M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

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(2) Date of repair_____

(3) Initials of the Referencer_____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 3302 Press Mis.—

331-335

Dated 16—10— 1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 16th October 1866.

No. 384. Read the following letter from the Civil Judge of Salem, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Salem, 25th September 1866, No. 7:—

I have the honor to enclose, for the information of Government, copies of replies made by the Superintending Engineer and Sub-Collector to letters which I addressed to them respecting the subject of your docket,* dated the 2nd ultimo.

* Herewith returned.

Both these Officers appear to think that the present Court House of the District, Moonsiff at Oossoor is conveniently situated. The Superintending Engineer considers that the building is capable of improvement, while the Sub-Collector is of opinion that alterations or additions to it would be waste of money. On this point more weight will probably be attached to the opinion of the Superintending Engineer; but if the improvements he has in view should be extensive and costly, the Government may think it worth their consideration whether it would not be the least expense in the end to take down the present building and erect a new one on the same site.

From the Superintending Engineer, 5th Division, to the Under Secretary to Government, Public &c., Departments, dated Cuddalore, 26th June 1866, No. 53.

1 Letter No. — dated 19th December 1864, with two Enclosures.
1 Copy of Proceedings of the High Court, and
1 Copy of letter No. 30, dated 18th August 1864, to the High Court from the Civil Judge, Salem.
1 Letter No. 272, dated 27th September 1865, from do. do.

1. In reply to your Official Memorandum of the 21st instant, No. 203, I have the honor to state that the estimate and plan, submitted with my letter of the 6th instant, No. 39, for constructing a District Moonsiff's Court House at Oossoor, were prepared on the requisition of the High Court and the Civil Judge of Salem.

2. I herewith forward, in original, the requisitions, and request you will be good enough to return them to me when no longer required.

From the Acting Civil Judge of Salem, to the Superintending Engineer, 5th Division, dated Salem, 19th December 1864.

* Dated 18th August 1864.

I have the honor to forward copy of a letter* addressed by Mr. Cherry to the Registrar of the High Court, with the Proceedings of the Judges thereon, and to request that you will favor me with your opinion on the subject of building new Court Houses for the District Moonsiffs at Tripatore and Oossoor. In the event of your coinciding with Mr. Cherry's view of the case, I have further to request that the necessary plans and estimates may be prepared with as little delay as possible.

From the Civil Judge of Salem, to the Deputy Registrar of the High Court, Appellate Side, Madras dated Salem, 18th August 1864. No. 30.

1. In reply to the High Court's Proceedings of the 15th instant, directing me to state distinctly the steps I propose to take in the matter of providing the District Moonsiffs of Tripatore and Oossoor with better accommodation for holding their Courts, I have the honor to observe that from the descriptions given of the present buildings by the said Officers in their respective letters of the 5th February and 29th June 1864, (copies of which were duly submitted to the High Court with my letters of the 11th February and 9th July 1864), I do not think that these buildings, even after improvement, would sufficiently answer, and that it would be cheaper in the end and better for the public convenience if new buildings were erected.

2. If the High Court concur in this opinion, I shall then do myself the honor of submitting plans and estimates for the same.

Proceedings of the High Court of Judicature at Madras, 16th December 1864.

Read letter dated the 18th August 1864, from the Civil Judge of Salem, stating that the present Court Houses of the District Moonsiffs of Tripatore and Oossoor, even if improved, would not sufficiently answer, and that the erection of new buildings would be cheaper and also better for public convenience.

The High Court are of opinion that the local Engineer should be consulted as to the relative expediency of the two plans suggested. If the Acting Civil Judge and the Engineer agree that it will be more economical to construct entirely new Court Houses, the plans and estimates may be prepared at once, and forwarded for sanction in the usual course.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) P. P. HUTCHINS,
Acting Registrar, Appellate Side.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) H. E. SULLIVAN,
Acting Civil Judge.

From the Acting Civil Judge of Salem, to the Superintending Engineer, 5th Division, dated Salem, 27th September 1865, No. 272.

1. I delayed replying to your letter dated 9th ultimo, No. 1,101, until I had had an opportunity of inspecting the Moonsiffs' Courts at Tripatore and Oossoor.

2. I fully concur with yourself and the Assistant Engineer in thinking that alterations or additions to the present Court of Tripatore would be waste of money; another building in a different locality must be provided. I am now in correspondence with the Collector on the subject, and will again address you when I am in possession of his views.

