

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of repair _____

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	3570-71	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	20 - 12 -	1875
		195-

Original

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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

Read the following papers:—

- No. 343. From Captain ROSS THOMPSON, R.E., Officiating Consulting Architect to Government, to Lieut.-Colonel J. MULLINS, R.E., Officiating Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Chepauk, 9th August 1875, No. 155.

In compliance with G.O., No. 1,532, dated 2nd June 1875, I have the honor to report on the points referred to by the Government of India with reference to the plans and estimates for the combined Post and Telegraph Offices proposed to be erected at Madras.

2. The building is proposed to be erected on the site formerly known as Abercrombie's Battery. It is bounded on the north by the Stamp Office, on the south by Nullumboor Street, on the east by the Beach Road, and on the west by the 2nd Line Beach.

3. A portion of the foundations for the Telegraph Office, as originally proposed, has been laid, and such walls as admit of it will be utilized in the present design.

4. The nature of the soil is sandy, and the foundations already laid are 9 feet deep, which was considered sufficient by the Consulting Architect; an extra depth of 3 feet has been allowed for the towers.

5. The foundations of the Stamp Office, situated about 120 yards from the site, are 6 feet deep, the height of the building being $35\frac{1}{2}$ feet above ground level.

6. The maximum weight of building per superficial foot on foundations is 2 34 tons and 3 44 tons for towers.

7. The east forms the principal façade of the building, the leading features of which are an ample carriage porch in the centre covered with a flat roof, which is supported by stone arches over stone columns, above this is seen the verandah in front of the lofty public hall, consisting of semi-circular arches, springing from massive stone columns with carved capitals, through which appear the geometrical windows which light the public hall from the east; a bold cornice with deep dentiles runs over all.

8. On either side of the central compartment rise lofty record towers, measuring 28 feet on the face and 135 feet from ground to apex.

9. The right wing is the front of the Post Office and the left that of the Telegraph Office, they are alike and symmetrical. The walls of the ground floor, which consists of store-rooms, &c., are pierced with windows bordered with stone, with a small stone column in centre. The first floor verandah roof is supported by double arches and piers, with a stone column between. The third storey verandah openings have square heads, supported by a stone lintel and two stone columns, and a broad cornice runs over the whole building. At the angles of the right and left compartments project small towers, measuring 14 feet on the face and 2 feet from the main building.

10. The north and south ends of the building will be completed in all respects like the east faces of the right and left compartments. The west, which forms the back of the building, will be plain with stone sparingly used.

11. The exterior of the building will be faced with hard pressed red bricks and stone dressings of a light grey color. The decorations will be of sgraffito worked in.

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20th December 1875.*

sunk surfaces. The interior walls will be plastered. The floors will be of ordinary terrace flooring except the basement floor, which will be laid with Cuddapah slabs. The roof will be covered with Broomhall's tiles. The roofs of the towers will be covered with glazed tiles.

12. The general decorative character of the building is Italian, but greatly modified and adapted to the materials and local requirements.

13. The surrounding buildings principally belong to private individuals, and are used as merchants' offices, having little pretensions to excellence of design and skill in construction.

14. The Stamp Office, which is a Government building, is in the classical style, walls plastered with little ornamentation.

15. The rates allowed in the estimate were carefully calculated from works now in progress and already constructed at Madras, and there is every probability of the building being completed within the estimated amount.

16. The cost of the building per cubic foot of space occupied is 3 Annas and 10-61 Pies. Per superficial foot of area covered 4 Rupees 4 Annas and 7-46 Pies.

17. The following are the costs of two important buildings designed and superintended by the same architect:—

Presidency College, Madras.

Cost per cubic foot of space occupied, 4 Annas 1-67 Pies.

Do. superficial foot of area covered, 5 Rs. 6 Annas 11-12 Pies.

Madras Railway, Central Station House.

Cost per cubic foot of space occupied, 4 Annas 5-63 Pies.

Do. superficial foot of area covered, 6 Rs. 11 Annas 0-3 Pies.

The additional cost of these two works may be attributed to extra foundations.

