1. Number of pages.
2. Date of repair.
3. Initials of Reference

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works **DEPARTMENT.**

Con 23—12—5

G.O. No. 2399 Press Mis.

1642-43

Dated 26—12—1855.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 142. Read the following letter from Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 15th December 1857, No. 5971.

SIR,

Recent circumstances having attracted attention to the present defenceless state of the Madras Mint, the Garrison Engineer in communication with the Acting Mint Master has prepared a Plan and estimate for a bastioned wall to surround the buildings and enclose an additional space which appears to be required for the works.

1 Letter from the Acting Mint Master No. 245 dated 5th December 1857.
1 Letter from the Garrison Engineer No. 39 dated 7th October 1857.
1 Abstract Estimate.
1 Plan.

2. The amount of the estimate sent up by Captain Rawlins is (55,000) fifty-five thousand Rupees, but as Lieutenant Colonel Cotton wishes for some extention of the Plan in the N. E. angle of the enclosure, an addition of (5,000) five thousand Rupees is proposed, making the total amount (60,000) sixty thousand Rupees for which sanction is requested.

The report of Lieutenant Colonel Cotton is so clear and satisfactory, and the details as explained by Captain Rawlins are so correct in principal, that I feel it would needlessly occupy the time of Government for me to do more than state my entire concurrence in the professional views of those Officers, and record my approval of the Plan and estimate, leaving it entirely to superior authority to determine the value and urgency of the proposed defensive works.

4. Independently however of the mere financial view of the prudence of protecting so large an amount of property, the known impregnability of the Mint might not unreasonably be considered to have an important influence in the preservation of the public peace.

5. Under these considerations and view I do venture to recommend the estimate of (60,000) sixty thousand Rupees for the sanction of Government, and entry in the Budget of 1858-59.

Letter from Lieutenant Colonel F. C. COTTON, Engineers, Acting Mint Master; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated Mint, 5th December 1857, No. 215.

SIR,

Para. 1st. In a demi-official letter from the Garrison Engineer received this day I am requested to examine his proposed plan of defences for the Mint and to forward the papers to you with my opinion upon the suggestions they contain.

2nd. There can be but one opinion as to the necessity for increasing the security of the Mint, which has for its protection at present a wall made of bricks laid in mud, so much cracked in several places as to be in danger of falling with every shower of rain. The building is in the Native city some of the houses of which are within a few yards of the enclosure. The wall is only 12½ feet in height and has no towers from which its foot can be seen on flanking fire directed along it.

3rd. The space now inclosed is already insufficient and under any circumstances it must be increased to the extent proposed. After examining Captain Rawlins's Plan I have only one alteration to suggest which is a change in the line of the wall near the North eastern angle. The proposed line was drawn to avoid a very small Hindoo Temple; but as that cannot be allowed to remain so near the wall &c. must be removed I think it better that the wall should be built without reference to it, in the direction indicated by yellow dots.

4th. As to the prices of the work and material and the cost of land in the Town of Madras I cannot offer an opinion of equal value with that given by Captain Rawlins as he and his Department have a local experience which I have not, and which I could only obtain by referring to papers in his office. Taking the calculated sum at 55,000 Rupees I would strongly recommend sanction being obtained for 60,000 as I feel certain that advisable changes of Plan will suggest themselves in the course of the work which may very possibly cost as much as 5,000 Rupees.

5th. Even should 60,000 Rupees be spent upon this work it could not be considered excessive when it is remembered that the Mint is now entirely without defences of any kind. The

Mint property is already very valuable and constantly increasing in value. The treasury has contained at one time more than thirty lacs of Rupees. And will undoubtedly hereafter contain occasionally very far larger sums.

6th. While shewing the necessity for this outlay it is a gratifying reflection that the growing importance of the Mint is accompanied by a rapid increase of profit to the Government. The Madras Mint was not formerly a source of Revenue, but it is so now. The bona-fide profits of the last year were 1,08,854 Rupees and I can confidently state that they will this year reach 2,20,000 Rupees. Or deducting the sum now required for its defences, it may fairly be expected to yield at least 1,60,000 Rupees.

7th. The description of defence proposed appears to me the most suitable under the circumstances, and I feel confident that the Mint could not be placed in any security for a less sum. On all considerations therefore I earnestly recommend Captain Rawlins's estimate for the "immediate" sanction of Government. I say immediate for I look upon the necessity of the case as urgent.

Letter from Captain H. W. RAWLINS, Garrison Engineer; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated 7th October 1857, No. 394.

SIR,

In obedience to your verbal orders, I have the honor to submit a Plan and estimate, amounting to Rupees (39,000) thirty-nine thousand, for enclosing the Mint in Black Town with a strong wall with Bastions; and for taking in additional ground required for the enlargement of the premises, and for the location of some of the work people attached to the establishment.

