R.O.1—8169—8-11-49

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.		Press Mis.
Dated		18

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 53. Read the following Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Military Department, dated 9th July 1858, No. 2455.

Sanctioning the purchase of the property on the Poonamalle road called Landon's gardens for Rupees 20,000 and directing that Estimates and Plans be called for in the Department Public Works for converting the house on the premises into Barrack for a Native Infantry Regiment. } (Vide Military Consultation, 13th July 1858, Nos. 60-61.)

No. 54. ORDER THEREON, No. 1553; dated 7th August 1858.

Ordered to be communicated to the Officiating Chief Engineer, with a request that he will intimate to the Acting Garrison Engineer that the sum of Rupees 20,000 sanctioned in para. 1 of the above Extract should be disbursed out of the general funds allotted* for his Department for expenditure in the current official year.

* Extract Minutes Consultation 18th January 1858, No 93, para 63, Page 57 of Budget.

2. Major Lawford will obtain and submit the Estimates and Plans referred to in para. 2 of the order in the Military Department.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

No. 2455.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, 9th July 1858.

Read letter from the Town Major, Fort Saint George, 2nd July 1858, *No.* 2636; *to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort Saint George.*

In obedience to Minutes of Consultation No. 2060, 10th June last, I have the honor to report for the information of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, that I have inspected the property called "Landon's Gardens" on the Poonamallee Road, close to the 3rd Milestone, but at this side of it.

2. The house contains about 14 Rooms, and with merely the expense of Arm Racks, would make an admirable Barrack.

3. The property contains nearly 39 Cawnies of Ground, in a fine open situation, and with a good supply of water on the premises.

4. The Acting Garrison Engineer, has also inspected the property and is of opinion, that it is well calculated for the location of a Native Regiment both from its size, open situation, and the facility of acquiring more ground in the immediate vicinity, should an addition be required hereafter.

Company's Rupees 20,000.

5. I beg to forward a correspondence with Messrs. Bainbridge and Co.; who are the Agents for the disposal of the property, regarding the price.

6. The Ground at present occupied by the Native Lines, at Vepery, contains only 20 Cawnies.—the Buildings on it are old, and dilapidated, and of the worst possible style, and construction, and yet, the owner requires upwards of (70,000) seventy thousand Rupees for its purchase.

7. I have the honor to append a plan, and Survey of the House and Ground, as taken by the Acting Garrison Engineer.

8. I also forward a report of a Medical Committee held on the property by order of the Right Honorable the Governor, which I trust will be considered as fully bearing out my recommendation, for the purchase of the premises.

9. A report on the water on the Ground, is also attached.

10. Under these circumstances, I would respectfully recommend the consideration, of the purchase of Landon's Gardens, and the erection of the necessary public buildings and Lines on it, for the location of a Native Regiment in lieu of that, now rented at Vepery for a monthly rent of (374) three hundred and seventy four Rupees.

From the Town Major, Fort Saint George, 25th June 1858; *to Messrs. Bainbridge and Co., Madras.*

In reply to your letter of the 24th instant, I beg you will be good enough to inform me what is the lowest price you will dispose of Landon's Gardens for.

I have been informed that Mr. Cherry has expressed his willingness to take (20,000) twenty thousand Rupees for the property, and should such be the case, of course there is a much greater probability of my being able to effect a sale for him, which I am very anxious to do.

P. S.—An early answer will oblige.

From the Town Major, Fort Saint George, 28th June 1858, *No.* 2568; *to the Superintending Surgeon Presidency Division, Madras.*

I have the honor to enclose an Extract of this day's Garrison Orders appointing you President of a Medical Committee to-morrow at Landon's Gardens.

2. I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor to inform you that it is in contemplation to purchase the above property, with the view of removing the Native Infantry Lines from Vepery to that site should it be approved of.

3. The Agents state, there are upwards of 38 Cawnies of ground in the property—whilst the ground at present covered by the Vepery Lines only measures it is believed a little better than 20 Cawnies; but irrespective of the want of space at Vepery, the situation is not approved of from the denseness of its population, and the imperfect drainage, and it is considered absolutely necessary, to remove them from that locality in consequence.

4. The points to which, I am desired to direct the particular attention of your Committee to are.

1st. The eligibility, or otherwise, of the site as regards its situation and elevation.

2nd. The water—as regards the present supply, and the facility of encreasing it, and its quality.

3rd. The general character of the House, and neighbourhood, as regards its healthiness or otherwise, and any other points on which you think the Government should be informed.

4th The present House would be retained as a Barrack by merely putting Arm Racks and throwing the small rooms into large ones by Arches.

5th I am to request your Proceedings may be forwarded in the course of Wednesday next, as they are to be submitted to Council on Friday, and must be previously laid before the Right Honorable the Governor.

Extract from Garrison Orders by the Right Honorable the Governor, dated Fort Saint George, 28th June 1858.

A Medical Committee composed as under, will assemble to-morrow at "Landon's Garden" on the Poonamallee road at such hour as the President may appoint, to enquire into, and report upon a subject that will be submitted to it by the Town Major.

President.

The Acting Superintending Surgeon Presidency Division.

Members.

The Garrison Surgeon.

The Garrison Assistant Surgeon.

The Proceedings when closed to be forwarded to the Town Major and the Committee dissolved.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) THOS. THOMPSON,
Town Major.

From Messrs. Bainbridge & Co., Madras, 24th June 1858; *to the Town Major, Fort Saint George.*

In reply to your letter of this date respecting Landon's Gardens we beg to state that the property is for sale, price 25,000 Rupees (twenty five thousand) and consists of a large House, and Offices, with Ground attached measuring 38 Cawnies 3 Grounds 1231 Square feet.

