Archives 1—10,000—6-10-76.

(1) Number of pages 22

(2) Date of repair 6.5.86

(3) Initials of the Referencer

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. ~~B.P. No.~~ 24 W. Press. ~~Mis.~~

Dated 4.1.1878 ~~197~~.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

4th January 1878, No. 24 W.

Buildings and Roads.
Military Works.

Read the following paper :—

No. 44. From Major J. L. L. MORANT, R.E., District Engineer, Nilgiris, to the Deputy Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Ootacamund, 24th December 1877, No. 494.

In reply to your memorandum No. 4,304, dated the 5th instant, with four accompaniments herewith returned, I have the honor to inform you that, as far as I understand the matter, the Rifle Range proposed does not appear to be precisely that entered as a ball practice ground in the Cantonment plan. Owing to the greater distance to which soldiers' arms now-a-days are made to fire it was necessary to obtain a longer range; hence the Committee appointed selected a piece of ground a portion of which was outside cantonments limits. It is for this portion outside of the cantonment limits that compensation is claimed.

2. I beg to add that I have had nothing whatever to do with the compensation portion of this matter, nor have I been asked to attend to it. This was referred by the Commandant direct to the Commissioner and to the Revenue Survey authorities.

3. I can obtain no information on this point in my records. Neither my Head Accountant nor the Coonoor Ghaut Overseer can throw any light on the matter. The latter states he came to Wellington in 1858.

4. I will, if you wish, refer the matter to the Collector of Coimbatore and to the Commissioner of the Nilgiris; but I anticipate my so doing will only result in fruitless delay.

No. 45. ORDER THEREON, 4th January 1878, No. 24 W.

THE estimate of Rupees 2,210 for constructing a Rifle Range at Wellington is sanctioned, and the necessary funds are appropriated from the Reserve at the disposal of Government under Military. The work should be completed before the end of the official year.

2. This sanction has been registered as Imperial No. 94 B of 1877-78.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government, P.W.D.

To the District Engineer, Nilgiris.
" Examiner of Public Works Accounts, with Estimate.
" Military Department.

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

S– 65.
Printed by W. H. Moore, Lawrence Asylum Press—[illegible]

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
MILITARY WORKS.

Govt. of (1878) ~~Madras~~.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

The DISTRICT ENGINEER,
NILGIRIS,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated January 4th

Issued

Recd. Enclo.

G. O., 4th January 1878, No. 24 W.

JANUARY.

Nos. 44-45.

Rifle Range at Wellington, Niligiri District.— The estimate for constructing a sanctioned and funds appropriated.

W. O. Form 263.

* 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.

PROCEEDINGS of a* Garrison Board

assembled at Wellington

on the 8th of March 1877

by order of Lieut Colonel Fairtlough 43rd Regt Commandg

for the purpose of determining upon a site for a rifle range for the use of the troops at Wellington

PRESIDENT.

~~Lieut~~ Major Shanly
Capt ~~Cholmondeley~~ 2/16th Regt

MEMBERS.

Capt. Morant R.E.
" Ward 44 Regt

The Board having assembled pursuant to order, proceed to examine the ground, and finding it necessary that it should be measured, adjourn until this is done under the superintendance of the executive engineer.

The Board having reassembled pursua
to order Local Major Shanly 2/16th Regt
having relieved Capt. Cholmondeley reported sic

F. & P. 6000 '8-63.

Printer, W. H. Moore, Lawrence Asylum Press—1877.

Proceed to report on the site selected a sketch of which together with the report of the Executive Engineer is attached -

There are no villages in the immediate vicinity of the Range but a public "Right of Way" runs through the ground. (Vide Ex Engineers Report) which however is very little used. The exact area to be purchased and the value of it, is annexed.

The direction of the Range is 20° West of North - and the distance from Barracks 1 mile and a half.

The Range is an uphill one and will require a certain amount of levelling.

The site suggested by Major Saunders A. A. G. for Musketry was found impracticable owing to the broken nature of the ground -

An eye sketch giving a general idea of the ground is also attached

Signed at Wellington this the 15th day of June 1877 -

W. J. [illegible] Capt. [illegible]
2/16th Regt
President

Members -

J. E. Morant Captain

J. Wood Capt.
44th Regt

4

District Engineer's Office,
Ootacamund,
25' April 1877

1154/1.5.77. No. 160

From

The District Engineer
Neilgherries

To

The Commandant
Wellington.

