Sri Alamelu-mangai Thayar	Sankaralinga-puram Railway station 3 furlongs
17	68	Thiruthangal (P)	Thiruthangal	Sri Karunelli-nathaswamy Temple (S)	7,000	2.00	Sri Karunelli-nathar	...	Tiruttangal Railway station $\frac{1}{2}$ mile
18	„	do	do	Sri Nindra Narayana Perumal Temple (V)	7,000	5.00	Sri Nindra Narayana Perumal	...	Tiruttangal Railway station 1 mile
19	93	Sivakasi (M)	Sivakasi	Sri Badrakali-amman Temple (F)	300	0.24	Sri Badrakali-amman	...	Sivakasi Railway station 1 mile
20	„	do	do	Sri Karuppu-swamy Temple (O)	500	0.01	Sri Karuppu-swamy	Sri Karuppa-yimman	Sivakasi Railway station 7 furlongs
21	„	do	do	Sri Subramania-swamy Temple (M)	300	0.01	Sri Sivasubra-maniaswamy	...	Sivakasi Railway station 1 mile

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property Value of Jewellery Rs.			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple	Vahanam		
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
561	7.79	92.40	...	...	...	25	Horse	Twice a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Navarathri
2,505	5.00	5.00	...	...	...	...	Kamadhenu Bhootham Rishabam Peacock	Four times a day by a Gurukkal	...
4,998	8.00	20.00	...	...	29,086	...	Hanumar Sesha Garuda Lion, Horse Elephant Swan, Car Palanquin	Four times a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Car festival in Ani Vaikunta Ekadasi
3,527	6.00	...	...	Shops-10	...	1,000	Cars-2 Palanquins-2 Lion, Horse Bhootham Rishabam Swan Kailasa Parvatham Kamadhenu Bandicoot	Twice a day by Pandarams	Annual festival in Chithrai
460	...	...	...	Shops-2	...	563	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Poosari	Festival in Thai
1,137	...	...	...	Houses-9	...	25	Peacock	Thrice a day by a Gurukkal	Skandha Sashti Thai Poosam

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
SATTUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
22	93	Sivakasi (M)	Sivakasi	Sri Venkatachala-pathy Temple (V)	Not known	0.13	Sri Venkata-chalapathy	Sri Devi Bhu Devi	Sivakasi Railway station 7 furlongs
23	„	do	do	Sri Viswanatha-swamy Temple (S)	700	1.50	Sri Viswanatha-swamy	Sri Visalakshi-amman	Sivakasi Railway station 1 mile
24	101	Kakkivadan-patti (P)	Kakkivadam-patti	Sri Jakka Devi-amman Temple (F)	Not known	0.01	Sri Jakkadevi	...	Sivakasi Railway station 6 miles
25	128	Veppilaipatti (P)	Veppilaipatti	Sri Gangai-amman Temple (F)	600	0.25	Sri Gangai-amman	Sri Pabamoo-kamman Sri Ragupathi Kasipathi	Veppilaipatti Chattiram Railway station ½ mile
26	134	Vethilaiocrani (P)	Keelathayil-patti	Sri Mohana Perumal Temple (V)	300	0.50	Sri Perumal	...	Sivakasi Railway station 6 miles
27	144	Koilchenthathiapuram (P)	Senthatthiapuram	Sri Senthathi Ayyanar Temple (O)	Not known	0.01	Sri Senthathi Ayyanar	...	Solapuram Railway station 10 miles
28	156	Sattur (P)	Sattur	Sri Chidambareswarar Temple (S)	400	0.26	Sri Chidambareswaraswamy	...	Sattur Railway station 3 furlongs

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property Value of Jewellery Rs.			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Apprai-sed by H. R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	Report-ed by temple	Vahanam		
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
3,252	...	...	...	Shops-18	...	1,023	Garuda Sesha Hanumar	Twice a day by a Bhatta- chariar	Vaikunta Ekadasi
9,595	...	37.81	...	Shops-26 Houses-6	18,327	...	Swan Rishabam Elephant Kamadhenu Bhootham Indra Vahanam Kailasa Parvadham	Six times a day by a Bhatta- chariar	Brahmothsavam in Ani
315	...	93.00	...	...	...	...	...	Once a week by a hereditary Poosari	Sivarathri
286	1.38	...	...	...	...	3,000	Horse Rishabam Kamadhenu Bandicoot Swan	Once a day by a hereditary Yadhavar	Vaikunta Ekadasi Sivarathri Tamil New Year's Day Karthigai Deepam Thiruvadhirai Chithra Pournami
660	...	370.18	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...
216	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a hereditary Ve'ar	...
4,989	1.85	...	...	Vacant plots-5	...	2,000	Rishabams-2 Elephant Horse, Lion Palanquin	Five times a day by a Brahmin	Brahmothsavam in Vaikasi

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
SATTUR**

Sl No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
29	156	Sattur (P)	Sattur	Sri Mariamman Temple (F)	100	0.10	Sri Mariamman	...	Sattur Railway station 3 furlongs
30	„	do	do	Sri Somasundara Vinayakar Temple (G)	150	0.03	Sri Somasundara Vinayakar	...	Sattur Railway station ¼ mile
31	„	do	do	Sri Subramania- swamy Temple (M)	60	0.07	Sri Subramania- swamy	...	do
32	„	do	do	Sri Venkatachala- pathy Temple (V)	400	0.45	Sri Venkatachala- pathy	...	Sattur Railway station 3 furlongs
33	168	Irukkangudi (P)	Irukkangudi	Sri Mariamman Temple (F)	300	0.50	Sri Mariamman	...	Sattur Railway station 5 miles
34	„	do	do	Sri Ayyanar alias Ramar Temple (O)	200	Below 0.01	Sri Ayyanar	...	do
35	169	Gollapatti (P)	Gollapatti	Sri Chockanatha- swamy Temple (S)	300	0.57	Sri Chockanathar	...	Veppilaipatti Chattiram Railway station 5 miles

**RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)**

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd)									
4,088	...	...	...	Shops-14 Vacant plots 0.07	...	6,885	Lion, Horse Rishabam Chapparam	Twice a day by a hereditary Poosari	Festival in Panguni Navarathri
1,482	1.87	...	...	Vacant plots 0.32 Houses-4	...	1,000	Bandicoot	Twice a day by a Brahmin	Vinayaka Chathurthi
1,269	1.56	...	...	Houses-9	...	...	Peacock	Twice a day by a Gurukkal	Skandha Sashti
15,873	...	30.00	...	Shops-23 Houses-46 Vacant plots-38	15,388	...	Silver Hanumar Garuda Elephant Lion, Horse Garuda Swan, Palanquin Car	Four times a day by a Bhatta-chariar	Brahmothsavam in Ani Chithra Pournami
61,218	5.00	...	...	...	...	800	Rishabam Chapparam	Twice a day by a hereditary Poosari	Brahmothsavam in Adi
378	2.54	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Velar	...
200	16.80	35.00	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a Brahmin	...

362

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
SATTUR**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
36	183	Vembakottai (P)	Vembakottai	Sri Chockalingaswamy Temple (S)	500	0.50	Sri Chockalingaswamy	Sri Meenakshi ambal Sri Subramaniaswamy	Sivakasi Railway station 9 miles
37	184	Sevalpatti (P)	Sevalpatti	Sri Kasiviswanathaswamy Temple (S)	200	0.16	Sri Kasiviswanathar	...	Sattur Railway station 13 miles
38	193	Elayiramponnai (P)	Elayirampannai	Sri Mariamman Temple (F)	100	0.38	Sri Mariamman	...	Sattur Railway station 9 miles
39	203	Nenmeni (P)	Nenmeni	Sri Senthil Vinayakar Temple (G)	Not known	0.04	Sri Pillayar	...	Sattur Railway station 6 miles
40	..	do	do	Sri Venkatachalapathy Temple (V)	200	0.69	Sri Venkatachalapathy	...	do

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Concl.)									
1,210	4.00	...	...	...	...	750	Rishabam Horse	Twice a day by a Gurukkal	Tamil New Year's Day Navarathri Karthigai Deepam Thiruvadhirai
3,585	...	...	...	Houses-2 Match factory	...	2,000	Palanquin Rishabams-2 Horse Elephant Bhootham Sesha, Swan Peacock Kailasa-parvatham	Twice a day by a Brahmin	...
715	...	...	...	Shops-12 Houses-6	...	1,000	Rishabam Swan, Lion Bandicoot Kamadhenu Car	Twice a day by a hereditary Pulavar	Festival in Panguni
230	5.50	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Pillai	...
200	Extent not stated			...	...	800	Garuda Horse, Lion Elephant Swan, Sesha	Twice a day by a Bhatta-chariar	Karthigai Deepam Vaikunta Ekadasi Navarathri Sri Jayanthi

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
SATTUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples outside the Hindu Religious									
1	81	Sennalgudi (P)	Sennalgudi	Sri Venkata-chalapathy Temple (V)	80	0.04	Sri Venkata-chalapathy	Sri Karuppu-swamy	Virudhunagar Junction 6 miles
2	93	Sivakasi (M)	Sivakasi	Sri Mariamman Temple (F)	300	0.22	Sri Mariamman	...	Sivakasi Railway station 1 mile
3	..	do	do	Sri Kamakshi-amman Temple (F)	300	0.15	Sri Kamakshi-amman	...	do
4	156	Sattur (P)	Sattur	Sri Kalamman Temple (F)	Not known	0.05	Sri Kalamman	...	Sattur Railway station 3 furlongs

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK (Concl'd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department									
200	...	...	...	...	...	Value not stated	Horse Garuda	Poojas by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Chithra Pournami
Not stated	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	Twice a day by a Pandaram	Festival in Panguni
400	...	...	...	Houses-10	...	2,000	Kamadhenu Bandicoot Chapparams-3	Twice a day by a Brahmin	Thiruvadhirai Navarathri
636	...	...	...	Shops-2	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Poosari	...

