

Government of Madras.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

12
G.O., No. 403, 8th July 1909.

Secondary School, Ootacamund.

Approving the site selected by the Collector of the Nilgiris for the construction of a building for the —, and requesting him to take very early steps to acquire the land.

BACK PAPERS.

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Government of Madras.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Recd.

Regd.

} 1909.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 403, 8th July 1909.

Secondary School, Ootacamund.

Approving the site selected by the Collector of the Nilgiris for the construction of a building for the —, and requesting him to take very early steps to acquire the land.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

I

Letter—from J. H. STONE, Esq., M.A., Acting Director of Public Instruction, Madras.
To—the Secretary to Government, Educational Department.
Dated—the 23rd January 1909.
No.—Ref. on Cur. 6647/07.

With reference to paragraph 2 of G.O., No. 260, Educational, dated 3rd May 1907, the Executive Engineer, Coimbatore division, forwarded to me for remarks plans and estimates for the construction of a building for the new Secondary school at Ootacamund. The Inspector of Schools, Sixth Circle, to whom these were referred, found the plans unsuitable in certain respects, and the Executive Engineer was therefore requested to revise them in the light of the suggestions made by the Inspector. The Superintending Engineer, IV Circle, has accordingly now forwarded revised detailed plans and estimates amounting to Rs. 97,000, and in doing so, both this officer and the Executive Engineer have condemned the site selected for erecting the building as extremely unsuitable from an engineering point of view, and are of opinion that it would be a waste of money to build on that site—the cost of the foundations alone being estimated at over half a lakh.

2. Dr. Bourne while at Ootacamund in October last, selected a building on about 5 acres of land belonging to Messrs. Gool Muhammad & Co. and lying between the old Hospital Road and Gool Muhammad's lane. The portion enclosed within the red line in the accompanying sketch is considered sufficient for the purpose and this plot of ground and the buildings on it are roughly estimated by the Public Works Department at Rs. 23,000 for the buildings and at Rs. 3,800 per acre for the land. Since this is evidently from the plan about 3 acres in extent, the estimate amounts to about Rs. 40,000. The proprietors of the property agree to accept Rs. 30,000 for the required portion of the site and for the buildings, and the Chairman, Municipal Council, Ootacamund, suggests that an offer of Rs. 25,000 be made and that, if it is accepted, the property be acquired under the Land Acquisition Act.

3. Dr. Bourne was of opinion that the existing building might be used for the school, such additions and improvements being made in it as proved necessary. Even allowing for these, the scheme is an economical one and the Public Works authorities approve of the site. I have the honour therefore to request the favour of early orders as to whether an offer of Rs. 25,000 may be made to Messrs. Gool Muhammad & Co. for their property referred to above.

II

Memorandum—No. 141-1, Educational, dated 20th February 1909.

The Director of Public Instruction's letter with its enclosure is forwarded to the Collector of the Nilgiris for general remarks at an early date.

2. The estimate for a new school is exorbitant and the site selected for the new building has been condemned. The proposal to construct a new school does not therefore call for consideration at present.

3. The Government also consider that the cost of the site and the house which it is proposed to acquire in place of building a new school is excessive and they are therefore unable to sanction the Director of Public Instruction's proposal to offer Rs. 25,000 to the owners of the property. They consider that such a large extent of land as 3 acres is not necessary. The school-going population for a Secondary school is comparatively small in Ootacamund and, for a school of the size required, about an acre or half an acre of ground should be sufficient. There is no need for a large play-ground attached to the school, as the public recreation ground is available. The Collector is requested to report whether the cost cannot be materially reduced by reducing the area of land to be taken up with the building.

4. The Director of Public Instruction is requested to report—

- (1) in what building the school is now held,
- (2) to whom this building belongs,
- (3) whether it could not be fitted for permanent use by the school, and
- (4) what it would cost, roughly, to so fit it and, if necessary, to acquire it.

A. BUTTERWORTH,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of the Nilgiris, with plan.
 „ Director of Public Instruction.

III

Letter—from W. FRANCIS, Esq., I.C.S., Collector of the Nilgiris.
To—the Secretary to Government, Educational Department.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 15th April 1909.
No.—R. Dis. 218.

I have the honour to reply to Government Memorandum No. 141-1, dated 20th February 1909, regarding the Secondary school at Ootacamund. The delay is due to my wishing first to consult the Director of Public Instruction on the spot.

2. The necessity for the school arises from the changes in the scope of the Brecks' Memorial school brought about by G.O., No. 346, Educational, dated 22nd May 1905; the last clause in the second schedule of the notification attached to that order requires the Director of Public Instruction to make provision for the education of the more respectable native inhabitants of Ootacamund in another school in the town of not lower grade than the Brecks' school. In paragraph 2 of G.O., No. 464, Educational, dated 2nd July 1906, Government undertook to grant a subsidy to the Municipal Council from Provincial funds for the maintenance of a Lower Secondary school with eight classes from infant standard to third form and to construct a new school-house for the institution from the same source. In G.O., No. 260, Educational, dated 3rd May 1907, Government approved proposals for the establishment of such a school drawn up by the Director of Public Instruction and the Chairman, Municipal Council, in consultation, and instructed the Department of Public Works to draw up plans and estimates, in consultation with the Director of Public Instruction, for a building for the accommodation of the school. Meanwhile a building was rented. In G.O., No. 1903 M., dated 16th November 1908, the permanent retention of the school was sanctioned. Thus the only question now pending is the manner in which accommodation for the school can best be provided.

