Date taken out.	For what purpose.			Initials of Referencer.	Date returned.	Initials of attender.
	Department.	C. No.	Year.			

Marine (1898) Department.

G.O., No. 857 Mar

DATED 10th Octr 98

V

14/10/98

[Despatch Abstract.]

Port Officer's Quarters at Tuticorin

Accepting the recommendation of the Committee appointed to report in regard to the site for the ——— [illegible] in accordance therewith directing the preparation of detailed plans & estimates by the P.W.D. for the alteration & enlargement of the upper portion of the present Port & Sea Customs office & the godowns at the back.

110/8

13/10/98

M. 6.
500—13-8-96.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
X 1314/98							

Government {1898} of Madras.

MARINE.

Recd. } 1898. Enclosures

Regd. } Spare copies

G.O., No. 857, 10th October 1898.

OCTOBER.

Port Officer's quarters at Tuticorin

Accepting the recommendation of the Committee appointed to report in regard to the site for the —, and in accordance therewith directing the preparation of detailed plans and estimates in the Public Works Department, for the alteration and enlargement of the upper portion of the present Port and Sea Customs office, and the godowns at the back.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following papers :—

From the Collector, Tinnevelly District, dated 19th September 1898, No. 622/G.B. Genl.
" " " " 21st " " " 1602 Genl.

Order—No. 857, Marine, dated 10th October 1898.

The Collector, Tinnevelly, now submits the report called for in G.O., No. 666, Marine, dated 3rd August 1898, in regard to the site for the Port officer's quarters at Tuticorin.

2. The Committee appointed to consider the question of local improvements have arrived at the conclusion that it is desirable to abandon the proposal to construct a house for the Port officer on the foreshore. As an alternative, they recommend the alteration and enlargement of the upper portion of the present Port and Sea Customs office, and the godowns at the back. The works are roughly estimated to cost Rs. 7,000 to Rs. 10,000, as against Rs. 9,880, the net cost of the original proposals.

3. The recommendation of the Committee is accepted by Government. Detailed plans and estimates will be prepared accordingly in the Public Works Department.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. B. deWINTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Public Works Department, with enclosures and copies of notes by the Hon'ble Members.
" the Presidency Port Officer.
" the Collector, Tinnevelly.
" Messrs. Darley, Butler & Co.
" " Adamson, Mactaggart & Co.

Papers to be read in Proceedings :—

Again G.O., dated 189 , No.
Again G.O., dated 189 , No.
Ditto { Current No. 1173 of 1898, dated ~~16~~ 19th September, from the Collector, Tinnevelly Dt. No 622/G.B. Genl
" " 1210 " 1898, " ~~27~~ 21th September, -Do- 1602/Genl
" " " 189 , " , "

ORDER. 857 Mar d/10 October 1898

The Collector, Tinnevelly, now submits the report called for in G.O. 666, Marine, dated 3rd August 1898 in regard to the site for the Port officer's quarters at Tuticorin.

2. The Committee appointed to consider the question of local improvements have arrived at the conclusion that it is desirable to abandon the proposal to construct a house for the Port Officer on the foreshore. As an alternative, they recommend the alteration and enlargement of the upper portion of the present Port and Sea Customs office, and the godowns at the back. The works are roughly estimated to cost Rs. 7,000 to Rs. 10,000, as --- against Rs. 9,880, the net cost of the original proposals.

3. The recommendation of the Committee is accepted by Government. Detailed

Detailed plans and estimates will be prepared accordingly in the P. W. D.

C.S.

10.10.98

Note informing this to S.E. VI, ask him to reconsider the proposed plan, or try rearrange the rooms so as to give better ventilation — or it might be possible to build two addl. stories.

10.10.98

~~C.S.~~ SAW

may I pass orders

— also put up a copy of W's note

The P. W. Department with 4 enclosures
and copies of notes by the Hon.
Members. ✓
,, Presidency Port Officer. ✓
,, Collector, Tinnevelly. ✓
Messrs. Darley, Butler & Co.
,, Adamson, Mactaggart & Co.

21/10/98

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Marine DEPARTMENT.

C. No. 1173 & 1210 of 1898.

(2) HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.
~~(1) THE HON'BLE SIR HENRY BLISS, K.C.I.E.~~
THE ~~HON'BLE MR. GROSE, C.I.E.~~

SUBJECT.

Residence for the Port Officer at Tuticorin.

FOR ORDERS.

The Collector, Tinnevelly now submits the report called for in G.O. 666 Marine dated 3rd August 1898 in regard to the site for the Port Officer's quarters at Tuticorin.

×Flag P

2. The Committee appointed by Government have arrived at the conclusion that it is desirable to abandon the proposal to construct a house for the Port Officer on the foreshore. As an alternative, they propose the alteration and enlargement of the upstair portion of the present Port and Sea Customs Office, and the godowns at the back. These alterations are roughly

& in G.O. 358 Mar. of 7th May '98
Flag X

I do not object to this scheme in principle — but I'm afraid a building ~~in~~ according to the rough plan put up would be terribly uncomfortable to the unfortunate people who had to live in it. I should like to discuss with the C.E. the question whether the plan could not be improved upon —

1/10/98

Having now

Sent to W.S.

