

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2420	Press ~~Mis.~~
107-108	
Dated	6-10-1868.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
6th October 1865.*

No. 107. Read the following letter from Major W. H. HESSEY, Officiating Superintendent of Revenue Survey, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Camp, Salem, 13th September 1865, No. 1,136-44 :—

SIR,

1. The Survey Party engaged in the Nellore District will be at liberty early next year for work in another District. The Revenue Board, in Proceedings of 10th of January 1865, expressed a wish that the Madras District should next be surveyed. There is no District demarcated in which survey has not been commenced.

2. Demarcation will, under paragraph 26 of G. O. 12th December 1864, No. 2,243, be in future performed under the direction of Survey Officers. I have the honor to request orders as to what District is next to be surveyed, and permission to commence the organization of a Demarcation Party.

3. In paragraph 30 of the Order above quoted, it is ordered that the Demarcation Rules should be closely followed ; that the position of every field should be shewn on the maps, the interstitial fields being measured and sketched in ; that the village should be sub-divided into blocks of fifty Acres or thereabouts, according to the features of the country ; and permanently marked out at the expense of Government, so as to ensure the permanency of the survey in blocks of such size that the ordinary agency procurable in the provinces could at any time re-survey them, as changes of occupancy may render necessary.

4. The present system of demarcation and survey is as follows :—

A village is divided into blocks of 150 to 300 Acres ; these again are divided into survey fields, small fields are clubbed together to make a Survey field ; no field so clubbed is allowed to be larger than two Acres in wet, and four Acres in dry land. Large fields are sub-divided to bring them within the maximum of six Acres in wet, and twelve in dry land. The interstitial

See G. O. 4th February 1862, No. 195, paragraph 7. fields are not plotted, measured, or sketched in by the Survey Department.

The Government appear to have objected to this system, on the ground that the demarcation is not permanent.

5. The cost of work performed by the Survey has been on an average Rupees 95 per square mile, or Annas 2 and Pice 4 per Acre including lithography.

6. There appears some doubt whether the fifty Acre blocks, ordered by Government, are to supersede the survey fields, and the interstitial fields are to be sketched in these blocks, or whether the fifty Acre blocks are to be again sub-divided into survey fields, and the interstitial fields sketched in the survey fields.

7. If the former be intended, the expense will be very little less than at present, with the disadvantage that no field being plotted, there will be no guarantee for the accuracy of the area of any piece of land less than fifty Acres. If the latter be intended, the increase in expense will be very great. The circuit work which has to be performed by trained Surveyors, will be quadrupled at least ; the work to be performed by inferior agency will also be increased, for it will be remembered the interstitial fields, lying in survey fields, of less than two and four Acres, had not to be measured by the Survey Department. The amount of permanent demarcation to be performed by Government will be very great, and will be very expensive. It is possible that the circumstances I have mentioned may have escaped the notice of Government.

8. There is one disadvantage attending the present system of Survey : that it does not shew on the map each individual field.

9. I would define a field in Ryotwary Districts thus : “ A portion of land forming a distinct item in the puttah of a Ryot.” In Districts where there have hitherto been no puttahs, as in the Northern Circars, where the Joint Rent system

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
6th October 1865.*

has been in force, a field may be said to be "a distinct portion of land in actual occupation of a Ryot, or for which he is directly responsible at the time of demarcation;" wet and dry land, and land held on different tenures being of course kept distinct.

10. Under the present system, the Settlement Officer, in order to ascertain the areas of interstitial fields, is obliged to have recourse to the village Curnum. If the aggregate area of the interstitial fields contained in any Survey field agrees with the areas shewn in the Survey Register, good, if not, the Settlement Officer corrects the areas given by the Curnum proportionally, so as to make their total agree with the Survey area. Mr. R. K. Puckle states, that in Trichinopoly the result has been perfectly satisfactory.

11. The Government appear to lay great stress on the importance of each field being measured by the Survey Department. The original village Register fields have, in many instances, been greatly sub-divided as far as '01 of an acre. There is practically nothing to prevent still further sub-division. That there are orders existing on the subject is true, but they are disregarded.

* See definition in paragraph 9.

12. I venture to think that if every field actually in existence were measured and plotted, and if the maximum for fields were taken away, the expense would be very little, if any, greater than at present. There can be no advantage in limiting the size of fields to six and twelve Acres. The increase in the size of some fields would make up for the diminished size of others. The average size of Survey fields would be much as at present. The survey would then, as far as the traverse and Khusrah system allows, be a perfect survey of properties.

