M R O 1—77,006—8-6-32.

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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. 61-62 Press Mis.

117-19

Dated 6. 1 1870.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 6th January 1870.

No. 117. Read the following letter from the Superintending Engineer, 5th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Camp at Talavassal, 15th November 1869, No. 140 —

1 Report
1 Plan

With reference to G. O, No 2,933 of the 7th September 1869, I have the honour to forward a plan of the Fort of Bangalore and a report on it received from the Executive Engineer. The report has been approved by the Officer Commanding the Division.

2. A sum of Rupees 15,000 was granted in the current year's Budget for the proposed Arsenal, but it has been since surrendered to the Government of India. Detailed estimates and plans, called for in G. O, No 2,884, dated 10th September 1868, for the project, have not yet been prepared, but rough plans and an approximate estimate, amounting to Rupees 6,00,000, for the Arsenal and its subsidiary buildings, have been lately received from the Executive Engineer through the Quartermaster-General, and these are now under examination Taking Captain Wood's approximate estimate, and presuming that the Government would be able to grant a sum of Rupees 2,00,000 a year for the project, I consider that it would take three full years to complete the buildings, or to allow of removal thereto of the Arsenal from the Fort.

3. The Executive Engineer suggests that the Arsenal, as designed by him, might form the Defensive Post for the Station, and that the idea of fortifying the Race Course plateau might be abandoned The Commander-in-Chief, in approving of this suggestion, proposes the construction of a Redoubt enclosing the Cavalry Serjeants' Mess and Recreation-room now in progress on the Race Course The design will be forwarded for the orders of Government, before the fair plans and detailed estimates are prepared.

REPORT ON FORT OF BANGALORE.

The Fort of Bangalore is situated on a slight elevation at the southern extremity of the Pettah or Native town. It is elliptical in shape, the major axis being about 700 yards long, while the minor axis is about 400 yards long.

2 The body of the place is defended by a rampart (rivetted with stone) fifty to seventy feet in thickness, having at its foot a berme thirty to sixty feet broad, and a ditch 100 wide and twenty-five feet in depth. The general relief of the ramparts is about twenty-five feet; and these are again commanded by four cavaliers placed nearly at the extremities of the two axes of the ellipse

3. The Fort is entered by two gates which are situated at the northern and southern extremities of the place, and the approaches to which pass through some exterior works which serve to cover the gates As the approach into the Fort at the Northern or Delhi Gate was, on this account, tortuous and difficult, a new entrance has been opened into the place directly through the rampart. This new gate is approached by a road running immediately along the east flank of the outworks, covering the old northern entrance, and has made the Fort, consequently, more easy of access.

4 Without the ditch (which is wet for some part of the year) there is at present no covered way, though indications of one having existed still remain, the slope of the eminence on which the Fort is situated forms a natural glacis to the place

5 The flanking defence is defective, and consists merely of the breaking of the line of ramparts by small semi-circular projecting towers of about twenty to thirty feet in diameter, which are situated from 150 to 180 feet apart.

6 The whole of the ramparts are crowned by a masonry parapet about five feet high, and the same number of feet in thickness.

7. The terre-plein of the rampart is reached by a sufficient number of ramps of tolerably easy slope, and is broken into two breadths by rear retaining walls, of which the most interior is fourteen feet high

8. There are a few small semi-bomb-proof chambers situated in the ramparts which might serve for Expense Magazines the largest of these is the one situated in the semi-circular battery commanding the Northern Gate; and it was in this bomb proof Sir David Baird was confined by Tippoo Sultan.

9. There are no traverses to protect the ramparts from enfilade, and the retaining wall of the berme gives tolerable cover for the concealment of a storming party in the ditch—a proceeding quite capable of being put in force owing to the before-mentioned defective flanking defences of the place.

10. The masonry of the walls is generally in fair order, though a considerable quantity of small Indian fig and other trees and brushwood is growing in the cracks here and there.

11. On the south-west side (for about one-fourth of the perimeter) only are the environs clear to any distance round the place, the remaining three-fourths having buildings at about 150 yards distant In front of the Northern Gate the Pettah approaches to within 100 yards of the ramparts; it would consequently be no difficult matter for an assaulting party to blow open the new Northern Gate after having availed themselves of this cover up to the latest moment.

