

No 1253 Way 27th April 83.

Gobt. of {1883} Madras.

JUDICIAL.

Communicated to
the Sup^y Engineer, Fort
Cochin, who will submit
with the least possible
delay a report on the
present condition of
the Court-house at
Calicut & ac. Estimate
of the cost of such repairs
as may be necessary to
place it in a state of
security pending the
construction of the new
Court-house sanctioned
in G. O. No 1001 W of 31st March
1883-

Issued

Recd. 26/4/83

Encl.

G.O., 18th April 1883, No. 1048.

No 1253 Way 27-4-83

APRIL.

District Courts.

Passing orders on letters from the High Court requesting that the security of the Court-house at Calicut be at once tested by the Department of Public Works, and suggesting that the appointment of Additional Sub-Judge for the Malabar Division be held in abeyance for the present.

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J. P. Borden
Suppl. in Manuscript Ray

18TH APRIL 1883, No. 1048, JUDICIAL.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

From T. WEIR, Esq., Registrar of the High Court of Judicature at Madras, Appellate Side, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 6th April 1883, No. 1100.

ABSTRACT.—Requesting, with reference to the sanction accorded to the establishment of a temporary Subordinate Court in South Canara, that the usual permanent advance of Rs. 100 may be placed at the disposal of the Subordinate Judge to be drawn from the Treasury at Calicut.

From T. WEIR, Esq., Registrar of the High Court of Judicature at Madras, Appellate Side, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 14th April 1883, No. 1405.

I am directed to forward, for the early orders of Government, a letter addressed to the High Court by F. H. Wilkinson, Esq., District Judge of South Malabar, dated 2nd April 1883, No. 179.

2. The questions raised in Mr. Wilkinson's letter are two, viz. :—

1st.—The security of the present Court-house at Calicut and its capability of accommodating the additional Subordinate Court, recently sanctioned by the Secretary of State (G.O., 12th February, No. 376, Judicial).

2nd.—Whether it is desirable to abstain at present from taking advantage of the sanction to the entertainment of the Additional Subordinate Judge.

3. As regards the building now used as a Court-house, the High Court is of opinion that the District Judge has shown good reasons for requesting that its security be at once tested by an officer of the Department of Public Works, and such steps taken as may be found necessary.

4. If repairs be found necessary and possible, the High Court suggest that advantage be taken of the present adjournment of the Court to carry them out.

5. It is not probable that the new buildings, the plans of which have been approved of in the G.O., 29th March 1883, No. 888 (Miscellaneous), can be completed (even if funds are provided) before two or more years, and meantime the existing Court-house or some other building must continue to be used.

6. The High Court would leave it to Government to decide to what extent the owner of the Court buildings is to be compensated for any outlay that may be entailed by the repairs.

7. If compensation is to be made, it might be in the shape either of an increased rent or of a partial payment of the expenditure on repairs.

8. As regards the second question, viz., deferring the appointment of the Additional Subordinate Judge, the High Court proposes that Mr. Wilkinson should have the opportunity of observing whether he can for the present and without serious inconvenience to the public dispense with the services of an Additional Subordinate Judge.

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Govt. of (1883) Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated March, 31st.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 31st March 1883, No. 1001 W.

MARCH.

Nos. 224-225.

District, Sub-Judge's and District Munsif's Court

Plans and estimate for constructing a —
at Calicut, in the Coimbatore Division,
sanctioned.

9. As the state of the buildings at Calicut appears to be critical, and as it is necessary that whatever may have to be done in the matter of repairs should be done during the vacation, I am to request that early orders may be passed and communicated to the District Engineer at Calicut.

ENCLOSURE.

From F. H. WILKINSON, Esq., District Judge of South Malabar, to the Registrar of the High Court of Judicature at Madras, Appellate Side, dated Calicut, 2nd April 1883, No. 179.