13. The size of the blocks might be left to the discretion of the Demarcation Officer. In places where fields are minute, and land is valuable, it would be well to diminish the size of the blocks. In no place, however, should they be allowed to exceed 250 Acres. The blocks might be laid out, as directed by Government, "according to the features of the country."

14. All sub-division of fields might be prohibited, except under fixed rules.

15. It is impossible but that sub-division should be necessary in many instances. In order to ensure the maps always being brought up to date, and to pay for the expense of alteration, it might be enacted that every transfer or sub-division of land should be registered and a fee levied (4 Annas for each transfer or sub-division). It will be only in the neighbourhood of towns, where land is very valuable, that Ryots will think it worth while to pay for the registry; in most cases they will, I think, be content to have the puttah for the whole of the field in the name of one individual, and allow him by private arrangement to be responsible for the land tax.

16. If, however, the system at present in force, of leaving the measurement of interstitial fields to Curnums, be approved of, the limit allowed for clubbing fields might, I think, be extended from two and four Acres to five and ten Acres in irrigated and unirrigated land. The maximum for fields might be done away with altogether. The change has this to recommend it, that the Survey would be more economical and more expeditious.

17. I trust that the Government will be pleased to pardon my addressing them on a subject which appeared to have been settled in December, last year.

No. 108.

ORDER THEREON, 6th October 1865, No. 2,420.

Land Revenue.

1. The Government desire that the Survey of the Madras District be next taken in hand.

2. As regards Captain Hesse's remarks on the Orders contained in paragraph 30 of the Proceedings of Government, dated 12th December 1864, No. 2,243, the Government observe that it is not intended that

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
6th October 1865.*

the interstitial fields, clubbed together to form the minimum area of a survey field plotted in the maps, should be "measured" by the Survey Department. The expression must have been used by mistake, and will be considered as cancelled.

3. The Government also direct that the rule prescribing a maximum area for survey fields be cancelled, and that no existing revenue field be sub-divided for survey purposes however large its size.

4. The rule requiring that the interstitial details of survey blocks be surveyed and plotted in survey fields, with a minimum of two Acres in irrigated land and four Acres in unirrigated, will be maintained.

5. As regards the fifty Acre blocks, the Government do not recognize the force of the objections raised by Captain Hesse, and they desire that their Order be carried out, leaving it to him to submit a report of actual results, should the difficulties that he anticipates be experienced. He will, however, understand that the size of the block has not been absolutely fixed at fifty Acres. The expression in the Order is "fifty Acres or thereabouts," and the Government desire that all possible use be made of existing and natural or permanent boundary marks as streams, channels, and roads, although the result may be that the block included is more than fifty Acres.

6. In the case of survey fields formed by clubbing, the interstitial fields must be sketched in by the Surveyor as the work goes on, and the intersection of their boundaries must be marked in the field book, so as to enable the Draughtsman, when he plots the work, to shew the ground as it actually existed when the survey was made, and to leave the Settlement Officer free from doubt as to area, when he comes to apply the rates to the actual occupation, provided that no change has taken place between Survey and the introduction of the revised Assessment.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,

Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Officiating Superintendent of Revenue Survey.
.. the Officiating Director of Revenue Settlement.
.. the Board of Revenue.

Ed. S. T. Augustin.

Brief statement of the several systems of survey mentioned in Letter No. 1136
44

Description of survey.	Disadvantages	Advantages	Remarks
Villages to be divided into blocks of from 100 to 300 acres; these blocks to be divided into survey fields; small fields to be divided together to form survey fields; maximum of fields so divided 3 acres in wet and 4 in dry land; maximum of other fields 6 in wet and 12 in dry land. Intertidal fields not measured and sketched in by the survey. (see Para 4)	No guarantee for the accuracy of the area of any piece of land less than 30 acres. The expense of permanent marks for 30 acre blocks will be enormous. The expense of running circuits of these blocks with as great as to swallow up any saving that may be made by dispensing with plotting of fields. The expense of the survey will be almost double what it is at present; the demarcations will be very expensive. The area of each holding will not be accurately shown in the map.	The present system works well. The error in the intertidal fields contained in 7 districts in 2 and 4 acre blocks cannot be very great and no person can be injured to any very great extent. 80 fence marks	This system is in force in 5 survey parties employed in 7 districts.
Villages to be divided into 50 acre blocks permanently demarcated at the expense of Govt. Fields contained within these blocks to be measured but not plotted. (see Para 6 first part of Para 7)	No guarantee for the accuracy of the area of any piece of land less than 50 acres. The expense of permanent marks for 50 acre blocks will be enormous. The expense of running circuits of these blocks with as great as to swallow up any saving that may be made by dispensing with plotting of fields. The expense of the survey will be almost double what it is at present; the demarcations will be very expensive. The area of each holding will not be accurately shown in the map.	Permanent demarcations in blocks of moderate size	One in ten
Villages to be divided into blocks of 50 acre blocks at the expense of Govt. The blocks again to be divided into survey fields containing intertidal fields. No intertidal fields to be measured and sketched in the maps. (see Para 5 & 7)	No guarantee for the accuracy of the area of any piece of land less than 50 acres. The expense of permanent marks for 50 acre blocks will be enormous. The expense of running circuits of these blocks with as great as to swallow up any saving that may be made by dispensing with plotting of fields. The expense of the survey will be almost double what it is at present; the demarcations will be very expensive. The area of each holding will not be accurately shown in the map.	Permanent demarcations in blocks of moderate size	One in ten

