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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

P.W.D DEPARTMENT

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

V. A. Mani

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

27th October 1880, No. 2,478-A W.

Buildings and Roads.
Military Works.

Read the following paper :—

No. 115-A. Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Military Department, dated 25th October 1880, No. 6,739.

From the Quartermaster-General, dated 4th October 1880, No. 1,296.

With reference to Order of Government, 21st June 1880, No. 3,866, I have the honor, by order, to forward the Proceedings of a Committee assembled at St. Thomas' Mount to report upon the reconstruction of a Barrack at that station, lately occupied by the O. Battery, 1st Brigade, Royal Artillery. Two plans are also forwarded.

2. The Committee consider that the Barrack in question, and another old tiled one near it, are uninhabitable and unsafe, and recommend that they be pulled down and that a Barrack on a similar plan to the centre one of the block, but somewhat larger, be built. These two Barracks would afford sufficient accommodation for a Field Battery. The centre Barrack is styled by the Committee a Bomb-proof Barrack, but this term does not correctly describe it, as will be seen by the plan. The roofs are certainly of arched brick-work, but not bomb-proof; the building is well ventilated, and the roofs are of a kind likely to last, and to require but little repair. The Committee further recommend the removal of certain small buildings which are old and unsuitable, and which impede the free circulation of air round the Barracks.

3. The approximate estimate for carrying out the recommendations of the Committee is Rs. 43,700.

4. His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief supports the recommendations of the Committee.

5. The Committee in their Proceedings recommend the removal of certain small dilapidated houses or cottages on the south side of the Barrack site. This would be an improvement, and, with the sanction of Government, might be considered hereafter. In the meantime information on the ownership of these cottages and the probable cost of their purchase and removal has been called for.

6. The General Officer Commanding Centre District reports that the delay in the transmission of the enclosed documents has been caused partly by the time taken in the drawing of the plans, and partly on account of an informality in the draft of the Proceedings, which necessitated a return of the correspondence to the President.

7. If Government approve of the recommendations of the Committee, it is requested that the whole of the documents now forwarded may be transferred to the Public Works Department, with the view to regular estimates being drawn up and submitted in the usual way.

PROCEEDINGS of a Board assembled at St. Thomas' Mount, on the 16th July 1880, by order of the Officer Commanding Centre District, for the purpose of reporting upon the reconstruction, &c., of certain Barracks in (late) occupation by O/ 1st Royal Artillery, as per plans annexed.

PRESIDENT.

Colonel A. R. GLOAG, R.A.

MEMBERS.

Surgeon-Major H. C. GUINNESS, A.M.D.

Mr. E. PRINGLE, Executive Engineer, Chingleput District.

The Board having assembled pursuant to order, proceed to examine the Barracks and out-houses late in occupation by O/ 1st Royal Artillery. After this examination and inspection

Surgeon-Major Cogan, who was an original member of the Board, was suddenly ordered away, and Surgeon-Major H. C. Guinness, who replaced him, was appointed to serve on the Board.

The Board now beg to offer the following suggestions:—Plan No. I, Survey of the Horse Artillery Lines at St. Thomas' Mount. The two old east and west tiled Barracks, marked A and E, are recommended to be demolished, the materials, as far as possible, being utilised for new constructions. They are uninhabitable, unsafe, and perhaps the oldest and most obsolete Barracks in India.

The Wall CD and all the small buildings, in black diagonal, are recommended to be pulled down, the latter as being old and quite unsuited for any purpose. The wall entirely excludes the air from the south or rear side of the men's Barracks, and the other buildings are so jammed together that they exclude air the one from the other and also all together from the Barracks. The wall is not only utterly useless, but is in every way injurious; it has a ditch running along its entire length, which has now undermined its foundations on its south side, and it now bulges out in several places.

The Board cannot too strongly urge the demolition of this wall, and the filling up of the ditch, as well as all the buildings marked in black diagonal in the plan.