3. I hold the same opinion with regard to the Moonsiff's Court at Oossoor. The cubic space available in the Court room is even less than in the Tripatore Court, and moreover the locality, which does not even possess the advantage of being central, is decidedly objectionable. It is impossible for the business of a Court to be carried on when the doors open almost on to a crowded street. I have therefore the honor to request that plans and estimates for a new building to be erected in the vicinity of the Táluq School may be submitted as early as practicable. I presume that there are standard plans in your office for judicial buildings, so that I need not indicate the accommodation required.

No. 6.

OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM.

The Civil Judge of Salem has the honor to state, in reply to the Official Memorandum of the Under Secretary to Government, dated the 3rd instant, that the District Moonsiff's Court at Oossoor was personally inspected by the late Acting Civil Judge, who concurred with the Superintending and Assistant Engineers that "alterations or additions to the building would be waste of "money." He also remarks "that the locality, which does note ven possess the advantage of being "central, is decidedly objectionable, and that it is impossible for the business to be carried on when "the doors open almost on to a crowded street."

SALEM,
9th July 1866.

(Signed) C. F. CHAMIER,
Civil Judge.

The Civil Judge is requested to report fully whether the building now used as the Moonsiff's Court is Government property; how long it has been so occupied; whether, irrespective of its situation in a crowded locality, it is in any, and what, respects unsuited to its present purpose; and whether, in the event of its being abandoned, it can be applied to any other public purpose, or, if sold, what it is likely to realize. A description of the situation and dimensions of the building should also be furnished, and the necessity of erecting a new Court House clearly explained.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Chief Secretary.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
2nd August 1866.

From the Acting Sub-Collector of Salem, to the Civil Judge of Salem, dated Oossoor, 13th September 1866, No. 504.

1. In acknowledging the receipt of your letter No. 29, dated 21st August 1866, I have the honor to inform you, that I have inspected the Court of the District Moonsiff of Oossoor, and to reply, as far as lies in my power, to the questions put by the Chief Secretary to Government, in the enclosure which accompanied your letter under reply.

2. I quite agree with the remarks of the Superintending Engineer and Assistant Engineer, viz., "that making alterations or additions would be waste of money." I do not coincide with the opinion expressed by the Acting Civil Judge, relative to the position of the Court. The street in which it is situated is anything but crowded, being that in which mostly Brahmins and Government officials reside.

3. The building is the property of Government, by whom it was built in the year 1841, as a Moonsiff's Court, so that it has been so occupied for about twenty-six years. It is, as I have remarked, not in a crowded locality. The main thoroughfare of the town (Trunk Road No. 1) runs at an angle to it, and at some distance. It is, in my opinion, unsuited to the purpose for which it is used. It is situated in a compound 134 feet long by 79 feet deep. The building consists of the Court, which is 41 feet 6 inches long, 11 feet 8 inches wide, and 11 feet high. In this room nine Goomastahs, and four copyists have to work, and the business of the Court has to be carried on there also. The part of the room set apart for the Goomastahs is 18 feet 2 inches long, and separated from the Court by one ordinary rail, about 2 feet 6 inches high. At the back of the Court, and in the centre, there is the Record-room, in which property possessing any value attached under decrees is deposited. This room is 10 feet 2 inches × 10 feet 2 inches, and about 10 feet high. There is no private room for the Moonsiff, who has to do his work as best he can in the same room as his Clerks. Outside the Court is a verandah eight feet deep, and opening into it by a series of arches, so that any one outside can see what is going on within. Outside the main building, and about 15 yards east of it, there is what is called the Vakil's shed, which is 17 feet × 10 × 11 × 10, and has a sloping verandah eight feet deep, opening on to the shed by arches. Of this shed and forming part of the same structure is a small room 11-8 × 5-2 × 10, and very dirty, in which such attached property as cannot be put in the Record-room is placed. There is a deep dry well in the compound, which is further blocked up by a pound for attached cattle. Near this is a dung heap, which I think is not conducive to the health of either the employés or frequenters of the Court. There is no accommodation of any kind for suitors. The compound is surrounded by a 6 feet wall.

4. There is no public purpose to which the building could, if abandoned, be put. The School is located in a building which is more suitable; and, if a Dispensary were instituted, very considerable alterations would be required.

5. If sold, the building and land together would not realize at the very outside more than 350 Rupees. I was told that an offer of 200 Rupees had once been made for it, but the Moonsiff informed me that there was nothing on record regarding this.