Sir.

I have the honor to forward an Estimate (distinguishing labor and materials) for constructing a Rifle Range at Wellington on the site selected by the Committee appointed the other day for that purpose.

2. The site for the Range is the same as was in use some ten years ago. The Range will serve for practice up to 1000 yards. It is free from houses and public roads for a distance of 100 yards on either side of the line of fire, with the exception of a small thatched hut which will have to be purchased. A public right of way runs through a portion of the grounds but it will be easy at the time of firing to prevent the few natives who usually traverse it from them passing. Beyond the Butts there is a high and abrupt hill which will prevent the bullets from going very far. The Direction of the Range is 20° West of North, and its distance from the Barracks is 1 M. 4 F. 5½ yds. - or as nearly as possible 1½ miles. The Range is on a slope which with the firing platforms can be made not to exceed 15°. A scarp on the mountain side will be provided behind the targets

according to para 214 of the Indian Appendix to the British Musketry Regulations, as also 2 Blands Marker Butts. On the top of the scarp, which will be only 10 feet high it is proposed to raise a stop butt also 10 feet high as an additional precaution. The cost of Target Platforms, stones for denoting the firing points, and firing platforms are also entered in the Estimate.

2. The Revenue Survey Department has been instructed, I believe, to supply the requisite Survey plans.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedient Servant
J R L Morant
Captain R.E.,
District Engineer

M.D.

No. 4304

5

Memorandum

With reference to G.O. in the Military Dept. No: 6522 dated the 26th Novr. 1877 with extract Pro: of a Committee, herewith forwarded to the District Engineer Neilgherries, the Chief Engineer on comparing the survey submitted with the Plan of the Cantonment of Wellington observes that the Rifle Range proposed is precisely that entered as "Ball practice Ground" in the Cantonment Plan. It is therefore not understood what compensation can be claimed for the ground all of which except a couple of acres or so close to the commencement of the Range where the road crosses the stream is waste land for which it is believed compensation was granted and paid years and years ago. As certainly the ball practice

practice ground or Rifle Range was in use since 54 or 55 when the ~~4~~ 84th Regiment was first stationed at Wellington, followed by the 74th the 60th Rifles, and 105th regiment.

L. I. [illegible]
1855

2. The matter is one which the District Engineer should have very closely inquired into, possibly some documentary evidence may be obtainable on the subject either from the office of the Collector of Coimbatore or the Commissioner of Neilgherries. His Head Accountant and the Coonoor Ghaut Overseer should be able to throw some light on the subject regarding which early report is requested. The accompanying papers 4 in number being returned.

t St George
Decr 1877

Colonel
Dy Chief Engineer P.W.D.

To.

The Dist. Engineer Nilgiris

District Engineer's Office
Ootacamund 24th Decr 1877.

No 494

6

From

The District Engineer
Nilgiris

To

The Dy Chief Engineer,
P. W. D,
Madras.

Sir

In reply to your Memorandum No 4304 dated the 5th Inst with 4 accompaniments herewith returned I have the honor to inform you that as far as I understand the matter the Rifle-Range proposed does not appear to be precisely that entered as a Ball Practice Ground in the Cantonment Plan. Owing to the greater distance to which soldiers arms now a days are made to fire it was necessary to obtain a longer range: hence the Committee appointed selected a piece of ground a portion of which was outside Cantonment limits. It is for this portion outside of the Cantonment limits that compensation is claimed.

2. I beg to add that I have had nothing whatever to do with the compensation portion of this matter nor have I been asked to attend to it. This was referred by the Commandant direct to the Commissioner and to the Revenue (Survey) Authorities.

3. I can obtain no information on this point in my records: neither my Head Accountant nor the Coonoor Ghaut Overseer can throw any light on the matter. The latter states he came to Wellington in 1858.