3. Three proposals have so far been made. The first of these was that a new school-house should be built on a vacant bit of ground in the Agraharam. The Department of Public Works utterly condemned this site, which (please see Mr. Stone's letter to Government, dated 23rd January last) is almost a bog, lies close to the main sewer and the stream draining the Big Bazaar valley, is often under water and would necessitate foundations on wells and a strong basement costing, alone, Rs. 57,000. This proposal may therefore be put out of consideration.

4. The second suggestion (please see Mr. Stone's letter cited above) was to acquire and adapt the premises known as Gool Muhammad's shop, just above the Municipal market, with about 3 acres of land around it. The owner being in need of money,

it was believed that he would accept Rs. 25,000 for this property. Government consider (see Memorandum, dated 20th February 1909, now under reply) that Rs. 25,000 is excessive for the property and direct me to report whether the amount cannot be reduced by curtailing the area of land to be taken up with it. I went over the locality with the Chairman of the Municipal Council and the owner and found that by cutting out certain swampy areas which would be of no use to the school and omitting also the site of the old tumble-down building on the extreme north of the property the area to be acquired could be reduced from 3.12 acres to 1.97 acres. A plan showing these deductions is submitted. No further curtailment can possibly be made. The land immediately south of the shop provides the only entrance to the property and cannot be omitted. Putting the value of the land at the Rs. 3,800 per acre estimated in Mr. Stone's letter of 23rd January last already quoted, this curtailment of (3.12 — 1.97) 1.15 acres would reduce the cost of the property by Rs. 4,370.

5. But I am much opposed to acquiring it even at this reduced figure. The house is very old (one of the oldest in Ootacamund) and is not in good repair. It would require constant patching of an unsatisfactory kind. Moreover it would need very considerable outlay (probably some Rs. 5,000) properly to adapt it for the purposes of the school, while the out-buildings attached to it, which would have to be acquired at their value as appurtenances to a shop, would be of only the slenderest use when the property was used as a school and thus represent money thrown into the sea. I submit a plan of the buildings which will show at a glance that the rooms are either so large that they would have to be divided or so small that they would have to be thrown together. I cannot recommend Government to sink money in purchasing so unsuitable a property.

6. The third of the proposals so far put forward is that contained in paragraph 4 of the Government memorandum now under reply, namely, that the rented building now used for the school should be acquired and adapted. This, again, I cannot in any way recommend. The Director of Public Instruction has been directed to report upon the matter and will no doubt furnish the details asked for in the Government memorandum. Enquiries made go to show that the acquisition and adaptation of the buildings will cost not less than Rs. 23,000 and for this sum Government would obtain a building which is quite unsuited for a school. It stands right on the edge of Etienne's Road and was once "the British Brewery" and a shop attached. The part formerly used as a brewery would have to be acquired and is so useless to the school that it would have to be pulled down. The godowns attached would also have to be acquired and they are for a great part so dilapidated and unsafe that no one will now live in them. This would be more throwing of money into the sea. The site is too far from the pupils' houses to be convenient, is cramped between Etienne's Road and a bog and lies next to a number of dirty little tenements. The building proper consists of two large rooms. The lower of these is below the level of the road and is so dark that the headmaster has applied to the Chairman of the Council for lamps for use even during daylight hours. The floor above it is only one board thick, so that every noise in the room below can be heard in that above and *vice versa*. Both rooms would in any case need to be divided up into proper class rooms; at present four classes are held in each amidst a Babel of noise.

7. I can hear of no other existing property which would do for the school and I submit therefore that the only possible alternative is to build. I have selected a site between Bergheim and the Municipal stores, just above the Municipal market, which both the Director of Public Instruction and the Chairman, Municipal Council, agree will do admirably. The land belongs to the District Board, which recently sold a portion of it for Rs. 2,000 per acre. An acre would be ample for the school and its appurtenances. The site faces south and has a southward slope of about 1 in 12. It is some 70 feet wide and this would give space for a building consisting of pairs of class rooms about 20' x 12' divided by an internal passage * * *. They could be built running up the slope in steps, and not all on one level in a deep cutting.

8. No doubt the Public Works Department's estimate for a building, already drawn up, reached the high figure of Rs. 97,000, but this was made up of Rs. 57,000 for the foundation on wells and basement in the boggy site referred to in paragraph 3 above, of Rs. 38,128 for the buildings above the basement and of Rs. 1,872 for a

latrine. It is submitted that both the latter items could be very greatly reduced. Owing to the cramped nature of the site, the design was for a building in two storeys and the steel beams to carry the upper floor amount to Rs. 1,800 and all the lower floor walls are 1' 6" thick; an outer verandah enclosed with teak panel and glazed partitions, which latter alone cost Rs. 3,413, is provided for the upper floor, whereas an inside passage would serve well enough as a means of communication from room to room; the doors and windows are all of teak and therefore cost Rs. 3,612, while other cheaper wood would serve the purposes of such a building as this; and the building itself consists of stock bricks in lime mortar, whereas the usual method of building in Ootacamund, which serves well enough, is to employ ordinary bricks in mud (in lime mortar at corners and round doors and windows) with a coating of Portland cement on the west (monsoon) side and plaster on the others.

