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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1127 Press Mis.

1886-189

Dated 20. 7. 19 1886

6/7.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,

20*th July* 1866.

No. 188. Read the following Proceedings of Government in the Public Works Department, dated 11th July 1866, No. 2165.

Submitting, for the opinion of the Inspector General of Jails, Plans and Estimates for improving the Chingleput Jail, and a report thereon by the Jail Committee. (Vide Proceedings, Public Works Department, dated 11th July 1866, Nos. 206—209.)

No. 189. ORDER THEREON, 20th July 1866, No. 1127.

To be recorded.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Acting Chief Secretary.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
11th July 1866.

Read the following papers :—

No. 206. Endorsement of the Superintending Engineer, 4th Division, dated Madras, 28th March 1866, No. 4,714.

From the Assistant Engineer, No. 4 or Chingleput Range, to the Superintending Engineer, 4th Division, dated Chingleput, 13th March 1866, No. 236.

1. With reference to your Memorandum No. 2,625, dated 7th November 1865, I have the honor to enclose a report upon and an estimate with plans for the improvement of the Jail at this station.

2. I have to bring to your notice that the report was written by Doctor Busteed.

3. The headings of the estimate have been arranged so as to correspond with those in the report.

4. The estimate amounts to Rupees 30,000, but Rupees 10,000 could be saved upon it by employing Convict labor.

Report of a Committee assembled at Chingleput Jail under Orders of Government No. 877, *16th June* 1865.

1. The Committee composed as follows :—
J. G. Thompson, Esq., Acting Civil and Session Judge, and Officer in charge of Jail,
W. B Leggatt, Esq, Engineer, 4th Range, Madras District,
W. J. Busteed, Esq., M. D, Zillah Surgeon,

assembled at the Jail on 10th. 11th, 12th, 14th, and 15th August 1865, and having carefully inspected the whole of the buildings and premises, agreed on the following recommendations :—

Jail Hospital.

I. Every Hospital roof to be relieved of its flat tiles.

II. The space between the rafters over the wall-plate to be opened.

III. This will require new reepers.

IV. Each wooden Hospital door to be iron grated at the bottom.

V. The present plaster to be thoroughly removed from the walls and fresh plaster laid on.

VI. The gables of open tile work at present existing between the wards to be re-placed by iron bars.

VII. Four (4) feet at one end of each ward to be screened off for privy purposes, the sides and end wall to be here coated with asphalte (6) six feet high, this space to be considered as excluded from the breathing space in the ward.

VIII. Every Hospital floor to be asphalted.

IX. Iron cots to be provided for the patients.

X. Ventilatory apertures in each ward near the floors, one between every two patients' cots.

XI. Every cross wall from end to end of the building to have a ventilatory aperture at the bottom.

XII. In the Medicine room (an end-room to the south in continuation of the wards) a gable ventilatory window, protected by a weather-board, is required in the south wall, and in the closed verandah rooms east and west of the Medicine room, one window and (4) four honey-comb squares are required.

XIII. The north wall of the Hospital yard to be altered as follows : The dead-house and the earth-store that partly occupy it at present to be removed, also the privy ; and the following buildings to be erected against the wall beginning close up to the north ward, and taking in a bit of the verandah :—

(1.) A solitary cell for cases requiring observation.
(2.) A lunatic room.
(3.) A dead-house with sky-light.
(4.) A cart passage for conveyance of excreta, &c.
(5.) A privy.
(6.) An earth-store.

A verandah to run in front of this range.

XIV. (6) Six feet to be taken off the inner wall of the inner rampart forming the western boundary of the Hospital square, and to be re-placed by (2) two feet of open brick work, this last to prevent any risk of a sentry slipping in.

XV. The well in the yard requires to be deepened, to have pulleys attached, and a cistern built along side of it.

The propriety of these recommendations will be understood from the following facts :—

The Hospital consists of (3) three wards and a Medicine-room, lying end to end north and south. There is no access of air low down.