12 Within the Fort the chief buildings are the Barracks (which are scarcely fit to be occupied by European Troops except on emergency); the old Palace of Tippoo (parts of which are in a ruinous condition, and should be removed); and lastly the various sheds occupied by the Ordnance Magazine. These last are in good order

13. The remaining buildings are private property, and are inhabited by Europeans (chiefly attached to the Arsenal,) and East Indians. Some of these private buildings are of fair size, and most are in tolerable repair. As a general rule all the buildings are of brick in mortar, with teakwood work to the roofs. Some considerable number of natives also reside in a separate quarter within the Fort, in the usual mud huts

14 A loop-holed mudwall marked *x x x*, as shown in the plan, was thrown up in 1857 to isolate the chief part of the Ordnance Magazine from the remainder of the Fort, this wall still exists

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 6th January 1870.

15. The supply of water within the place appears to be neither plentiful nor of good quality: it is chiefly obtained from tanks lined with loose masonry in steps.

BANGALORE,
25th October 1869.

(Signed) H W. WOOD, Captain, R.E,
Executive Engineer, Bangalore.

No. 118. ORDER THEREON, 6th January 1870, No. 61.

MILITARY WORKS, No. 2.

ORDERED that this letter and its accompaniments be forwarded to the Government of India.

(True Extract)

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

No. 119 Docket No. 62, dated 6th January 1870.

COPY of the above forwarded to the Government of India with reference to Colonel Crommelin's letter of the 19th August 1869, No. 867-M.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R E.,
Secretary to Government.

Exd E C Shunker.

the place

Report on Fort of Bangalore.

The fort of Bangalore is situated on a slight elevation at the Southern extremity of the Pettah or native town. It is elliptical in shape, the major axis being about 700 yards long, while the minor axis is about 400 yards long.

The body of the place is defended by a rampart (revetted with stone) 50 to 70 feet in thickness, having at its foot a berm 30 to 60 feet broad and a ditch 100 wide and 25 feet in depth. The general relief of the ramparts is about 25 feet; and these are again commanded by four cavaliers placed nearly at the extremities of the two axes of the ellipse.

The fort is entered by two gates which are situated at the Northern and Southern extremities of the place

the place, and the approaches to which, pass through some exterior works which serve to cover the gates. At the approach into the Fort at the Northern or Delhi gate was on this account, tortuous and difficult; a new entrance has been opened into the place directly through the rampart. This new gate is approached by a road running immediately along the east flank of the outworks covering the old northern entrance, and has made the Fort consequently more easy of access.

Without the ditch (which is wet for some part of the year) there is at present no covered way; the indications of one having existed still remain; the slope of the eminence on which the fort is situated forms a natural glacis to the place.

The flanking defence is defective and consists merely of the breaking

breaking of the lines of ramparts by small semi-circular projecting towers of about 20 to 30 feet in diameter, which are situated from 150 to 180 feet apart.

The whole of the ramparts are crowned by a masonry parapet about 5 feet high and the same number of feet in thickness.

The terreplain of the rampart is reached by a sufficient number of ramps of tolerably easy slope and is broken into two breadths by rear retaining walls, of which the most interior is 11 feet high.

There are a few small semi-bombproof chambers situated in the ramparts which might serve for expense magazines: the largest of these is the one situated in the semi-circular battery commanding the Northern gate; and it was in this bombproof Sir David Baird was confined by

by Tippoo Sultan.

There are no traverses to protect the ramparts from enfilade, and the retaining wall of the berm gives a tolerable cover for the concealment of a storming party in the ditch – a proceeding quite capable of being put in force owing to the before mentioned defective flanking defences of the place.

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ramparts; it would consequently be no difficult matter for an assaulting party to blow open the new northern gate after having availed themselves of this cover up to the latest moment.

Within the fort the chief buildings are the Barracks (which are scarcely fit to be occupied by European troops except on emergency); the old palace of Tippoo (parts of which are in a ruinous condition and should be removed); and lastly the various sheds occupied by the Ordnance Magazine. These last are in good order.