[P. W. 43. / 500-27-1-98.]

H.Ex(1) 30-9-98 R 3.10.98 H.E. 6-10-98 R 10.10.98

2

roughly estimated to cost Rs7,000 to 10,000, as against Rs9,880 the net cost of the original proposals. Financially therefore, there does not seem to be much difference between the two schemes. But a distinct advantage is claimed for the present scheme on the score of convenience, while the objections raised to the site on the foreshore by the local merchants will be surmounted. If the alternative proposals be approved, detailed plans and estimates will be called for in the P.W.D.

L.H.C.
30-9-98

⊗ discussed the matter with the C.E. I have only to add that I still think the plan for the Port officer's quarters a very unsuitable one, but that the C.E. has promised to see whether it cannot be improved upon.

6/10/98

This should be done.
A.S.H.
9.10.98

Lo. P-144

Marine (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 11/3

From The Collector of Tinnevelly.

Ref. to Cur. No 622/G.Blu of 1898.

Dated 9th
Desp. 12th of September 1898
Received
Registered 16-9-98
Enclosures Nil.
Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Reporting on the proposals made regarding the selection of a site ~~at the foreshore~~ at Tuticorin for the Quarters of the Port Officer.

Await the further report promised by the Collector.

L.H.C. 17-9-98

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.
G.O. 666 Mar	3-8-98
357 [illegible]	7-98
[illegible]	

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.
7 1210	98
G.O. 927 Mar 3-11-98	

[illegible] No. 622/98
[illegible]

Tinnevelly DISTRICT COLLECTOR'S OFFICE,
Dated 9th. September 1898.

FROM
A.W.B. Higgens Esquire,
COLLECTOR OF THE
Tinnevelly *District*,

To
THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
Marine DEPARTMENT,
Madras.

SIR,

In reference to G.O.No.666 Marine dated 3/8/98 regarding the question of the site selected for the construction of the house for the Port Officer at Tuticorin, I have the honour to report that a proposal to abandon the site already selected and to provide quarters for the Port Officer by the alteration of the upper storey of the existing Port Office has been considered by the Executive Engineer of the Division and seems practicable. This proposal involves also the provision of accommodation for the Port Office in the lower part of the existing building and some extension of the accommodation now provided for the Sea Custom Establishment and may, if accepted by the Committee and Government, do away with the proposed construction of a separate building for the combined Port & Sea-Custom Offices on the foreshore. As some minor matters connected with the resolutions already arrived at, in connection with the questions raised in G.O.No.358 dated 7/5/98, have also to be further considered by the Committee, I have arranged for a meeting on the 17th. instant, and will submit my report as soon as possible after that date.

+Flag-X

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

Collector.

10/9/98

Tpd. S.T.T.

From

The Collector of the

District,

To

The Secretary to Government,

Department,

Madras.

Dated
Despatched 189
Received

No.

Enclosures.

Subject.

Marine (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 1210

Order

From

The Collector of
Tinnevelly.

Dis: No 1602/R of 98.

Dated 21st September 1898.
Received
Registered } 27. 9. 98
Enclosures ~~1 file + 4 plans~~ 12 (4 plans)
Spare copies -

SUBJECT.

Submitting proposals for the construction of a house for the Port officer at Tuticorin:

nsiderable portion of the fore es

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.
CWP. 1173 of 98 + papers marked	

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.

5/

INDIA COURT FEE INDIA
1/2 R.
[illegible]
13 6 98
India
EIGHT ANNAS

To His Excellency

The Honorable Sir Arthur Elibank Havelock, Knight,
K. C. M. G. & G. C. I. E.
Governor in Council of
Fort St. George & Its Dependencies.

The Humble Memorial of the European and other Inhabitants of
Tuticorin in the Tinnevelly District

May It Please Your Excellency,

We your Memorialists humbly and respectfully beg to approach Your Excellency in Council, for the purpose of drawing Your Excellency's attention to the following facts.

Most of Your Memorialists have been long resident in Tuticorin, as merchants and traders, and have always naturally taken a deep interest in the welfare and prosperity of the Port. It is, indeed, owing to the unremitting efforts, on the part of the merchants and traders, in extending the trade of the Port with Colombo, and other parts of the world, that the Port of Tuticorin now occupies the second place among the Seaports of the Madras Presidency.

The mercantile portion of the town of Tuticorin is situated on the Beach Road, which runs from north to south, the offices of the mercantile firms & agencies being situated on the western side of it, while on the eastern side lies the narrow foreshore, or beach, which is barely sufficient for shipping and other purposes.

For many years, indeed, it may be said from the existence of Tuticorin as a Seaport, a considerable portion of the fore

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23-1-96

foreshore, north of the town, was a malodorous swamp, and a grievous and pestilential eye-sore to the inhabitants of the Town. Being more or less covered with stagnant and putrid water, it could not in any way be utilised by the inhabitants. This swamp, however, has been reclaimed at great expense by Government, and the South Indian Railway is now able to carry its passengers direct to the Government jetty; thus conferring a great boon on the inhabitants of Tuticorin, and of Southern India generally.

