

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

India DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	931	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated	13. 6. 1886	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
13th June 1866.*

Read the following papers:—

No. 123. From the Inspector General of Jails, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 22nd May 1866, No. 14.

I have the honor to forward two letters from the Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, together with three plans of the Central Jail at Rajahmundry, one showing the original design, and the others the proposed alterations.

2. The accommodation shown in the original plan consists of five Radial Blocks of 32 cells each, which, at the rate of four men to a cell, would only contain 640 convicts, whereas room for 1000 is required. The Superintending Engineer therefore proposes to increase the Jail area by making the unfinished half rectangular instead of hexagonal, to substitute a Barrack of six wards for the unfinished block of Radial Cells, and to add another new Barrack of similar dimensions, thus providing for 764 convicts, exclusive of females and sick, who are to be located in opposite corners of the rectangle as shown in the plan. The Engineer also proposes to turn the two terraced work-sheds into cook-rooms, and to build new work-sheds for the Barracks. This last scheme is, in my opinion, decidedly objectionable, as it will involve either the congregation in one yard of an excessive number of convicts, or the necessity of cooking at different times.

3. As the additions recommended do not meet the requirements of the case, I submit the following proposals for consideration:—

- I. The rectangle to be extended by 70 feet, as shown in red.
- II. Barracks to be built in Segments A and C as proposed by the Superintending Engineer, but to consist of five wards each, instead of six, as the space towards the centre is somewhat contracted. It is also suggested that the Barrack in C, should be erected on the foundations already built, and that the Barrack in A should be of the same dimensions for the sake of uniformity.
- III. The two work-sheds with trussed roofs to be turned into Barracks of three wards each, portions at the outer ends, equal to one-fourth of the whole, being reserved as work-sheds.
- IV. The two terraced work-sheds on Radials 5 and 7 to be divided longitudinally by a wall, and portion at each end cut off for a cook-room. As these sheds are narrow, a light verandah to be added. A separate work-shed and cook shed is thus provided for each of the four Radial Blocks A, B, C, and D. Work-sheds for the two Barracks at A and C, and cook-rooms for each Barrack, may be built as shown in the plan.
- V. According to the Superintending Engineer's plan, it is intended to separate some of the compartments from each other by iron rails; other compartments (between Blocks B and C and between Blocks C and D) do not appear to be separated at all, thus allowing free communication between the inmates of two blocks. Each compartment ought to be separate, and I would prefer walls to rails. These need not be higher than 11 feet.

VI. At present there is only one well; two more appear to be required.

4. The nature of the accommodation to be provided for boys, and the particular description of latrine to be adopted, have not yet been decided.

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5. The only points which remain to be noticed are the alterations in the construction of the Barracks and Hospital which are suggested by Captain Ryves. In the barracks he proposes alternate doors and windows, as allowing of better ventilation in bad weather. I am not satisfied that the change will secure the expected advantage, but I have no objection to make to it. As to the Hospital, I prefer the plan of the Committee on Central Jails, in which the verandah is available for the use of the patients when required.

6. If the alterations and additions, as recommended above, are carried out, the accommodation will be as follows:—

Four blocks of radial cells.....	512
Two barracks of three wards each...	144
Two „ five „ „.....	280
Barrack for females.....	84
„ boys.....	20

Total... 1040 Convicts, exclusive

of sick.

7. The plans did not reach me until the 20th instant, owing to a mistake in the address, otherwise this Report would have been submitted at an earlier date.

From Captain J. G. RYVES, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, to the Inspector General of Hospitals, Madras; dated Waltair, 26th April 1866, No. 3293.

Enclosures 2.

* Forwarded this day by banghy.

I have the honor to forward, for submission to Government, two general plans* of the

Rajahmundry Jail, one according to the original design, and one as I propose it should be built.

2. On the second plan the black lines mark what has been finished. The women's and solitary cells of the original design have been carried up 5 feet above ground, and the basement of the barrack on radius No. 10 has been laid; the money spent on these will, therefore, be lost if my plan be approved.

3. You will observe that, instead of the numerous little wards, I propose that the wards in the two barracks, in segments [A] and [C], shall be divided into wards of the same dimensions as those in the plan of the Central Jail Committee.

3½. All the other arrangements, except in one or two details, have also been copied from the same plan.

4. I have reduced the number of the solitary cells to 18, making each a little larger, giving each 96 square feet and 960 cubic feet, and the alley between the palisade and the nearest part of the outer wall is 25 feet less in width than in the Committee's plan. The diameter of the original octagon is 1150 feet, the side of the square of the Committee's plan is 1200 feet.

5. The position of the Hospital is not what I would have chosen, had I been designing the Jail; but it is, I think, the best that can be found for it inside the Jail walls—the opposite corner is near low clayey ground and the edge of the jungle.

6. The wall at the Hospital corner should be as low as is considered consistent with safety. Probably 10 feet would be sufficient, as the convicts in the nearest yard of the main Jail would have to pass two palisades before they could get at it.

7. To secure the Hospital inmates, I would have only one practicable entrance, a large two-leaved iron railed door; all the other openings should be guarded by fixed grating with half panelled half venetian and half panelled half glazed folding doors, alternately, as protection against the weather. I would prefer having the iron grating to the openings, and the iron railed entrance door in the main walls of the Hospital, leaving access to the enclosed verandah free for the attendants.

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8. I propose to sink two or three more wells. We have one large one already, from which water can be distributed by pipes to a cistern in each yard. I think a well for drinking purposes only should be sunk between the entrance and the Hospital, another for bathing only beyond the Hospital, and perhaps a third additional well on the opposite side of the Jail, for the women. Water is found at from 55 to 70 feet below the surface. Each well will cost at least 4000 Rupees.