There are too a number of small dilapidated houses or cottages on the south side of the wall, ditch and road, which the Board would strongly recommend should be demolished, and the materials removed; they entirely spoil the site of these Barracks and are now no longer required, and perhaps it would be very difficult for any one to prove "title deeds" to any of them.

The Bomb-proof Barrack marked red and lettered B is recommended to be retained. It is healthy, and will be even more so if the improvements suggested are carried out, and the men like it. The Board are quite aware that Bomb-proof Barracks have been objected to in India on account of heat, &c., but this one has never been complained of and has now been in occupation for many years.

The Board therefore recommend, on the score of convenience, economy, expediency, and uniformity, that another Bomb-proof Barrack to hold sixty-six men, similar to that shown in Plan II, which is for forty-four men, should be erected in place of the east tiled Barrack collapsed. But if Government object to this, it will then be necessary to reconstruct the Bomb-proof Barrack into a single-storied terraced roof Barrack and to build another similar single-storied Barrack, each to hold sixty men.

With regard to new buildings, the Board point to estimate marked AB in the event of the improvements suggested being carried out, there will be excellent sites upon which to erect the new buildings, and these Barrack will then be in quite as good a condition as the new upper-storied Field Artillery Barracks to the westward on the same line of frontage.

THE suggestions of the Committee for the reconstruction of the Barrack (paragraph 2) is approved generally. The papers will be transferred to the Public Works Department for consideration and final disposal.

2. The other suggestion (paragraph 5) will be considered hereafter.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. MICHAEL, Colonel,
Secretary to Government.

No. 115-B. ORDER THEREON, 27th October 1880, No. 2,478-A W.

COMMUNICATED to the Superintending Engineer, Second Circle, who will lose no time in having regular estimates prepared in order that the work may find place in the Imperial Budget for 1881-82.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. H. SANKEY, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Superintending Engineer, Second Circle,
with four enclosures and copy of Committee's Report.

" *M. L. Sankey* *Defate*

Encl. S. T. Austin.

Spare Copies

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
MILITARY WORKS.

Gobt. of (1890) Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To
THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,
SECOND CIRCLE.

Secy. Secy. Secy.

From Secy. Secy.

From

From

From

G. O. No. 112-A-115-R.

COPIED.

No. 112-A-115-R.

Barracks at St. Thomas' Mount lately
occupied by the O. Battery, 1st Brigade Royal
Artillery.—The Superintending Engineer,
Second Circle, directed to prepare without
delay regular estimates for the reconstruc-
tion of the —.

Barracks and Buildings.

No. 6739.

Government of Madras.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

On Madras, the 25th October 1880.

From the Quarter Master General,
No. 1296, dated 4th October 1880.

With reference to order of
Govt 21st June 1880, No. 3866, I have
the honor, by order, to forward the
Pros. of a Committee assembled at
St. Thomas' Mount to report upon
the reconstruction of a Barrack at
that station, lately occupied by the
O Battery 1st Brigade Royal Artillery.
Two plans are also forwarded.

2. The Committee consider that
the Barrack in question, and another
old tiled one near it, are uninhabit-
-able and unsafe, and recommend
that they be pulled down and that a
Barrack on a similar plan to the
centre one of the block, but somewhat
larger, be built. These two Barracks
would

would afford sufficient accommodation for a Field Battery. The centre barrack is styled by the Committee a bomb proof barrack, but this term does not correctly describe it, as will be seen by the plan. The roofs are certainly of arched brickwork, but not bombproof; the building is well ventilated, and the roofs are of a kind likely to last, and to require but little repair. The Committee further recommend the removal of certain small buildings which are old and unsuitable, and which impede the free circulation of air round the barracks.