It is with great regret, therefore, that Your Memorialists have come to learn that the Government has determined to make use of a portion of the foreshore thus reclaimed, opposite to Messrs. Darley Butlers' premises, for the purpose of building a private residence for the Port Officer of Tuticorin. It is also stated, that the stabling and outhouses of this dwelling house will abut on the Beach Road immediately opposite to Messrs. Darley Butlers' gateway.

It is perfectly clear, that Government could hardly have been made acquainted with the undesirableness of erecting a private residence in such a position, and of the absolute impropriety of building the stabling and outhouses thereof on the border of the Beach Road opposite to the aforesaid premises.

The Beach Road is a public drive and highway of traffic, while the beach itself is resorted to by all classes of the inhabitants and their families for the benefit of the sea air. And the time may not be far distant, when the foreshore on the north of the Town, inclusive of that portion of it intended to be utilised for the Port Officer's residence, if available, may be converted into a public promenade or other work of public utility and thus become a picturesque, as well as useful addition to the Port and town of Tuticorin.

It is difficult to conceive, how it could ever have been suggested to Government to build a private residence on this part of the foreshore, under the circumstances above mentioned. The unsightliness of the erection of the necessary appurtenances of

BACK PAPERS.

8

such a building , in such a public position ,Your Memorialists respectfully submit, ought to have been sufficiently deterrent to such a proposal, and the Government, it is further respectfully submitted, should consider the inherent right of Her Majesty's subjects to enjoy, and to utilise such public property as the sea shore, without let or hindrance, even on the part of Government. It is on this principle that the Government does not, and indeed cannot prohibit the use by the public of flowing rivers, or interfere with the right of fishing in the deep seas. It is respectfully submitted, therefore, that the permanent appropriation of any portion of the foreshore for the purposes aforesaid, even by the Government, is really an infringement of the rights of Her Majesty's subjects. Moreover, the residence of the port Officer it is submitted, should be in close proximity to the Port Office, and the Government Jetty. The present Port Office is opposite to the Government jetty, which has long been considered the proper place for it. It seems highly desirable in the interests of shipmasters, and the shipping community, that the Port Officer's residence should be on the same premises as the Port Office. In cases of emergency, and of danger to the shipping, it is essential that the Port Officer should be on the spot, to issue the necessary instructions to boatowners and others, to hoist the necessary signals, and to put himself in instant communication with ship captain. His presence is also requisite in his office during the day, even on ordinary occasions, for the purpose of enabling him to transact the daily increasing business of the Port, and to answer the many calls made upon him in his official capacity. His living apart in a private residence is apt to interfere with his official administration.

The site of the present Port Office is central, and it might easily be enlarged to answer both the purposes of an office and a dwelling. Or, at any rate, there are other sites available, more appropriate than the one selected, on account of their position and proximity to the centre of the town and of the Port.

?

under any circumstances, it is submitted, that the present site should not be built upon. The foreshore is by no means extensive it is exceedingly narrow, and is the only space available to the inhabitants, for the erection of works, or buildings of public utility, such as piers, jetties and landing accommodation of all kinds. The Paravar or fishing community, in predominant numbers, is also to be found in Tuticorin. It is hardly necessary to say that the Paravars are a very thriving community, who derive a livelihood entirely from fishing. The whole length of the beach bears testimony to this, by the numerous craft at their moorings, both in the harbour and on the shore, and shows how large is the interest of the fishing community in Tuticorin. Then there are the owners of boats, and larger craft, who require a free and unfettered use of the sea-shore for the purposes of their trades. If any portion of the shore is occupied by permanent structures, similar to that now contemplated, the result will be, that the space available for shipping and trading purposes of all kinds, will be considerably, and irretrievably straitened strained. For, it must be remembered that, the erection of the contemplated building, if permitted, will form a precedent for the erection, perhaps, of other private residences for other Government Officials or even for private individuals; so that, in course of time, the whole of the contiguous foreshore may be thus monopolised and appropriated to the detriment of the public. It is therefore submitted that, for various reasons, the fore-shore should be preserved intact, and not encroached upon even by the Government. It is impossible to say that with a growing port like Tuticorin, and a rapidly developing trade what public uses the fore-shore may be put to, to meet the requirements of the trading community of Tuticorin. It is to be observed that up to this time the Government has been careful to prevent any permanent encroachment on the beach by any private individuals or firm or even by itself, and it would be inconsistent therefore for the Government to set the example of building permanent private residences for its own officials on the fore-shore, and thus infringing and curtailing the rights of the general public therein.

The Crown is theoretically the proprietor of the foreshore, but practically it is the Trustee for the same, on behalf of the public, as conservator thereof, for the benefit and use of the public. The Crown should administer its trust for the benefit of the beneficiaries.

Your Memorialists, therefore, respectfully request that the Government will be pleased to reconsider its determination to build the Port Officer's residence, on the spot in question, and select some other site, more advantageous to the inhabitants of the town and Port of Tuticorin.

