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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	3568	Press <i>Original</i>
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	20 - 12 - 195	1875

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
20th December 1875.*

No. 339. Read the following letter from Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Chingleput, to Major-General G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated St. Thomas' Mount, 1st December 1875, No. 3,698 :—

In reply to G.O., No. 3,116, of 3rd instant, I have the honor to report that ranges of family quarters were built in the premises of the Begum's bungalow in 1862-63 with out-houses, &c.

2. Some time after eight of these quarters were converted into a theatre, by removing the partition walls; in 1873 a fire occurred in the theatre, the roof and wood work of which were burned, but it did not spread to the rest of the building. This was restored immediately.

3. In May 1874 the Barrack Master suggested that the space might be utilized, by dividing it with fewer partition walls, into four quarters for Staff Serjeants; the out-houses of the old eight family quarters were untouched, and I presume that at that time the Barrack Master thought they would suffice.

4. An approximate estimate was called for, and in due course the regular estimate was sanctioned in G.O., No. 111, of 14th January 1875, and work executed in accordance.

5. On the 5th May a Committee was assembled at the Mount by order of Brigadier-General Raikes, C.B., and in their Proceedings they pointed out defects which I was requested to report upon; I enclose copies of these papers; till then we followed the plan in existence on the adjacent ground, which is very limited, and the requisitions of the Barrack Master.

No. 340. ORDER THEREON, 20th December 1875, No. 3,568.

MILITARY WORKS, No. 7.

THE explanation is not satisfactory. It was the duty of the Superintending Engineer to see that the subsidiary accommodation was made as complete as possible. He will now revise the plans and estimates as directed.

(True Extract.)

Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, Chingleput.
" Military Department.

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

No 2215 By Appt^d Lt Mr General's Office
Centre District 3c
Fort St George 12th May 1875.

From Captain A. R. Kenney
Offy By Appt^d Lt Mr General
Centre District.

To The Superintending Engineer
Colingaputh
Grindly

Sirs

G. No 111 dated 14th
January 1875.

Memo No 229 of 17th
April 1875 from
Officer Commanding
R. A. C. District.

Memo No 1416 of 21st
April 1875 from
By Appt^d Lt Mr Genl
C. S. to Brigade Major

Proceedings of Com.
mittee on the from
Staff Sergeants Lt
Mount of 5th May 1875

In forwarding the enclosed copies
of Correspondence as per margin I have
the honor by order of the Brigadier General
Commanding Centre District to request
that you will be good enough to forward
your opinion on the Proceedings of the
Committee on the four Staff Sergeants
Quarters in Begums Bungalow.

I also request that you will be
good enough to cause an approximate
Estimate to be submitted to complete
four Staff Sergeants Quarters agreeably
to the Standard plan, for submission
to the Quarter Master General of the A.

and sanction of Government; with your report on the present condition of the Quarters with reference to the Proceedings of the Committee.

I have &c &c
Signed A. B. Kenney Captain
Offg Dy Asst. Lt. Mr General
Centre District.

No. 2. M. O.
229

Saint Thomas Mount
17th April 1875

From Colonel G. Leslie R. A.
Commanding R. A. C. D. Mount.

To
The Dy Asst. Lt. Mr General C. D.
Fort Saint George.

Has the honor to request that a mixed Board of Officers may be convened to report upon four quarters directed to be handed over for the use of Staff Sergeants of the Royal Artillery and which are considered unfit for occupation of men of that Rank.

Signed G. Leslie Colonel R. A.
Commanding R. A.
C. D. Mount.

St. Jy. No. 1416

50
Fort St. George 21st April 1875

Forwarded to the Brigade Major

Fort Saint George with a request that he will be good enough to order the assembly of the Committee to report upon the four Staff Sergeants Quarters lately handed over for the use of the Royal Artillery at Saint Thomas Mount.

Requests that the Executive Engr. Mount Range may be appointed a Member.

Order of Government No. 248 of 18th January 1875 sanctioning the conversion of the late Theatre in Begums Bungalow into 4 Staff Sergeants quarters is enclosed for information and return.
By order.

Signed A. B. Kenney Captain
Offg Dy Asst. Lt. Mr General C. Dist.
True Copy

Signed A. B. Kenney Captain
Offg Dy Asst. Lt. Mr G. C. Dist.

