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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

P.W. DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. B.P. No.	2055 W	Press. Mis.
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4th September 1885, No. 2055 W., Public Works.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Buildings and Roads.
Civil Works.

D—the following papers :—

From R. F. CHISHOLM, Esq., Consulting Architect to Government, on special duty, to the Chief Engineer, Roads and Buildings, dated Chepâk, 16th April 1885, No. 2.

I have now the honor to lay before you the third and last estimate which I propose ubmit in connection with the restoration and occupation by public officers of mal Naick's palace at Madura.

List of drawings.

1. East and south elevation, Tirumal Naick's palace.
2. General plan showing the works proposed by the committee for the collectorate.
3. Plan of coach-houses, stables and latrines.
4. Elevation of the method proposed for closing the openings.
5. Steps for record-room.
6. Plan for additional record-racks required by the Collector.
7. Details of entrance gate.
8. Drawings of wells.
9. Cross-sections.
10. {Detail estimate and general abstract.
    {Duplicate abstract estimate.

2. As the work has now been in progress for many years, it will be advisable to ice my remarks with a slight historical sketch of the restorations.

3. The old palace of Tirumal Naick is not a great architectural work; neither the of the architecture nor the materials of which it is composed compare favorably the grand civic works of Rajputana and Upper India. It is, however, the st and most perfect palatial work existing south of a line drawn across the map ndia from Bombay to Calcutta.

4. The architecture is in that debased style which arose immediately after the Muhammadan conquests, chiefly remarkable for its picturesqueness and exuberant in the details. Tirumal Naick's palace is probably the most brilliant of those st incoherent flickers which mark the expiring art of architecture among the hern Hindus; at the same time the vast extent of the building, its massive ortions and boldness of conception place it much higher in the scale of architec- remains than a critical examination of its technical qualities demands. It is necessary to keep these facts in view, for an over-estimation of the remains from tistic stand-point might lead to a misapplication of public funds.

5. As the work progressed and created great public interest, it was almost sible to confine the restorative works strictly within utilitarian limits; indeed, at ime when Captain Cole, R.E., visited this presidency, it narrowly escaped passing

into the category of valuable archæological remains. Had it done so, an extremely costly, and in my opinion wholly unjustifiable, restoration might have been the result.

6. The Government of Lord Napier and Ettrick did not commence this costly work until satisfied that the structure, when complete, could be utilized as public offices, and utilized in such a way that its interest as a restored work would remain undiminished. This last condition unfortunately introduces variable elements, about which no two men will agree. The questions which arise therefrom are—the extent to which additions may be made without diminishing the architectural interest of the building, and again the extent to which such additions are essential for the comfort and convenience of those holding office therein.

7. As this point must be settled before any further steps are taken, I will revert to it again. The idea of utilizing the palace, by converting it into public offices, was not a new one; at the time Lord Napier and Ettrick visited the palace in 1868, the Judge held court under the great dome, and before the west end of the present Judge's court fell in 1838, other offices were located in the palace; unsatisfactory rumours of the critical condition of the building were afloat, and the Government had to face the question of rendering the palace safe or abandoning it and constructing a suitable cutcherry for the Judge elsewhere.

8. After the usual preliminary proceedings, the most dangerous part of the building was successfully restored as a tentative measure, and subsequently the whole work was commenced.

9. The expenditure has been as follows:—

	RS.
During 1870-71 ...	10,000
Do. 1871-72 ...	10,000
Do. 1872-73 ...	13,262
Do. 1873-74 ...	14,162
Do. 1874-75 ...	10,681
Do. 1875-76 ...	2,708
Do. 1876-77 ...	2,874
Do. 1877-78 ...	4,894
Do. 1878-79 ...	14,937
Do. 1879-80 ...	15,056
Do. 1880-81 ...	29,149
Do. 1881-82 ...	24,991
Do. 1882-83 ...	49,944
Do. 1883-84 ...	30,001
Do. 1884-85 ...	17,576
Total ...	2,50,235

10. In return for this expenditure the Government have restored the structure and provided the following accommodation:—

	Superficial area of feet.
1. North-west court occupied by Judge ...	8,556
2. South-west court ...	1,666
3. Treasury ...	880
4. Treasury guard ...	546
5. Record-room ...	2,160
6. Municipal offices ...	2,200
7. Covered area which cannot be utilized for any purpose ...	43,051
Total, superficial feet of area reclaimed ...	59,059

11. All the works contemplated to be executed by Lord Napier's Government were practically finished before I left India in April 1883, and the Judge was holding court in the great chamber on the north-west. The building had been bound with iron ties, windows had been opened in the external walls, the west end of the Judge's court and the south portion of the southern court as well as other portions which have fallen had been reconstructed, and the reclaimed portions had been divided by dwarf walls between the columns.

12. Before leaving India I met the Collector and ascertained from him what additional work he required. The result of this interview formed the subject of my letter, No. 149 F., dated 15th July 1882.

13. During my absence on furlough, the Government appointed a committee to meet and consider the question of locating the various offices in the palace.

14. This committee made proposals which have received the approval of Government; and the estimates which I now submit are, so far as Tirumal Naick's palace is concerned, in strict accordance with the committee's proposals, with one exception to be noted further on.

15. I feel it my duty, however, to call the attention of Government to the fact that, while the existing Collector's cutcherry contains only 16,000 superficial feet, the quantity allotted in the palace is upwards of 23,000 feet. I would deal with this matter at greater length and submit counter-proposals for the consideration of Government, were it not that the concluding paragraph of the committee's report would seem to challenge the utility of the whole scheme. "This committee believe that if the present proposals are accepted, Madura will be provided properly with tolerable offices. The arrangement of the building will not allow good ones being made, and the nuisance of bats, birds and noise will always be great; but the first will be much mitigated if, as proposed by Colonel Sankey, more light is thrown into the buildings." If I understand the matter rightly, the committee mean to say that something more than what they propose must be done to make the building even "tolerable;" at the same time they omit to say what that something is, neither do they apparently provide for its cost in their estimates.

16. It may safely be concluded that there is no difficulty whatever in converting the space reclaimed into good offices, and securing well-lighted and well-ventilated rooms free from bats and reverberation; and with a view to render the scheme now submitted as complete as possible, I have provided in this estimate for the cost of the additions necessary to secure these conditions; but the attainments of this object opens two questions which claim consideration. First, to what extent will the additions mar the structure architecturally and deprive it of historical interest; and, secondly, what would their cost be as compared with the construction of new and suitable buildings elsewhere.

17. As I have before explained, Lord Napier's Government considered that the division of the space by the erection of dwarf walls between the columns the only additions necessary; experience has proved this conclusion to be wrong. I have considered the question carefully on the spot in consultation with local officers; I am of opinion that, in order to make these offices convenient and suitable, the dwarf walls must be carried right up to the intrados of the arches; and, in addition to this, the rooms so formed must be lighted and ventilated from above. One or two officers who have actually occupied these side-rooms have been compelled to close the openings above the dwarf walls with mats and colored cloths, and to adopt various expedients for regulating the light.

18. It is hardly necessary to point out that additions, such as I allude to, will alter the internal character very materially and lessen the grandeur of the large astylar halls on either side of the courtyard. At the same time, the permanent additions will be less prejudicial to artistic effect generally than the temporary expedients and makeshifts certain to be adopted by officers themselves.

19. Another point claims consideration. There is a feeling which will doubtless be understood by the members of His Excellency's Council (shared more or less by all the Collectors who have held charge of Madura) against the executive body occupying the same building with the judicial body; and I am bound to say this feeling grows stronger as the time of exodus approaches.

20. The estimates already sanctioned will finish completely the Judge's cutcherry and the restoration of the whole structure. If the Government decide that the scheme of the committee is to be carried out, the estimate I now submit provides all that is necessary, so far as Tirumal Naick's palace is concerned; and in addition it removes the objections raised in the concluding paragraph of the committee's report; that is to say,

for the sum of Rs. 82,000 the Collector and his court can be removed into the palace and the existing building left free. On the other hand, I am bound to admit that this sum of money will go far towards enlarging the existing cutcherry and giving the Collector all he wants exactly where he wants it.

21. These being the facts and circumstances, it appears to me that we have arrived at a stage in the proceedings when the original problem should be reconsidered under its altered conditions. The building is practically restored, and it would seem to me ill-advised to mar it at a cost of Rs. 82,000, merely for the sake of adhering to the original programme.

The reclaimed space, as it now exists, can be devoted to many useful purposes without further additions.

22. In paragraph 14 I mentioned that I had omitted from my estimate one proposal made by the committee; it is that of opening windows in the existing record-room. I am of opinion that such openings would materially weaken this part of the structure. I should be happy to furnish my reasons for coming to this conclusion, if the Government should desire it.

23. To sum up, three courses appear to be open—

First.—His Excellency in Council may adhere to the original scheme and to the recommendation of the committee, and sanction the estimate now submitted of Rs. 82,320 for the location of the Collector in the palace.

Secondly.—His Excellency in Council may adhere to the original scheme and modify the allotment of space recommended by the committee, which appears to me to be excessive.

Thirdly.—His Excellency in Council may decline to sanction the estimate submitted and decide definitely that the restored palace is to be utilized for purposes other than the lodgment of the collectorate.

In the event of the third course finding favor, it will be necessary to cancel the committee's recommendations, in which case I would suggest respectfully that a new scheme should be drawn up by the Consulting Architect in consultation with the local officers.

From C. S. CROLE, Esq., Collector of Madura, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department (through the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle), dated Madura, 19th April 1885, No. 38.

I have the honor, as requested by the Consulting Architect, to submit his plans, estimates and report of the works necessary for the complete restoration of Tirumal Naick's palace at Madura and for its adaptation, in view to the accommodation of the executive offices.

2. I content myself with recording my entire concurrence in Mr. Chisholm's views. Artistically speaking, the palace is a poor place; architecturally, it is a curiosity and grand after its fashion. It is, however, quite unsuited for the location of the offices of the Collector and the allied departments, without the expenditure of a sum quite unbalanced by any advantage to be gained. The necessary alterations will also entirely destroy the character of the building in the process of its conversion, and thus frustrate the very object for which the restoration works were originally projected. Moreover, as Mr. Chisholm well remarks, there is an obvious incongruity in boxing up executive along with judicial offices, which may result in serious inconvenience, and must tend to change the current of business and cause great loss of time and the increase of expenditure on parties who will be compelled more and more to give employment to the needy crowd of vakils in matters, for the disposal of which the Madras revenue system provides personal contact with the officers of Government as a corner-stone.

3. I have the honor, therefore, strongly to recommend that the revenue offices be not moved into Tirumal Naick's palace.

From Lieutenant-Colonel H. R. MEAD, R.E., Superintending Engineer, VI Circle, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Kodaikánal, 2nd May 1885, No. 57 M.D.

I have the honor to forward to you Mr. Chisholm's letter, No. 2, dated 16th April, and the enclosures, forwarded to me by the Collector of Madura with his letter, No. 38, dated 19th April, addressed to you and sent through me.

2. It is with much surprise that I find Mr. Chisholm utterly condemns all the arrangements and work that have been accepted and carried out during the last five years by himself to make portions of the Madura palace fit for offices.

3. These arrangements consisted of dwarf walls with open iron work above them, dividing off the different portions into offices, and were sanctioned as stated by Mr. Chisholm by Lord Napier's Government; but this was done, I believe, on Mr. Chisholm's recommendation. They have been in existence all over the building for more than four years and portions in use as offices, and frequently inspected and approved of by Mr. Chisholm; so much so that on his recommendation Government ordered the Collector's office in 1882 to be moved into the palace. (Not done as it was found Mr. Chisholm's proposals were inadequate—see G.O., No. 2073 W., dated 22nd August 1884.)

4. Mr. Chisholm now proposes a new plan, namely, to raise dwarf walls to the intrados of the arches, and to light and ventilate the rooms from above by means of skylights; the cost of this is estimated at Rs. 33,088.

Whether this proposal, when carried out, would be successful or not, is to me very doubtful: my own impression is that it will make the offices but little, if at all, better than they are at present.

5. Mr. Chisholm considers that the space allowed for the different offices excessive, and objects strongly to the arrangement of them by the committee. He proposes that he should, with the local authorities, draw up a new scheme. I have to point out that Mr. Chisholm was ordered to do this years ago, and that it was in consequence of his failing to make satisfactory arrangements before he went on leave in April 1883 that the committee was appointed. On his return from furlough he was placed on special duty to prepare the necessary plans and estimates; and now in April, after five months, proposes for the whole arrangements, &c., to be changed, and in fact states his opinion that the palace ought not to be utilized as offices.

6. I feel that it is useless for me to do anything but to forward the plans and estimates to you, and request that orders of Government may be obtained on them and on Mr. Chisholm's different proposals, and I only trust that a complete and final decision may be arrived at.

From R. F. CHISHOLM, Esq., Consulting Architect to the Government of Madras, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Chepâk, 31st July 1885, No. 681.

I have the honor to supplement my report, dated the 15th April, with an expansion of the remarks particularized by you in your memorandum, No. 1285 C., dated the 27th instant.

