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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	163	Press
330-331		~~Mis.~~
Dated	16-1-	1864.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
16th January 1864.*

No. 330. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Military
Department:—

Requesting that a sum of Rupees 1,39,800 may be entered
in the Budget of 1864-65 on account of a grand Magazine,
&c., at Trichinopoly, and concurring with the Comman-
der-in-Chief in the views expressed by him on the subject
of the sites for the new Barracks for a wing of European
Infantry and the removal of the Parcherry and other
buildings at that station.

(Here enter 8th January 1864, No. 75.)

No. 331. ORDER THEREON, 16th January 1864, No. 163.
Communicated to the Superintending Engineer, 6th Division, for information and guidance.
(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintending Engineer, 6th Division.
,, Accountant General.
,, Controller and Auditor of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following papers :—

From the Quarter Master General, Fort Saint George, 26th December 1863, No. 10,153; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department.

I have the honor, by order of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, to report to Government that, having visited Trichinopoly, and having carefully inspected the two sites proposed for the new Barracks for a Wing of British Infantry, and considered the evidence adduced in favor of one and the other, he is of opinion that the present site is the better of the two.

2. The Medical Committee, whose Report was published in Minutes of Consultation, No. 2641, dated 7th December 1858, dismissed all consideration of this site with the remark that "it is open to many objections," particulars of objections were not given. They gave their adhesion to the Brigade Ground site. Their objections to the present site can only have been based on the vicinity, which is still an abominable Parcherry, because notwithstanding this disadvantage, the present Barracks have been notoriously healthy, though of an old-fashioned contracted Bomb-proof plan.

3. An extract from a letter from the Officer Commanding Southern Division, forwarded herewith, will further explain the advantages of the present site: and the Medical testimony of the present head of the Medical Department in Bengal, Dr. Beatson; of the Inspector General of Hospitals, Dr. Shaw; of the Principal Medical Officer of Her Majesty's British Troops, Dr. Inglis; of Sir Arthur Cotton, K.C.B., Royal Engineers; of Colonel Lawford, Royal Engineers; combined with the opinion held by His Excellency himself, by Major General Coffin and Regimental Commanding Officers preferring the present site, from a mass of evidence greatly preponderating over that formerly given by the Medical Committee referred to. The advantages of the present site may be summed up as follows:—Near the Church and the Artillery—no new Hospital required—near Officers' Quarters—water certain and abundant. Salubrity proved, notwithstanding neighbouring Bazar. Part of the old Barracks utilized. The site on the Brigade ground, is intolerably windy and dusty, and water is uncertain.

4. It did not perhaps enter the mind of the Committee that the Parcherry could be totally removed; and so removing the only apparent objection to the site—the Parcherry has been valued, and at an estimated cost of about 22,000 Rupees, the ground and Buildings on it, can be placed at the disposal of Government.

5. The Executive Engineer has prepared an Estimate of what it will cost to obtain ground sufficient for a Wing, and after purchasing the Parcherry and the compounds coloured yellow in the Plan accompanying, he finds that the actual outlay, after the sale of old materials, &c., will only amount to Rupees 19,800.

6. In the Plan is laid down the proposed distribution of the Buildings, including the new Grand Magazine and Ordnance Depot. It will be observed that half of the present Barracks will be retained for Commissariat and Medical Stores, and perhaps for Public Offices.

7. The opinions of Drs. Beatson, Shaw and Inglis are transcribed below. The objection of Colonel Lawford to the site on the Brigade Ground is found in Extract Minutes of Consultation, No. 2279, dated 8th December 1857, and that* of Sir Arthur

* *Herewith forwarded.* Cotton shall be obtained immediately from Trichinopoly, as a copy does not appear to have been kept in this Office.

8. His Excellency now desires that Government may be pleased to give this subject their earliest consideration and orders. It has been pending for many years, and it is of the utmost importance that it be deferred no longer. He begs that money for the purchase of the ground required may be entered in the Budget of 1864-65, and that a sum of, at least, a lac of Rupees be granted for Buildings next year. A new Hospital will not be needed—the present is very good, sufficient for both Artillery and a Wing of Infantry—it only needs a few easy alterations to make it all that is required. Plans and Estimates for the other Buildings to be at once taken on hand—or at least of such as are not already determined by Standard Plans. In the Plan forwarded herewith, there are blocks for six Companies, but a Wing only is ordered.