18. The extent of dwelling accommodation, arranged by personal communication with the heads of the Post and Telegraph Departments, is as follows:—

POST OFFICE.

Postmaster's Residence.

Cubic feet of space occupied	...	...	...	...	106,230
Superficial feet of area covered	...	...	...	...	6,656
Kitchen and servants' accommodation for Postmaster—					
Cubic feet of space occupied	...	...	...	...	21,536
Superficial feet of area covered	...	...	...	...	1,656

TELEGRAPH OFFICE.

Assistant Superintendent's Residence.

Cubic feet of space occupied	...	...	...	...	81,901
Superficial feet of area covered	...	...	...	...	5,118
Kitchen, &c., accommodation for Assistant Superintendent—					
Cubic feet of space occupied	...	...	...	...	26,132
Superficial feet of area covered	...	...	...	...	2,010

First Telegraph Master's quarters.

Cubic feet of space occupied	...	...	...	...	13,975
Superficial feet of area covered	...	...	...	...	735

Second Telegraph Master's quarters.

Cubic feet of space occupied	...	...	...	...	10,935
Superficial feet of area covered	...	...	...	...	576

(3).

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Accommodation for Signallers.

Cubic feet of space occupied	...	...	...	...	85,451
Superficial feet of area covered	...	...	...	...	6,573
Kitchen accommodation for Telegraph Masters and Signallers—					
Cubic feet of space occupied	...	...	...	...	9,038
Superficial feet of area covered	...	...	...	...	695

19. The rents paid monthly by Government for the building occupied by the Post and Telegraph Offices are as follow:—

	Rs.
General Post Office	400
Postmaster-General's Office	150
Stables	50
Telegraph Office	200
Rent allowance for Signallers (average)	200
Total	1,000

20. The Postmaster resides in the General Post Office and the Assistant Superintendent in the Telegraph Office, these officers pay nothing towards rent, nor do the B.I.E. Telegraph Company pay anything for the space occupied by them.

21. The following is the office accommodation provided:—

POST OFFICE.

	Size of room.			Cubic feet of space occupied.	Superficial feet of area covered.
	Length. FT. IN.	Breadth. FT. IN.	Height. FT. IN.		
Postmaster-General's room	22 0	22 0	18 0	12,354½	650½
Do. do., private room	10 6	10 6	18 0	3,72½	196
1st Assistant and Inspecting Postmaster's room	25 0	20 0	18 0	11,943½	628½
Postmaster General's Clerks room	39 9	20 0	18 0	18,529½	975½
Dead Letter Office	46 9	20 0	18 0	21,766½	1,145½
Postmaster's room	22 0	19 10½	18 0	11,446½	602½
Do. Clerks	23 6	22 0	18 0	12,233½	643½
Despatch Department	48 0	30 4½	24 0	40,404	1,683½
Ship and Steam Department	48 0	20 0	24 0	27,456	1,141
Mail Receipt do.	48 0	36 0	24 0	47,424	1,976
Banghy Despatch Department	48 0	25 7½	24 0	26,660	1,527½
Clerks attending to the public	123 9	6 0	12 0	9,054	754½
Registration Office	22 3	23 7½	18 0	11,695½	615½
Enquiry do.	22 3	23 7½	18 0	10,860½	571½
Printing Establishment	72 1½	19 7½	10 0	23,379½	1,798½
Additional accommodation required by Postmaster-General	47 0	20 4½	16 0	18,326	1,145½
Space for records				...	5,610
TELEGRAPH OFFICE.					
Superintendent's Office	28 1½	22 0	18 0	14,716½	774½
Superintendent's Clerks	22 0	22 0	18 0	11,506½	605½
Assistant Superintendent's Clerks	23 1½	22 0	18 0	14,474½	761½
Do. Office	40 6	18 1½	20 0	16,485	824½
Signal room	60 4½	24 0	20 0	33,277½	1,663½
Receiving Clerks	49 1½	15 0	12 6	9,445½	755½
Despatching do.	39 0	15 0	12 6	6,000	480
Space for records				...	4,740

(4)

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20th December 1875.*

22. Extent of accommodation provided for the British Indian Extension Telegraph Company:—

	Size of room.			Cubic feet of space occupied.	Superficial feet of area covered.
	Length. FT. IN.	Breadth. FT. IN.	Height. FT. IN.		
Signal Office ...	24 0	23 0	20 0	11,610	580½
Superintendent's Office	21 0	21 0	20 0	12,420	621
Do. private	11 0	15 0	12 6	2,721½	217½
Verandah opposite	49 0	10 0	13 0	8,554	611
Batteries	19 0	11 0	10 0	2,970	297

23. The tiffin rooms are intended for the European and Native employes of the several departments, and are a very necessary provision in large offices.

