

Public (1895) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 723-724

DATED 30th Aug. 1895

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

OBSERVATORY AT KODAIKANAL.

Returning, for revision, to the Public Works Department plans and estimates for the buildings connected with the new---, and addressing the Government of India on the subject.

BACK PAPER.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	3117		95-				
	3169		95-				
	3312		95-				
	3752		95-				
	623		95-				

2395-
3223

96

96

623-24 of 22-5 97

E. V. LEVINGE, Esq., C. S.,

Under-Secretary to the Government of India,

To

The Secretary to the Government of Madras.

Simla, the

Department of Revenue
and Agriculture.

(Meteorology) Sir,

1895
10 JUL 1895

Adverting to the letter from this Government

0 940-41
14-22

No. 3930 dated 4th November 1895 directed to request that with the permission of the Governor in Council, the Government of India be informed what action is being taken towards preparing the plans and estimates of the buildings for the Solar Physics Observatory at Kodaikanal, and arranging for ~~the~~ ^{their} construction.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

E. V. Levinge

Under-Secretary.

B. B. D.

Public Dept

From Mr. Govt. India R & A

No 1893
33-3

Dated 3
and to } July 95
Refd 11

Referred to the Public
Works Department for
favour of early remarks.
Bedrickice
Chief Secretary

2713.
171715

Subject

Enquiring what action is being
taken towards preparing the plans and
estimates of the buildings for the Solar
Physics Observatory at Kodaikanal
& arranging for their construction.

No 2339 A. dated 22nd July 1895

Referred to the
Consulting Architect
for favour of early report

C. H. B. Butler.
Under Secy. to Govt. P.W.D.
The Consul. Architect
to be returned.

Public Works Department.

From

THE CONSULTING ARCHITECT

TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

To

THE Chief Engineer
P. W. D.

No. 8

Received

31st } May 1895.

No. of ENCLOSURES. 4

Subject.

Submitting plans & estimates
amounting to Rs 58700 for
the Observatory building to be
constructed at Kodaikanal.

No. 929-30 C of 8-3-95

281 W of 31-1-94

850 C of 26-2-94

3254 W of 18-12-94

185 W of 20-1-94

2996 W of 20-1-93

295-6 W of 6-2-93

CURRENT No.

6430 30 July 1895

Forwarded to the
Public Department
for the approval of
Government

C. H. B. Butler
Under Secy. to Govt.
P.W.D.

Recd to Govt 31/7
Encls. 3 + plans

No. 579

Office of the Consulting Architect to Govt.,
Chennai, Madras.
31st May 1895.

From

Henry Swin, Esq., C.I.E.,
Consulting Architect
to the Government of Madras.

To

The Chief Engineer
Public Works Department

Sir,

With reference to your endorsement: No. 930 C dated the 8th March 1895 on Proceedings, Public Works Department, No. 39 dated the 18th January 1895, I have the honor to submit plans & estimates, the latter amounting to Rs 58,700 for the Observatory building to be constructed at Kodakand. The plans have been countersigned by the Government Astronomer in token of his approval.

4 Enclosures.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

Henry Swin

Consulting Architect to Govt.

CHIEF SECRETARIAT,
Ootacamund, 1st August 1895.

OFFICE NOTE. No. 1446.

From

THE CHIEF SECRETARY,

To, The Secretary to Govt.
P. W. Department.

Govt 648 D. of 30th July.

Please return for reference
all the plans &c which
accompanied G.O. No 39 Pub.
of 18th January, 1895, and
also India's letter referred
to you under Encl. No 1650
of 17th July.

/s/ J. F. Price
Chief Secretary
d.

1895.

Public Works Department.

To

The Public Department.

No. 67 D.

Dated 3rd August 1895

Despatched 3rd August 1895

Received 6

By 2/76 ret.

Observatory buildings at
Kodai Kanab

SUBJECT.

Stating that the plans &c
connected with the construction
of — were forwarded to
the Public Dept., and that
they will be commenced
as soon as approved, materials
for the same having already
been collected & funds provided.

Government of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

MEMORANDUM.

Endorsement.

Dated Madras, 30th Dec 1895.