9. The building of the Grand Magazine awaits the question of site of Barracks (Order of Government, No. 4242, dated 10th December 1862,) and the Plan and Estimate for it are herewith forwarded, approved by His Excellency; but the Inspector General of Ordnance may pro-

bably see fit to still further reduce the capacity of this intended Building,—be that as it may, His Excellency wishes that the sum of Rupees 20,000 estimated for, may be entered in the coming Budget. The Ordnance Depot will also have to be estimated for and planned. The removal of Gun Powder and Ammunition from the Fort, with the utmost expedition is, and always has been, a crying necessity, but this cannot be done until the new Magazine is built.

Extract from a letter from the Officer Commanding Southern Division, to the Quarter Master General of the Army, dated 25th March 1863, No. 75.

Paragraph 2. "As regards the different sites proposed, I have long thought that the present site was the best for the new Barracks for the following reasons:—"

1st. "The present European Barracks with all the disadvantages of bad Buildings, want of Barrack accommodation, offensive and dirty Bazar and Parcherries in close vicinity, have been found to be very healthy."

2nd. "The advantage of having all the European Troops in close proximity, together with the Powder Magazine, Arsenal and Commissariat Stores."

3rd. "The Hospital and Church being near the present Barracks."

4th. "The great inconvenience to Officers that would result from having no houses near the new Barracks, if erected on a distant site."

5. "The certainty of finding water on the present site from the Wyacandan Channel running within 500 yards."

"I took the opportunity of Acting Inspector General of Hospitals J. Shaw, being at this Station, to get that Officer to go over the ground with me, and he was of opinion that the present site was the best, provided the Bazars and Parcherry were removed, as recommended in my letter No. 1312 of 13th December 1862."

"Referring to the 3rd paragraph* of your letter under acknowledgment, I beg to state that, under any circumstances, I consider the removal of the Bazars and Parcherry before referred to is of paramount importance to the present Barracks, without reference to the site that may hereafter be fixed upon for the new ones."

In this opinion I am supported by Acting Inspector General of Hospitals J. Shaw, and Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals G. S. Beatson, Principal Medical Officer Her Majesty's British Forces."

Extract from a letter from Dr. Beatson, Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals and Principal Medical Officer British Troops, to Major General Coffin, dated 11th March 1863.

"I think the site (of the present Infantry Barracks at Trichinopoly) a good one—I would be afraid of the hot high winds on the plain where the Camp was, and with proper Buildings and a good Sanitary condition of the neighbourhood; no objection could be taken to the present site—although *ceteris paribus*, new ground is preferable, as old long occupied ground must be more or less saturated with impurities."

From the Acting Inspector General of Hospitals, Trichinopoly, 16th March 1863, No. 2; to the Secretary Principal Inspector General Medical Department, Fort Saint George.

With reference to the 2nd paragraph of your letter, dated 9th March 1863, No. 856, I have the honor to observe, for the information of the Principal Inspector General Medical Department, that I have had, through the kindness of the Major General Commanding the Southern Division, every opportunity of making myself practically acquainted with the proposed sites for the new European Barracks at Trichinopoly.

Three sites were proposed.

1st. One on the open ground near the Faqueers' Rocks.

2nd. The Brigade* Ground and

Vide Plan of Trichinopoly. 3rd. The site on which the present European Barracks are placed.

The objections to the 1st and 2nd sites are nearly similar.

1st. It is doubtful whether the supply of water would be sufficient during the whole year.

2nd. These localities are much exposed to the full force of the westerly winds, which during the months of June, July, August and a part of September, blow with excessive violence, and during this time Fever and Ophthalmia are said to be more than usually prevalent.

In Company with General Coffin and the District Engineer, I have most carefully examined the site of the present European Barracks, the adjacent Bazars and Parcherry, both these gentlemen consider, and I fully concur with them, that it is the best situation in Trichinopoly for new European Barracks.

The present Barracks stands on high ground, sufficiently protected from the westerly winds, the ground has a good slope, admitting of excellent drainage, there is a sufficiency of water, and ample space for a whole Regiment, but the greatest recommendation is "the site* has been found healthy even under every disadvantage of bad drainage, Ventilation, insufficient room and close proximity of filthy Bazars."

It possesses facilities for Baths, Soldiers' Gardens are already close to it, and under General Coffin's orders a large portion of the old Barracks is being converted into Quarters for the married men, and will afford excellent separate accommodation for 42 families.

Should it be determined that the old Barracks are to be removed, there is ample room to build family Quarters.

I had intended to have made some lengthened remarks upon the objectionably close proximity of private houses and huts, many in a ruined state, to the temporary Barracks, but a letter of Dr. Macfarlanes has been brought to my notice which enters so fully and forcibly into the Sanitary state of this part of the Cantonment, that I need only remark that notwithstanding much has been done, under the orders of the General, yet many of the abominations still exist, and the Huts and Slaughter-houses being claimed as freehold property, the Military Authority is set at defiance.