SRIVILLIPUTTUR TALUK

41 SRIVILLIPUTTUR

Sri Andal and Vadapathrasayee Temple

Sri Andal is a great Vaishnavite saintess and her pasurams are as popular in Tamil Nad as Meerabai's devotional songs are in the North. She is worshipped in a temple in Srivilliputtur, a well known pilgrim centre of Vaishnavites. The place is located on the railway line running from Virudhunagar to Tenkasi. Andal, like Sita, is presumed to be not born out of mother's womb (Ayoni Sambhava). She left her mortal body and merged with Lord Ranganatha when she was only fourteen years old. Every Vaishnavite temple in the south has a sanctum dedicated to Sri Andal. The temple at Srivilliputtur is also dedicated to Lord Vishnu known as Sri Vadapathrasayee. He was the principal deity of Srivilliputtur before Andal was born.

A legend concerning Sri Andal will be of interest. One Vishnu Sidhar was an ardent devotee of Sri Vishnu. He was later known as Perialwar. He maintained a garden. He collected flowers daily, made garlands and offered them to the God. One morning, he found a beautiful female child under a 'Thulasi' plant. He named the child as 'Kodhai'. The date of birth of the child is said to be Kali 97, Nala year, 4th day in the month of Adi, Suklapaksha Purva Phalguni. She was brought up by Vishnu Sidhar as his own daughter. The girl, who grew up to be a beautiful maiden became a great devotee of Vishnu and desired to marry Vishnu himself. She sang Thirupavai and hymns containing divine love. She observed Kathyayinee Vrata like the Gopis of Brindavan and desired to have Sri Ranganatha as her husband. One day Kodhai put the flower garland intended for the Lord on her neck and admired her beauty in the reflec-

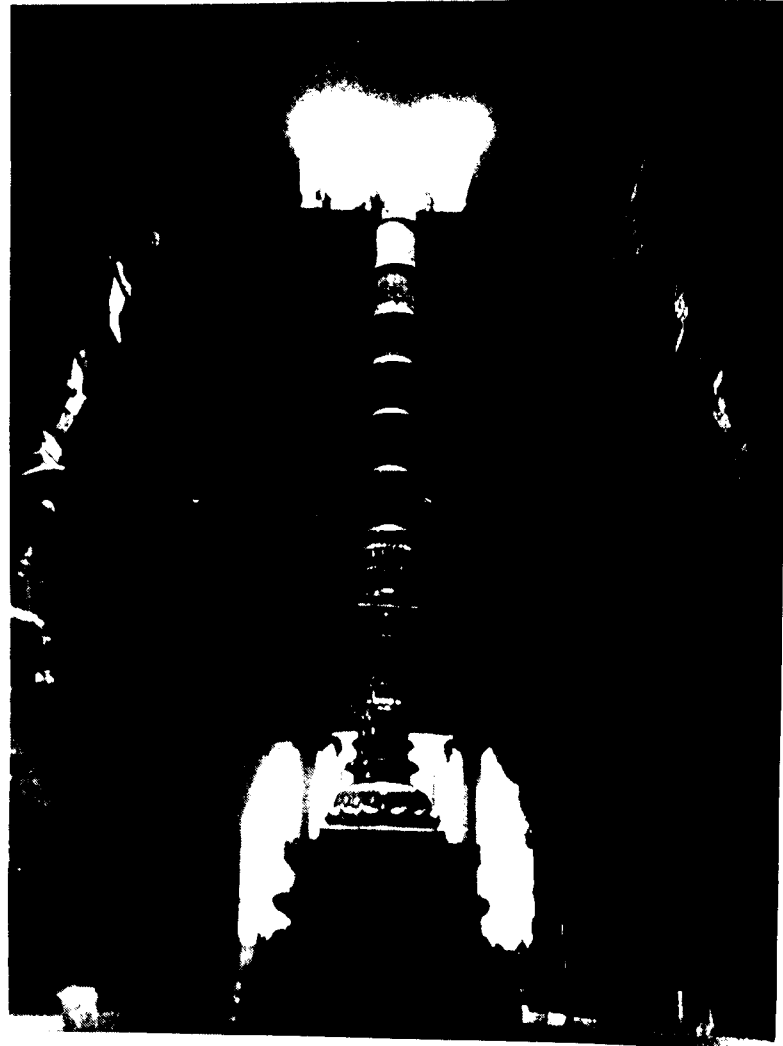
tion in the nearby well. This garland was later placed by the adopted father on the deity. This was continued but one day her father saw her and rebuked her for having used the garland intended for the God. He did not take the garland to the temple that day. In a dream that night, the Lord told him that any garland worn by Kodhai became beautiful and acquired a special aroma which was agreeable to Him. From the next day onwards, Vishnu Sidhar took the garland to the God after it was used by Kodhai, also called Andal or the ruler of the universe. As further desired by God, Perialwar took Andal in a Palanquin to Srirangam. As soon as she entered the sanctum and touched the feet of the God, she disappeared and became one with Him. Perialwar prayed to God, that He should go to Srivilliputtur and marry Andal in the presence of the local people. The Lord agreed to it and on the Panguni Uthiram day it is presumed that the God came to Srivilliputtur and the wedding was duly performed. Thereafter He stayed at Srivilliputtur. In the main sanctum of the Andal temple can be seen Sri Ranga Mannar, Sri Andal as a blushing bride and Garudalwar.

The temple belongs to the 8th Century A.D., as testified by the inscriptions in it. Thirumala Naik of Madurai and his sister have made extensive additions to the temple. The characteristic feature of the temple is the 192' high tower which has 12 storeys. There are also images for Sri Andal, Ranga Mannar and Garudalwar which are used in processions.

Lord Vadapathrasayee is in a reclining posture on Adi Sesha. At His lotus feet could be seen Sri Devi and Bhu Devi; great sages and the Sun and Moon are seen worshipping the Gods. The life-like image of Sri Vadapathrasayee can inspire anyone. A



