

Gobt. of {1891} Madras.
PUBLIC.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 13th May 1891, No. 378.

MAY.

Archæology.

Passing orders on letters from the Archæological Surveyor to this Government submitting, with remarks, a revised list of ancient monuments selected for conservation in this Presidency.

1050
Pw 5770/91

No. 1574 W 79 June 1891

Communicated to
officers of the P.W. Department
in continuation of G.O. No. 186 W. dt 20th January 1891

2. Eighty five copies of
the List will be required
for distribution in the
P.W. Department

3. The Consulting Engineer
for Railways will issue
the necessary instructions
with reference to the last
para of the G.O.

(Sd) A. S. S.

Do

Superior Engineer
Ct. to Govt.
Commr. P.W. Department
Consulting Engineer for Railways
Public Works

The distribution of the numbers according to districts is noted below :—

Anantapur.	Madura.
Bellary.	Nellore.
Chingleput.	North Arcot.
Cuddapah.	Salem.
Ganjam.	South Arcot.
Godavari.	South Canara.
Kistna.	Tanjore.
Kurnool.	Trichinopoly.

4. With the exception of the Tanjore temple, which is a unique specimen of early Chôla work, none of the large South Indian temples in use for worship have been included in the present list. The reason for this is obvious. Government has no control over them; they have usually abundance of funds; and are kept in a state of repair by their own authorities. There seems no reason, therefore, why they should find a place in a list of buildings of which Government is to undertake the responsibility of upkeep. Examples of the Dravidian style to which they belong are, however, found among the deserted temples recommended for conservation at Vijayanagar.

5. I would request the orders of Government as to whether the Tanjore Palace should be included. Though occupied by the family of the late Râjâ, it is said to be kept in order by Government. Some parts of it are ancient, but a great portion is modern.

6. As to groups of remains entered under one item, the Seven Pagodas (No. 28) is the only instance in which a large number has been so treated. These monuments must always find a foremost place in any conservation proposals. If numbered separately, they would occupy a great proportion of the hundred examples to be selected. Nothing would be gained by so entering them as the most of the conservation necessary, has already been carried out. All that is at present required is the periodical inspection suggested.

7. I have appended a few notes on the preservation of pre-historic monuments and ancient mounds. These remains are of special interest, but their great number makes measures of conservation difficult, if not impossible. The principal matter is to ensure that they be not meddled with. In these notes, I have remarked on the numerous Buddhist mounds in the four north-eastern districts of the Presidency. Now that a railway is in course of construction through these very tracts, there is a probability of much destruction being caused by contractors in search of building material. Any scruples some of these men have in disturbing ancient remains is, in many cases, overcome by the advantages derived from finding bricks and other materials ready for removal. As the Government of India has passed Resolutions * on this subject,

I would suggest that any danger of the kind would be obviated if these orders were communicated to the Engineers in charge of the works.

8. If the list meets with the approval of Government, I would request permission to prefix a few notes on the principles on which the conservation of ancient remains in India should be carried out.

Read—also the following paper :—

G.O., dated 30th March 1891, No. 254 B., Public.

Read—the following paper :—

From A. REA, Esq., M.R.A.S., Archaeological Surveyor to the Government of Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Gangaikondacholapuram, 12th March 1891, No. 425.

I have the honour to request that the Siva temple at this place might be included in the conservation list submitted with my letter, No. 71, of the 18th February 1891.

2. It was not entered in that list, as I had not then seen the temple. It appears in the previous conservation list (pages 70-71).

3. The temple is a most important structure both historically and architecturally. It is similar in design and date to the great temple at Tanjore, and is nearly as large. Both have peculiarities not found in any other known temple, notably a lofty stone tower over the shrine. It has a number of archaic carvings, and ancient inscriptions of historical and palæographical interest.

4. Although it is stated in the superseded conservation list that the walls and towers were to be kept free of vegetation, all the buildings, other than the shrine itself, are overrun with plants. An ancient entrance gopura is in such a dangerous state that it cannot be used. Whenever rain falls, it brings down great masses of masonry. The temple authorities propose to pull it down. It would be a pity if this had to be done, as the structure is a most unique one. Although it would be a matter of difficulty, in its present state, to repair the upper portion, there is no doubt that, if funds were granted, the most of the lower part of the building might be saved; and, perhaps, with care, the upper portion also.

Order—dated 30th March 1891, No. 254 B., Public.

The proposal of the Archæological Surveyor is approved and he will be requested to forward the necessary particulars regarding the temple in the form adopted for the List of Monuments selected for conservation.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Archæological Surveyor.