Letter from the Government of India No. 1893 of 3rd July 95
 Endorsement thereon in the Public Works No. 1650 of 17th July 95.

is transmitted to the Public
 Department with an intimation that the
 plans and estimates for the buildings were
 forwarded to that Department with
 Public Works endorsement No. 648 of dated
 30th July 1895, and that as soon as they
 are finally approved, arrangements
 will be made to commence the works,
 materials for which are now being collected
 by Public Works officers. There is a
 grant of Rs 35,000 for the buildings
 in the Public Works budget of the
 current financial year.

C. H. R. Butler.

Under Secretary to Government, P. W. Dept.

Public Dept.

From PWD

N. 696 D

Dated 7 }
Recd to } Augst 95
Recd 8 }
Encl. 12.

Subject
Returning certain plans etc in compliance
with office note No. 1776 of 1-8-95

No. 162

THE OBSERVATORY,

NUNGUMBAKUM,

Madras, 19th August 1895.

From

By
THE GOVERNMENT ASTRONOMER,
Madras.

To

The Secretary to Government,
Public Works Department.

SIR,

I am given to understand that the plans and estimates for the Kodaikanal Observatory prepared by the Consulting Architect have been forwarded directly to you. In this case, I beg to point out that the plans for the Observatory itself are only preliminary and that the rest are final. All questions connected with the location of the several buildings were settled on the spot by Mr. Michie Smith and Mr. Medlicott.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant

P. H. Jones

Public Works Dept.

The Dy. Govt. Astronomer
Madras.

CURRENT NO.

No. 83 12 24 Aug 1895

Transferred to the
Public Department with
reference to P. W. Department
Endorsement No. 648 D.
dated 30 July 1895

No. 162

Dated 19th } August 1895.
Recd.

Informing that the plans and
estimates for the Kodai Kanal
Observatory have been forwarded
and pointing out that the
plans of the Observatory are
recommending + that the rest are final.

Colonel K.

Secretary to Govt. P.W.D.

Recd 26 } Aug 1895
27C.O. 23
55

(not circulated in the P.W.D.)

CHIEF SECRETARY
26 AUG 1895
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

I do not approve of the P.W.D.
plans for the Kodai Kanal
Observatory. The accommodation afforded
by the plans is very poor - In the
plans the following objections:-
1. The buildings being all on one
floor, the area covered is greater
the cost of roof + foundations is
therefore unnecessarily increased.
2. There is a large enclosed
verandah - how this is one of
the most dismal features of houses
on the hills - It is quite unnecessary
+ should not be allowed -
3. The bedrooms are miserably
almost impossible to use - and the
4. ~~only~~ The windows of the small
bedrooms open full, as it may be
said, on the sweepers' door of the
bathroom - This is really extraordinary
that the P.W.D. should have such
a penchant for putting the sweepers'
doors of bathrooms in such a position
as to make the use of the door by the
sweeper as disgusting as possible
to the inmates of the house. This is
the third time I have had occasion
to point out the defect in design, which may
be avoided by putting the sweepers'
door on another side of the bathroom.
I might almost say the fourth, not
the third, time, however, for
in another case (that of the
College office at Cuddalore)
no door at all was provided to the bath
room attached to the College office room,
except one leading into that room.

Note
Mr. P. G. V. as a contractor for
the Kodai Kanal Observatory. The
plans show a large verandah to be
erected on the hill. For the verandah
the P.W.D. has provided
a verandah on the hill + the C.O.

I really think it is time that
the P.W.D. should be
impressed on his subordinates
that the Kodai Kanal Observatory

6.2176. India enquires
what action is being taken
towards preparing plans
+ estimates for the Observ-
atory at Kodai Kanal.

6.2498 - P.W.D. intimates
that they have already been
sent to Public Dept and that
materials are being col-
lected.

6.2425. P.W.D. furnishes
plans and an estimate
amounting to Rs. 58,700.

It may probably be
safely calculated that the
works will not be com-
pleted by the P.W.D. for
much less than 75,000/.

It is believed that the
Dept has no experience
of building at Kodai Kanal.

The P.W.D. has been
requested to return all the
plans + estimates which accp^d
G.O. 39 Pub & 18. Jan. 95.

Mr. Pogson's estimate
was for Rs. 36,646 and the
H.M. preferred his design.
Being a private architect
he could be restricted to
estimate.