The Rajagopuram of Sri Andal temple, Srivilliputhur, the tallest in South India



The dwajasthambam at Sri Vadapathrasayi Sannadhi



A beautiful sculpture on a pillar



Image of Saraswathi



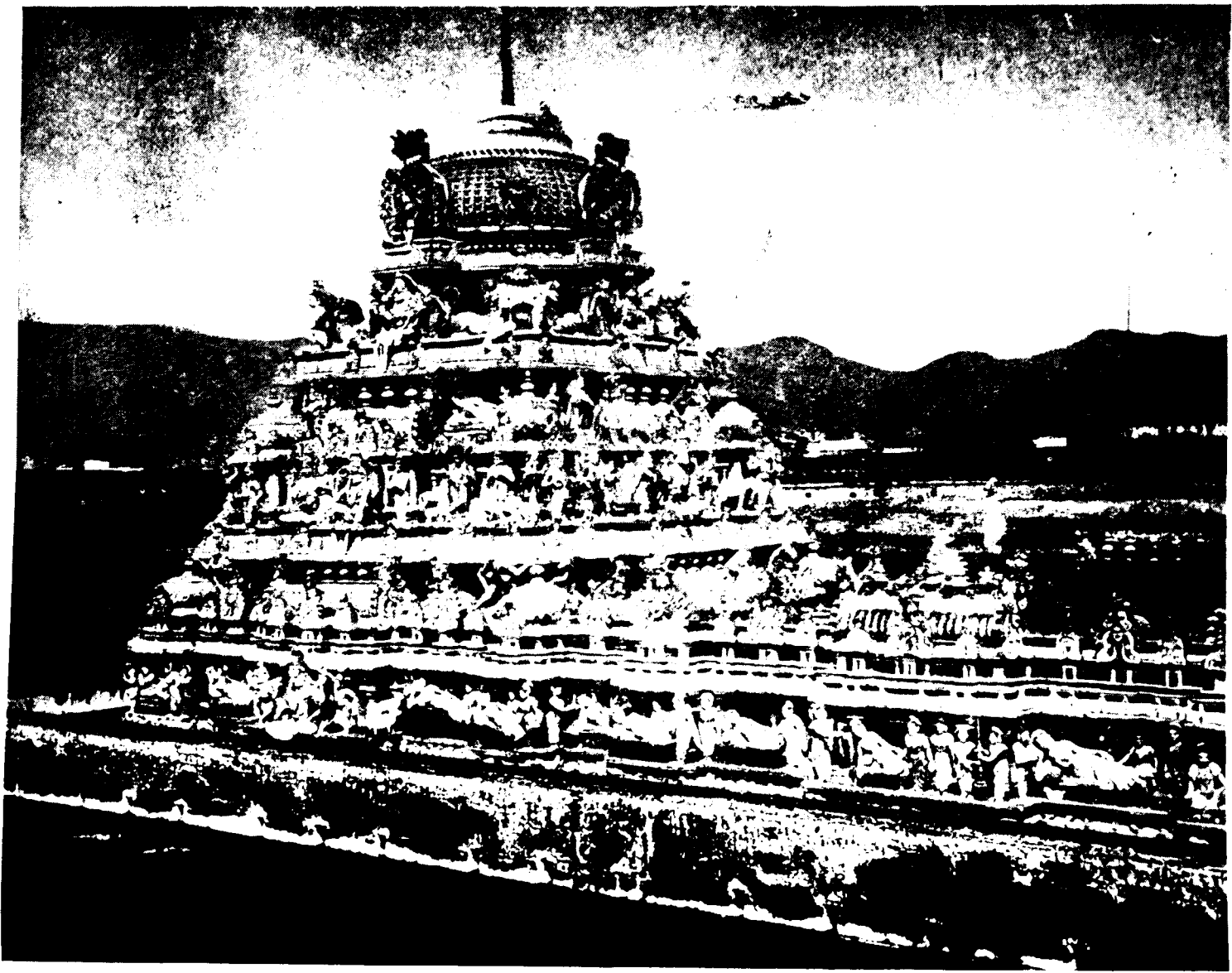
Image of Karnan with Nagasthra



Artistic image on another pillar



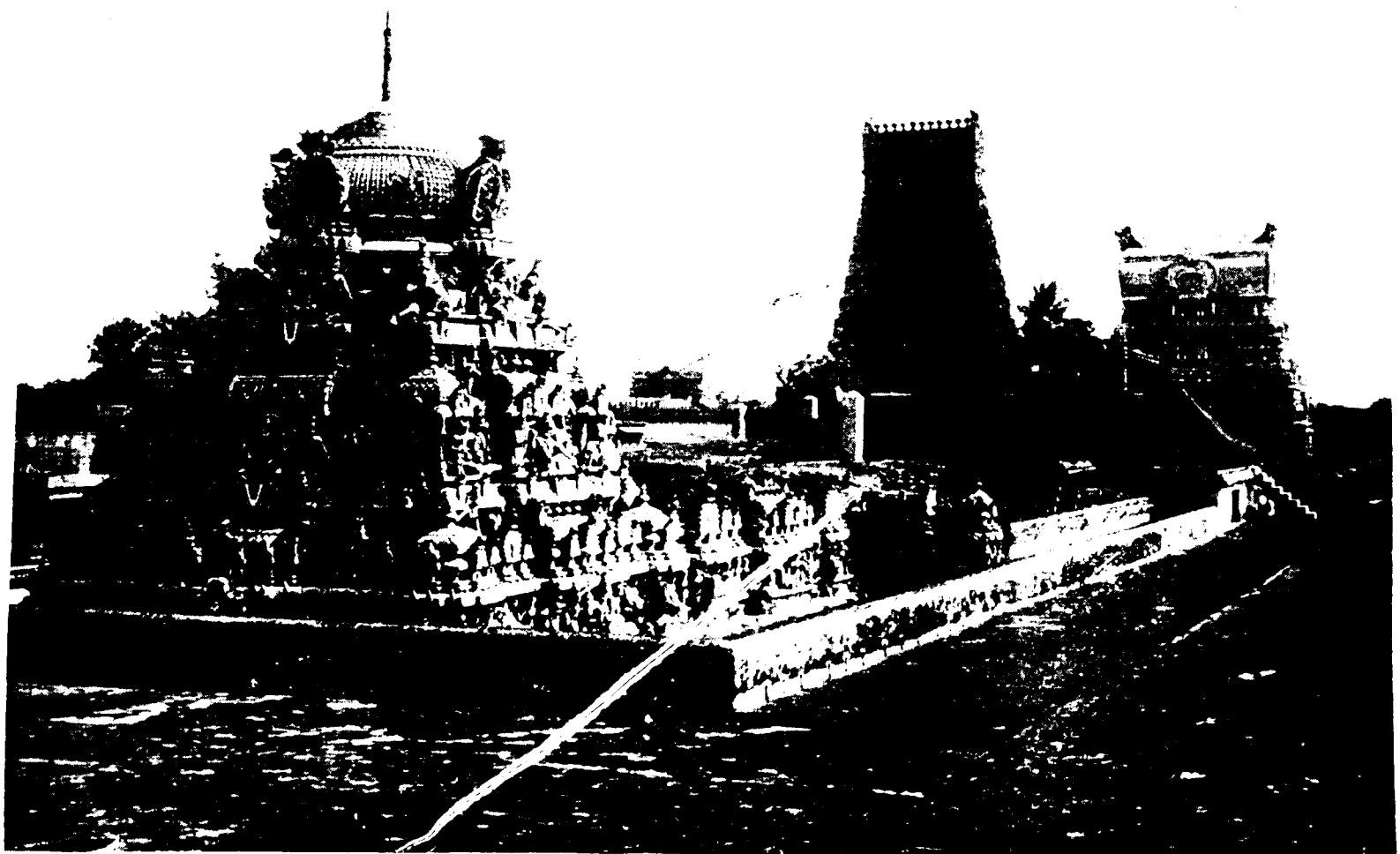
Another artistic sculpture in the temple



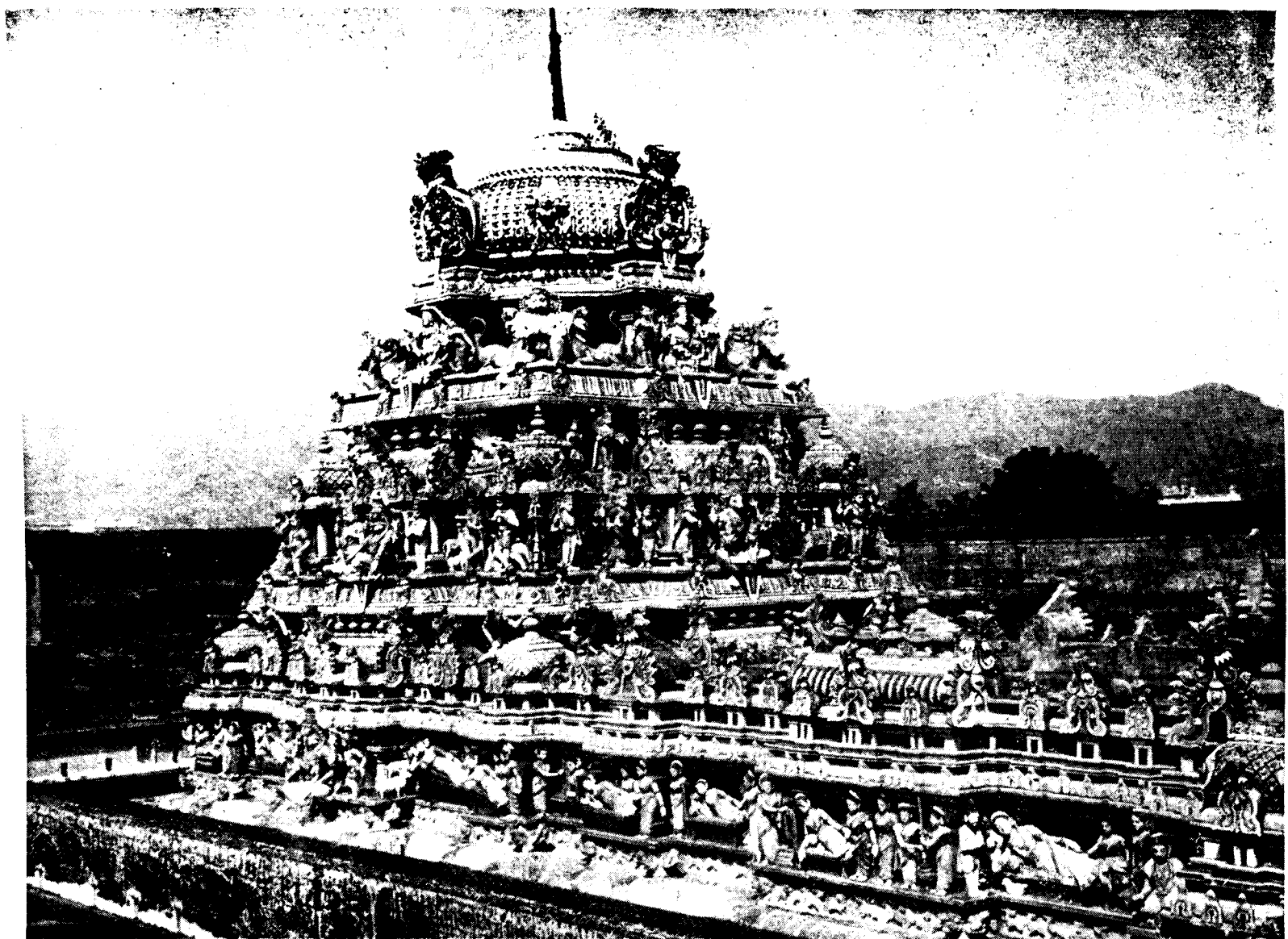
A closer view of the beautiful vimanam with colourful figures