For which act of grace, Your Memorialists, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

Adamson Mactaggart & Co
Agents B. I. S. N. Co. Ld

O. Rummer
AGENT
Asiatic Steam Navigation Company, Limited

A. F. Harvey
Agents,
Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

for The Tinnevelly Cotton Press Co. Ltd
H. M. Salthers agent Wymeswold

FOR THE NATIONAL BANK OF INDIA, LD
J. D. Longmire
MANAGER

Milligan & Co.

Don. Gabriel Motha Vaz
Jathithalaivan

FOR RALLI BROTHERS' AGENCY,
J. Mulavadia
AGENT

8

P. Pro. Darley, Butler & Co.

per pro. GADDUM & CO.

A. Balasubbarayaloo

J. Sitaram Iyer

Muthukumarasawmi Naidu

M. L. Corera

J. C. Motha

S. Krishnasawmy Naidu

Philip Leo Motha

P. S. Balakristnasamy Naidu

S. C. Arumugum Chettyar

A. Ganapathi Pillay

C. P. Gnanakan

Royano Fernandy

Raphael Motha

7

Chinnasawmy Aiyar
Pleader

T. Annasawmy Aiyar
Pleader

[illegible]
Pleader

[illegible]
Pleader

M. T. N. Narayanasawmy Pillay & Co.

[illegible]

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[illegible]
M. Ebramjee

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]
A. Abdoolcader & Co.

[illegible]

[illegible]

Fernander

A. M. S. [illegible] Pillai

Vana. Kana. Avenna. Vaitranathan Pillay

A. M. Arumugam Pilly

[illegible]

[illegible]

Raphael Motha

7

S. S. V. Narayana Pillay

[illegible]

A. Gopalasamy Chetty

[illegible]

V. N. R. Thirumoolam Chetty

[illegible]

M. S. V. Alagappa Pillay

[illegible]

A. M. Veerappa Nadan

[illegible]

Mar Enl/~~809~~/98
1210

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From
The European & other Inhabitants of Tuticorin

To
The Honorable A. T. Arundel,
Chief Secretary to Government,
Fort St. George.

Sir,

We the Inhabitants of Tuticorin beg to forward to you the enclosed Memorial to Government and to request that you will be good enough to lay the same before His Excellency the Governor in Council at an early date.

We have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servants

Adamson Mactaggart & Co
Agents B. I. S. N. Co Ld

VOLKART BROTHERS
O. Rummers

AGENT
Asiatic Steam Navigation Company, Limited
A. T. Harvey
Agents,
Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Don, Gabriel Motha Vaz
Jathithalawadore

for The Tinnevelly Cotton Press Co Ltd
J. H. Walther

FOR THE NATIONAL BANK OF INDIA, Ld
J. Longmire
MANAGER

Agents, Wymes & Co
Whitlisan & Co

FOR RALLI BROTHERS' AGENT

J. H. Mucavadia

AGENT

P. Pro. Darley, Butler & Co.

per pro. GADDUM & CO.

A. Balasubbarayalu

J. Sitaram Iyer

M. L. Corera

Philip Motha

P. S. Balakristnasamy Naidu

S. Arumugum Chettyar

A. Ganapathi

7

C. P. Gnanakan.

[illegible]

Rozario Fernando

[illegible]

[illegible] Iyer
Pleader

T. [illegible] Iyer
Pleader

[illegible]
Pleader

[illegible]
Pleader

A. T. N. Narayanasawmy Pillay & Co

U. U. [illegible]

[illegible]

T. P. Carimjee Jaffirjee

[illegible]
M. Ebramjee

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]
A. Abdoolcader & Co

[illegible]

[illegible] Fernander

A. M. S. Latchmanaparanandi Pillai

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Vana. Kana. Avenna.
Vaintramuthoo Pillai
A K M Arumugam Pilly
[illegible]
[illegible]
Raphael Muthia
S. S. V. Narayana Pilly
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
A Gopalosamy chetty
[illegible]
[illegible]
V. N. R. Thirumoolam Chetty
[illegible]
M. S. V. Alagappa Pillay
[illegible]
A M Veerappa Nadan
[illegible]
[illegible]

FURTHER PAPERS.

Mat Cur 2 / Dot 158
1210

9171032367

National Bank of India Limi

Tuticorin.

All Letters to be addressed and
Remittances made payable to
"NATIONAL BANK OF INDIA, LD."
Telegraphic Address
"NATIONAL, TUTICORIN".

20 May 1898

Messrs Darley Butler & Co
Tuticorin

Dear Sirs

Referring to our correspondence regarding the purchase by us of your land & Bungalow as a site for a Bank I now beg to inform you that as I hear ere is to be a Port Officers Bungalow and outbuildings erected immediately in front of the property, I can no longer recommend our Head Office to purchase the land.

Yours faithfully

J Longmuir
Manager

FURTHER PAPERS.

Mar Enc 3
~~8~~ 9/98
12/10

Mar Enc 2
~~8~~ 9/98
12/10

INDIA COURT FEE INDIA
½ R.
13 6 98
EIGHT ANNAS

To

His Excellency

The Honorable Sir Arthur Elibank Havelock, Knight,
K. C. M. G. & G. C. I. E.
Governor in Council of
Fort St. George & Its Dependencies.