The Plan for the new Barracks contemplates the purchase and removal of these objectionable places, and the erection of a Regimental Bazar to be under Military Regulations.

Extract from Inspection Report on the European Barracks at Trichinopoly, by Dr. Inglis, Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals, and Principal Medical Officer British Troops, September 1863.

"The position of the Barracks for drainage is good, and the absence of epidemics has proved it to be a healthy one, this I mainly attribute to the sanitary surveillance exercised by the Station Authorities, without which the emanations and impurities which would arise from the Bazar would speedily render it otherwise. I think the site would be a very good one, if by any means the inhabitants of the Bazar could be removed further off and the Huts raised."

ORDER, No. 75, 8th January 1864.

*For removal of Parcherry and purchase of ground..... Rupees	19,800
For Magazines..... "	20,000
For Building..... "	1,00,000

Total Rs... 1,39,800

Communicated to the Department Public Works, in view to the amount* required being entered as proposed in the Budget for 1864-65.

2. The Governor in Council concurs in the views expressed by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief on the subject of the site for the new Barracks, and the removal of the Parcherry and other Buildings.

(True Extract.)

M. Hamilton
Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Public Works Dept., with 6 enclosures.
,, Quarter Master General.

Exd. J. E. Cashart.

*Enclosures already forwarded with
manuscript copy.*

*Military
Estimate
Ordinance*

TRICHINOPOLY DISTRICT.

Essest

Abstract Estimate No. of 185 6

Work.

Constructing a grand Magazine at Trichinopoly

Trichinopoly - Government of Madras

Quantity.	Description of Work.	Rate.		Amount.		Amount of Each Part.	
		Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.
46216	Cubic ft. of Brickwork in Mortar - per ft.	2	0	5777	0		
10964 1/2	D ^o Arch work - D ^o	26	0	1713	29		
16206	Superf. ft. of 2 Coats of Plastering with Colunam - per sq. ft.	2	8	405	25		
8412	D ^o 1 Coat D ^o D ^o	1	8	126	21		
1376	D ^o of looping outer Wall with broken glass fixed in mortar - per ft.	4	0	55	8		
1776	D ^o Asphaltic flooring -	30	0	532	12		
1	Teakwood Battens Door with frame Brass Hooks Hinges Loop for nails Brass Padlocks & Key complete 7x4 1/2			50	0		
4	D ^o D ^o Windows with Copper Bars & Grating complete - 3x2 each	20	0	80	0		
6	Ventilator with Copper Gratings each	2	0	12	0		
1	Teakwood Strong Battens Door with frame show works & Padlocks and Key Complete 7x5			35	0		
3	Ridge Ventilators with Wooden block Copper bolt & nuts complete each	15	0	45	0		
2427 1/2	Cubic feet of Teakwood Rackwork per cubic feet	4	0	9715	0		
	Carried Over			18542	57		

*At Trichinopoly
12th Decr 1854*

Quantity.	Description of Work.	Rate.	Amount.
	Brought forward —		1854.57
2.	Copper Lightning Conductors according to details entered in the Specification — each 50 ..	100 ..	
	Dredging & filling Basins ..	100 ..	
	Centring and scaffolding ..	750 ..	
	Sundries and Contingencies ..	1107 ..	
	Total Estimated Rupees ..		20000 ..
	Contracted by ..		
	Approved by ..		
	Sanctioned by ..		
	June 1863 ..		

[illegible]

Quantity.

2.

Alfred Schmitt
for bookkeeping & prices
charges at building

20000

to Dec 94
1893

1001 97791/64
Entered in Acc. from the
unfurnished building &
sent on 2. of 26. Dec
1893 R. 1155.

M. D. Davis of 1894

Richmond
15th November 1850.
From Lieutenant Colonel A. Cotton
Chief Engineer.
To Major Genl. J. B. Cleaveland
Commanding Southern Division
Sir: With reference to our conver-
sation of yesterday on the subject of
the European Barracks, I have the
honor now to forward my opinions on
the principal points of the subject
after inspecting the present buildings
and site on which they stand.
It appears to me that all
the grounds upon which it was be-
fore decided that new barracks
were necessary are still untouched
though the question was allowed to re-
main in abeyance for a time in
consequence of the commencement of
the Barracks on the Steilghersee
and the uncertainty as to the number
of men that might be ultimately

stationed there. As it is now deter-
mined that a Wing should be always
at Trichinopoly there seems to be
no further question about the construction
of the Barracks here. My own opinion
is, and always was when formerly stationed
in this Division that nothing could be
made of the present Barracks, as such
and that to provide a building fitted
for the occupation of Europeans a new
one must be erected.

