26/11/86

Archives 1—10,000—6-10-76.

(1) Number of pages 60

(2) Date of repair 24-10-86

(3) Initials of the Referencer Lours L

MIL NADU ARCHIVES

RNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / ~~B.P. No.~~	1017 - 1019	Press. / ~~Mis.~~
Dated	2-4-1879	~~197~~ .

be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

2nd April 1879, No. 1,017 W.

Buildings and Roads.
Civil Works.

Read the following papers :—

No. 38. From the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, dated 13th February 1879.

No. 38-A. Telegram from the Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, Calcutta, to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, dated 15th March 1879.

Your telegram of seventh January. Funds for Madras Telegraph and Post Office under consideration. Abercrombie site should not be surrendered to Bank. More by post.

No. 38-B. From the Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department (Account—Military and Civil), to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, dated Fort William, 15th March 1879, No. 34 A—M and C.

In continuation of a telegram of the 15th March and in reply to your telegram of the 7th January, I am directed to inform you that there is a possibility that funds may be made available for the commencement of the Post and Telegraph Office building at Madras during the year 1879-80, and a further communication will be made to you when the point is finally decided.

2. But, whether funds are made available for expenditure during the coming year or not, I am directed to inform you that the Government of India objects to the surrender of the Abercrombie site to the Madras Bank.

3. It does not appear from the correspondence that the views of the Madras Chamber of Commerce have been ascertained and considered, as suggested by Sir A. Clarke in his telegram of the 13th December 1878 to His Grace the Governor; but as the Abercrombie site is manifestly a far more convenient location for the Post and Telegraph Offices, not only as regards the mercantile community, but also as regards the general public of all classes, the Government officials, and more particularly the health and convenience of the officials of both the departments concerned than the site near the Railway station, the Government of India cannot, in the absence of weighty reasons to the contrary, permit the appropriation of the Abercrombie site to any other purpose.

4. If, as is gathered from your telegram under reply, there is no difficulty anticipated in finding "a suitable and in some respects better site on beach side of the same road at or near the same point as the site hitherto selected" for the Post and Telegraph Offices, the Government of India wishes it to be considered whether such alternative site cannot be made to suit the convenience of the Bank.

No. 38-C. From the Secretary and Treasurer, Madras Bank, dated 17th March 1879.

No. 38-D. Telegram from the Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, Calcutta, to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, dated 22nd March 1879.

IMPERIAL Buildings and Roads Budget 1879-80 sanctioned for proposed grant, viz., Rupees 8,68,000 plus 1,00,000 for combined Post and Telegraph Offices; total 9,68,000. Detailed orders not yet passed. Incur no outlay on works without estimate.

No. 39. ORDER THEREON, 2nd April 1879, No. 1,017 W.

COMMUNICATED to the Consulting Architect, with reference to Government Proceedings of the 8th May 1876, and the 30th October 1876, Nos. 1,138 and 2,017.

2. It will be pointed out to the Government of India that plans and estimates for the building were sanctioned in the spring of 1876, and that there is therefore nothing to prevent the commencement of the work, which Mr. Chisholm should arrange to set in hand forthwith.

(Here enter No. 1,018 W, dated 2nd April 1879.)

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R. E.,
Ag. Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Consulting Architect.
" Examiner of Public Works Accounts.
" Chairman, Chamber of Commerce.
" Public Department.
" Superintendent of Telegraphs, Madras Division.
" Asst. Engr. Fort & Cantt.

Extd. E. C. Shunker.
Spare Copies

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Govt. of [illegible] Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

The CONSULTING ARCHITECT,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated April 2nd

Issued.

Encl.

G. O., Nos. April 1879, No. 1,018 W.

APRIL.

Nos. 39-40.

1017-19

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Buildings and Roads.
Civil Works.

No. 1,018 W.

No. 40.