The Humble Memorial of Messrs. Darley Butler & Company, merchants of Tuticorin in the Tinnevelly District.

May it please Your Excellency

Your Memorialists have established themselves in business as merchants for many years in the Port of Tuticorin aforesaid, & respect-beg to draw the attention of Your Excellency in Council to the following facts.

The port of Tuticorin is by no means distinguished either for its picturesqueness or for its maritime appliances & qualifications & it is only quite recently that a good portion of its foreshore was reclaimed by Government from being a pestilential swamp, and made available for the use of the public.

One of the principal sources of pleasure to the inhabitants of Tuticorin, particularly to the European residents, is the enjoyment of the sea breeze, as all the Merchants' Offices & places of business abut on the Beach Road, which runs along the shore from North to South.

It has come to the knowledge of Your Memorialists that it is in contemplation by Government to erect a residence for the use of the Port Officer of Tuticorin, on a portion of the foreshore immediately opposite to the offices and dwelling house of Your Memorialists, the road at that point not being more than three yards from Your Memorialists gate.

It is further represented that the front of the new residence will, naturally enough, face the sea, while the stabling & out offices of the new premises will immediately face the gate way of Your Memorialists residence & Office premises.

The erection of the contemplated building in such a position will be highly detrimental to the mercantile interests of Your Memorialists, as also to the value of the property of Your Memorialists, on which they have erected their dwelling house, and their offices, with all their machinery & plant & other necessary appurtenances.

This particular portion of the foreshore that has been selected for the erection of the Port Officer's new residence, is part of the foreshore that has been recently reclaimed by Government, for the benefit of the Port & the public.

It was understood that the reclamation was undertaken by Government at great cost for the purpose of improving the shipping arrangements of the Port, as well as for furthering the interests of the merchants & traders of Tuticorin.

The Government is, doubtless, aware that the port of Tuticorin is greatly increasing in size & importance & that there is not much available space on the Beach Road for the traffic of the rapidly increasing mercantile community of Tuticorin. The erection, therefore, of the new building on the spot proposed will not only be detrimental to the interests of Your Memorialists, but will also be injurious to the mercantile interests of the whole community. It is notorious that all the mercantile offices of Tuticorin are situated on the Beach Road, and that the only space available for carrying on their shipping traffic is the foreshore in front of their offices. It is most undesirable, therefore, that this space should be straitened by the erection of buildings for private residences.

In the case of Your Memorialists, it will be exceedingly injurious both to their private & mercantile interests, for the Port Officer's residence to be erected in this particular part of the foreshore. The erection of this building in the manner & on the site proposed will constitute an intolerable nuisance, for it will not only obstruct the enjoyment by Your Memorialists, or the occupants of their premises, of the sea view & the sea breeze, which they have enjoyed fo many years, & which they have a right still to enjoy, without let or hindrance, but the smoke & the effluvium from the stables & cookhouses will now be blown through Your Memorialists' dwelling house & offices, thereby rendering them uninhabitable & comparatively useless. This will be seen from the enclosed letter from the Manager of the National Bank of India at Tuticorin to Your Memorialists. Your Memorialists have been negotiating the sale of their premises, & the National Bank was an intending purchaser, but on hearing of the intended erection of the Port Officer's residence on its present site, the Bank now refuses to purchase. In addition to this Your Memorialists or any one else occupying the premises will have no convenient space available on the foreshore for storing their goods, or for shipping their merchandise, if wishing to do so.

In either view of the case, the erection of the Port Officer's residence in the spot proposed will constitute a nuisance, and tend most seriously to depreciate the value of Your Memorialists property & premises as already shown as well as most seriously to hamper them in their mercantile relations & interests. In fact, the erection of the proposed building will prove detrimental to that natural & lawful use of their property by Your Memorialists or their successors to which they are legally entitled, as well as to the beneficial & profitable exercise of their calling as men of business, & which they have enjoyed for a considerable period of time.

Under these circumstances, Your Memorialists beg to bring the above facts to the notice of Government, with a view to its taking steps to prevent the erection of the building in question, and so save Your Memorialists a great deal of unnecessary loss & expense. It is a matter of such great importance to Your Memorialists, that they have considered it their bounden duty to address Government on the subject, since, if the Government should not interfere in the matter & prevent the erection of this building in the spot indicated, Your Memorialists will be compelled to resort to other measures to protect their interests.

It is all the more desirable for Government to interfere in this matter, as there are other more appropriate sites available for the erection of a Port Officer's residence.

They have just bought [illegible] there !

At present there are no private residences on the foreshore at Tuticorin, & it would establish an undesirable precedent for the future. There is no seaport in existence where the seashore has been utilised, for such a purpose. The seashore is public property, and should be reserved for the use of the public exclusively. The fishing community & others, whose livelihood is obtained by the sea, are entitled to a free & unfettered use of the sea shore. If it should become the practice to erect private residences in such a locality, they will become the nuclei of additions in the shape of huts & other accretions, which will render that portion of the sea-shore & its surroundings an eye sore & an intolerable nuisance, not only to the immediate neighbour-hood, but to the public at large, for whose benefit the sea-shore is primarily & naturally intended.

