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(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	3579-80	Press
-B.P.-No.		-Mis.-
Dated	21 - 12 -	1875
		-195-

*Original*Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
21st December 1875.*

No. 360. Read the following letter from Colonel W. A. CROMMELIN, R.E., Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Military Works,) to Major-General G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, dated Fort William, 25th November 1875, No. 1,953 M. W.:—

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 2,365, dated 16th August 1875, submitting plans and estimates (amounting to Rupees 2,35,050) for the conversion of the Public Works Stores and Workshops at Madras into a Military Hospital, and in reply to communicate the following remarks.

2. It is observed that the plan provides for seventy-eight sick men besides a separate ward for noisy patients. For all the wants of the European Troops at Madras this seems ample, and it is not considered that any real advantage would be gained on providing more wards. The total cost of the alterations is estimated at 2,35,050, but to this sum must be added the further sum of 1,28,350 which appears to be the cost of new Workshops lately authorized by the Madras Government, so that the total cost of providing for these ninety-four patients must be calculated at $2,35,050 + 1,28,350 = 3,63,400$, a sum which gives the very high rate per patient of 3,866 Rupees.

3. The arrangements are severally on an excessive scale, but in the absence of definite information on the subject it is difficult to understand how far they are necessitated by the construction of the Workshops which it is proposed to convert into the Hospital.

4. The following instances of excess may be noted:—

1st.—In the hospital for men an area of 158 superficial feet per patient is allowed, whereas in Public Works Department Circular, No. 19 of 5th March 1866, conclusion No. XIV., it is laid down that the proper allowance should be 120 superficial feet per patient.

2nd.—In the main female ward the space per patient is only 124 superficial feet, but in two of the small wards the space is no less than 260 superficial feet per patient.

3rd.—The dispensary or surgery is provided for in a room $35\frac{1}{2}' \times 24$, whereas in the specimen plans for 110 patients the room for this purpose is only $19\cdot5' \times 17\cdot5'$; moreover, in addition to the dispensary there is an operating room 24×24 which is not provided at all in the specimen plan.

4th.—The observation ward is 39×24 , whereas in specimen plan above alluded to the ward is only $19\cdot5 \times 17\cdot5$.

5th.—The store-room accommodation is as follows:—

							S. FEET.
Purveyor's Stores	...	...	...	...	...	$24 \times 24 =$	576
Liquor	...	...	...	...	...	$11 \times 24 =$	264
Medical Stores	...	...	...	...	...	$38 \times 24 =$	912
Small Stores	...	...	...	...	...	$11 \times 24 =$	264
							2,016

whereas in the specimen plan there are only two stores each $33 \times 11\cdot5$, giving an area of 759 superficial feet.

6th.—The Serjeant's quarters cover an internal area of 2,600 superficial feet, whereas in specimen plan the area is 750 superficial feet only. The Medical Subordinates' quarters appear also to be on an unnecessarily extensive scale.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
21st December 1875.*

5. It is probable that the over-liberal accommodation set apart for the above-mentioned purposes is owing to the fact that the old buildings afford such extensive space, but it seems in this department that it would be better to provide for an additional number of patients rather than give up so much room for auxiliary purposes.

6. The breadth of the wards, 26 feet, and the large number of doors are also in excess of the standard allowance, and add to the difficulty of placing the beds properly. These deviations from the specimen plan, as well as the others above alluded to, are, it is apprehended, necessitated in a great measure by the plan of the building as it now stands, but it would seem that each of the four main wards might be made to hold twenty patients instead of seventeen, as intended, especially if the store-rooms at the inner ends of the two on the lower storey were abolished, and they do not seem to be required. Thus the four inner wards would provide accommodation for eighty patients, and the centre ward above the entrance would then become available as an observation ward, for which it is amply sufficient.

7. If the above arrangement were carried out it would be necessary to provide otherwise only for noisy patients and prisoners. These might be retained in the plan proposed in one of the wings; but if the wants of the stores, dispensary, &c., for which these wings are taken up be reduced to reasonable proportions, and the operating room which is not wanted at all be done away with, great part of each of these wings might be reduced altogether.

8. It is suggested therefore that the ways be reduced by taking a portion off the ends nearest the main building, by which arrangement a freer movement of air would be ensured.

