

(1) Number of pages 38(2) Date of repair 8-12-66

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	3883	Press
		Mis.
125-124		
Dated	8-12-	1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

3

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
8th December 1866.*

Read the following papers:—

No. 125. From the Sanitary Commissioner, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 8th October 1866, No. 241. I have the honor to request you will be good enough to submit, for the favorable orders of Government, the accompanying Proceedings of the Committee assembled in accordance with the Government Order No. 818, dated 15th August 1866, for the purpose of selecting a suitable site for the proposed Military Hospital at Madras.

Proceedings of a Committee assembled at Madras on 13th September 1866, pursuant to Orders of Government No. 818, dated 15th August 1866.

Present.

The Honorable R. S. ELLIS, C.B., Sanitary Commissioner ...	President.
J. SHAW, Esq., F. R. C. S., Principal Inspector General, Medical Department.	Members.
Colonel C. A. ORR, R. E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department.	
J. G. INGLIS, M. D., C.B., Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals and Principal Medical Officer to Her Majesty's British Troops.	

Absent.

Colonel J. TEMPLE, Municipal Commissioner, on other duty...	Members.
Major C. S. HEARN, Commissioner of Police, Sick...	

The Committee is furnished with a copy of His Excellency the Governor's Minute, dated 25th June 1866.

The President informs the Committee, that it is assembled for the purpose of selecting a suitable site for a new Military Hospital, to be erected at Madras, for the treatment of the European Military sick of the Fort Saint George Garrison.

The Committee, after carefully considering the comparative advantages of the sites mentioned, as available for the purpose, in the Minute by His Excellency the Governor, unanimously decide,

That the best site is the triangular piece of ground on the Esplanade adjoining the Parade Ground, extending behind the Statue of Sir Thomas Munro to the burying grounds, and bounded by three public roads.

That this site will admit of providing Hospital buildings according to the principles of construction laid down by the Government of India, for one Regiment of Infantry, one Garrison Company of Artillery, and the sick details of European Regiments now treated in the General Hospital, and for the women belonging to all these, in the proportion allowed.

In selecting this site as the best which is available for the purpose, it is of course assumed that the graveyards in its vicinity will be closed, as this Committee are unanimous in recording their opinion that the continued use of these would be a sufficient reason for condemning the locality as unfit for the treatment of sick Soldiers.

The Committee also draw attention to the necessity which exists for having this ground carefully drained, as water has been observed to stand on it for a considerable time after heavy falls of rain.

(Signed)	R. S. ELLIS,	President.
(")	J. SHAW,	Prinl. Insp. Genl., Medl. Dept.
(")	J. G. INGLIS,	Deputy Inspector General, P. M. O. British Troops.
(")	C. A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,	Secretary to Government, D.P.W.
(")	J. TEMPLE,	Municipal Commissioner.
(")	C. S. HEARN,	Commissioner of Police.

repeatedly urged by the Military Authorities

here

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
8th December 1866.*

Transferred to the Military Department.

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

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
11th October 1866.

Referred for the observations of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

(Signed) R. HAMILTON, Colonel,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
15th October 1866.

No. 126. From the Officiating Quarter Master General, to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, dated Head Quarters, Ootacamund, 14th November 1866, No. 900-8,967.

1. In returning the papers from the Sanitary Commissioner, referred to this department by your docket Memorandum, dated 15th October 1866, I have the honor, by order, to submit, for the consideration of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, that the Commander-in-Chief observes that it would be entirely opposed to correct Military principles, to erect the proposed Hospital on the part of the Esplanade recommended by the Committee, of which the Honorable Mr. Ellis, C. B., was President.

2. I am directed to solicit reference to the Orders of Government as per margin, in which it has been repeatedly observed that the Esplanade round the Fortress should not be encroached upon; and Sir Gaspard LeMarchant considers that this obviously sound Military principle should not be departed from, even for the erection of a Hospital for the Troops. His Excellency, therefore, hopes that the site referred to will not be given up for that purpose, in opposition to the principle so often enunciated by the Government itself.

3. I am further instructed to enclose a letter on this subject from the Officer Commanding the Centre Division, in whose views the Commander-in-Chief entirely concurs.

From the Officer Commanding Centre Division, to the Quarter Master General, Head Quarters, Ootacamund, dated Madras, 10th November 1866, No. 123.

