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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

JWD. DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2944	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	25 11	1884 198

1881

Not to be folded or roughly handled.

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2944
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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

25th November 1881, No. 2944 W.

Buildings and Roads.
Civil Works.

Read the following paper :—

No. 112. From R. F. CHISHOLM, Esq., Honorary Secretary, Madras Fine Arts Society, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Public Department, dated Madras, 11th November 1881.

Your demi-official, dated the 14th July, was handed to me by Captain Simpson on my return to India. I deferred replying to it until I could lay before you a definite scheme for encouraging the fine and industrial arts of this Presidency.

2. When Colonel Kerrieh was Honorary Secretary to the Fine Arts Society, I drafted the enclosed circular, which speaks for itself. After a small number of these papers had been circulated, the prospect appeared so discouraging that it was deemed advisable to abandon the attempt to form a public gallery by private subscriptions.

3. As I believe it to be the intention of Government to gradually remodel the School of Arts into a public institution worthy of the Presidency town, it has occurred to me that a scheme involving less expenditure than that referred to in the printed circular, and at the same time furthering this undertaking, might also secure to the Fine Arts Society the much-desired exhibition room. I have therefore drawn out a plan for converting the present girls' school into a convenient picture gallery at a cost of about Rs. 7,000. If the Government would be pleased to view this proposal favorably, they could, by adding materially to the value of their own property, confer a great boon on the public generally and the Fine Arts Society in particular.

4. With such a room free of charge and a grant, say Rs. 1,500, for the first year, the Society could purchase the best exhibits and carry forward a balance to meet the expenses of the following year. By this means a valuable collection could be formed without further aid from Government.

5. I may call to mind that Madras is the only Presidency town where exhibitions have been held unaided by Government and at the risk of a private society.

No. 113. ORDER THEREON, 25th November 1881, No. 2944 W.

THE Right Honorable the Governor in Council considers that the proposal to spend Rs. 7,000 in converting part of the School of Arts buildings into a gallery for pictures is deserving of all support.

2. The copies of the works of old masters, which are now placed in the School of Arts under every possible disadvantage, were obtained for the school at considerable cost, and in some cases by very special and unusual efforts, and they ought, in the opinion of Government, to be suitably lodged. The need for accommodation for periodically recurring Exhibitions of Fine and Industrial Arts is much felt, and to supply it would very materially promote the objects for which the school was instituted and is maintained by Government.

3. The Consulting Architect to Government will therefore be requested to submit a regular estimate for the proposed work, on receipt of which the necessary funds will be allotted.

4. The application for a grant of Rs. 1,500 for the first exhibition held in the new building, as the nucleus of a fund to buy approved exhibits, should be renewed when the time arrives, Government being addressed on the subject in the Public Department.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Honorary Secretary, Madras Fine Arts Society.
„ Consulting Architect to Government, with Plan.
„ Public Department, with File.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

Spare Copies

2944.
2

2

BUILDINGS AND ROADS
CIVIL WORKS.

Govt. of (1881) Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE HONORARY SECRETARY,
MADRAS FINE ARTS SOCIETY,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated November, 26th.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 25th November 1881, No. 2944 W.

NOVEMBER.

Nos. 112-113.

School of Arts Buildings. — Passing orders
regarding the conversion of a portion of the
— into a picture gallery.

To Wm W Halliwell

Fort St. George
18 November 81

My dear Lankey, 29/11/81

You may like to
take up the matters to which
the accompanying papers
relate. The correspondence
has hitherto been of a
non-official character.
The Financial Department
will, I think, have no
difficulty whatever in
providing

Wm W Halliwell

providing funds to the
amount stated by
Christholm.

Yours sincerely
A. Sandson

To Colonel R. H. Sandkey C.B., R.E.

I think the proposal
to spend £7000 in
converting part of our
School of Art & Design
into a gallery for pictures
is deserving of all
support.

The copies of the
works of Old Masters
now placed
in the School under
very possible dis-
advantage have
obtained for the
School a considerable
cost. The same
cases by very

R.C. 22.11.

Jan 19-11-81. R.C. 22.11.81

To Hon W. Huddleston

For orders ²⁹⁴⁴

Your proposal for
Mr. Christholm to
build a room to answer
as a permanent picture
gallery, and serve the
purpose of an Exhibition
room for the Fine Arts
Society occasionally
seems in every way deserving
of the support of Government.

The copies of pictures
in the old masters which
were purchased I believe with
much trouble by Dr.
Hunt, and others purchased
not only since from savings
in the Fine Arts Exhibition
funds but are now in
a small ill lighted
room which is anything
but a credit to the nation.

The correspondence
which has taken place
with the Dramatic

Society and which
was to be repeated
each time the Fine
Arts Society propose
to hold an exhibition
shows sufficiently
clearly that the
demands of such
in the College hall
are insurmountable
and must in the
nature of things
lead to perpetually
recurring discussion.