2. The existing Collector's cutcherry at Madura is an old building which has been altered from time to time in a thoughtless and unscientific manner; but, after the most careful examination, I do not think the strength has been so materially weakened, but that the building may form the nucleus of a permanent useful structure. The basement consists of an old low-pillared hall, the floor of which is about 3 feet below the level of the existing floor; it has been rendered so dark by the additions of verandahs, that even on a bright day it is impossible to write in the centre.

3. Some rooms have been constructed on the top without either design or arrangement.

4. Without knowing in detail the wants of the Collector, I am unable to say exactly in what way I would remodel this structure, if Government desire it to be utilized;

but I can point out generally the work I would recommend to be undertaken. The whole floor of the basement to be lowered to its original level and repaired; a large opening to be made in the dome covered with frosted glass to light and ventilate the interior of the basement; a properly-arranged staircase to be constructed on the east side leading to the rooms above; on the upper story the existing building would have to be partly removed; the square above the dome would be a covered cortile with an open arcade round and a large skylight in the centre; around this would be grouped the necessary rooms with verandahs on the exterior. The basement would contain upwards of 4,000 superficial feet, and the upper floor will afford accommodation to the extent of about 3,700 superficial feet. The surrounding buildings would each have to be treated on its own merits.

5. The cost would in a great measure be determined by the actual wants of the Collector, but, so far as I myself understand the question, I think one quarter of a lakh of rupees would make the existing Collector's cutcherry a roomy, agreeable, and well-lighted structure. Unless I hear to the contrary, I will have plans of these proposals put in hand and in due course forward them to Government.

6. With regard to the second point, I think the reclaimed space at Tirumal Naick's palace might be given over to any public servant requiring an office, and who does not object to the reverberation inseparable from the present arrangements. The Post office, Telegraph office, Police office, Survey offices and a number of others might, I think, be located in the palace without entailing the necessity of constructing the screen walls, which are objectionable from an architectural point of view.

7. In regard to the last point, the weakening of the record-room by constructing windows, I have to observe that this is one of the most recently constructed halls of the palace—probably built some years after the wagon vault on the west side of the courtyard. The men who constructed it possessed little or no constructive skill, and were apparently unprepared for the thrust of the vault. After the centres were struck and the vault commenced to thrust the walls out to the north and west, a huge mass of material was piled up on the outside to the enormous thickness of 10 feet against the failing walls until all movement was stopped. Although I do not anticipate any immediate failure, I think it would be extremely injudicious to disturb this material by knocking openings through it, and I have little hesitation in saying that after a lapse of time weakness would manifest itself.

From Colonel H. R. MEAD, R.E., Superintending Engineer, VI Circle, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Trichinopoly, 7th August 1885, No. 255 M.D.

With reference to your memorandum, No. 1234 C., dated 27th July 1885, I have the honor to return Mr. Chisholm's estimate, and to report that it does not include all the items necessary to enable the Collector's office to be moved into Tirumal Naick's palace as laid down by the committee.

2. I forward a statement showing the items in Mr. Chisholm's estimate and their cost compared with the items and approximate estimate as proposed by the committee. It will be seen that Mr. Chisholm has left out the two following large and important items:—

(1) Enclosing the English and Vernacular record-rooms (see committee's report, paragraph 8).—The Consulting Architect has sent down to Madura a handsome, but most expensive iron railing for the vernacular record, which has been put up at the cost of Rs. 4,337, which has been paid and charged to the palace restoration as a temporary measure; but this will have to be sanctioned in the estimate for locating the Collector's office; and, besides, a similar or cheaper railing will have to be provided for the English record-room. The railing put up costs about Rs. 8 a square foot; if a similar railing is considered necessary for the English record-room, it will cost Rs. 17,024. I have, however, in the statement entered only Rs. 4,600, or at the rate of Rs. 2 per square foot.

(2) Land.—As you are aware, Rs. 12,380 has been paid for the land and compensation for houses removed adjoining the Muhammadan school where the outbuildings were to be built; this item has been left out by Mr. Chisholm. I have included it in the statement. At present, it is not absolutely necessary to take up more land; but hereafter if the committee's proposals are carried out, probably Rs. 50,000 more will be required. The committee's estimate for this item, founded on a report from the Collector, was a total of Rs. 35,000; the Collector now states it was under-estimated.

3. It is not necessary for me to comment on the two first items in Mr. Chisholm's estimate, namely—

	RS.
Raising dwarf walls, &c.	12,592
Skylights and ventilators	20,496

You have seen the room which has been done as an experiment; for my own part I do not think it is a success. The committee's proposals will be found in paragraph 7, and provision is made in the estimate for them.

4. Mr. Chisholm allows Rs. 21,754 for flooring with cut-stone, &c. This can be greatly reduced if a Portland cement concrete floor is laid over the present floors. A cut-stone curbing to the outer edge of the outer verandah would be a great improvement, but the cost would be great, and I consider that it is not necessary, nor is it necessary to have cut-stone mouldings to the bases of the pillars; all that is required can be done for about Rs. 6,000.

5. With regard to the outhouses. In paragraph 9 of the report, the committee recommended that these should not be built expensively, as ordinary tiled buildings would answer all purposes; and remarked that the palace has no architectural part on the north side where they are to be built. In the plans sent by Mr. Chisholm, the buildings are terraced and of an expensive design; the area is 6,533 square feet at a cost of Rs. 17,424, or about Rs. 2-10-0 a square foot. The approximate cost of these buildings entered in the statement by the committee was Rs. 10,370 for an area of 7,060 square feet, or at about Rs. 1-8-0 a square foot. I consider that Rs. 5,000 might be saved on these items.

6. The statement forwarded and the above remarks show that Mr. Chisholm's estimate, amounting to Rs. 82,320, is not complete. A sum of Rs. 21,317 at least has to be added for railings, &c., for record-rooms and for land, making a total of, say, Rs. 1,05,000. Should the views of the committee appointed in 1883 be accepted, the sum required to locate the revenue and other offices in Tirumal Naick's palace at Madura is Rs. 49,053 or, say, Rs. 50,000.

7. Separate estimates for completing the restoration and for the Judge's court were sanctioned in G.O., Nos. 728 and 609 W., dated 23rd March 1885 and 14th March 1885.

Enclosure.

Statement showing Mr. Chisholm's estimate and the approximate amount proposed by the committee for locating the Collector's department at Madura in Tirumal Naick's palace.

Description of work.	As per Mr. Chisholm's estimate. RS.	Approximate as proposed by the committee. RS.
Raising dwarf walls and providing windows and blinds.	12,592	...
Removing the door on the north side, three bays to the west	...	50
Making rooms, Nos. 18, 26 and 28, similar to other offices	...	1,500
Skylights and ventilators	20,496	500
Closing the upper portion of high narrow windows of rooms, Nos. 1, 2 and 3, and Collector's cutcherry with brick trellis work	...	400
Flooring with cut-stone, &c.	21,784	...
Do. with Portland cement concrete	...	5,500
Cut-stone steps	...	500

Statement showing Mr. Chisholm's estimate and the approximate amount, &c.—*cont.*

Description of work.	As per Mr. Chisholm's estimate.	Approximate as proposed by the committee.
	RS.	RS.
Record-room—wood and iron frame work with wire netting to a height of 16 feet	...	4,600
Stable and coach-houses	8,937	5,300
Latrine for Europeans	1,329	2,730
Do. for Natives	2,460	
Tiffin rooms	4,708	2,340
Three wells	1,897	600
Drainage	1,547	750
Forming road	958	1,500
Filling and levelling	1,010	
Iron gate	536	..
Record-racks	4,066	4,066
Land	...	12,380
Sundry repairs and petty alterations	...	2,000
Total ...	82,320	44,716
Iron railings to Vernacular record-room made in Madras and erected but not included in estimate	4,337	4,337
Total ...	86,657	49,053

From Colonel H. R. MEAD, R.E., Superintending Engineer, VI Circle, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Trichinopoly, 8th August 1885, No. 259 M.D.

With reference to your memorandum, No. 266 E., dated 23rd June 1885, I have the honor to forward a plan (to be returned) of the present building used as the Collector's cutcherry, and to give my opinion that it is not advisable to attempt to improve the present building as a cutcherry for the Collector of Madura.

The building is an old native building with groined roof; it has been added to considerably, and upstair rooms have been built over portions of it.

The flooring of the lower portion has been considerably raised, and I believe Mr. Chisholm proposed that it should be lowered; this would be a great improvement, but it would necessitate, probably, all the modern additions round the old building being abandoned.

Again, the rooms are all too small for modern requirements.

2. This building was by the committee of 1883 proposed to be utilized as an office, &c., for the Superintendent of Police, and the portion of it to the west to be used for the Tahsildar's office; a new court-room for that officer to be built to the south of it, the Public Works Department taking the old Police office as an office for the Executive Engineer. Should, therefore, this building be retained at the Collector's office, it will be necessary for arrangements to be made for offices to the Superintendent of Police and the Tahsildar, both of whom at present have very inadequate accommodation.

3. With regard to the probable cost of improving this building, so that the Collector's requirements might be satisfactorily provided for, I am not in a position to give it. If, however, the accommodation allowed for in the standard design is accepted, it would be necessary for a new court-room to be built; probably the best place would be on the roof of the building, the present upper story being removed and rebuilt.

Mr. Chisholm has had plans made of this building, and has, I believe, done something towards preparing a design and estimate. It would be as well for that officer to be asked what he has done towards it, and what he would propose, giving the probable cost.

Note by the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department.

In order to lay this matter clearly before the Government, it is necessary to give a brief epitome of what has been proposed, and of what has been done, in connection with the Madura palace up to this date.

2. In a minute, dated 18th November 1868, on the subject of architectural remains in the Madras Presidency, Lord Napier suggested the restoration of Tirumal Naick's palace at Madura, and its adaptation for the reception of the Revenue, Judicial and Municipal offices of the city; and in G.O., dated 2nd December 1868, No. 1478, Mr. Chisholm was intrusted with the duty of carrying out the measures necessary to give effect to His Lordship's proposals.

3. In September 1869, after an inspection of the building, Mr. Chisholm submitted a complete report on the subject; and the Government being satisfied that the old palace was susceptible of restoration and of useful appropriation for official purposes, resolved to carry out the proposed work gradually "by the steady application of a few thousands of rupees per annum."

G.O., No. 1357, dated 29th September 1869, Public.

4. This programme has been adhered to; for, since then, annual allotments have been made from Provincial funds for the prosecution of the work, which has been steadily pushed on, mainly under Mr. Chisholm's direction and on estimates submitted by that officer.

5. In November 1871, Lord Napier, after seeing the palace, recorded a minute in which he reviewed the work already carried out, and suggested that the following offices might be conveniently accommodated in the building after further necessary work had been provided:—

(1) Collector's office.
(2) Court of the Sessions Judge.
(3) District Munsif's Court.
(4) The Public Works office.
(5) The Forest office.
(6) Sub-Magistrate's court.
(7) Taluk office.

And in Proceedings, dated 11th January 1872, No. 69, Public Works, orders were issued for the adoption of His Excellency's proposals.

6. In 1882, the expenditure had amounted to about Rs. 2,13,000 and the building was stated by Mr. Chisholm to be sufficiently complete for occupation. Orders* were issued in the Revenue Department, directing the officers concerned to move their offices into it; but the space allowed, and the arrangements proposed by the Consulting Architect, proved to be inadequate; and Mr. Chisholm was directed, in G.O., No. 3374, dated 20th December 1882, to submit revised plans and proposals. These, however, were not received up to the time of Mr. Chisholm's departure to England on furlough in April 1883; and in G.O., No. 1917 W., dated 9th July 1883, the Government appointed a committee, composed of the officers named in the margin, to report on the following points:—

* G.O., No. 1119 W., dated 3rd May 1882, on Revenue Proceedings, No. 380, dated 15th April 1882.

President.
Mr. Crole, Collector.
Members.
Mr. Turner, Judge.
Lieutenant-Colonel Mead, R.E., Superintending Engineer.
Mr. Grimes, Executive Engineer.

(*a*) How the different offices should be accommodated.
(*b*) What alterations were necessary and what subsidiary buildings were required, their probable cost, and the best sites for them.
(*c*) The preparation of an approximate estimate of all requirements.
(*d*) A programme of the order in which the works proposed should be carried out.

7. The report of that committee is recorded in G.O., No. 170 W., dated 10th January 1884. They stated that the space required for the various offices had been much under-rated, and that the nature and style of the building necessitated more space and area being taken up than would be required in one better adapted for offices. They therefore suggested a modification of previous proposals, so far as to provide

accommodation outside the palace for the Public Works office, the taluk office, and the Sub-Magistrate's court; and thus allow for a more convenient arrangement of the Collector's office and the Judicial offices inside the palace. They roughly estimated that, before the offices could move in, Rs. 73,648 would have to be spent; and that, to complete the palace throughout, an expenditure of Rs. 1,32,092 would in all be required. They believed that, if their proposals were accepted, Madura would be provided properly with "tolerable" offices, the arrangement of the building not allowing of *good* ones being made. In G.O., No. 170 W., above quoted, the Government accepted the recommendations of the committee, and directed the Officiating Consulting Architect to prepare for sanction the requisite estimates in the order of urgency suggested by the committee.

