

Public (1895) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 39.

Dated 18th Jan. 1895.

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

KODAIKANAL OBSERVATORY.

Forwarding to the Public Works Department, for consideration, plans and estimates for the--and requesting Mr. Michie Smith to report further in regard to the length of time he would require to be in England in connection with the fitting up of the observatory and to the conduct of his duties during this absence.

AS

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
80	183-4.		12-3-95				
80	723-4		30-8-95				

1894

Public Works Department.

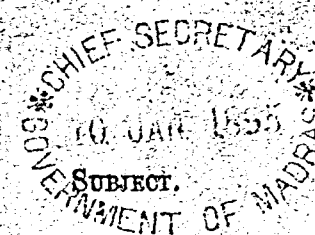
No. 3254W

Dated 18 Dec 194

Despatched

Received 18

Recd 19



Recording with remark
 letter from the conseq. Architect
 stating that plans & esti-
 mates for Observatory building
 at Kodakkal have been
 submitted to Govt.

Pub c no 3654 of 1894

— go 524 of 18-7-94

1894-1-94

Enclt. 2553 of 22-12-94
 Referred to the Govern-
 ment Astronomer.
 The plans and
 estimates have not
 reached Govt. yet.

Hedrick
 Chief Secretary

25/3
 20/12

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the

READ the following

From the Consulting Architect to Govern-
ment, No 2760 dated 4th December 1894

With reference to paragraph 3 of L.O.

Pulse 969
20-12-94

No. 3148W dated the 8th instant, I have the
honour to report that plans and Estimates
for the following works, prepared in Communi-
cation with the Government Astronomer, were
submitted to Government through that
officer on the 5th September last.

1 Observatory	Rs 2,310/
2 Astronomer's residence including cook house & Stall	" 16,720
3 First Assistant's quarters	" 5,486
4 Second — do —	" 3,102
5 Writers — do —	" 2,230
6 Three huts for peons —	" 2,017
7 Two huts for servants	" 1,231
8 Roads &c.	" 1,613

Ruppes 55,500

at Madras
The CA design
for the observatory
and the CA design
for the observatory
and the CA design
for the observatory

THE OBSERVATORY,

Madras, 7 January 1895.

No. 1

FROM

THE GOVERNMENT ASTRONOMER,

Madras.

TO

The Chief Secretary to Government,
Madras.

SIR,

With reference to G.O. dated 20 December 1894,

X 3001 P. 100-101
314264 8/12/94

No. 969, Public, I have the honor to forward

* 1 Roll - plans
1 Bundle estimates.

herewith the plans and estimates referred to.

2. The reason for the delay in submitting these is that, at the request of the Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India, I forwarded them to him Derris Officially as soon as I received them, as they were urgently required to enable him to discuss certain points with the Revenue and Agriculture Department before the Government left Simla. I received them back only on the 24 ultimo.

Order thereon No. 3254 W dated 18 December 1894

Recorded with the remark that the plans and Estimates have not yet reached Government in the Public Works Department

1 Enc Extract

C. H. R. B. B. B.
Under Secy. to Govt. Road

To the Consulting architect to Government
Public Department

92 9/11

3. With the plans and estimates prepared by the Consulting Architect I also submit another set of plans and estimates prepared by W. H. Pogson Esq. Architect. These I obtained under instructions from Mr. Eliot at the time when I understood that the Observatory had been handed over to the Government of India and that Mr. Eliot was the officer to whom I was to look for instructions on all such questions. This I trust will be considered a sufficient explanation for any irregularity in the matter.

4. As regards the plans for the Observatory Buildings it is necessary to point out that these are simply provisional, and that the final plans cannot be prepared till the instrumental equipment of the Observatory has been finally decided upon. It has already been resolved (G.O. dated 4th January 1894, No. 1, Public) that the Astronomer's house should first be built and while this is being done the final

plans for the Observatory can be prepared.

5. As the result of correspondence with Astronomers at home I have come to the conclusion that it is almost essential to make certain important changes as regards the fitting up of the Observatory but it is extremely difficult to obtain all the necessary information and advice on the question by correspondence. I have the honor therefore to suggest the following course to enable me to prepare the necessary plans.

6. I am anxious to avail myself of such privilege leave as is due me to go to England during the summer. The time available at home will, however, be so short that I will be fully occupied by private business, but if the Government should see fit to grant an extension of leave I could meet the members of the Solar Physics & Indian Observatories Committees and discuss with them all the details as to the equipment and working of the new Observatory. I could also visit the makers of Astronomical instruments and so be enabled

on my return, to lay definite proposals before Government along with full details of the cost. I am convinced that in the long run this will lead to the most satisfactory results both as regards efficiency and economy. A single example of the questions to be settled will illustrate this. I propose to substitute for the present somewhat clumsy photoheliograph a simple lens of 70 feet focal length, placed at one end of a long room, with its axis parallel to the earth's axis, and a camera at the other end. Dr. Huggins and some others whom I have consulted think the proposal a good one, but Sir Howard Grubb suggests certain difficulties in carrying it out. Whether these difficulties are serious or not can probably be decided only by actual trial which is impossible here but could be readily arranged for at home. If my plan is approved of, the cost of the heliostat and lens will be considerably less than the cost of the dome required for the photoheliograph which it is at

present intended to use, while the facilities offered for spectroscopic work will be enormously increased.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant

Christie Smith

Offg. Govt. Astronomer.

at K. G. H. presses lis

CURRENT NO. 34
Public Department.