From

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF MADRAS,
Public Works Department,

To

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

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge your telegrams and letter noted in the margin, and with reference to the concluding sentence of the telegram dated the 22nd March, to invite attention to Colonel Dickens' letter of the 30th March 1876, No. 105 C.W., in which the sanction of the Government of India was accorded to plans and estimates aggregating Rupees 5,02,262 for a combined Post and Telegraph office at Madras.

Telegram, dated 15th March 1879.
Letter No. 34 A—M and C, dated 15th March 1879.
Telegram, dated 22nd March 1879.

2. The further information upon certain points, called for in the same letter, was furnished with docket No. 2,918 of the 30th October 1876. There is therefore no obstacle to the prosecution of the work, the immediate commencement of which has been ordered by this Government.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Colonel, R.E.,
Ag. Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
2nd April 1879.

Fwd. E. C. Shunker.
Spare Copies

1879-19
5

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Buildings and Roads.
Civil Works.

No. 1,019 W.

No. 41.

From

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

Public Works Department,

To

THE SECRETARY AND TREASURER OF THE MADRAS BANK.

SIR,—Adverting to previous correspondence, I am directed to inform you that the Government are no longer prepared to relinquish the Abercrombie Battery site, as the Government of India have this year provided funds for the combined Post and Telegraph buildings, which will be at once commenced.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Colonel, R.E.,
Ag. Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
2nd April 1879.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.
Spare Copies

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Govt. of (1879) Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

The SECRETARY and TREASURER
of the MADRAS BANK.

Dated Acad. Dud.

Dated

Dud. Dud.

G. O. 2nd April 1879, No. 1309 W.

APRIL.

No. 41

Intimating that Government do not wish to relinquish the Abercrombie Battery site as the Government of India have provided funds for the commencement of the new Post and Telegraph offices at Madras.

(c17

Chamber of Commerce
Madras 13th February 1879

From

The Chairman
Chamber of Commerce

To

The Secretary to Government
of the North Circle

Sir,

I have laid before the members of this Chamber your letter of the 7th instant, stating that the site on the Beach which the Madras Government had assigned for the site of the proposed new Post office and Telegraph Office is now to be recommended to the Government of India as the site for the new Bank of Madras.

The Chamber have received

the intimation of the intention of the
local Government with much surprise
and regret. Permit me to remind
you briefly of the circumstances under
which a previous Madras Government
consented to make over the site in
question for the proposed new Post
Office and Telegraph office. On a
proposition emanating from the Director
General of Post offices in 1868. Lord
Napier's Government recommended
that the new Post office should be
erected on a site near the Central
Railway station, on the plea that
it was "more central" than the Beach.
The Chamber pointed out that the
larger portion of the mails came
from and went to Black Town,

and that most of the officers of Govern-
ment were nearer to the North Beach
than to the Central Station; and that
consequently both the interests of Govern-
ment and the mercantile community would
be served by having the Post office
in Black Town. The Director General
of Post offices (5 June 1872) admitted the
the arguments of the Chamber had
convinced him of the propriety of reconsidering the question of the Post office
site; and the Directors of the Madras
Bank having relinquished in favour
of the Post office, their claim to the
site at Choromandel Battery (which
appears to have been assigned to them
in 1871, a three years after the Chamber
had recommended the site for the new
Post office and Telegraph office) the
Madras

of plans and estimates was incurred.

On the 6th October 1874 the Chamber remarked in a letter to the Post Master General:

"The Chamber think it matter for regret that with so much needed buildings should have been neglected.

It need scarcely remark that the want of more central Post and Telegraph Offices is so keenly felt by the mercantile community now as it was when the Chamber solicited the Government on the subject two years ago. The Telegraph is in fact more than ever in use in the conduct of mercantile affairs, while it must hardly be pointed out that there would be disadvantage both to Government and the Public, in having a Central Post Office large enough to accommodate both the Post Master and the Post Master General

of

a Address Government on the 4th January 1872 more pleased to pass the following entry in the Financial Department —

"To the Collection of the Customs Bank have relinquished the site required by them out of the block of land between the Stamp Office and the road intervening Mercantile Gardens, instructions would be issued in the Department of Public Works to the Commencing architect to forward the design after obtaining Government Post Office and the Central Telegraph office on that site."

