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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	417	Press
		Mis.
Dated	9 - 2	1869.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
9th February 1869.*

No. 240. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the
Public Department:—

Sanctioning certain alterations and repairs pro-
posed to be made to the late Vepery Dispen-
sary, to adapt it to the purposes of a Hospital
for women and children, as also the erection
of a temporary detached building as a Dead-
house, and of Contagious wards. (Here enter 23rd January 1869, No. 100.)

No. 241. ORDER THEREON, 9th February 1869, No. 417.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 30.

Communicated to the Superintend-
ing Engineer of the 4th Division, who
will submit, without delay, an estimate
for the proposed works.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 4th Division.
" Public Department.

Ed. G. A. Turton.

Govt. of {1869} Madras

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,

1st DIVISION.

&c, &c, &c

Dated February, 1869.

Recd.

Ind.

G. O. 9th February 1869, No. 417.

FEBRUARY.

Nos. 240-241

Vepery Dispensary.—Proceedings Public Department, passing orders on the letter from the Inspector General, Indian Medical Department, regarding the adaptation of the late Vepery Dispensary, Madras, to the purposes of a Hospital for women and children, communicated to the Officer concerned.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
23rd January 1869.

No. 128. Read the following letter from the Inspector General, Indian Medical Department, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Fort Saint George, 5th January 1869, No. 1.

I have the honor to state, for the information of Government, that, in compliance with their Order, No. 1353, dated 28th October, I have, in communication with the Sanitary Commissioner, and the Executive Engineer, Northern Range, Presidency, considered the subject of the alterations and repairs required by the (late) Vepery Dispensary, to fit it for occupation as an "Hospital for women and children."

2. In the absence of the Sanitary Commissioner on privilege leave, from November 1st to 15th, his Secretary Dr. Montgomery represented him, and now does so again, as Mr. Ranking is absent from the Presidency on Inspection duty. I availed myself, however, of Mr. Ranking's being at Madras from 15th to 30th November to ascertain his opinion, regarding the various propositions submitted in the report, and he has expressed his general concurrence in them.

3. I append plans of the two floors of the building, and have on them shown (in yellow) the alterations, &c., proposed.

4. In preparing this report I have not failed to bear in mind the circumstances under which the building is to be occupied. Regarding them I beg to submit to Government the following particulars for their approval. It is at present held

* Vide Proceedings of the Madras Government and their Order thereon, under date 30th July 1864, No. 878.

by Government at a monthly rent of 125 Rupees,* (the same amount as that previously paid under a five years' lease

now expired). But as it is now contemplated to add to and alter it, I have instructed the Government Solicitor to prepare a lease for one year certain, subject to a notice of six calendar months, the lease to take effect from 1st instant. There will, I believe, be no difficulty in continuing to rent the building for any further period for which Government may require it. I have seen the landlord on this subject, and he was only anxious that the lease should be for a longer period than one year.

5. I was unwilling to recommend to Government any alteration to the building until I had arranged these preliminaries.

6. For the reasons detailed in paragraph 4, I impressed upon the Committee the desirability of restricting the alterations of the building to those essentially necessary, and of such a character as would as little as possible interfere with its subsequent occupation as a dwelling-house, for which purpose it was originally constructed. I have also explained to the landlord, and obtained his sanction for the alterations hereinafter detailed.

7. Plan A. shows the relative position and actual size of all the apartments on the lower floor of the building; those on the upper floor are similarly shown in Plan B.

8. Taking the rooms in alphabetical order, the following are the recommendations of the Committee noted in paragraph 1.

9. LOWER FLOOR.—Room A.—This bath-room is considerably restricted as to space by a heavy masonry staircase, in very bad repair and so steep as to be inaccessible to sick persons. This staircase and

Bath-room and Latrine for Native Patients under the Hospital roof.

the corresponding one in Room L. on the opposite side, should be removed, as they interfere with the space available in the bath-rooms on both floors.—(Vide Plan B.) These staircases are really practically used only by the water carrier and sweeper, and it is desirable, for obvious reasons, that, if these apartments are to be occupied as bath-rooms and latrines, they should be made as airy and roomy as possible, and as they are to be resorted to by women only, the direct entrance of the water carrier into them should be rendered unnecessary. We propose to provide for this by having a cistern to supply the baths erected outside the main wall of the building, the water being delivered by a pipe, with stop cock placed in some convenient situation within the bath-room.

10. I may here premise, however, that, although abiding to these apartments as bath-rooms, &c., they are only intended to be used as such by native females, who are unable to use the bathing rooms and latrines situated in the compound, and to which reference is made in a subsequent portion of this report, (vide paragraph 29.)