I have the honor to draw the attention of the Honorable the Chief Justice and the Judges of the High Court to the present accommodation of the District and Sub Courts at this station. This is especially necessary, as it is now proposed to locate an additional Sub-Court at this station, and, so far as I can at present ascertain, the only place in which the Sub-Judge and his establishment can be accommodated is in some portion of the present Court-house.

2. As the High Court will see from the enclosed letter, the building has been, condemned as unsafe by the Department of Public Works. The Sub-Judge has to hold his Court in his private room, and the portion of the building in which the District and Sessions Court is held is considered so unsafe that the District Engineer in 1875 recommended that its use should be discontinued.

3. I have now to provide accommodation for an additional Sub-Court and for the Copyists under the new arrangement; and to locate them in this tumble-down building will probably facilitate its fall.

4. Mr. Overbury, in his letter of the 14th March, stated that he had made arrangements with the owner of the building to repair and extend the present building so as to provide a Court-house for the new Sub-Judge.

5. I find that Mr. Overbury proposed to take over from the Vakils a small tumble-down building at present used by them, to have the walls raised, a new roof put on, and a new room built. But he appears not to have considered whether the foundations of the building will bear the additional weight of the walls and roof. A professional opinion on this point is advisable before anything is done.

6. There is no part of the present building available either for the Court or Office accommodation of the new Sub-Judge nor for the Copyists' establishment, and before it continues to be used by my Court and the present Sub-Court, I would suggest that the Department of Public Works be called upon to report as to its security. Both during the Sessions and on the Small Cause Court days crowds attend the Court and render the stability of the building still more precarious.

7. It is, of course, possible to call upon the owner to put the present building in a safe state, but an estimate, if short course is adopted, should be at once prepared by the Department of Public Works, and the owner can then be asked to carry out the alterations and improvements suggested in that estimate.

8. If the Vakils' shed is capable of improvement as suggested by Mr. Overbury, I would locate the copying establishment therein, and, as no accommodation is available for the new Sub-Judge, postpone his appointment till such can be found.

9. One difficulty in getting the owner of the present building to execute any repairs or improvements is that he is aware that the erection of a new Court-house is contemplated, and he is, therefore, afraid of going to great expense in rendering the present building secure and then finding himself without a tenant.

10. I trust that early steps may be taken in the above matter.

ORDER—dated 18th April 1883, No. 1048, Judicial.

The second of the foregoing letters will be referred to the Public Works Department, in view to the issue of early orders for the inspection of the Court-house at Calicut and the submission of an estimate for the necessary repairs.

2. Referring to the Honorable Judges' suggestion as to deferring the appointment of the Additional Subordinate Judge, the Right Honorable the Governor in

Council observes that no steps have been, or are intended to be, taken towards establishing a temporary Subordinate Court with reference to the sanction already given by the Secretary of State, so long as the High Court continue of the opinion expressed in their letter, dated 31st August last, No. 1930, that the appointment should remain for the present in abeyance.

(True Extract.)

M. Munnick
for Chief Secretary.

To the Honorable the Judges of the High Court, with C.L.
Public Works Department.

Exd. A. F. Aaron.

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Govt. of {1883} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated March, 31st.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 31st March 1883, No. 1001 W.

MARCH.

Nos. 224-225.

**District, Sub-Judge's and Dis-
trict Munsif's Court**

*Plans and estimate for constructing a —
at Calicut, in the Coimbatore Division,
sanctioned.*

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Buildings and Roads.
Civil Works.

No. 224.

READ—the following papers:—

No. 359.

Report on Plans and Estimates for new District, Sub-Judge, and Munsif Courts with out-building at Calicut.

These plans and estimates were called for in G.O., No. 1670 W., dated 6th July 1881. With this office endorsement,

- 1 Site plan.
- 1 Plan of lower floor.
- 1 do. upper do.
- 1 do. out-houses.
- 1 Detailed estimate.
- 1 Abstract do.
- 1 Specification.