24. The out-houses required are as follow:—

POST OFFICE.

- Stabling for twenty-two horses.
- Sheds for four large four-wheel and ten two-wheel carts.
- Sheds for thirty horse-keepers and their families.
- Quarters for Mail Sergeant.
- Coach-house for two carriages for Postmaster.
- Stabling for three horses for do.

TELEGRAPH OFFICE.

- Coach-house for four carriages.
- Stabling for four horses.

25. As the main building will entirely cover the space allotted, it was proposed by Mr. Chisholm to erect these out-houses on the vacant plot of ground south of the principal site, but this proposition did not meet with the approval of Government, (vide G.O., No. 1,861-A, dated 21st July 1873,) no site has been selected as yet for these buildings.

26. With reference to the latrines, I may mention that it is not unusual in Madras to have them connected with the main building, and it is the case with most of the mercantile and other offices in Black Town, the object being to economise space as much as possible. With proper drainage and care they are not likely to prove offensive.

27. The actual amount of cost debitable to the Telegraph and Postal Departments is as follows:—

	RS.	A.	P.
Telegraph Office	...	...	...
Post do.	2,57,191	11	10
	2,45,009	13	10

No. 344. From the same officer, dated Chepauk, 29th November 1875, No. 282.

In reply to your Memorandum No. 771, dated 29th instant, I have the honor to report that the probable cost of the out-houses required for the new Post and Telegraph Offices at Madras will amount to as follows:—

	RS.
Chargeable to Post Office	15,390
Do. to Telegraph Office	1,600
Total	16,990

(3)

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

No. 344-A.

MEMORANDUM.

THE Chief Engineer has no reason to doubt the sufficiency of the rates provided by the Consulting Architect in his estimates for the new Telegraph and Post Office at Madras. Mr. Chisholm has now had a great deal of experience in actual construction at Madras for a long period of years, and may be depended on to have ascertained with great correctness the exact amount at which he can perform certain descriptions of work, of the best materials, and of a decorative character. His Presidency College and Central Railway Station, for instance, are completed works, on which he must have gained great experience; and his Senate-house, now in progress, has kept him well-informed as to present rates.

2. The Chief Engineer has no reason to believe that the work to be undertaken to the Telegraph and Post Office will be so difficult of execution, or costly as to construction, as that of the works already successfully completed. The foundations will be of an ordinary nature, similar to those of the Presidency College; not resembling those of the Central Railway Station, where additional artificial foundations had to be largely provided. The Telegraph and Post Office will be stone-faced for only 2 feet above ground level, with stone dressings throughout; while the Presidency College was stone-faced to a much greater extent. The flat roofs of the Telegraph and Post Office will be of ordinary terracing, on teak beams and joists, those of the College and Railway Station having been in great measure composed of brick arches abutting on rolled iron joists over wrought-iron plate girders. Altogether the constructive details are simple, and the Chief Engineer is satisfied that there is no likelihood of enhancement of rates during the progress of the work. He considers the foundations suitable as provided, having no doubt that the greatest care will be taken in providing against any extra contingencies that actual excavations may show to be desirable, but which there is no reason to anticipate.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Major-General, R.E.,
Chief Engineer, P.W.D.

St. THOME,
26th November 1875.

No. 345. ORDER THEREON, 20th December 1875, No. 3,570.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 21.

ORDERED that the report of the Presidency Executive Engineer, who is in charge of the Government Architect's works at Madras during that gentleman's absence on furlough, be forwarded to the Government of India, together with the Chief Engineer's opinion as to the sufficiency of the rates and foundations. And that the Government of India be informed that the design is considered to be of a suitable character with reference to the situation of the building.