11. It will be necessary that a portion of these rooms should be made to answer the purposes of a latrine for one or two patients. The Sanitary Commissioner is prepared to furnish designs of the arrangement necessary for this purpose. These places of convenience should be conducted on the dry-earth system, and to ensure the perfect conservancy of the apartments on the lower floor, the ventilation must be rendered as thorough as possible, and a small washing platform be provided for Native patients, from which the foul water should be carried away outside the building, where, being received in a dry-earth cistern, it would be completely deodorized before removal from the Hospital compound. The greatest opening at the side of room A. should be enlarged and fitted with fixed venetian work.

12. *Room B.*—It is proposed to divide this apartment (in the centre of which there is a heavy masonry pillar, which renders it unsuitable for occupation as a ward) into two compartments marked respectively b and b. b. The first of these (b)

(b) Dispensing Room.

should be fitted up as a Dispensing room, the furniture being made upon plans which will be submitted by Dr. Montgomery, who has recently constructed, for the Lock Hospital in Popham's Broadway, a dispensing cabinet, which combines, to the greatest possible extent, economy of space with easy access to the medicines and apparatus required in dispensing, together with the perfect security of them when not required for immediate use.

13. The remaining portion of the apartment marked b. b. should be used as a room in which the Physician of the Hos-

(b. b.) Examination Room.

pital could receive, and, if necessary, examine women anxious to be admitted as intern-patients. An examination couch and writing table, &c., should be provided for this room. The very small number of patients requiring to be seen for the purpose indicated will not demand any large apartment, and this part of room B. would suffice for the conduct of all the office work of the establishment, and serve as a day room for students or subordinates on duty. A light wooden veranda should be erected along these two apartments and room A., as shown in the plan.

14. *Ward C.*—Ward C. requires no change except the erection of sunshades over the windows.

15. *Room D.*—Room D. should be divided into two passages, one (marked d. d.) leading from the central ward to the "lavatory and latrine," and the other leading to the Dispensary room. In this latter passage (marked d.) almirahs might be placed containing a reserve stock of medicines, from which the dispensing cabinet in the adjoining room might be, from time to time, replenished.

16. *Room E.*—Central ward requires no change.

17. *Room F.*—Entrance hall, no change.

18. *Room G.*—This room, we think, should be allotted to the Matron, for whom a small dressing and bath-room should be erected, as indicated on the plan.

19. *Room H.*—This apartment is ill-ventilated, and has almost invariably been used as a store-room for native clothing, bedding, wine, and malt liquor, &c., &c., all of which will now be under the distinct care and control of the Matron, who is to be responsible for their safe custody. It should be retained for the same purpose, and in order to provide perfect security for stores, the door opening into it, from the adjoining ward E, should be either barred or furnished with fixed venetians, and a partition erected, as indicated in the plan, to provide a small room h. h. for the native nurses.

20. *Wards I. and K.*—Wards I. and K. require no change.

21. *Room L.*—In order to secure the perfect ventilation of this apartment, a large opening should be made, guarded with wire-netting, both in this room and apartment A. Square ventilating tubes should be conducted from the ceiling to the roof of the house, so as to carry off any foul air generated in the apartment; the detailed arrangements to effect this can be settled by the Sanitary Commissioner in communication with the Engineering Member of this Committee.

22. *VERANDAS.*—A large arcaded veranda exists at the end of ward E., and to this easy access is afforded to persons sleeping in wards C, I., and K. The wooden veranda, at present existing next to ward K., should be extended along the end of room L, so as to protect the ventilating opening in the latter apartment.

23. I have previously recommended the erection of a wooden veranda along rooms A. and B. to protect them from sun and rain.

24. *UPPER FLOOR—Rooms O. and Y.*—The staircase being removed and the floor made flush, the external end of these apartments should be filled with square shaped open brickwork, set at a slight angle, so as to exclude rain and supervision from without. To allow of the access of the sweeper to these rooms, and of the waterman to the outside of them, a light staircase should be erected, which can be done (I am informed by Captain Goddard) at a slight expense; these rooms should be furnished with three self-acting dry-earth commodes, for which plans will be furnished by Dr. Montgomery. A shower bath and two reclining baths (one portable) should be provided for each bath-room.

25. *Rooms V. and R.*—These apartments, which are the least well-ventilated of all on the upper floor, should be divided (as should room D. below stairs) by a sheet-iron partition, six feet in height, and painted of some light and pleasing colour, and supported by a light wooden framework. The sections marked V. V. and r. r. should be fitted up with a row of basins and a dressing table, together with pegs for hanging cloths, towel stands, &c. &c.

No. 129. ORDER THEREON, 23rd January 1869, No. 100.

In the foregoing letter the Inspector General, Indian Medical Department, submits in detail the several alterations and repairs, which, after communication with the Sanitary Commissioner and the Executive Engineer of the Range, he would propose to be made to the late Vepery Dispensary, to adapt it to the purposes of a Hospital for women and children.