8. The following statement shows the various estimates which were sanctioned from the commencement of the works up to 30th November 1884, and the expenditure incurred on each item to the end of the official year 1883-84:—

Sanction.	Work.	Estimate.	Expenditure.		
		RS.	RS.	A.	P.
G.O., No 2386, 22nd August 1874.	Restoring northern turret	2,340	2,661	2	9
G.O., No. 1587, 5th June 1875.	*Locating offices, Rs.* 74,960 *—				
	Collector's office	13,570	13,585	15	10
	Punkah for Collector	51	51	0	0
	Dais for do.	330	106	0	0
	Platform for dais	135	135	0	0
	Iron strong room for treasury ...	1,933	477	6	0
	Deputy Collector's office	3,236	2,275	0	0
	Restoring octagon dome	4,507	4,186	0	0
	Verandah for do.	2,740	2,518	0	0
	Taluk office	6,110	5,461	10	10
	Range do.	2,970	2,735	4	0
	Range store-room	2,000	653	6	7
	Taluk overseer's office	535	496	0	0
	Dismantling old racket court ...	93	93	0	0
	District Munsif's court	9,790	4,734	5	8
	Lightning conductors	1,330	1,056	3	6
	Record-racks	1,620	1,723	1	4
	Judge's court	24,010	45,030	1	1
G.O., No. 3204, 9th November 1875.	Constructing Napier gateway ...	4,650	5,529	12	1
G.O., No. 3313, 19th Nov. 1875. G.O., No. 2639 W., 19th Nov. 1880.	Restoration works	32,265	65,337	12	11
G.O., No. 1211 W., 23rd April 1879.	Sub-registrar's office	1,300	491	2	5
G.O., No. 991 W., 21st April 1880.	Securing palace with iron ties	24,000	21,500	15	8
G.O., No. 2639 W., 19th Nov. 1880.	Under-pinning palace	13,600	12,968	0	0
G.O., No. 277 W., 1st February 1881.	Completing plinth around courtyard ...	2,970	2,600	3	8
G.O., No. 944 W., 8th April 1881.	Restoring portion of Judge's court ...	6,870	6,870	0	0
G.O., No. 2082 W., 14th August 1882.	Furniture for Judge's court	1,768	898	12	7
G.O., No. 2431 W., 2nd October 1884.	Canopy for Judge's seat	1,363	...		
	Restoring wagon vault	No estimate.	27,024	0	0
	Total ..	1,66,086	2,31,199	4	11

* The estimate sanctioned in G.O., No. 1587, dated 5th June 1875, amounted to Rs. 87,000. From this must be deducted Rs. 12,040 for "securing superstructure with iron ties," a revised estimate for the latter having been sanctioned in April 1880.

Rs. 87,000 — Rs. 12,040 = Rs. 74,960.

There was a further estimate of Rs. 15,735 for locating the Judge's court, sanctioned in G.O., No. 1885 W., dated 4th August 1884; but this was subsequently superseded as will be shown below. The expenditure from 1st April to 30th November 1884 was Rs. 11,550; so that, on 30th November 1884, the total sanctioned estimates amounted to Rs. 1,81,821 against an expenditure of Rs. 2,42,749.

9. On his return from England towards the end of 1884, Mr. Chisholm was placed on special duty to complete, among other work, the Madura palace estimates in accordance with the recommendations of the committee of 1883. Since then the following estimates prepared by him have been sanctioned by Government:—

(*a*) G.O., No. 609 W., dated 14th March 1885, Rs. 7,261—Locating Judge's court.

(*b*) G.O., No. 728 W., dated 23rd March 1885, Rs. 1,01,500—Completing restoration works.

Estimate (*a*) supersedes the previous estimate of Rs. 15,735 sanctioned in August 1884 for locating the Judge's court, and (*b*) provides fully for completing the restoration of the ancient structure. The existing total sanction therefore amounts to Rs. 2,74,847. The total expenditure to 31st March 1885 amounted to Rs. 2,50,235; and an allotment of Rs. 20,000 has been provided in the budget of 1885-86.

10. Mr. Chisholm now submits an estimate, amounting to Rs. 82,320, for completing all work requisite for accommodating the revenue offices in the palace, including necessary subsidiary buildings. From the statement of sanctioned estimates and expenditure given above, it will be seen that the amount originally provided for the location of the Collector, &c., was actually worked out; but that, as a fact, the Collector did not accept the provision thus made as sufficient for his accommodation. The present estimate does not supersede any of the previous ones, but it provides for work not contemplated in the others, and it cannot, therefore, be compared with them.

11. In submitting the present estimate, Mr. Chisholm prefaces his remarks with a slight historical sketch of the restorations, and he proceeds to suggest a reconsideration of the proposal to locate the Collector's office in the palace. He now expresses general disapproval of that proposal; but considers that, if that office is to be so located, the dwarf walls which divide off the different portions should be raised to the intrados of the arches, and that light and air should be admitted from above by skylights and ventilators. He points out, however, that this arrangement will impair the artistic effect of the halls, though not so much as the temporary expedients to which the officers occupying the rooms are sure to resort to lessen the discomforts attendant on unenclosed rooms. He states that the building is now practically restored, and he thinks it would be ill-advised to mar it at a cost of Rs. 82,000—a sum which would go far towards enlarging the Collector's present office, and giving to that officer all the accommodation he wants exactly where he wants it.

12. Mr. Chisholm, moreover, considers that the space allotted in the palace for the Collector's office, 23,000 square feet, is in excess of requirements, and he sums up by stating that three courses are now open:—

(1) To adhere to the original scheme and to the recommendations of the committee, and to sanction the estimate of Rs. 82,320 now submitted, for locating the Collector and allied departments in the palace.

(2) To adhere to the original scheme, but to modify the allotment of space recommended by the committee, which he considers excessive.

(3) To abandon the plan of providing offices in the palace for the Revenue departments, and to utilize the restored spaces for other purposes.

13. The Collector of Madura expresses entire concurrence in Mr. Chisholm's remarks, and points out the inconveniences which would result from the Revenue and Judicial departments being located in the same building; but it must be borne in mind that Mr. Crole was President of the committee whose recommendations were approved by the Government in their Proceedings, dated 19th January 1884, No. 170 W., and it appears difficult to reconcile his endorsement of those recommendations with the opinions now expressed by him after a lapse of only 15 months.

14. The undersigned recently had an opportunity of personally inspecting the Madura palace, and the result of his visit has satisfied him that the proper course is to adopt the first of the alternatives suggested by Mr. Chisholm in paragraph 23 of his letter of 16th April 1885, No. 2, namely, to adhere to the original scheme as modified by the recommendations of the committee, already approved by the Government in G.O., No. 170 W., dated 19th January 1884. The undersigned cannot, however, recommend the adoption of Mr. Chisholm's estimate of Rs. 82,320.

15. Nor is he able to recommend the acceptance of the suggestion in paragraph 17 of the same letter, to carry up the dwarf walls to the intrados of the arches, and to light and ventilate the rooms from above. On the contrary, the undersigned concurs in the opinion expressed in paragraph 3 of letter from the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle, No. 255, dated 7th August 1885, that the experiment which has been made in one room is decidedly not a success. In fact, Mr. Chisholm himself admits that the character of the building will be "marred" * by carrying out the suggestion, and in this the undersigned entirely concurs.

16. The undersigned does not agree with Mr. Chisholm that experience has proved that the dwarf walls between the columns, approved by Lord Napier's Government, are insufficient to make the offices convenient and suitable. On the contrary, he is of opinion that the offices in question will afford accommodation far better in every way than those now occupied by the Collector's establishment, and quite equal to the average accommodation occupied by similar establishments in other parts of the presidency.

17. With respect to Mr. Chisholm's proposals to improve the building now occupied by the Collector as an office, the undersigned entirely concurs in the opinion expressed by the Superintending Engineer in his letter of 8th August 1885, No. 259. Any attempt to improve that building, short of entire reconstruction, would almost certainly result in failure, and in the unnecessary expenditure of a large sum of money. The proposals of the committee, to which Colonel Mead refers in paragraph 2 of that letter, have already been approved by the Government; and it must not be forgotten that those proposals were endorsed by the Collector as President of the committee.

18. The recommendations of the undersigned therefore are, that the proposals of the committee, already approved by the Government, be carried out; and that, with this view, the suggestions made by the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle, in his letter of 7th August 1885, No. 255, be adopted.

19. It will be seen that Colonel Mead approximately estimates the cost at Rs. 50,000; but of that sum it is understood that some Rs. 17,000 (land, Rs. 12,380, and iron railings, Rs. 4,337) have already been spent.

20. The undersigned is further decidedly of opinion, with advertence to G.O., No. 1087 W., dated 9th May 1885, that it is desirable on every ground to restore the east aisle of the old Muhammadan school.

OOTACAMUND,
August 1885.

(Signed) J. SHAW-STEWART, Colonel, R.E.,
Chief Engineer, Public Works Department.

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* Paragraph 21 of his letter of 16th April 1885.

ORDER—dated 4th September 1885, No. 2055, W., Public Works.

With his letter, No. 2, dated 16th April 1885, Mr. Chisholm, Consulting Architect to Government, submits an estimate, amounting to Rs. 82,320, for completing all work requisite for accommodating the Collector's office and its allied departments in Tirumal Naick's palace at Madura.

2. At the same time, he suggests a reconsideration of the proposal to locate the Collector's office in the palace; and the correspondence to which this suggestion has given rise is summarised in the Chief Engineer's note above recorded.

3. Mr. Chisholm's proposals amount in effect, so far as regards the Revenue offices of the district, to an abandonment of the scheme initiated by Lord Napier in

1868, and of the proposals of the committee, whose recommendations were accepted in G.O., No. 170 W., dated 19th January 1884. He suggests improvements to the Collector's present office building, which was condemned by Lord Napier * in 1872; or, as an alternative, he proposes a more expensive scheme for locating the Collector's office in the palace than was contemplated by the committee of 1883. Mr. Chisholm is supported in his views by the Collector of Madura; but the Government concur with the Chief Engineer that it is difficult to reconcile Mr. Crole's endorsement of the recommendations of the committee, over which he presided, with the opinions now expressed by him.

4. In his letter, No. 255, dated 7th August 1885, the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle, explains that the estimates submitted by Mr. Chisholm do not include all the items which the committee considered necessary to enable the Collector's office to be moved into the palace; that two large items of expenditure already incurred, Rs. 12,380 for land and Rs. 4,337 for railing in the Vernacular record-room, have been omitted from the estimates; and, on the other hand, that Mr. Chisholm's proposals to raise the dwarf walls to the intrados of the arches and to light and ventilate the rooms from above, will cause an additional expenditure of Rs. 33,000 not contemplated by the committee. In his letter of 3rd May 1885, the Superintending Engineer expresses the opinion that little or no advantage would be gained by so raising the dwarf walls; and in his letter of 7th August 1885, he adds that the experiment which has been made in one room is not a success. The Chief Engineer, after personal inspection of the buildings, endorses the opinions expressed by the Superintending Engineer on those points.

5. In his letter of 8th August 1885, No. 259, the Superintending Engineer expresses the opinion that it is not advisable to attempt to improve the building now occupied by the Collector as an office; and the Chief Engineer, while entirely agreeing with the Superintending Engineer, adds that any attempt to improve that building, short of entire reconstruction, would almost certainly result in failure and in the unnecessary expenditure of a large sum of money.

6. The Chief Engineer sums up by recommending that the proposals of the committee, already approved by the Government, be carried out, and he further expresses a decided opinion that it is desirable on every ground to restore the east aisle of the old Muhammadan school.

8. His Excellency the Governor in Council entirely agrees with the views recorded by the Chief Engineer in his note printed with these proceedings; and, in final settlement of the question, directs that revised estimates be prepared by the Superintending Engineer with the least possible delay, providing for the work suggested by Colonel Mead in his letter of 7th August 1885, and for restoring the east aisle of the old Muhammadan school.

(True Extract.)

Major, R.E.,
Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle, with plans and estimates.
" Consulting Architect to Government.
" Examiner, Public Works Accounts.
" Revenue Department.
" Judicial do.

Exd. J. Henricus.
Spare Copies

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* Paragraph XXI of Minute recorded in Proceedings, dated 11th January 1872, No. 69.

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Govt. of (1885) Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated September, 4th.

Recd. Encl.

G.O., 4th Sept. 1885, No. 2055 W.

SEPTEMBER.

Tirumal Naick's Palace at Madura

Orders on correspondence on the subject of the accommodation for the Collector's office and its allied departments in —.

---

the following project:-

Office of Consg Arch to Govt

10

8

Rev: Department

Memorandum.

With reference to his Memorandum of 4th Instant, the Ag Second Assistant P. W. Dept: is informed that a copy, and not the original, of the P. W. G.O. dated 20th Feby/77 No 638 was furnished with Memo from that Dept. No 424C of 17th Feby 1882 - The letter from the District Engineer, Madura, which was received in original with

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Closing the openings

5

with the said memo cannot be found in the file of papers stitched therewith. Probably it is one of the two enclosures which, as this Dept: Despatch book of 1882 shows, were returned to the P. W. Dept. with Rev: G.O. No. 380 dated 15: April 1882. + (Have you got this?)

T Venkasami
First Assistant.