9. The Educational authorities asked the Department of Public Works to design a building which might develop into a high school, but that eventuality is distant at present and it would seem sufficient to provide now for eight class rooms each 20' x 12' for the eight classes which the school contains and two more for a tiffin-room and a library—or masters' room or cloak room if preferred. If, hereafter, the school is improved into a high school, more rooms could easily be added in continuation of the proposed building. A simple ten-roomed building such as now suggested could probably be constructed on the cheap lines proposed for Rs. 20,000. With the land (Rs. 2,000) and a latrine (say Rs. 300) the school would be provided with a suitable building in a good site for some Rs. 23,000. I beg to suggest that the Department of Public Works be requested to design the best school possible for about this amount. For less than this sum, it is clear from what has already occurred, a building cannot be provided. The school is growing rapidly and now contains 124 pupils, so that, apart from the very special circumstances which led to its foundation, it has a claim to support.

10. I have discussed all these proposals on the spot with the Chairman of the Municipal Council and the Director of Public Instruction and they permit me to say that they agree with them.

1. Director of Public Instruction's letter
R.C. No. 6647/07, dated 23rd January 1909.
2. Sketch of Gool Muhammad's property.

11. I resubmit the enclosures to the Government memorandum under reply which are noted in the margin.

IV

Letter—from the Hon'ble Mr. A. G. BOURNE, D.Sc., F.R.S., C.I.E., Director of Public Instruction, Madras.

To—the Secretary to Government, Educational Department.

Dated—the 13th May 1909.

No.—Ref. on Cur. 6647/07.

With reference to your Memorandum No. 141-1, dated 20th February 1909, I have the honour to report that I entirely agree with the views expressed by the Collector of the Nilgiris in his letter to Government, R. Dis. No. 218, dated 15th April 1909, a copy of which has been kindly furnished by him to me on the question of providing accommodation for the Municipal Secondary school at Ootacamund, and think that a suitable building might be erected on the site selected by him at a reasonable figure. I therefore request that you will be so good as to obtain the administrative approval of Government for the proposal as now submitted by the Collector and to have the necessary orders issued for the acquisition of the site in question and for the preparation of the detailed plans and estimates for the construction of the building.

2. I beg to add that the report called for in paragraph 4 of the memorandum quoted above has not been submitted by me, as in the light of the facts mentioned in paragraph 6 of the Collector's letter, the proposal to acquire the present rented school-house deserves little consideration.

V

Memorial—from Mrs. J. M. Mc LEISH, Proprietress of Bergheim, known as the Old Telegraph Office, Ootacamund.

To—His Excellency the Governor in Council.

Dated—the 12th May 1909.

SHEWETH,—That your memorialist has read with concern a resolution of the Municipal Council of Ootacamund at their meeting on the 8th instant recording, with approval, a letter of the Collector of the Nilgiris to Government recommending the Local Fund land, between Bergheim and the Municipal stores, as a suitable site for the construction of the new Municipal Secondary school building.

2. The land in question is a long, narrow strip, some 150 feet in width, and extending from the Municipal office on the north to the branch commercial road to the market on the south, and westward of the Bergheim boundary, with a public right of way, 3 yards wide, running through it from top to bottom, as more particularly delineated in the sketch submitted with the Collector's letter.

3. Your memorialist begs to point out that any building on this land must necessarily be much restricted in every way, must be impossible of extension in the future which an educational institution should always provide for and, your memorialist submits, must destroy the suitability of the grounds of Bergheim adjoining for any building, private or public, which may be erected in the future, and which necessarily must overlook outhouses, play-grounds and latrines, to say nothing of the consequent deterioration of the value of the land.

4. The site in question had, but recently, been applied for a Chapel and for a Ball Room, but was declared unsuitable for both, and refused on grounds that apply perhaps with equal force to the present proposal.

5. The western boundary of Berghiem now contains some fine old trees planted for shelter and for ornament, which may be hereafter considered a source of insecurity to any building near them, and have to be authoritatively removed in the interests of public safety, as was the case on the grounds of Hill View after the present Municipal office was built in proximity to it.

6. Your memorialist would beg leave finally to point out that two other desirable sites, at least, are available for a school-house, namely, Gool Muhammad's shop and Thoppa Mudaliyar's lines, now Municipal property, where a building of the kind contemplated could prejudice no vested interests, would not offend aesthetically and would, in every way, be better adapted for the purpose.

7. Your memorialist accordingly prays that your Excellency's Government would be pleased to negative the proposal made and direct that another site may be selected.

VI

Memorandum No. 1009-1, Educational, dated 28th May 1909.

With reference to his letter R. Dis. No. 218, dated 15th April 1909, suggesting a site between Berghiem and the Municipal stores for the Secondary school at Ootacamund, the Collector of the Nilgiris is requested to send a plan showing the position of the site and the adjoining houses, etc.

2. A letter from Mrs. McLeish objecting to the acquisition of the site is also forwarded to him for remarks.

(By order.)

C. A. SOUTER,
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of the Nilgiris.

VII

Letter—from W. FRANCIS, Esq., I.C.S., Collector of the Nilgiris.

To—the Secretary to Government, Educational Department.

Dated—Ootacamund, the 12th June 1909.

No.—D. Dis. 1062.