Read—also the following paper :—

From the Archæological Surveyor to Government, dated 15th April 1891, No. 186.

ABSTRACT.—Forwarding particulars regarding the temple at Gangaikondacholapuram.

ORDER—dated 13th May 1891, No. 378, Public.

With the first of his letters read above, Mr. Rea forwards, as directed in paragraph 10 *et seq.* of G.O., No. 17, Public, dated 9th January last, the revised list of ancient monuments selected for conservation in this Presidency, and in his letter, No. 186, dated 15th April, he submits particulars regarding another item which it has been decided shall be included in the list.

2. In paragraph 11 of the order quoted above, it was stated that a maximum total of 100 items in all classes would be allowed, and it was further directed that each entry should rest on personal observation. In paragraph 12, Mr. Rea was informed that there would be no objection to his drawing up a provisional list of monuments already inspected, and that a final standard could then be prepared by the process of elimination.

3. The list, as at present constituted, contains 108 items, and the Archæological Surveyor considers that there are doubtless many other monuments in parts of the Presidency, yet unvisited by the Survey, which would be worthy of conservation, but no decision touching these can be arrived at till they have been inspected. In paragraph 2 of his letter, he enumerates the monuments the inclusion of which in the present list does not rest on personal observation. These, eight in number, are stated to have been vouched for by authorities as noteworthy examples, or drawings or photographs have been seen by the Archæological Surveyor himself. In paragraph 4 of his letter, Mr. Rea points out that, with the exception of the Tanjore temple, none of the large South Indian temples at present in use for worship have been

The distribution of the numbers according to districts is noted below :—

Anantapur.	Madura.
Bellary.	Nellore.
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Cuddapah.	Salem.
Ganjam.	South Arcot.
Godavari.	South Canara.
Kistna.	Tanjore.
Kurnool.	Trichinopoly.

4. With the exception of the Tanjore temple, which is a unique specimen of early Chôla work, none of the large South Indian temples in use for worship have been included in the present list. The reason for this is obvious. Government has no control over them; they have usually abundance of funds; and are kept in a state of repair by their own authorities. There seems no reason, therefore, why they should find a place in a list of buildings of which Government is to undertake the responsibility of upkeep. Examples of the Dravidian style to which they belong are, however, found among the deserted temples recommended for conservation at Vijayanagar.

5. I would request the orders of Government as to whether the Tanjore Palace should be included. Though occupied by the family of the late Râjâ, it is said to be kept in order by Government. Some parts of it are ancient, but a great portion is modern.

6. As to groups of remains entered under one item, the Seven Pagodas (No. 28) is the only instance in which a large number has been so treated. These monuments must always find a foremost place in any conservation proposals. If numbered separately, they would occupy a great proportion of the hundred examples to be selected. Nothing would be gained by so entering them as the most of the conservation necessary, has already been carried out. All that is at present required is the periodical inspection suggested.

7. I have appended a few notes on the preservation of pre-historic monuments and ancient mounds. These remains are of special interest, but their great number makes measures of conservation difficult, if not impossible. The principal matter is to ensure that they be not meddled with. In these notes, I have remarked on the numerous Buddhist mounds in the four north-eastern districts of the Presidency. Now that a railway is in course of construction through these very tracts, there is a probability of much destruction being caused by contractors in search of building material. Any scruples some of these men have in disturbing ancient remains is, in many cases, overcome by the advantages derived from finding bricks and other materials ready for removal. As the Government of India has passed Resolutions * on this subject,

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G.O., dated 30th March 1891, No. 254 B., Public.

Read—the following paper:—

From A. REA, Esq., M.R.A.S., Archæological Surveyor to the Government of Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Gangaikondacholapuram, 12th March 1891, No. 125.

I have the honour to request that the Siva temple at this place might be included in the conservation list submitted with my letter, No. 71, of the 18th February 1891.

2. It was not entered in that list, as I had not then seen the temple. It appears in the previous conservation list (pages 70-71).

3. The temple is a most important structure both historically and architecturally. It is similar in design and date to the great temple at Tanjore, and is nearly as large. Both have peculiarities not found in any other known temple, notably a lofty stone tower over the shrine. It has a number of archaic carvings, and ancient inscriptions of historical and palæographical interest.

4. Although it is stated in the superseded conservation list that the walls and towers were to be kept free of vegetation, all the buildings, other than the shrine itself, are overrun with plants. An ancient entrance gopura is in such a dangerous state that it cannot be used. Whenever rain falls, it brings down great masses of masonry. The temple authorities propose to pull it down. It would be a pity if this had to be done, as the structure is a most unique one. Although it would be a matter of difficulty, in its present state, to repair the upper portion, there is no doubt that, if funds were granted, the most of the lower part of the building might be saved; and, perhaps, with care, the upper portion also.

