

Home (Education) (1917) Department.

Ordinary SERIES.

G.O. No. 300.

DATED 5-3-1917

INDEXED

[Despatch Abstract.]

Conservation notes.

Recording the ----- of the Superintendent, Archaeological Survey, on the Buddhist monuments at Guntapalle, approving the proposal to declare them protected under the 'Act' and calling for a revised draft of a notification under section 3 (1) of the Act.

PAPERS PUT UP WITH CURRENT No.

Papers of the department to which the current belongs.

Number.	Date.	Original (=O) or spare copy (= S.C.).	Remarks. (In this column such of the papers as have been removed for copying, printing, etc., should be marked with a cross.)	Initials of Referencer with date in token of return to Reference department

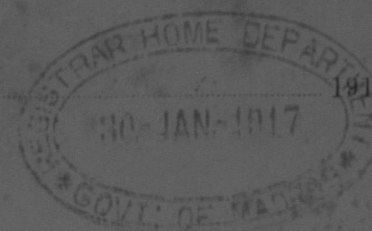
Papers of other departments.

Department.	Number	Date.	Original (= O.) or spare copy (= S.C.).	Initials with date of (1) Referencer acknowledging returns of the paper concerned or (2) Despatcher to denote the return of the papers to the department concerned.

HOME (EDUCATION)
PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

R.F.D.—80-a.

Received



Registered

CN 4658
30.1.1917
2

Subject.

Submitting printed copies of Inspection Notes on the Buddhist Monuments at Guntapalee, Ellore Taluk, Kistna District.

ENCLOSURES.

No. One

(in duplicate)

Spare copies

No. 54

Station (Camp) Udayagiri, Dated the 27 January 1917
29

From (Name) A. H. Longhurst, Esq.,

(Designation) Superintendent, Archaeological Survey,

Southern Circle, Madras.

To the ~~Chief~~ Secretary to the Government of Madras

Home (Education) Department,

M A D R A S.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit herewith, in duplicate copies of my "Inspection Notes on the Buddhist Monuments at Guntapalle, Ellore Taluk, Kistna District, dated the 19th December 1916".

2. Copies of these Inspection Notes have been forwarded to the Director General of Archaeology, Superintending Engineer, Second Circle and to the Collector of Kistna District.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

A. H. Longhurst
Superintendent.

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INSPECTION NOTES ON THE BUDDHIST MONUMENTS AT GUNTAPALLE,
KISTNA DISTRICT.

The little Zamindari village of Guntapalle is situated 6 miles to the west of Kamavarapukota in the Ellore taluk of the Kistna district, and 28 miles to the north of Ellore railway station. About a mile to the north of the village is a small sandstone hill running from east to west and covered with scrub jungle. In the centre of this hill, facing the south is a horseshoe-shaped ravine about half a mile, in length and 500 yards wide at its entrance. On the western side of this ravine is a circular rock-cut Buddhist temple containing a monolithic model of a stūpa, and a large Vihara or Monastery. At the end of the ravine, is a ridge or saddle connecting the two sides of the hill forming the horseshoe-shaped ravine and on this ridge and the hillside immediately to the west of it are the following remains of Buddhist monuments: A small ruined rock-cut monastery, a ruined brick chaitya or temple, the remains of a large pillared hall or mandapa, a stone-built stūpa, and a large group of ruined stūpas on the ridge. There are also two other rock-cut excavations on this hill but they are unimportant and not worthy of preservation. The following repairs are required:—

(1) *Rock-cut Temple.*—Remove the loose blocks of stone and rubbish from the interior. Remove the linga stuck in the hole in the dome of the stūpa and fill up the hole with cement in order to prevent another linga being set up in this position. It is important that this repair be carried out so as to prevent this Buddhist temple being used as a Siva shrine by the ignorant villagers who spoil the building with coatings of whitewash and red paint from time to time. The stone bull set up in front of the shrine, outside, should also be removed with a similar object in view.

(2) The left-hand side of the entrance is broken. This has been repaired with clumsy blocks of sandstone. Remove these and repair the same with smaller blocks cut to the required thickness of the wall. The joints should be as fine as possible and when finished the surface should be whitewashed to make the new work look like the rest of the wall. The existing sandstone blocks should be used for this work as they only want recutting as required.

(3) Clear the terrace in front of all loose stone, vegetation and rubbish and expose the original stone paving below which should be

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repaired where necessary. Construct a proper revetment to the terrace in front and a flight of stone steps down to the path below. Construct a pathway, 3 feet wide, revetted on the outer side, to the large rock-cut monastery immediately to the north of it. Remove the notice board to the main approach up the new flight of steps at its junction with the path below. It should be worded so as to embrace all these remains. Remove all trees and jungle on the hillside which obstruct the view of the temple from the path below.

(4) *Large Monastery*.—Clean out the interiors of the cells, level the floors and provide drainage. Remove loose stone and rubbish from the terrace. Revet the terrace in front and level same. Remove all vegetation from the hillside in front of the monastery which obstructs the view from the path below. Provide steps so as to afford easy access into the cells, where necessary. Construct a path along the hillside, 3 feet wide, revetted on the outer side, from the terrace to the group of stūpas on the ridge. No structural repairs are required as the building is monolithic and there is no real weight to be carried by the supports below.