The windows are all (3) three feet above the floor. The door of each ward is wooden for the same height. It follows that, that part of the ward occupied by the patients, the floor is altogether unventilated A very narrow grated door-way exists in each of (2) two wards, but the influence of these doors is very slight. It was found necessary to take up the entire of the Hospital flooring during the present year in consequence of its foulness and offensive smell, and though this might have come on in any case after a certain length of time, there can be little doubt that the want of ventilation assisted its production. A similar foulness of the flooring tiles exists in the Rajmahal, but in a less degree ; and, indeed, even in the new Jail, the same thing exists though as yet but slightly.

The Hospital yard or square is only (136) hundred and thirty-six feet by (114) hundred and fourteen feet. At the east it is bounded by a (6) six feet wall coming within (19) nineteen feet of the verandah. This wall can hardly be any security, but it certainly shuts in the east windows of the Hospital from any sea breeze that may be stirring. At the west the inner rampart bounds it at a distance of (50) fifty feet from the verandah, and a wall on the top of this rampart brings it to very nearly the same height as the top of the Hospital roof.

The privy is merely the north-west corner of the yard screened off by a low wall. There is no passage to it, or covering for it, so that the patients using it in the wet weather are liable to get wet with the rain.

The dead-house and the earth-store that now occupy the centre of the north wall are quite not of repair and untrustworthy ; and the former is neither large enough nor lightsome enough for its purpose.

A solitary cell for the careful observation of cases suspected of malingering is an obvious want, and there is no accommodation in the Jail at present for any lunatic that may be sent in. The doorway to the Hospital yard from the yard of the Rajmahal, and the passage from the Hospital for the conveyance of excreta, when brought opposite one another, can be better looked after by one sentry.

The yard of the Rajmahal.

XVI. In the yard of the Rajmahal surface drains are required.

XVII. The south wall should be raised up to (12) twelve feet.

XVIII. The present gate-way is small, and affords insufficient protection from the rain to the sentries. It should be enlarged, and an adjoining Banyan tree cut down.

XIX. The present temporary privy, against the south wall, constructed of matting screens, and used by all who are confined within the Jail during the day-time should be re-placed by a permanent structure with honey-comb walls and roofed. This privy to commence from the enlarged gate-way, to be (45) forty-five feet long and (12) twelve broad, fit to contain (3) three rows of trays and to be divided into (3) three compartments, one for women, another for men, and the third for a dry earth-store.

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XX. The well in this yard as well as those in the adjoining cooking yard, (3) three wells altogether, require to be deepened and to have pillars, pulleys, and cisterns attached.

The Rajmahal.

4. This is a square building of four stories which diminish in size as they ascend. It has a terraced roof surmounted by a flag-staff. The average height of the rooms is (11) eleven feet. The chief characteristics of the building are massive strength, and a disregard of ventilation. The rooms are crossed in various directions by narrow arches supported by massive pillars. A dark room, very strong, occupies the centre of each of the first (3) three stories, the middle room of the fourth story is light.

5. The present disposal of the rooms in the Rajmahal is as follows :—

Ground floor.—Four rooms, viz. (1) Office and Store-room ; (2) Conicapillay's room ; (3) dark centre room unused ; (4) women's day room.

First floor.—Four (4) wards and one centre room : (1) cook's ward ; (2) debtors' ward; (3) women's ward ; (4) Tottis' ward The centre room is sometimes used as a solitary cell.

It is the only solitary cell in the Jail, but it is very ill-ventilated.

Second floor.—One ward : women's ward and one centre room unoccupied, besides space sufficient for (2) two other wards.

Third floor.—One centre room unoccupied, and space sufficient for one verandah room.

Fourth floor.—Open

As this building is open to the breeze on all sides, the ventilation of the upstair rooms is capable of very great improvement by the addition of extra windows and gratings. By this simple means the building might be made an exceedingly well-ventilated one.

The ground floor is naturally less open than the others, and less capable of improvement, but as it is not used for sleeping wards this is of the less consequence. The third floor now useless offers an admirable locality for the partitioning off, of separate cells for the treatment of cases of infectious diseases, or of cases requiring an unusually liberal supply of fresh air. The height above the ground, the free access of every breeze, and the facility for efficient separations are all that could be desired. The centre room exists already, and another room could be made very easily by joining the verandah pillars.