9. It would also be an advantage to bring the day-room to that end of the wing which is nearest the main wards.

10. The two corner towers with bath-rooms and latrines in the wing side might also be dispensed with, as there seems ample provision for such purposes without them.

11. The space per bed in the female hospital is doubtless more than is needed, but the excess seems to be caused by the dimensions of the foundry from which it is to be adopted.

12. With reference to the foregoing remarks I am directed to return the documents received with your letter, and to request that the whole question may be reconsidered and that a further report may be submitted for the information of the Government of India.

No. 361. ORDER THEREON, 21st December 1875, No. 3,579.

MILITARY WORKS, No. 8.

ORDERED that the following letter be sent:—

(Here enter No. 3,580, dated 21st December 1875.)

(True Extract.)

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

Exd S. T. Austin.

Spare Copies

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
FORT ST. GEORGE, 21st December 1875.

No. 362.

No. 3,580.

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.

MILITARY WORKS, No. 9.

SIR,—I am directed to submit, for the information and early orders of the Government of India, the following

remarks on the subject of the conversion of the Public Works Stores and Workshops at Madras into a Military Hospital, which was referred for reconsideration in your letter No. 1,953 M—W., of 25th November.

2. The deviations from specimen plan; as regards the four large wards, were, as apprehended by the Government of India in paragraph 6 of the letter under reply, necessitated entirely by the plan of the existing building. Their superficial and cubic capacities are no doubt equal to the accommodation of eighty men, as suggested; but it would be quite unnecessary, and most objectionable, to abolish the two small rooms at the inner ends of the wards on the lower storey. These are rather ante and waiting rooms, than store-rooms; and are required to shut out the lower wards from the noise and dust and drafts of the main thoroughfare of the building. The centre ward above the entrance will doubtless suffice for an observation ward, but its position between two of the main wards would be objected to by Medical authorities, as would be the abolition of a separate small ward for two patients. These questions would hardly appear to have been considered from a medical point of view in the letter under reply.

3. In deference to the suggestions of the Government of India, I am instructed to acquiesce in the proposals to reduce the store-room accommodation by limiting it to two stores, each 24 feet square; to curtail the size of the dispensary or surgery by reduction to the same dimensions; the separate operating-room being dispensed with, though desirable for medical purposes. Each room of the Serjeant's quarters may also be reduced in length by five feet; but it is not understood that the accommodation for Medical Subordinates is really in excess of the sanctioned scale. The arrangements for the female hospital, which have been planned with reference to the building that is being adapted for it, are accepted by the Government of India. Entire acquiescence in their proposals as above rehearsed will, I am directed to state, result in a saving of Rupees 27,050 out of the total original estimate, leaving Rupees 2,08,000 to be provided for carrying out this most necessary work.

4. That sum (or two lakhs in round numbers) may appear large, as remarked by the Government of India, when added to the cost of new Workshops. But the Govern-

ment of Madras do not grudge the latter expenditure from their Provincial allotment; as, in addition to its remedying a mistake in the original location of the Workshops, which is productive of annual cost and inconvenience, the vacating of the rooms in the General Hospital, now occupied by the Military, will place at their disposal space that is absolutely required to complete the requirements of a General Hospital for Madras, and render it worthy of that designation.

5. Besides deprecating on medical grounds the carrying out of all the economies proposed by the Government of India, this Government must, I am directed to say, most strongly deprecate the modification of the design prepared by their Consulting Architect, as suggested in paragraph 10 of your letter under reply. The building in its adapted state will be worthy of its place in a series of new structures, including the Presidency College, the Civil Engineering College, the Revenue Board Offices, and the University Senate House, which now adorn the southern sea face of Madras, and are its chief architectural embellishments of modern date. The style of the new Military Hospital has been made to harmonize with that of the Revenue Board buildings, a most successful adaptation of a native structure to modern purposes; perhaps the most pleasing of Mr. Chisholm's works in its general effect; and to omit from it the flanking towers would altogether deprave its character, and render it unworthy of its conspicuous position and architectural surroundings.

6. With these remarks the plans and estimates are returned for final instructions.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

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

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

All communications
should be addressed
to the Secretary.

No. 1953 M. W.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Military Works.

To
The Secretary to the Govt. of Madras
Public Works Department.