The Uthsavavigrahas (festival idols) at Sri Andal temple



A view of the Vimanam with the gopuram



Another view of the Vimanam



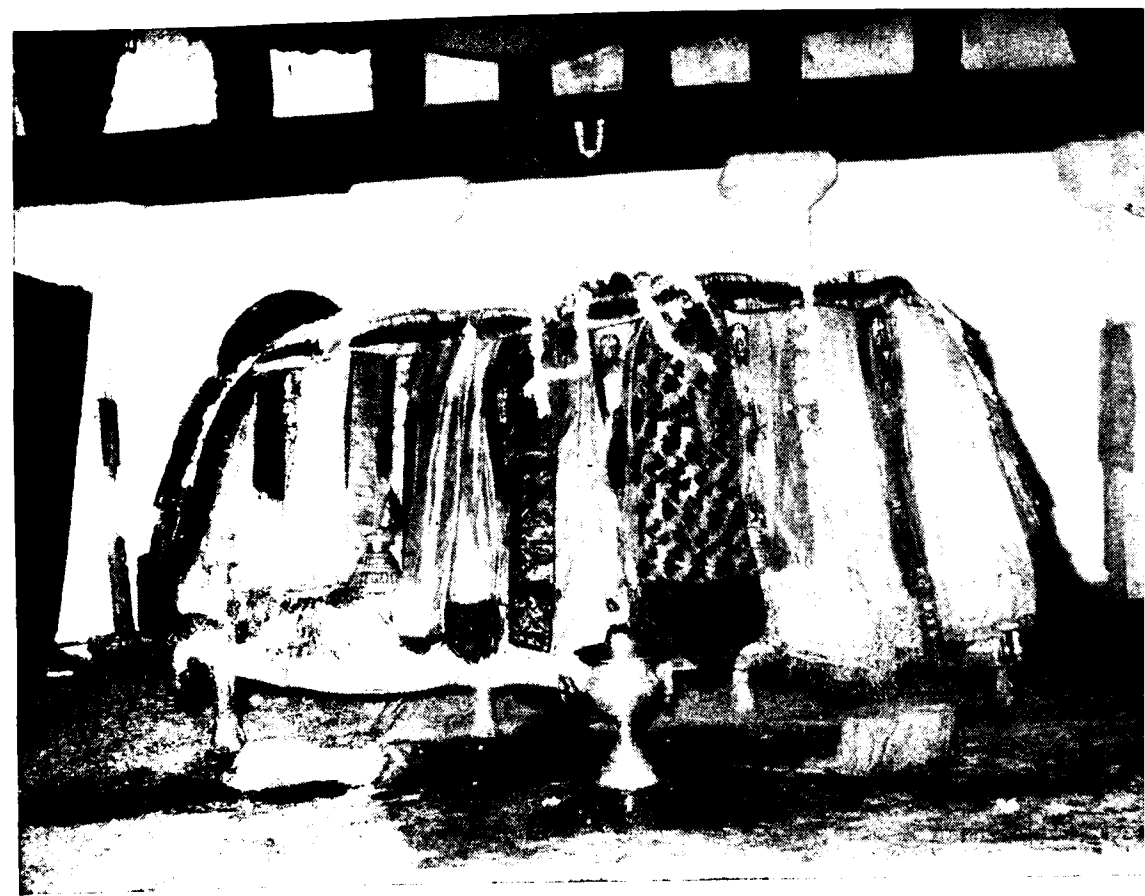
The Nandavanam where Andal is said to have been born



The Nandavanam with a small shrine



The Uthsava Vigrahas of Sri Rajamannar, Andal and Nammalwar



The Uthsava Vigrahas decorated with 108 sarees

devotee has to ascend a flight of steps to reach the sanctum sanctorum. Scenes from the mythology have been beautifully depicted by wooden carvings in the corridor of the temple. The shrine of Sri Andal is close by. The pillars near the dwajasthamba have exquisite carvings of Venugopala, Bikshadanar, etc.

The massive wooden Car which is several centuries old has 9 huge wheels. During the Adi festival it is decorated and hauled along the streets. There is also another painted Car called Goratham. The fifth day of Adi festival and the 6th day of Margazhi attract thousands of pilgrims and devotees.

Poojas are performed 6 times daily by hereditary Bhattars, who are in the enjoyment of service inam lands. They are paid a portion of the archana charges and they can also receive the offerings from the devotees. The temple has jewels worth about Rs. 8 lakhs.

The temple owns about 320 acres of wet and 820 acres of dry lands which are under lease cultivation. The annual income is Rs. 1,27,000/- which is spent for the salaries of the temple servants, for the payment of taxes, for the poojas and festivals of the temple and for its maintenance. The temple is running a Veda Padasala and a Library.

In the Tamil month of Margazhi, Andal's Thiruppavai is recited in the early hours in orthodox homes and temples throughout Tamil Nad.

MADAVAR VILAGAM H/O SRIVILLIPUTTUR Sri Vaidhyanathaswamy Temple

Madavarvilagam also known as Puthuvai in Srivilliputtur is noted for its famous Siva temple dedicated to Sri Vaidhyanathar, who is a Swayambu Lingam. The temple is situated at a distance of less than two kilometres from the reputed Vaishnavite shrine of Sri Vadapathrasayee. The place where the temple stands is of great antiquity stretching upto the

western ghats in the north and the south-west. Legend has it that, pleased with the devotion of two beautiful maidens (Madavaar) of this place (Vilagam), Lord Siva ordained the Pandya king to patronise them. The place is therefore called Madavarvilagam in commemoration of this incident.

The temple which covers an area of about 12 acres has a 134 feet high rajagopuram. It is said that it was built by the ancient Pandya kings and the famous Varaguna Pandya has made several renovations to the temple. Several stone inscriptions are found on the walls of the temple. There are three prakarams and two sanctum sanctorum here, apart from an arthamandapam, a mahamandapam and a manimandapam. The Moolavar Sri Vaidhyanathar is a four feet high Swayambu Lingam, which is said to have been originally discovered under a vanni tree. He is therefore known as Vanninathar and as Puthuvai Nayagar. Situated in a separate sanctum stands His consort Sri Sivakami amman. Sri Vinayakar, Subramaniam, Chandikeswarar and Navagrahas are the other deities. The six feet-high monolithic image of Lord Natarajar is a masterpiece of architecture. There are also several festival idols, made of panchalogam. There is a sacred well known as Hema theertham here, the water from which is exclusively used for the abishegam of the Lord. The sacred vanni tree is the Sthalaviruksham of the temple.

There are several stories in vogue relating to Sri Vaidhyanathar. It is said that a poverty-stricken priest by name Naga Nambi, a staunch devotee of the Lord was performing poojas regularly. Overwhelmed by his deep devotion, the Lord placed a gold coin daily on one of the steps (padi) leading to His sanctum. Hence the Lord earned the name "Padikasu Vaitharuliya Nayanar".

There is yet another story which testifies to the exceptional power of the Lord. It is said that once

a pepper merchant from Cochin was travelling through this place on his way to Madurai with a cart load of pepper. It was customary in those days to collect a small sum as duty for each bag of pepper transported, which will be added to the temple revenues. The merchant cunningly evaded paying the tax under the pretext that his bags contained only bengal gram and so the cart was let off. On reaching Madurai, he was shocked to find his bags having only bengal gram. He realised the power of the Lord and repented much for his sinful act. He rushed at once to Madavilagam, stayed there for 10 days and sought the Lord's pardon. On the 10th day night, the Lord appeared in his dream and directed him to smear the bags with the sacred ash. The merchant regained his pepper and he donated the entire sale proceeds of this pepper to the shrine.

It is also said that the famous king Thirumala Naik of Madurai, who was suffering from severe stomach ache for long was miraculously cured of his ailment by the grace of the Lord, when he offered worship at this place. Pleased at this, he at once built a spacious front mandapam as a token of his gratitude. The imposing images of the king and his consorts and also those of Muthu Vijayaranga Chockappa Naik and his consorts, which are works of architecture can be seen in the temple.

Poojas are performed six times daily by hereditary Brahmin priests, who are in the enjoyment of service inam lands. The temple owns antique jewellery in gold and silver, worth about Rs. 44,578 mostly donated by devotees, of which the golden kasumalai, chandraharam and jadainagam of the Amman deserve special mention. The landed properties of the temple comprise about 298.54 acres of wet lands and 268.57 acres of dry lands, apart from a garden of 4.45 acres which fetch an annual income of Rs. 25,888 by way of rent; this sum is utilised for its maintenance. The annual hundi collections of the temple

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE

amount to Rs. 600, while its income under archana and abishega charges is Rs. 5,000 per annum. There are four temple Cars and several vahanas here, all made of wood, apart from three Rishabams, which are silver-plated.

Of the several festivals celebrated here, Brahmothsavam in Vaikasi which spreads over a period of 10 days is the most important one, when about 5,000 devotees from far and near congregate.

