

Home (191⁸). Department.
(Education)

Ordinary SERIES.

G.O. No. 1011.

DATED 3-8-1908.

INDEXED

[Despatch Abstract.]

Ancient monuments preservation Act, 1904.

Directing that the ruins of the Roman Catholic Portuguese Church at Porto Novo should be declared 'protected' under the ----- and calling on the Collector of South Arcot to submit the necessary draft agreement and notification.

NOTES.

Page _____

PAPERS PUT UP WITH CURRENT No. _____

Papers of the department to which the current belongs.

Number.	Date.	Original (= O.) or spare copy (= S.O.)	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.O.)	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.

None Dept.
(Ed. 2)

le 109/B.

Memo. 109B 2.2.18

The attention of the
Supdt., Archaeological
Survey, is invited to the
allusion to the ruins of
of the ^{Roman Catholic} Portuguese Church
at Porto Novo on pages
81 to 281 of the South
Arch. Dist. Gazetteer,
and he is requested to
report what information
he has about the present
condition of the ruins
and whether it would be
desirable to having the
monument under the
Ancient Monuments
Preservation Act.

2 The reply to this
reference should be
submitted through the
Collector of South Arch.

to the Supdt., Arch.
Survey }
copy to the collector of
S. Arch. & }
30.1.18.
Memo GR.
1.2.18

Porto Novo.

1.8.18

9.5

CA
9.3.18

Urgent

9/80-3-17.

C.F.-29.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

Received



Registered

22 3 1918

Subject.



Submitting a report and proposals concerning the Portuguese Church at Forte Novo, South Arcot District.

ENCLOSURES

No. One

No. 163

Five copies Nil

Station Madras, Dated the 9th March 1918

From (Name) A. H. Longhurst, Esq.,
(Designation) Superintendent, Archaeological Survey,
Southern Circle.

To The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
HOME (EDUCATION) Department.

Sir, (Through) The Collector of South Arcot District.

As requested in Home (Education) Department Memorandum No. 109 B-1, dated the 2nd February 1918 I have the honour to submit herewith a report on the condition of the ruined Roman Catholic Portuguese Church at Forte Novo in the South Arcot District.

2. The historical interest of the monument in question is set forth on pages 81 and 381 of the South Arcot District Gazetteer.

3. Architecturally, the building or rather what remains of it, is an insignificant little structure about 70 feet in length and 20 feet in width, now roofless and overgrown with cactus and bushes. The back (west) and parts of the side

2
4
walls of the chancel and the remains of a brick and plaster altar and a semi-circular arch separating the chancel from the nave of the church still exist, although in a seriously ruined condition as may be seen in the accompanying photograph. The roof and walls of the nave have fallen and very little of this portion of the building remains. The interior is full of brick debris and cactus and the same remarks apply to the area all round the outside of the building. Before a thorough inspection of the ruins could be made with a view to ascertaining what steps could be taken to preserve them from further decay, it would be necessary to remove the cactus from inside and all round the outside of the building for a distance of 50 feet. Let into the floor of the chancel, in front of the ruined altar, is the memorial slab to John Harrop, dated 1776 mentioned as Serial No. 834, page 156, Volume III of "List of Inscriptions on Tombs or Monuments of Madras" by Mr. J.J. Cotton. This slab thus indicates the original floor level of the chancel and the interior should be excavated and cleaned out down to this depth. In all probability, the original level of the floor of the nave was about one foot lower than that of the chancel. In the centre of the floor of the nave was once inserted the inscribed memorial slab No. 835 of the list cited above, recording the death of a child Louisa Weston and dated 1830. Last year, this slab was removed and re-fixed within the walled enclosure surrounding the Dutch Cemetery of Porto Novo which is situated at a distance of about one mile from the ruined Portuguese Church. The latter is situated to the extreme east of the town and close to the Traveller's Bungalow and faces the sea. I inspected the church with the Deputy Tahsildar of Porto Novo and several local people offered information about the ruins. They informed me that about 30 years ago the floor of the church was paved with well-cut polished flag stones and that some missionaries from Cuddalore came and sold these slabs to residents of the town. Last year missionaries from Cuddalore came and cut down and sold a number of trees growing around the ruins, so I presume the building is the property of some Roman Catholic Mission at Cuddalore.

