

20-7-03
24-8-03

ORDINARY, MS.

<i>Public</i> DEPARTMENT. G.O., DATED <i>15-1-92</i> No. <i>20.</i> <i>29:</i>
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INDEXED.

When given for copying 15/1

[Despatch Abstract.]

*Conservation of
ancient monuments*

No. $\frac{2178}{28}$ Arch.

FROM

J. W. P. MUIR-MACKENZIE, Esq., C.S.,

Offg. Secretary to the Government of India,

TO

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Rev. & Agri. Dept.
Archæology.

Simla, the 21st October 1891.

SIR,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt on the 1st September with
your endorsement No. 622, dated 24th
July 1891, of the Government Proceedings

in file (1) No. 17, dated the 9th January 1891.
(2) No. 378, dated the 13th May 1891.
noted on the margin, which contain the orders of the Government of Madras in
regard to the lines on which the conservation of ancient monuments in the
Presidency should proceed.

2. The Government of India have observed from time to time with
gratification the interest evinced by the Government of Madras in the
archæological survey and epigraphy of the Province. They do not hesitate
therefore to suggest for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor in
Council certain amendments in the recent orders which appear to them to be
calculated to secure more effectual protection for the numerous ancient monu-
ments in the Presidency under his administration.

3. The first point to which I am to call attention is the limitation to one hun-
dred of the remains which Government will conserve under classes I and
II. [It is noticed that the Madras Government have accepted Mr. Rea's
provisional list, which contains several buildings in excess of the one hundred
limitation. This indicates that the laying down of any hard-and-fast limit might
result in the omission of remains, the conservation of which is not only
desirable, but capable of exercise without difficulty or expense. The Government
of India suggest therefore that, in lieu of fixing an absolutely maximum number,
the buildings to be conserved under class II should be finally determined upon

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consideration of the recommendations of the Archaeological Surveyor, in accordance with the proposals made in my circular letter No. 12 of 24th August 1891. 40/1

4. It has also been observed that the orders under notice contain no injunctions against the removal or spoliation of remains coming under class III. In this connection I am to invite attention to the Resolution issued by the Government of India, noted in the margin, and relating to the preservation of buildings or remains of historical or architectural interest. That Resolution was issued in consequence of reports of the Archaeological Survey of Western India having revealed the barbarous spoliation of ancient marbles at Palanpur by contractors for purposes of railway construction. From paragraph 7 of Mr. Rea's letter No. 71 of 18th February 1891, it would appear that similar dangers are by no means impossible in Madras. Such depredations also are not unlikely to be committed by residents in the locality. Injunctions to the officers of the Public Works Department as suggested by Mr. Rea will probably be insufficient to prevent them, and it is hoped that in executing the orders which from paragraph 6 of the Madras Government's G. O. No. 378 Public appear to have been circulated to Collectors of the districts in which the danger is anticipated, village officers will be strictly enjoined to report their occurrence. Finally, I am to observe that the terms of the orders to which reference was invited in the Circular Resolution last cited, are very distinct, and are far from encouraging any material relaxation in the existing instructions for the conservation of ancient monuments.

5. The Government of India therefore hope that, while taking every precaution to avoid unreasonable expenditure, the Local Government will not allow on the part of the district authorities any remission of that constant vigilance which is necessary to prevent the recurrence of such neglect as that reported by Mr. Rea in the case of the temple at Gangaikonda-Cholapuram.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

Minister

Offg. Secretary to the Government of India.

1891.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

ARCHAEOLOGY.

FILE NO. 28.

SERIAL NO.

12.

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

No. $\frac{2178}{28}$ Arch.

Dated Simla, the 21st October 1891.

SUBJECT.

Conservation of ancient monuments in the Madras Presidency.

Public Dept.

3209

7/1/98 No 97 no Chk -

P. W. CURRENT No. 11358

24/6/91 814 622

10/1/91 2017

14/5/91 802 378

No 4815 C d / 30th Oct 1891

Transferred to the
Public Department.

2. A copy of Govt. Order
Circular No 44 (Public Works)
dated 21 May 1891 is for-
warded herewith. The pre-
vious circulars Nos 44 & 5 of
1886 therein read, were com-
municated with S.O. No 594
dated 7 January 1888. Recd 40
21/9/91 7/1/88

John P. Jones
Secy to Govt. P.W. Dept.

S.O. 3c

Recd: 20.10.91

The fact of India's
great consideration of
the order of this plan.
in regard to the number
of ancient monuments
to be placed in class
I & II (No 33) of
S.O. No 44. 9th January
1891). In view of being
"an absolutely maximum
number" why not say
"the better, finally, to
terminate upon the building
of the concerned before
class II after a con-
sideration of the
"commemoration of the
archaeological Survey
at first sight this can be
fairly enough. But
we have as there is
a maximum number for
class I, let the
proposer to eradicate
negotiation, otherwise
involving matters
his heart's content &
let him merit, and
the order of the letter
to the best as it
has been sent.

Out this way of putting
it leaves out of the
question the "trickle"
manner (to repeat what
was said in an office
note on which G.O.
No. 17 of 1897 was
based) in which sug-
gestions often originating
with ignorant subordinates
are passed on to
superior. On pages 24-26
of the same office note,
illustrations were given
of this.

2. A more direct from
the ^{decision} already ^{announced}
provision that ^{the} ~~order~~ ^{will}
in future simply register
the ^{new} orders & do
all he tells it in respect
to buildings ^{and} ~~and~~ ^{II} & the former & it
is submitted, eminently
satisfactory state of
things which existed
before this year will
come back.