Description of Survey	Disadvantages	Advantages	Remarks
Villages to be divided into blocks ranging from 250 to 500 acres according to the features of the country. <u>Every</u> field to be measured and plotted. No maximum for fields to be laid down (see definition of field in Para 9) subdivision of fields to be prohibited except on the payment of a fee for survey and registry. See Paras 12, 13, 14 & 15.	In wet land the fields will be very minute and consequently additional difficulty will be found in plotting them.	Peasants will ^{get} an interest in the survey as it will define exactly the extent of their properties. abolishing the maximum the Government can make for fields will diminish the labor of the survey and will tend to encourage the formation of large farms subdivision of fields will be checked.	a survey carried out on these principles will be as perfect as the traverse system combined with the Government can make it. The cost will be little if any greater than at present.
Villages to be divided into blocks of from 300 to 150 acres as at present. small fields to be checked in survey fields not exceeding 5 acres in wet & 10 in dry land no maximum for other fields. <u>Small</u> fields to be measured or plotted.	No guarantee for the accuracy of areas of individual fields.	Diminished cost and increased rate of progress.	

W. D. S. Perry Major
 Offr. Surg. to New Survey

Pls. Survey Office
 Camp Saline
 13th Sept 1885

San. Para 16

1885 Sept 13

Dec-2005/65

Enclosure in letter
 No 1136 to the
 44.
 to Govt. B.B. 29.

Memo. for order.

In S.O. 12. Oct/84
 re. arranging the Survey
 Settlement work - at para
 30. it is directed that
 "the Survey Settlement
 work continues to be carried
 forward. The location of
 Survey Settlement fields must
 be shown in the Survey
 at present, the Survey
 fields being measured, &
 sketched in the S.O. -
 & the villages
 also be subdivided
 into blocks of 50 acres
 or about according
 to the features of the country
 & convenience of the Survey
 as far as the Survey Settlement
 work is concerned."

Major Sweeney points out
 that under the existing system
 the individual fields are
 not measured & plotted
 in the Survey Settlement
 that the existing Survey
 rules provide that the
 minimum size of a
 Survey field shall be
 2 acres in wet land &
 4 acres in dry land
 maximum size 6 acres

in blk. & 1/2 in sq. the
actual (low) fields of larger
size than the maximum being
subdivided (a most important
measure in my opinion) & then
smaller than the minimum
of clustered together.

Asks whether this
system is to be maintained
in combination with the new
Survey block of 50 acres -
or whether the Survey fields to be
formed are to be dissolved. &
the 50 acre block & from the
Survey field - the individual
fields being accounted by the
Survey Dept. & sketched in by
Sgt.

If the former plan be intended
the increased cost will be very
great. The work of training Surveyors
will be quadrupled at least. The
work to be done by inferior agency will
be increased. The amount of land
demanded at Govt. cost will be very
great & very expensive.

If the latter being intended the cost
will be very little less than at present
with this will be the disadvantage
it is so much less than 50 acres

will be plotted in the Survey
the will be an check on
the accuracy of the area
of any individual field
as shown in the register
altho the aggregate of their
contents may agree with
that of the block.

Under the present
system, a village is
divided into blocks of
from 150 to 300 acres
& then these blocks are
subdivided into Survey
fields of the maximum
& minimum size con-
sidered.

Major Survey officers
that it is a disadvantage
of the present system that
it doesn't show the
shape of individual
fields (accurately plotted
if they means) but the
figures & remarks that
the permanency of the
existing fields is very
limited. That the orders
on the subject are an
dead letter. Inclined

think that his observation is rather
in generalizing

he is of opinion that if the
maximum & minimum for
sunny fields were abolished &
sunny existing (low) fields measured
& plotted the expense would be very
little if at all greater than it
is at present. The two sorts of farms are not more than $\frac{1}{100}$ of the area.
in extent.