1. In compliance with the request contained in your Memorandum No. 836-8,690, dated 29th October 1866, calling for my views on the site proposed by a Commission for the erection of a European Military Hospital at Madras, viz., the triangular plot of ground on the Esplanade near the Fort, in rear of Sir Thomas Munro's Statue, I have the honor to state that the site selected is very low, and after heavy rains and when the Cooum overflows its banks, a not unusual occurrence in the monsoon, it becomes one sheet of water. However eligible the Commission may consider this as a sanitary position, the construction of any large building there would, in my opinion, be most objectionable in a Military point of view. The necessity of having the immediate neighbourhood of any Fort kept free from all obstructions, is a Military principle so obvious, has been so repeatedly urged by the Military authorities here, and admitted by the Government, that the only excuse for my noticing it now is its having been apparently overlooked by the Commission, though it is now more than ever necessary to be kept sight of on account of the increased range and improvement in small arms.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
8th December 1866.*

2. I would also point out that the ground in question is the Parade Ground of the Madras Volunteers, is used for Drill purposes by the Right Honorable the Governor's Body Guard, and for Light Infantry Drill by the Native Infantry Regiment stationed at Vepery, whose former Parade Ground has been converted into the People's Park.

Transferred with No. 4,929 to the Department Public Works, for disposal.
(Signed) R. HAMILTON, Colonel,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
28th November 1866.

No. 127. ORDER THEREON, 8th December 1866, No. 3,883.

MILITARY WORKS, No. 11.

1. With the first of the letters above recorded, the Sanitary Commissioner submits for the consideration of

Government the Proceedings of the Committee which had assembled in pursuance of the Order of the 15th August last, No. 818, for the purpose of selecting a suitable site for the proposed Military Hospital at Madras.

2. The Committee, having carefully considered the advantages of the sites which were shown to be available in the Minute by His Lordship the President, under date the 25th June 1866, are unanimously of opinion that the spot best adapted for the erection of the proposed Hospital is the triangular piece of ground on the Esplanade near the Fort in rear of Sir Thomas Munro's Statue. The Committee, after explaining that this site will admit of the erection of Hospital buildings, according to the principles of construction laid down by the Government of India, for one Regiment of Infantry, one Garrison Company of Artillery, the sick details of European Regiments now treated in the General Hospital, and for the authorized proportion of women, recommend that the ground should be carefully drained, and that the Cemeteries in its vicinity should be closed, adding that the continued use of these graveyards "would be a sufficient reason for condemning the locality as unfit for the treatment of sick soldiers."

3. The Committee's Report having been referred to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, the Quarter Master General submits for the consideration of Government a letter from the Major General Commanding the Centre Division, wherein that Officer objects to the appropriation of the site in question to the erection of a Military Hospital on the grounds (1) that it is very low and liable to be swamped after heavy rains; (2) that, as it is against all principles of defence to allow the fire of a fortress to be masked by buildings or other external obstacles, the construction of the proposed Hospital on the spot selected by the Committee would be most objectionable, and more especially now since the increased range of Artillery and the improvement of small arms give advantages to the attack; and (3) that the ground is now used for drill and other purposes by the Madras Volunteers, the Right Honorable the Governor's Body Guard and the Native Infantry Regiment stationed at Vepery. In expressing his entire concurrence in the views of the Major General Commanding the Centre Division, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief strongly deprecates any encroachment upon the Esplanades round the Fortress, "even for the erection of a Hospital for the Troops."

repeatedly urged by the Military Authorities
per

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
8th December 1866.*

4. On full consideration of these papers, the Government are of opinion that, if the defensive works of the Fort are to be regarded as placing it on the footing of a Fortress in the Military acceptance of the term, that is, as a fortified place capable of standing a siege by regular approaches, there would doubtless be strong objections to the erection of the proposed Hospital on the site selected for it, and indeed it would be necessary to go beyond the views of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, and to remove the Medical College and the General Hospital as well as the Lighthouse, which are all in the way of the fire of the ramparts, and the first and last are even nearer than the proposed Hospital would be. The Fort, however, is not believed to be capable of making a defence against a regular attack. It is of importance, inasmuch as it commands and overawes the principal sections of the Native Town, and because it gives cover to Government stores and records, and, at times of popular excitement, would afford protection. There is little chance of the Fort being again invested from the land side, since there is no sufficiently powerful Native enemy to attack it, and no European nor American force would venture to land Troops for the purpose unless they had command of the sea, and, in that case, they would probably find it more easy to reduce the place from the sea than to undertake the difficult and tedious operation of landing the large force and quantity of material which would be necessary for a siege. The Government, therefore, cannot recognize the force of the objections raised by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief; but, there being some doubt as to the feasibility of an early removal of St. Mary's and the other burial grounds, the question of the selection of a site for the proposed new Hospital may be deferred.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Military Department.
„ Superintending Engineer, 4th Division.
„ Sanitary Commissioner.
„ Public Department.