(Here enter No. 3,571, dated 20th December 1875.)

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Major-General, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the Consulting Architect.
" District Engineer, Presidency.

Erd. S. T. Austin.

Spare Copies

11.3
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
FORT ST. GEORGE, 20th December 1875.

No. 346.

No. 3,571.

FROM

MAJOR-GENERAL G. W. WALKER, R.E.,
Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Public Works Department,

TO

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
Public Works Department.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 22.

SIR,—I am directed to forward the
accompanying reports by the Chief Engi-
neer, Department of Public Works, and

Officiating Consulting Architect on the proposed new Telegraph and Post Offices at Madras, called for in Captain Skipwith's letter No. 154 B, of 19th May. And I am to add that His Excellency the Governor in Council had satisfied himself, before sending up the papers regarding which the reference was made, that the nature of the design was suitable to the situation of the building. The previous correspondence had occupied three years and during that time every effort had been made to satisfy departmental demands and the requirements of the Government of India.

2. Certain out-houses, consisting of stabling and coach-house, do not appear yet to have been decided on; but an adjacent piece of ground is vacant whereof they can be built if one less conspicuous and valuable cannot be substituted while the main buildings are in course of construction. Their probable cost will be Rs. 16,990, whereof Rupees 15,390 chargeable to Post Office and Rupees 1,600 chargeable to Telegraph.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

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

Exd. S. T. Austin.

Spare Copies

The Chief Engineer has
 no reason to doubt the
 sufficiency of the rates
 provided by the Council:
 the Architect in his
 Estimates for the new
 Telegraph and Post Of-
 fice at Madras - Mr.
 Chisholm has now had
 a great deal of experience
 in actual construction
 at Madras for a long
 period of years; & may
 be depended on to have
 ascertained with great
 correctness the ex-act
 amount at which he
 can perform certain
 descriptions of work,
 of the best materials,
 and of a decorative
 character - His Presi-
 dency College, and
 the Railway Station

for instance, one com-
pleted work, in which
he must have gained
great experience; and
his Senate House, now
in progress has kept
him well informed
as to present rates.

The Chief Engineer has
no reason to believe
that the ~~nature of the~~
work to be undertaken
to the Telegraph & Post
Office will be so diffi-
cult of execution, or
costly, as to ~~require~~ of
construction, as that
of the works already
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ted. The foundations
will be of an ordinary
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College; not resembling
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Railway Station, where

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will be stone faced
for only 2 ft. above
ground level, with stone
dappings throughout;
while the Presidency
College was stone faced
for much greater extent.
The flat roofs of the Tel-
:graph and Post Office
will be of ordinary tes-
:turing on Tankbeams
and Joists; those of
the College and Railway
Station having been
in great measure com-
:posed of brick work,
whetting or rolled
iron joists over Douglas
iron plate girders -
Altogether the construct-
-ion details are simple.

and the Chief Engineer
 is satisfied that there
 is no likelihood of any
 hindrance of inter-
 dering the progress
 of the work. He con-
 sider the foundation
 suitable as provided,
 having no doubt that
 the greatest care will
 be taken in providing
 against any extra contingencies
 that actual ex-
 penses may be
 be desirable to provide
 there is no reason to
 anticipate.

Comd'r H. M. S. S. S.
 Chief Engineer

1st Decr
 25th Decr 1875

N^o 34, 1/2

No. 282

CONSULTING ARCHITECT'S OFFICE,
 Chapauk, 29 November 1875.

From ~~Off~~
 THE CONSULTING ARCHITECT TO GOVERNMENT,

To
 THE Secretary to Government P. M. D.