6. The Court is situated at the eastern extremity of the town near the point where Trunk Road No. 1 enters. To the east of it, and separated from it by a wall, is the School; to the west there is a private house, on the south it is bounded by a cultivated field, and to the north runs the Brahmins' street. I enclose a rough sketch, which will enable you to better understand the description given.

7. The Court House is "cutcha," *i. e.*, built of brick and mud. The bricks are, as far as I could see, by removing plaster, those known as Company's bricks, and appear to be of good quality.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department
16*th October* 1866.

Very many of the beams supporting the roof are attacked with dry rot, and by the time that the proposed alterations are, if sanctioned, made, it will be necessary to extensively repair the old structure.

8. My opinion, therefore, is that the building should be pulled down, and a proper one erected. The brick not being set in chunam might be used again, as well as such timber and tiles as are in good condition. There is no other site in the town on which a Court could be built without rendering it necessary to purchase the ground, and I can myself see no objection beyond want of centrality to that on which the present building is. The site to which I hear that it is proposed to remove it, is even more distant from the town than this.

From the Superintending Engineer, 5th Division, to the Civil Judge of Salem, dated Salem, 19th September 1866, No. 137.

1. With reference to your letters of the 21st August, No. 114, and 27th of August, No. 121, I have the honor to inform you that I inspected the Moonsiff's Court House at Oossoor on the 7th and 8th of this month.

2. I did not see this building when at Oossoor last year, and did not forward any report on it. I am now of opinion that it will not be necessary to build a new Court House, as the present building is conveniently situated and improvements can be made to it. It is at one end of the town, stands back from the street, and behind it there is a field.

3. I had no hesitation in condemning the Moonsiff's Court House at Tripatore, and Government have ordered provision to be made in the Budget of 1867-68 for a new Court House to be built in the compound of what was the Travellers' Bungalow, now the Head Assistant Collector's Office.

4. As I have given an opinion in favor of retaining the present building at Oossoor, it will not be necessary for me to send replies to the other questions, particularly as the Sub-Collector informed me that replies had also been called for from him.

Transferred to the Public Works Department, with reference to the docket of that Department, dated 12th June last. As the Superintending Engineer is now of opinion that it is not necessary to erect a New Court House for the District Moonsiff at Oossoor, the necessary estimate should be called for for improving the present building.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
4*th October* 1866.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary to Government.

No. 385. ORDER THEREON, 16th October 1866, No. 3,302.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 76.

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer of the 5th Division, who will submit an estimate for the proposed improvements to the District Moonsiff's Court House at Oossoor in the Salem District.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintending Engineer, 5th Division.
,, Judicial Department.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

1 Letter No. 919 of 19th November 1864 with 2 enclosures
Proceedings of the High Court and copy of letter No. 390 of 18th
August 1864 to the High Court from the Civil Judge, Salem
1 Letter No 272 dated 27th September 1865 from do do

No. 53. Superintg. Engineer's Office 5th Division
Cuddalore 26th June 1866

From
The Superintending Engineer
5th Division,

To
The Under Secretary to Government
Public Works Department.

Sir,

In reply to your Official Memorandum of the 21st instant No. 203, I have the honor to state that the Estimate and Plan, submitted with my letter of the 6th instant No. 39, for constructing a District Moonsiff's Court House at Oossoor, were prepared on the requisition of the High Court and the Civil Judge of Salem.

2 I herewith forward, in original, the requisitions, and request you will be good enough to return them to me when no longer required.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most obedient servant
Ed Lieutt-Col. R. E.
Superintending Engineer, 5th Division.

256

Official Memorandum.

The Civil Judge of Madura has the honor to state, in reply to the Official Memorandum of Government dated the 3rd instant, that the District Moonsiff's Court at Caroor was personally inspected by the late Acting Civil Judge, who concurred with the Superintending and Inspecting Engineer that Alteration or Addition to the building would be unsafe of honor". He also remarks that the locality, which does not return Rupees the advantage of having contract, is decidedly objectionable; and that if is therefore for the business to be carried unforeseen on inclose the door open almost on to a crowded street."

Civil Court Madura
9th July 1866

(P.) Chamier
Civil Judge

Pro: 27th June 1866 Nos. 245-246

From
The Superintg Engineer
5th Division

To
The Under Secretary
to Government
Public Wks Department

Dated 26th } June 1866
Received 28th }

No 1398 No 53
Enclosures 4

Informing that the Plans and Estimate for a District Moonsiff's Court House at Usur were prepared at the requisition of the High Court & Civil Judge of Salem

Vide Memo to the Civil Judge 27.6

Salem Sub Collectors Office.