I understand on the 6th Oct the Bank of Bengal have formally relinquished their claim to the land, but no steps have been taken by Government to carry the proposal into effect. I am of opinion that Government should not proceed

had to complain that though the Government of India had admitted that the new Post office was a "work that is much required" they had struck out the allotment that was to have been expended on it from the Budget. The Government of India Lr (27 June 1876) regretted that the state of the finances did not admit of an assignment for the work, but added that "as soon as it is possible an allotment will be made for the purpose". It is now stated in your letter under reply that it has been ascertained that there will be no possibility of funds being available for another year or two at the least, and that therefore the Madras Government now propose to hand over the site to the Directors of the Bank of Madras who regards another

of Madras with the request that the old buildings may be pulled down and the site cleared by the Local Government for the accommodation of other Public Offices."

The Government of India (25 September 1876) stated in reply to the proposition that provision would be made for the new Post office in next year's Budget. On the 5th January the Government of India called attention to the delay in commencing the work, when the Government of India (16 November 1875) had on the Estimates for expenditure in 1876-77 had been allotted and that Her Excellency the Governor in Council was not aware that any delay will occur in the prosecution of the work after the 1st April 1876. On the 28th April 1876 the Chamber had

ve for the Post Office which would have
the disadvantage of being remote from the Post
Office, no difficulty would be found in procuring
a suitable site in close proximity to the
latter place than that originally proposed,
on the other side of the road, which immedi-
ately is nearly opposite to it."

The Chamber cannot admit
that no sufficient reason has been assigned
in your letter for disturbing the decision
with regard to the site of the new Post
Office and Telegraph Office which have at
length after much discussion and delib-
eration. The Attorneys Building site
was selected after it had been unanimously
stated to be the most convenient site
available both for the Government and
the Mercantile Community, because of
its central position in the Native Town

of the Harbour and the probable increase
in the trade of the Port the arguments
in favor of a Beach site for the Post
and Telegraph Offices have been strengthe-
ned rather than weakened; and though the
Chamber are willing to admit that the
Bank of Madras might also be found
a site on the Beach, they cannot
allow that that institution which is
only of a semi-public character, should
have claims to precedence over two important
Public Departments like the Post and
Telegraph offices. The Chamber can
see no reason why the Bank of Madras
should not have the site which your
predecessors have been good enough
to indicate as being possibly available
in the distant future for the Post Office,

and

and they express their opinion with the
greater confidence seeing that there is good
reason for doubting whether the arbitrators
of the Board will, on the present occasion
take off hands, consent to the Contractors
building new Premises ~~on~~ anywhere, and hope
the Government would offer them the
site which has for so long a period
been allotted for one of the most important
departments of the public service.

The Chamber observe in
the Consulting Architect's letter which forms
an enclosure to your letter of reference
for enabling the Central Telegraph
Office to be removed from the Central Station
to the Custom House, that the Consulting Architect, if
may be referred does not consider the
Consideration

Consideration of public convenience. In
connection with this subject, the Chamber
would beg you to refer to the Proceedings
of Government, P.W.D. 20 March 1869
No 331 in which you state observe that
the Consulting Architect was informed
ten years ago of the practical objections
that existed to having the Central Telegraph
Office so far away from the centre of
business. Mr Chisholm then reported "I met
Mr Bailey at the request of Col. Robinson
and learnt from the former gentleman
that there would be very strong objection
to the proposed move in my letter
No 304 dated the 8th February 1869, to place
the Telegraph Office next the Post Office
(i.e. near the Central Station)" and that
the revenue derived from the former

over

1817-18
13

them not once by an allotment from
Provincial Funds, which the Government
of India might reimburse to the
Government of Madras when the finances
of the Empire were on a more flourishing
condition.

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

Arbuthnot

Chairman.

Class. S

INDIAN TELEGRAPH.