Exd. S. T. Angustin.

N^o 123.

Head Quarters Centre Div.
Madras, 10th November 1866

The Quarter Master General

Head Quarters Colacamin
Dist

In compliance with the request
contained in your Memo^r 836 dated 29th Oct/66

calling for my views on the site proposed by a

Commission for the erection of a European Military

Hospital at Madras viz the triangular plot

of Ground on the Esplanade near the Fort

in rear of Sir Thomas Munro's Statue, I

have the honor to state that the site selected

is very low and after heavy rains and when the

Coombe overflows its banks, a not unusual

occurrence in the Monsoon, it becomes one sheet

of water. However eligible the Commission

may consider this as a Sanitary position, the

construction of any large building there would

in my opinion be most objectionable in a

Military point of view. The necessity of

having the immediate neighbourhood of any

Fort kept free from all obstructions, is a

Military principle so obvious, has been so

repeatedly urged by the Military Authorities

Enclosures -

1. Order of Genl. and letter
from the Sanitary
Commissioner dated
8th Oct 1866.

1. Letter from Officer
Comd^g Centre Div.
dated 25 Oct 1866
N^o 120.

per

here, and admitted by the Government - 221
that the only excuse for my noticing it
now is its having been apparently
overlooked by the Commission, though it
is now more than ever necessary to be kept
sight of on account of the increased range
and improvement in small arms.

2. I would also point out that
the ground in question is the Parade Ground
of the Madras Volunteers, is used for drill
purposes by the Right Honorable the
Governor's Body Guard, and for Light
Infantry drill by the Native Infantry
Regiment stationed at Vepery whose
former parade ground has been converted
into the Peoples Park.

I have the honor to be
Your Most ^{obed} Servant

Wm. G. M. Major Genl.

Commanding Centre Division

, the latter point can of course
be easily remedied, & if some
nodoubt will be reported by
the Engineer Office at the head
of the D. R. of each section
Other public buildings of the
the Medical College of the
are on a direct line, as far
close to the fort as the
hospital will be, and quite
as objectionable in its vicinity
point of view. The submitted
is also the paper, be transformed
particular in the D. R.

20 Nov/66

W. H.

Note on
N^o 5518
=

PR 4035/38

C201
N25.

Transferred with N^o 4929, to
the Department Public Works, for disposal.
Fort Saint George
28th November 1866
Macmillan Colonel
Dy. Secretary to Govt.

To The Public Works Department
With L^{ts} N^{os} 4929 & 1 Encl. & 5518 & 1 Encl. of '66 } 28th
V. Noted 8th Dec.

Wm. B.

S. J. D.

13
M. General's Office
N. B. Octacumund 14. Nov. 1866

No. 900.
8967.

From

Colonel C. Cooke

Officiating Quartermaster General
To

Major General A. Marshall
Secretary to Government. Mil. Dept.

Sir,

In returning the Papers from
the Sanitary Commission, referred to
this Department by your docket Me-
moran dum dated 18th October 1866,
I have the honor, by order, to submit, for
the consideration of the Right Honorable
the Governor in Council, that the Command
in Chief observes that it would be
entirely opposed to correct military
principles, to erect the proposed
Hospital on the part of the Esplanade
recommended by the Committee, of
which

24/11/66

which the Honorable Mr. Ellis C. B.
was President.

2. I am directed to solicit reference to the Orders of Government as per margin, in which it has been repeatedly observed that the Esplanade round the Fortress should not be encroached upon; and Sir Gaspard Le Marchant considers that this obviously sound military principle should not be departed from, even for the erection of a Hospital for the Troops. His Excellency, therefore, hopes that the site referred to will not be given up for that purpose in opposition to the principle so often enunciated by the Government itself.