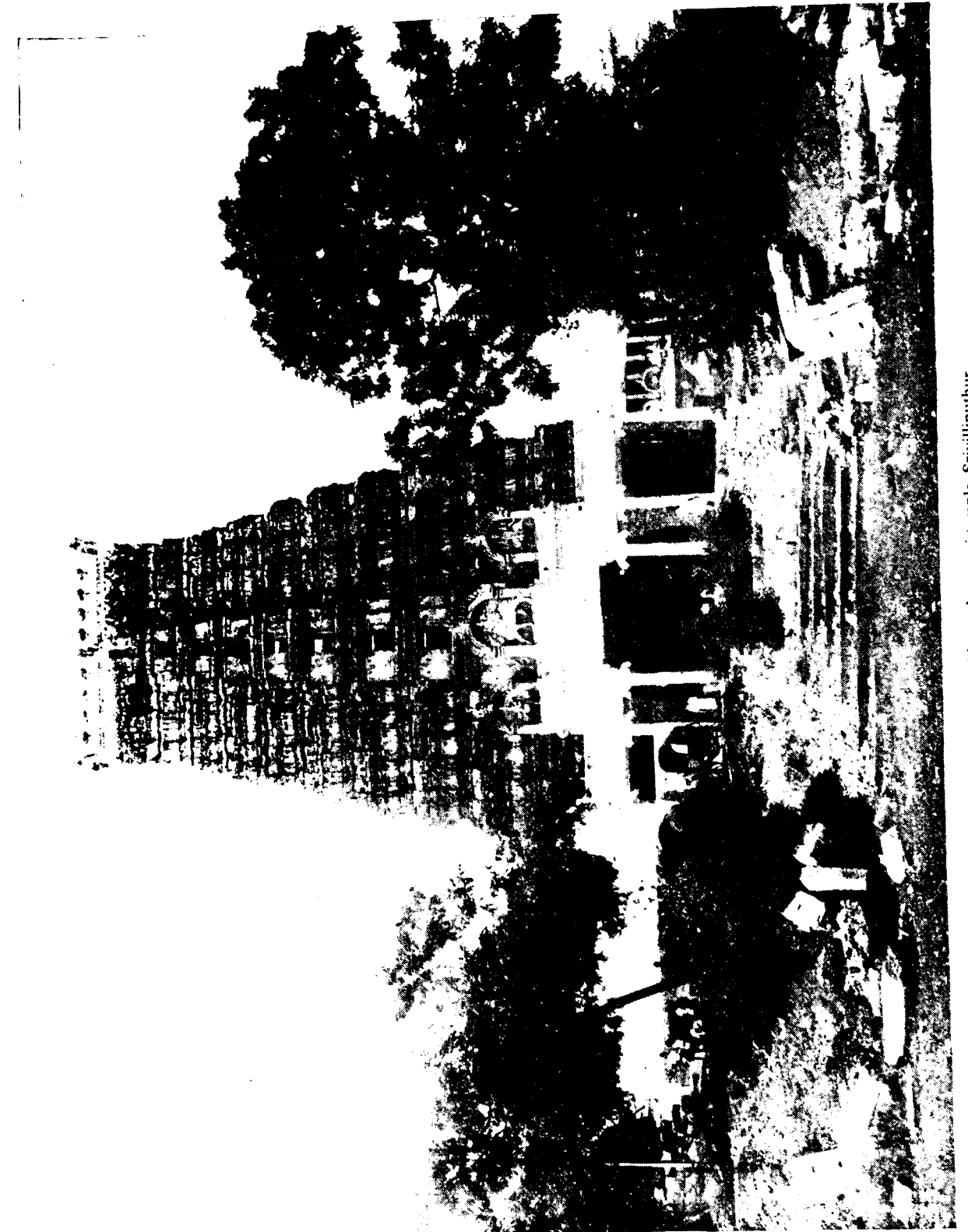
The affairs of the temple are managed by an Executive Officer and a Board of trustees consisting of five members, all appointed by the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department.

57 RAJAPALAYAM

Sri Mayuranathaswamy Temple

On the northern part of Rajapalayam besides Kayakudi river is situated the famous Siva temple dedicated to Sri Mayuranathaswamy. The divine consort is Sri Anjal Nayagi Amman. The temple is said to have been built some 200 years ago by Sri Vijayaranga Chockalinga Naik, one of the Naik Kings who ruled over Madurai. It is linked with several sacred centres by bus and train, the nearest railway station being Rajapalayam, at a distance of about 3 kilometres. Madurai, the district headquarters and Srivilliputtur the taluk headquarters are 86 and 11 kilometres away respectively.

The temple which covers an area of about 45 cents has two prakarams, three sanctum sanctorum and two beautiful vimanams with attractive plaster figures on them. There are arthamandapam, mahamandapam and manimandapam. There are eight artistically carved stone pillars here in the vahanamandapam bearing beautiful images of lions and yalis and are very inspiring. The beautiful Azhaguthevan tank



The front view of Sri Vaidyanathaswami temple, Srivilliputhur

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

found to the west of the temple, is the sacred theertham of this place.

The Moolavar Sri Mayuranathar is an installed Lingam here, facing east. Situated in a separate sanctum stands his divine consort Sri Anjal Nayagi amman, who also faces east. There is a separate sanctum here for Lord Natarajar. Sri Vinayakar, Subramaniam, Chandikeswarar and Navagrahas are the other deities here. There are several uthsava vigrahams for the Swamy, Ambal, Natarajar, Sivakamiamman, Karaikalammaiyar, Subramaniam, Valli, Deivayanai, Thirugnanasambandar and Manickavasagar, all made of Panchalogam.

Poojas are performed five times daily by non-hereditary Brahmin priests, who are paid a decent monthly salary from the temple revenues. The ornaments in the temple in gold and silver are worth about Rs. 8,576, of which the costly gold necklace and silver kavacham of the Amman deserve special men-

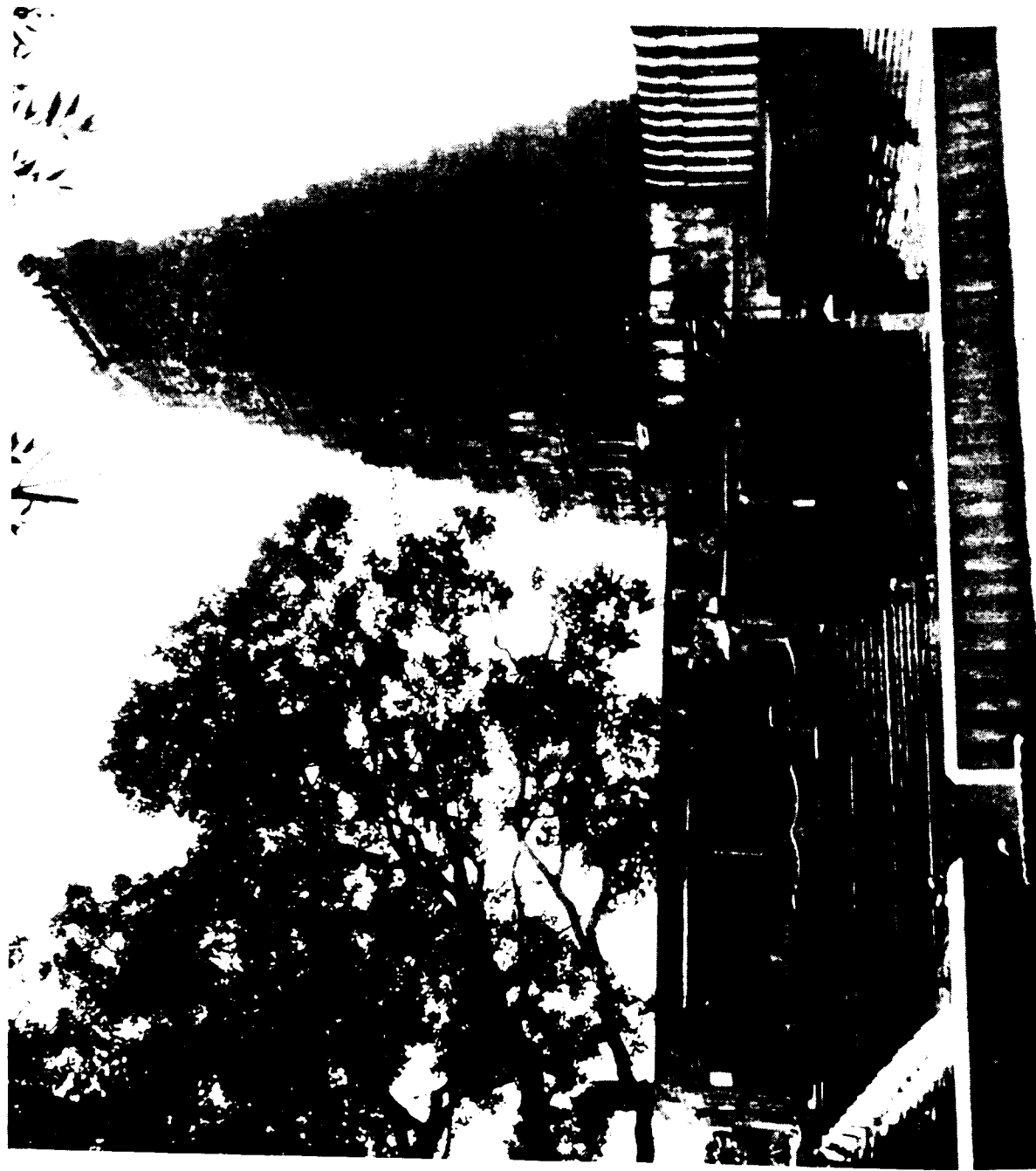
tion. The immovable properties of the temple comprise several buildings, a few acres of wet and dry lands, some vacant plots and a garden, which fetch an annual income of Rs. 40,564 by way of rent; this sum is utilised for its upkeep and general maintenance. The annual hundi collections of the temple amount to Rs. 100, while its income under archana and abishega charges is Rs. 300 per annum. The temple owns two big Thers and several vahanas, all made of wood.

Brahmothsavam in Ani for a period of 10 days, Navarathri, Karthigai Deepam, Skandha Sashti, Thiruvadhira and Tamil New Year's day are the regular annual festivals celebrated here. For Ratha festival during the Ani Brahmothsavam, about 5,000 devotees from far and near congregate here.

The temple is managed by an Executive Officer and a Board of trustees consisting of three members, all appointed by the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department.



