GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

From J. BURGESS, Esq., LL.D., C.I.E., Director-General of the Archæological Survey of India, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 31st March 1886, No. 175.

I have the honor to forward herewith the report of Mr. A. Rea, Assistant, Archæological Survey, for the two months, January and February last.

2. I have had the opportunity of examining the materials collected by Mr. A. Rea and the staff from 1st November last up to the early part of the present month and consider them most satisfactory and interesting, and hope when they are finished the Secretary of State will sanction their publication *in extenso*. They are calculated to give ideas of the early art and taste of the Hindus which most people in Europe have little idea of. Mr. Rea is doing his work well, with the utmost accuracy and good taste.

ENCLOSURE.

From A. REA, Esq., First Assistant, Archæological Survey, to the Director-General of the Archæological Survey of India, dated Nilgunda, 16th March 1886, No. 351.

In continuation of this office No. 230, dated 11th January 1886, submitted to the Government of Madras, and recorded in G.O., dated 9th February 1886, No. 281, I have the honor to forward a report of work since accomplished in the South Indian circle.

2. I made a complete survey of all the ancient buildings in Penukonda. Of the palace, tombs, and temples, a numerous and interesting set of drawings was prepared. These include general plans, elevations, and sections; also large scale detail drawings of architectural features of special note. The mythological series of sculptures covering the *Isvara* and *Rámasvámi* temples are excellent examples of design and execution, and they were fully reproduced on paper. Of the "sarasenic screen carved in white marble," mentioned at page 63 of the *District Manual*, and in Sewell's *lists*, volume I, page 119, I could neither see nor learn anything, and it must either have been removed when the palace was turned into a munsif's court, or some of the whitewashed perforated stucco work been mistaken for "marble." It would be desirable to have this investigated. Such objects sometimes disappear, and fall into private hands.

3. The principal places surrounding Penukonda were visited, and, where desirable, drawings were made; but the archæological examples remaining are comparatively few and unimportant.

4. At Kotacheru there are several small shrines without special features. I noted and copied four inscriptions here.

5. Bukkapatnam has three shrines, and the remains of an old Polegar's palace. I had drawings made of the last. I learnt of a copperplate in possession of the village *Karnam*, and had it copied. It is a fine set of three large and massive plates, joined by a ring bearing a seal, and is of Vijayanagar period.

6. At Kappilabanda there is no temple or remains of ancient buildings, only an *Isvara* figure rudely carved.

7. Peddahalli has three small temples—one of which stands on some rocks overlooking the river. They are all plain, and of no great age.

I noted and copied an inscription on a fallen *dvájasthamba* in a tope close to the village. Near by are a bas-relief of *Hanumán*, and two *Isvara* figures. The village has been fortified, and portions of the walls remain.

8. In Gutturu there are three temples; but of ordinary structure, and somewhat ruined. A black stone image of *Ganésa* stands in one of them. An inscription slab in the *Isvara* temple was copied. A bastion of the fort remains on the top of the hill.

9. The only ancient remains in Dudderbanda are the fort walls, with a gateway in them.

10. Yerramanchi near Kurampalli is a deserted village. Ruins of houses and temples remain, and several fragments of black stone images are seen at several places among the heaps of debris. Three inscriptions here were copied.

11. Roddam near the Pennár river has three temples. In that of *Venkatésa*, is a black stone image 6 feet high. In the northern end of the village, by the river, is the shrine of *Hanumán*, with an image of *Ganésa*, and inscribed stone. Some *Nága* figures lie under a tree. A *mandapam* with four piers stands in the centre of the village.

At the north-west end of the place is a temple on a high embankment overlooking the river, with three inscribed stones built into the basement.

12. At Nalluru is a small shrine and inscribed stone.

13. Kalipi has three temples (*Rámadéva*, *Hanumántarája* and *Ellama*). The first is a typical example of the smaller buildings of the Vijayanagar period. It is built of very large granite blocks, and stands on a high platform of built stones. In the shrine are four images (*Ráma*, *Sita*, *Lakshumana*, and *Hanumán*). An inscribed stone is built into the steps; the letters "Saka 146x" of the date can be made out. Some other images lie under a tree. This temple was surveyed.

I learned that there were several copperplates in the village. Two sets were copied, and one of them bought for the survey. I heard from several of the village Brahmans that a *Taliári* had possession of a set of large copperplates. The man said his father had buried them and he did not know where. I was therefore unable to see them.

Most of the owners of *sásanams* bury them for safety, and many are, I believe, lost in this way.

14. In the work at Penukonda and surrounding places in the taluk, I was much assisted by the courtesy of the tahsildar Mr. Pampapata Row.

15. In accordance with your directions in reference to G.O., dated 10th December 1884, No. 2655, I proceeded to Lépáksha to undertake a survey of the temple. The temple is large and contains some fine work. Some portions of it are unfortunately in ruins.