Ft St George }
6: June 1885 }

+ Cannot trace the original. Copy herewith - but books show that two enclosures were received with the G. O. J.F. 6/6/85.

AND ROADS
ORKS.

Lend
This is connected with CE No 4152 – Reply due to O.O. by 5-6-85 – This a paper wanting to complete the file and I think the letter was written for by C & M & it was promised to send the reply of the Rev. Dept as soon as received.
5/6/85

FB

1284-5-C
287-85 } ch 6773

4.9.6.85

Col
m —

Read the following papers:–

18/4

Office of Consg Arct to Govt
On Special duty 1o
Chepauk
16th April 1885.

No 2

From.

R. F. Chisholm Esqre
Consg Architect to Govt
On Special duty.

To

The Chief Engineer
Roads and Buildings
Madras

Sir

Enclosures
9 tracings
1 Specification
1 detailed quantities
1 abstract Estimate
1 do (duplicate)

I have now the honor to lay before you the third and last estimate which I propose to submit in connection with the restoration and occupation by public officers of Tirumal Naicks Palace at Madura.

List of Drawings

1. East and south elevation Tirumal Naicks Palace
2. General Plan showing the works proposed by the committee for the Collectorate
3. Plan of Coach house, Stables & Latrines
4. Elevation of the method proposed for closing the openings

5. Steps for Record Room
6. Plan for Additional Record Racks required by the Collector.
7. Details of Entrance Gate
8. Drawings of Wells.
9. Cross Sections.
10. Detail Estimate & General Abstract
Duplicate Abstract Estimate.

2 As the work has now been in progress for many years it will be advisable to preface my remarks with a slight historical Sketch of the Restorations.

3 The old Palace of Tirumal Naick is not a great architectural work, neither the style of the Architecture nor the materials of which it is composed compare favorably with the Grand Civic works of Rajapootana and upper India. It is however the largest and most perfect Palatial work existing South of a line drawn across the map of India from Bombay to Calcutta.

4 The Architecture is in that debased style which arose immediately after the later Mahammadan Conquests chiefly remarkable for its picturesqueness and exuberant fancy in the details, Tirumal Naick's Palace is probably the most brilliant of those almost incoherent flickers which mark the expiring art of Architecture among the Southern Hindoos, at the same time the vast extent of the building, its massive proportions, and boldness of Conception place it much higher in the Scale of Architectural remains than a critical examination of its technical qualities demands. It is very necessary to keep these facts in view, for an over estimation of the remains from an artistic standpoint might lead to a misapplication of public funds.

5. As the work progressed and created great public interest it was almost impossible to confine the restorative works strictly within utilitarian limits, indeed at

one time when Capt Cole R.E. visited this Presidency it narrowly escaped passing into the Category of valuable archaeological remains, had it done so, an extremely costly and in my opinion wholly unjustifiable restoration might have been the result.-

6 The Government of Lord Napier and Ettrick did not Commence this costly work until satisfied that the Structure when complete could be utilized as public offices, and utilized in such a way that its interest as a restored work would remain undiminished. This last Condition unfortunately introduces variable elements about which no two men will agree, the questions which arise therefrom are; the extent to which additions may be made without diminishing the architectural interest of the building. and again the extent to which such additions are essential for the Comfort and Convenience of those

holding office therein

7 As this point must be settled before any further steps are taken I will revert to it again. The idea of utilizing the Palace by converting it into public offices was not a new one; at the time Lord Napier and Ettrick visited the Palace in 1868 the Judge held Court under the great dome, and before the west end of the present Judge's Court fell in 1838 other officers were located in the Palace- Unsatisfactory rumours of the Critical Condition of the building were afloat, and the Government had to face the question of rendering the Palace safe or abandoning it and constructing a suitable Cutchery for the Judge elsewhere.

8 After the usual preliminary proceedings the most dangerous part of the building was successfully restored as a tentative measure, and subsequently the whole work was Commenced.

9 The expenditure has been

As follows;-

During	1870 - 71	Rupees	10,000
	1871 - 72	"	10,000
	1872 - 73	"	13,262
	1873 - 74	"	14,162
	1874 - 75	"	10,681
	1875 - 76	"	2,708
	1876 - 77	"	2,874
	1877 - 78	"	4,894
	1878 - 79	"	14,937
	1879 - 80	"	15,056
	1880 - 81	"	29,149
	1881 - 82	"	24,991
	1882 - 83	"	49,944
	1883 - 84	"	30,001
	1884 - 85	"	17,576
	Total Rs		250,235

10 In return for this expenditure the Government have restored the Structure and provided the following accommodation

	Supl. Area of feet
1. North West Court Occupied by Judge	8,556
2. South West Court	1666

Carried over 10222

Brought forward	10,222
3. Treasury	880
4 Treasury Guard	546
5 Record room	2160
6. Municipal Offices	2200
7. Covered area which Cannot be utilized for any purpose	43.051
Total Supl. feet of Area reclaimed	59,059

11 All the works contemplated
to be executed by Lord Napier's Govern-
ment were practically finished
before I left India in April 1883
and the Judge was holding Court
in the great chamber on the North-
West, The building had been bound
with iron ties, windows had been
opened in the external walls, the west
end of the Judge's Court and the South
portion of the Southern Court as well
as other portions which have fallen
had been reconstructed and the
reclaimed portions had been divided
by dwarf Walls between the Columns.

12 Before leaving India I met

the

Is this statement correct? The earlier papers are not put up but from Pro. of 5-6-75 No 1587 I gather that much of what was originally proposed has not been yet executed

[illegible] note

the Collector and ascertained from him what additional work he required the result of this interview formed the subject of my letter No 149 F dated 15th July 1882.

I cannot find their letter

13 During my absence on furlough the Government appointed a Committee to meet and consider the question of locating the various offices in the Palace

14 This Committee made proposals which have received the approval of Government; and the estimates which I now submit are so far as Tirumal Naick's Palace is concerned in strict accordance with the Committee's proposals, with one exception to be noted further on.

para 22

15 I feel it my duty however to call the attention of Government to the fact that, while the existing Collector's Cutcherry contains only } 16,000 Supl. feet, the quantity allotted in the Palace is upwards of 23,000 feet, I would deal with this matter at greater length and submit counter proposals for the consideration of Government, were it not that the concluding paragraph of the Committee's report would seem to challange the utility of the whole scheme. "This Committee believe
" that if the present proposals are accepted,
" Madura will be provided properly with
" tolerable offices. The arrangement of the building
" will not allow good ones being made; and the
" nuisance of bats, birds & noise will always be great
" but the first will be much mitigated if, as proposed
" by Col Sankey more light is thrown into the buildings"
If I understand the matter rightly, the Committee mean to say that something more than what they propose must be done to make the building even "tolerable," at the same time they omit to say what that something is, neither do they apparently provide for its cost in their estimates

?

16 It may safely be concluded that there is no difficulty whatever in

Converting the space reclaimed into good offices, and securing well lighted and well ventilated rooms free from bats and reverberation; and with a view to render the scheme now submitted as complete as possible, I have provided in this estimate for the cost of the additions necessary to secure these conditions; but the attainments of this object opens two questions which claim consideration— First, to what extent will the additions mar the structure architecturally and deprive it of Historical interest? and Secondly, what would their cost be as compared with the construction of new and suitable buildings elsewhere?

17 As I have before explained, Lord Napier's Government considered that the division of the space by the erection of dwarf walls between the columns, the only additions necessary; experience has proved this conclusion to be wrong. I have considered the question carefully on the spot in consultation with local Officers, I am of opinion that, in order to make these Offices convenient and suitable, the dwarf walls must be carried right up to the introdos of the arches, and in addition to this the rooms so formed must be lighted and ventilated from above; one or two officers who have actually occupied these side rooms have been compelled to close the openings above the dwarf walls with mats and colored cloths and to adopt various expedients for regulating the light.

18 It is hardly necessary to point out that additions such as I allude to will alter the internal character very materially and lessen the grandeur of the large astylar Halls on either side of the courtyard. At the same time, the permanent additions will be less prejudicial to artistic effect generally than the temporary expedients and make shifts certain to be adopted by

Officers themselves

19 Another point claims consideration. There is a feeling which will doubtless be understood by the Members of His Excellency's Council, (shared more or less by all the Collectors who have held charge of Madura,) against the Executive body occupying the same building with the Judicial body; and I am bound to say this feeling grows stronger as the time of exodus approaches.

I do not know the authority on which this statement is made - The earliest expression of the feeling which I have seen is in the Collector's letter of 19-4-85.

20 The estimates already sanctioned will finish completely the Judges' Cutcherry, and the restoration of the whole structure. If the Government decide that the scheme of the Committee is to be carried out, the estimate I now submit provides all that is necessary so far as Tirumal Naick's Palace is concerned; and in addition it removes the objections raised in the concluding paragraph of the Committee's report; that is to say, for the sum of (Rs 82000/) the Collector and his Court can be removed into the Palace and the existing building left free.

C.A. to explain generally what he proposes & the approximate cost -

On the other hand I am bound to admit that this sum of money will go far towards enlarging the existing Cutcherry and giving the Collector all he wants exactly where he wants it.

21 These being the facts and circumstances, it appears to me that we have arrived at a stage in the proceedings when the original problem should be reconsidered under its altered conditions. The building is practicably restored, and it would seem to me ill advised to mar it at a cost of Rupees 82000, merely for the sake of adhering to the original programme?

The reclaimed space as it now exists can be devoted to many useful purposes without further additions.

?

C.A. to explain

22 In paragraph 14 I mentioned that I had omitted from my estimate one proposal made by the Committee it is that of opening windows in the existing Record room; I am of opinion that such openings would materially

weaken this part of the Structure - I should be happy to furnish my reasons for coming to this Conclusion if the Government should desire it.

C.A. to explain

23 To Sum up: three courses appear to be open;-

First His Excellency in Council may adhere to the original Scheme and to the recommendation of the Committee and Sanction the estimate now Submitted of Rs 82,320 for the location of the Collector in the Palace.

Secondly His Excellency in Council may adhere to the original Scheme and modify the allotment of Space recommended by the Committee which appears to me to be excessive -

Thirdly His Excellency in Council may decline to Sanction the estimate Submitted and decide definitely that the restored Palace is to be utilized for purposes other than the lodgment of the Collectorate.

In the event of the third [illegible] will be necessary

to cancel the Committees recommendations in which case I would suggest respectfully that a new Scheme should be drawn up by the Consulting Architect in Consultation with the local officers

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant

R. Chisholm -
Consulting Architect to Govt.
on Special duty

To

The Chief Engineer
P.W.D
Roads & Buildings

P/4153/85

No. 2
Dated 16th April 1885
Enclosure No. 13

Subject

Submits plans & Estimates for the restoration and occupation by Public Offices of Tirumal Naik's Palace Madura

---

No. 38

MADURA COLLECTOR'S OFFICE,
19th April 1885

FROM

C. S. Crole, Esquire
Collector of Madura.

TO

The Honorable J. H. M. Shaw-Stewart, Colonel, R.E.
Secretary to Government.
Public Works Department.
Thro' the Superintending Engineer, 6th circle.

SIR,

I have the honor, as requested by the Consulting Architect, to submit his plans, estimates and report of the works necessary for the complete restoration of Tirumal Nayak's Palace, at Madura, and for its adaptation in view to the accommodation of the Executive Offices.

2. I content myself with recording my entire concurrence in Mr. Chisholm's views. Artistically speaking, the Palace is a poor place. Architecturally, it is a curiosity and

grand after its fashion. It is, however, quite unsuited for the location of the Offices of the Collector and the allied departments, without the expenditure of a sum quite unbalanced by any advantage to be gained. The necessary alterations will also entirely destroy the character of the building in the process of its conversion, and thus frustrate the very object for which the restoration works, were originally projected. Moreover, as Mr. Chisholm well remarks, there is an obvious incongruity in boxing up Executive along with Judicial Offices, which may result in serious inconvenience, and must tend to change the current of business and cause great loss of time and the increase of expenditure on parties, who will be compelled more and more to give employment to the

needy

needy crowd of Vakils in matters, for the disposal of which, the Madras Revenue System provides personal contact with the Officers of Government, as a corner stone.

3. I have the honor therefore, strongly to recommend, that the Revenue Offices be not moved into Tirumal Nayaks Palace.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedt. Servant
C.S. Crole
Collector
1874

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
20 APR 85
CIRCLE

ENCLOSURE No. 1

342/4152/85

In a letter

FROM
THE COLLECTOR,
MADURA.

No. 38

Dated 19th April 1885

No.

Letter No. 2, dated 16th April 1885, from the Consulting Architect to the Chief Engineer, P. W. D.

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER 20 .. 85 CIRCLE VI

Public Works (1885) DEPARTMENT.

FROM,

THE COLLECTOR,
MADURA.

No. 38

Enclosures 8 - 14

Dated 19th } April 1885.
Received }

No.

SUBJECT.

Submitting plans, estimates & report of the Consulting Architect, necessary for the complete restoration of the Tirumal Nayak's palace at Madura and for its adaptation in view to the accommodation of the Executive offices; and recommending strongly that, for certain reason the Revenue Offices be not moved into the Palace.