Pub No 969 of 20-12-94 mis
143-4 of 26-2-94 mis
524 of 18-7-94 mis
1 of 4-1-94 orig
940-1 of 21-11-93 orig

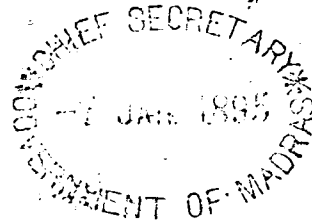
From

The Govt. Astronomer
Madras

No. 1

Dated 7th January 1895

Recd.
Enc. 5 + a roll of plans contg. 13.



Forwarding the plans &
estimates of the Kodaikanal
Observatory.

... the
Public Current 34

The Agt Govt. Astronomer
submits two sets of plans
and estimates for Observa-
tory and residential
buildings at Kodaikan-
al:-

Consulting Architect

Observatory -	Rs. 23,101.
Residence -	" 16,720.
Remainder -	" 15,679
	Rs. 55,500

Mr W. C. V. Pogson

Observatory -	Rs. 12,595
Residence -	" 12,479
Remainder -	" 11,572
	Rs. 36,646

In its Schedule of
requirements for
Imperial Civil Works
20.12.94, No. 969. the P. W. D. has entered
the P. W. D. has entered
Observatory - 25,000/-
Residence - 10,000/-

Mr Pogson has had
building experience
at Kodaikanal. He expresses his
opinion that the CA's design
is a good one.

The circumstances under which he obtained plans & estimates from a private architect. It is submitted that it would not be fair to Mr Poppon to send his papers to the P.W.D. for scrutiny & remarks. The best plan will be to send the whole of the papers on to India - but, as the plans differ so materially, it is thought Mr Michie Smith should express an opinion in regard to the house, in which he will have to reside.

As explained by the G.A. the plans & estimates for the Observatory buildings need not be considered now. The residence should be completed as soon as possible.

India has today been in reply

Not necessary I think -
He has had an opportunity to say anything he wished. 14/11.

* Recd. today. Please Current 87 & draft J.S.B.

Smith is under the orders of this Govt. and yet no definite instructions of any matter can be issued to him without reference to India.

In regard to his proposed special duty at home, it is subd. that something more definite should be said as to time, probable cost, and conduct of duties during absence on leave and duty.

It seems probable that India will assume control on 1st April next. Nothing definite in regard to leave shd. be said by this Govt.

From C. 3707 it seems that P.W.D. expect to see the plans & estimates. Perhaps strictly speaking they shd. be forwarded to India by P.W.D.

on this Govt's point of view. In Smith's sub. of plan in plan & estimates from a private architect without previous sanction. As regards the buildings the proper course now is to send them on to C.I. & for transmission to India. Mr. M. Smith tells me he prefers Mr. Poppon's design for the Observatory. In regard to the Govt. Retrospective

I haven't looked at that. But Mr. P's is the better design for the house also cheaper, because he has put an upper story & so no doubt saved on the foundation & roof. The C.A.'s design

1. 2. 20. 12. - all in

I submit he may be asked to say how long, approximately, he would require to be in England for the purpose contemplated.

The fitting up of the observatory is a matter of considerable importance and Mr. Dr. Smith's presence in England at this juncture might prove expensive & unnecessary.

July 14/11.

The P.W.D. will personally consider the plans & sites in connection with Mr. Dr. Smith.

W.D.
15/7/95

Observatory, Kodaikanal

It is most important that his proposal should be assented to
W.D.

How. H.W. Bliss. C.E.S.

Public Current No. 314

Order. D. 18 Jan 1895 N-39

The plans and estimates will be forwarded to the P.W. Dept with the request that they may be considered in communication with Mr. Melchie Smith.

2. with reference to para. 6 of his letter that ^{Mr. Melchie Smith} ~~that gentleman~~ will be requested to state how long, approximately, he would require to be in England for the purpose contemplated, and what proposals he has to make in reference to the conduct of his duties during

wing his absence.

14/11

cl.
May the last sentence
of each para. stand?

See to name
Hh

To the Asst. Astronomer
P. V. Dept.
with plans, return-
ates, &c.

SPATCHED
23 JAN 95
IN M.S.

Kodi: Observatory

from orders

for copying
189 . 0

G.O. No. DATED

No.

NUMBER TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.---

- A = Copy in full.
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- P = Copy abstract only.
- Q = Copy heading only.