4. The conservation of the Dutch Cemetery at Porto Novo which contains a number of interesting inscribed tombs which are recorded on pages 154 to 156 of Mr. Cotton's list cited above, is not in my

charge, neither do I know under what authority the inscribed slab to the memory of the child Louisa Weston mentioned above was removed from the Portuguese Church and re-fixed in the Dutch Cemetery last year. The tombs in the Dutch Cemetery are in good repair but some of the inscriptions require cleaning and oiling in order to remove the whitewash with which they have been disfigured. The compound requires weeding and the broken wooden gate should be repaired and kept locked in order to avoid cattle trespass.

5. Before any repairs are undertaken with regard to the conservation of the Portuguese Church, the first thing to be done is to ascertain who are the legal owners of the property and what steps if any, they are prepared to take to conserve the ruins as an historic monument. Personally, I consider that these ruins are of sufficient historical interest, as one of the earliest Portuguese buildings in Southern India, to justify the cost of preserving the site and also what actually remains of the structure itself from further decay at Government expense, if no funds are forthcoming from any other source.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

A.H. Longhurst.
Superintendent.

163 B+G 7/18

Immed

Supra

2. Supra is being used regarding the points mentioned in the first sentence of para 5 of the report & the same will be reported in due course.

RECEIVED
10/10/18

With 2 columns & 2 rows
Please see footnote
p. 27 of p. 506 W
9-11-2-1915
24/3/15

1602 of 1918
cc mis

HOME (Education) DEPARTMENT.



Received

191

Registered

1918

Subject.

Regarding the Ruined Roman Catholic Portuguese Church at Porto Novo (South Arcot).

R.N.J.L.S. RES.

No.

Spare copies

R.O.C. No. 163-B & G of 1918.

Station Cuddalore, Dated the 16th April 1918.

From (Name) N.E. Marjoribanks Esq., I.C.S.
(Designation) Collector of South Arcot.

To The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
HOME (Education) Department.

Sir,

In continuation of this office endorsement No. R.O.C. 163-B & G of 1918, dated 21st March 1918 forwarding to Government, the report of the Archaeological Superintendent regarding the ruined Roman Catholic Portuguese Church at Porto Novo, I have the honour to state that the legal ownership of the building is reported to vest in the archdiocese of Pondicherry and the Archbishop is being addressed to know what steps the mission is prepared to take for the conservation of the ruins. His reply will be communicated

on

on receipt:

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

M. M. M. M. M.

Collector.

R.G./16-4-18. Exd. 102
16 4 18

RECEIVED

8 APR 1918

H O M E (Educational)

DEPARTMENT.

Received



Registered

Subject.

Recommending the preservation of the ruins of
the Roman Catholic Portugese Church at Porto Novo at
Government expense.

ENCLOSURES

No.

Spare copies

D. Dis. No. 1589-Cor. of 1918.

Station Cuddalore, Dated the 2nd June 1918.

From (Name) Khan Bahadur S.M.M. Osman Sahib Bahadur
B.A., B.L.,
(Designation) Ag. Collector of South Arcot.

To The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
H O M E (Educational) Department.

Sir,

Referring to Government Memorandum No. 109-B-1, dated
2nd February 1918 and in continuation of this office letter
No. 163-B & G of 1918, dated 16th April 1918, I have the
honour to state that Rev. Father P. Verdure, Principal,
St. Joseph's School, Cuddalore to whom control over the
ruins has been given by the Archbishop E.J. Moral of
Pondicherry who is reported to be the legal owner of the
ruined Roman Catholic Portugese Church at Porto Novo,
says that the mission has no idea of spending any money
in the repair and up-keep of the ruins; that it is willing
to

(9)
to resign to Government all the rights in respect of the ruined church with a view to its preservation by the Government as a historic monument and to enter into an agreement with the Secretary of State subject to certain conditions, which are set forth in the letter of Rev. Verdure sent herewith in original.