3. The approximate estimate for carrying out the recommendations of the Committee is Rs: 43,700.

4. A.C. the Commander-in-Chief supports the recommendations of the Committee.

5. The

12
5. The Committee in their Proceedings recommend the removal of certain small dilapidated houses or cottages on the south side of the Barrack site. This would be an improvement, and, with the sanction of Govt, might be considered hereafter. In the meantime information on the ownership of these cottages, and the probable cost of their purchase and removal has been called for.

6. The General Officer Commanding Centre District reports that the delay in the transmission of the enclosed documents has been caused partly by the time taken in the drawing of the plans, and partly on account of an informality in the Draft of the Proceedings which necessitated a return of the correspondence to the President.

7. If Govt approve of the recommendations of the Committee, it is requested that the whole of the documents

now forwarded may be transferred to the Public Works Dept, with the view to regular Estimates being drawn up and submitted in the usual way.

P.W.D.
2900180

Order. The suggestions of the Committee for the reconstruction of the Barrack (para: 2) is approved generally. The papers will be transferred to the Public Works Dept for consideration of final disposal.

2. The other suggestion (para 5) will be considered hereafter.

True Extract /
Michael Colonnello, who will be no Secretary to Government in leaving regular estimates prepared in order that the work may find place in the Imperial budget for 1881-82.

Quarter Master General.

26/10/10

26/10/10

26/10/10

Ch. Shal 56 Oct.

Enclosed copy of Committee report

* 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 Board

assembled at Saint Simon's Mount

on the 16th July 1880.

by order of The Officer commanding Ceylon District

for the purpose of Reporting upon the construction &c of certain Barracks in (late) occupation by Off^r Royal Artillery— as per plans annexed.

PRESIDENT.

Colonel A. H. Long R.A.

MEMBERS.

Lieut. Genl. H. F. Guinness M.D.
Mr E. Pringle. E. E. Cheppit. Esq.

The Board having assembled pursuant to order, ~~proceeded~~ proceed to examine the Barracks and out-houses, late in occupation by Off^r R.A. After this examination and inspection Lieut. Genl. H. F. Guinness, who was an original member of the Board, was suddenly called away, and Lieut. Major H. F. Guinness who replaced him, was appointed to serve on the Board. The Board now beg to offer the following suggestions. Plan No I. Survey of the Barracks and out-houses at Saint Simon's Mount. The two old East and West tiled Barracks marked A and E, are

recommended to be demolished. The materials, as far as possible, being utilized for new constructions. They are uninhabitable, unsafe, and perhaps the oldest, and most obsolete Bunkers in India.

The Wall C.D. and all the small buildings in black diagonal, are recommended to be pulled down, the latter as being old, and quite unsuited for any purpose. The Wall entirely excludes the air from the South, or rear side, of the Mess Bunkers, and the other buildings are so jammed together that they exclude air, the one from the other and also all together from the Bunkers. The wall is not only utterly useless, but is in every way injurious; it has a ditch running along its entire length, which has now undermined its foundations on its South side, and it now bulges out in several places.

The Board cannot too strongly urge the demolition of this wall, and the filling up of the ditch, as well as all the buildings marked in black diagonal on the Plan.

There are too a number of small dilapidated houses, or cottages, on the South side of the wall, ditch and road, which the Board would strongly recommend should be demolished, and the materials removed. They entirely spoil the site of these Bunkers, and are now no longer required, and perhaps it would be very difficult for any one to prove "title deeds" to any of them.

The Bomb proof Bunker marked red and lettered B is recommended to be retained. It is healthy, and will be even more so, if the improvements suggested are carried out, and the men like it. The Board are quite aware that Bomb proof Bunkers have been objected to in India on account of heat &c, but this

one has never been complained of, and has now been in occupation for many years.

The Board therefore recommend, on the score of economy, expediency, and uniformity, that another Bomb proof Bunker, to hold 60 men, similar to that shown in Plan II which is for 50 men, should be erected in place of the East end Bunker collapsed. But if Government object to this it will then be necessary to reconstruct the Bomb proof Bunker with a single storied, beamed roof Bunker, and to build another similar single storied Bunker, each to hold 60 men.