6. The recommendations with respect to the Rajmahal are in detail as follows :—

XXI. Ground floor.
No 16. Wants a door into No 17.
No. 17. Room to have one additional window.
No. 18. Room to have a door and the east window to be lowered.
No. 19. Two-extra windows, and to be divided *into three solitary cells.*

XXII. First floor.
No 20. Four-extra windows.
No. 21.
No. 22. This is the centre room, its walls are found to be too thick to allow of any serviceable alterations. It is not fit for a solitary cell though occasionally used as one now for want of a better.
No. 23. One extra window.
No. 24. To have (2) two extra windows.
This floor of the Rajmahal is closed by a wooden gate which is at present unserviceable. A new iron grated gate is required.

XXIII. Second floor.
No 25. Requires to be made by joining adjacent pillars and throwing open windows and doors.
No. 26. Do. do.
No. 27. This is the centre room of this floor unlike those of the floors below, it has no ward in front of it, so that it would make a very good women's solitary cell if provided with a suitable grated door and windows.
No. 28. Women's ward.
If Nos. 25, 26, and 27 be made as here recommended, the women would be all on the same floor, quite away from the men ; at present debtors can see into part of No. 23, the women's ward on the first floor.

XXIV. Third floor. { No. 29. Requires to be made by joining the verandah pillars with honey-comb walls.
No 30. The centre room requires (1) one door and (1) one window.

XXV. Fourth floor. A small parapet is required round (3) three sides of the stair head.

XXVI. Besides the above a grating is required over every cell door, and

XXVII. A weather-board is required to every outside window.

XXVIII. The present plaster to be taken off the walls of every ward and fresh plaster put on.

XXIX. Asphalte flooring to be laid down in every ward.

7. *The "New Jail."*

The "New Jail" consists of two quadrangles of unequal sizes, known as the "big Jail" and the small Jail joined together unevenly, the former contains (10) ten wards, the latter (5 five. The wards are airy, and for the most part well ventilated.

XXX. The entire windows in Nos. 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15, require weather-boards *inside*, hinged below and reaching half way up each window. At present inmates are too much exposed to rain and to direct currents of air.

XXXI. The existing weather-boards in Nos. 6 and 7 should be hinged.

XXXII. In ward 15 the (2) two small windows in the south should be placed higher up in the wall.

XXXIII. The windows in the south and east are barred with rusty old pieces of gun barrels, these should be replaced by iron bars.

XXXIV. A wooden rotating sentry box on a platform is required outside, at a point between the large and small quadrangles covering the south face and the east face of the other.

XXXV. The wooden cross bars in the round holes now existing in most of the wards should be re-placed by iron bars.

XXXVI. The top of the door frames in many of the wards show signs of becoming loosened from the shutting of the doors against them, they should be all further secured, and stops should be put to prevent the doors striking against them.

XXXVII. All the wards require floor ventilators and wall-plate openings.

XXXVIII. All the wards require asphalte flooring.

XXXIX. The entrance passage to the "big Jail" requires new flooring, the present tile flooring is much broken.

XL. It also wants two iron gates; its present gates (wooden) are very insecure and shaky.

XLI. A condemned cell should be constructed in this entrance arch-way or passage at the east side. It should be the full length of the passage, extending from the *north* wall to the *south*, and should have a large iron door in front and (2) two side windows.

8. The entrance passage is used as a Police Guard-room. It has a ward at its west side already, by placing the condemned cell at its east side the Police could pay the best possible attention to its inmates. The ward at the west is for the accommodation of trial prisoners, and it cannot be given up. It is equally undesirable to give up any other ward to a single condemned prisoner. By the construction of the proposed ward, a suitable room would be secured, and the constant Police attention required by such cases would be rendered very easy.