Fort William, 25th November 1875.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 2365 dated 16th August 1875 submitting plans and estimates (amounting to Rupees 2,35,050) for the conversion of the Public Works Stores and Workshops at Madras into a Military Hospital and in reply to communicate the following remarks.

2. It is observed that the plan provides for 78 sick men besides a separate ward for noisy patients - for all the wants of the European Troops at Madras this seems ample, and it is not considered that any real advantage would be gained or provided more wards. The total cost of the alterations is estimated at 2,35,050 but to this sum must be added the further sum

sum of 1,28,550 which appears to be the cost of new workshops lately authorised by the Madras Government, so that the total cost of providing for these 94 patients must be calculated at $2,35,000 + 1,28,550 = 3,63,400$ a sum which gives the very high rate per patient of 5866 Rupees.

3. The arrangements are generally on an excessive scale but in the absence of definite information on the subject it is difficult to understand how far they are necessitated by the construction of the workshops which it is proposed to convert into the hospital.

4. The following instances of excess may be noted.

1st In the hospital for men an area of 158 ^{per patient is allowed} sup. feet, whereas in Public Works Department Circular No 19 of

5th March 1866 Conclusion No XIV it is laid down that the proper allowance should be 120 sup. ft. per patient.

2nd In the main female ward the space per patient is only 124 sup. feet, but in 2 of the small wards the space is no less than 260 sup. feet per patient.

3rd The dispensary or surgery is provided for in a room $35\frac{1}{2}' \times 24'$ whereas in the specimen plans for 110 patients the room for this purpose is only $19-5' \times 17-5'$;

moreover in addition to the dispensary there is an operating room 24×24 which is not provided at all in the specimen plan.

4th The observation ward is $39' \times 24'$ whereas in specimen plan above alluded to the ward is only $19-5' \times 17-5'$.

5th The store room accommodation is as follows.

Purveyors Stores	$24 \times 24 =$	576
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Medical Stores	$38 \times 24 =$	912
Small Stores	$11 \times 24 =$	264
		2016

whereas in the specimen plan there are only 2 stores each $33 \times 11-5$ giving an area of 759 S. F.

6th The sergeants quarters cover an internal area of 2,600 S. F. whereas in specimen plan the area is 750 S. F. only. The medical subordinates ^{quarters} appear also to be on an unnecessarily extensive scale.

5. It is probable that the over liberal accommodation set apart for the above mentioned purposes is owing to the fact that the old buildings afford such extensive space, but it seems in this Department that it would be better to provide for an additional number of patients, rather than give up so much room for auxiliary purposes.

6. The breadth of the wards 26 feet and the large number of doors are also in excess of the

7. If the above arrangement were carried out it would be necessary to provide otherwise only for noisy patients and prisoners - These might be retained in the plan proposed in one of the wings; But if the wants of the stores Dispensary &c for which these wings are taken up be reduced to reasonable proportions, and the operating room which is not wanted at all be done away with, great part of each of these wings might be reduced altogether. —

It is suggested therefore that—

208 ✓ he reduced by taking a portion off the ends nearest the main building in which arrangement a freer movement of air would be ensured. —

9. It ~~would~~^{also} be an advantage to bring the day room to that end of the wing which is nearest the main wards.

The two corner towers, with Bath rooms and latrines in the wing side might also be dispensed with, as there seems ample provision for such purposes without them.

The space provided in the female hospital is doubtless more than is needed, but the excess seems to be caused by the dimensions of the Foundry from which it is to be adopted. -

12. With reference to the foregoing remarks I am directed to return the documents received with your letter and to request that the whole question may be reconsidered and that a further report may be submitted for the information of the Government of India.



Have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedt. Servant,
Wm. Munroe Col. R. E.
Deputy Secy to the Govt. of India

Adho 2365 of 16. Aug/75
" 2364 "
" 1126 " 12. Sep/66
" 262 " 29. Jan/75

P. W. 1895 Sept.
No. 7802

From

The Govt. of India

Dated 25th Nov. 9
Recd. 7th Dec 1895.

E. S. X No. 1953 M. W.

Offering certain remarks
on plans and estimates
for the conversion of
the P. W. Stores and
Workshops into a mili-
tary Hospital.