2. I should strongly recommend
that if a new building be erected, it
should be constructed of two stories,
as has been done in some other Stations.
I believe I should recommend this as
being 1st much cheaper, 2^d as being cooler,
and 3^d as being more healthy.

3. I am of opinion that the
site of the present tiled buildings is suf-
ficiently capacious for the construction
of two storied barracks for 500 men and
it seems to me that this site is decidedly
preferable to the one that was before
proposed on the higher ground beyond
the present Cantonment. It seems to

me that that elevated and unsheltered
site would be very objectionable during the
strong continued westerly winds which
blow here with much violence during
the S. W. Monsoon. There is also
the objection that it would be quite enough
from all the present private houses
occupied by the Officers of the Regi-
ment, and which I should suppose
would not be near enough to the new
barracks to be available for that pur-
pose and if so, the changes of site
would render necessary the erection of
new private houses and the loss of much
property. The present site also ap-
pears to me free from objections
of any other kind.

4. The present Arched buildings
which form part of the barracks
might be used as the Arsenal. The
situation of the Arsenal at present
in the City seems on many accounts
very objectionable. These Arched
buildings would be out of the reach
of any momentary disturbance among
the inhabitants, and much more con-
venient for the Guard

50 If the new buildings were constructed on the site now proposed there would be a small Parade between them and the Arched Buildings, and room on each side of them for a Regiment to march without inconvenience to the larger space at present used as Parade. Whether any objection would be made on the score of discipline, to the situation of the Arsenal in such immediate neighbourhood to the Barracks I am not aware, but I should suppose there would not. The houses of the Artificers &c. would of course be placed at some little distance from the Barracks.

60 If these arrangements were made I think the removal of the powder from the present Magazine in the rocks in the heart of the City to a building on the high ground on the skirts of the Cantonment would be very important. No doubt it was placed in its present position many years ago, as a temporary expedient,

15 but it is so obviously objectionable to run the risk of a large mass of Powder being fired by lightning &c. in the midst of the dense population of the City, or of its being taken possession of by a mob before troops would arrive from the Cantonment, that the construction of a separate Magazine in a suitable situation seems to be a most necessary proceeding.

These seem to me to be all the essential points in the questions connected with the barracks, upon which it is necessary that I should state my opinion. I shall be ready to take into consideration any further points in which you may be pleased to require my opinion, during the few days that I expect to remain in this neighbourhood.

I have the honor to ack
Signed / J. L. Cotton & Co.
Chief Engineer

True copy.

Handwritten
28 Decr / 63
Susaney.

No. 45.

Proceedings of the Madras Government.

8th January 1864

Read the following Paper.

From the Quarter Master General.

Submits report on the 2 sites proposed for the New Barracks for a wing of European Infantry at Trichinopoly, recently inspected by the Commander in Chief and considers the present site to be better of the two ^{on an approved} Enclosure Plan and Estimate for a grand Magazine.

Presented 26th December/63rd 1015

For removal of Barracks and purchase of ground Rs 14,800.
For Magazine — 29,000.
For Buildings — 100,000
Total Rs 1,39,800

Order, Communicated to the Department Public Works in view to the amount required being entered as proposed in the budget for 1864/65.

2. The Governor in Council is in the views expressed by His Excellency the Commander in Chief on the subject of the site for the New Barracks, and the removal of the Barracks and other Buildings.

True Extract
Munim St. C.
Dy. Secretary to Government.

To
The Public Works Department.
with 6 Enclosures

No 6
Entered in the Journal
of the Madras
Govt. on 27th Dec 1863

1863. 11-6-65
Received
from the Quarter
Master General
the report on the
two sites for the
new Barracks at
Trichinopoly.

Delegue received
this morning
Mr. D. 26th Dec 1863
the report on the
two sites for the
new Barracks at
Trichinopoly.

Recd from
Quarter Master
Dec. 28/63.
No 12352

Recd 30th Dec 1863

1864
No. 163
The
Comptroller of the Treasury

1864
No. 163
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Comptroller of the Treasury

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Comptroller of the Treasury

No. 163.

Communicated to
The Superintendent Engineer
for information & guidance

Blueprints
165 Jan 1/63

1864
No. 163
The
Comptroller of the Treasury

Note. Please send to
Dr. H. H. Everett - U.S.
No 655 of 1/4. 58