2. It appears from the statement (enclosed) of Rev. Gaston the Parish priest at Cuddalore O.T. in immediate charge of the ruined church that the removal of the slab from the ruined Portuguese church to the Dutch cemetery ordered in the foot-note on page 27 of G.O.306-W., dated 11th February 1918 took place without his permission and in spite of his protest. The Archdeacon, Madras may be in a position to explain the circumstances under which the slab was removed.

3. In the light of the remarks made by the Superintendent Archeological Survey Southern Circle in the last sentence of his letter to Government, dated 9th March 1918, I have the honour to recommend that the preservation of the church which has no endowment for its upkeep may be ordered to be taken up at Government expense.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

W. S. S. S.
4.6.18
for Ag. Collector.

R.C./4-6-18. Exd.

Pos
4.6.18

4 JUN 1918



(10)

Wellington, 28th May 1918

Board & Govt. Regr. No. 163

mis

Rev. Father P. Verdure

Principal, St. Joseph's S. School
Cuddalore,

To

The Acting Collector
of South Arcot.

Sir,

With reference to your letter R.O.C. No. 163 B & G of 1918 I have the honour to state that the Church at Porto Novo is in such a condition that it cannot be used any longer for religious worship, unless it is completely restored, and that the Mission does not intend to restore it, or to build on or near its site, because the Catholics of Porto Novo are at present settled a long way from that spot. For the same reason the grave yard itself is no longer used as a burying ground. The Mission is not also willing to sell the land on which the ruined Church stands because it is consecrated ground.

Under these circumstances the Archbishop of Pondicherry would gladly consent to resign to the Government his proprietary or other rights in respect of the ruined Church at Porto Novo and the grave yard, along with the land attached to them, with a view to their

(11)

preservation by Government as historic monuments.
And His Grace is ready to enter into an agree-
ment to that effect with the Secretary of State
for India on the following conditions:

- (i) that, if at any future time the monument,
grave yard and land in question are used for
religious purposes, only Roman Catholics will be
allowed to use them;
- (ii) that the Roman Catholic Priest and his faith-
ful will have free access to the monument, grave
yard and land in question when, on certain
festal occasions, it may be necessary for them
to visit the same for religious observances.

3 I must add here that some time ago a
slab was removed, by order, from our grave-
yard at Porto Novo and transferred to another
cemetery, and that the first step to be taken
for the preservation of the property in question
should be the restoration of that slab. The
Rev. H. Gaston of Cuddalore old Town will be in
a position to give full particulars on this
point.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant

P. Verdure

Kindy the
~~copy~~
~~copy~~

120

Statement of Rev: H. Gaston, Cuddalore Dist.

The ruined Church at
Portonovo is now in my charge. I think that the
Church was first under the management of East
India Company, that the Company afterwards
transferred it to the Portuguese. The properties
of the Portuguese were afterwards transferred
to the mission at Pondichery. I am now in charge
of that. The Church & Cemetery at Portonovo are in
bad condition. I wrote to Govt 2 or 3 years ago to

them but I have not yet received a final reply.
I received an acknowledgment from the private
Secretary of 30.11.17 stating that my letter
would be considered in the Ecclesiastical Dept.
but no Communication was afterwards sent to
me.

No Slab Stone was sold. ^{about a year ago} ~~two months ago~~

The Archdeacon of Madras asked my permission
to remove the slab stone of Lewis Weston to the
Dutch Cemetery. I refused to give permission.
I afterwards learnt that it was removed. I
am going to protest against it.

I sold some trees in 1841.
to Rava Muckay & with the money realized.
I have to build a small house for the priest
at that place.

(13)

repair the church & cemetery I must arrange
to the repair. I am waiting for the
from Govt. owing to want of money I cant
repair now.