The remaining buildings are private property, and are inhabited by Europeans (chiefly attached to the Arsenal) and East Indians. Some of these private buildings are of fair size and most are in tolerable repair. As a general rule all the buildings are of brick in mortar, with teak woodwork to the roofs. Some considerable number of natives

natives also reside in a separate quarter within the Fort in the usual Huts.

A loopholed midwall marked x x x ... as shewn in the plan was thrown up in 1857, to isolate the chief part of the Ordnance Magazine from the remainder of the Fort; this wall still exists.

The supply of water within the place appears to be neither plentiful nor of good quality: it is chiefly obtained from tanks lined with loose masonry in steps.

I have &c.

Captain R. E.

Executive Engineer Bangalore.

Ex: Engrs Office
Bangalore 25th Oct 1869

Lt Colonel R.E.

Superintg. Engineer
5th Division

Supg. Engrs Office, 5th Division,

No. 140 Camp Talavassal, 15th November 1869.

From

The Superintg Engineer,
5th Division,

To

The Secretary to Government,
M. P. W.

Sir,

Enclosures 2.
1 Report.
1 Plan.

With reference to G. O. No. 2933 of the 7th September 1869, I have the honor to forward a plan of the Fort of Bangalore and a report on it, received from the Executive Engineer - The report has been approved by the Officer Commanding the Division -

2. A sum of Rs. 15,000 was granted in the current year's Budget for the proposed arsenal, but it has been since surrendered to the Government of India - Detailed estimates and plans, called for in G. O. No. 2884 dated 10th September 1868 for the project, have not yet been

prepared, but rough plans and an approximate Estimate, amounting to Rs 600,000 for the arsenal and its subsidiary buildings, have been lately received from the Executive Engineer through the Quarter Master General and these are now under examination - Taking Captain Wood's approximate Estimate and presuming that the Government would be able to grant a sum of Rs 200,000 a year for the project, I consider that it would take 3 full years to complete the buildings, or to allow of removal thereto of the arsenal from the Fort.

3. The Executive Engineer suggests that the arsenal, as designed by him, might form the Defensive Post for the Station, and that the idea of fortifying the Race Course plateau might be abandoned. The Commander-in-Chief, in approving

of this suggestion, proposes the construction of a Redoubt enclosing the Cavalry Sergeants Mess and Recreation Room now in progress on the Race Course. The design will be forwarded for the orders of Government, before the fair plans and detailed Estimates are prepared.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most obdt Servt

Edwd Col. R.E.
Superintg. Engineer
5th Divn

Received 7/4/70. by Bombay.

Public Works Department

No 61

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 6th December 1870

Read the following

From Lt Colonel Maling C.S.I. R.E. No 140 of 15th November 1869

Submitting Sketch No 62 dated 6th December 1869 of the Bangalore Fort

Recd 7/1/70

Answered that this letter and its accompaniments be forwarded to the Govt of India.

Sketch No 62 dated 6th December 1869 of the Bangalore Fort

Copy of the above forwarded to the Govt of India with reference to Colle Commelin's letter of the 19th August 1869 No 1187.

A.

The Commander-in-Chief's approving

No 117

2nd Hour 1869 R-105

Cue 4813

Govt. of {1869} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS

To

The Superintending Engr
5th Division

Dated

Recd

6 Jany 1870 No 61462

Nos. 117-118-119-

Fort at Bangalore Passing orders on the letter from the Superintending Engr 5th Div forwarding a plan of the Fort at Bangalore and stating that it would take 3 years to complete the proposed Arsenal and its subordinate buildings, or to allow of the removal thereto of the Arsenal from the Fort

Fort at Bangalore A Copy of the Govt Order on the Superintending Engr's letter forwarding a plan of the Fort at Bangalore and stating that it would take 3 years to complete the proposed Arsenal and its subordinate buildings, or to allow of the removal thereto of the Arsenal from the Fort, forwarded to the Secretary to the Govt

24th Nov 1869 R. 10 Dear