Order—dated 30th March 1891, No. 254 B., Public.

The proposal of the Archæological Surveyor is approved and he will be requested to forward the necessary particulars regarding the temple in the form adopted for the List of Monuments selected for conservation.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Archæological Surveyor.

READ—also the following paper:—

From the Archæological Surveyor to Government, dated 15th April 1891, No. 186.

ABSTRACT.—Forwarding particulars regarding the temple at Gangaikondacholapuram.

ORDER—dated 13th May 1891, No. 378, Public.

With the first of his letters read above, Mr. Rea forwards, as directed in paragraph 10 *et seq.* of G.O., No. 17, Public, dated 9th January last, the revised list of ancient monuments selected for conservation in this Presidency, and in his letter, No. 186, dated 15th April, he submits particulars regarding another item which it has been decided shall be included in the list.

2. In paragraph 11 of the order quoted above, it was stated that a maximum total of 100 items in all classes would be allowed, and it was further directed that each entry should rest on personal observation. In paragraph 12, Mr. Rea was informed that there would be no objection to his drawing up a provisional list of monuments already inspected, and that a final standard could then be prepared by the process of elimination.

3. The list, as at present constituted, contains 108 items, and the Archæological Surveyor considers that there are doubtless many other monuments in parts of the Presidency, yet unvisited by the Survey, which would be worthy of conservation, but no decision touching these can be arrived at till they have been inspected. In paragraph 2 of his letter, he enumerates the monuments the inclusion of which in the present list does not rest on personal observation. These, eight in number, are stated to have been vouched for by authorities as noteworthy examples, or drawings or photographs have been seen by the Archæological Surveyor himself. In paragraph 4 of his letter, Mr. Rea points out that, with the exception of the Tanjore temple, none of the large South Indian temples at present in use for worship have been

included in the list, as, being usually in possession of abundance of funds, they are kept in repair by the authorities in charge of them and Government cannot undertake the upkeep as it has no control over them. Examples of the Dravidian style to which they belong are, moreover, found among the deserted temples at Vijayyanagar entered in the list. In paragraph 6 of his letter, the Archæological Surveyor states that in only one instance—the Seven Pagodas, No. 28—have groups of remains been entered as one item. The reasons assigned for this are that, if numbered separately, the items in question would occupy a great proportion of the hundred examples to be selected and nothing would be gained by so entering them, as most of the conservation necessary has already been carried out and all that is at present required is the periodical inspection suggested.

4. His Excellency the Governor in Council directs that the list submitted by Mr. Rea be accepted as a provisional one, and, with reference to paragraph 8 of his first letter, he will be requested to forward, at an early date, direct to the Superintendent of the Government Press, such notes as he may wish to prefix to the lists, submitting a copy at the same time for the approval of Government. The list, when printed, will be communicated to the Revenue and Public Works Departments for distribution to Divisional officers, and, in view to form an estimate of probable requirements, these Departments will be requested to report the number of copies likely to be needed.

5. With reference to paragraph 5 of his first letter, the Archæological Surveyor will be informed that Government is of opinion that there is no necessity for the inclusion of the Tanjore Palace in the revised list as an annual grant is already made for its upkeep. The Collector of Tanjore will, however, be requested to take such measures as are practicable for the conservation of the more ancient portions of this building.

6. In paragraph 7 of his letter of the 18th February, and in the Appendix to the list which accompanied that letter, the Archæological Surveyor deals with the subject of pre-historic monuments and ancient mounds. As regards the first of these, he is of opinion that it would be hopeless, with so large a number scattered over the Presidency, to attempt anything in the way of conservation, all that is required being for Collectors to make it widely known that Government wishes these relics to be untouched. This, he is of opinion, will be sufficient to induce villagers and others not to interfere with them. In regard to the ancient mounds,

* G.O., No. 462, Public, dated 29th May 1889.

he alludes to the action * taken in regard to those in the Kistna district and suggests

that similar orders should be issued by the Collectors of the other northern districts of Ganjam, Vizagapatam and Godáviri. His Excellency the Governor in Council approves of these suggestions, and the attention of all Collectors, and especially of those of the three districts specifically mentioned, will be drawn to them in view to the necessary action being taken. In order, moreover, to avoid any damage being done to the Buddhist mounds in the north-eastern districts of the Presidency during the construction of the East Coast Railway, the Public Works Department (Railway Branch) will also be requested to draw attention to the Government of India Circular quoted by Mr. Rea in paragraph 7 of his first letter. His Excellency the Governor in Council trusts, however, with regard to these ancient mounds, that steps will be taken to gradually investigate them at the rate of, say, two or three per annum.