2. These alterations will not, it is observed, interfere materially with the character of the building as a dwelling-house, and as the landlord has given his assent thereto, the Government sanction their being at once carried out.

3. The erection of a detached building of a temporary description as a Dead-house, and of contagious wards in the form of tiled sheds, is also sanctioned.

4. The necessary orders will be issued in the Public Works Department for the early execution of the work now contemplated.

5. Furniture of the description specified in paragraphs 13, 15, 24, 25, and 27 will be supplied.

6. The extension of the lease of the building for one year on the terms proposed, is approved.

The question of opening a Dispensary for out-patients will be considered by Government on the receipt of the further report promised by the Inspector General.

(True Extract).

R. S. S.
Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector General, Indian Medical Department.
" Public Works Department, with two plans.
" Sanitary Commissioner.
" Barrack Master.
" Accountant General.
" Examiner of Claims.

Exd. J. Wright.

208 Paul Chur

26. DINING AND RECREATION ROOM.—The other wards will require no change, but we recommend that room T. should be furnished as a dining and recreation-room for European and Eurasian patients. Sunshades should be put over windows in ward P. and ward Q.

27. SPECIAL WARD—Ward N.—We would recommend that ward N. should be employed as a special ward, either for cases of unusual severity, or for persons who, being willing to pay, might require an unusual amount and character of accommodation; we would, therefore, recommend that it be supplied with dressing table, complete, and a self-acting earth commode, &c., &c.

28. OUT-OFFICES.—One of the out-buildings of this Institution is small and detached, containing three small apartments; this building is situated within a few yards of the Hospital, and should be utilized, we consider, as affording room for two earth closet-seats and two baths or bathing tubs (in separate apartments) for Europeans.

29. OUT-OFFICES.—The other out-buildings constitute a group of rooms which could be easily utilized for Hospital purposes, as cook-room for Europeans, and one for Natives, latrine for Native female patients, latrine for Native servants, bathing rooms for Natives, Dead-house, Conicopillay's stores, wood godown, &c., &c.

30. DEAD-HOUSE.—The several rooms, contained in the foregoing detailed list, are at present used as there indicated; the only room requiring alteration is the cook-room, which is dark and ill-ventilated. It must, however, be admitted that the use, as a Dead-house, of any apartment under the same roof as a cook-house is, on sanitary grounds, undesirable; and the Committee would strongly recommend that a dead-house of temporary construction should be erected in the compound, in some situation to be approved by me and the Sanitary Commissioner.

31. CONTAGIOUS WARDS.—In a former report I stated that these out-buildings could be made into excellent wards for women suffering from contagious diseases not of a venereal character; but on re-consideration I am of opinion that not only is there ample demand for all existing buildings, but that also it would be far preferable to erect a shed containing two or three wards for contagious cases in the open compound, where they could be placed to leeward of, and sufficiently removed from, the general wards of the Hospital.

32. Classes of patients where accommodated.—The wards will be allotted to Native patients on the lower floor, and to European and Eurasian patients on the upper floor, exclusive of the number to be accommodated in wards for contagious diseases, and the special ward N. recommended in paragraph 27 of this letter.

33. The Committee are further of opinion that it would be desirable to remove from the present Vepery Dispensary (when used as an "Hospital for women and children" the Exterior Department, and that out-patients should be seen at a separate Institution, more centrally situated than the Hospital. This is a subject upon which I propose to address Government, at an early date, in a separate communication.

34. In conclusion, I respectfully solicit the early sanction of Government for the alterations in the present building, and the erection of the Dead-house and Contagious wards, recommended in paragraphs 30 and 31 of this letter.

Vide my letter, dated 11th November 1867, in Proceedings of Government, dated 29th November 1867, No. 1502.

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 Cont. of 118691 301 Adams.
 PUBLIC. *90.353.*

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To

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL,

INDIAN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT,

W. A. C. C.

Dated January, 1909.

Recd. n 28th

Ans. 2

G. O. 23rd January, 1909, No. 100.

*Communicated to the
 Inspr Genl of the U. S. in
 with submitt, without delay, as
 estimate for the proposed works.*

JANUARY.
 Nos. 123-129.

0. 11/10/09 Dept.

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Sanctioning certain alterations and repairs
 proposed to be made to the late Vepery Dispensary,
 to adapt it to the purposes of a Hospital for women
 and children, as also the erection of a temporary
 detached building as a dead-house, and of con-
 tiguous wards.

With an order

11/11/09
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CC 353
Court of 1869 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

*to the Superintendent Engineer
4th Division*

Dear Sir

Respectfully

10th February 1869, No 417.

Nos. 240 - 241

*Superintendent of Public
Works having under
the letter from the Superintendent
Indian Medical Department
regarding the adaptation of
the late Veterinary Dispensary
as a hospital for women & children
and the office concerned*