SIR,

In reply to your Memorandum N^o.
 771 dated 29th instant, I have the honor
 to report that the probable cost of the
 Out houses required for the New Post
 and Telegraph Offices at Madras, will
 amount to as follows:

Chargeable to Post Office	R ^l . - 15,390 - - -
— do — to Telegraph Office	— 1,600 - - -

Total R^l. 16,990 - - -

I have the honor to be
 Sir

your most Obedt^l servt

[Signature] Captain R. C.
 Offg Comd'r Archt to Govt

[Signature]

Can 30-11-75

Reports available
cost of out-houses for
Post and telegraph
offices

Dated 29th November 1875
Received 29th —

of the Secretary to
Government
from the Offg. Engr. Architect
to Government
M: 7631
P. M. 1875 No 3570

G.S. No 3570, 71. 20.12.75

12.3.74

No 3570 Public Works Dept.

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 20 Decr 1875
Read the following

From
The offg. Engr. Architect } (P.C. No 155 of 19th August 1875)
to Government } (No 282 of 29th Nov —)
— do do — } (No 26th Nov 1875)
Chief Engr. P.W.D. (—)

Ordered that the
report of the Presidency
Executive Engineer who is
in charge of the Govt
Architects works at Madras
during that gentleman's
absence on furlough be
forwarded to the Govt
of India together with
the Chief Engineers opinion
as to the sufficiency of
the

the rates and founda-
tions. And that the
Govt of India be in-
formed that the design
is considered to be of a
suitable character with
reference to the situation
of the building.

(H.C. No. 3571 of 20 Dec 75.

No 3571.

To The Secy to the Govt of India
Public Works Dept.

Sir,

I am directed to
forward the accompany-
ing reports by the Chief
Engineer Department Public
Works and Officiating
Consulting Architect

an

Cong Architect 3
St. Sm. W. 6
Chief Engineer
29-12-75
SC Inspd.
7-1-76

05
in the proposed New
Telegraph and Post
Offices at Madras,
called for in Captain
Shrimaths letter No. 154
B of 19th May. And
I am to add that
His Excellency the Governor
in Council had satis-
fied himself, before
sending up the papers
regarding which the
reference was made,
that the nature of
the design was suitable
to the situation of the
building. It would
almost appear from
that reference that
the Govt of India
had

had overlooked the fact of the building having been the subject of correspondence for upwards of three years, during which every effort has been made to satisfy Departmental demands and the requirements of the Govt. of India. ~~which were given in considerable detail in their~~ Letter No 2610 BC of 15th May 1872.

Certain out houses, consisting of stabling and coach house, do not appear yet to have been decided on; but

are

206: Feb 72 No 110-111
 " 4: April " " 41-43
 " 29: May " " 473-474
 " 8: Feb 73 " 183-184
 " 11th " " " 232-233.
 " 18: " " " 163 mis: right
 " 6: March " " 126-127
 " 10: June " " 138-139
 " 21st July " " 366A-366B
 " 22nd Aug^t " " 369-370.
 " 17: Sept^r " " 275-277.
 " 18: " " " 286-287.
 " 25: Nov^r " " 362-364
 " 26: Sept^r 74 " 305-306
 " 24th " " " 199 mis: right
 " 14: July " " 331-332
 " 21st Nov^r " " 380-381.
 " 3rd April 75 " 65-67.
 " 2nd June " " 27-28.
 " 16: Nov^r " " 383-384.
 memo: 771 & 29: Nov 75

25th 7 previous 22 & 6
 of Letter Corp - 29.12.75

an adjacent piece of ground is vacant where of they can be built if one less, conspicuous and valuable cannot be substituted while the main buildings are in course of construction. Their probable cost will be Rs 16,990- whereof Rs 15,390- chargeable to Post office and Rs 1,600 chargeable to Telegraph.

13-10-15 II
 7-2-20
 19-1-25 III ✓

1875
 Govt. of Madras.
 PUBLIC WORKS.

*Bridge Archt^l
 Govt
 Govt of India*

Dated

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. *20 Dec* No. *3570*
3571

Nos. *343/16*

*Remains to be done by
 the Dy. P. & S. & S. & S.
 of Port & Harbour works
 the new combined Port &
 & S. & S. & S. & S. & S.
 together with the S. & S. & S.
 the Dy. on the same.*

*Embroidered & S. & S. & S.
 of the Madras. — S. & S.
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 Presidency together with the
 the Dy. & S. & S. & S.
 forwarded to the Dy. & S.
 of India.*