As directed in Government Memorandum No. 1009-1, Educational, dated 28th May 1909, I have the honour to submit herewith a plan of the site proposed for the new Secondary school at Ootacamund and of the houses adjoining.

2. This plan is misleading because it does not show the levels of the ground. Looking at the plan, one would suppose that the proposed site is shut in on the west by the Local Fund Engineer's office and the Ootacamund Municipal Council's store and cattleshed; but as a matter of fact these are right below the site in a deep cutting running up as high as their roofs and bounded on its upper edge by the public foot-path shown in the plan. Standing on the proposed site one looks right over these buildings and away to Jail Hill. Mercy Cottage, Upna Cottage, Albert Cottage and the buildings round them are similarly almost out of sight on lower ground.

3. Mrs. McLeish's petition referred to in paragraph 2 of the Government memorandum under reply and herewith resubmitted much exaggerates the drawback to the Bergheim property which the new school would constitute. As the plan shows, the school will be 77 yards from the nearest part of Bergheim and this part is the back, and not the front, of that house. Moreover between the house and the site for the school is a plantation of trees so thick that I doubt whether either will be visible from the other. There should be no need to fell any of these trees, as the memorialist fears, for they stand to the east of the proposed site and the monsoon, which alone would be likely to bring them down, would blow them away from the school, and not on to it. Nor is it the fact that the site is so small that future extension of the school will be impossible. From the edge of the Mercy View property right down to Main Bazaar Road the land drops with a gradual and almost uniform gradient and the whole of this strip would be available for extension. The strip is no doubt narrow, but it is no longer possible to obtain commodious vacant sites anywhere near the bazaar in Ootacamund. The compound of Bergheim itself is almost the only land of the kind which remains, and the objection to locating the school there is that the owners of Bergheim would undoubtedly claim a large sum for severance. The two alternative sites suggested by the memorialist would cost as much by themselves as the site and building now proposed put together. The former of them (Gool Muhammad's shop) has already been considered in paragraphs 4 and 5 of my letter to Government, No. 218, dated 15th April 1909.

4. That the existence of the school might depreciate the value of the adjoining part of the Bergheim property for residential purposes is no good reason for not building it. Owners of residential building land have to take such chances in every country and to protect themselves by acquiring sites which are likely to be undesirable neighbours. Were it otherwise, public and private enterprise would be at a standstill.

5. The resolution of the Municipal Council referred to in paragraph 1 of the petition was passed upon my letter to Government, No. 218, dated 15th April 1909, copy of which had been sent to the Council, and approved the selection of the present site.

Order—No. 403, Educational, dated 8th July 1909.

The Government approve the site selected by the Collector of the Nilgiris for the construction of a building for the Secondary school, Ootacamund. The Collector will be requested to take very early steps to acquire the land.

2. Orders will issue in the Public Works Department for the preparation of plans and estimates for a school building costing about Rs. 20,000 as suggested by the Collector in paragraph 9 of his letter No. 218, dated 15th April 1909.

(True Extract.)

L. M. WYNCH,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of the Nilgiris.
,, Director of Public Instruction.
,, Public Works Department.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O., No. 403, EDUCATIONAL, DATED
8TH JULY 1909.

[SUBJECT.—*Building for the new Secondary School at Ootacamund.*]

From the Director of Public Instruction, dated 23rd January 1909, No. 6647.

In G.O., No. 464, Educational, dated 2nd July 1906, the Government, while agreeing to meet from Provincial funds the net cost of maintaining a secondary school for the respectable native inhabitants of Ootacamund if the Municipal Council of the place could establish such a school, undertook to construct a new school-house for this institution from Provincial funds.

2. In May 1907, the proposal of the Director of Public Instruction for the establishment of a secondary school at Ootacamund was sanctioned tentatively for one year, and the Public Works Department were requested to issue orders for the preparation, in consultation with the Director of Public Instruction, of a plan and estimate for the construction of a building for the accommodation of the school. The retention of the above school permanently has been sanctioned in G.O., No. 1903 M., dated 16th November 1908.

3. In his current letter No. 6647, dated 23rd January 1909, the Acting Director of Public Instruction (Mr. J. H. Stone) states that, with reference to G.O., No. 260, Educational, dated 3rd May 1907, the Executive Engineer, Coimbatore division, forwarded to him for remarks plans and estimates for the construction of a building for the new Secondary School, Ootacamund, that the Inspector of Schools, Sixth Circle, to whom they were referred, found the plans unsuitable in certain respects, and that the Superintending Engineer, Fourth Circle, has now forwarded revised plans and estimates amounting to Rs. 97,000. Both this officer and the Executive Engineer have, however, condemned the site selected for the building from an Engineering point of view, and express the opinion that "it would be a waste of money to build on that site, the cost of the foundations alone being estimated at over half a lakh."

4. Mr. Stone observed that Dr. Bourne, while at Ootacamund in October last, selected a building on about five acres of land belonging to Messrs. Gool Muhammad & Co. and lying between the old hospital road and Gool Muhammad's lane." Mr. Stone states that the building, which is valued by the Public Works Department at Rs. 23,000, and about three acres of the land, valued at Rs. 3,800 per acre, would be sufficient for the purpose of the school. The total value of the building and of three acres of site is estimated at Rs. 34,400. The proprietors of the property agree to accept Rs. 30,000, but the Chairman, Municipal Council, Ootacamund, suggests that Rs. 25,000 may be offered, and that, if the offer is accepted, the property may be acquired under the Land Acquisition Act. Mr. Stone accordingly requests orders as to whether an offer of Rs. 25,000 may be made for the property referred to.