No. 504. Opoor. 13th September 1866.

From,

J. F. Price Esquire
Acting Sub Collector of Salem.

To.

C. F. Chanier Esquire
Civil Judge of Salem.

Sir,

In acknowledging the receipt of your letter No. 29 dated 21st August 1866, I have the honor to inform you that I have instructed the Court of the District Moonsiff of Opoor, and to reply as far as lies in my power to the questions put by the Chief Secretary to Government in the enclosure which accompanied your letter under reply.-

2. I quite agree with the remarks of the Superintending Engineer and Assistant Engineer viz "that making alterations or additions would be waste of money." I do not coincide with the opinion expressed by the acting Civil Judge relative to the position of the Court. The street in which it is situated is any thing but crowded.

The Civil Judge is requested to report fully whether the building now used as the Moonsiffs' Court is Government property; how long it has been so occupied, and the circumstances of its situation in a crowded locality, it is in any and what manner connected with the present premises, and whether in the event of its being abandoned it can be applied to any other public purpose, or if sold what it is likely to realize. Also whether the situation and dimensions of the building should also be stated, and the necessity for a new Court House clearly explained.

Fort St. George
24th Nov. 1865

G. J. Cumming
Chief Secretary

To the Civil Judge of Salem.

Rec'd 2/12. Repd 27/12.

Rec'd 29th June 1866 Ch. No. 246
Opr. No. 1390.

Judicial Dept.

From
The Civil Judge
of Salem

To
The Chief Secretary
to Government
Fort St. George

Dated 27th December 1865
Rec'd 29th " "
No. 4585.

Stating that the present Moonsiffs Court at Oosoor was originally instituted by the late Acting Civil Judge and that the application was for Division of a new building was in Stylewrate.

With the Letter -

crowded, being that in which mostly Burmis and Government Officials reside.

3. The building is the property of Government, by whom it was built in the year 1841, as a Moonsiffs Court, so that it has been so occupied for about 26 years. It is as shall remarked not in a crowded locality. The main Thoroughfare of the town (Trunk Road. No 1.) runs at an angle to it and at some distance. It is in my opinion unsuited to the purpose for which it is used. It is situated in a compound 134. feet long. by 79. feet deep. The building consists of the Court which is 41. feet 6. inches long. 11. feet 8 inches wide and 11. feet high. In this room nine goomastahs, and four Copyists have to work and the Bunnia of the Court has his counter on there also. The part of the room set apart for the goomastahs is 18. feet 2 inches long, and separated from the Court by one ordinary rail about 2. ft 6. inches high. At the back

of

11

of the Court, and in the centre, there is the Record room, in which property respecting any value attached under decree is deposited. This room is 10. ft 2 inches × 10. ft 2 inches and about 10. ft high. There is no private room for the Moonsiff who has to do his work in but he can in the same room in his clerks Outside the Court is a Verandah 8. ft deep and opening into it by a series of arches so that any one outside can see what is going on within. Outside the main building and about 15. yards East of it there is what is called the Vakils shed which is 17 ft × 10 × 11. × 10, and has a sloping Verandah 8 ft deep opening on to the shed by arches. Off this shed and forming part of the same structure is a small room 11. 8. × 5. 2. × 10. and very dirty in which such attached property as cannot be put in the Record room is placed. There is a deep dry well in the Compound which is partly blocked up by a pound for attached Cattle. Near this

there is a dung heap, which I think is not conducive to the health of either the Employees or frequenters of the Court. There is no accommodation of any kind for suitors. The Compound is surrounded by a six feet wall.

4. There is no public purpose to which the building could, if abandoned, be put. The school is located in a building which is more suitable; and if a Dispensary were instituted very considerable alterations would be required.

5. If sold, the building and land together would not realize at the very outside more than 350 Rupees. I was told that an offer of 200 Rupees had once been made for it, but the Moonsiff informed me that there were nothing on record regarding this.

6. The Court is situated at the Eastern extremity of the town near the point where Trunk Road No 1 enters it to the East of it, and separated from it by a wall is the school, to the West there is a private house On the South it is bounded by a cultivated field, and to the North runs the Brammin street. I enclose a rough sketch which will enable you to better understand the description given.

7. The Court house is "Cutcha" i.e. built of bricks and mud. The bricks are, as far as I could see, by removing plaster, those known as Company bricks and appear to be of good quality. Very many of the Beams supporting the roof are attacked with dry rot and by the time that the proposed alterations are sanctioned, made, it will be necessary to extensively repair the roof structure.