Your Memorialists therefore respectfully request that the Government will be pleased to stay the erection of the Port Officer's residence in the spot indicated for which act of grace, as in duty bound, Your Memorialists shall ever pray.

P. Pro. Darley, Butler & Co.
Fred. W. W. Clark.

Mar Gen 4/~~29~~ 1210/98

From

Messrs. Darley Butler & Co.,
Tuticorin

To

The Honorable A. T. Arundel,
Chief Secretary to Government,
Fort St. George.

Sir,

We have the honor to forward to you the enclosed Memorial to Government, and to request that you will be good enough to lay the same before His Excellency in Council at an early date.

We have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servants,

Tuticorin,
June 1898.

P. Pro. Darley, Butler & Co.
Alexd. McScott Clark

TINNEVELLY
6 AUG 98
ASST. COLLECTOR'S OFFICE

8 AUG. 1898

RECEIVED
12 AUG. 1898
TREASURY DEPUTY COLLECTOR

Cur 5
Mar ~~807~~ 1210/98

Copy of letter Ref.on Cur.622/98-C.B.Gl. dated 16th.August 1898 from the Collector of Tinnevelly to the Executive Engineer, Tinnevelly Division.

I have the honour to enclose Tuticorin Port Officer's letter No.917/11-8-98 and a file of papers connected with the question of the site selected for the construction of the house for the Port Officer at Tuticorin - all to be kindly returned with your reply.

2. You will see that there is a strong feeling among the merchants of Tuticorin against the construction of a dwelling house for the Port Officer on the foreshore east of Messrs Darley Butler & Co's premises, and that memorials have been submitted to Government on the subject and that Government has in consequence referred the question of the site for very early report. It does not seem worth while at present to ask the members of the Committee on Port improvements at Tuticorin to assemble for consideration of the question now in hand, especially as three merchant members of the Committee have signed the memorial. I now wish to obtain your personal opinion after inspection on the spot, both on the questions raised in the memorial, and more particularly on the suggestions made in the Port Officer's letter.

3. It appears to me that the reasons given in the memorial from the inhabitants of Tuticorin against the construction of a dwelling house on the site opposite Messrs.Darley Butler & Co's premises apply with equal or greater force to the other sites which the Port Officer suggests (1)opposite to the Roman Catholic Church and (2)opposite Messrs.Milligan & Co's premises; and that, if the construction of a dwelling house on the foreshore can by any means be avoided, it would be an advantage to the town. I therefore invite your special attention to the suggestion that by alteration, and presumably by a certain amount of demolition and reconstruction, the present Port and Sea Custom Offices should be converted into a dwelling house for the Port Officer combined with offices for the Port Officer and Sea Custom Superintendent. It appears to me

that the idea is quite practicable. The present building might I presume be extended both in front and rear. On the front side the open space east of the main door of the Sea Custom Office might be built upon, and, in the rear, rooms both down-stairs and upstairs might be erected on part of the site of the present Sea Custom godown. The remainder of the Sea Custom godown would serve without alteration partly as kitchen and servants' quarters for the Port Officer's house, and partly as Port Office and Sea Custom store-room. No stable could be provided, but a stable is not essential for a Port Officer. The existing iron shed for storing goods on the foreshore could be used as the Sea Custom shed for dutiable goods. If necessary, it could be divided into compartments for greater secubity. The proposals already adopted by the Committee include the transfer of this shed to the Sea Custom Department. If these proposals can be carried out the proposed new Sea Custom and Port Office building on the foreshore need not be constructed. The result seems likely to be a considerable saving to Government.

4. I have the honour to request the favour of a very early reply. Government has ordered the matter to be disposed of urgently. If you agree in regard to the proposed construction of the Port and Sea Custom Offices, I request that you will send a rough plan of the proposed alterations and a rough estimate of the cost of the proposed alterations, as compared with the cost of the Port Officer's house (already estimated) plus the probable cost of a new Port and Sea Custom Office on foreshore.

5. I will instruct the Port Officer and Sea Custom Superintendent to meet you at Tuticorin and go into details with you

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(True copy)

Collector.

Tpd. S.T.T.

Enc 6
12/10/98

22/9/98

No. 3248-

Tinnevelly Division Office
3d September 1898

From,
S. Gopalakrishna Aiyar Esqre
Executive Engineer

To,
The Collector of
Tinnevelly

Sir,

With reference to your No. Ref- on cur- 622 of 98 dated 16th August 1898 whose enclosures are herewith returned I have the honor to report as follows.

Enc: 5

1 file with 2 plans.
1 Pencil plan
1 Plan

2. If the major portion of foreshore is to fenced in and not to be allowed to be used by the public as a prominade as stated in para 3 of the Marine G. O, and if it is to be covered by a number of godowns as decided by the Committee assembled under G. O. No. 358 Marine dated 7th May, I do not see that there is any reas-able objection to the construction the Port officers' quarters on

adjacent part of it, as already sanctioned. The site of the main building has been shifted further to the South than shown in the sanctioned site plan so as to be almost clear of the frontage of Messrs Darley Butler & Co's premises and it is intended to construct the stable & outhouses between the main building and the proposed iron-paling fence on the South side as shown in pencil in the tracing and not between t and the beach road as shown on the ite plan. This change of site of the main building and outhouses must remove the objections Messrs Darley Butler & Co may have personally urge.

