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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

P.W. DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	737-W	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	24-3-1885	198

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Buildings and Roads.
Civil Works.

READ—the following letter from Major A. W. BAIRD, R.E., Deputy Superintendent, Survey of India, in charge Tidal and Levelling Operations, to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 18th March 1885, No. 69/173 L. :—

It appears to me that, it is very desirable to establish a standard bench mark for Madras. Up to 1880 the "DeHavilland bench mark" on the fort wall was considered the line of reference for Madras; but, from the tidal operations which have now been carried out for a series of years, it has been ascertained that the mean level of the sea as described on that bench mark is erroneous by nearly 1 foot.

2. A standard bench mark should be on the top surface of a large stone which is not likely to be disturbed, so that a levelling staff can actually be placed on the plane of reference. I would propose, for your consideration, that the stone at the north-east corner of the plinth of the lighthouse be adopted as that for the standard bench mark.

3. The position is central, and there is a ledge about 6 inches broad on the top of this stone; and, I understand, it is a B.M. of the harbour works, these letters (B.M.) being cut on the top surface.

4. If you approve of my proposals, I can have this bench mark connected very carefully by double levelling by one of my assistants when he has completed his connection of Madras, Bangalore and Beypore at the end of the present field season.

5. An inscription, as follows, might be cut on the stone, and this I can arrange for if you signify your approval :—

(On the top.)

G.T.S. O B.M.

(On the north side.)

Standard Bench Mark
for
Madras.

(On the east side.)

The level of the top surface of this stone within the O is feet above the mean level
of the sea as determined by Major A. W. Baird, R.E., from observations with a self-registering
tide-gauge at the end of the pier between 18 and 18
During this period the highest recorded high water was feet, and the lowest recorded
low water was feet, below the O on the top of this stone.

24TH MARCH 1885, No. 737 W., PUBLIC WORKS.

~~Order~~ dated 24th March 1885, No. 737 W., Public Works.

The proposals made in the above letter are approved.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Deputy Superintendent, Survey of India.

- " Superintending Engineer, V Circle.
- " Consulting Architect to Government.
- " Superintendent, Madras Harbour Works.
- " Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
- " Consulting Engineer for Railways.
- " Revenue Department.
- " Marine "

Exd. E. Fernandez.
Spare Copies

737
2

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Govt. of (1885) Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated March, 24th.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 24th March 1885, No. 737 W.

MARCH.

Standard Bench Mark for
Madras

Adoption of the stone at the north-east
corner of the plinth of the lighthouse as
the —, approved.

No. 69 L of 1885.
173

OFFICE OF TIDAL & LEVELLING OPERATIONS, SURVEY OF INDIA,

Madras, 18th March 1885.
Dated 18th March 1885.

From

MAJOR A. W. BAIRD, R.E.,

Deputy Superintendent, Survey of India,

In Charge Tidal & Levelling Operations.

To

The Secretary to Govt. of Madras
M. S. W. Department.

Sir,

It appears to me that it is very desirable to establish a Standard Bench Mark for Madras. Up to 1850 the "De Haas Island Bench Mark" on the Fort Wall was considered the line of reference for Madras, but from the tidal operations which have now been carried out for a series of years, it has been ascertained that the Mean Level of the Sea as described on that Bench Mark is erroneous by nearly one (1) foot.

2. A standard bench mark should be on the top surface of a large stone which is not likely to be disturbed, so that a levelling staff can actually be placed on the plane of reference. I would propose for your consideration that the stone at the N.E. corner of the plinth of the Light House be adopted as that for the Standard Bench Mark.

3. The position is central, & there is a ledge about six (6) inches broad on the top of this stone and I understand it is a B. M. of the Harbour Works, these letters (B. M.) being cut on the top surface.

4. If you approve of my proposals, I can have this

this Bench Mark connected very carefully by levelling by one of my assistants when he has completed his connection of Madras Bangalore & Bayport at the end of the present field season.

5. An inscription as follows might be cut on the stone, and this I can arrange for if you signify your approval

On the top

G.T.S. ○ B.M.

On the West side

Standard Bench Mark

for

Madras.

On the East side

The level of the top surface of this stone within the ○ is feet above the Mean Level of the Sea as determined by

Major A. W. Baird R.E.

from observations with a Self Registering Tide Gauge at the end of the pier between 78... and 18...

During this period the Highest Recorded High Water was feet and the lowest Recorded Low Water was feet, below the ○ on the top of this stone.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obedient servant

Assistant Major R.E.

By Capt. Survey of India.



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 24 March/85.

Read the following

Letter from the Dy. Supt.

Survey of India. H.E. No. 69/143 L of 1885 d/18 March/85.



The proposals made

in the above letter are

approved.

Dy. Supt. Survey of India.

S. E. V. arcle

Consq. archt. to front.

Supt. Mr. H. Works.

C.E. for Surg.

C.E. for Hyg.

Revenue Dept.

Marine Dept.

(Chief Secy. for favor of counterintuitive)

C.S.
19.3.85

W.S.
20.3.85

H.W.

R.B.

2533

Govt. of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated

Recd.

Encl.

G.O. No. 1085, No. 737

Standard Bench
Mark for Madras

Adoption of the stone at
the S.E. corner of the
plinth of the Light
house as the —
apparent

100

10

10
100
10