The P.W.D. however,
aimed to carry out

work and to clinch the matter has commenced collect material at site! A sum of Rs. 35,000 has been ~~expended~~ provided for '95/96.

The papers are now sub^d to the H. R. for orders whether the P. W. D. should be requested to discontinue the collection of materials pending further orders.

It will be seen from para: 4 of Mr. Michie Smith's letter in G. O. 39 that the residence should be completed first. The object is that the Astronomer might be on the spot to supervise the building of the Observatory.

The collection of materials was probably begun in consequence of the provision in the budget and the P. W. D. being aware that the work will have to be carried out immediately. I believe from what I have heard that Mr. Popon does not stick to his estimate. He has had a difference with Smith Esq. and I understand one with Spencer Esq. J.D.

9/8/95.

it appears that Mr. Popon has put in impossible tales. Mr. Irwin has taken his from the Govt. of the division. Of course you can make estimate you like by judging the rate by how I think he ought to build.

I know nothing of the order to properly compare the two plans with Mr. Popon's. The latter seems guided as convenient + the price is less. The cost of the former will be explained. The two plans are open before Kodai Observatory.

criticism of my plan. I do not see any harm in the collection of materials. They will be wanted whatever plan is adopted. The building must be erected some how or other. What is the objection to two stories building for the Residence? It will apparently be much cheaper.

JG
12/8

Hon. H. W. Bliss C. I. E.

I have kept these papers back in order to go over the plans with Mr. Irwin. I have just seen him - and he says that he drew up his plans in consultation with Mr. Smith, from whom he received instructions as to what was required, & he worked accordingly. He says he can easily draw up plans & estimates for a house much on Mr. Popon's lines - giving (as I told him) 4 good sized bedrooms. These I think are essential for a (possible) married man and children, and a guest room, as scientific persons are sure to be there occasionally - & must have a room in the house, as observations will require to be taken at all hours of the night. Mr. Irwin should be instructed therefore to draw up plans & estimates giving this a room and leaving out the verandah round the front, & carefully keeping the sweepers out of sight. The Hon. Mr. Bliss failed to observe that Mr. Popon made a still more glaring fault in this direction than Mr. Irwin, as he put one sweeper's door in mid- along the drawing room bow windows - to the two stories. Mr. Irwin tells me that you must build these with care (or not) - but to H. W. Bliss - J.D.

New Observatory at
Kodai Kan

Resubmitted to
Hon'ble Members
with refce to His
Excellency's note of
the 26th inst.

Please see C. 2798.

H. L. propose that
Mr. Irwin should prepare
another design - I quite
agree - The reason he
gives against two stories no
doubt has force.

JG
28/8/95

JG
27.8.95.

JG
27/8/95

C. No. 2476 & 2495, 2425,
2545 & 2798.

ORDER 30th August 1895, No 723.

The papers will be returned to the P.W.D. with the request that a plan and estimate for the residence may be submitted at an early date providing for four good-sized bedrooms, sitting the verandah round the front and providing out of sight the doors to bathrooms through which the sweepers has to pass.

As the Astronomer's residence is to be completed first and any plan and estimate for the Observatory buildings can be only provisionally approved at present it will be convenient if a separate estimate for the residence is prepared.

(For Orders)

30/8/95

The Public Works Dept.

with papers comp.

Letter No 724.

To

Dept. of Rev.

Sir,

With

A as Copy in full.
B as Not to be posted.
F as Copy in full only.

Kodai Observatory

E

Genl. H. W. Bliss. 9.
Genl. J. B. 9.

Para 2 is not liberal.
From order because
he interviewed him.
It is necessary.

letter No. 1893/53-3 of the 2nd July

last, I am directed to state that
plans and estimates for the buildings

connected with the new Observatory

at Kodaikanal were prepared by the

P.W.D. and are now under revision as

the accommodation provided in the

Astronomer's residence was insufficient.

Meanwhile, materials are being collected
at the site.

2. It will be seen from

para 3 of G.O. No. 1, Public, dated 11th

January 1894, that it is intended to

complete the residence first in order

that Mr. Michie Smith may be on the

spot to supervise the building of the

Observatory.

Observatory for Kodaikanal

E

(FROM ORDERS)

7. D.B.

30.8.5.

hs
30/8/95