I agree with you in considering at the two other sites mentioned by e Port officer are not less open to objection. They are not better nor farther ay from the beach road and they at a greater distance from the work the. Port Officer than the sanctioned one.

2269/48

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4. I inspected the present Customs & Port officer building with the Sea Custom Supdt & the Port officer and discussed with them the alterations and extensions that may be made to provide therein for the residence of the Port officer as well. I forward herewith the plan of the existing building and a pencil plan showing necessary alterations and extensions. The Port Officer will have on the upstairs a drawing room measuring about 14'-0 a dining room 20' × 18'-3" and two be rooms one measuring 20'-6" × 18'-3" an the other 31' × 16' with dressing & bat rooms attached to each. There are ½2 godowns in rear of the building a con the north side each measuring 12' One or two of these must I thin be quite enough for the kitchen servants' quarters and there is a for the servants to go out to the

on the outside and for a staircase to
enable them to get upstairs as shown
on the plan. What I have marked on the
ground plan as Port officers' Office room
& Port office Clerks room were pronounced
by the Port officer as quite sufficient
for him and his clerks. The remaining
accommodation on the ground floor —
must be more than ample for the re-
quirements of the sea custom office.
The alterations and extensions have
roughly been estimated at Rs 7000.

The amount of the Sanctioned
stimate for the Port officer's resi-
dence on the foreshore is Rs 13930. × Flag E
The probable cost of a new Port and
ea Custom office on the foreshore —
ill be about Rs 11000. The existing
om shed on the foreshore has cost
9400.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obed. Servt.

3.9.98.
Executive Engineer

Curno: 622/98 G.B.G1.

M.C.W.K.

COLLECTOR & DISTRICT MAGISTRATE, TINNEVELLY
7 SEP 1898

V E

V E

E.H.K.

Re[illegible] papers

[illegible]

3.9.

Returned accordingly

3.9.98
5.15 [illegible]

Utilization of Existing godowns

~~[illegible]~~ side

2 for kitchen & godown of P.O.

1 for Port Officer's stores -

West & side & centre - for more portable articles which are dutiable -

Heavier articles to be placed half the existing port ware-house - which could be [illegible] into two down the middle [illegible]

Materials can be [illegible] without much loss [illegible]

Saving (even if new [illegible] sheds are required) [illegible]

Rs 8000 - But against this is the [illegible] value of existing buildings [illegible] which must be [illegible] Rs 8000.

Mar. Cur. 12/10/98

E.H.K.
File with the papers about the Port Officer's house
3.9.

Kumarkot.

8th August 98.

(copied)

Dear Sir,

I find the following entries in the Register of Public Buildings about Sea Custom and Marine office building at Tuticorin.

Date of erection or purchase: — not known.

Value of portion occupied by Marine department }	— Rs 2400
Do. Do. Sea Custom	— " 5000
Do Sea Custom store	— 6650
Total	— Rs 15050.

As the value of ground is not separately shown, it appears to be included in the value of the building.

Yours Obedly Respectfully

[illegible]

Tinnevelly DISTRICT COLLECTOR'S OFFICE,

Dated 21st. September 1898

ns Esquire,

COLLECTOR OF THE

nevelly *District*,

DEPARTMENT,

Madras.

X

y letter Ref. on C.No.622/G.B.G1.of

98, I have the honour to report that

th, instant, and that the members agreed

ndon the proposal to construct a --

on the Reclamation, and that, in lieu

ld be provided for the Port Officer

rgement of the upstair portion of the

m Office, and that the godowns at the

Custom Office should be utilized part-

-ly for

ervants' quarters of the Port Officer

and partly as store-rooms for the Port Office," dutiable goods being stored in the iron building on the beach now used as Government ware-house.

2. I agree with the conclusion of the Committee in this matter. If any other course is open without great expense it is no doubt undesirable to place a two storied dwelling house on the reclaimed area between the beach-road and the sea, thereby obstructing the sea-breeze, and making not only the premises of Messrs. Darley Butler & Co., but also the English Church less airy. The alternative course now suggested will be quite as convenient, if not more convenient, for the Port Officer, and will probably not be more expensive.

3. The Executive Engineer has investigated the proposal for altering and enlarging the present Port and Sea Custom Office so as to provide necessary accommodation both for quarters and

Curno: 622/98 GBab
mlcwk

COLLECTOR & DISTRICT MAGISTRATE, TINNEVELLY
7 SEP 1898

VE

VE

Ett
Ref. vertein
with papers
[illegible]
3.9.98

Returned accordingly
ag
3.9.98 5.15 pm

Relegation of Existing godowns
~~North~~ side
2 for kitchen & godowns of P.O.
1 for Port Office stores -

West & Side & centre - for more portable articles, which are suitable -

Heavier articles to be placed half the existing port warehouse, which will be easily divided into two down the middle [illegible]

Materials can be sold without much loss

Saving (even if new [illegible] sheds are required) over Rs. 8000 - but against this is to be set value of existing buildings to which must be added the Rs 8000.

mar Gen/ 12/10/98

Kumarket.
8th August 98.