No. 57 MD

Supg Engineer's Office 6th Circle
Kodaikanal 2nd May 1885.
despd 5/

From,
The Supg Engineer
6th Circle.

To,
The Chief Engineer
P. W. Department.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward to you Mr Chisholm's letter No. 2 dated 16th April and the enclosures forwarded to me by the Collector of Madura with his letter No. 38 dated 19th April addressed to you and sent through me.

Enclos. 15.
1. Mr Chisholm's
1. Collr's letter
9. Drawings
1. Specification
1. Detailed quantities.
1. Abstract Estimate.
1. Do. in duplicate.

It is with much surprise that I find Mr Chisholm utterly condemn all the arrangements and work that has been accepted and carried out during the last 5 years by himself to make portions of the Madura Palace fit for offices.

2. These arrangements consisted of dwarf walls with open iron work above them dividing off the different portions into offices and were sanctioned as stated by Mr Chisholm by Lord Napier's Government but this was done, I believe, on

Mr Chisholm's recommendation: they have been in existence all over the building for more than 14 years, and portions in use as offices, and frequently inspected and approved of by Mr Chisholm; so much so that on his recommendation, Government ordered the Collector's office in 1882 to be moved into the Palace (not done as it was found Mr Chisholm's proposals were inadequate See G.O. No 2073W of 22nd August 1884).

3. Mr Chisholm now proposes a new plan, namely to raise dwarf walls to the intrados of the arches and to light and ventilate the rooms from above by means of skylights, the cost of this is estimated at Rs 33,088.

Whether this proposal when carried out would be successful or not is to me very doubtful; my own impression is that it will make the offices but little, if at all, better than they are at present.

4. Mr Chisholm considers that the space allowed for the different offices excessive, and objects strongly to the arrangement of them by the Committee; he proposes that he should with the

Local authorities draw up a new scheme. I have to point out that Mr Chisholm was ordered to do this years ago and that it was in consequence of his failing to make satisfactory arrangements before he went on leave in April 1883 that the Committee was appointed, on his return from furlough, he was placed on special duty to prepare the necessary plans and Estimates; and now in April after 5 months, proposes for the whole arrangements &c &c to be changed and in fact states his opinion that the Palace ought not to be utilised as offices.

5. I feel that it is useless for me to do anything but to forward the plans & Estimates to you and request that orders of Government may be obtained on them and on Mr Chisholm's different proposals, and I only trust that a complete and final decision may be arrived at.

I have the honor to be
Sir
your most obdt servt

Lieut Col. R.E.
Supdg Engineer 6th Circle

G. O. No 2386 Dd 22-8-74
" " 1587 " 5-6-75.
" " 3204 " 9-11-75
" " 3313 " 19-11-75
" " 3311 " 19-11-75
" " 1211 W. " 19-11-75
Mins No 991 W. " 23-4-79
G. O. No 2362 W. " 21-4-80
" " 2639 W. " 14-10-80
B. No 277 W. " 19-11-80
" 944 W. " 1-2-81
G. O. No 2082 W. " 8-4-81
" " 1917 W. " 14-8-82
" " 170 W. " 9-7-83
" " 1762 W. " 19-1-84
" " 2073 W. " 17-7-84
" " 2431 W. " 22-8-84 Orig.
" " 1883 W. " 2-10-84
" " 609 W. " 4-8-84
No 331 D. " 14-3-85
G. O. No 728 W. " 10-2-85
" 23-3-85 Orig.

D.C. 4152

(11)

From

The Supdg. Engineer
6th Circle

with the [illegible] submitted in 3
separate sheets.

To

The Chief Engineer
P. W. D.

Dated 3rd
Despd. 5, } May 1885.
Recd.

No. 57 M. D.

Tirumal Naik's Palace
Madura

No. 266 [illegible] June 23rd 1885

Forwards certain Estimates in connection with — with remarks.

Ackd 7/5/85
Returned with 27-5-85.
[illegible] 12-6-85

P. W. D.

Consulting Architect's Office,
Chepauk, Madras.

31st July 1885

No. 681

From

The Consulting Architect to the Government of Madras.

To

The Chief Engineer, Public Works Department.

Enclosures.

Sir,

I have the honor to supplement my report dated the 15th April with an expansion of the remarks particularized by you in your Memorandum No. 1285 C. dated the 27th instant.

2. The existing Collectors Cutcherry at Madura is an old building which has been altered from time to time in a thoughtless and unscientific manner but after the most careful examination I do not think the strength has been so materially weakened but that the building may form the neucleus

of a permanent useful structure. The basement consists of an old low pillared Hall the floor of which is about 3 ft below the level of the existing floor it has been rendered so dark by the additions of Verandahs that even on a bright day it is impossible to write in the centre.

Some rooms have been constructed on the top without either design or arrangement.

Without knowing in detail the wants of the Collector I am unable to say exactly in what way I would remodel this structure if Government desire it to be utilized, but I can point out generally the work I would recommend to be undertaken. The whole floor of the Basement to be lowered to its original level and repaired. A large opening to be made in the dome ~~and~~ ~~carved~~ covered with frosted glass to light and ventilate the interior of the basement. A properly arranged Staircase to be constructed on the east side leading to the rooms above. On the upper storey the existing building would have to be partly removed. The square above the dome would be a covered Cortile with an open arcade round and a large skylight in the centre: around this would be grouped the necessary rooms with Verandahs on the exterior. The basement would contain upwards of 4000 supl: feet and the upper floor will afford accommodation to the extent of about 3700 supl: feet. The surrounding buildings would each have to be treated on its own merits.

5. The cost would in a great measure be determined by the actual wants of the Collector but so far as I myself understand the question I think one quarter of a lac of Rupees would make the existing

Collectors Cutcherry a roomy, agreeable, and well lighted structure. Unless I hear to the contrary, I will have plans of these proposals put in hand and in due course forward them to Government.

6. With regard to the second point. I think the reclaimed space at Tirumal Naick's Palace might be given over to any public servant requiring an office and who does not object to the reverberation inseparable from the present arrangements. The Post office, Telegraph office, Police office, Survey offices and a number of others might I think be located in the Palace without entailing the necessity of constructing the screen walls which are objectionable from an architectural point of view.

7. In regard to the last point the weakening of the record room by constructing windows. I have to observe that this is one of the most recently constructed halls of the palace probably built some years after the wagon vault on the west side of the courtyard. The men who constructed it possessed little or no constructive skill and were apparently unprepared for the thrust of the vault. After the centres were struck and the vault commenced to thrust the walls out to the north and west. A huge mass of material was piled up on the outside to the enormous thickness of 10 feet against the failing walls until all movement was stopped. Although I do not anticipate any immediate failure, I think it would be extremely injudicious to disturb this material by ~~removing~~ knocking openings through it, and I have little hesitation in saying that after a lapse of time weakness

would manifest itself.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obdt. Servant

R. Chisholm.

Consg. Archt. to Gov't ×

properly

be

C.W.C. No 6773

P. W. D.

Roads and Buildings.

To W.

Reply from S.E. III will be forwarded immediately on receipt.

CA.
3.8.85

+ To No 1284. C. d/ 27.7.

From

THE CONSULTING ARCHITECT
TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

To (4)

The Chief Engineer
P. W. Dept.

No. 681.

Dated 31st July 1885
Received [illegible] 85

No. OF ENCLOSURES

Subject.

Submits full explanations regarding Tirumal Naicks Palace at Madura.

Nos 1284/1285 C d/ 27.7.85
" 2662 d/ 23.6.85
G.O. 728 W d/ 23.3.85
" " 609 W d/ 14.3.85
" " 2431 W d/ 2.10.84
" 170 W d/ 19.1.84
" 2073 W 22.8.84
" 1885 W d/ 4.8.84
" 1762 W d/ 17.7.84
" 1917 W d/ 9.7.83
" 3374 W d/ 20.12.82
" 2082 W d/ 14.8.82
B/ 1119 W d/ 3.5.82
" 944 W d/ 8.4.81
" 277 W d/ 1.2.81
A/ 2362 W d/ 14.10.80
" 2639 W d/ 29.11.80
" 991 W d/ 21.8.80
" 1211 W d/ 23.4.79
" 638 d/ 24.2.77
" 3313 d/ 19.11.75
" 3204 d/ 9.11.75
" 1587 d/ 15.6.75
" 2416 A d/ 25.8.74
" 3386 d/ 22.8.74
" 1032 d/ 22.4.74
No 902 C d/ 31.3.74
G.O. 1194 d/ 25.4.73
" 69 d/ 11.1.72
" 1357 d/ 29.9.69
" 1478 d/ 2.12.68

O. 3/8/85

No. 255 M.D. Superintending Engineer's Office 6th Circle
Trichinopoly 7th Aug/85

From

The Superintending Engineer
6th Circle

To

The Chief Engineer

Sir,

With reference to your Memo No 1284. C. dated 27th July 1885, I have the honor to return Mr Chisholm's Estimate and to report that it does not include all the items necessary to enable the Collector's Office to be moved into Tirumal Naik's Palace, as laid down by the Committee.

Enclos: 14.
1. Statement.
1 Detailed quantities.
1 abstract estimate.
1 Duplicate Do.
1 Specification.
9. Tracings (sent separately)

+ W.M.C. No 7026
10.8.85

2. I forward a statement showing the items in Mr Chisholm's Estimate and their cost compared with the items and approximate Estimate as proposed by the Committee It will be seen that Mr Chisholm has left out the 2 following large and important items:—

(1) Enclosing the English and Vernacular Recordsrooms (see Committee's Report para 8)

The Consulting Architect has sent down to Madura a handsome but most Expensive iron railing for the Vernacular Record which has been put up at the cost of Rs 4337 which has been paid and charged to the Palace restoration as a temporary measure; but this will have to be sanctioned in the Estimate for locating the Collector's office; and besides a Similar or cheaper railing will have to be provided for the English Record room. The railing put up costs about Rs 8 a Square foot; if a similar railing is Considered necessary for the English Record room, it will cost Rs 17,024. I have however in the statement entered only Rs 4600 or at the rate of Rs 2 per sq ft

(2) Land; as you are aware Rs 12,380 has been paid for the land and compensation for houses

O.3/8/85

houses removed adjoining the Mahomedan school where the outbuildings were to be built; this item has been left out by Mr Chisholm. I have included it in the statement. At present, it is not absolutely necessary to take up more land; but hereafter if the Committee's proposals are carried out, probably Rs 50,000 more will be required. The Committee's estimate for this item founded on a report from the Collector was a total of Rs 35,000, the Collector now states it was underestimated

3   It is not necessary for me to comment on the 2 first items

O.3/8/85

items in Mr Chisholm's Estimate, namely,

Raising dwarf walls Etc. Rs 12592
Skylights and Ventilators. Rs 20496

You have seen the room which has been done as an Experiment; for my own part, I do not think it is a success. The Committee's proposals will be found in paras 7 and provision is made in the Estimate for them

4.   Mr Chisholm allows Rs 21754 for Flooring with Cut stone Etc. This can be greatly reduced if a Portland cement concrete floor is laid over the present floors. A Cut stone curbing to the outer Edge of the outer Varandah would be a great improvement

but the cost would be great and I consider that it is not necessary, nor is it necessary to have cut stone mouldings to the bases of the pillars; all that is required can be done for about Rs 6000

5 With regard to the outhouses- In para 9 of the Report, the Committee recommended that these should not be built Expensively as ordinary tiled buildings would answer all purposes and remarked that the Palace has no architectural part on the North Side where they are to be built. In the plans sent by Mr Chisholm, the buildings

are

are terraced, and if an Expensive design, the area is 6533 Sq ft at a cost of Rs 17424, or about Rs 2-10- a sq foot. The approximate cost of these buildings entered in the Statement by the Committee was Rs 10370 for an area of 7060 sq ft or at about Rs 1½ a sq ft. I consider that Rs 5000 might be saved on these items

6. The Statement forwarded and the above remarks show that Mr Chisholm's Estimate amounting to Rs 82,320 is not complete; a sum of Rs 21317 at least have to be added for Railings Etc for

Record

O.3/8/85

Record rooms, and for land making a total of say Rs 105,000. Should the views of the Committee appointed in 1883 be accepted, the sum required to locate the Revenue and other Offices in Tirumal Naik's Palace at Madura is Rs 49053 or say Rs 50,000

7. Separate estimates for completing the restoration and for the Judge's Court were sanctioned in G.O. Nos 728 & 609.W dated 23rd March/85 and 14th March/85.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obdt. Servt
Col RE
Superintending Engineer
6th Circle.

0.3/8/85

Sub. 7054

(1)

From,

The Supg Engineer
6th Circle

To,

The Chief Engineer
P. W. D.

No. 255 M.D.

Dated 7th August /85
Recd 10

Enclo: 14 (7 plans)

Vide C. No. 1026 of today

Tirumal Naick's
Palace at Madura.

Returns with his opinion the Estimates &c prepared by Mr. Chisholm, for locating the Collr's Department in the —

C. 11.8.85

Enclosure in letter
No. 255 M.D. of 7:
August /85.

Statement showing
Mr. Chisholm's Estima
and the approximate
amount proposed by
the Committee for locat
the Collector's Depart-
ment at Madura in
Tirumal Naick's palac

Enclosure

Statement showing Mr Chisholm's Estimate and the approximate amount proposed by the Committee for locating the Collector's department at Madura in Tirumal Nayak's palace.