H. Castor

R. C. Priest

Caddalore O.T.
23. 3. 18.

Before me

not
23 $\frac{3}{18}$



G. 189.

ILFORD ORDINARY PLATES

Development

Stock Pyro. 10% Solution.	Pyrogallie Acid	1 ounce	or	25 grms.
	Potassium Metabisulphite	100 grains		6 "
	Water up to	10 ounces		250 c.cm.
No. 1	Stock Pyro Solution	2 "	or	50 grms
	Water up to	20 "		500 c.cm.
No. 2	Sodium Carbonate (Crystals)	2 "	or	50 grms.
	Sodium Sulphite (Crystals)	2 "		50 "
No. 3	Potassium Bromide (Sol. No. 4)	2 drams	or	6 c.cm.
	Water up to	20 ounces		300 "
No. 4	Metol	100 grains	or	6 grms.
	Sodium Sulphite (Crystals)	1 ounce		25 "
No. 5	Water up to	10 ounces	or	250 c.cm.
	Potassium Bromide	1 ounce		25 grms.
	Water up to	10 ounces		250 c.cm.

For Normal exposures take equal quantities of Nos. 1 and 2.

For Under exposures add 1 dram (3 c.cm.) of No. 3 to each ounce (25 c.cm.) of mixed developer.

For Over exposures add 1 dram (3 c.cm.) of No. 4 to each ounce (25 c.cm.) of mixed developer.

Pour the developer evenly over the plate, avoiding air bubbles; rock the dish carefully, keeping the plate well covered with solution. Continue development after all detail is out, until sufficient density is obtained. Judge of this by looking through the plate.

Development of a properly exposed Ordinary Plate may require from 1 to 4 minutes according to the temperature of the developer, nature of subject, etc. Flat subjects should be developed longer than contrasty ones. An average time would be 2½ minutes at 65° Fahr. (18° C.). Low temperatures mean slow development; high temperatures lead to foggy negatives.

Fixing—Rinse well and fix in Sodium Hyposulphite 1 lb. (400 grms.); Water 40 ounces (1000 c.cm.). Leave the plate in this Bath for several minutes after fixation is apparently complete.

Acid Fixing—Add 1 ounce (25 grms.) Potassium Metabisulphite to the above fixing bath.

Wash for an hour before drying.

Certinal—a concentrated one-solution developer, requiring the addition of water only, is admirably suited for the development of Ilford Plates, Papers and Films. In 3 ounce bottles.

ILFORD Limited, Ilford, London, England.

E. 15

le. 109/84,
524

Home (Ed. M.) Dept.

le. 649/B, from the Supdr., Arch. Bureau,
No. 163, d/ 9.3.18.

Subject:- Report as to the conservation
of the Portuguese Monuments at Porto Novo.

The further report promised
in the letter of 5.5.18 may be awaited
and as reminded issued to the
letter, if necessary, on the 1st May
1918. The necessary time the estimate
may be forwarded w/o to Mr.
Richards for perusal.

5.4.18

5/4/18

54.18

M. F. Richards no.

225

9418

Returned with thanks

The irreparable vandalism of
the Cuddalore misnomer is to
be deplored.

15418

Home (Ed. M.) VU.

le. 649/B, from the Supdr., Arch. Bureau, 162. 12.4/16, 16.4.18

The further report promised, by the
letter, may be awaited, as the letter

last sentence of
letter at p. 6, c. 7.



if the report is not received by
the 25th May a remittance must go out

Remittance paid
4. 28/5.

22.4.18.

22.4.18.

24/4/18.

pp 849, c.f.

1888/18, from the Coll. of S. A. Arch.
D. 155. 1889-1901/18, 2/2. 6. 18.