Ett
File with the papers about the Port Office Godown
8.9.98

(Saffi.)

Dear Sir,

I find the following entries in the Register of Public Buildings about Sea Custom and Marine office building at Tuticorin.

Date of erection or purchase :— not known.

Value of portion occupied by Marine department	— Rs 3400
Do. Do. Sea Custom	— " 5000
Do Sea Custom store	— 6650
Total	— Rs 15050.

As the value of ground is not separately shown, it appears to be included in the value of the building.

Yours faithfully
[illegible]

Mar Coll 8 / 12/10/98

Dis: No. 1602/P: of 98:

8

Tinnevelly District Collector's Office,
Dated 21st. September 1898

From

A. W. B. Higgens Esquire,
Collector of the
Tinnevelly District,

To

The Secretary to Government,
Marine Department,
Madras.

Sir,

No. 1173 (below)

In continuation of my letter Ref. on C.No.622/G.B.Gl.of X 1898 dated 9th.September 1898, I have the honour to report that the Committee met on the 17th.instant, and that the members agreed that it is desirable to abandon the proposal to construct a -- house for the Port Officer on the Reclamation, and that, in lieu of the house, quarters should be provided for the Port Officer by the alteration and enlargement of the upstair portion of the present Port and Sea Custom Office, and that the godowns at the back of the Port and Sea Custom Office should be utilized partly for the kitchen and servants' quarters of the Port Officer and partly as store-rooms for the Port Office, dutiable goods being stored in the iron building on the beach now used as Government ware-house.

2. I agree with the conclusion of the Committee in this matter. If any other course is open without great expense it is no doubt undesirable to place a two storied dwelling house on the reclaimed area between the beach-road and the sea, thereby obstructing the sea-breeze, and making not only the premises of Messrs. Darley Butler & Co., but also the English Church less airy. The alternative course now suggested will be quite as convenient, if not more convenient, for the Port Officer, and will probably not be more expensive.

3. The Executive Engineer has investigated the proposal for altering and enlarging the present Port and Sea Custom Office so as to provide necessary accommodation both for quarters and

offices. I enclose for perusal his letter No.3248 dated 3rd. September 1898 together with its enclosures in original and a demi-official note dated 8th.September 1898,and also copy of my letter Ref.on Cur.No.628 dated 16th.August 1898,to which the Executive Engineer's letter was a reply. The rough plan --which has been sent by the Executive Engineer shows that the extent of alteration required to convert the upstairs portion of the office into fairly comfortable quarters and to enlarge the office below is not very great. He does not propose to --build over all the available space. There seems no objection to building over the whole space,except that the stay of the flag staff which is fixed in the ground in this space must be removed further east(and possibly on that account the flag --staff itself would also have to be removed further east - to which there is no objection). Probably,if the whole space were built over,the result would be more comfortable quarters up--stairs and better office accommodation down stairs than is provided by the Executive Engineer's plan. This is a point --which requires further investigation by the D.P.W.officers. The Executive Engineer's estimate of the cost of alterations is Rs 7000. This sum would of course be greater if the building were further enlarged. Taking it however at Rs 10,000 or even Rs 12,000 there would be a saving as compared with the estimate of Rs 13,930 for the Port Officer's house,the construction of which it is proposed to abandon. The proposal also involves a saving of the whole cost of building a new Port and Sea Custom office which had been proposed to be constructed on the fore--shore on or near the site of the flag staff,and which will not be necessary if the present scheme is sanctioned. The estimated cost was roughly Rs 11,000. The cost of the new Port and Sea Custom Office was proposed to be met by the sale of the present Port and Sea Custom Office and godowns,which the Executive Engineer values at Rs 15,050,~~which it is now proposed to enlarge~~.

x Flag - H

& Flag - E

4. I do not think that financially there is much difference between the two schemes,supposing that the Executive Engineer's estimates are approximately correct. In the original scheme--Government would have to pay Rs (13,930 + 11,000 - 15,050) 9880. θ By the present scheme the cost is Rs 7000 plus as much more as may be determined and sanctioned by Government for improvements to the existing building,and Government keeps its existing buildings and site.

5. The enclosures sent with G.O.Marine-No.666 dated 3rd.--August 1898 are returned.

6. The other proposals of the Committee will be submitted for sanction of Government as soon as the map is ready. At the --meeting on 17th.September 1898 it was found that the map which had been kindly prepared by the S.I.R.Engineer Mr.Rice required some alterations,and these are being made.

x on the question raised in E.
358 Mar / 7-5-98 Flag B
&
357 E / 4-7-98 ([illegible])

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

Collector.

Tpd. S.T.T.

M
22/9/98

θ To represent correctly the financial aspect of the original & present schemes, the value of the sea customs stores, viz Rs 6650 should not be included, as the rough estimate of Rs 11000 for a new office building does not provide for store rooms. The net cost of the original scheme is Rs 16 530

From

The Collector of the
District,

To

The Secretary to Government,
Department,
Madras.

Dated
Despatched 189
Received

No.

Enclosures.

Subject.