

(1) Number of pages _____

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 570 (W)	Press Mis.
Dated 20-2-1877.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following papers.—

No 482. Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Judicial Department, dated 28th June 1876, No. 1,308.

ABSTRACT.—*Courts.*—Certain information furnished to the Public Works Department in view to the preparation of a design for a Subordinate Court.

No 482-A. Endorsement of the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Fort St. George, 12th February 1877, No. 343.

From T. WEIR, Esq., Acting Registrar of the High Court of Judicature at Madras, to the Honorable W. HUDLESTON, Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 6th February 1877, No. 292.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated 28th June 1876, forwarding copy of the Proceedings of Government of the same date, No. 1,308, and requesting the opinion of the High Court as to whether the allotment of space proposed therein for the Court-houses of Subordinate Judges and District Munsifs is sufficient for the purpose.

In reply I am to state that the nature and amount of the accommodation required in Court buildings being matters with which the Judges in the districts have a more practical acquaintance than the High Court, it was thought advisable, before replying to your letter, to obtain the opinion of the District and Subordinate Judges as well as of some of the District Munsifs as to the adequacy of the proposed accommodation. Replies have now been received from a number of District Judges, though not from all, and, as these replies deal to a great extent with matters of detail, I am to forward

them in the original* for the consideration of Government.

* To be returned.

In doing so I am to notice the following points:—Several of the Judges are of opinion that dimensions allotted to a District Munsif's Court are too small, and that the Court building of a District Munsif should be quite as large as that of a Subordinate Court. In this opinion, the High Court concur. The importance of Courts of the District Munsifs has been largely increased since the enactment of Act III of 1873, and the attendance of the general public in these Courts is as large, if not larger than, in a Court of a Subordinate Judge. This is more especially the case in Courts in which Small Cause Court suits are numerous. Most of the Judges notice the want of any provision in the plan for securing cattle or other animals which have been attached and brought to Court in execution of decrees. A walled enclosure like a pound with a thatched shed should, it is suggested, be provided for the purpose. The inexpediency of having the room for Vakils and Suitors in the Court building is urged by several of the Judges. It is represented that it is undesirable to have the Suitors and their Vakils in close proximity to the Court room or to the Judge's room, and that it would be preferable to have a building detached from the Court-house for the use of this class of persons. Assuming the Vakil's room to be in the main building, some of the Judges consider the space allotted for the purpose insufficient.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
20th February 1877. No. 570.*

Objection is taken also by some Judges to the space allotted to the property room as being insufficient. Some Judges suggest that there should be a separate room for the Nazir and the Process-serving department. A latrine in the Court-house compound is also considered a desirable addition to the proposed accommodation. Two of the Judges think the 'law dais' (low dais?) for the Head Clerk in a District Munsif's Court to be unnecessary and inexpedient.

The High Court consider the suggestions of the District Judges on the matters above noticed deserving of the attention of Government.

TRANSFERRED to the Public Works Department, with reference to the communication from that department, dated 27th January 1877, No. 182, and for disposal.

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Chief Secretary.

No. 483. ORDER THEREON, 20th February 1877, No. 570.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 38.

THE papers will be forwarded in original to the Consulting Architect, who will, in accordance to the suggestions made, design standard plans for Court-houses for Subordinate Judges and District Munsifs' Courts.

(True Extract.)

Colonel,
Acting Joint Secretary to Government.

To the Consulting Architect, with papers and copy of Note by His Grace the Governor,
,, Judicial Department.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

Spare Copies

No. 182 -

The undersigned has the honor to ask that the Judges of the High Court may be requested to expedite reply to the question referred to them in para 3 of Judicial Department Proceedings of the 28th June 1876, No. 1308.

W. H. W.
Secy.

27 Jan'y/77.

To the Chief Secy. to Govt.
Jud. Department

Courts.

No. 116. Read the following:—

No. 645.

[G.O., No. 516, of 20th March 1876, Judicial Department.]

The Chief Engineer observes that, although there appears to be a general concurrence of opinion among the Judges that more accommodation is required than that afforded by the design for a Munsif's Court, yet it cannot be sufficiently ascertained by the Consulting Architect, from their several recommendations, what he has to provide for. In designing such a building it is essential that the Architect should be definitely informed (1) for how many people he is to provide accommodation, (2) into how many rooms that accommodation is to be distributed, (3) what space is required for records, property, &c.

2. And, presuming that there is some fixed scale of establishment for a Subordinate Court, the Chief Engineer submits that it is desirable that information regarding the same should be communicated by the Judicial Department for the instruction of the Consulting Architect.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
5th April 1876.

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

No. 142.

Referred to the Judicial Department for orders.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
5th April 1876.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Major-Genl., R.E.,
Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

No. 117. ORDER THEREON, 28th June 1876, No. 1308.

The Public Works Department will be informed, in reply to the foregoing reference, that the average strength of establishment attached to the Court of a Subordinate Judge and of a District Munsif is on the following scale:—

Sub-Judge's Establishment.