4. I will if you wish refer the matter to the Collector of Coimbatore and to the Commissioner of the Nilgiris, but I anticipate my so doing will only result in fruitless delay.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient servant
Morant Major R.E.
District Engineer

Roads and Build

From

The Dt Engineer
Nilgiris

To

The Dy Chief Eng
P. W. D,
Madras

No 494
Dated 24th December 187
No of Enclosures 4.
Plan with Let

Rifle Range at Wellingto
— Submits his report on
with reference to his
Memorandum No
4304 of the 5th Dec 77.

1 Plan put up for
C. No. 802 of 1878
22.1.78

Recd 2-1-78

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

26th November 1877, No. 6522.

Barracks and Buildings—Ranges.

Read the following paper :—

No. 433. *From Brigadier-General H. O'CONNELL, Quartermaster-General, to Colonel J. MICHAEL,* C.S.I., *Secretary to Government, Military Department; dated Fort St. George, 17th November 1877, No. 7685.*

The Commander-in-Chief having approved the detailed estimate marginally noted, I am directed by His Excellency to submit them for the consideration and orders of Government.

2. If approved by Government, it is requested that the papers may be forwarded to the Public Department Works for disposal.

Enclosures 4.

Estimate for Rupees 2,240 for constructing a Rifle Range at Wellington, Nilgiris—and the following documents :—

Plan.

Letter, No. 160, dated 25th April 1877, from the District Engineer.

Proceedings of Board for selection of site.

A grant for compensation for ground for the range will also be required. Government has been addressed on the subject in this office letter, No. 7684, of this day's date. Probable cost for compensation, 56·8 acres at Rupees 50 per acre = Rupees 2,840.

No. 434. ORDER THEREON, 26th November 1877, No. 6522.

Approved generally, and transferred to the Public Works Department for consideration and final disposal.

(True Extract.)

J Michael Colonel,
Secretary to Government.

To the Public Works Department, with four enclosures. and [illegible]
" Quartermaster-General.

Exd. A. Raitt.

Govt. of 1877 Orders.

MILITARY.

To

THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

&c., &c., &c.

Dated November 26th and

Filed

G.O., 26th November 1877, No. 6522.

8.

NOVEMBER

Nos. 433-434.

Approving estimate for Rupees 2,240 for constructing a Rifle Range at Wellington.

P.W.D.

No. 4304 D/ 5 Dec/77

9

Memorandum.

With reference to G.O. in the Military Department, No. 6522, dated the 26th November 1877, with extract Pro: of a Committee herewith forwarded to the District Engineer, Neilgherries, the Chief Engineer on comparing the survey submitted with the plan of the Cantonment of Wellington, observes that the Rifle Range proposed is precisely that entered as "a Ball practice ground" in the Cantonment Plan.

It is therefore not understood what compensation can be claimed for the ground, all of which except a couple of acres or so, close to the commencement of the Range where the road crosses the stream, is waste land, for which, it is believed, compensation was granted and paid years & years ago; as certainly the Ball practice ground or Rifle Range was in use since 54 or 55 when the 84th Regiment was first stationed at Wellington followed by the 74th, the 60th Rifles and 105th Regiment.

The matter is one which the District
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m the office of the Collector of Coimbatore
the Commissioner of ~~the~~ Neilgherries.
s Head Accountant and the Coonoor
ant Overseer should be able to throw
ne light on the subject regarding which
ly report is requested; the accompanying
ers 4 in number being returned.

/Sd/ W. Farewell Colmnt
Dy Chief Engineer P.W.D

The D. E. Neilgherries,
with 4 Enclos

B W R
mily works

No. 24 W Public Works Department.

10

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the 4th Jany 1878.

Read the following :—

Ro. of the Military Dept. {Ltr. No. 6522, Dd 26 Nov: '77}
D. E. Nilgiris. ——— (" " 494, Dd 24 Dec. ")

The Estimate of Rs. 2240 for Constructing a Rifle Range at Wellington is Sanctioned, and the necessary funds are appropriated from the Reserve at the disposal of Govt. under Military.

1 The work should be Completed before the end of the official year.

29.12.77

GAT

This sanction has been registered as Imperial No 94 B of 1877/78

D. E. Nilgiris ✓ 3
Exor. P.W. a/ Smith Cattermole
Military Dept. ✓ 15

17
Dispd 11-1-78

Inrns: No 4304 75-1277

24

Soon

1st Septbr 77

Cir: 2.1.78 Rbt.1.78