Description of Work	as per Mr Chisholm's Estimate	approximate as proposed by the Committee
Raising dwarf walls and providing Windows and blinds	12,592	"
Removing the door on the North side 3 bays to the West	"	50
Making rooms No 18, 26 & 28, similar to other offices	"	1500
Sky lights and Ventilators	20,496	500
Closing the upper portion of high narrow windows of rooms Nos 12 & 3 and Collector's cutchery with brick trellis work	"	400
Flooring with Cutstone &c	21,784	"
Do with Portland cement Concrete	"	5500
Cutstone steps		500
Record room — Wood and iron frame work with wire netting to a height of 16 ft	"	4600
Stable and Coach houses	8937	5300
Latrine for Europeans	1329	2,730
Do for Natives	2,460	
Tiffin rooms	4708	2340
3 Wells	1897	600
Drainage	1547	750
Forming Road	958	1500
Filling and levelling	1010	
Iron gate	536	"
Record racks	4066	4066
Land	"	12,380
Sundry repairs & petty alterations	"	2000
Total Rupees	82,320	44,716
Iron railings to Vernacular Record room made in Madras & erected but not included in Estimate	4337	4337
Total Rupees	86,657	49053

Col R.E.
Superintending Engineer 6th Circle

7th August /85

G. 11.8.85

Superintending Engineer's Office 6th Ci.
No. 259. M.D. Trichinopoly. 8th August 185

35

From.

The Superintending Engineer
6th Circle.

To,

The Chief Engineer
P. W. D. Madras.

Sir,

Enclo. 1.

With reference to your Memo No. 266. E dated 23rd June /85, I have the honor to forward a plan of the present building used as the Collector's Cutchery and to give my opinion that it is not advisable to attempt to improve the present building as a Cutchery for the Collector of Madura.

x to be returned

The building is an old Native building with groined roof, it has been added to Considerably and upstair rooms have been built over portions of it.

The flooring of the lower portion

has been Considerably raised and I believe Mr Chisholm proposed that it should be lowered; this would be a great improvement: but it would necessitate probably all the modern additions round the old building being abandoned.

Again the rooms are all too small for modern requirements.

2. (This building was by the Committee of 1883 proposed to be utilised as an Office &c for the Superintendent of Police and the portion of it to the west to be used for the Tahsildar's Office; a new Court room for that Officer to be built to the South of it, the Public Works Dept taking the old Police Office as an Office for the Executive Engineer. Should, therefore, this building be retained at the Collector's Office, it will be necessary for arrangements to be made for Offices to the Supdt of Police and the Tahsildar, both of whom at present have very inadequate accommodation.

3. With regard to the probable Cost of improving this building so that the Collector's requirements might be satisfactorily provided for, I am not in a position to give it. If, however, the accommodation allowed for in the Standard design is accepted, it would be necessary for a new Court room to be built; probably the best place would be on the roof of the building, the present upper story being removed & rebuilt.

Mr Chisholm has had plans made of this building and has, I believe, done something towards preparing a design and Estimate. It would be as well for that Officer to be asked what he has done towards it and what

G. 11.8.95

what he would propose, giving the probable Cost:=

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedt. Servt.

W. R. Mann Col. R.E.
Superintending Engineer 6th Circle

G. 11.8.55

G.O. No 2988 d/ 7.11.1876
" " 1708W " 19.1.84
" " 3570W 11.9.78
" " 1326W 27.5.81
No 424 C. 17.2.82
" 605 C. 11.3.82
" 815 C. 6.4.82.

From (1)
The Superintending Engineer
6th Circle.

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

Dated 8th } August/85
Recd 10 }

No 259 M.D

Enclo: Nil

Gives his opinion that it is not advisable to attempt to improve the present building used as Collector's Cutchery. Madura

Complete file with [illegible]
[illegible] 3.8.85

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p. 37 38

Note by the Chief Engineer, P.W. Dept

In order to lay this matter clearly before the Government, it is necessary to give a brief epitome of what has been proposed, and of what has been done, in connection with the Madura palace up to this date.

2 In a minute dated 18th November 1868, on the subject of architectural remains in the Madras Presidency, Lord Napier suggested the restoration of Tirumal Naick's Palace at Madura, and its adaptation for the reception of the Revenue, Judicial, and Municipal offices of the city, and in G.O. dated 2nd December 1868, No 1478, Mr Chisholm was entrusted with

the duty of carrying out the measures necessary to give effect to His Lordships' proposals.

3. In September 1869, after an inspection of the building, Mr. Chisholm submitted a complete report on the subject, and the Government being satisfied that the old Palace was susceptible of restoration and of useful appropriation for official purposes, resolved to carry out the proposed work gradually "by the steady application of a few "thousands of rupees per annum."

G.O. No. 1357 d/ 29th Septr 1869 Public

4. This programme has been adhered to; for, since then, annual allotments have been made from Provincial funds for the prosecution of the work which has been steadily pushed on, mainly under Mr. Chisholm's direction and on estimates submitted by that officer.

5. In November 1871, Lord Napier, after seeing the Palace, recorded a minute in which he reviewed the work already carried out, and suggested that the following offices might be conveniently accommodated in the building after further necessary work had been provided:—

(1) Collectors' ~~Cutchery~~ office;
(2) Court of the Sessions judge;
(3) District Munsifs' Court;
(4) The Public Works office;
(5) The Forest office;
(6) Sub Magistrates' Court;
(7) Talug ~~Cutchery~~ office;

and 8,

and, in Proceedings dated 11th January 1872 No. 69 Public Works, orders were issued for the adoption of His Excellency's proposals.

6. In 1882, the expenditure had amounted to about Rs 2,13,000/- and the building was stated by Mr Chisholm to be sufficiently complete for occupation.x Orders were issued in the Revenue Dept., directing the officers concerned to move their offices into it; but the space allowed, and the arrangements proposed by the Consulting Architect, proved to be inadequate; and Mr Chisholm was directed, in G.O. No 3374 dated 20th December 1882, to submit revised plans and proposals. These however

x G.O. No 1119 W
d/3rd May 1882
on Revenue
Pgs: No 380 d
15th April 188

were not received up to the time of Mr Chisholm's departure to England on furlough in April 1883; and in G.O. No 1917 W dated 9th July 1883, the Govt. appointed a Committee, composed of the officers named in the margin,x to report on the following points:—

(a) How the different offices should be accommodated.

(b) What alterations were necessary and what subsidiary buildings were required, their probable cost, and the best sites for them.

(c) The preparation of an approximate estimate of all requirements.

(d) A programme of the order in

x

President.

Mr Cole .... Collector.

Members.

Mr Turner ... Judge.
Lt Col: Mead R.E. ... Supdg Engineer
Mr Grimes ... Executive Engineer

which the works proposed should be carried out.

7. The report of that Committee is recorded in G.O. No. 170 W dated 10th January 1884. They stated that the space required for the various offices had been much under-rated, and that the nature and style of the building necessitated more space and area being taken up than would be required in one better adapted for offices. They therefore suggested a modification of previous proposals, so far as to provide accommodation outside the palace for the Public Works office, the taluq ~~cutcherry~~ Office, and the Sub-

C. 26.8.83

Magistrates' Court; and thus allow for a more convenient arrangement of the ~~Revenue~~ Collector's Office and the Judicial offices inside the palace. They roughly estimated that, before the offices could move in, Rs 73,648 would have to be spent; and that, to complete the palace throughout, an expenditure of Rs 1,32,092 would in all be required. They believed that, if their proposals were accepted, Madura would be provided properly with "tolerable" offices; - the arrangement of the building not allowing of good ones being made. In G.O. No. 170 W above quoted, the Government accepted the recommendations of the Committee, and directed the officiating Consulting Architect to prepare for sanction the requisite estimates in the order of urgency suggested by the Committee.

8 The following statement shows the various estimates which were sanctioned from the commencement of the works up to 30th November 1884, and the Expenditure incurred on each item to the end of the official year 1883-84: —

Sanction.	Work.	Estimate			Expenditure		
		Rs	A	P	Rs	A	P
G.O. No 2386 d/22.8.74.	Restoring northern turret	2,340	"	"	2,661	2	9
" " 1587 d/ 5.6.75	Locality offices. Rupees 74,960.						
	Collector's Cutcherry office	12,570	-	-	12,585	15	10
	Punkah for Collector	51	"	-	51	-	-
	Dais for "	330	"	"	106	-	-
	Platform for Dais	135	-	-	135	-	-
	Iron strong room for Treasury	1,933	-	-	477	6	-
	Deputy Collector's office	3,236	-	-	3,275	-	-
	Restoring Octagon dome.	4,507	-	-	4,106	-	-
	Verandah for — do —	2,740	-	-	3,518	-	-
	Taluq Cutcherry office	6,110	-	-	5,461	10	10
	Range office	2,970	-	-	3,735	4	-
	Range store room	2,000	-	-	653	6	7
	Taluq Overseer's office	535	-	-	496	-	-
	Dismantling old racket court.	93	-	-	93	-	-
	District Munsif's Court.	9,790	-	-	4,734	5	5
	Lightning Conductors.	1,330	-	-	1,056	3	6
	Record racks	1,620	-	-	1,713	1	4
	Judge's court.	24,010	-	-	[illegible]	1	1
G.O. No 3204 d/ 9.11.75. " " 3313 d/ 19.11.75. " " 2639W d/ 19.11.80.	Constructing Napier gateway. } Restoration works.	4,650	-	-	5,529	12	1
" " 1211W d/ 23.4.79.	Sub Registrar's office	33,265	-	-	6,537	12	11
" " 991 W d/ 21.4.80.	Securing palace with iron ties	1,300	-	-	491	2	5
" " 2639W d/ 19.11.80	Under pinning palace	24,000	-	-	21,500	[illegible]	8
" " 277 W d/ 1.2.81.	Completing plinth around courtyard.	13,600	-	-	13,965	-	-
" " 944W d/ 8.4.81	Restoring portion of Judge's Court.	2,970	-	-	3,605	3	8
" " 2082 W d/ 14.8.82.	Furniture for Judge's Court	6,670	-	-	6,670	-	-
" " 2431 W d/ 2.10.84.	Canopy for Judge's seat.	1,768	-	-	878	0	7
	Restoring waggon vault.	1,363	-	-	-	-	-
		no estimate			[illegible]		
	Total Rupees	166086	-	-	221197	-	11

Note. The estimate sanctioned in G.O. No 1587 d/5.6.75 amounted to Rs 87,000. From this must be deducted Rs 12,040 for "securing superstructure with iron ties," as revised estimate for the latter having been sanctioned in April 1880.
Rs 87,000 – Rs 12,040 = Rs 74,960

There was a further estimate of Rs 15,735/- for locating the Judges' Court, sanctioned in G.O. No. 1885 W dated 4th August 1884; but this was subsequently superseded as will be shown below. The expenditure from 1st April to 30th November 1884 was Rupees 11,550; so that, on 30th November 1884, the total sanctioned estimates amounted to Rs 1,81,821, against an expenditure of Rs 2,42,749.

On his return from England towards the end of 1884, Mr Chisholm was placed on special duty to complete, among other work, the Madura palace estimates in accordance with the recommendations of the Committee of 1883. Since

then, the following estimates prepared by him have been sanctioned by Government:—

(a) G.O. No 609 W d/ 14.3.85. Rs 7,261 Locating Judges' Court.
(b) " " 728 W d/ 23.3.85 " 1,01,500. Completing restoration works.

Estimate (a) supersedes the previous estimate of Rs 15,735 sanctioned in August 1884 for locating the Judges' Court; and (b) provides fully for completing the restoration of the ancient structure. The existing total sanction therefore amounts to Rupees 2,74,847. The total expenditure to 31st March 1885 amounted to Rs 2,50,235; and an allotment of Rs 20,000 has been provided in the Budget of 1885-86.

18. Mr Chisholm next submits

an estimate amounting to Rs 82,320 for completing all work requisite for accommodating the Revenue offices in the palace, including necessary subsidiary buildings. ~~It will be seen~~ From the statement of sanctioned estimates and expenditure given above, it will be seen that the amount originally provided for the location of the Collector, &c., was actually worked out; but that, as a fact, the Collector did not accept the provision thus made as sufficient for his accommodation. The present estimate does not supersede any of the previous ones, but it provides for work not contemplated in the others, and it cannot therefore be compared with them.

11. In submitting the present estimate, Mr. Chisholm prefaces his remarks with a slight historical sketch of the restorations, and he proceeds to suggest a reconsideration of the proposal to locate the ~~Revenue~~ Collector's office~~s~~ in the palace. He now expresses general disapproval of that proposal; but considers that, if that office~~s~~ ~~are~~ is to be so located, the dwarf walls which divide off the different portions should be raised to the intrados of the arches, and that light and air should be admitted from above by skylights and ventilators

He points out however that this arrangement will impair the artistic effect of the halls, though not so much as the temporary expedients to which the officers occupying the rooms are sure to resort to lessen the discomforts attendant on unenclosed rooms. He states that the building is now practically restored, and he thinks it would be ill-advised to mar it at a cost of Rs 82,000, a sum which would go far towards enlarging the ~~existing cutcherry~~ Collector's present office, and giving ~~the Collector~~ to that office all the accommodation he wants exactly where he wants it

12. Mr Chisholm moreover considers that the space allotted in the palace for the Collectors' ~~Cutcherry~~ office, 23,000 square feet, is in excess of requirements, and he sums up by stating that three courses are now open:—

(1) To adhere to the original scheme and to the recommendations of the Committee, and to sanction the estimate of Rs 82,320 now submitted, for locating the Collector and allied departments in the Palace.