The architecture employed in its design is the best of the Vijayanagar period. The numerous sculptures of mythological figures are well grouped and boldly cut. The figures (nearly life-size) placed in front of the piers of the *Kalyána* and *Mahámandapams* are particularly good. The ceilings of several of the buildings, and some of the walls of the inner chambers, are frescoed with painted scenes from various *Puránas*. These are mostly in good preservation and are well worthy of reproduction, as evincing the proficiency attained in this class of art at the period to which they belong. Besides the figure sculptures, the examples of floral design represented are numerous and varied.

Before the survey was completed, I had to proceed west to meet Dr. Burgess' camp at Purá.

The *Karnam* at Lépáksha is in possession of a copper *sásanam* (of three plates, somewhat corroded through being buried). This was copied.

16. *En route* west, I particularly noted the quaint and pleasing designs of wooden construction exhibited in many of the house and shop-fronts at Hindupur and Madakasíra; these, although not strictly archæological examples (being comparatively modern), would be extremely interesting for an architectural survey, as showing the style of architecture adopted for such buildings in later times. Most, or at least many, of them might be adapted for the elevations of street fronts, even in England.

At Madakasíra a *Guru* is in possession of two copperplates, and a manuscript copy of a third.

The so-called "Chola" temple mentioned in the *lists* as at this place is a miserable erection of loose stones, but inside the shrine is a large black stone slab, about 7 feet square, with some well-carved figures and inscription; it seems to be a *virakal*.

17. At Kambadur—about midway between Madakasíra and Kalyándrúg—there are three temples, all of which are built in the Jaina style. Two are deserted, and are being ruined by shrubs; the third is the most ornate, and is in use as a *Siva* temple. This building is called the "Chola" temple by the villagers. It is, however, not Chola in style, but Chálukyan with a combination of Jaina features not usually found in the other black stone temples I have seen in these districts. It is built partly in granite, and partly in black stone; all the sculptures being in the latter material. A series of sculptured panels on the parapet surrounding the *mahámandapam* are very striking. At first sight they call to mind the Amarávati marbles. They are however Jaina, interspersed with *Siva* figures. One figure is shown mounted on a camel, rather an unusual animal in such groups as far as I have seen. The court-yard is literally strewn with fallen sculptures.

This temple is rather an interesting discovery, as, from its architecture, evidence leading to the defining of the districts where we may look for examples of one of the most beautiful periods of art in this portion of the Peninsula. It would lead to the supposition that the Chálukyan style, so peculiar to Dharwar and Maisur, with its head-quarters at Hallabid in the latter State, had not only extended its influence to the buildings in the taluks bordering the former province on the Tungabhadra river, but had also spread into the Madras districts on the outskirts of Maisur. Should this be so, and there seems reason to believe it will prove correct, we may find the existing examples of this architecture more numerous than hitherto supposed.

18. At Kalyándrúg, the fort and buildings in connection with it are seemingly the only ones of ancient date about the place.

19. At Ráyadrug, there is a very extensive fort; a Polegar's palace; and some fine temples.

20. Gudikotta has the remains of a fort; some temples with a few sculptures; and a portion of the residence of the Polegar chief.

21. On arrival at Harpanahalli, I proceeded to join Dr. Burgess, while the camp moved on to Harihar. I joined it shortly after and made a survey of the temple there. It is a large Chálukyan structure, with a fine colonnade of moulded piers in the *mahámandapam*, and some other good sculptured work.

Many of the carvings have, however, been destroyed at some former period, and what remains is greatly obscured by thick coatings of whitewash.

General plans and drawings of some of the sculptures were made.

22. The small temple at Hullwagle has some features of interest, which were copied.

23. The temple at Nilgunda is a fine specimen of black stone work, with some beautifully carved panels. It is in a bad state of repair, and covered with growing shrubs of the babul (*Acacia Arabica*) and banyan (*Marrichettu*, *Ficus Indica*). The roots of the latter spread quickly, and when they once penetrate the joints of the masonry are difficult to eradicate. Many of the sculptures are lying on the ground, and others are sure to follow unless the plants can be removed. There are other two temples (in the fort) of the same style but less ornate. The village *Patil* is in possession of a set of copperplates.

24. To one who has not seen any of these Chálukyan temples, it is difficult to give an exact idea of what they are like. They are sometimes literally covered with the most delicate ornament; each stone being a work of art by itself. They are as different as possible from the coarse work found in most of the principal temples further south: but being generally small shrines, the several authorities in charge have not the requisite funds to keep them in repair, the consequence is that the most of those I have seen are fast going to ruin. Most of them are free from whitewash, but when this is the case it is usually because the people have not the money to expend on it.

25. During the period included in this report I have copied five sets of copperplates, all of which have just been brought to notice. I had not time to copy those at Madakasíra. Those at Nilgunda will be copied. The drawings made, number 63; and inscriptions copied, 17.