No. 342, dated 6th August 1881, a block plan and sections of the proposed buildings were submitted to the Chief Engineer, who, in his memorandum, No. 1976, dated 23rd August, while accepting the general arrangement proposed, considered that the architectural appearance of the

building might be improved, and forwarded it to the Consulting Architect with a request that he would prepare a new design, and ordering him to bear in mind that great protection from rain was necessary at Calicut.

2. A revised plan was forwarded in November 1881, but the orders of Government in G.O., No. 1771, dated 27th August (ordering one record-room in place of three as arranged at the desire of the Judge), had not been attended to, so the plans had to be returned for correction, and it was not again received until December.

3. In January the site was inspected by the Chief Engineer, and he considered (as already recommended by the Superintending Engineer) that it was absolutely necessary that a small piece of ground, which is private property, at the south-west corner of the site, should be acquired; there was much delay in obtaining from the Collector the estimated cost of this, and it was not until the end of June that this was reported, the cost to be Rs. 3,999-13-6, a very large amount, but it is considered advisable for it to be purchased, and it has been allowed for in the estimate.

4. The plans and estimates now forwarded have been prepared by Major Fraser, who was Acting Architect and afterwards the Executive Engineer of the West Coast Division; it has been thought right to alter many of the scantlings of the woodwork and make other corrections, the chief one being the use of teakwood for all beams, trusses, purlins, ridge pieces, bressummers, and hip rafters.

5. The original estimate allowed only country wood to be used; it is proposed to make use of country wood only for the joists, common rafters, &c.; the extra cost of this is about Rs. 3,000, and it is thought very advisable that this charge should be made. The country wood available in the West Coast is very uncertain. The amount of the estimate as revised is Rs. 1,11,760, and for this a new abstract estimate has been prepared and is forwarded.

6. Modifications are proposed in the position of the subsidiary buildings as shown in blue on the site plan.

7. The position of the main building has been fixed by the Executive Engineer in communication with the Collector, who objects to more of the municipal land (a large open space) being taken up than absolutely necessary; but the undersigned

would urge that the building should be placed 50 feet further forward; he considers its proposed position as much too cramped, and can see no serious objection to more of the municipal land being taken up.

8. With regard to the designs, they are the same as those originally forwarded by the Superintending Engineer, except that the roof has been altered and the sizes of the lower openings much increased, and same details have been sketched in; for these details, however, the Consulting Architect will have to be asked to give working drawings. He considers that sufficient protection from driving rain has not been given, and that the upstairs verandah will be found hereafter to require additional protection, and that, owing to the want of a heavy cornice, the lower walls will be very damp.

9. The estimate allows for plastering the whole building outside; this he considers not necessary for a laterite building; the basement only should be plastered and the walls protected by a projecting cornice (supported, the verandah joists being carried, say, 2 feet beyond the walls as is a common construction in the West Coast).

10. Another point to be noticed is that the openings in the lower stories are to be all glassed doors with fan-lights; many of them 7½ feet wide. This is most certainly a serious error; all the openings in the outer wall of the enclosed verandah should be glassed windows with wooden bars (the property-room being iron bars), and the others should be half-panel half-glass doors, and it is thought the breadths of the openings might be with advantage made smaller.

11. In the upper story all openings should be doors half-panel and half-glass.

12. As directed, the estimate, with the plans, is forwarded, but the Superintending Engineer cannot recommend the design, which he considers requires much alteration, and he would suggest that now Mr. Chisholm, the Government Architect, has returned, that it be sent to him for revision.

COIMBATORE, (Signed) H. R. MEAD, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
24th August 1882. Superintending Engineer, Fourth Circle.
To the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department.

No. 1668 C.

Forwarded to the Consulting Architect to Government, with request that he will furnish the working drawings referred to in paragraph 8 of the Superintending Engineer's report and revise the design as suggested.

(By Order,)

(Signed) ROSS THOMPSON, Lieut.-Col., R.E.,
15th September 1882. Ag. Dy. Chief Engineer, P.W.D.

No. 224-A.

From R. F. CHISHOLM, Esq., Consulting Architect to Government, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Chepauk, 27th January 1883, No. 919 A.