We don't want three acres!

G. S. F[ORRES].

An Executive Engineer who sent in such an estimate should be sacked!!

G. S. F[ORBES].

Is this not just like the business capacity of our public officers!

G. S. F[ORBES].

But will the building do as it stands?

A. BUTTERWORTH.

gested by the Director of Public Instruction seems to be more economical and the site is said to be approved by the Public Works Department authorities. It is stated that Dr. Bourne considered that the existing building might be used for the school, with such additions and improvements as might be necessary; but in the absence of any information as to the improvements required to the building to adapt it for the purposes of a school or as to their cost, it is not possible to form an estimate of the total cost of the present proposal. If, however, it is decided to accept this proposal, there appears to be no objection to an offer of Rs. 25,000 being made to the proprietor of the property as suggested, the Land Acquisition Act being subsequently applied in order to acquire an indefeasible title to the property. The Collector of the Nilgiris does not appear to have been consulted by the Director of Public Instruction in the matter. Perhaps the Director of Public Instruction's letter may first be sent to the Collector for remarks.

K. RANGASWAMI AIYANGAR—4-2-09.

It will be as well to refer the matter to the Collector. The building may be too near the hospital. But if there is no objection to its acquisition, the proposal seems a good one.

C. A. SOUTER—5-2-09.

The Collector must be consulted, but it is impossible to sanction an offer of Rs. 25,000 for the site till we know the probable cost of fitting the existing buildings for a school. They will have to be carefully examined to determine—

- (1) whether they are in a good condition,
- (2) the cost of fitting them for use as a school.

This should be done by the Public Works Department.

A. BUTTERWORTH—7-2-09.

Schools cannot get the best sites in a town simply because Government has special powers under the Acquisition Act and because the money comes from the public treasury.

The cost both of the site and the building is exorbitant. We do not want a palace nor do we want more than, say, an acre or half an acre. There is no need of huge play-grounds. We have provided that in the public recreation ground.

The school population for a secondary school is comparatively small in Ootacamund.

I understand Honourable Member to mean the building in which the school is now held. Enquire whether it could be fitted up and what it would cost.

A. BUTTERWORTH.

Dr. Bourne's seems the preferable proposal. Where is the present building; and what would the additions cost? Rs. 10,000 would probably cover all necessary expenditure.

G. S. F[ORBES]—8-2-09.

Official memorandum reference to the Director of Public Instruction.

A. BUTTERWORTH—9-2-09.

5. The cost of constructing a new school building is estimated at Rs. 97,000. This seems certainly prohibitive. Moreover, the site selected for the purpose (it is not stated where the site is) condemned as unsuitable; so that if a new building is considered necessary, a fresh site would have to be found and fresh estimates prepared. The proposal to acquire the building and site now sug-

gested by the Director of Public Instruction seems to be more economical and the site is said to be approved by the Public Works Department authorities. It is stated that Dr. Bourne considered that the existing building might be used for the school, with such additions and improvements as might be necessary; but in the absence of any information as to the improvements required to the building to adapt it for the purposes of a school or as to their cost, it is not possible to form an estimate of the total cost of the present proposal. If, however, it is decided to accept this proposal, there appears to be no objection to an offer of Rs. 25,000 being made to the proprietor of the property as suggested, the Land Acquisition Act being subsequently applied in order to acquire an indefeasible title to the property. The Collector of the Nilgiris does not appear to have been consulted by the Director of Public Instruction in the matter. Perhaps the Director of Public Instruction's letter may first be sent to the Collector for remarks.

A draft memorandum is placed below for approval. After issue of the memorandum, the file may be forwarded u.o. to the Public Works Department with the request that the Executive Engineer, Coimbatore Division, may be asked to examine carefully the buildings which it is proposed to acquire for the purpose of the school and to report in communication with the Educational authorities—

- (1) whether they are in a good condition, and
- (2) what would be the cost of fitting them for use as a school.

A rough estimate of the cost will be sufficient.

K. RANGASWAMI AIYANGAR—12-2-09.

For approval.

Issue.

C. A. SOUTER—13-2-09.

A. BUTTERWORTH—18-2-09.

[Memorandum No. 141-1, Educational, dated 20th February 1909.]

The memorandum has issued. The file may be forwarded u.o. to the Public Works Department with reference to the note *supra*.

K. RANGASWAMI AIYANGAR—23-2-09.

C. A. SOUTER—23-2-09.

To the Public Works Department.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

A draft memorandum to the Superintending Engineer is submitted.

P.K.S.—2-3-09.

Issue.

P. HAWKINS—2-3-09.

[Issued as Memorandum No. 992 C., dated 2nd March 1909.]

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

From the Collector of the Nilgiris, dated 15th April 1909, No. 218.

The file connected with Memorandum No. 141-1, Educational, dated 20th February 1909, was forwarded to the Public Works Department u.o. with this department No. 141-2, dated 23rd February 1909. As the file is required for the disposal of the papers read above, the Public Works Department may be requested to return it as early as possible.

P.R.—29-4-09.