The Title Deeds are in our possession and we shall be happy to allow your legal adviser to inspect them.

We have no plan, but you are quite at liberty to have one prepared at your own expense as you propose.

Immediate possession of the property can be given.

From Messrs. Bainbridge and Co., 30th June 1858; *to the Town Major, Fort Saint George.*

With reference to your letter of the 28th instant, and our Mr. Byard's conversation with you on that day, having since considered the matter, we are willing to accept Rupees (20,000) twenty thousand, in order to effect a prompt sale of Landon's Gardens, which sum we consider a low valuation for the property, looking to the large extent of Land attached to the House.

We shall be glad to be favored with your decision as early as convenient.

From the Acting Superintending Surgeon, Madras, 30th June 1858, *No.* 126; *to the Town Major, Fort Saint George.*

In reference to your letter dated 28th instant, I have the honor to forward the Proceedings of the Medical Committee assembled at Landon's Gardens on the 29th instant.

Proceedings of a Medical Committee assembled at Landon's Gardens on the Poonamallee Road on the 29th June 1858, *by order of the Right Honorable the Governor.*

PRESIDENT.

Acting Supg. Surgeon J KELLIE.

MEMBERS.

Garrison Surgeon J. SANDERSON.

Garrison Asst. Surgeon W. J. VANSOMEREN, M. D.

Agreeably to the above order and in reference to a letter from the Town Major, the Committee assembled at 6 o'clock this morning and minutely inspected the house and grounds above alluded to.

In the opinion of the Committee the site appears to be well adapted for the purpose intended by Government; there is ample space for the locating of a Native Battalion, and the ground presents a declivity which slopes downwards towards the North side of the Premises admitting of easy drainage into a neighbouring Nullah, about a quarter of a Mile's distance.

Should more space be required, it can be obtained on the North and West borders of the compound.

There are two Tanks of fair size, and two Wells of ordinary size and depth in the Compound. The Tanks might with advantage be enlarged and deepened, and the number of the Wells would require to be increased.

A Bottle of the Well water was submitted for analysis to the Chemical Examiner and his report upon the same is herewith attached.

The Committee believe the locality to be one of the healthiest in Madras, but a considerable portion of the ground will require to be cleared of Mangoe and Cocoanut Trees before the lines could be erected.

The House is large and commodious, and with the alteration proposed by the Town Major would be well adapted for a Barrack or place of Arms.

(Signed) J. KELLIE,
Ag. Supg. Surgeon President.

(Signed) J. SANDERSON,
Garrison Surgeon.
(Signed) W. J. VANSOMEREN. M. D.,
Garrison Asst. Surgeon.
} *Members.*

From Government Chemical Examiner, Madras, 29th June 1858, *No.* 95; *to the Superintending Surgeon.*

I have the honor to report for your information, that I have made a qualitative examination of the water forwarded to me by you this morning and that in my opinion, it is fit for drinking and other purposes. I beg further to state that it contrasts even favorably with the water taken from the Seven Wells its specific gravity being somewhat less and it is also free of Sulphate which the water of the Seven Wells contains. Both however contain organic matter in appreciable quantity.

With reference to Minutes of Consultation No. 2060, 10th June 1858, and with the view of the removal of the Native Infantry, Regiment now stationed at Vepery into that locality, the Governor in Council sanctions the purchase of the property on the Poonamalle Road called Landon's Gardens for Rupees (20,000) twenty thousand being carried into effect by the Garrison Engineer, provided that the title is approved of by the Honorable Company's Solicitor.

2. Estimates and Plans will be called for in the Department Public Works for converting the house on the premises into a barrack and for the other public buildings and lines necessary for a Native Infantry Regiment.

(True Extract and Copies.)

W. H. Wathen Major
Ag. Dy. Secretary to Government.

To the Town Major.
" Quarter Master General.
" Department Public Works, with Plan. 3 Spare Copies.
" Adjutant General.
" Hon'ble Company's Solicitor.
" Military Auditor General.
" Accountant General.

Exd. R. Spears.

C-in-C. Military Dept. 10th June 1858 C-in-C/1338

Public Works 1858 Despatches
Dft to Genl Pr Exp.

No. 1580

Extract Minute Council in the Military Department

Dated 9th
Received 16th } July 1858

No. 2455

Plans & Tenders for Public Works Department

No. 1553. 7th August 1858.

Sanctioning the purchase of the property in the Commanderie Road called Vendon's Gardens for Rs 20,000 & directing that Estimates & Plans be called for in the Dept. Public Works for converting the houses on the premises into a barrack for a Native Infantry Regiment.

William Peel

No. 1553

Ordered that communication be made to the Officiating Chief Engineer with a request that he will intimate to the Acting Garrison Engineer that the sum of Rupees 20,000 sanctioned in Head 1 of the above Estimate should be disbursed out of the general funds allotted for this Department for expenditure on the Convent Officials Gardens.

Major Crawford will also learn that authority has been solicited to expend a sum not exceeding Rupees 15,000 for the purchase of the Gardens in question.

By Rs for Rupees 15 Sanctioned 1858 page 93 Home 63 Pages 57 of Budget

Extract from Minutes of Council 5th April 1858.

Secret Military Dept. 7th August 1858.

10 Copies to the Govt. of Bengal

Received 9th Aug. 1858

Rec'd with the Govt. Letter

Public Works Dept. 10th Aug. 1858

C 23 Lucy Rec'd Aug.