I have the honor to submit, herewith, the revised plans and estimate called for in G.O., No. 1668 C., of the 15th September 1882.

- 1 Site plan.
- 1 Plan lower floor.
- 1 do. upper do.
- 1 do. out-houses.
- 1 Detailed estimate.
- 1 Report and specification.
- 1 Abstract estimate.
- 1 Tracing revised elevations.
- 1 Detailed estimate, revised.
- 1 Abstract do.
- 1 do. do. duplicate.

2. In revising these drawings I have made no alterations whatever in the plan, although one or two points seem to me objectionable; I presume they have been discussed and settled with the local authorities.

3. I have altered the slope of the roof from 30° to 43°. I do not think any

form of tile on the West Coast will be thoroughly water-tight at a less angle, and I have found by practical experience that a lower pitch retains a great deal of moisture, though practically water-tight. This adoption of a high pitch on a building nearly 50 feet broad necessarily raises the ridge to an abnormal height, and this result is further increased by the projection of the roof beyond the walls for their due protection from heat and wet. In determining the exact height of the roof at the eaves I have accepted a vertical height of 3½ feet from the floor as affording the maximum of breeze and shade combined, while horizontally nearly the whole space is open and free from walling. In this way I have attempted to secure at once and by permanent means the most approved conditions of light and ventilation, conditions now secured by mats and other unseemly temporary contrivances. This lowering of the eaves necessarily renders the interior very dark; to obviate this, I have provided a sufficiency of dormers, which will at all times secure a cheerful interior.

4. The general appearance externally will harmonize with the older religious structures so numerous on this coast. The roof may be covered by the Mangalore Mission tiles, but I would strongly recommend the small clip tile indigenous to the country. It is in my opinion more substantial, cooler, and when properly laid at this angle as perfectly water-tight.

5. The details show clearly the kind of work to be executed.

6. I observe the original specification makes the walls laterite. An official of high standing long resident on this coast informs me that laterite is not a safe material near the ground. I have therefore specified that the first 4 feet over the ground shall be built in brick and mortar.

No. 338 C.

Submitted for the approval of Government in the Judicial Department with reference to the undermentioned Orders in that Department:—

No. 1247, dated 25th June 1881.
" 1771 " 27th Aug. "
" 2068, Mis., dated 6th Dec. 1882.

(By Order,)

(Signed) J. PENNYCUICK,
Deputy Chief Engineer and
Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

2nd February 1883.

No. 224-B.

G.O., dated 29th March 1883, Mis. No. 888, Judicial.

Read—the following letter from the Registrar, High Court, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Madras, 15th March 1883, No. 802:—

With reference to your letter, dated 8th February 1883, No. 288, Judicial, I am directed to state that the High Court approves of the plans and estimates for the construction of Law Courts at Calicut, South Malabar.

I return herewith the plans, estimates, and other original papers.

Order—dated 29th March 1883, Mis. No. 888, Judicial.

Communicated to the Public Works Department, with reference to endorsement in that department, dated 2nd February 1883, No. 338 C.

The question of funds should be very early considered.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) M. HAMMICK,
Acting Assistant Secretary.

No. 225.

ORDER—dated 31st March 1883, No. 1001 W., Public Works.

The plans and estimate, amounting to Rs. 1,11,141,* for constructing a District, Sub-Judge's and District Munsif's Court at Calicut, in the Coimbatore Division, are sanctioned.

* As revised by the Consulting Architect to Government.

2. A sum of Rs. 50,000 has been provided for the work in the Provincial Budget for 1883-84, and the Superintending Engineer will see that it is commenced without any unnecessary delay, and vigorously prosecuted.

3. This sanction has been registered as Provincial No. 281 W. of 1882-83 and classified as Civil Buildings, Original Works.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintending Engineer, Fourth Circle, with eleven Enclosures.

„ Examiner, Public Works Accounts.
„ Consulting Architect to Government.
„ Judicial Department.

Exd. C. Howarth.
Spare Copies