With regard to new buildings, the Board wish to estimate marked A.B. in the event of the improvements suggested being carried out, there will be excellent sites upon which to erect the new buildings, and these Bunkers will then be in quite as good a condition as the new upper storied Field Artillery Bunkers to the westward on the same line of frontage.

McGoughland R.A.
President

H. Greenfield
Sergeant Major
A.M.D.

T. P. Singh

Members

W. P. Stewart
Brigadier General
Commanding, Central District
6/9/80.

Barracks & Buildings.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,

H. D. Co. Tacamand

21st October 1880.

P.W.D.

2900780

N^o.

No. 1423.

From

BRIGADIER-GENERAL H. O'CONNELL,

Quartermaster-General,

To

The Secretary to Government.

Public Works Department.

SIR,

With reference to your Lt. Col. dated the 2nd day, I have the honor, by order, to inform you that the Proceedings of the Committee on the Artillery Barracks at Saint Thomas's Mount, were forwarded to the Secretary to Government, Military Department on the 4th October 1880 at 1296. I have forwarded your Memo to him and requested that the Proceedings may be transmitted to you.

Letter Lt. Col. 333 dated 15th Instant from the Superintending Engineer D. P. P. is herewith returned.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

H. O'Connell Brig. General.

Quartermaster-General.

St. 203385
6 Oct 1880.
L. O. P. 1213

P.W.D.
29 OCT 80

Quoted 21st }
Dec }
C.A.W.

No 4420

Inform that the Power
of Committee on Research
at the present time is
to the King's Court collecting
on the 24 Oct 1980.

Off. of
The Secretary to Government
P.M. Department

1880

247/10/80

22/10

1st
2nd
3rd
4th
5th
6th
7th
8th
9th
10th
11th
12th

Ch. Sheet 58.62

C.A.W.

His Grace says
he has not
yet seen this
Report but will
look in it.

Send reminder
in 2 days time
if it does not in
the meanwhile
come to hand
along with the
will's seed again
before doing so if
the paper is in
His Grace!

22/10/80 P.H.

recommended.

N^o 333

Supy Engr^s Office 2^d Circle
Coimbatore, 16 October 1880.

From,

The Supy Engineer

2^d Circle - Coimbatore

To,

The Chief Engineer

D.P. Works - Madras.

Sir,

With reference to Memo:
N^o 539 dated 14th October 1880 directing
the preparation of regular estimates
and plans necessary to carry out the
recommendation of the Committee so
assembled to report on the Artillery
Barracks at St. Thomas Mount.
I have the honor to request that
either the proceedings of the Committee
may be sent to me without delay
or that I may be informed what
the recommendations are so that
the plans and estimates may be
put in hand, at present I do not
know what works have been
recommended.

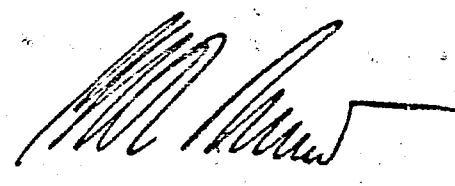
A. L. Engr^s Office

recommended.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obt. servant,

 Major R.R.
Sigsbee 2^d Cirale.

Min No 1603 wdy 7 July/80

From,

The Supply Engineer,
Suez Canal.

P.W.D.

190380

No.

6600

Dated 16th
Sept. 18th } October/80.

No. 333

Artillery Barracks
at St. Thos. Momb.

Requesting that
the proceedings of the
Committee assembled
to report on the —
may be sent in view
to the preparation of
the necessary plans &
estimates.

0.19.10.80

6871

Genl. of 1879, Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

27th Oct. 80 247800.

Recd 1154 6/15/80

Barracks at St. John's
Mint lately occupied
by the O'Connell 1st Regt
Royal Artillery.

The S. G. II Circle directed
to prepare ^{without delay} regular
estimates for the
reconstruction of the