The image of Sri Natarajar



The sacred tank and the gopuram of the temple



A view of the gopuram

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
SRIVILLIPUTTUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
(1)	No.	Name	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
9	23	Sundarapan-diam (P)	Sundarapan-diam	Sri Ayyanar <i>alias</i> (Vaikunta Murthi Ayyanar) Temple (O)	600	2-07	Sri Vaikunta Murthi	...	Srivilliputtur Railway station 12 miles
10	24	Pudupatti (P)	Pudupatti	Sri Balasubra-maniaswamy Temple (M)	100	0-07	Sri Balasubra-manianar	...	Srivilliputtur Railway station 13 miles
11	26	Movaraivendran (P)	Movaraivendran	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple (S)	500	0-02	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar	...	Srivilliputtur Railway station 12 miles
12	..	do	do	Sri Malai Kozhundheeswarar Temple (S)	500	0-22	Sri Malai Kozhundheeswarar	...	
13	..	do	do	Sri Sundararaja Perumal Temple (V)	500	0-01	Sri Sundararaja Perumal	...	
14	30	Kunnur (P)	Kunnur	Sri Sundararaja Perumal Temple (V)	200	0-30	Sri Sundararaja Perumal	...	Srivilliputtur Railway station 10 miles
15	33	Villuppanur (P)	Villuppanur	Sri Alagar Temple (V)	700	1-00	Sri Sundararajar	...	Srivilliputtur Railway station 5 miles
16	..	do	do	Sri Krishnan Temple (V)			Sri Krishnan	...	

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property Value of Jewellery Rs.			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals	
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Appraised by H. R. & C.E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple	Vahanam			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)										
417	Extent not stated				...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Velar	Tamil New Years's Day Thiruvadhirai Festival in Masi
655	1-17	...	...	...	...	300	Horse Peacock Bandicoot Chapparam	Thrice a day by a Gurukkal	Skandha Sashti	
	1-73	7-69	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Gurukkal	...	
343	3-46	4-97	...	...	...	...	...	do	...	
	1-58	8-45	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Bhattachariar	...	
369	1-50	1-00	...	...	...	100	...	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	Festival in Purattasi	
1,236	6-00	5-00	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Bhatta-chariar	...	

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
SRIVILLIPUTTUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religions									
1	3	Kodikulam (P)	Kodikulam	Sri Madeswari Temple (F)	Not known	1.46	Sri Madeswari	Sri Gurunathaswamy Veerabhadraswamy Pechiamman	Srivilliputtur Railway station 17 miles
2	5	Watrap (P)	Watrap	Sri Athangarai Hanumar Temple (O)	500	0.04	Sri Anjaneyar	...	Srivilliputtur Railway station 13 miles
3	..	do	do	Sri Kasiviswanathaswamy Temple (S)	250	0.45	Sri Kasiviswanathar	Sri Kasi Visalakshi	do
4	..	do	do	Sri Muthalamman Temple (F)	76	0.41	Sri Muthalamman	...	Srivilliputtur Railway station 14 miles
5	..	do	do	Sri Sethu Narayana Perumal Temple (V)	Not known	0.09	Sri Sethunarayana Perumal	Sri Azhagiamaavalal Perumal Sri Devi Bhu Devi	Srivilliputtur Railway station 15 miles
6	..	do	do	Sri Thanga Vinayakar Temple (G)	41	0.10	Sri Vinayakar	...	Srivilliputtur Railway station 14 miles
7	11	Kottaiyur (P)	Kottaiyur	Sri Udayagirinathaswamy Temple (S)	200	1.00	Sri Udayagirinathaswamy	Sri Umayavalli	Srivilliputtur Railway station 18 miles
8	15	Vellaipottal (P)	Vellaipottal	Sri Anjaneyaswamy Temple (O)	200	0.02	Sri Anjaneyar	...	Srivilliputtur Railway station

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
					Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department									
235	0.97	4.96	...	...	...	...	..	Twice a week by a hereditary Chettiar	...
577	2.71	13.60	...	...	...	40	...	Once a day by hereditary Brahmins	Hanumar Jayanthi Navarathri Karthigai Deepam
5,225	Extent not stated			...	...	1,000	Chapparam	Twice a day by a Brahmin	Navarathri Skandha Sashti Karthigai Deepam Thiruvadhirai Thai Poosam
1,369	...	...	...	Shops	...	400	Car, Horse	Twice a week by a hereditary Velar	Festival in Purattasi
3,362	7.80	48.13	...	...	...	915	Palanquin	Twice a day by a Bhatta-chariar	Chithra Pournami Uriyadi in Avani Navarathri Karthigai Deepam
225	2.32	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by an Odhuvar	...
787	54.58	313.24	...	...	...	77	...	Once a day by a hereditary Poosari	...
333	3.18	10.90	...	...	...	...	...	No Pooja	...

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
SRIVILLIPUTTUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
24	41	Rajapalayam (M)	Asasiarpatti	Sri Dhrowpathi- amman alias Dharmarajar Temple (F)	200	0.35	Sri Dhrowpathi- amman	...	Srivilliputtur Railway station 1 mile
25	48	Ayannachi- yarkoil (P)	Alathur	Sri Kallamman Temple (F)	300	0.12	Sri Kallamman	...	Srivilliputtur Railway station 2 miles
26	52	Mamsapuram (P)	Mamsapuram	Sri Sivasubrama- niaswamy Temple (M)	400	0.13	Sri Subramaniam	Sri Valli Deivayanai	Srivilliputtur Railway station 6 miles
27	57	Rajapalayam (M)	Rajapalayam	Sri Guruswamy Temple (S)	350	1.00	Sri Guruswamy	...	Rajapalayam Railway station 3 furlongs
28	..	do	do	Sri Mariamman Temple (F)	100	2.00	Sri Mariamman	...	Rajapalayam Railway station 1½ miles
29	..	do	do	Sri Kothanda- ramaswamy Temple (V)	400	0.41	Sri Kothanda- ramaswamy	Sita Sri Lakshma- nar	do
30	..	do	Pethavanallur	Sri Mayuranatha- swamy Temple (S)	200	0.46	Sri Mayura- nathaswamy	Sri Anjal- nayaki	do

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Paili 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
443	...	1'00	...	Garden Oil Mill	...	...	Chapparam	Twice a week by a hereditary Pandaram	Festival in Masi
205	...	6'00	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a week by a Pandaram	Thai Poosam
486	1'95	...	...	...	...	220	Rishabam Peacock Chapparam	Twice a day by a Velar	Karthigai Deepam Vaikasi Visakam
855	...	...	...	Shops-6	...	...	...	Twice a day by a hereditary Chaliar	...
3,921	5'27	0'15	...	Shops-3	...	2,353	Bhootham Lion Chapparam	Twice a day by hereditary Pandarams	Chithra Pournami Tamil New Year's day Thiruvadhirai
2,444	1'75	13'64	...	...	...	1,311	Elephant	Twice a day by a Bhatta-chariar	Chithra Pournami Garuda Sevai in Vaikasi Karthigai Deepam Vaikunta Ekadasi Sri Rama Navami Navarathri
40,564	Extent not stated			Buildings Vacant Plot Garden	8,576	...	Cars-2 Vahanams	Five times a day by a Brahmin	Brahmothsavam in Ani Navarathri Karthigai Deepam Skandha Sashti Thiruvadhirai Tamil New Year's day

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
SRIVILLIPUTTUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
17	41	Srivilliputtur (M)	Madavarvilagam	Sri Vaidhyana- thaswamy Temple (S)	5,000	12.00	Sri Vaidhya- nathaswamy	Sri Sivakami- amman Sri Subrama- niam Sri Natarajar	Srivilliputtur Railway station 1 mile
18	..	do	Nachiarpatti	Sri Balakrishna- swamy Temple (V)	400	0.75	Sri Balakrishna- swamy	...	Srivilliputtur Railway station 2½ miles
19	..	do	do	Sri Subramania- swamy Temple (M)	130	0.09	Sri Subramaniam	Sri Valli Deivayanai	do
20	..	do	Srivilliputtur	Sri Kaikatti- swamy Temple (S)	200	0.24	Sri Kailasasun- araswamy	...	Srivilliputtur Railway station 1 mile
21	..	do	do	Sri Manavala- mamuni Temple (V)	100	0.17	Sri Manavala- mamuni	Sri Pillailoga- chariar Thiruvamarban	do
22	..	do	do	Sri Nachiar Temple (V)	2,000	1.00	Sri Andal	Sri Vadapa- thrasayee Sri Ranga- mannar	Srivilliputtur Railway station 1 mile
23	..	do	do	Sri Periamari- amman Temple (F)	330	1.67	Sri Peria- Mariamman	Sri Kannima- ramman Sri Karuppu- swamy Sri Veerabadra- swamy	Srivilliputtur Railway station 2 miles

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
25,888	298.54	268.57	...	Garden 4.45	44,578	...	Silver Rishabams-3 Vahanams Cars-4	Six times a day by a hereditary Archagar	Brahmothsavam in Vaikasi
800	3.50	22.00	...	...	...	100	...	Once a day by a Brahmin	Sri Jayanthi Andal Uthsavam
387	4.00	13.00	...	...	...	45	...	Twice a day by a Brahmin	...
4,865	...	..	...	Shops-10	...	...	...	do	...
1,558	Extent not stated			...	...	1,000	...	Twice a day by a Bhattachariar	Festival in Iyppasi
1,63,218	320.00	820.00	...	...	7,08,112	...	Ivory Palanquin Cars-2 Gold Palanquin Swans-2 Seshas-4 Garuda Lion Hanumar Horse Gold & Silver Surya Prabhai	Six times a day by a hereditary Bhattar	Adi Pooram Brahmothsavam in Margazhi
8,191	...	...	...	Cocconut grove Buildings-6	...	Not stated	Kamadhenu Lion Elephant Horse Sesha	Once a day by a hereditary Brahmin	Navarathri Vinayaka Chatburthi Thiruvadhirai Karthigai Deepam