I am further instructed to
enclose a letter on this subject from
the Officer Commanding the Centre
Division, in whose views the Commander
in

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There is no change of the coloring.

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There is no better country to do it -

and the Corporation for America
could not have the same

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and I have been to the

and opening land on their side
would make short work with the
fort-ham Rive.

before the law.
 I cannot then be recognized
 the force of the objection, even though

by the Council - approved & finally
decided to be in place before the 1st of

of the Committee will be

[illegible]

24/11/1866
Proc. of Govt. of Madras
No. 4835

From
The Offg. Secy. Genl.
to the Offg. Secy.

To the Secy. to Govt. of Madras

3/14/1866
Dec 29
Ch. 3. No. 200
No. 8967.

Transferring
certain papers on
the subject of the
Site selected for
the Military Hospital
proposed to be erected
at the Presidency -
No. 3883 - 20 Decr 1866

No. 126
23 Decr 1866 + Ar. 5m

Proceedings of a Committee assembled at Madras
on 13 September 1865 pursuant to orders of
Government No. 818, dated 15 August 1866.

Present.

The Honorable A. P. Ellis C.B. Sanitary
Commissioner

J. Thom Esq. F.R.C.S. Principal Inspector
General, Medical Department.

Colonel C. A. Orr. Secretary to Government, Public
Works Department.

J. G. Inglis M.D. C.B. Deputy Inspector General
of Hospitals and Principal Medical
Officer to His Majesty's British Troops

Absent.

Colonel J. Temple. Municipal Commissioners. On the Duty

Major G. S. Keane. Commissioners of Police. Sick

The Committee is furnished with a copy of
His Excellency the Governor's Minute dated 25 June 1866.
The President informs the Committee, that it is
assembled for the purpose of selecting a suitable site
for a new Military Hospital, to be erected at Madras
for the treatment of the European Military sick of
the Fort Saint George Garrison.

The Committee, after carefully considering the
comparative advantages of the sites mentioned as
available

available for the purpose in the minute by His Excellency the Governor unanimously decide.

That the best site is the triangular piece of ground on the Esplanade adjoining the parade ground extending behind the statue of Sir Thomas Munro to the burying grounds, and bounded by three public roads.

That this site will admit of providing Hospital buildings according to the principles of construction laid down by the Government of India, for one Regiment of Infantry, 1 Garrison company of Artillery and the sick details of European Regiments now treated in the General Hospital, and for the women belonging to all these, in the proportion allowed.

In selecting this site as the best which is available for the purpose, it is of course assumed that the grave yards in its vicinity will be closed, as this Committee are unanimous in recording their opinion that the continued use of these would be a sufficient reason for condemning the locality as unfit for the treatment of sick soldiers.

The Committee also draw attention to the necessity which exists for having this ground carefully drained, as water has been observed to stand on it for a considerable time after

after heavy falls of rain.

R. W. Ellis President
L. Shaw Munro Esq. Secy. & Genl. Secy.

J. H. H. Esq. Secy. & Genl. Secy.
1866

Chas. H. H. Esq. Secy. & Genl. Secy.
Secretary to Govt. S. S. H.

J. H. H. Esq.
Cham

Mr. James Munroe & Co. New York

*By 11/11/46.
11/51
in Public No 1205/46.*

Mr. D. no 1929 of 1886

*1934
11/25/16*

*Referred for the observations
of His Excellency the Commander-in-
Chief. Munilton Colonel
Dy: Secretary to Govt.
Fort Stanwix }
15th October 1866 }*

*The Quarter Master General } 15th Dec? 1866
with an enclosure } 16th Nov 66. J. W.*

No. 241.

OFFICE OF SANITARY COMMISSIONER
Madras, 8th October 1866.

From,

The Honorable R. S. Ellis Esq.
Sanitary Commissioner Madras,

To,

The Honorable A. J. Arbuthnot
Chief Secretary to Government
Fort Saint George.

Sir,

I have the honor to request you
will be good enough to submit for the favor-
able orders of Government the accompanying
Proceedings of the Committee assembled in
accordance with the Government Order N^o 818^e
dated 15th August 1866 for the purpose of
selecting a suitable site for the proposed
Military Hospital at Madras.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most Obedient Servant

Wm. A. Smith Esq.