9 *The general Privy.*

The present privy is a large open yard between the rampart and the outer moat. At the south-west angle of the Jail, quite within view of all who pass along the Madras and Trichinopoly Trunk Road.

V shaped wooden troughs are here placed in lines of little trenches built for the purpose.

The extensive surface of this privy, its exposed state, the utter absence of any protection from the rain, the absence likewise of an earth-shed, and the V shape of the troughs requiring that they shall be literally filled with earth before their sides are protected from fœces are all objectionable.

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It is accordingly recommended—

XLII. That a roof be made to protect from the over-hanging rampart, and that a privy be here constructed, (70) seventy feet by (13) thirteen feet, to contain a sufficiency of flat shallow trays, besides an earth-store at one end; its free side to be walled with honey-comb work (5) five feet high, having door-ways at intervals.

One of the existing little trenches is conveniently situated to be included in this plan with a little sluice at each end, it would contain water for washing, which could be renewed when required.

The privy trays are required to be (9) nine feet by (12) twelve in by (5) five in outside measurement, (30) thirty such trays will be required altogether for the entire Jail. The present troughs would furnish material for (13) thirteen.

XLIII. The square well in the privy yard requires to be emptied and deepened. Pulleys, buckets, and ropes are needed.

10. *Sheds.*

XLIV. The Cart shed wants new redge poles and bressummers.

11. *Moats.*

At present the moats of the fort, the inner and the outer moat, with the hay-field between them, surround the Jail rather imperfectly on three sides, the fourth side is closed in by a large lake or tank by which the moats are fed. The only use the moats subserve is the supply of water to the hay-field, and to some fields beyond the Jail, and this could be done equally well by narrow trenches one-tenth of their breadth.

We recommend accordingly—

XLV. That a narrow trench be dug along the outer edge of each of the present moats, to communicate by a sluice with the lake, and that the remainder of each moat be placed under cultivation. As the moats smell badly for some months of the year, this arrangement will get rid of a certain nuisance and of a possible source of sickness, besides increasing the Jail revenue.

12. *Road through the Jail.*

The public road to the Court and the Sub-Magistrate's Cutcherry winds among the Jail buildings. Some are at one side of it, some at the other. Everybody having access to the Court, to the Sub-Magistrate's Cutcherry, to a private dwelling house beyond them as well as to the quarters of the Police Inspector, the Police Sergeant, the Jailer, the Deputy Jailer, and the Jail Dresser must pass along this thoroughfare. It is no exaggeration to say that the friends of a prisoner could, if so inclined, throw any thing they like over the wall to him in almost any part of the Jail. Outside the new Jail the wall is only (4) four feet high, where there is one at all. It is pierced by a large gate-way, and it ends abruptly in an open green.

We recommend—

XLVI. That this road be closed to the public, and that another be made running west from the Court to the high road, passing across both moats and ramparts and intervening hay-field. It would then be well to the north of the Jail buildings.

XLVII. A wall would then be required to close the present road at both ends of the Jail, that at the south, it is recommended, should be inside a small temple, to which though a very modern affair and apparently within Jail limits within fort limits at all events, the public seem to enjoy a right of access pretty well established by custom.

XLVIII. The north wall should come across from the north end of the ward of the Hospital to meet the north end of the wall of the loom-house yard. This latter should be raised, some workshops in the loom-house compound could be made into store-rooms.

XLIX. Considering the nearness of the Hospital to this proposed wall, and its present close confinement within walls, it is recommended that, that the proposed north wall should be low, and that an iron railing (8) eight feet in height should surmount it. The east wall of the Hospital square could then be removed and so could the west loom-yard wall.

L. A door-way should be made in the Rajmahal yard close to the present office.
LI. Each end enclosing wall should be furnished with a cart gate.

(Signed) J. G THOMPSON.
(,,) W. J. BUSTEED,
Zillah Surgeon.
(,,) W. B. LEGGATT,
Assistant Engineer.

(True Copy.)
(Signed) W. B. LEGGATT,
Assistant Engineer, 4th Range.