9. I have marked the position of the latrine at the east side of the Jail. I am not quite sure whether it ought not to be against the next face of the duodecagon further to the north. The exact position will be fixed in communication with the Superintendent and Zillah Surgeon.

10. The prevailing winds are from the points south of the east and west.

11. Instead of four doors on each side of the convicts' wards, I propose alternate doors and windows, the former 4' x 8', the latter 6' x 4½', two of each on either side, doors opposite windows. I think this will give better ventilation, and in bad weather allow of the admission of more fresh air than if all the openings were doors. The shutters to keep out drifting rain or violent wind will be hung by flat hooks on the iron bars of the doors.

12. In the original plan of the Jail, the work-sheds are not divided longitudinally by radial walls, the two sheds on the radii 5 and 7 are terraced roofs on pillars, the other two on the radii 3 and 9 are walled at the bulk and two ends, and covered with trussed roofs. The proportion of work-shed room for the 3 barracks in the completed half will, therefore, be to that provided for the other 3, as three to one nearly; on the other hand the cooking shed space will be nil. I therefore propose that the two terrace roofed sheds on radii 5 and 7 be used as cooking sheds. The working-shed space left will be at the rate of 19 square feet, per male convict, in the Committee's plan it is about 15 square feet per ditto.

13. The Jailer's quarters are being built outside between the Hospital corner and the High road, within view of the entrance gateway, and just clear of the prolongation of the south side of the Jail.

14. I request to be informed whether the views of the Jail Committee quoted by the Secretary to the Government of India,* regarding the separate confinement of juveniles, are to be adopted and provided for in this Jail.

* Public Works Department, 7th February 1866.

15. I also request to be favored with a drawing† and specification of the approved latrine. Frequent allusion has been made to several plans, the Bangalore, Doctor Macpherson's, the Bengal, &c., but as yet I have received no definite

† Giving details on a large scale.

information regarding any one of them, excepting from a pamphlet regarding some experiments made at the Orphan Asylum in Madras, and a general plan of one of them on so minute a scale as to be practically useless.

16. Lastly, I request you to be so good as to request Colonel Orr to send me at once orders by telegraph to go on with the main wall and the new wells, in anticipation of complete orders on the whole plan now submitted.

17. Estimates to determine the additional amount for which sanction will be required, will be framed after the Orders of Government have been received.

Transferred to the Inspector General of Jails, the letter having been addressed to this Office apparently in mistake.

(Signed) W. R. CORNISH,

Secy. Prinl. Insp. Genl., Medl. Dept.

7th May 1866.

From Captain J. G. RYVES, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, to the Inspector General of Jails; dated Waltair, 3rd May 1866, No. 2.

In continuation of my letter dated 26th April 1866, I have the honor to forward a tracing of a correction to be applied to the plan of the Rajahmundry Central Jail, showing the position of

No 3293

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the large well which has been sunk already. I have also marked the position of the Jailer's quarters.

No. 127.

No. 22.

OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM.

The undersigned has the honor to state in reply to the Official Memorandum noted in the margin, that he prefers walls to railings or palisades, because

Judicial Department, 30th May 1866, No. 130.

they separate the compartments more effectually from each other.

2. The men of different yards might converse, or pass articles from one to another through the bars, whereas in the case of walls such communication is much more difficult, if not impossible. The proposal to separate the compartments by walls is not a new suggestion, but is in accordance with the original design both of the Jail at Rajahmundry and that at Coimbatore.

(Signed) W. J. WILSON,

MADRAS, 31st May 1866.

Inspector General of Jails.

To the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George.

No. 128.

ORDER THEREON, 13th June 1866, No. 931.

Under the circumstances stated, the Governor in Council concurs generally in the proposals made by the Inspector General of Jails in paragraphs 3 and 5 of the first of the letters above recorded, except as regards the division of the compartments by walls. Such an arrangement would interfere with the proper ventilation of the prison. Wooden railings will be sufficient for the purpose of separation. The necessary orders will accordingly be issued in the Public Works Department.

2. The Government do not observe any provision for a latrine for the female prisoners. This must be so arranged that the females shall not, in order to reach it, have to pass through the part of the prison and yards occupied by the men and boys.

3. The Government wish to know whether the blocks and ranges of cells will require verandahs or other protection from rain.

(True Extract).

Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector General of Jails.

„ Public Works Department, with three Plans.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

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Judicial Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter
from the Inspector General of
Jails.

(Enclosed 22nd May 1866 No. 11,722)

Order thereon 13th June 1866 No. 931-

Under the circumstances
stated, the Governor in Council
consent generally to the proposals
made by the Inspector General
of Jails in para 1 and 2 of
the list of the letter above
recorded, and the necessary
orders will accordingly
be issued in the M.O. Dept.

agreed, unless better
divided to the balance
= Paragraph 11. to
characterize the different
yards by walls 11 ft. high
They would probably
interfere with the requests
ventilation - N.

To the Inspector General of Jails.
O. Woods Esq. Secy. to Govt. } despatch

1200 228.

16/6/65
76-82
9/12/65
141-42
27/3/66

156.162

+ Except as regards
the division of the
Compartments by
Walls. Such an
arrangement would
interfere with the
proper ventilation of
the Prison. Wooden railing will be suf-
ficient for the purpose of separation -

Dated 13 June 1866

N.

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT

1358-7427

No. 927

1865. Department.

The Govt. do not observe any
provision for a Latrine for the female
prisoners. This must be so arranged
that the females shall not - in order
to reach it - have to pass through the
men's part of the Prison yards occupied
by the men & boys.

The Govt. wish to know whether the
Hocks & other ranges of cells will re-
quire bar and also or other protection for
rain.

S S S

1/10/66
C. J. L. 1866