Received 8252

To (Station) Madras

From (Station) Calcutta

Words.	Days.	Hours.	Minutes.
28	15	14	16

1017-19/15

To (Person) Madras Works

From (Person) Marks

Your	telegram	of
seventh	January-	Bundo
for	madras	telegraph
land	postoffice under	
consideration-	Abercrombie	
site	should	not

TRAFFIC CODE FORM A.

Recd. form L. N.

At Hrs. Mins., By

Sent to L. N.

At Hrs. Mins., By

Date MADRAS 15-2-79

Telegraph Master.

INDIAN TELEGRAPH.

Class.

To

Station)

Words

Date

Received

Sent

Hours

Minutes

Charges to Public

Date (Service)

Time Handed in

1017-19

16

2nd part

be Despatched To
Bank more by
book-

12

14

16

18

20

L. N.

TELEGD. FORM

L. N.

Sent to

At Hrs. Mins. By

At Hrs. Mins. By

Telegraph Master.

Date MADRAS 18-3-79

1617-19
17

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

SERVICE MESSAGE DESPATCHED BY ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.

FROM *Calcutta.*	To *Madras.*
FROM *Government of India PWD*	To *The Secy. to the Govt. of Madras PW Deptt.*

Your Telegram of seventh January - Funds for Madras telegraph and post office under consideration - Abercrombie Site should not be surrendered to Bank - more by post.

No. *33 A* / *16*

Copy forwarded by Post for information.

The 15th March 1879. } *Allen J. Edgar* Major RE.

Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Ext
M 18

Cyl 2274

Gen Dept 1879 b. 1019 & E-4-79

No. 34 1 mrc

All communications should be addressed to the Secretary.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

ACCOUNT.

Military Board

To

The Secretary to the
Government of Madras
Public Works Department

Fort William 15th March 1879

Sir,

In continuation of a telegram of the 13th March, and in reply to your telegram of the 7th January, I am directed to inform you that there is a probability that funds may be made available for the commencement of the Post and Telegraph Office building at Madras, during the year 1879-80 and a further communication will be made to you when the point is finally decided.—

2 Such sum as funds are made available for may be drawn during the coming

year

year or not, I am directed to inform you that the Government of India agree to the surrender of the Abercrombie Site to the Municipality of Dacca.

3. It does not appear from the correspondence that the owners of the Mercantile Chamber of Commerce have been ascertained and consulted, as suggested by the 1st Clause of the Telegram of the 10th December 1856 from the Queen, but as the Abercrombie Site is unanimously a fit one for the location for the first rate Telegraph Office, not only as regards the immediate community, but also as regards the general public of all classes, the Government officials and more particularly the Health and convenience of the Officials in both the departments concerned, than the site near the Railway Station, the Government of India cannot in the absence of weighty reasons to the contrary, permit the appropriation

of

1857-19
19

of the Abercrombie Site to any other purpose.

4. It is as is gathered from your Telegram under reply, there is difficulty anticipated in finding "a suitable and in some respects better site on Beach Side of the same road at, or, near the same point as the site hitherto selected" for the Post and Telegraph Offices, the Government of India wishes it to be considered whether such alternative site cannot be made to suit the convenience of the Bank.

I have the honour to be
Sir,
Your most Obed't Servant
J. S. Grant Major Genl R.E.
for Secretary to Govt of India

91

Bank of Madras 17-19/30

Madras 17th March 18

82788

The acting Secretary to Government

Public works department

Fort Saint George

Sir,

I have the honor, by desire of the Directors of the Bank of Madras, to acknowledge receipt of your letter, dated 28th ultimo, and to inform you that they are only waiting the receipt of plans & estimates from Mr. Chisholm, before convening a special meeting of shareholders to consider the propriety of erecting new Bank premises on the present site; and if decided on, notice will be given of commencing and prosecuting the work.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

your obedient servant.

Secretary & Treasurer.

Gr. P

INDIAN TELEGRAPH.