(5) *Small Monastery*.—This is the small unfinished and decayed rock-cut monastery on the hill above the larger one. Clean out the interior, remove loose stone, rubbish and jungle growth from the ground in front of it.

(6) *Brick Chaitya or Temple*.—This is situated close to the last. It was partly excavated by my predecessor Mr. A. Rea in 1889, and has been left in the same state, ever since with the result, that it is covered in rank vegetation. This and the big tree growing in the front wall which faces the south, should be removed. The trench all round and the portions excavated inside, should be cleaned out, so as to show the plan of the building. All trees and vegetation for a distance of 12 feet all round the site should be removed.

(7) *Ruined Mandapa*.—This is close to the brick chaitya and to the east of the latter. Only four ruined pillars stand upright. This site should be cleared of trees and rank vegetation.

(8) *Stone-built Stūpa*.—This was excavated by Mr. Rea in 1889. Remove all vegetation. Clear out the trench round the stūpa and all round the site so that it can be seen or photographed from any side. Fill up the hole made in the dome with stones and earth and reface the stūpa with carefully cut blocks of stone. Many of the old blocks are lying on the side of the trench, these should be used as far as

3

possible in preference to new stones. The original building was not pointed, but there is no objection to pointing the new stone work with a view to preventing the growth of vegetation, providing the pointing is recessed an one-eighth of an inch, so that no signs of pointing will appear on the surface when the work is completed. The broken stone pillars lying in the trench around the stūpa should be carefully stacked on the bank above.

(9) *Large Group of Stūpas*.—These are situated on the ridge. Mr. Rea in 1889, estimated their total number to be about 35. The whole site is covered with them and it should be kept free from trees and jungle growth. At some future date it will be necessary to open them. The largest is a brick mound on the summit of the highest part of the ridge and forms the last stūpa on the eastern side of the group. Originally, this stūpa had a flight of stone steps leading up to its terrace on the western side. The steps are in ruins, and one slab bears an inscription. This stone should be removed for protection to the shelter of the small monastery on the hillside to the west of this stūpa.

(10) It will be necessary to construct a proper pathway, at least 3 feet in width, from the village to the group of stūpas on the ridge. All jungle growth encroaching on the pathway should be cut back for a distance of 3 feet on each side of the new pathway. The length of the path to be maintained in good order will be about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles. The last half mile of the path runs through jungle and this portion of the path will require steps here and there where it passes over boulders and uneven ground.

(11) When the repairs proposed above have been completed, provision for "Annual repairs" will have to be made by the Public Works Department every year, for the removal of vegetation and the upkeep of the new paths and terraces. The local P.W.D. Overseer should inspect these valuable ancient monuments at least once a year and submit a report on their condition.

(12) Since they are situated on Zamindari property, and an attempt has already been made to convert the rock-cut Buddhist temple into a Śiva shrine with the result that it has been covered in whitewash and the "tee" has been removed and a linga set up in its place, and it is possible that the stūpas on the hill may also be tampered with by the treasure-seekers, I consider it advisable that these seven monuments be "declared protected" and henceforth, maintained in good repair at Government expense, but I do not think it is necessary to appoint a special watchman to look after them.

The Zamindar should be asked to assist the Government in their preservation by issuing orders to the local villagers to refrain from whitewashing the Buddhist temple and inform them that this temple has no connection whatever, with the worship of Siva. The object of worship enshrined within the temple is a stone model of a stūpa (relic-mound) and is not a linga.

(13) *Kamavarapukota*.—About a mile to the south-west of the village of Kamavarapukota there is a small sandstone hillock covered in scrub jungle. At the base of this hillock on its northern side, are two rock-cut bas-reliefs of Vāli and Sugrīva, each about 8 feet high. A flight of steps, partly built and partly rock-cut, leads up to a natural cave, which has been partly hewn out of the rock so as to convert it into a Hindu shrine. The entrance is built of masonry. A hole in the roof has been closed with stone beams. Inside are two well-executed images of doorkeepers, carved on detached stones, but these and the entire interior of the shrine is covered with bat's ordure. It is said to contain a rock-cut inscription, but the interior is in such a filthy condition it is not possible to inspect the interior properly in its present condition.

(14) To the left of the cave, a flight of steps leads up to a little structural temple built on a small platform. It contains a stone image of Lakshmi set up on a pedestal.

(15) On the side of the flight of steps, is a large rock-cut bas-relief of Garuda.

(16) The mud-walled fort at Kamavarapukota is of no particular historic interest.

(17) Situated in a field to the north of the fort, is a four-pillared mandapa. The pillars are nicely carved and one of them contains a small inscription on the upper part of the shaft but it appears to be too decayed to be legible.

(18) Personally, I do not think any of these remains at Kamavarapukota, are worthy of preservation as ancient monuments.

A. H. LONGHURST,

(Camp), GUNTAPALLE, Superintendent,
19th Dec. 1916. Archaeological Survey.