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1. Submitted to Government with reference to G. O. Public Works Department, No. 1,855, dated 3rd July 1865, and their Memorandum '*Immediate*,' No. 88, dated 22nd March 1866, together with an estimate, Rupees 30,000, for carrying out the alterations proposed in the Chingleput Jail, as fully specified in the Report of the Committee, whose suggestions, it will be seen, are somewhat in excess of those entered on page 24 of the Proceedings of Government, Judicial Department, No. 877, 16th June 1865, embodying Mr. Rohde's Report.

1 Report.
1 Estimate.
5 Plans.

2. The improvement of the drainage is going on by means of Convict labor.

3. The plans forwarded by the Executive Engineer are very incomplete, and badly drawn, but they are forwarded to save time. The Superintending Engineer also was desirous to have gone over all the suggestions on the spot, so as to have afforded the Government his own opinion upon them, but this, for the same reason, he is precluded from doing.

4. The estimate has not been examined; but it with the other papers are submitted for orders in answer to the *immediate* call made for them.

(Signed) A. J. M. BOILEAU, Colonel, R. E.,
Superintending Engineer, 4th Division.

Referred to the Judicial Department.
(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
4th April 1866.

Referred to the Inspector General of Jails for his remarks.
(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Chief Secretary.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
5th April 1866.

No. 207. From the Inspector General of Jails, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 17th April 1866, No. 1,031.

1. The Committee on the Jail at Chingleput have recommended a variety of alterations and improvements in the Hospital, New Jail, and Rajmahal, and also propose to fill up the moat and to alter the direction of the present road, which, it would appear, passes between the Jail buildings.

2. The plans received with the Report do not contain any of the present buildings except the Rajmahal, and as the wards are neither lettered nor numbered it is difficult to compare them with the Report. A general plan of the fort showing the wall, moat, road, and Jail buildings with the proposed alterations clearly marked, would enable me to give an opinion upon the recommendations of the Committee, which I cannot well do otherwise, and I have therefore the honor to request you will be good enough to obtain this if possible.

3. The report and estimate with the five plans received by me are herewith forwarded.

Forwarded to the Superintending Engineer of the 4th Division, with a request that he will furnish this Office, at an early date, with the general and detailed plans required by the Inspector General of Jails, showing in the clearest possible manner all the alterations and improvements or additions which are recommended by the Committee.

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
18th April 1866.

No. 208. Endorsement of the Officiating Superintending Engineer, 4th Division, dated Madras, 30th June 1866, No. 842.

From the Acting Executive Engineer, 4th Range, to the Officiating Superintending Engineer, 4th Division, dated Chingleput, 22nd June 1866, No. 52.

1 Detailed and abstract Estimate, Rupees 30,000.
7 Plans.
1 Report of the Committee accompanied by Mr. Leggatt's letter No. 236.
1 Letter from the Inspector General of Jails.

1. With reference to your Memorandum No. 151 of 14th May 1866, I have the honor to forward herewith fresh plans connected with the improvement of the Jail at this place.

2. They were prepared by me, those originally sent were prepared by my Overseer, and though they were hurriedly got up I was obliged to send them as they were to save time on account of the press of work I had at the time.

Submitted to Government with reference to their endorsement, dated 18th April 1866. The revised plans and estimate, amounting to Rupees 30,000, for alterations and improvements to the Chingleput Jail have been prepared in accordance with the letter from the Inspector General of Jails, No. 1,031, dated 17th April 1866.

1 Estimate.
7 Plans.
1 Report, with Superintending Engineer's endorsement.
1 Letter of the Inspector General of Jails, with Government endorsement.

(Signed) J. GODDARD, Captain, R. E.,
Offg. Superintending Engineer, 4th Division.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
11th July 1866.

No. 209. ORDER THEREON, 11th July 1866, No. 2,165.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 35.

The plans and estimates received with the foregoing papers from the Officiating Superintending Engineer of the 4th Division will be forwarded to the Inspector General of Jails, with reference to his letter No. 1,031, dated the 17th April 1866.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 4th Division.
" Inspector General of Jails.
" Judicial Department.