Local No. 1286

To (Station) Bombay

From (Station) Calcutta

Words	Day	Hour.	Minute.
43/31	22	15	54

OFFICIAL INSTRUCTIONS.

To (Person) Madras Govt.

From (Person) Mackie.

Imperial Buildings and		
Roads	Budget	1873-74
Sanctioned for	for	Provincial
grant	Civil	Purposes
8,68,000	Works	1,00,000
For	Combined	Post

RECD. FROM

AT Hrs. Mts., BY L. N.

SENT TO

AT Hrs. Mts. BY L. N.

Date MADRAS 22-3-73

Telegraph Master.

TRAFFIC BOOK FORM 6. (P. T.)—S. T. Press,—No. 887,—3-9-70,—50,000.

1617-B

INDIAN TELEGRAPH.

Class. | Local No. 1617 19 | 92

To (Station) | From (Station)

Words | Day | Hour | Minute | OFFICIAL INSTRUCTIONS.

To (Persons) | From (Contd.)

A Telegraph office
Total Rs 68,000. Details
orders not yet
passed x hour no
on hand on 1st Ry
without Estimate

RECD. FROM | L. N. | SENT TO | L. N.
At | Hrs. | Mts., By | At | Hrs. | Mts., By

MADRAS 22-3-73

Date

Telegraph

(P. T.—G. T. Press.—No. 887.—28-2-72.—500,000.)

STANDARD CODE FORM C

1617-19
23

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

SERVICE MESSAGE DESPATCHED BY ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.

From	Calcutta	To	Madras
From	Kyouk Phyoo	To	Calcutta Port & St. for Lt. Gov.

Lucknow Buildings and Roads Budget papers
forwarded per mail and not to be telegraphed
for as you could not obtain telegraph Office
Rates for sending them. Abstract estimates
Ref. p. 68 are likely to be received
in time to allow of Budget being
framed on basis of actual requirements

No. 140 - 45

Copy forwarded by Post for information.

The 21st March 1879.