2. The Plan has been prepared in communication with the Mint Master. The premises are bounded on the north by a cluster of native huts; on the east by the public road; on the south by garden ground; and on the west by paddy fields.

3. The huts on the north side are in number about 100, most of them are of the poorest description and worth about 35 or 40 Rupees each, exclusive of the materials of which they are composed. Many are built of mud and thatched, and are divided one from another by palmyra leaves and such like combustible materials. The whole of these buildings are inconveniently close to the Mint and should be removed, for if they caught fire the Mint premises would certainly be jeopardized. I estimate the approximate value of these huts at Rupees 3,800. The Plan proposes that the whole of them should be purchased by Government, and the site added to the Mint premises.

4. The Bye-road between the wall and the curtain of the Black Town Fortification is not to be encroached on. Not only is the thorough-fare an important one, but if the Mint new wall was carried on and joined to the curtain, more land would be enclosed than the Mint Master requires. This would render necessary a larger defensive guard, and would considerably increase the expense of the project. For these reasons the old Fortification has not been interfered with; and its curtain being only 12 feet in height is commanded by the proposed new wall and Bastions, which are respectively 18 and 20 feet high.

5. The space enclosed on the east will not interfere with the public road the general line of which is some distance from the wall, and is still 38 feet wide at the salient angle of the most projecting Bastion. If however it is thought desirable, the wall of the "Seven Wells" compound might hereafter be thrown back a few feet at a small expense.

6. The total area to be enclosed is 16,226 square yards, or 61 grounds; of which 40 are on the north side. I learn that land in the immediate vicinity of the Mint and adjoining Salee-street, is worth 150 Rupees per ground, while it depreciates according to its distance from the main road. I believe 100 Rupees per ground is the fair average value of the 61 grounds, which will consequently cost Rupees 6,100.

7. In addition to this land proposed to be enclosed within the Mint, it may be advisable to purchase a clear space round outside, so as to prevent high and private buildings being

erected inconveniently near the Mint. If the land for a breadth of 200 feet on the south and west sides was purchased, the area would be 12'00 × 2'00 = 100 grounds; which at 50 Rupees per ground, amounts to Rupees 5,000. This sum is exclusive of the Wheel-wright's Shops at the south east corner, and the small pagoda on the west, which may be valued together at about Rupees 1,100.

8. The defence consists simply of a wall 18 feet high, loop holed at every 30 feet, and defended by four bastions with 5 intermediate small redans. The bastions are to contain small guard rooms or places of arms, terraced and ventilated by sky lights. It is intended that these works should be defended by musketry only; but if necessary, small howitzers or guns could be most effectively used at any of the bastions. 100 men would I think be sufficient to successfully defend the place thus fortified, against a force of 50 or 40 times that number.

9. Situated as the Mint is in the heart of Black Town, I believe it is incontrovertible that some sort of defence is absolutely and immediately required. I venture to think that the works now proposed will be simple and efficient; and that, next to the removal of the premises altogether, they are the best which can be adopted.

10. In conclusion I beg to submit the following summary of the approximate cost of carrying out the whole project.

	Rs.
For work as per estimates.....	39,000
For the purchase of 61 grounds of land, to be enclosed within the Mint premises.....	6,100
Ditto for houses on the north side.....	3,800
For the purchase of 100 grounds of land outside the Mint.....	5,000
For Wheel-wright's Shops and a small pagoda.....	1,100
Total Company's Rupees...	55,000

No. 143. ORDER THEREON, No. 2399; dated 26th December 1857.

Ordered that the Estimate received with the above letter be entered in the Budget of 1858-59, in the Government Office, and that it be strongly recommended to the Government of India.

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

No 215.

Fort St George,
Mint, 5th Dec. 1857.

From Lt. Col. J. C. Callen Engineer, Acting Mint Master,
To Colonel H. D. Jaber, Chief Engineer, C. P. W.

Sir,

Para 1st In a demi official letter from the Garrison Engineer received this day I am requested to examine his proposed plan of defences for the Mint and to forward the papers to you with my opinion upon the suggestions they contain.

2nd There can be but one opinion as to the necessity for increasing the security of the Mint which has for its protection at present a wall made of bricks laid in mud, so much cracked in several places as to be in danger of falling with every shower of rain. The building is in the Native city some of the houses of which are within a few yards of the enclosure. The wall is only 12½ feet in height and has no towers from which the foot can be seen or flanking fire directed along it.

3rd The space now inclosed is already insufficient and under any circumstances it must be encreased to the extent proposed. After examining Captain Rawlins's plan I have only one alteration to suggest which is a change in the line of the wall near the North Eastern angle.