8. My opinion therefore is that the building should be pulled down and a proper one erected. The bricks not being set in Chunam might be used again as well as such timber and tiles as are in good condition.

There

There is no other site in the Town on which a Court could be built without rendering it necessary to purchase the ground and I can myself see no objection beyond want of centrality to that on which the present building is. The site to which, I am informed it is proposed to remove it, is even more distant from the Town than this.

(Signed) F. J. Price.
Acting Sub Collector
(Inc. Copy)

C. L. Chamier
Civil Judge

Examined
[illegible]

Superintending Engineers Office 5th Dn.
Salem 19th September 1866.

No 137.

From,

The Superintending Engineer
5th Division.

To,

The Civil Judge of Salem.

Sir,

With reference to your letters of the 21st of August No. 1111 and 27th August No. 121, I have the honor to inform you that I inspected the Moonsiffs Court house at Ossoor on the 7th and 8th of this month.

2. I did not see this building when at Ossoor last year and did not forward any report on it. I am now of opinion that it will not be necessary to build a new Court House as the present building is conveniently situated and improvements can be made to it. It is at one end of the town, stands back from the street and behind it there is a field.

3. I had no hesitation in condemning the Moonsiffs Court house at Tirupattoor and

Dr 2470/66.

Enclosure No. 1.

Ltr. a letter from the Civil Judge of Salem dated 25th September 1866 No 7.

Copy of Sub Collectors letter dated 13th September 1866.

In Ltr. Dr. No. 2449/66

and Government have ordered provision to be made in the Budget of 1867. 68. for a new Court House to be built in the Compound of what was the Travellers Bungalow, now the Head Assistant Collector's Office.

4. I have given an opinion in favor of retaining the present building at Ooty, it will not be necessary for me to send replies to the other questions, particularly as the Sub Collector informed me that Replies had also been called for from him.

(Signed) R. A. Ford. M.C.S.
Superintending Engineer
5th Division

(True Copy)

C. & Chamier.
Civil Judge.

Examined
E. Arnold.

No 7

Salem Civil Court.
25th September 1866.

From,
C. J. Chamier Esqr
Civil Judge of Salem.

To
A. J. Arbuthnot Esqr
Chief Secretary to Government
Fort St George.

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose for the information of Government copies of replies made by the Superintending Engineer and Sub Collector to letters which I addressed to them respecting the subject of your docket dated the 2d ultimo. *herewith returned

Both these Officers appear to think that the present Court House of the District Moonsiff at Opoor is conveniently situated. The Superintending Engineer considers that the building is capable of improvement, while the Sub Collector is of opinion that alterations or additions to it would be waste of money. On this point more weight will probably be attached to the opinion of the Superintending Engineer; but if the improvement

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Enclosure No 2.

In a letter from the Civil Judge of Salem dated 25th September 1866 No 7

Copy of Superintending Engineer's letter dated 19th September 1866.

In Revenue No 2449/66

improvements he has in view should be extensive and costly, the Government may think it worth their consideration whether it would not be the least expense in the end to take down the present building and erect a new one on the same site.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most Obedient Servant

C. L. Chamier

Civil Judge

Examined

A Wood

No 3302

Public Works Department

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 16th Octr 1866

Read the following.

From The Civil Judge of Salem (D.E. No 7 dated 25th Septemr 1866)

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer of the 5th Division, who will submit an estimate for the proposed improvements to the District Moonsiffs Court House at Attoor in the Salem District

To The Supt Engr 5th Division for information

Judicial Dept

Dept 18th October

Rect 11th Oct 1866.

Public Works Department

From W. Keightley Esqr Secretary to Government

The Civil Judge of Salem

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 25th ultimo No 7 and to forward herewith for your information a copy of a letter from the Superintending Engineer 5th Division dated 12th June last, also that Engineer's report and opinion that it is not necessary to erect a new Court House for the District Moonsiffs at Attoor the present building being considered sufficient.

I am Sir Your obedient Servant

W. Keightley

Secretary to Government

To The Public Works Department with reference to the letter from the Civil Judge of Salem dated 25th ultimo

Transferred

Engr 3302-16th Octr/66.

C W 1866 Dec 5th

Pro: of Court for Octo

C 3382

Pro: of the Madras Court

Dy 16 October 66.

The Judg: Engr of the 5th Dr instructed to submit an Estimate for the Proposed improvements to Moonsiffs Court House at Ossoor.

A 384-385

3302 - 16 Oct 66.