K. RANGASWAMI AIYANGAR—29-4-09.

Yes.

C. A. SOUTER—30-4-09.

To the Public Works Department.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

The file of Memorandum No. 141-1, Educational, dated 20th February 1909, was returned to Educational on 2nd March 1909 in compliance with a telephonic requisition from that department for the papers.

P.K.S.—4-5-09.

To the Educational Department.

R. PARSONS—6-5-09.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

It has been ascertained from the Madras Office that the entry in the despatch register shows that u.o. No. 141-2, dated 23rd February 1909, was returned to the Deputy Registrar, Public Works Department, on 3rd March 1909. That department may be requested to make a search for the file.

P.R.—11-5-09.

K. RANGASWAMI AIYANGAR—11-5-09.

To the Public Works Department.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

The file has since been found and is herewith returned.

C.A.R.—20-5-09.

P.K.S.—20-5-09.

To the Educational Department.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

The Collector of the Nilgiris (Mr. W. Francis) submits the report called for in Memorandum No. 141-1, dated 20th February 1909.

2. Three proposals have so far been made for providing a building to the Municipal Secondary School at Ootacamund:—

(1) To construct a new building on a vacant site in the Agraharam—estimated cost Rs. 97,000.

(2) To acquire and adapt the premises known as Gool Mahomed's shop with about three acres of land around it—estimated cost of the property Rs. 25,000 + Rs. 5,000 for cost of adaptation.

(3) To acquire the rented building in which the school is now held and adapt it for permanent use as a school—estimated cost Rs. 23,000.

3. *First proposal.*—The proposal to construct a new building on the site in the Agraharam has been left out of consideration altogether, as the Executive Engineer has condemned the site as being boggy and situated close to the main sewer and the stream draining the big bazaar valley, necessitating a cost of Rs. 57,000 for the foundation alone.

4. *Second proposal.*—As regards the proposal to purchase Gool Mahomed's shop, the Government considered that Rs. 25,000 was excessive and that such a large area of compound as three acres was not necessary, and they called on the Collector of the Nilgiris to report whether the amount could not be reduced by curtailing the area of the land. In reply, the Collector (Mr. Francis) states that by cutting out certain swampy areas which would be of no use to the school and omitting also the site of an old tumble-down building on the extreme north of the property, the area to be acquired could be reduced from 3.12 acres to 1.97

acres which would reduce the cost of the property by Rs. 4,370, that is, from Rupees 25,000 to Rs. 20,630. But Mr. Francis is much opposed to acquiring this property even at this reduced figure, as the house is very old (one of the oldest in Ootacamund) and is not in good repair, and the cost of adapting the buildings for the purposes of a school would come to about Rs. 5,000. He considers that the out-buildings which would have to be acquired at their value as appurtenances to the shop would be of only the slenderest use for the school and would thus represent money thrown into the sea; and he states that he cannot advise the Government to sink the money in purchasing so unsuitable a property.

5. *Third proposal.*—The Collector is also opposed to the course proposed in paragraph 4 of Memorandum No. 141-1, dated 20th February 1909, namely, to acquire the building in which the school is now held and to adapt it for a secondary school. This suggestion was made by the Hon'ble Mr. Forbes. The cost of acquiring this building and adapting it for purposes of a school is estimated by the Collector at about Rs. 23,000. The Collector states that for this sum Government would obtain a building which is quite unsuited for a school. The reasons for considering this building unsuitable are best stated in the Collector's own words, which are to the following effect:—

"It stands right on the edge of Etienne's Road and was once 'the British Brewery' and a shop attached. The part formerly used as a brewery would have to be acquired and is so useless to the school that it would have to be pulled down. The godowns attached would also have to be acquired and they are for a great part so dilapidated and unsafe that no one will now live in them. This would be more throwing of money into the sea. The site is too far from the pupils' houses to be convenient, is cramped between Etienne's Road and a bog, and lies next to a number of dirty little tenements. The building proper consists of two large rooms. The lower of these is below the level of the road and is so dark that the headmaster has applied to the Chairman of the Council for lamps for use even during daylight hours. The floor above it is only one board thick so that every noise in the room below can be heard in that above and *vice versa*. Both rooms would in any case need to be divided up into proper class rooms; at present four classes are held in each amidst a Babel of noise."

6. *The Collector's suggestion.*—Mr. Francis observes that he hears of no other property which would do for a school, and that the only possible alternative is to build. He has selected a site between Berghiem and the Municipal Stores, belonging to the District Board, which he states will cost Rs. 2,000 an acre. The Director of Public Instruction and the Chairman, Municipal Council, Ootacamund, agree that this site will do admirably. In the Collector's opinion an acre would be ample for the school and its appurtenances.

Quite.

G. S. F[ORBES].

7. From paragraphs 8 and 9 of the Collector's letter, it will be observed that he considers that with the land (Rs. 2,000) and a latrine (say Rs. 300) the school could be provided with a suitable building in a good site for some Rs. 23,000. The Collector has discussed all these proposals on the spot with the Chairman, Municipal Council, Ootacamund, and the Director of Public Instruction who agree with him. Please see also Dr. Bourne's letter, dated 13th May 1909, No. 6617.

8. It is for consideration whether administrative approval may be accorded to the proposal to acquire the site now selected by the Collector and to build a school thereon. No provision has been made for the work in the Public Works Budget for 1909-1910.