Angle. The proposed line was drawn to avoid a very small Hindoo Temple; but as that cannot be allowed to remain so near the wall it must be removed. I think it better that the wall should be built without reference to it, in the direction indicated by yellow dots.

4th As to the prices of the works and material and the cost of land in the Town of Madras I cannot offer an opinion of equal value with that given by Captain Rawlins as he and his department have a local experience which I have not, and which I could only obtain by referring to papers in his Office. Taking the calculated sum at 55,000 Rupees I would strongly recommend its obtainment being obtained for 60,000 as I feel certain that advisable changes of plan will suggest themselves in the course of the work which may very possibly cost as much as 5,000 Rupees.

5th Even should 60,000 Rupees be spent upon this work it could not be considered excessive when it is remembered that the Mint is now entirely without defences of any kind. The Mint property is already very valuable and constantly increasing in value; the Treasury has contained at one time more than thirty lacs of Rupees. And will undoubtedly hereafter contain occasionally very far larger sums.

6th While shewing the necessity for this outlay it is a gratifying reflection that the growing importance of the Mint is accompanied by a rapid encrease of profit to the Government. The Madras Mint was not formerly a source of Revenue, but it is so now. The bonafide profits of the last year were 108854 Rupees and I can confidently state that they will this year reach 220,000 Rupees. Or deducting the sum now required for its defences, it may fairly be expected to yield at least 160,000 Rupees.

7th The description of defence proposed appears to me the most suitable under the circumstances, and I feel confident that the Mint could not be placed in any Security for a less sum. On all considerations therefore I earnestly recommend Captain Rawlins's Estimate for the "immediate" Sanction of Government. I say immediate for I look upon the necessity of the case as urgent.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedt Servant

Kd McDowell
Acting Mint Master.

Central Office of P. W.

Public

No. 5771.

Fort Saint George,
15th December 1857.

From,

The Chief Engineer.

To,

The Secretary to Government, P. W. D.

Sir,

Original

Enclosures 1 to.

1 Letter from Lieut. Horsford Garrison Engineer dated 5th December 1857.

1 Letter from Lieut. Horsford Garrison Engineer No. 394 dated 7th December 1857.

1 Abstract Estimate.

1 Plan.

Recent circumstances having attracted attention to the present defenceless state of the Madras Fort, the Garrison Engineer in communication with the Acting Fort Master has prepared a plan and Estimate for a bastioned wall to surround the buildings and enclose an additional space which appears to be required for the works.

2 The amount of the Estimate sent up by Captain Rawlins is (55,000) Fifty five thousand Rupees but as Lieutenant Colonel Cotton wishes for some extension of the Plan in the N. E. angle of the enclosure, an addition of (5,000) five thousand Rupees is proposed, making the total amount (60,000) Sixty thousand Rupees for which sanction is requested.

The

Letter from Chief Engineer to Secretary to Government P. W. D. No. 5771 dated 15th December 1857 with Enclosures as noted.

Received 22nd December 1857.

Entered

Read

Letter from the Garrison Engineer to the Fort Master forwarding a plan of the Fort with proposed additions and requesting an estimate for the same.

Requesting that the Estimate for the proposed additions may be submitted for the sanction of Government.

3. The Report of Lieutenant Colonel Cotton is so clear and satisfactory, and the details as explained by Captain Rawlins are so correct in principle, that I feel it would needlessly occupy the time of Government for me to do more than state my entire concurrence in the professional views of those Officers, and record my approval of the plan and Estimate, leaving it entirely to superior authority to determine the value and urgency of the proposed defensive works.

4. Independently however of the mere financial view of the prudence of protecting so large an amount of property, the known impregnability of the Fort might not unreasonably be considered to have an important influence in the preservation of the public peace.

5 Under these considerations and view I do venture to recommend the estimate of (60,000) Sixty Thousand Rupees for the Sanction of Government, and allotment in the Budget of 1858/59.

I have the honor to be,
Sir
Your most Obt Servt
Chas Cotton Colonel
Chief Engineer

Central Office of P.W.
Fort Saint George
15 December 1857

Ld.

Garrison Engineer's Office

No. 394-

From

Captain C. W. Rawlins
Garrison Engineer

To Colonel C. Cotton,
The Chief Engineer in the
S. P. W.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 394 Fort St. George

Sir,

In obedience to your verbal orders, I have the honor to submit a plan and estimate, amounting to Rs. (39,000) Thirty nine thousand, for enclosing the Fort in Black Town with a strong wall with Bastions; and for taking in additional ground required for the enlargement of the premises, and for the location of some of the work people attached to the establishment.

2. The plan has been prepared in communication with the Mint Master. The premises are bounded on the north by a cluster of native huts; on the east by the public road; on the south by garden ground; and on the west by paddy fields.