The collector's

final report since received discloses

① that the legal ownership of the
Roman Catholic ^{Portuguese} Church at Paternoster
rests in the Archbishop of Pondicherry

② that the mission has no idea
of spending any money in the repair
and up-keep of the church; and

③ that the mission is prepared
to resign to Govt. all ^{its} rights
in respect of the ruined church, and
the adjoining garden yard, and land
with a view to its preservation by
Govt. and to enter into an agreement
with the Secy. of State subject to
the two conditions ^(at p. 11, c.f.): the use of the
church for religious worship

para 5, p. 5, c. f. &
para 3, p. 9, c. f.

1 Since it has been recom-
mended by the Arch. Supdt. and
the Coll. that the Church is
worthy of preservation, it may

be declared a "protected" monument under Sec. 3 of the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, and its upkeep undertaken by the Govt. In the agreement which will have to be entered into under Sec. 5 of the Act, the conditions are: religious worship mentioned by the Rev. Father Verdure may also be incorporated.

3. Before however the requisite draft notice and agreement are called for from the Collector, some enquiry ^(appears necessary) must be made with a view: to the State that the memorial shall in memory of the ^{from the Portuguese} ~~Portuguese~~ ^{slab} deposited in the Dutch cemetery.

It is not known ~~exactly~~ under what circumstances this removal was ordered. Now that its restoration to the R.C. Portuguese Church is asked for as a first step towards the preservation of the property, the question has to be examined.

The P. W. D. and Ecclesiastical Dept. may in the first instance be requested to state the circumstances under which ~~the slab was ordered to be removed~~ the slab was ordered to be removed.

13-6-18 JH
1860

15/6/18

Home (887) no.
18.839 B-1
17.6.18

M. Richards (no.)

July 17/18

For order whether the file may now be forwarded no. to P.W.D. and Ecclesiastical as suggested at end of the note on the previous page.

18.6.18

19.6.18

20/6/18

P.W.D.
Ecclesiastical

draft notice and agreement called for from the P.W.D. D.W.

Please see para 3 of the Home (Educational) dept note on p. 3 ante. There is no information about the circumstances under which the slab was removed. It is observed that that the tomb of Louisa Weston and the Dutch Cemetery at Port Novo are both in charge of the Revenue Dept. vide p. 48 of G.O. No. 306 W. D. 11. 2. 15. In this G.O. it was directed that the slab of the tomb mentioned above should be removed from



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
G. NO. 1591 ACCTS.
DATE, 24/6/18.

x pag 9.

do

1571 Acbs

Flag's

Item 21 on
p 48 of memo 1911 w 5
6-2-18 flag A



Reg-47-18
CURRENT NO 396
EPISTOLICAL

1911/1912/1913
4-7-18

NOTES.

from the ruined Portuguese church
and these let into the wall & may lead
to the Dutch Cemetery. vide the
last note on p 48 of the S.O.
(which is the last)
In the report for 1916-17 on the
Condition of Cemeteries and
tombes, the Collector of South
Arcot reported that "orders
are being issued by the
Divisional officer to carry
out at once the instructions
issued ⁱⁿ ~~as to the~~ ^{to the} S.O.
No 306 w 5 11-2-15." ^{The} ~~also~~
~~was also issued from the~~
Correspondence in the current
file ^{shows} that this ~~has~~ ^{has} been
~~done since~~ ^{done since} ~~revised~~ ^{revised}. The Archdeacon
will presumably be in a
position to explain the
Circumstances under which
^{recommended for removal to the Dutch Cemetery}
the Rel was ~~revised~~. The
file may be passed on to
the Public (Encl) dept n.o.

W.M.
8/7
Public. (Encl) J.C.

18

referred
(see)

In his report on Cemeteries and tombs in the of the 14th Aug 1910 the Coll: of South Arcot stated that the old Church Portuguese Church at Tols Doo was rapidly falling into ruin and that the inscription slabs on the tombs of ^{which were hit into the floor of the church} goes Harop + Louisa Weston were likely to be lost sight of, and accordingly recommended their removal to the Dutch Cemetery in the same station - item 2 on p 55 of the report of 14.5.1910. Through a mistake ^{in printing} only the removal of only the slab on the tomb of Louisa Weston was ordered in the Co. refused to above - vide footnote on p 58 of the Co. The present Coll: of South Arcot has apparently lost sight of his predecessor's report of 14.5.1910.