For Sanitary Commissioner Madras.

4939
1866/10

Sept 11/66

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403883

Under date the 8^m Dec^r 1866.

Read the following

The Offy: Quarter Master General

thru' the Military Dept-

(Here enter No. $\frac{900}{8967}$ dated 14 Nov 1856)

With the first of the letters above recorded, the Sanitary Commissioner submits for the consideration of Government the Proceedings of the Committee which had assembled in pursuance of the order of the 15th August last, N^o 876, for the purpose of selecting a suitable site for the proposed Military Hospital at Madras.

2. The Committee having carefully

Aug 15 Aug 18 1866 New Orleans
Aug 20 Aug 20 1866 New Orleans

Frederick H. Mott & Co. Inc.
New York

From No 41434
Sanitary Conditions
San Jose

The Chief Secretary to Government

Ms. A. 9. 2 v. 10. f. 107
~~Reddus~~
 Oct. 84.

October 1866

Dec 11 1895
J. J. 1895-1896
Dec 11 1895

Handy
No 2141.

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Submitting for the Orders of Govern-
ment Proceedings of a Committee
undisputed to select a suitable site
for the proposed building, appropriate
at the Presidency.

210-3883-8m Jan. 1976

John. H. 11/24

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Carefully considered the advantages of the sites which were shown to be available in the Minute by His Lordship the President under date the 25th June 1866, are unanimously of opinion that the spot best adapted for the erection of the proposed Hospital is the triangular piece of ground on the Esplanade near the Fort in rear of Sir Thomas Munro's Statue. The Committee, after explaining that this site will admit of the erection of Hospital buildings according to the principles of construction laid down by

the Govt. of India, for one Regiment of Infantry, one Garrison Company of Artillery, the sick details of European Regiments now treated in the General Hospital, and for the authorized proportion of women, recommended that the ground should be carefully drained, and that the cemeteries in its vicinity should be closed, adding that the continued use of these grave yards "would be a sufficient reason for condemning the locality as unfit for the treatment of sick soldiers."

3. The Committee's report having been referred to

To His Excellency the
Commander-in-Chief,
the Quarter Master
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that, as it is against
all principles of defence
to allow the fire of a
fortress

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by buildings or other
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spot selected by the
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more especially now
since the increased
range of artillery and
the improvement of small
arms give advantages
to the attack, and (3)
that the ground is now
used for drill and other
purposes by the Madras
Volunteers, the Right
Honorable the Governor's
Body Guard and the
Native Infantry Regi-
ment stationed at Vepery.
In expressing his entire
Concurrence

concurrence in the
views of the Major Gene-
ral Commanding the
Centre Division. His
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Fortress, "even for the
erection of a Hospital
for the Troops."

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tion of these papers, the
Government are of
opinion that, if the
defensive works of the
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33
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of the proposed Hospital
on the site selected for it,
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tack. It is of impor-
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it commands and over-
views the principal
sections of the ^{Native} Town,
and because it gives
cover to Government
stores and records, and,
at times of popular
excitement, would
afford protection. There
is little chance of the
Fort. being again in-
vested from the land
side, since there is
no sufficiently power-
ful native enemy to
attack it, and no
European or American
force would venture to
land troops for the
purpose unless they
had command of the
Sea

Sea, and, in that
case, they would pro-
bably find it more
easy to reduce the
place from the sea
than to undertake
the difficult and tedious
operation of landing
the large force and
quantity of material
which would be neces-
sary for a siege. The
Government, therefore,
cannot recognize the
force of the objections
raised by His Excellency
the Commander-in-
Chief; but, there being
some doubt as to the
feasibility of an early
removal of St. Mary's
and the other burial
grounds

1 grounds, the question
2 of the selection of a site
3 for the proposed new
4 Hospital may be
5 deferred.

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7 To the City: Sept 5
8 " Sup: Engineer, 4th Dec
9 " Sanitary Commissioner
10 " Public Dept

3 / Dec 10 - December

of Mr. Depo
Proc. of Govt for Secy

No 3003.

Proc. of the Madras Govt

of 8th Dec 1865

1865
12/12/65

Copying orders on the
Proc. of the Committee (re)
"issued for the purpose
of selecting a suitable
site for Hospital (Mys)
at Madras.

No 125-127