

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	482	Press
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5-6		
Dated	16-4-1958	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 20th April 1858.

No. 5. Read the following letter from GEORGE ELLIS, Esq., Acting Civil Judge of Cuddalore; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 30th March 1858, No. 174.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward 4 plans with estimates prepared by the Civil Engineer of the District for the erection of a new Court House, sanctioned by Extract Minutes of Consultation, dated 24th February 1857, No. 229, for accommodating the Civil, Principal Sudder Ameen's, Moofly Sudder Ameen's and Cuddalore Moonsiff's Courts.

Plan No. 1, is for a building with 2 floors cruciform, estimate, Rupees 22,500.

No. 2, is a revised plan consisting of one floor, estimate, Rupees 21,600.

2. The site selected for the building and the only one available as represented by the Engineer is situated east of the Collector's Cutcherry, and about $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile from the locality where the Civil Court is now held.

3. I understand that it was the intention of Mr. Reade to recommend the purchase of Mrs. Fothergill's house known, as Doveton's house, and the Engineer was requested by him to inspect the building and to prepare an estimate of its relative value and the cost of adapting it for a Court, which he has accordingly done and shown in the plan 3. No. 4 is the plan of the ground.

4. It now remains to decide which of the plans is preferable.

5. Of the 3 plans forwarded, if the determination of Government were to erect an entirely new building, I would recommend that marked No. 2.

6. But the cost of erecting a Court House even on this plan would amount to Rs. 21,600, and so large an outlay as this may be avoided by the purchase of Mrs. Fothergill's house, the alterations necessary to adapt it for a building under which all four Courts may be located, would cost but Rupees 3,000. The value of the building itself is estimated at Rupees 18,000.

7. The Engineer's report on the building is favorable. He says "that the house, unlike most dwelling houses in India, has been built of brick and chunam throughout. No expense seems to have been spared on it." (It being the current report in Cuddalore that its erection cost Sir John Doveton upwards of Rupees 60,000) "and it is still in excellent repair in every respect. It may therefore be safely taken as a Government building as no unusual expense would hereafter be required for repairs," and to this I might add that the ground is well stocked with fruit trees, the rent of which would be carried to the credit of Government.

8. The present buildings on the Factory will not be without their use. The Inspector of Hospitals, Dr. McPherson, has, on his recent visit, condemned the present Jail Hospital, and the Hospital for the European Pensioners which last is now rented for Rupees 28, and I believe it is his intention to recommend the removal of the Hospitals to the upper floor of the Factory, should it be vacated, as well adapted for the purpose of a Hospital. There will thus be a saving of Rupees 28 a month or Rupees 336 a year in addition to the saving in rent of the Civil Court by 420 Rupees, or in the aggregate Rupees 756 annually.

9. Under these circumstances, I would beg to recommend that the sanction of Government be accorded for the purchase of Mrs. Fothergill's house, on the terms proposed, and that the Engineer be directed to carry out the necessary alteration with the least practicable delay.

10. Considering the present state of the Finance and under ordinary circumstances, I should not have urged the matter, but as the purchase of the house of Mrs. Fothergill is so advantageous and so large a saving to Government is thereby effected, that I have deemed it proper to submit the proposition for the consideration of Government.

11. The delay in forwarding these plans has been owing to plan No. 2 not having been received till the 16th Instant.

From E. A. FOORD, Esq., District Engineer, South Arcot; to G. ELLIS, Esq., Civil and Session Judge, Cuddalore, dated Veeraparoomanellore, 22nd December 1857, No. 738.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward a plan and estimate, the latter amounting to Rupees 22,500 for a new Court House to be built at Cuddalore, also a plan of Mrs. Fothergill's house, a valuation estimate of it, and the estimate of the cost of adapting it for a Court House.

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 20th April 1858.

2. Soon after the order to prepare a plan of a Court House was received, Mr. Reade arrived at Cuddalore, and hearing that Mrs. Fothergill's house was for sale, became of opinion that it was well suited for a Court House, and intended, I believe, to recommend its purchase for that purpose. I accordingly made a plan of it, and estimated for the alterations and additions that would be required. It will be seen that these are not extensive. They can be soon carried out, and the cost will be about 3,000 Rupees. Rooms can be found in the building for the four Courts, the Law Officers, Writers and Records. There are also extensive out-offices which would be useful.

3. The house unlike most dwelling houses in India, has been built of brick and chunam throughout. No expense seems to have been spared on it, and it is still in excellent repair in every respect. It may therefore be safely taken as a Government building, as no unusual expenses would hereafter have to be incurred for repairs. The sum asked for it is Rupees 12,000, which added to the cost of the alterations would make the cost of the Court House, Rs. 15,000.

4. In the design for an entirely new Court House, the form of a cross has been adopted for the plan of the building. It is intended that one of the four Courts shall be at the extremity of each arm. The other rooms of the ground floor will be available for the Law Officers, Suitors, &c., and ample accommodation is provided in the upper floor for the Writers and Records. The stair case will be in the centre room. By the proposed arrangement, there will be ready access from one Court to another, while one will not in any way interfere with another. The rooms will all have an abundance of light and air.

5. The only available and at the same time convenient site in the limits of the new town Cuddalore seems to be the piece of ground, east of the Government House and adjoining Mrs. Fothergill's property, unless a portion of the green be taken for the purpose.

6. At present two of the Courts are held in a rented building in new town and two in the rooms over the Jail. Some of the Records are in one building and some in the other. If either Mrs. Fothergill's house be purchased or a new Court House built, all the Courts will be brought under one roof, and the money paid for rent will be saved. But this will not be the only saving. By the removal of the Principal Sudr Ameen's Court and the Records from old town, more space will be obtained at the Jail, and one of the rooms might perhaps be taken for a weaving room. The present weaving room, is in a ruinous state, and will have to be rebuilt at a probable cost of Rupees 2,600, which could be saved by placing the looms in the present Record room.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) GEORGE ELLIS,
Acting Civil Judge.

From Mrs. MARIE FOTHERGILL, to G. ELLIS, Esq., Acting Civil and Session Judge of Cuddalore, dated 30th March 1858.

SIR,

In reply to your letter of the 24th Instant, I do myself the honor to state, that I am willing to sell my house and grounds and offices belonging to it for the sum of 12,000 Rupees.

No. 6.

ORDER THEREON, No. 482; dated 14th April 1858.

Ordered to be communicated to the Court of Sudder Udalt for report, in reference to Extract Minutes Consultation, 24th February 1857, No. 229. The Acting Civil Judge of Cuddalore should have addressed Government through that authority on the subject of his present letter, and the plans and estimates should be transmitted through the central office of the Public Works Department.

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Govt.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

Judicial Department.

No. 482

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation

Dated 14 April, 1858.

*Read the following letter from
the Actg Civil Judge of Cuddalore
(Here enter 30th March 1858, No. 174)*

*Ordered to be communicated
to the Court of Sudder Udalt for
report in reference to G.O. No. 24th
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Civil Judge of Cuddalore should
have addressed Govt. through that
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and Estimates should be
transmitted thro' the central
office of the Public Works
Dept.*

*Copy to Sudder Udalt with Plans & Estimates } Dated 20th
" Civil Judge of Cuddalore.*

24-14-15

546.

C. No. 39-40
24-2-57

Count book at house

of the year 1858

Charles Morris of Leeds

of No 480
of No 482

by the Court 20th March
Provincial 1858 deposits

Feb 817

cs. 10/12
R. 13