4. The fact is that if
ever a department
required to be kept
in hands, it is this
archaeological one.
to the ~~last~~ ^{last} ~~file~~ ^{file} C. M.
May 2, discrediting the
order of January last
which had been with

an ~~an~~ ^{an} ~~proposals~~ ^{proposals} for
penditure. Some suggestion
from the collector ~~with~~
~~the~~ ~~proposals~~ ~~for~~ ~~the~~ ~~proposals~~
~~the~~ ~~proposals~~ ~~for~~ ~~the~~ ~~proposals~~
~~the~~ ~~proposals~~ ~~for~~ ~~the~~ ~~proposals~~
Two temples are named
Mr. ~~He~~ ^{He} ~~had~~ ^{had} ~~seen~~ ^{seen} ~~them~~ ^{them}
or he would surely ~~not~~
have ~~mentioned~~ ^{mentioned} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~temple~~ ^{temple}
he does. They are ~~called~~
as having been built
by the "Cholas". One is
mentioned in Mr. ~~Temple~~
list is the other not.
No proof that their
is what it is said to
be is given - it is all
hearsay - & are the
hearsay Mr. ~~He~~ ^{He} ~~has~~ ^{has}
says a small ~~one~~
for the ~~clearance~~
reputation would ~~be~~
(sic) be sufficient
to preserve them.
Not knowing whether they
are well - or little - or
preserving, not knowing
whether a small sum
will be sufficient to
preserve them, he ~~agrees~~
therefore in effect ~~to~~
~~propose~~ ^{propose} ~~to~~
spend money
in the third case, a

temple at Sankallu
in Cuddapah. Mr
has again put us
from what is said. It
seems "from the de-
scription given to be
a monument well worthy
of conservation."
Notably the P. W. Dept.
might prepare an estimate
for its repair. What
is meant by "might" is
not plain.
The monuments north
presuming as to justify
Gent. Spending money
as it is expedient?
That is the point, but
Mr. Rea prefers guesses
it appears, to ascertain
facts.

If Gent. give carte
blanche to the Arch.
Dept. I add to list
II, there will be precious
little but guesses, and
lined with proposals to
spend money - proposals
or half suggestions that
the P. W. Dept. should
prepare estimates &
c. on.

As said in the former
note, a strong objection

True Mr. Rea to force them to report
upon them. If they can work answers
they are worth reporting on. If not
it is made understood that when he
leaves the recommendations of this
sort they must be based on personal
inspection he will perhaps be unwise
of them.

W. E. O. J. H. S.
27/11/42

to lists of indefinite
length of that the
essence of the Dept
are picked away.
Have many monographs,
with illustrations or
photographs, of temples
of interest, have its
officers prepared for
Gent. ? And yet
this is just what is
required, not adding
to auxiliary lists &
getting ridiculous
proposals (aid. the
previous note for some
of them) asked out
by subordinates.

6. If Gent. desire good
work from the Dept.
it will only - it is
believed - be secured
by adhering to the
orders already given
on the subject.

The measure of any
list should be the
ability of the Surveyor
to inspect & prepare
monographs regarding
the items in it, &
assuredly for some
years 100 hundred
add should be sufficient.

7/12/42

This is a very important thing but
 I submit that it is quite possible
 to have and that this point
 should be left alone to work
 out itself as it thinks best.
 The present arrangement
 is a very good one and should
 be maintained as far as possible.
 When the Archaeological
 Dept. has worked out its plan
 by the list and all that has
 to be done has been, the question
 of the present system can be con-
 sidered. The Dept. has
 been kept from publishing
 the only redeeming point about
 this is that the publishing is done
 in an amiable way.

Ancient
 remains



H. M. J.

I would say this is an entirely
 proper basis to the list of
 monuments which are personally
 inspected by the Archaeological
 Surveyor, and is a guarantee that they are worthy
 of conservation.

of 60 being copies - 8
 shown to C.A. before
 issue

Public Dept

Read Current 3209.

Order 13 Jan'y 92 No 28.

The Govt. of India will
 be informed that the Govt.
 of Madras is prepared to
 add to the list of ~~monuments~~
 archaeological remains
 to be conserved any monu-
 ments which the Supt.
 Arch. Survey may, after
 personal inspection, report
 to be worthy of conservation.
 There will thus be a guarantee
 that ^{no unworthy} additions ^{are made} to the
 list.

1. Paras: 4 & 5 will be
 commd. to the Revenue and
 Public Works Dept. for
 attention.

DESPATCHED
 15/1/92
 IN M.S.

To The Revenue Dept.
 " P. W. Dept.
 " Supt. Arch. Survey.

Letter No 29
 To The Secy to the Govt. of India
 Rev. & Agri. Dept.

Sir,
 With reference to
 your letter of the 21st Oct. 91, No. 2178
 arch: to the ~~address~~
 the P. W. Dept, I am directed

C. 18/12
 Refd
 R. G. 11

to state that this Govt is quite prepared to add to the list of archaeological remains selected for conservation any monuments which may be personally inspected and reported on by the Supt. Arch. Survey and as to which there is thus a guarantee that they are worthy conservation.

2. Paras: 4 & 5 of your letter have been comm: to the Rev. & P. W. Depts for attention.

2
11/11

S.B.
11/1.

Office

show ca. 1000

1185-4
1186-5
1188-3