A If the Collector's proposal is approved, the Public Works Department may be requested to issue orders to design the best school possible for about the Rs. 23,000 as worked out by the Collector in paragraph 9 of his letter.

9. As the Director of Public Instruction is in accord with the proposal made by the Collector, and in the light of the facts mentioned in paragraph 6 of the Collector's letter, the Director of Public Instruction has not furnished the information called for in paragraph 4 of Memorandum No. 141-1, dated 20th February 1909, regarding the ownership of the present school-house and the cost of its adaptation in case it is required by Government for the purposes of a school. This information will no longer be necessary, if the site selected by the Collector is approved and it is decided to build a new school-house on it, as recommended by Mr. Francis and agreed to by the Chairman, Municipal Council, and the Director of Public Instruction.

K. RANGASWAMI AIYANGAR—27-5-09.

Mr. Francis' letter is very clear and I can add nothing to it. But perhaps he may be asked to send a plan of the site selected by him and of the surrounding houses, etc. It seems clear that a building cannot be got for much under Rs. 25,000.

2. Mrs. McLeish, who says she is the proprietress of Bergheim, objects to the acquisition of the site. It seems necessary to get a good plan of the place.

C. A. SOUTER—27-5-09.

Yes. Please ask the Collector to send a plan of the place; the protest of Mrs. McLeish might be sent to him at the same time for remarks. I do not suppose it deserves much consideration.

L. M. WYNCH—28-5-09.

The draft memorandum placed below is for approval.

K. RANGASWAMI AIYANGAR—28-5-09.

Issue.

C. A. SOUTER—28-5-09.

[Memorandum No. 1009-1, Educational, dated 28th May 1909.]

From the Collector of the Nilgiris, dated 12th June 1909, No. D. Dis. 1062.

The Collector of the Nilgiris (Mr. Francis) submits a plan of the site proposed to be acquired for the secondary school at Ootacamund. In doing so he states that the site is not shut in on the west by the buildings on that side as the plan would seem to show but that the buildings are right below the site in a deep cutting running up as high as their roofs so that standing on the site one looks right over these buildings and away to Jail Hill. Similarly the buildings on the north-west are almost out of sight on lower ground.

2. Mrs. McLeish, the proprietress of Bergheim, objects to the acquisition of the site on the following grounds:—

This has nothing to do with her.

C.A.S.—17-6-09.

(1) The land is narrow and will not admit of any future extension to the building;

(2) The school, if built, will destroy the suitability of the grounds of Bergheim for building purposes and depreciate its value.

Nor this.

C.A.S.—17-6-09.

(3) The trees near the site are a source of insecurity to the proposed building.

3. The remarks of the Collector on these will be found in paragraphs 3 and 4 of his letter, D. Dis. No. 1062, dated 12th June 1909. In his opinion the objections are trivial. Mrs. McLeish, the Collector states, much exaggerates the drawback to the Bergheim property which the new school would constitute.

4. It is for consideration whether the acquisition of the site may be approved and the Public Works Department authorized to prepare detailed plans and estimates for the construction of a building.

P.R.—17-6-09.

T. KANAKASUNDARAM PILLAI—17-6-09.

The site may be acquired.

C. A. SOUTER—17-6-09.

The proposed site may now be acquired, I submit.

L. M. WYNCH—18-6-09.

I agree: and the Public Works Department may be asked as at A in office-note on page 5 *supra*.

G. S. F[ORBES]—19-6-09.

The Collector may now be asked to acquire the site and the Public Works Department to design a building. The building is to cost Rs. 20,000, the remaining Rs. 3,000 being for site and latrine.

L. M. WYNCH—21-6-09.

The draft order placed below is submitted for approval. It may be forwarded to the Public Works Department u.o. for acceptance.

P.R.—21-6-09.

T. KANAKASUNDARAM PILLAI—21-6-09.

C. A. SOUTER—22-6-09.

To the Public Works Department.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Accepted in the Public Works Department.

R. PARSONS—23-6-09.

P. HAWKINS—5-7-09.

To the Educational Department.

Issue.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

L. M. WYNCH—8-7-09.

[G.O., No. 403, Educational, dated 8th July 1909.]

Educational DEPARTMENT.

READ AGAIN G.O. No., dated..... 190 .

" " " " , " 190

READ ALSO:—

C. No.		From the		No.		dated	
141			S.P. 9	6647		23-1-	1909
827		" "	Collector of the Nilgiris	Rdis 218		15-4-	09
1009		" "	S.P. 9	6647		13-5-	1909
1168		" "	Collector of the Nilgiris	Dis 1062		12-6-	09
		" "	Proprietress of Berghem			12-5-	1909

ORDER.

RS

No. 403, dated 8-7-1909.

The Government approve the site selected by the Collector of the nilgiris for the construction of a building for the Secondary School, Ootacamund. The Collector will be requested to take very early steps to acquire the land.

2. Orders will issue in the P.W.D for the preparation of plans and estimates for a school building costing about Rs 20,000 as suggested by the Collector in para. 9 of his letter no 218 of 15th April 1900

The collector of the Nilgiris. (5)
 " D.P. 9 with 590. with 890.
 " RWA (CN^o 82740) in mass
 & then copy with notes in French

PQ
 26.6 g
 7.7 g

Chs
2269

Link
8/7/09

ORDINARY.