With the public
objection explained
by Mr. Chisholm
and in view to closing
a very undesirable
controversy I would
use most strongly
to support the present
proposal.

Though not large
the hall would I
should say judging

special financial
opportunities. &
they ought to be suitably
looked. The need for
accommodation for
periodically recurring
exhibitions of Fine Arts
& Industrial is
much felt. & I strongly
it is by materially
favouring the object
for which the School was
instituted & is mainly
of Govt. Govt. sanction
Mr. C. proposes to
allot Rs. 2000 for
the B.S. The amount
for Rs. 1500 for
the first year & Rs. 500
in it as the nucleus
of a fund & by

approval of the
be approved but the
application should be renewed
when the time comes.
Propose a regular
estimate for the B.S.
to be required

LK

24/11/87

I am under the impression
that this movement
originated with the
late Mr. W. Adams as
Govt of Madras.

I am for the Exhibition
meet the requirements
of the Fine Arts Society
throughout the year a
display of Industrial
Art which letters
however could if need
to be exhibited at
the same time be relegated
to another part of
the present buildings.

29/11/87

19.11.87

3

11th November 1887

P.D.

CURRENT NO.

2944

My dear Sir,

Your D.O. dated the 14th

Correspondence
with object
indicated —

July was handed to me by Captain
Simpson on my return to India. I
deferred replying to it until I could
lay before you a definite scheme
for encouraging the fine and industri-
al arts of this Presidency.

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Honorary Secretary to the Fine Arts
Society I drafted the enclosed cir-
cular which speaks for itself. After
a small number of these papers had
been circulated the prospect appear-
ed so discouraging that it was deemed
advisable to abandon the attempt
to form a public gallery by private
X subscriptions

S

Subscriptions.

PNRC
As I believe it to be the
intention of Government to gradually
remodel the School of Arts into a
public Institution worthy of the Presi-
dency Town it has occurred to me
that a scheme involving less expen-
diture than that referred to in the
printed circular and at the same
time furthering this undertaking
might also secure to the Fine Arts
Society the much desired exhibition
room. I have therefore drawn out a
plan for ^{converting} constructing the present
Girls School into a convenient pic-
ture gallery at a cost of about
7000/. If the Government would
be pleased to view this proposal
favorably

3
favorably they could by adding
materially to the value of their own
property confer a great boon on
the Public generally and the Fine
Arts Society in particular.

With such a room free of
charge and a grant say ^{2000/} 1500/
for the first year. The Society
could purchase the best Exhibits
and carry forward a balance to
meet the expenses of the following
year. By this means a valuable
collection could be formed without
further aid from Government.

I may call to mind
that Madras is the only Presidency
Town where exhibitions have
been

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and at the risk of a private
Society?

From the full

Winkler
Hon & S.

Mon. & Tues. @
Fine Arts Society

2444
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4.6.17-10.1.91. Public
n 1882-24-12-90. do.

MSDP

Public (1881) DEPARTMENT.
(Private)

From

R. F. Chisholm Esq
Hon Secy, Fine
Arts Society.
No.

Dated 11th
Recd. 12th } November 1881

Recd. 25th

Encl 2 with
file of D. R. Com-
pendium

SUBJECT.

Proposes to convert the
present Girls' school into a
picture gallery.

N.C. 22.11.

At 19/11-1881 N.C. 22.11.

No 2944 W 4

B. H. L. works

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 25th Nov/81

Read the following:—

From the Hon. Secretary
Madras Fine Arts Society

24th
D/11- November 1881.

The Rt. Hon. the
Governor in Council
Considers that the
proposal to spend Rs
7000 in converting part
of the School of Arts
buildings into a gallery
for Pictures is deserving
of all support.

2. The copies of the
works of old masters
which are now placed
in the School of Arts
under every possible
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9 and

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The need for accommoda-
tion for periodically
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of Fine & Industrial
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to supply it would very
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the objects for which
the school was instituted
and is maintained by
Government.

3. The Consulting
Architect to Govt. will
therefore be requested
to submit a regular
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posed work, on receipt
of which the necessary
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for a grant of Rs 1,000
for the first Exhibit
held in the new building
as the nucleus of a
fund to buy appro-
priate exhibits, should be
renewed when the
time arrives, for then
addressed on the
subject in the Public
Department.

Cy

20/11/81
P.H.

22/11/81

To The Hon'ble Secy, Madras

Fine Arts Society ✓

" Consy. Architect to Govt. with plan -

" Public Dept
with file ✓

Recd 9-12-81

The Hon. S. J. Carmichael
The Rt. Hon. the Governor

Print room

B. C. Carter

Noted

At 7/10 7/12

2944
11

11

5919.

Govt. of (1881) Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To 

Dated

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 25th Nov. 1881, No. 294410.

Nos.

Report of Mr. L. Hamilton
Passing orders regarding
the conversion of a portion
of the — into a Public
Gallery.

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2570

Encl. in Receipt Book