2. Was that the ruined Portuguese Church at Tols Doo is proposed to be preserved under the Ancient Monuments Act this leftst need not object to the restoration of Louisa Weston's slab to its old position in the Church.

3. With these remarks the file may be returned to Home (Co.).

Home 23-10

Please see
p 8 of notes on
the linked case.

removed



Please see notes on
p 9 + 10

9. need cutting
be retained if the
building is preserved.

MP
11719

Encl: L.O. 396-1
12.7.18

19

Home (Edy)

Please see Ecclesiastical note at 'A' on the previous page.

2 A draft order is held. It may go to the P. W. D. for acceptance. That Dept. will, it is presumed, have to take the necessary action in regard to the restoration of the slab of Louisa Weston to the Roman Catholic Portuguese Church at Oato Novo.

18-7-18

La

18-7-18

20/7/18

22/7/18

PWD (W)

P. W. D.

X. W.

The draft order may be accepted.

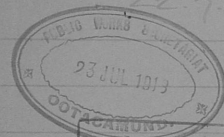
2 On receipt of the order in this dept, necessary instructions will be issued to the Foreman to take back into the R. C. Portuguese Church, S. E. 2 The Home (Education) dept may be requested to send copy of the notes when communicating the order.

29/7/18

Accepted in P.W.D.

W.M.

31-7.



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

C. NO. 1829 ACCTS.

DATE 15/7/1918.



P.W.D. No. 1829 Accts-1
DATED 31-7-18

23/7

NOTES.

Page 8

For order as to circulation to
H.E. the Governor for approval
of draft. (9)

81-7-08 *le* 178/18



P
2. f. 14

A circular ink stamp from the U.S. Department of State. The outer ring contains the text "U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE" at the top and "RECEIVED" at the bottom. In the center, the date "-3-AUG-1918" is stamped. The stamp is slightly faded and tilted.

Done
my
3/18/10

Amesbury Monument Presentation Act, 1904.

Home DEPARTMENT

Disabling that the rights of the Roman Catholic Portuguese, Jehovahs at Porto Novo should be declared, ~~protected~~ ^{protected} under the and calling on the Govt of E. West to submit the necessary draft agreement & notify.

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

” ” ” ”

READ ALSO:—

C. No. 649/1

From the

Suppl.

Arch
Survey

....., No. 163

dated 9.3

191 *A*

" " 839/12

22

Letter of

1891

1. D. ...

to church

1188 / B

”

.....

2000

178

18

W

ORDER

Met.

No. 10.11, dated...

The Govt. direct that
the ruins of the Roman
Cathedral Portuguese Church
at Porto Novo in the South
African Dist: Should be
declared a protected
monument under Section
3(1) of the Ancient Monu-
ments Preservation Act, 1904.

2. The holder of S. Arch is requested to submit ^{the necessary} details ^{for} publication in ^{the 1st Genl} Gazette.

The agreement required under Section 5 of the Act should also be

prepared in consultation with the local Govt. plenipotentiary and Subd. to Govt. for approval.

3. Orders will issue in the P. W. D. directing the removal of the memorial to the tomb stone of Louisa Weston from the Dutch Cemetery (at Porto Novo) to the Roman Catholic Portuguese Church at the same station.

18.7.18.
15.7.18.

Recd to Mr. with 18.7.18

To the Supdt. of Port of London
Copy to the Secy of S. Street
Copy to the P. W. D.
... Ecclesiastical Dept.
... A. A. S. for Epigraph

Look to the records on 1st Sept 1880

When given for copying
When copied
When examined
When signed

REAN AGAIN G.O. No. 191

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURE TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITTO

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DISPATCH IN ORIGINAL.

N.E.-

A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied.
P = Copy abstract only.
Q = Copy heading only.

A A A A A A A