- 1 Sheristadar and Nazir,
- 1 Head and five Clerks,
- 1 Recordkeeper,
- 1 Moochi, and
- 2 Peons.

District Munsif's Establishment.

- 1 Head Clerk and Nazir,
- 6 Clerks,
- 1 Moochee, and
- 2 Peons.

2. The accommodation and number of rooms required may be taken at about the following scale, subject to engineering or architectural rules as to dimensions and to the remarks of Government in G.Os., 26th May 1874 and 15th July 1874, Nos. 961 and 1292, in this Department.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
23th June 1876. No. 1303.*

Sub-Judge's Court.

Court Room	40' x 24'
Clerk's Room	24' x 20'
Record Room	24' x 20'
Property Room	20' x 12'
Retiring Room for Sub-Judge	18' x 12'
Do. for Sheristadar and Nazir	18' x 12'
Room for Suitors and Vakils	24' x 20'

District Munsif's Court.

Court Room	35' x 21'
Clerk's Room, with a law dais at one end for Head Clerk (para-graph 4, G.O., 26th May 1874, No. 961, Judicial Department).	21' x 21'
Record Room	18' x 15'
Property Room	18' x 9'
Munsif's Room	18' x 12'
Room for Suitors and Vakils	18' x 12'

3. The Honorable the Judges of the High Court will be requested to state whether they consider the allotment of space suggested by Government to be sufficient for the purpose.

(True Extract.)

[Signature]
Chief Secretary.

To the Public Works Department.
,, Honorable the Judges of the High Court.
To all District Judges.

Exd. J. W. Fischer.

102

5815-8-74 No. 124

L. H. 1876 Department
H 881

Chl. No 1824/27th Jan'y 1877

Dated June, 28th.
Issued 27th
Recd. July 8th

G.O., 28th June 1876, No. 1308.

To
THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
&c., &c., &c.

Colt. of 1876
JUDICIAL.

JUNE.
Nos. 116-117.

Courts.—Certain information furnished to the
Public Works Department in view to the prepara-
tion of a design for a Subordinate Court.

Next Evl. No 343
No. 292
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated 28th June 1876, forwarding copy of the Proceedings of Government of the same date, No. 1308, and requesting the opinion of the High Court as to whether the allotment of space proposed therein for the Court houses of Subordinate Judges and District Munsiffs is sufficient for the purpose.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated 28th June 1876, forwarding copy of the Proceedings of Government of the same date, No. 1308, and requesting the opinion of the High Court as to whether the allotment of space proposed therein for the Court houses of Subordinate Judges and District Munsiffs is sufficient for the purpose.

In reply I am to state that the nature and amount of the accommodation required in Court buildings being matters with which the Judges in the Districts have a more practical

No 1,82

Rept to Ad 10-7-76

acquaintance than the High Court, it was thought advisable, before replying to your letter, to obtain the opinion of the District and Subordinate Judges as well as of some of the District Munsifs as to the adequacy of the proposed accommodation. Replies have now been received from a number of District Judges though not from all. and as these replies deal to a great extent with matters of detail, I am to forward them in original for the consideration of Government. ^{to the return}

In doing so, I am to notice the following points. Several of the Judges are of opinion that dimensions allotted to a District Munsif's Court are too small and that the Court building of a District Munsif should be quite as large as that of a Subordinate Court. In this opinion, the High Court concurs. The importance of Courts of the District Munsifs has been largely increased since the enactment of Act III of 1873 and the attendance of the general public in these Courts is as large, if not larger than in a Court of a Subordinate Judge.

This is more especially the case in Courts in which small Cause Court Suits are numerous. Most of the Judges notice the want of any provision in the plan for securing cattle or other animals which have been attached and brought to Court in execution of decrees. A walled enclosure like a pound with a thatched shed should, it is suggested, be provided for the purpose. The inexpediency of having the room for Vakils and Suits in the Court building is urged by several of the Judges. It is represented that it is undesirable to have the suitors and their Vakils in close proximity to the Court-room or to the Judge's room, and that it would be preferable to have a building detached from the Court-house for the use of this class of persons. Assuming the Vakils' room to be in the main building, some of the Judges consider the space allotted for the purpose insufficient.

Objection is taken also by some Judges to the space allotted to the property room as being insufficient. Some Judges

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for the Head Clerk in a District, District
Court to be unnecessary and inexpedient.
The High Court consider the
suggestions of the District Judges on
the matters above noticed deserving of
the attention of Government.

I have the honor to be,
Sir, your most obedient servant,
High Court of Judicature.

Madras 6th February 1873
P
O
Acting Registrar,
Appellate Side,
Madras.

Handwritten signature

1575
88/176
Gt. Wf (1877) Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To *The Chief Architect to Govt*

Dated

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., *25th Feb* 1877, No. 570

Nos. 482-83

Standard Plans for
Civil Houses for Subordinate
Judges and District Magistrate
Court. - The Consulting
Architect directed to design
— in accordance with
certain suggestions.

For the Govt