H. L. Hoskyns Secy.
Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

C No 2721 8
1879

P.W. 1119 6-1936-24-29

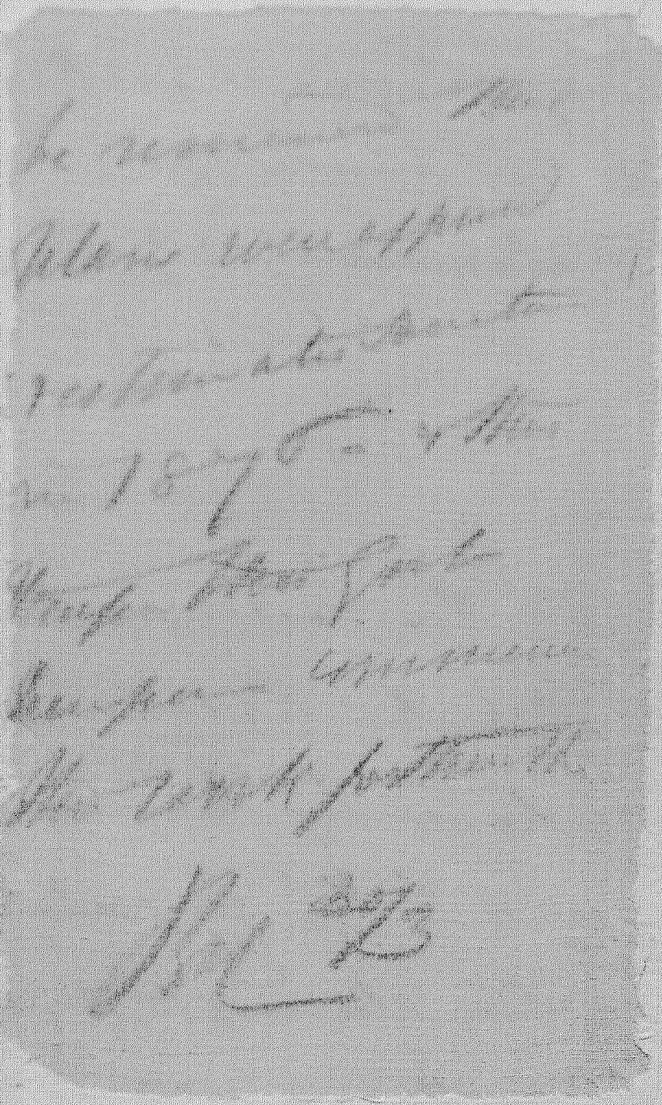
1899-19
29

Letter from the Chairman, Chamber of Commerce, dated 13 Feb 1899.

FOR ORDERS.

The Chamber are anxious
to get in touch with the Department
re New P.O. & Tel. Office —
They say nothing has occurred re
Site as agreed to do
Each Board indicated —
Can it be ascertained what
Board will next deal with it —?
Have in no Memorandum lording
us to go forward for the Land any
more steps for the P.O. —
Enquire ?

1. Mauthwort
Esq
Sec'y Chamber of Commerce



FOR ORDERS.

1877.

Public Works Department.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the 2nd April 1877.

Read the following :—

Letter from Chairman, Chamber of Commerce, (No. 5 of 15th February 1877)

Telegram from the Govt. of India (No. dated 15th March 1877)

Letter from ——do—— (No. 34 dated 15th March 1877)

Telegram from ——do—— Govt. of India (No. dated 22nd March 1877)

Communicated to the Consulting Architect, with reference to Government proceedings of the 8th May, 1876, and the 30th October, 1876, Nos. 1138 and 2917.

2. It will be pointed out to the Govt. of India that plans and estimates for the building were sanctioned in the spring of 1876, and that there

to leave for nothing to
prevent the commencement
of the work, which the
Chiefdom should arrange
to get in hand forthwith.

T.C. No 1018 W dy 2 April 1877

Sir,
I have the duty to the Govt of Indi

dear

I am directed to
acknowledge your telegram
and letter noted in the
margin, and, with reference
to the concluding sentence
of the telegram dated
the 22nd March, to invite
attention to Colonel Yorke's
letter of the 30th March

Telegram dy 15th March 79
Letter No 34 dy 15th "
Telegram dy 22 "

1877, No 105 C. Proceedings
The question of the Govt
of India pays awarded
to plans, and estimate
aggregating Rs 9,99,000,
for a combined post and
telegraph office at Madras,

The further correspon-
dence upon certain points
called for in the above
letter was forwarded
with despatch No 2918
of the 30th October 1877.

There is therefore no
obstacle to the prosecution
of the work, the immediate
commencement of which
has been ordered by
Government.

Copy to Architect
Exr P. W. Dept
Chairman, Chamber of Commerce
Collr Customs
Supt Telegraphs, Madras
Collr Madras
Supt P. & T.

1017-19
29

1019 W. 2 March 1879

To
The Secy: & Treasurer
Madras Bank.

Sir,

Adverting to previous
Correspondence, I am directed
to inform you that the
Govt are no longer pre-
pared to relinquish the
Observatory site, as the
Govt of India have pro-
vided funds for
the combined post and
Telegraph buildings
which will be at once
Commenced.

Recd 1/4 Forwarded 79

Govt. of India.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

Dated

Recd.

Read.

G. G. 1870. No. 1017

1016

1019

Nos. 38-41

Sheriah

1-4-71.

1691

Copy of Enclosure
in the Subject of the Bom
Bank & Telegraph Guaran
tee & stating there is
no obstacle to the grant
of the same.

To Bombay

Submitting Petitions
to erect Bank & Telegraph
Offices on Public Lands
in Sites as shown in Plans
herewith for Commencement
of Bank & Telegraph Offices

Nos. Bank & Telegraph

Circs, Bombay. Corres

pondence from the Govt
of India intimating the
Capitality of Bombay
granted for the
Bank Agency & Site
for the Bank
of the Bombay Gazetteer