Proceedings of a* Committee.
assembled at Saint Thomas Mount
on the 5th May 1875

by order of Brigadier General J. Raikes C.B.

Commanding Centre District.

for the purpose of reporting upon four
Staff Serjeants Quarters handed over
for the use of the Royal Artillery
Centre District.

President

Major H. J. Thornton R.A.

Members

Captain Smith R.E. Ex. Engineer Inland Range

Lieut G. R. Moore R.A.

Surgeon Major Davidge A.M.D.

In attendance.

The Committee having assembled pur-
suant to order, proceed to examine and
report upon four Staff Serjeants Quarters
situated in the Begun's compound and
is of opinion that they are unfit for
the occupation of Staff Serjeants
for the following reasons.

* N.B. The Form being
applicable to any Board
of Officers, or Committee
or Court of Inquiry, this
blank to be filled in
accordingly.

The signature of
each officer composing
the Board, &c., should
be attached at the
end of the proceedings.

There

7C
There is no drainage.

There are no punkas.

There are no windows.

There is only one small wash house for
the four quarters.

There is only one small Cook room in very
bad repair, for the range, which in-
cludes 4 married quarters beside
the 4 Staff Serjeants.

There is only one small latrine for the 4 Quarters.

The ventilation is bad.

The situation is very ill adapted for
Staff Serjeants, there is no privacy, and
the Quarters are situated in the same range
as those occupied by married gunners.
They are in close proximity to the Horse
lines vacated by B. 20 on account of
ill health among the horses.

President

Signed H. J. Thornton

Major A. A.

Members

Signed A. C. Smith Captain R.E.

Signed G. R. Moore Lieut R.A.

Medical officer in attendance.

Signed W. Davidge Surgeon Major A. M. D.

I quite agree in the report of the Committee.

Signed G. Leslie Col. R. A.

Cy. R. A. C. District.

No 790

Supt Engineers Office

2d June 1875

From

The Superintending Engineer

Chingfush District

To

The Dy Asst. Engr. General

Centre District

Sir,

In reply to your No 2215 of 12th ultimo, I have the honor to observe that as the Engr. in Charge of the Mount was already committed to an opinion as a member of the Committee whose proceedings were enclosed to me, I was obliged to take the matter up personally, which owing to other occupation in the district I was only able to do to-day.

2 I find that the Quarters in question^{9c} were restored after a fire to their previous form in compliance with a requisition from the Barrack Master. They bear little resemblance to the Standard plan for the lower class of Staff Sergeant and I am told that their probable occupants will be the Staff Sergeants of Class 2 and even the Brigade Sergeant Major, who are all entitled to far superior accommodation than these quarters afford or can be made to afford.

3 The outhouses too are already so near to each other that it will be very difficult to provide any more.

4 I do not understand what fault the Committee find with the drainage. There appears to be a slope of nearly 1 in 100 in the masonry drain running along the front of the building and it has a good outfall. I am told that after heavy rain there is no water lying about.

5 Punks can of course be easily

provided and windows but they will be small in all places except the front wall.

6. The quarters are in a continuous line with those of the married men of the battery, and of the same form but rather more than double the size. It is not for me to discuss the difficulties as to privacy or the proximity of the horses.

7. If these objections are well founded there would appear to be no use in discussing any alteration of the existing building which would be expensive and it would be impossible to supply the cook rooms &c. required without considerable changes amounting almost to new buildings.

I have &c &c
Signed H. J. Moberly Coll. R.E.
Supt Engineer Chingleput
True Copies!

H. J. Moberly Coll. R.E.
Superintending Engineer
Chingleput

11/2989/111

Enclosure in
a letter from the
Supt. Engineer
Chingleput to the
Secy. to Govt.
P.M.D. No 3698
1st Decr 1875

No 3698

11 C
Supt Engineer's Office
Saint Thomas Mount
Gandy 1st December 1875.

From
The Superintending Engineer
Chingleput District.

To
The Secretary to Government
Department Public Works.

Enc: 1

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I have the honor to be
Sir

Yours most obedient Servant
H. Moberly Colonel R.E.
Superintendent Engineer

Col. of 1874

PUBLIC WORKS.

to the
Public
Road
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of the
Public
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of the
City of
London

NOTES 339-2490

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