

ORDINARY, MS.

Public DEPARTMENT.
G.O., DATED 15-1-92
No. 30.

INDEXED.

When given for copying 15/1

[Despatch Abstract.] ?

The Supdt. Arch. Secy.
may told that he should
personally inspect the
work on the samples
in the store of
Cuddalore district.

to be done

Government Archaeological Survey, and Conservation of
Ancient Monuments in Southern India,

Mangalore.

32d November 1891.

No. *479.*
C



From

A. REA, ESQUIRE, M.A.S.,

~~ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEYOR TO THE GOVT. OF MADRAS,~~
SUPERINTENDENT,

To

ARCHAEOLOG. SURVEY, MADRAS.

*The Chief Secretary
to the Government of
Madras.*

SIR,

*With reference to G.O. dated
29th June 1891, No. 515, Public, I
have the honour to submit to
Government, notes for the conserva-
tion of temples at Velliganellur
and Kulamandal in North
Arcot, and Sompalli in Cudda-
pah, received from the Collectors
of these districts.*

*2:- The two former temples
(Enclosures Nos 1 and 2) are
described, as having been built
by the Cholas, and if so,
will belong to the 11th Century.
Both temples have inscriptions.
The first only, is noted in
the*

2.
Mr. Sewell's List of Antiquities (p. 167).
A small sum for the clearance of
vegetation would probably be
sufficient to preserve them.

3. The temple at Sompalli
in Cuddapah (Enclosure No. 3.)
(List p. 133.) seems, from the
description given, to be a mo-
nument well worthy of
conservation. Probably the
Public Works Department
might prepare an estimate
for its repair.

4. With reference to sug-
gestions for conservation, for-
warded in accordance with
the Government order above
referred to, I would request
the orders of Government as to
whether I am to submit them
directly after receipt, or retain
them till the end of the year,
and submit them collectively,
for inclusion in the conservation
proposals for the following year.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

A. C.

Superintendent.

Letter from
Collector of,
North Arcot,
No. 5081 of 1891
D/6-10-91.

*Enclosure No. 1.

"Memo.

In the village of
This is about Velliganellur Arcot
2 miles from Taluk, there is a
Srivattir Bunga building of a tree
-low. logical importance.

Swarakovil on a
small, rocky hill, built by the
Chola Rajas. The Sahildan is
should, at once have cut the trees
growing on the walls and roof to
prevent further damage and
institute enquiries as to income worth
about Rs 15 annually which seems
misapplied, as the temple is de-
serted. Several idols lie broken
inside, broken by a madman 25
years ago. Another lies half
buried in front. The temple is
well built of stone with monolithic
pillars inside. The walls are
gaping in several places.

There are several other
interesting little temples in the
village which would repay
investigation by Mr. Rea.
There is also an inscription
on a stone in the street of

of Seruvellipallur.

(Sd) B. Macleod,
Ag. Sub. Collector."

*Enclosure No. 2.

*Letter from
Collector of
North Arcot
No 5080 of 1891
Rump
8/7-10-91.

"At Kulumandal
the Chola temple of
Jolijagannadevaram
is a work of Archaeo-
logical importance

apparently of the same character
as that at Velianallur and
should be reported to Collector for
Mr. Rea's notice. It lies 10 miles
from Conjeevaram on the Wandewash
road. Monigar was ordered
to cut the trees growing on it. The
temple is all of stone, ruinous
but containing very good work.
It has inscriptions all round
the outer side. The Mudareallogam
temple at Ukkal (2 miles off)
also seems of the same character
but is not such fine work.

(Sd) B. Macleod,
Ag. Sub. Collector."

Enclosure No. 3.

*Letter from
Ag. Collector
of Cuddapah.
No 333
Subd.
8/24-10-91.

5
* "I have the honor to inform
you there is a monument well
worthy of preservation and of
your attention at Sompalli

in Madanapalli Taluq of this
District.

The temple is a ruined one, the
carving inside it, is magnificent
in its elaboration; there are several
centre-pieces splendidly carved
in black stone; it is said by
those who have seen both that
these far surpass any carvings
in the Madura Temples. The walls
of Sompalli temple are bulging
and require shoring up, or they
will fall and render these fine
carvings liable to be destroyed
by the weather or by passers-by.
One could quite well put up in
the temple.

The finest object to be
seen there, however, is the monolith
outside the temple; it is of white
stone 50 feet high, beautifully
tapered

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shaped and carved throughout in
the most fascinating manner;
the whole so admirably carried
out that it might have been
done last week, though it has
been there for unknown ages.

It stands on a carved pedestal.
This monolith is almost unapproach-
= able for beauty of design and
perfect shape and finish and
should certainly be conserved.

I hope when the rail is ^{to} ^{be} ^{at} ^{the} ^{place}
open there, you will take an
early opportunity of visiting
the place and assuring
yourself that my words are
not exaggerated.

I have &c.
(Signed) O Wolfe Murray
Ag. Collector.

Extract from Buddapak
District Manual.

x x x x x x x

At Sompalli there is some
trade carried on in the manufacture
of bangles, which are melted from
an

an earth very similar to iron
earth. The bangles are in considerable
demand all over the district. At this
village there is also a very fine
old pagoda with some exquisite
stone carvings. In front of the
pagoda is a monolith of the most
graceful proportions that I have
ever seen. The pagoda is, however,
fallen into ruins, and in a few
years there will, I fear, be but
few vestiges of the really remark-
= able carvings.

by J. D. B. Gribble C. S.
in 1877.

x x x x

True extract.

(Signed) O Wolfe Murray
Ag. Collector.

True Copies

W. C.

Superintendent.
Archaeologist & Survey.

Public DEPARTMENT.

Order 15 Jan'y 92. N. 30.

From

A. Ren Esq. M.R.S.

Superintendent,

Archaeological Survey,

Madras.

The Supt. Arch. Survey
should personally inspect
and report on the Temples
~~where his recommendations~~
~~recommendations~~ referred to.

Mr. Ren must distinctly
understand that his
recommendations for
conservation must be
based on personal inspec-
-tion.

(From order with C. 3209).

40 B.
11/1.

No. 479C

Dated 3^dReceived 4th

Enclosures 1

Nov 191

To The Supt Arch. Survey.

RECEIVED

15 JAN 22

IN - M.S.

SUBJECT.

Submitting notes

for conservation of certain temples
in North Arc & Cuddalore

WITH ORDER

E-3811
S-9811
A-5811