X Sent to Govt of
India 11/11/95 3586

G.O. No 3579-50. 21. 12. 75

No 3580

5
S.P.C.
21. Dec/75

To The Secretary to the Govt.
of India, S.P.C.

Sir
I am directed to
submit for the informa-
tion and early orders
of the Government of
India, the following re-
marks on the subject
of the conversion of the
Public Works Stores
and Workshops at
Madras into a Military
Hospital, which was
referred for reconsidera-
tion in your letter
No 1953 of 25 November.

M. W.

The

Ordered that the following letter be sent.
No 3579
21 Dec/75

360-361

15-12-75

2. The deviations from
specimen Plan, as regards
the 4 large wards, were,
as apprehended by the
Government of India
in para 6 of the letter
under reply necessitated
entirely by the plan
of the existing building.
Their superficial and
cubic capacities are
no doubt equal to the
accommodation of
80 men, as suggested.
but it would be quite
unnecessary, and most
objectionable, to abolish
the two small rooms
at the inner ends of the
wards on the lower story.
These are rather ante and

1506
waiting rooms, than
Stone Rooms; and are
required to shut out
the lower wards from
the noise and dust
and drafts of the main
thoroughfare of the
building. The centre
ward above the entrance
will doubtless suffice
for an observation ward
but its position between
2 of the main wards
would be objected to
by medical authorities,
as would be the whole
idea of a separate small
ward for 2 patients.
These questions would
hardly appear should
have been considered from

a medical point of view, in the letter under reply.

3. In deference to the suggestions of the Government of India, I am instructed to acquiesce in the proposals to reduce the Store Room accommodation by limiting it to 2 stores each 24 feet square, to curtail the size of the Dispensary or Surgery by reduction to the same dimensions; the separate operating Room being dispensed with, though desirable for medical purposes. Each room of the Sergeants Quarters may

17
may also be reduced in length by 6 feet; but it is not understood that the accommodation for Medical Subordinates is really in excess of the sanctioned scale; the arrangements for the General Hospital which have been planned with reference to the building that is being adapted for it, are accepted by the Government of India. Entirely acquiesced in their proposals as above rehearsed, will I am directed to state result in a saving of Rs 27,000 out of the total cost

a original estimate, leaving
Rs 2,08,000 to be provided
for carrying out this
most necessary work.
That sum (or 2 lakhs
in round numbers) may
appear large, as re-
marked by the Govt.
of India, when
added to the cost of
new Workshops. But
the Government of Madras
do not grudge the
latter expenditure
from their Provincial
allotment, as in ad-
dition to its remedying
a mistake in the
original location of
the Workshops, which
is productive of an-
nual cost and inconvenience.

5/11/11
the vacating of the
rooms in the General
Hospital now occu-
pied by the military
will place at their
disposal space that
is absolutely required
to complete the require-
ments of a General
Hospital for Madras
and render it worthy
of that designation.
5. Besides depreciating
on medical grounds
the carrying out of
all the economies
proposed by the Govt.
of India, this Govt.
must, I am directed
to say, decline to

a modify the design pre-
vi-ferred by their Consulting
re Architect, as suggested
3. in para 10 of your letter
under reply: The
Building in its adapted
state will be worthy
in of its place in a series
of new structures in-
cluding the Presidency
College, the Civil
Engineering College,
the Revenue Board
Office and the University
Senate House; which
now adorn the Southern
side face of Madras,
and are its chief ar-
chitectural embellish-
ment of modern date.
The style of the new
Military Hospital

21st 9
has been made to
harmonize with that
of the Revenue Board
Building, a most
successful adaptation
of a native structure
to modern purposes;
perhaps the most
pleasing of Mr
Chisholm's works in
its general effect. And
to omit from it the
flanking Towers would
altogether deprive its
character, and render
it unworthy of its
conspicuous position
and architectural
surroundings -
6. With these remarks
the Plans and estimates

are returned for final
instructions.

Ann

11/15
11/16

65C. & 8 Pickens

12/29-12-75

K-362

1852

Govt. of Madras
PUBLIC WORKS.

To
Govt of India

Date

Issued

By

Encl

27 Dec 52 No. 3577-50

No. 250-361

350

Conversion of the Govt. Street
Bishop into a Military
Barracks. - Calling upon
letter from the Govt. of India
to have certain barracks
to plan & estimate for