Home
(Ed. 4)

12.4.65.

Enclt. No. 465-1

10.2.17

Referred to the

Collector of District for report on the suggestion contained in para (12) of the inspection notes.

To The Secy of Dist. -
(L. Enclt. 4 as per notes)
12.2.17

8.2.17

8.2.17

9.2.17

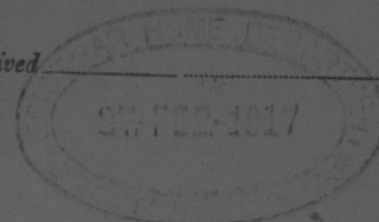
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C No 9358e

C.2-n

HOME DEPARTMENT.

Received



191

Registered

27. 2

1917

Subject.

Submitting a draft notification for publication in the
Fort Saint George Gazette under Sec. 3 of the Ancient Monuments
Preservation Act (7 of 1904)

ENCLOSURES.

No. _____

Spare copies _____

Re No. 3137/8 of 1916.

Station Masulipatam, Dated the 23rd February 1917

From (Name) A.Y.G. Campbell Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.,

(Designation) Collector, Kistna District.

To The SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

HOME DEPARTMENT.

Sir,

page 6 out

Adverting to Government endorsement No. 465-1
dated 10th February 1917 calling for a report on the sug-
gestion contained in para 12 of the Inspection notes from
the Superintendent, Archaeological Survey, Madras, I have
(2) the honour to invite your attention to G.O.No.71 Public
dated 24th January 1910 directing the publication in the
Fort St. George Gazette and in the Kistna District Gazette
of notifications prohibiting excavations or quarrying

50 No. -2-8

of the conditions under which Government entered upon the land without her knowledge. She states that a formal lease from her is necessary if the stupas and chytas are to be conserved under the Act and requests that the provisions of the Act may be followed so that there may not be any unnecessary litigation over this matter. On consideration of this question with reference to this office records it appears that the notification required under Section 3 of the Act has not been published and the agreement required under Section 5 of the Act had not been entered into with the proprietrix. On a reference made to the Superintendent, Archaeological Survey the monuments in question have been inspected by him and he suggests that these monuments should be declared protected under Section 3 (1) of the Act. I have the honour therefore to submit herewith for favour of approval and publication in the Fort St. George Gazette a notification required under Section 3 of the Act. A few spare copies of the notification may also be supplied to me for affixing the same in conspicuous places and near the monuments. The Superintendent, Archaeological Survey, has been requested to draft an agreement required under Section 5 of the Act.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

[Signature]
For Collector.

SS.24.

non
24/2/17

etory v.

1. Rock-cut, circular model of a stupa.
2. Large Rock cut monastery.
3. Small ruined rock-cut monastery.
4. Remains of a brick Chaitya.
5. Stone built stupa.
6. Ruined Mandapa. 7
7. Large group of stupas on the saddle of the hill.

(2) Any person who in contravention of this objects to the issue of this notification shall, within one month from the date of this notification, file their objections for the consideration of the Governor in Council.

(3) On the expiry of the said period of one month the Governor in Council, after considering the objections, if any, shall confirm these monuments as protected or withdraw the notification.

Mistna Collector's Office,
Masulipatam,

Dated 23rd February 1917.

SS.24.

non
24/2/17

[Signature]
For Collector.

le-465, from the Supdt., Arch. Survey, No.

54, dt. the 27th January 1917

Subject:- Conservation notes on the
Buddhist Monuments at Guntapalle.

The only point on which
the orders of Govt. are necessary is the
proposal in para (12) of the inspection
notes that the seven monuments at
Guntapalle should be declared
protected under Section 3 of the Ancient
Monuments Preservation Act. The
monuments in question already find a
place in the standard list of
monuments selected for conservation.
The suggestion to leaving them within
the operation of the Act may in the
first instance be referred to the
Collector.

2 A draft order is submitted.

8.1.17
8.1.17

9.1.17
12/

Printed on p. 17 of the list at
(R)

in item 29 on p. 1 at 21/17
(R)

[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side. Some words like "draft", "notice", and "submitted" are faintly visible.]

1

p-90.F

In the circumstances stated by the
Lodges, the Lodge may agree to the proposal
to declare the Buddhist monuments at
Guntapalle 'protected' under the Act.
As the draft notice submitted by the
Lodge is not however in proper form
he may be furnished with a sample
draft, say a copy of the notice
(To) published under G.O. No. 54 Home - M.D.,
the 16th Aug. 1916 and he may be asked to
submit a revised notice prepared
on the lines thereof.

3 A draft notice is submitted for
approval.

[Signature]
27.2.17
[Signature]
25.2.17

[Signature]
2/3/17
Lee
[Signature]
4.3.17

Not referred to in the
lecturer's letter is
mentioned.

sent out 20/11

18/11/16

See page
with final
ms

To
the Supdt. of the Survey
" Letter of instruction
with a copy of G.O.

54 Home-Mts. (without notes)

16-8-16

(16)

(16)

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITTO

PERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL

S.B.-

A = Copy in full.

B = Not to be copied.

Statement only.