PREFERENCE.

Very URGENT (a).

EDUCATIONAL
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

Current No., dated 190 ..

G.O., No. 403, dated 8-7-1909.

Number of MS. pages sent { Correspondence including order or orders (b)
(b¹)
Notes.....

Docket: Secondary School, Ooty. Approving the site selection by the Collr. of Nilgiris for the construction of a building for the and to take any early steps to acquire the land.

Number (c) of copies required when struck off (not including copies for volumes and editors' table which are retained in the Press).

Complete Correspondence and orders.

Notes

FOR RECORD.*

Madras Records ... 40 20
Ooty Records ... 9 3
For filing with original ... 1 1

Total ... 50 24

FOR ISSUE.†

	Letter only.	Complete G.O.	(d) Special issue copies of G.O.		Notes.
			No.	Papers.	
Signature copies.....	3				
India Office.....					
Govt. of India.....Dept.					
Public Department.....					
Judicial Department.....					
Financial Department.....					
Revenue Department.....					
Public Works Department.....		10			
Local and Municipal Department.....					
.....Dept.					
Total ...					
Spare copies.	The Director of Public Instruction.....	5			
	The Comr. for Govt. Examinations.....				
	The Superintendent, Govt. Museum.....				
	The Surgeon-General.....				
	The Accountant-General.....				
	The Collector of.....				
	The P. D. B.....				
	The Collr. of Nilgiris.....	8			
	The.....				
	The.....				
	The.....				
	The.....				
Total ...			16		

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(a) If a paper is marked to be printed urgently, the Superintendent of the section concerned should sign the Press slip. The Superintendent should exercise a careful discretion in the matter.

(b) Each letter, memorandum, or order, or set of orders, in the file of correspondence should be headed in succession with the Roman numeral I, II, III, etc., the number being written in red ink or blue chalk above the item. The particular papers to be printed in the special issue-copies should be indicated by the Roman numeral (I, II, etc.) by which that item has been headed in the correspondence file. All matter, including marginal remarks or references, to be printed should be written in ink and matter which should not be printed should be encircled. Initials and signatures that are not quite legible should be re-written distinctly.

(b¹) For rules regarding printing of notes, see the rules in G.O., No. 1220, Public, dated 30th November 1900.

(c) The number of copies and the details of distribution should be filled in by the Superintendent or Referencer concerned.

(d) In the absence of special instructions to the Press to keep matter standing for a specified period, ordinary papers of 8 pages and under will be kept standing for one week, and larger papers for two weeks only. The type of notes and of all confidential papers is distributed immediately after striking.

(e) This slip, properly and completely filled in, should accompany every paper sent to Press; it will be returned by the Press when proofs are furnished; it should be sent to the Press when a call is made for revised proofs or when a corrected proof is sent for striking. When finally returned by Press it should be filed with the original order or letter.

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(a) If, in the opinion of the Superintendent of the Press, a paper has been marked urgent unnecessarily, he should send the Press slip to the Deputy Registrar with a remark to that effect.

(b) Unless a note to the contrary is made against the matter, pencil entries should not be printed. The Superintendent of the Press may bring to the notice of the Deputy Registrar any instance of incomplete or careless editing.

(c) Signature copies of letters to the Secretary of State or to the Government of India should be printed on hand-made paper.

(d) This slip should be returned by the Press to the Secretariat when proofs are furnished; it will be sent back to the Press when proofs are returned corrected and should be finally returned to the Secretariat when struck-off copies are supplied.

(e) The names of the Secretary and Members should be printed in full when they occur on the right hand side, but only the first time when they appear on the left side, the initials alone being printed later.

* Copies distributed on.....*(Press Clerk.)

† Copies distributed on.....*(Despatcher.)

* To be initialed and dated.

TO PRESS, MADRAS.
OOTY.

A	B	C
Please send proof in triplicate. The papers have been carefully edited.	Proof returned corrected. Please strike off and send number of copies as indicated.	As the matter is clear manuscript and has been carefully edited, (b) proof need not be sent. Please print and supply number of copies as indicated.
	Type may be released after usual interval at once.	Type may be released after usual interval.
..... K. R. Clerk. 8-7-9	 Clerk.	 Clerk.
..... 78 Supdt. 8-7-9	 Supdt.	 Supdt.

(b) Three copies of proof of all notes should be sent for approval, except when instructions are given to the contrary.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.

TO BE FILLED IN BY THE PRESS.

Diary.	Initials of Press official.
Received in Press on..... 97	
First proof furnished on..... 12/7	
Call for revised proof received on.....	
Revised proof furnished on.....	
Corrected proof received for striking on.....	
Final copies supplied on.....	

Account of copies.	Complete copies.	Notes.	Issue copies.
Supplied to Secretariat for Record.....			
" " " Issue.....			
For Volumes.....			
For E. T.....			
Total			

First copy sent to Press.

Returned for signature.

Despatched in Print.

READ AGAIN G.O. No. 190

DAIED

CORRENT No.

ENCLOSURE TO C. No.

CERTIFICATE OF GOVERNMENT.

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

REMARKS NOT TO BE WRITTEN UP, BEING MEANT FOR REFERENCE IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.

- A = Print in full.
- B = Not to be printed.
- P = Print abstract only.
- Q = Print heading only.