(2) To adhere to the original scheme, but to modify the allotment of space recommended by the Committee, which he considers excessive.

(3). To abandon the plan of

providing offices in the palace for the Revenue departments, and to utilise the restored spaces for other purposes.

The Collector of Madura expresses entire concurrence in Mr Chisholm's remarks, and points out the inconveniences which would result from the Revenue and Judicial departments being located in the same building, but it must be borne in mind that Mr Cole was President of the Committee whose recommendations were approved by the Govt in their Proceedings dated 19th January 1884 No 170 W, and it appears difficult to reconcile his endorsement of those

recommendations with the opinions now expressed by him after a lapse of only 15 months.

14. The undersigned recently had an opportunity of personally inspecting the Madura Palace, and the result of his visit has satisfied him that the proper course is to adopt the first of the alternatives suggested by Mr Chisholm in para 23 of his letter of 16th April 1885, No 2, namely to adhere to the original scheme as modified by the recommendations of the Committee, already approved by the Government in G.O. No 170 W of 19th January 1884. The undersigned cannot however recommend the adoption of Mr Chisholm's Estimate

of Rs 82,320/-.

15 Nor is he able to recommend the acceptance of the suggestion in para 17 of the same letter, to carry up the dwarf walls to the intrados of ~~the~~ the arches, and to light and ventilate the rooms from above. On the contrary, the undersigned concurs in the opinion expressed in para 3 of letter from the Supdg Engineer VI Circle, No 255 dated 7th August 1885, that the experiment which has been made in one room is decidedly not a success.

In fact, Mr Chisholm himself admits that the character of the building will be "marred" { para 21 of the letter of 16 Apr 1885

C. 16.8.85

by carrying out the suggestion, and in this the undersigned entirely concurs.

16. The undersigned does not agree with Mr Chisholm that experience has proved that the dwarf walls between the columns, approved by Lord Napier's Government, are insufficient to make the offices convenient and suitable. On the contrary, he is of opinion that the offices in question will afford accommodation far better in every way than those now occupied by the Collector's Establishment, and quite equal to the average accommodation occupied by similar Establishments in other parts of the Presidency.

With

17 With respect to Mr. Chisholm's proposals to improve the building now occupied by the Collector as an office, the undersigned entirely concurs in the opinion expressed by the Supdg Engineer in his letter of 8th August 1885 No. 259. Any attempt to improve that building, short of entire reconstruction, would almost certainly result in failure, and in the unnecessary expenditure of a large sum of money. The proposals of the Committee, to which Colonel Mead refers in para 2 of that letter, have already been approved by the Government;- and it must not be forgotten that those proposals were endorsed by the Collector, as President of the Committee.

18. The recommendations of the undersigned therefore are;- that the proposals of the Committee already approved by the Government be carried out; and that, with this view, the suggestions made by the Supdg Engineer VI Circle, in his letter of 7th August 1885, No. 255 be adopted.

19. It will be seen that Colonel Mead approximately estimates the cost at Rs 50,000; but of

Co. 16.8.85

that seen it is understood that some Rs 17,000 (Land Rs 12,380 and iron railings 4337) have already been spent.

20. The undersigned is further decidedly of opinion, with advertence to G.O. No. 1087 W. d/ 9th May 1885, that it is desirable on every ground, to restore the east aisle of the old Muhammadan School.

Mawthwart
21-8-85
Colonel R.E.
Chief Engineer, P.W. Dept.

Ootacamund
August, 1885

CM

Print in full

The result of my visit to Madras has satisfied me that the proper course is to adopt the first of the three alternatives suggested by Mr. Chisholm in para 23 of his letter of 15-4-85, namely to adhere to the recommendations of the Comtee already approved by Govt. in G.O. of 19-1-84 No. 170 W. I cannot however recommend the adoption of his estimate of R 82,320.

I cannot recommend acceptance of suggestions in para 17 of his letter, to carry up the dwarf walls to intrados of arches, & to light & ventilate the rooms from above. On the contrary, I concur with the S.E. (para 3 of his letter dated 7-8-85) that the experiment which has been made in one room is decidedly not a success. In fact, Mr. Chisholm himself admits that the character of the building will be "marred" by carrying out

an inspection of the building

the suggestion; & in this I entirely concur.

I do not agree with Mr. Chisholm that experience has proved that the dwarf walls between the columns, approved by Lord Napier's Govt., are insufficient to make the Offices convenient & suitable. On the contrary I concur with S. E. (para 2 of letter dated 2.5.85) that the rooms ~~as~~ separated by those dwarf walls make very tolerable Offices.

With respect to the building now occupied by the Collector as an Office, I entirely concur in the opinion expressed by the S.E. in his letter of 8.6.85. Any attempt to improve must in my opinion result in failure, and in the unnecessary expenditure of a large sum.

The recommendation of

an inspection of the building

the Comtee to which Colonel Mead refers in para 2 of that letter, has already been approved by Govt., — and it must not be forgotten that such recommendation was endorsed by the Collector, as President of the Comtee

My recommendations therefore are. that the proposals of the Comtee already approved by Govt., be ~~[illegible]~~ carried out. and that with this view the suggestions made by the S.E., in ~~[illegible]~~ his letter of 7.8.85 No. 255 be adopted.

It will be seen that Col: Mead approximately estimates the cost at £50,000/- — but of that sum I understand that some 17,000/- (land 12,380/- and trees & things 4,337/-)

an inspection of the building.

has already been spent.

I also am decidedly of opinion, with advertence to G.O. of 9.5.86 No. 1087 W. that it is desirable on every ground to restore the east aisle of the old Muhammadan school.

an inspection of the building,

C.A.W.

The order on this subject should be drafted with special care, so as to leave no possible room for doubt as to the views of the Govt., which I trust will now be accepted as final.

The order should in itself be complete, as a guide for the future. It will not be sufficient to express the concurrence of Govt. in the views of the E. W.

I have made a few verbal alterations in my Note, but I should be obliged if you will go carefully through it, & note any alterations which seem to you as advisable.

The Note will of course be printed in full.

21.8.85

W

Draft order submitted for approval.

For orders whether the views [illegible] estimate [illegible]

an inspection of the building

needs are to be prepared by the C.A. or the S.E. [illegible]

[illegible] S.E. has been inserted in the draft in view to Mr Chisholm's early retirement from the service [illegible] it is doubtful whether the restoration of the [illegible] aisle of the old [illegible] should be designed [illegible] by the S.E.

The [illegible] note has again been carefully [illegible]

Cir 31-8-85

31-8

In order to lay this matter clearly before the Govt., it is necessary to give a brief epitome of what has been proposed, and of what has been done, in connection with the Madura palace up to this date

NOTE

In a minute dated 18th November 1868, on the subject of architectural remains in the Madras Presidency, Lord Napier suggested the restoration of Tirumal Naick's Palace at Madura, and its adaptation for the reception of the Revenue Judicial and Municipal offices of the city; and in G.O. dated 2nd December 1868, No. 1478, Mr Chisholm was intrusted with the duty of carrying out the measures necessary to give effect to His Lordship's proposals.

In September 1869, after an inspection of the building, Mr Chisholm submitted a complete report on the subject; and the Government being satisfied that the old Palace was susceptible of restoration and of useful appropriation for official purposes, resolved to carry out the proposed work gradually "by the steady "application of a few thousands "of rupees per annum."

This programme has been adhered to, for since then, annual allotments have been made from Provincial funds for the prosecution of the work, which has been steadily pushed on, mainly under Mr Chisholm's

G.O. No: 1357 of 29th Septr 1869. Public.

? entirely

16.8.83

69

1

direction and on estimates submitted by that officer.

In November 1871, Lord Napier, after seeing the Palace, recorded a minute in which he reviewed the work already carried out, and suggested that the following offices might be conveniently accommodated in the building after further necessary work had been provided:—

(1) Collector's Cutcherry
(2) Court of the Sessions Judge
(3) District Munsif's Court
(4) The Public Works office
(5) The Forest office
(6) Sub Magistrate's Court
(7) Taluq Cutcherry

and in Proceedings

Up to date has any of these seven offices besides No (1) been accommodated?

None of the other offices appear to have been located in the Palace in accordance with original intentions of the Committee's proposals, but the two Munsifs appear to have temporarily occupied space not intended for them. [illegible]

11th January 1872 No. 69 Public Works, orders were issued for the adoption of His Excellency's proposals.

In 1882, the expenditure had amounted to about £213,000 and the building was stated by Mr. Chisholm to be ~~thought~~ sufficiently complete for occupation. Orders were+ issued in the Rev: Dept, directing the officers concerned to move their offices into it, but the space allowed, and the arrangements proposed by the Consulting Architect proved to be inadequate; and Mr. Chisholm was directed, in G.O. No. 3374 of th December 1882, to t revised plans and als. These however

+ G.O. No 1119 W of 3.5.82 in Rev. Pro No 380 of 15.4.83

were not received up to the time of Mr. Chisholm's departure to England on furlough in April 1883; and in G.O. No. 1917 W d/ 9th July 1883, the Government ~~directed~~ appointed a Committee, composed of the officers named in the margin,x to report on the following points:—

x President

Mr. Crole - Collector.

Members

Mr. Turner - Judge.

Lt. Col: Mead R.E. - Supdg. Engineer.

Mr. Grimes - Ex: Engineer

(a) How the different offices should be accommodated.

(b) What alterations were necessary and what subsidiary buildings were required, their probable cost, and the best sites for them.

(c) The preparation of an approximate estimate of all requirements.

(d) A programme of the order in which the works proposed should be carried out.

The report of that Committee is recorded in G.O. No. 170 W d/ 10th January 1884. They stated that the space required for the various offices had been much under-rated, and that the nature and style of the building necessitated more space and area being taken up than would be required in one better adapted for offices. They therefore suggested a modification of previous proposals, so far as to provide accommodation outside the palace for the Public Works office, the taluk cutcherry, and the Sub Magistrates' Court, and

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3

thus allow for a more convenient arrangement of the Revenue and judicial offices inside the palace. They roughly estimated that and that to complete the palace throughout, an ~~additional~~ expenditure of Rs 1,32,092 would be required. ~~and that~~; before the offices could move in, Rs 73,648 would have to be spent. They believed that, if their proposals were accepted, Madura would be provided properly with "tolerable" offices; - the arrangement of the building not allowing of good ones being made. In G.O. No. 170 W above quoted, the Government accepted the

2

1

The sum of Rs 73,648 forms a portion of the larger sum of Rs 1,32,092 recommendations of the Committee, and directed the officiating Consulting Architect to prepare for sanction the requisite estimates in the order of urgency suggested by the Committee.

The following statement shows the various estimates which were sanctioned from the commencement of the works up to 30th November 1884, and the expenditure incurred on each item to the end of the official year 1883.84:—

1882-3

No. 1883-4

Sanction	Work	Estimate			Expenditure		
		Rs	A	P	Rs	A	P
G.O. No. 2386 W d/22.8.74	Restoring northern turret	2,340	..	..	2661	2	9
G.O. no: 1587 d/5-6.75	"Locating offices" Rupees 74,960						
	Collectors' Cutcherry	13,570	..	..	13,585	15	10
	Punkah for Collector	51	..	..	51	..	..
	Dais for — do —	330	..	..	106	..	..
	Platform for Dais	135	..	..	135	..	..
	Iron strong room for Treasury	1,933	..	..	477	6	..
	Deputy Collector's office	3,236	..	..	3,275	..	..
	Restoring Octagon dome	4,507	..	..	4,180	..	..
	Verandah for — do	2,740	..	..	2,578	..	..
	Taluk Cutcherry	6,110	..	..	5,461	10	10
	Range office	2,970	..	..	2,735	4	..
	Range store room	2,000	..	..	653	6	7
	Taluq overseer's office	535	..	..	496	..	..
	Dismantling old racket court	93	..	..	93	..	..
	District munsifs' court	9,790	..	..	4,734	5	8
	Lightning conductors	1,330	..	..	1,056	3	6
	Record racks	1,620	..	..	1,723	1	4
	Judges Court	24,010	..	..	45,030	1	1
G.O. No. 3204 d/ 9.11.75.	Constructing Napier Gateway	4,650	..	..	5,529	12	1
" " 3313 d/19.11.75 " " 2639 W d/19.11.80	} Restoration works	32,265	..	..	65,337	12	11
" " 1211 W d/23.4.79	Sub-Registrar's office	1,300	..	..	491	2	5
" " 991 W d/21.4.80	Securing palace with iron ties	24,000	..	..	21,500	15	8
" " 2639 W d/19.11.80	Under: pinning palace	13,600	..	..	12,968	..	..
" " 277 W d/ 1.2.81	Completing plinth around courtyard	2,970	..	..	2,600	3	8
" " 944 W d/ 8.4.81.	Restoring portion of Judges' Court	6,870	..	..	6,870	..	..
" " 2082 W d/14.8.82.	Furniture for Judges' Court	1,768	..	..	898	12	7
" " 2631 W d/ 2.10.84	Canopy for Judges' ~~Court~~ Seat	1,363	..	..	..		
	Restoring mazzan vault	no Estimate			37,022		
	Total Rs	166,086	..	..	231,199	4	11

Note.– The estimate sanctioned in G.O. 1587 d/5.6.75 amounted to Rs 87,000 – From this must be deducted Rs 12,040 for "Securing superstructure with iron ties", a separate estimate for the latter having been sanctioned in April 1880 – Rs 87,000 – Rs 12,040 = Rs 74,960 –

There was a further estimate of Rs 15,735, for locating the Judge's Court, sanctioned in G.O. No 1885 W d/ 4th August 1884; but this was subsequently superseded as will be shown below. The expenditure from 1st April to 30th November 1884 was Rs 11,550, so that, on 30th November 1884, the total sanctioned estimates amounted to Rs 1,81,821, against an expenditure of Rs 2,42,749.