26. The drawings are—

No.	509.	Elevation and section, *Shir Ali's* mosque, Penukonda.
„	510.	Sculptures, *Isvara* temple do.
„	511.	Do. do. do.
„	512.	Do. do. do.
„	513.	Black stone carved shrine, *Shir Ali's* mosque do.
„	514.	Sculptures from various buildings do.
„	515.	Do. from *Isvara* temple do.
„	516.	Do. do. do. do.
„	517.	Do. do. do. do.
„	518.	Sections do. do. do.
„	519.	Sketches from *Shir Ali's* mosque and tombs do.
„	520.	Sculptures, *Isvara* temple do.
„	521.	Do. do. do.
„	522.	Details from *Shir Ali's* mosque do.
„	523.	Plans, sections & elevation of *Rámkrús* (tower) do.
„	524.	Sculptures, *Isvara* temple do.
„	525 to 531.	Do. do. do.
„	532.	Elevation of south gate at Penukonda and palace at Bukkapatnam.
„	533.	Upper plan of *Gahanna Maha* (palace), Penukonda.
„	534.	Sculptures, *Isvara* temple do.
„	535.	Plan, &c., of *Kalchetti* (tower) do.
„	536.	Sculptures, *Isvara* temple do.
„	537.	Niche and piers, *Isvara* temple do.
„	538.	do. do. do. do.

No. 539. Sculptures at *Rámasvámi* temple, Kalipi.
„ 540. Images in shrine do. do.
„ 541. Plan of do. do.
„ 542. Sculptures do. do.
„ 543. Sections do. do.
„ 544. Elevations, &c., do. do.
„ 545. Plan of *Virabhadra* temple, Lépáksha.
„ 546. Sections do. do. do.
„ 547. Colossal, *Nága linga* do. do.
„ 548 to 552. Sculptures and ornaments do. do.
„ 553 to 558. Piers, figures, &c., do. do.
„ 559 to 563. Plans and details, *Kallésvara* temple, Hullwagle.
„ 564 to 571. Do. *Hariharésvara* temple, Harihar.

27. The pandit was at work at the head-quarters office in Madras, and translated upwards of 130 inscriptions, and tabulated 145 coins.

ORDER—dated 22nd April 1886, No. 835, Public.

Recorded.

2. The Collector of Anantapur will inquire and report on the matter brought to notice in paragraph 2 of Mr. Rea's report.

(True Extract.)

E. F. WEBSTER,
Chief Secretary.

To the Director-General, Archæological Survey of India.
„ Collector of Anantapur.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

No. 1293 Wdy 21st May 1886

Communicated to the Supg Engineer III Circle, for information.

Sd/ Illegible W

Govt. of {1886} Madras.

PUBLIC.

Issued

Recd. *Enel.*

G.O., 22nd April 1886, No. 835.

B. No. 1293 Wdy 21 May 1886

APRIL.

Archæology.

Recording letter from Dr. Burgess forwarding progress report by Mr. Rea of work done from 12th January to 16th March 1886, and directing the Collector of Anantapur to inquire and report on the matter brought to notice in paragraph 2 of Mr. Rea's report.

Withorder

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper:—

From A. REA, Esq., First Assistant, Archæological Survey Department, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 19th July 1886, No. 115.

In continuation of this office No. 78, dated Madras, 18th May 1886, recorded in G.O., dated 10th June 1886, No. 1208, I have the honor to report on the work since accomplished by the staff up to date.

2. During the period under note no field operations have been conducted, the draftsman being solely occupied in finishing up the pencil drawings on hand. A large number of previous seasons' field work is in office. This is being carefully finished in ink, with all speed consistent with artistic workmanship. Forty drawings have been completed and despatched to the Director-General.

3. I have finished my report on the Pallava antiquities of Conjeeveram and sent it to Dr. Burgess. It includes a sketch of Pallava history; critical dissertation on the characteristics of Pallava architecture and art, with deductions drawn from comparisons of the style, with that of the Seven Pagodas, and various ancient works of the dynasty in other districts, and with Dravidian architecture generally; also a detailed description of the temples and their sculptures.

4. While in Madras, Dr. Burgess received a communication from Colonel Taylor of Vellore in reference to an inscribed stone in some fields near Pallávaram. On the 25th May last I despatched a draftsman to make a sketch and, if possible, to copy the inscription. Colonel Oakes, Cantonment Magistrate of Pallávaram, kindly placed a man at our disposal to point out the stone. The draftsman reported that the letters of the stone were so rough that it was impossible to make a copy and that they seemed quite modern. I have communicated with Colonel Taylor to see if there is no mistake in regard to the stone to which he referred. If the inscription was ancient, the stone might be removed to the Museum.

ORDER—dated 28th July 1886, No. 1572, Public.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

Illegible

Chief Secretary.

To the Director-General, Archæological Survey of India.
„ A. Rea, Esq.
Copy to the Public Works Department.

Exd. P. L. Pereira.

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Govt. of {1886} Madras.

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Recd. 9. 8. 86. *Encl.*

G.O., 28th July 1886, No. 1572.

12. 8. 86

No. 2070 W 9/17 August/86

JULY.

I.E.V.C. for information.
I.E.V.C. for info
2 copies sent to Govt
18/8/86
Re
18/7/87

Archæology.

Recording report of work done by the Archæological Survey Department from the 19th May to 19th July 1886.