3. The huts on the north side are in number about 100. Most of them are of the poorest description and worth about 35 or 40 Rupees each, exclusive of the

the materials of which they are com-
=posed - Many are built of mud and thatched,
and are divided one from another by
palmyra leaves and such like combus-
=tible materials - The whole of these
buildings are inconveniently close to
the Mint and should be removed, for if they
caught fire the Mint premises would
certainly be jeopardized - I estimate the
approximate value of these huts at Rs.
3,800 - The plan proposes that the whole
of them should be purchased by Government
and the site added to the mint premises -

4. The Bye-road between the wall
and the Curtain of the Black Town Forti-
=fication is not to be encroached on -
Not only is the thorough-fare an im-
important one, but if the mint
new wall was carried on and joined
to the Curtain, more land would be
enclosed than the Mint Master re-
=quires - This would render necessary
a larger defensive Guard, and would
considerably increase the expense of the
project - For these reasons the old forti-
=fication has not been interfered with,
and its curtains being only 12 feet in
height is commanded by the proposed
new wall and Bastions, which are res-
=pectively 18 and 20 feet high -

5. The Space enclosed on the
east will not interfere with the public
road the general line of which is some
distance from the wall, and is still
38 feet wide at the Salient angle of the
most projecting Bastion - If however
it is thought desirable, the wall of
the "Seven Wells" compound might here-
=after be thrown back a few feet at a
small expense -

6. The total area to be enclosed
is 16,226 Square yards, or 61 grounds;
of which 40 are on the north side -
I learn that land in the immediate
vicinity of the mint and adjoining
Salee Street, is worth 150 Rs per
ground, while it depreciates according
to its distance from the main road -
I believe 100 Rs per ground is the fair
average value of the 61 grounds, which
will consequently cost Rs 6100 -

7. In addition to this land re-
=quired to be enclosed within the
Mint, it may be advisable to pur-
=chase a clear space round outside,
so as to prevent high and private
buildings being erected inconveni-
=ently near the Mint - If the land
for a breadth of 200 feet on the South
and

and west sides was purchased, the Area would be 1200 × 200 = 100. Sq. grounds; which at 50 Rs. per ground, amounts to Rs. 5000— This Sum is exclusive of the Wheel-wrights Shops at the South east corner, and the small pagoda on the west, which may be valued together at about Rs. 1100.

8. The defence consists simply of a wall 18 feet high, Loop holed at every 30. feet, and defended by four bastions with 5 intermediate small redans— The bastions are to contain small guard rooms or places of Arms, terraced and ventilated by Sky lights— It is intended that these works should be defended by musketry only; but if necessary, small howitzers or guns could be most effectively used at any of the bastions— 100 men would I think be sufficient to successfully defend the place thus fortified, against a force of 30. or 40 times that number—

9. Situated as the Mint is in the heart of Black Town, I believe it is incontrovertible that some sort of defence is absolutely and immediately required— I venture to think that the works now proposed will be simple and efficient; and that, next to the removal of the premises altogether, they are the best which can be adopted.

10— In conclusion I beg to submit the following Summary of the approximate cost of carrying out the whole project—

For work as per estimate, Rs.	39,000— 0—
For the purchase of 61 grounds of land to be enclosed within the Mint premises	6,100— 0—
Do. For Houses on the North side	3,800— 0—
For the purchase of 100 Grounds of land outside the Mint	5,000— 0—
For Wheel-wrights Shops and a small pagoda	1,100— 0—
Total C. Co's Rupees	55,000— 0—

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedient Servant.

Fort St. George
1st October 1857

N. W. Rawlins Captain
Madras Engineer

Ex Gen'l 15 Dec/57 p. 5071

1857. 4167 5 65

Central Circle

Engineer Department

From

The Garrison Engineer

To

The Chief Engineer

D. P. R.

No. 394

Dated 7th Oct. 1857.

Rec'd 12 Oct. 1857.

No 2467/57

Submits a plan and

Estimate for fortifying

the Madras Fronts.

14 Dec 57

P. Works Department
Dy. after Comr's Office
No. 2487

From

The Chief Engineer

To

The Secretary to Government
P. W. D.

Dated 15th
Received 19th } December 1857

No. 5971

Enclosures 4-2 as

No. 2394 - With an order
Submitted for the 24th Dec.
for entering in the Budget of 58/59
of Government an Estimate
amounting to Rupees (60,000)
Sixty thousand for enclosing
the Fort at Madras by a
wall and Bastions and for
affording additional accommodation

No. 142 & 143.

No. 2394.

Ordered that the
Estimate received with the
above letter be entered in
the Budget of 1858/59 in the
Government Office and that
it be strongly recommended
to the Government of India.

Fort St. George,
16 December 1857.

Copies to the Chief Engr. & Dy. 14 Jany.