378

**TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
SRIVILLIPUTTUR**

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
31	57	Rajapalayam (M)	Pudupalayam	Sri Vettai Venkatesaperumal alias Kulaperumal Temple (V)	500	0.10	Sri Vettai Venkateswarar	...	Rajapalayam Railway station 2 miles
32	..	do	do	Sri Kaliamman Temple (F)	Not known	0.01	Sri Kaliamman	...	Rajapalayam Railway station 1 mile
33	71	Seithur (P)	Seithur	Sri Thirukkanneswaraswamy Temple (S)	Not known	0.47	Sri Thirukkanneswarar	Sri Azhagiayanaki	Rajapalayam Railway station 6 miles
34	72	Muhavur (P)	Muhavar	Sri Pandi Vinayakar Temple (G)	100	0.30	Sri Pandi Vinayakar	...	Rajapalayam Railway station 7½ miles
35	..	do	do	Sri Mariamman Temple (F)	Not known	0.05	Sri Mariamman	Sri Kaliamman Sri Vinayakar	
36	73	North Devadanam (P)	Vadakkudevadanam	Sri Selliamman Temple (F)	150	0.05	Sri Vadakkuva Selliamman	Sri Bairavar Sri Veeraradrar Sri Pillayar Sri Badrakali	Rajapalayam Railway station 9 miles
37	74	South Devadanam (P)	Devadanam	Sri Nachadaithavirtharuliya-swamy Temple (S)	Not known	1.54	Sri Nachadaithavirtharuliya-swamy	Sri Thavampetranayaki	Rajapalayam Railway station 8 miles

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK (Contd)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Rs.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd)									
557	16.67	90.45	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	...
200	...	10.00	...	...	...	...	...	Twice a day by a Gurukkal	...
11,172	154.16	82.17	...	...	...	1,500	Rishabam Horse Indira Vimanam Parrot	Five times a day by a Bhattar	Brahmothsavam in Panguni Navarathri Skandha Sashti
295	...	5.50	...	...	...	1000	...	Once a day by a Pandaram	Vinayaka Chathurthi Tamil New Year's Day
	1.00	3.45	...	...	...	1,000	...	Once a day by a hereditary Poosari	Festival in Masi
950	1.00	...	...	...	...	300	...	Once a day by a hereditary Pandaram	...
62,533	610.79	293.04	...	...	56,805	...	Silver Rishabam Elephant Swan Parrot Horse Bhootham Cars-2	Seven times a day by Bhattars	Skandha Sashti Navarathri Theppothsavam in Masi Brahmothsavam in Vaikasi

and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd)

382

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
SRIVILLIPUTTUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religions									
45	87	Nathampatti (P)	Ayan Nathampatti	Sri Varadaraja Perumal Temple (V)	200	0-20	Sri Varadaraja Perumal	...	Srivilliputtur Railway station 12 miles
46	89	Vadagarai (P)	Vadagarai	Sri Srinivasa Perumal <i>alias</i> Thiruvengada Perumal Temple (V)	700	0-35	Sri Srinivasa Perumal <i>alias</i> Thiruvengada Perumal	...	Solapuram Railway station 4 miles

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT

TALUK (Concl'd.)

Annual income assessed for Fasli 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Rs.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Value of Jewellery Rs.			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple	Vahanam		
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Concl'd.)									
358	2 50	3 50	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Bhattar	...
413	2 91	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	...

380

TEMPLES OF MADRAS STATE
SRIVILLIPUTTUR

Sl. No.	Location code unit adopted for 1961 Census		Local name of hamlet or village	Name of Temple	Reported age (in years)	Area in acres	Principal Deity	Sub-deities	Location (Nearest Railway station)
	No.	Name							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Temples under the Hindu Religious									
38	75	Chosekanathan-puthur (P)	Chosekanathan-puthur	Sri Mariamman Temple (F)	87	0.75	Sri Mariamman	Sri Kaliamman Sri Vinayakar Sri Vadakasi- amman	Rajapalayam Railway station 10 miles
39	79	Chettiarpatti (P)	Kommandapuram	Sri Vinayakar Temple (G)	60	Below 0.01	Sri Vinayakar	...	do
40	79	do	Dalavoipuram	Sri Bhadrakali Amman Temple (F)	120	0.62	Sri Bhadrakali-Amman	Sri Mariamman Sri Veerabadar Sri Bairavar	Rajapalayam Railway station 8 miles
41	82	Elandiraikondan (P)	Elandthiraikondan	Sri Kalahastheswarar Temple (S)	60	0.01	Sri Kalahastheswarar	...	Rajapalayam Railway station 10 miles
42	..	do	do	Sri Lakshminarayana Perumal Temple (V)	120	0.02	Sri Lakshmi Narayana Perumal	...	do
43	85	Sholapuram (P)	Sholapuram	Sri Vikrama Pandeeswarar Temple (S)	1,000	3.00	Sri Vikrama Pandeeswarar	Sri Kuzhalvoimozhi Ambal	Sholapuram Railway station 2 miles
44	87	Nathampatti (P)	Ayan Nathampatti	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple (S)	300	0.50	Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar	...	Srivilliputtur Railway station 12 miles

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TALUK (Contd.)

Annual income assessed for Faali 1375 by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept. Ra.	Extent of immovable property (in acres)				Movable property			Periodical rites performed on behalf of temple	Festivals
	Wet	Dry	Wet & Dry	Others	Value of Jewellery Ra.		Vahanam		
					Appraised by H. R. & C. E. (A) Dept.	Reported by temple			
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department (Contd.)									
599	8 00	...	...	Shops-7	...	4,000	Rishabam Lion, Car Palanquin	Twice a day by a Poosari	Festival in Purattasi
251	1.40	2.00	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Pandaram	...
1,404	Extent	not	stated	...	...	10,000	Lion	do	Festival in Panguni Thiruvadhirai
526	6.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Brahmin	...
246	...	3.50	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattachariar	...
281	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a Bhattar	...
714	5.50	3.50	...	...	...	...	...	Once a day by a hereditary Bhattar	...

APPENDIX

A SELECT GLOSSARY OF TERMS RELATING TO TEMPLE SURVEY

Abishegam	...	A holy bath given to the deity with oil, milk, scented powder, honey, rose water, ghee, sugarcane juice etc.
Adi Sesha	...	Divine serpent said to have one thousand heads and represented as forming the couch of Lord Vishnu.
Adivaram	...	The foot of a hillock.
Adu	...	The Tamil term for a goat.
Agamas	...	Vedic principles governing Poojas in temples.
Aja	...	The Sanskrit term for a goat.
Alwars	...	Vaishnavite saints whose hymns in praise of Vishnu are regarded as sacred.
Amirtham	...	Nectar
Amman	...	Goddess
Appu	...	Wedge
Archagar	...	A Brahmin priest in a Saivite temple
Archana	...	Devotional worship offered to the deity by the priest with flowers or saffron.
Ardhajamam	...	The last of the daily poojas performed at night.
Ardha Mandapam	...	An intermediary space between the sanctum sanctorum and the exterior of the temple
Aru	...	River
Aru Padai Veedu	...	The six permanent abodes of Lord Muruga before He suppressed Surapadman as the generalissimo of the divine forces
Ashram	...	A hermitage or abode of ascetics; also a stage in the life of a Brahmin.
Ashtothram	...	A form of archana usually offered to the deity with a recital of 108 names of God.
Asthana Mandapam	...	Assembly Hall
Asuras	...	Demons
Avatharam	...	An incarnation of God.
Ayoni Sambhava	...	Not born out of mother's womb
Bajanai	...	Group singing of divine songs.
Bali Peedam	...	Altar or the sacrificial stone
Bhaktha	...	Devotee
Bhattachariar	...	A Brahmin priest belonging to the Vaishnavite sect who offers Poojas in a Vishnu temple
Brahmahathi	...	The sin of having killed a Brahmin
Chakram	...	Discus of Lord Vishnu
Chandraharam	...	A special type of gem-set necklace
Channaram	...	Chariot