? expenditure up to
31-3-85 –
?
(see infra)

On his return from England towards the end of 1884, Mr Chisholm was placed on special duty to complete, among other work, the Madura palace estimates in accordance with the recommendations of the Committee of 1883. Since

then, the following estimates prepared by him have been sanctioned by Government:—

(a) G.O. No 609 W d/ 14.3.85. Rs 7261. Locating Judge's Court.
(b) " " 728 W d/ 23.3.85 " 1,01,500 Completing restoration, &c.

Estimate (a) supersedes the previous estimate of Rs 15,735 sanctioned in August 1884 for locating the Judge's Court; and (b) provides fully for completing the restoration of the ancient structure. The existing total sanction therefore amounts to Rs 2,74,847. The total expenditure to 31st March 1885 amounted to Rs 2,50,235, and an allotment of Rs 20,000 has been provided in the Budget of 1885-86.

Mr Chisholm now submits

an estimate amounting to Rs 82,320 for completing all work requisite for accommodating the Revenue offices in the palace, including necessary subsidiary buildings. It will be seen from the statement of sanctioned estimates and expenditure given above that the amount originally provided for the location of the Collector &c was actually worked out, but that as a fact the Collector did not accept the provision thus made as sufficient for his accommodation. The present estimate does not supersede any of the

previous ones, but it provides for work not contemplated in the others, and it cannot therefore be compared with them.

In submitting the present estimate, Mr Chisholm prefaces his remarks with a slight historical sketch of the restorations, and he proceeds to suggest a reconsideration of the proposal to locate the Revenue offices in the palace. He now expresses general disapproval of that proposal; but considers that, if the offices are to be so located, the dwarf walls which divide off the different portions should be raised to the intrados of the arches, and that light and air be admitted from above by skylights. He points out however that this arrangement will impair the artistic effect of the halls, though not so much as the temporary expedients to which the officers occupying the rooms are sure to resort to lessen the discomforts attendant on unenclosed rooms. He states that the building is now practically restored, and he thinks it would be ill-advised to mar it at a cost of Rs 82,000, a sum which would go far

towards enlarging the existing Cutcherry and giving the Collector all the ~~recommendation~~ accommodation he wants exactly where he wants it.

Mr. Chisholm moreover considers that the space allotted in the palace for the Collectors' Cutcherry, 23,000 square feet, is in excess of requirements, and he sums up by stating that three courses are now open:—

(1) To adhere to the original scheme, and to sanction the estimate of Rs 82,320 now submitted, for locating the Collector and allied depts in the Palace

(2) To adhere to the original scheme, but to modify the allotment of space recommended by the Committee, which he considers ~~appears~~ excessive.

(3.) To abandon the plan of providing offices in the palace for the Revenue depts., and to utilize the restored spaces for other purposes.

The Collector of Madura expresses entire concurrence in Mr. Chisholm's remarks, and points out the inconveniences which would result from the Revenue and Judicial departments being located in the same building; but it must be borne in mind that Mr. Crole was President of the Committee whose recommendations were approved by the Govt. in their Pro: dated 14.1.84, No 170 W; and it appears difficult to reconcile his endorsement of those recommendations with the opinions now expressed by him after a lapse of 15 months.

(Mr. Crole was President of the Comtee. appointed in July 1883.

omit

62

The Supdg Engineer VI Circle, through whom the papers have been sent up, looks upon Mr. Chisholm's observations as an utter condemnation of all the work and arrangements that have been accepted and carried out during the past five years. This however appears to be too sweeping an assertion, for Mr. Chisholm's suggestions amount to only disapproval of the location in the palace of offices other than the Judges' Court already provided for; — if the former offices are to be so located, the existing dwarf walls are insufficient for their protection from

In view to a final solution of the points at issue, Dy. W. suggests that the S.E. VI Circle be asked to give a definite opinion whether it will or will not be better, all things considered, to spend R 80,000 on the improvement of the Collector's present cutcherry, and to abandon the idea of further work in the Palace, Existing sanctions only to be worked out.

1.6.85

Tirumal Naick's Palace

Madura

No. 266 Ed/ June 23rd 1885.

The undersigned recently had an opportunity of personally inspecting the Madura Palace, and the result of his visit has satisfied him that the proper course is to adopt the first of the alternatives suggested by Mr. Chisholm in para 23 of his letter of 16th April 1885, No. 2, namely, to adhere to the recommendations of the Committee, already approved by Govt. in G.O. No. 170 W. of 19th January 1885. The undersigned cannot however recommend the adoption of Mr Chisholm's estimate of Rs 82,320.

Nor is he able to recommend the acceptance of the suggestion in para 17 of the same letter, to carry up the dwarf walls to the extrados of arches, & to light & ventilate the rooms from above – On the contrary, the undersigned concurs in the opinion expressed in para 8 of letter from the S.E. VI Circle No 3551 of 7 Augt 1885, that the experiment which has been made in one room is decidedly not a success.

+Para 21 of his letter of 16.4.85

In fact, Mr Chisholm himself admits that the character of the building will be "marred"+ by carrying out the suggestion; & in this the undersigned entirely concurs.

The undersigned does not agree with Mr Chisholm that experience ‖ has proved that the dwarf walls between the columns as proposed to avoid the glare from are insufficient to make the offices convenient & suitable. On the contrary, he ~~concurs supports the inference to be drawn from para 2 of S.E.'s memo letter of 2nd January 1885 that the~~ is of opinion that the offices in question will afford ~~to~~ accommodation far better in every way than those now occupied by the Collector's establishment, and quite equal to the ~~accommodation~~ accommodation occupied ~~given~~ by similar establishments in other parts of the Residency.

~~rooms so refitted make very tolerable Offices.~~

With respect to Mr Chisholm's proposals to improve the building now occupied by the Collector as an office, the undersigned entirely concurs in the opinion expressed by the Supdg Engr in his letter of 8th August No. 259. - Any attempt to improve short of entire reconstruction, the building would almost certainly ~~be~~ result in failure, and in the unnecessary expenditure of a large sum of money. The ~~recommendations~~ proposals of the Committee to which Col. Mead refers

refers in para 2 of that letter, have already been approved by Govt, - and it must not be forgotten that those proposals ~~recommend~~ ations were endorsed by the Collector, as President of that Committee.

The ~~[illegible]~~ recommendations of the undersigned therefore are - that the proposals of the Committee already approved by Govt be carried out, & that * with this view, the suggestions made by the Supdg Engr VI Circle, in his letter of 7 Augt

1885, No 255 ~~M.D.~~, be adopted

It will be seen that Col. Hunt approximately estimated the cost at Rs 50,000; but of that sum it is understood that some Rs 17,000 (land Rs 12,380 & iron railings Rs 4337) have already been spent

The undersigned is further decidedly of opinion, with reference to P.O. No 1087 W dated Aug 1885, that it is desirable to endeavour to restore the east side of the Mohammedan school –

~~H.A.~~
H.A.
19.8.85

S W

Copy of each as E. W.'s note
write for orders. Chief

P. W. Department.

Read the following:—

16

Letter from the Consulting Architect to Govt. } No 2 dated April 16th 1885.
" " the Collector of Madura " 58 dated " 19th "
" " the S. Engr. VI Circle " 57 M.D. dated May 3rd "
" " the Consulting Architect to Govt. } " 681 dated July 31st "
" " the Supdg. Engr. VI Circle " 255 M.D. dated Augt 7th "
" " the —— do —— " 259 M.D. dated Augt 8th "
Note by the Chief Engineer P.W.D. dated Augt 20th "

FOR ORDERS

I entirely agree with the view recorded by the Chief Engineer in the accompanying note

H.E.
23/8.

W.
25/8

Mure Stewart
21.8.85
Colonel R.E.,
Secretary to Government

Ootacamund
August 20. 1885 }

CM

1087W. 9.5.85
609W. 14.3.85
2431W. 2.10.84
1085W. 4.8.84
170W. 19.1.84
1917W. 9.7.83
3374W. 20.12.82
1119W. 3.5.82

~~The Hon. Mr. Sullivan~~
~~The Hon. C. G. Master~~

For orders

13/1
Civil works

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

C. A. From orders

No. 2055 W 18

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the 4th Septr

READ the following

Letter from the Consulting Architect to Government (H. C. No. 2 d/ April 16th 1885)
" " " Collector of Madura (" " 38 d/ " 19th ")
" " " Supty. Engr. VI Circle (" " 57 M.D. d/ May 3rd ")
" " " Consg. Architect to Govt. (" " 681 d/ July 31st ")
" " " Supty. Engr. VI Circle (" " 255 M.D. d/ Augt. 7th ")
" " " do VI " (" " 259 M.D. d/ " 8th ")
Note by the Chief Engr. P.W.D. (d/ " 20th ")

p 39

With his letter No. 2 dated 16th April 1885, Mr. Chisholm, Consulting Architect to Government, submits an estimate amounting to Rs 82,320 for completing all work requisite for accommodating the Collector's office and its allied departments in Tirumal Naick's Palace at Madura.

2. At the same time, he suggests a reconsideration of the proposal to locate the Collector's office in the palace; and the correspondence to which this suggestion has given rise is summarised in the Chief Engineer's note above recorded.

3. Mr Chisholm's proposals amount in effect, so far as regards the

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Revenue offices of the district, to an abandonment of the scheme initiated by Lord Napier in 1868, and of the proposals of the Committee whose recommendations were accepted in G.O. No 170 W d/ 19th January 1884. He suggests improvements to the Collector's present office building, which was condemne by Lord & Napier in 1872; or, as an alternative, he proposes a more expensive scheme for locating the Collector's office in the palace than was contemplated by the Committee of 1883. Mr Chisholm is supported

l of Minute recorded
ceedings d/ 11th January
69.

in his views by the Collector of Madura; but the Government concur with the Chief Engineer that it is difficult to reconcile Mr. Crole's endorsement of the recommendations of the Committee, over which he presided, with the opinions now expressed by him.

4 In his letter No. 255 d/7th August 1885, the Supdg Engineer VI Circle explains that the estimates submitted by Mr. Chisholm do not include all the items, which the Committee considered necessary to enable the Collector's office to be moved into the palace, that two large items of expenditure already incurred, Rs 12,380 for land and Rs 4337 for railing in the Vernacular record room, have been omitted from the estimates; and, on the other hand, that Mr. Chisholm's proposals to raise the dwarf walls to the intrados of the arches and to light and ventilate the rooms from above, will cause an additional expenditure of Rs 33,000 not contemplated by the Committee. In his letter of 3rd May 1885, the Supdg Engineer expresses the opinion that little or no advantage would be gained

by so raising the dwarf walls, and in his letter of 7th August 1885, he adds that the experiment which has been made in one room is not a success. The Chief Engineer, after personal inspection of the buildings, endorses the opinions expressed by the Supdg Engineer on those points.

5. In his letter of 8th August 1885, No 259, the Supdg Engineer expresses the opinion that it is not advisable to attempt to improve the building now occupied by the Collector as an office,

and the Chief Engineer, while entirely agreeing with the Supdg Engineer, adds that any attempt to improve that building, short of entire reconstruction, would almost certainly result in failure, and in the unnecessary expenditure of a large sum of money.

6. The Chief Engineer sums up by recommending that the proposals of the Committee, already approved by the Govt, be carried out, and he further expresses a decided opinion that it is desirable on every ground to

restore the east aisle of the old Muhammadan School.

8. H.E. the Governor in Council entirely agrees with the views recorded by the Chief Engineer in his note printed with these Proceedings, and, in final settlement of the question, directs that revised estimates be prepared by the Supdg Engineer with the least possible delay, providing for the work suggested by Colonel Mead in his letter of 7th August 1885, and for restoring

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72 p43

the east aisle of the old Muhammadan School.

31-8-85

31.8.85

S.E. VI Circle ✓
with plans & ests.
C.A. to Govt ✓
Ex. P.W. Accts. ✓
Revenue Dept ✓
Judicial Dept ✓

14 in number Despd
15/9/85

CM
31.8.85

2.8.4

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