

(1) Number of pages 10
 (2) Date of repair May 88
 (3) Initials of the Referencer 2

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

P.W.D. DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	<i>3347. H</i>	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	<i>6.12.1887</i>	<i>197</i>

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Buildings and Roads.
Civil Works.

Read—the following paper :—

No. 86 E.W.

Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

With reference to paragraph 4 of G.O., No. 3056 W., dated 12th November 1887, the undersigned has the honor to state that he sees no objection to the construction of a rest-house at Mahaballipuram instead of at Covelong as provided in the Buckingham Canal estimates, and the Superintending Engineer, II Circle, has been instructed to arrange for the construction of the rest-house at the former site.

Chief,
2nd December 1937

(Signed)

U. S. DEPT. OF AGR.,

Child Practices for Interaction

To the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department.

Onion—dated 6th December 1887, No. 8847 W., Public Works.

Revised

(True Extras.)

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

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
 " Superintending Engineer, II Circle.
 " " " " " "
 " Public Department.
 " Revenue "

Ed. J. Moses,
Spice Copies

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Gobt. of (1887) Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated December, 6th.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 6th Dec. 1887, No. 3347 W.

DECEMBER.

Rest-house at Mahabalipuram,
Chingleput District

Report of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation stating that the Superintending Engineer, II Circle, has been instructed to arrange for the construction of the — instead of at Covelong, recorded.

12TH NOVEMBER 1887, No. 3056 W., PUBLIC WORKS.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Buildings and Roads.
Civil Works.

Read—the following papers :—

From G. T. WALCILL, Esq., Superintending Engineer, I Circle, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Dowlaishweram, 4th June 1887, No. 87 G.L.

With reference to G.O., No. 1353 W., dated 17th May 1887, I have the honor to say that I do not know of any buildings of such historical interest in this circle as would render them worthy of repair.

2. As regards the "Asoka tablets," which are inscriptions on natural rock, they have been so frequently reported upon by this department and the Archaeological Department that I had no idea that anything further had to be said about them and merely entered them in the return so that their position might not be lost sight of; their character is such that it does not admit of any repairs being done to them—indeed, I fancy, any attempt at meddling with them would be met with execrations by Archaeologists; they remain as they were, with of course the weathering due to the lapse of a year since last report, in which they were entered exactly as they were this year, without any exception being taken to the entry.

From J. W. RUNDALL, Esq., Superintending Engineer, II Circle, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Bezvada, 12th August 1887, No. 174 G.L.

I have the honor, with reference to G.O., No. 1353 W., of the 17th May last, to report that all the Executive Engineers in this circle have forwarded "Nil" returns of architectural remains, except Mr. Vincent.

2. I know of no works of the kind unless the Kondapalli Hill Fort be considered worthy of maintaining, except the Seven Pagodas, the state of which forms the subject of Mr. Vincent's letter, which I send on in original.

3. I certainly think every care should be taken of these interesting well known works, though I doubt its being necessary to appoint a man on as high a salary as Rs. 25. Quarrying should not be allowed unreservedly. As the number of travellers and *savants* visiting India is likely to increase year by year, a bungalow at the spot is likely to be a convenience, and I see no objection to the proposed alteration of the site of the rest-house included in the Buckingham canal estimates, from Covelong to the Seven Pagodas.

4. I conclude that the Seven Pagodas and the Kondapalli Hill Fort are under the guardianship of the Collectors of Chingleput and the Kistna, respectively.

ENCLOSURE.

From G. VINCENT, Esq., Executive Engineer, Buckingham Canal Division, to the Superintending Engineer, II Circle, Bezvada, dated 10th June 1887, No. 292 C.

With reference to your endorsement No. 88 G.L. of the 3rd instant, on Proceedings of Madras Government, No. 1353 W., of May 17th, I have the honor to report that the only architectural remains situated on or near the banks of the canal are those known as the Seven Pagodas. These require maintaining in good order, and I would strongly recommend the appointment of a gunastah on Rs. 25 a-month, who should reside at Mahabalipuram, look after the remains generally, and act as "cicerone" to visitors.

2. I visited the remains recently, and one or two things struck me, to which I may briefly refer. The railings round the bas-relief, known as "Arjuna's Penance," require renewal. The rock-cut cave next to this has been used as a store-shed for cannon; it requires clearing out. The temple under the rock, on which the light-house is being constructed, was being utilized as a store-shed for the heavy metal portions of the light. This cave contains the finest of the sculptures, and requires careful guardianship. Lastly, quarrying is going on to a considerable extent on the hill, and it seems to me that this should be prohibited altogether or should only be permitted under regulation.

3. There is no accommodation for visitors at Mahabalipuram, and many, who would gladly visit what is certainly one of the most interesting and remarkable places in Southern India, are deterred from doing so by this fact. It has occurred to me that the difficulty might be met by transferring to Mahabalipuram the site of the rest-house provided for Cavelong in the completion estimates for the canal. This would involve no loss of convenience, so far as the canal is concerned, for a rest-house is not really required at Cavelong, which is within 15 miles of Madras. This rest-house, if simply furnished, would afford to visitors all the accommodation they would require.

4. I am not aware whether the Executive Engineer, Chingleput division, has placed the Seven Pagodas in his list of architectural remains. In any case, however, it could more conveniently be dealt with by the Executive Engineer of the canal, for the locality is cut off from a good road by 4 miles of a sandy track, which in wet weather becomes, I am informed, impassible. Practically therefore the only means of approach is by the canal.