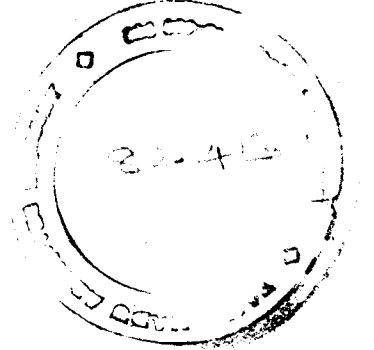
Darbha	...	A type of holy grass
Darshan	...	Sight of God or holy men
Dasavatharam	...	The ten incarnations of Lord Vishnu to punish the wicked
Deepa Aradhanai	...	Illuminating the deity's face with burning camphor or with a deepam i.e., a lamp with oil and wick.
Devadasi Inam	...	Lands endowed to dancing girls for their service to the temple through performance of dances before the deity, during festivals. This is now abolished.
Devas	...	The divine beings.
Devasthanam	...	The body administering the affairs of the temple
Dhyana	...	Meditation
Dwajasthambam	...	The flag mast, usually a pillar fixed outside the main shrine in line with the Sanctum Sanctorum
Dwara-Palakas	...	Figures of guards of the deity found on either side of the entrance to the Sanctum Sanctorum
Edu	...	Palm leaflet
Gaja	...	The Sanskrit term for an elephant
Garbagraham	...	The interior of Sanctum Sanctorum
Garuda	...	A mythological bird, the vehicle of Lord Vishnu
Gopuram	...	Pagoda
Guru	...	Preceptor
Gurukkal	...	A Brahmin priest belonging to the Saivite sect who offers pooja in a Siva temple
Homam	...	The sacrificial fire
Hundi	...	A sealed receptacle with a slit at the top in which devotees deposit cash and other valuables
Idayars	...	Cowherds
Iravatham	...	The white elephant of Indra, the King of the Devas
Isaipalli	...	A School for music
Jadainagam	...	A Circular type of head-ornament adorning the hair.
Jyothi	...	Light
Kadaladaitha Perumal	...	The Lord who checked the sea
Kadali	...	Plantain
Kailas	...	The abode of Lord Siva
Kalam	...	The unit for measuring paddy (One kalam equals forty eight measures)
Kalasam	...	The vessel-like structure adoring Temple gopurams and Vimanams.
Kalasanthi	...	The morning pooja
Kalyana Mandapam	...	A special mandapam dedicated to the celebration of the marriage of the Lord with Goddess.
Kamadhenu	...	The holy cow which fulfils the desires of devotees

Kani	...	The unit of area for measuring lands
Kaopeenam	...	Cod-piece
Karnapathiram	...	A special type of gem-set ear ornament
Karuvooram	...	The safe room where the jewels of the deities are kept in a temple
Kasu	...	Coin
Kasumalai	...	A necklace generally made of gold coins
Kattalai	...	A type of endowment of the devotees for doing periodical poojas or offerings
Kavacham	...	A metallic cover resembling armour
Kavadi	...	A decorated wooden pole with an arch over it carried on shoulders by devotees with offerings such as flower, milk, rosewater etc., mostly for Lord Muruga with some parade.
Kireedam	...	Head-wear or Crown
Kodi Kambam	...	The flag mast
Koil or Kovil	...	Temple
Koshti	...	Group
Ksheerabdhi	...	Sea of milk
Kshethra	...	Sacred place
Kudhirai Eduppu	...	A festival observed in small temples once in a year when the presiding deity is taken round on a horse Vahanam
Kumbabishegam	...	Purification rites carried out after every renovation or construction
Madam	...	Mutt, a religious institution
Madapalli	...	Temple kitchen where the neivedhyam is prepared
Madavaar	...	Maidens
Madhu	...	Nectar
Mahabharatha	...	The great Hindu Epic describing the famous battle of Kurukshethra between the Pandavas and the Kauravas
Maha Mandapam	...	A big hall in temples for holding religious discourses
Makudam	...	The crown
Mandapam	...	A big terraced hall
Mangala Sasanam	...	Scripts composed by Alvars in praise of Vishnu
Mangalyam	...	The sacred ornament which is worn by married women as an insignia
Manickam	...	A precious stone
Mantras	...	The sacred hymns
Manyam	...	Landed endowments to the temple servants for their services
Mavilakku	...	A form of offering to the deity in which a wick is burnt in a flour paste.
Mohini	...	A beautiful damsel
Mohini Allowance	...	A kind of allowance given to the temple
Moksha	...	Eternal Bliss

Suvadi	...	A palm leaflet giving valuable information
Swayambu	...	That which appears of its own accord
Thaila-kappu	...	Smearing the idol with oil
Thaligai	...	A kind of sweet offering known as Pongal in Tamil to deities on festive occasions
Thandavam	...	Divine Dance
Thapasu	...	Penance
Theertham	...	Sacred tank of the temple
Theerthavari	...	A festival during which the deity is immersed in holy water
Thenkalai	...	One of the two sects among Vaishnavites
Theppam	...	Floating festival
Ther	...	The temple car
Thevara Padasala	...	A school to teach Thevara hymns
Thirumana Kolam	...	Marriage Pose
Thirumanjanam	...	The bath of an idol
Thirumudi	...	The head of the chief idol in a temple
Thirunakshathiram	...	An asterism under which a saint or a great person is born
Thiruppavai	...	A poem in Nalayira Prabandam by Sri Andal in praise of Lord Vishnu
Thiruvadi	...	Sacred feet of a deity
Thiruvizha	...	Festival
Thiruvoymozhi	...	Devotional verses by Saint Nammalwar
Thotti	...	A trough
Uchikala Pooja	...	Pooja done in mid-day
Ugra	...	Fierce, Powerful, angry
Urchavam or Uthsavam...	...	Festival
Ushaskala Pooja	...	Early morning Pooja
Uthsava Murthy	...	An idol worshipped on festival days
Vadakalai	...	A major sect among Vaishnavites
Vahanam	...	Divine Mount
Vannam	...	Colourful
Varam	...	Boon
Varaprasadi	...	The Almighty who grants boons to devotees
Vel	...	A spear or lance of Lord Muruga
Vibhoothi	...	The sacred ash
Vigraham	...	An idol
Vimanam	...	The roof of the Sanctum

Yagasalai
Yali
Yanai

- .. The omnipresent form of God
- .. A special sacrificial ceremony
- ... The place in which a sacrificial ceremony is observed
- ... A fabulous animal like a lion with an elephant's proboscis, possibly the mammoth
- ... The Tamil term for an elephant



Moolasthanam	...	Sanctum Sanctorum
Moola Vighramam	...	The presiding deity
Muppazham	...	The three famous fruits namely Mango, Plantain and jack
Nadhaswaram	...	A musical pipe generally used in auspicious functions like marriages etc.
Nagabaranam	...	A gold or silver kavacham or metallic cover fashioned after the serpent with five heads to adorn the deity.
Nagam	...	Serpent
Namam	...	The Vaishnavite caste mark of three Vertical stripes on the forehead in 'U' or 'Y' shape
Navapashana	...	Nine Stones
Nayanmars	...	The sixtythree saivite Saints, whose history is narrated in "Periyapuranam".
Neivedhyam	...	Offerings to the deity, such as cocoanuts, plantain, jaggery, butter, sweet-meat etc.
Ochar	...	A sect of priests
Othuvans	...	Priests in Siva Temple
Padai	...	Army
Padakkam	...	A locket or pendant
Padalam	...	Chapter
Padhigam	...	Sacred song in praise of God
Padhugai	...	The holy feet
Padi	...	Foot-step
Paditharam	...	An allowance in kind
Palliyarai	...	The bed chamber where the festival deities are kept after the daily poojas.
Panchaksharam	...	A sacred word signifying the five syllables of Namasivaya which means obeisance to Lord Siva
Panchalogam	...	An alloy of five metals
Panchamrutham	...	A delicious offering generally made to Lord Muruga with a variety of fruits
Pancha-Murthys	...	The five deities, namely, Vinayakar, Murugar, Lord Siva, Uma Devi and Chandi-keswarar
Pancharatra	...	A Vaishnava Agama
Pandaram	...	A priestly class performing poojas to village deities
Pasurams	...	Devotional Verses in praise of Vishnu sung by great Alvars
Payasam	...	Sweet Pudding
Peetam	...	The seat on which the deity is placed
Poo	...	The Tamil term for a flower
Pooja	...	A form of ceremonial worship offered to the deity
Poosari	...	The priest who does pooja at village temples
Prabandam	...	A celebrated vaishnavite poetic composition
Pradhakshanam	...	Circumambulation of the deity in a temple

Pradishta	...	Installation
Pradosham	...	Evening of the 13th Thithi 90 minutes before and after sun set. It is considered auspicious for worshipping Lord Siva
Prakaram	...	The verandah or passage around the Sanctum Sanctorum
Pranavam	...	The sacred syllable "OM"
Prasadham	...	Anything given after being offered to God
Prithvi	...	Earth
Purusamrugam	...	The guardian deity in rural parts
Pushkarani	...	The sacred temple tank
Pushpam	...	The sanskrit term for a flower
Pushpavanam	...	A thicket of flower plants
Rajagopuram	...	The main Pagoda
Rakshasas	...	Demons
Ratham	...	Chariot
Rathnakireedam	...	Ornamental head dress usually studded with diamonds
Rishabam	...	A bull
Ridagopam	...	A small metal head cover on which Vishnu's feet are engraved and which is placed over the head of worshippers in Vishnu temples
Sahasranama Archana	...	A form of archana or worship usually offered to the deity with a recital of 1,008 names
Samasthanam	...	The body administering the affairs of a group of temples
Samharam	...	Destruction
Sandanakappu	...	Smearing the idol with sandal paste
Sangu	...	The conch-shell
Sannadhi	...	The passage leading to sanctum
Sanyasi	...	A Saint
Sapa-Vimochanam	...	Deliverance from a curse
Sathumurai	...	Concluding festival in honour of Vaishnava Saints
Sayanam	...	In a reclining posture
Sayaratchai	...	Pooja in the evening
Sevalkodi	...	The banner of Lord Muruga having the figure of a cock
Simha	...	Lion-A common vahanam used in temples
Sivacharyas	...	The Brahmin priests in temples belonging to the saivite sect.
Somavaram	...	Monday
Sthalam	...	A sacred centre
Sthalapuranam	...	The legend regarding the origin of a sacred place
	...	The sacred tree connected with the legend of the temple