(True Extract.)

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Archæological Surveyor.
„ the Revenue Department.
„ the Public Works Department.
„ other Departments of Secretariat.
„ the Superintendent, Government Press.

Exd. P. L. Pereira.

Gobt. of {1891} Madras.
PUBLIC.

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No. 1574 W 179 June 1891

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Superior Engineer
A. S. Govt
Exam. P. W. Accounts
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13TH MAY 1891, No. 378, PUBLIC.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following paper:—

G.O., dated 9th January 1891, No. 17, Public.

ABSTRACT.—Passing orders regarding the lines on which conservation of ancient monuments in the Madras Presidency should proceed.

READ—also the following paper:—

From A. REA, Esq., M.R.A.S., Archæological Surveyor to the Government of Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Tanjore, 18th February 1891, No. 71.

With reference to paragraph 10 *et seq.* of G.O., No. 17, Public, dated 9th January 1891, I have the honour to forward the list of monuments therein ordered to be prepared.

2. There are doubtless many other monuments in the parts of the Presidency as yet unvisited by the Survey, which would be worthy of conservation; but, till such have been inspected, and in the absence of reliable information concerning them, it is impossible to decide which are valuable and which not. Government has therefore ordered that each entry in the present list must rest on personal observation. With a very few exceptions, only such have been included. The exceptions are:—

No.	1. Jangada	..	..	..	Asôka rock inscription.
"	3. Jaggaipetta	..	..	..	Buddhist tope.
"	59. Madabidri	..	..	..	Jain basti.
"	76. Sri Sailam	..	..	..	Large temple.
"	77. Kondapalle	..	..	..	Fort.
"	85. Krishnagiri	..	..	..	"
"	86. Gingee	..	..	..	"
"	102. Gurramkonda	..	..	..	Mahâl.

These have either been vouched for by authorities as noteworthy examples or drawings or photographs have been seen by myself.

3. The monuments now selected are typical specimens of the architectural periods to which they belong. As the number is limited, I have thought it best, for facility of reference, to classify them according to their architecture and date.

The arrangement adopted is as follows:—

- I. Buddhist remains, 250 B.C. to 500 A.D.
- II. Pallava caves and structures, 500 A.D. to 700 A.D.
- III. Chôla and Pândiyan temples, 11th century *et seq.*
- IV. Châlukyan temples, 12th to 14th century.
- V. Jain temples, 14th century *et seq.*
- VI. Later Dravidian temples, 15th century *et seq.*
- VII. Military architecture.
- VIII. Examples of Civil architecture.
- IX. Christian remains.

APPENDIX.

1. Pre-historic monuments.
2. Mounds covering remains of ancient buildings.

This arrangement has also the advantage of readily showing in which districts the different styles of architecture are found. Thus the Buddhist only appears in the north; the Châlukyan in certain parts of Bellary; the Chôla principally in the south and partly in the north; and so with the others.

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4. With the exception of the Tanjore temple, which is a unique specimen of early Chôla work, none of the large South Indian temples in use for worship have been included in the present list. The reason for this is obvious. Government has no control over them; they have usually abundance of funds; and are kept in a state of repair by their own authorities. There seems no reason, therefore, why they should find a place in a list of buildings of which Government is to undertake the responsibility of upkeep. Examples of the Dravidian style to which they belong are, however, found among the deserted temples recommended for conservation at Vijayanagar.

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* G.O., No. 462, Public, dated 29th May 1889. he alludes to the action * taken in regard to those in the Kistna district and suggests that similar orders should be issued by the Collectors of the other northern districts of Ganjam, Vizagapatam and Godáviri. His Excellency the Governor in Council approves of these suggestions, and the attention of all Collectors, and especially of those of the three districts specifically mentioned, will be drawn to them in view to the necessary action being taken. In order, moreover, to avoid any damage being done to the Buddhist mounds in the north-eastern districts of the Presidency during the construction of the East Coast Railway, the Public Works Department (Railway Branch) will also be requested to draw attention to the Government of India Circular quoted by Mr. Rea in paragraph 7 of his first letter. His Excellency the Governor in Council trusts, however, with regard to these ancient mounds, that steps will be taken to gradually investigate them at the rate of, say, two or three per annum.

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To the Archæological Surveyor.
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„ the Public Works Department.
„ other Departments of Secretariat.
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Exd. P. L. Pereira.

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