From C. J. PETERS, Esq., Superintending Engineer, III Circle, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Bellary, 10th September 1887, No. 1092.

With reference to G.O., No. 1353 W., dated 17th May 1887, I have the honor to submit a revised return of ancient architectural remains for the year ending 31st March 1887, with the required information as to the present state of the buildings duly furnished.

From Colonel H. SMALLEY, R.E., Superintending Engineer, III Circle, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Bellary, 12th October 1887, No. 1392.

With reference to the remarks against two temples and mosque at Gundikola in the return of ancient architectural remains forwarded with this office letter No. 1092, dated 10th September 1887, I have the honor to report that the temples are reported to be not worth restoring, and the mosque is reported to be in fair order and any necessary repairs easily within the means of the Mussulman inhabitants of the place.

From Colonel J. BEATTY, R.E., Superintending Engineer, IV Circle, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Coimbatore, 2nd June 1887, No. 231 E.W.

With reference to G.O., No. 1353 W., of 17th ultimo, I have the honor to inform you that I have now added to my list of buildings of historical and archaeological interest the three monuments mentioned in G.O., No. 2760 W., of 20th October 1886, which will be kept in order by this department, viz:—

I. Tandani obelisk, Karur taluk. III. General Carnac's tomb, in South
II. Conolly's tomb, in Malabar. Canara.

2. These are the only three buildings in the circle on which expenditure should be incurred to keep them in repair, and the attention of the Executive Engineers has already been directed to them.

From Colonel H. M. VIBART, R.E., Superintending Engineer, V Circle, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Chepak, 21st September 1887, No. 2561.

With reference to your memorandum, No. 1353 W., dated 19th September 1887, I have the honor to state that a report on architectural or historical buildings worthy

of repair was submitted in this office No. 815, dated 13th May 1887, and, upon the receipt of G.O., No. 1353 W., of 17th May 1887, a further report was sent in this office No. 1682, of 18th July 1887. There are no other buildings to report on at present.

From Lieutenant-Colonel J. PENNYCUICK, R.E., Superintending Engineer, VI Circle, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Trichinopoly, 23rd July 1887, No. 840 T.J.

With reference to G.O., No. 1353 W., dated 17th May 1887, I have the honor to re-submit the return of ancient architectural remains for the year ended 31st March 1887, after noting in red ink the information required.

From J. W. BRASSINGTON, Esq., Consulting Architect to Government, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Chepak, 20th September 1887, No. 836.

Architect Division.—Return of buildings of architectural or historical interest in charge of the Consulting Architect to Government for the year ending 31st March 1887.—Nil.

ORDER—dated 12th November 1887, No. 3056 W., Public Works.

Communicated, with a copy of G.O., No. 1353 W., dated 17th May 1887, and the lists submitted by the Superintending Engineers, III and VI Circles, to the Public Department for the information of the Director-General of the Archaeological Survey of India.

2. The Superintending Engineer, II Circle, will be furnished with a copy of G.O., No. 2687 W., dated 12th October 1887, from which it will be seen that work at the Seven Pagodas is being carried out by the Executive Engineer, Chingleput division.

The Superintending Engineer, V Circle, will report on the proposal to transfer the work to the Executive Engineer, Buckingham Canal division.

3. The remarks relative to restriction of quarrying operations in the vicinity of the Seven Pagodas will be considered in the Revenue Department.

4. The proposal to transfer the site of the rest-house, included in the Buckingham Canal estimates from Cavelong to Mahabalipuram, will be referred to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation for consideration.

5. The two previous letters † from the Superintending Engineer, V Circle, quoted in his present letter, were forwarded to the Public Department, with this department endorsements No. 136 D., dated 20th May, and 389 D., dated 22nd July 1887.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. O. HASTED, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Public Department, with two statements and copy of
G.O., No. 1353 W., dated 17th May 1887.

To Superintending Engineers.
To the Consulting Architect to Government.
" Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
" Revenue Department.

Exd. J. Moses.
Spare Copies

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Govt. of (1887) Madras
PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated November, 12th.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 12th Nov. 1887, No. 3056 W.

NOVEMBER.

3347

Buildings of historical or archi-
tectural interest

Orders on the returns of — for 1886-87.

Note by the Chief Engineer for Irriga-

N. 86 E. W.

With reference to para 4 of
G.O. N° 3056 W. dated 12th November
1887 the undersigned has the
honor to state that he sees
no objection to the construc-
tion of a rest house at Maha-
balipuram instead of at
Jorvelong as provided in the
Buckingham Canal estimates
and the Supg. Engineer, 2^d field
has been instructed to
arrange for the construction
of the rest house at the
former site.

The Honk
B. Dec 87

M. M. M. Col. R. S.
Chief Engineer for Irriga-

The Chief Engineer
P. W. S.

B. J. H.
clerk

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6/17/07

John H. H.

Chief Engineer, for bridge

Sup. Eng. to Circle

Sup. Eng. to Circle

Public Dept.

Rev. Dept.

William H.

9931.

Vol. of 1882

PUBLIC WORKS

8/12/82

Dec 1882 33474

Rest house at Beaham
Muram, Chief of

Report of the Chief for
signature stating that
the Chief, Beaham,
has been instructed
to arrange for the con-
struction of the
instead of at Cowling
warded.

9/1/82

W. B. R.