The size of the blocks & the number of the
divisions, to be left to the discretion
of the District Officers with a
maximum of acres 250.

If however the continuance of
the previous system is required in order to
prevent the increase of the present size
of the most fertile of block adoption
then he thinks that ~~maximum~~
minimum for clubbed sunny fields
may be raised to 5 acres in block &
10 in by land. & that the maximum
should be abolished.

If the greatly increased cost
of the carrying out of the
order of 12. Do not last in combination
with the present system of sunny fields
& the further last be still less checked
than at present in the accuracy of the
distinction of former plotted area among the
plotted (low) fields in order that the margin
error being increased from 2. or 4
to 100 acres per cent to 50 acres.

the system in practice, that
the aggregate area of the sunny
field is distributed among
the clubbed in order that
fields of 12. it is compared
in the same proportion as
their original measurement as
second in the current
register from 2 each
other. This is done by
the 12th of officers in the
presence of the parties
then actually applying
the assessors' ranking
in fact the first judgment
being after the original
rates have been cancelled.

Since the aggregate is
only 2 acres of wet land
or 4 acres of dry do then
cannot be much room
for error - but it is
not the so - Since the
aggregate area is less
in extent was 50 acres
& many of the included
fields might be only
 $\frac{1}{100}$ of an acre.

I think the 50 acre
block must be
abandoned -
I don't see any good

a sunny field may well
be found of less extent
than this by clubbing

in plotting all existing low fields
 assuming as they do to be small
 as size as 101. of an acre but
 being really permanent in size
 now do see any case in subdividing
 existing low fields because they are
 more than 12 acres in extent in dry
 land. A single wet field never
 than 6 acres, must be very small
 but I have found I see no object
 in subdividing it for survey.

I think the size for clubbed survey
 fields might be raised to 5
 acres for wet & 10 acres for
 dry land. on the condition
 that all the interstitial fields are
 to be measured by the survey off
 apt. This would accelerate
 progress. decrease cost & give
 us a much better chance
 of making our drainage really
 permanent.

I would propose then that
 the S.O. of 12. Dec 04 be modified
 thus.

Survey blocks to be formed
 at discretion of drainage
 officers according to the nature
 of the ground but not to a maximum

This might be practically
 in the minimum survey
 field corresponding to
 a single low field but
 practically the rule cannot
 be maintained strictly.

250 acres. See also
 permanently drained.

The maximum of
 a survey field corresponds
 to a single
 low field actually existing
 & is unlimited.

The maximum of
 survey fields formed
 by clubbing to be
 raised to 5 acres for
 wet land & 10 acres
 for dry do. on the district
 understanding that all
 the interstitial fields are
 to be measured by the
 survey apt. & the calculation
 must be made in
 the field book & register.

The survey fields are
 demarcated as far as
 possible as circumstances
 will admit of. In
 the larger & more numerous
 fields they are, the better
 to care afford to make
 the boundary nearly
 substantial.

16.9.05. (B)

Read the following letter
from the App. Sup. of
Educ. during Sept.
1865-

The Govt. desire that
the survey of the roads
be not be any farther
in hand

As regards Capt.
Lucy's remarks on
the orders containing
in para 30 of the
B. of P. 8/12 Dec 43
80.2243. The Committee
that it is understood
that the interstitial
fields between the
S. of the main
are plotted in the
maps should be
"revised" by the
Survey Dept. The
have been

It appears to me that the intent of the Gov^t has been altogether misunderstood & that Mayor Remy does not clearly understand what a Survey is, ought to be -

The Govt wished that the village
be made a separate block - Samra
= mentally marked, and that
the ^{highway} should be subdivided
into blocks of 50 Acres or
thereabouts the boundaries

which should be also
marked permanently &
the marks maintained by
the village authorities. The
village would then be sub-
divided into blocks of a
manageable size. The
fields within which might
be easily removed of
necessity in a few days.

The Gov^t however had no idea
pleasing them so some blocks
were made in detail. The
existing rules of the survey
were to be applied to them, it
being supposed that these
rules involved the survey of
all fields of two acres
or less & under - but
I had no idea of the division
into survey fields, and actual
fields, or that such an
abuse could have been
committed as that of sub-
dividing an actual field
because it happened to be
larger than 3 acres in wet
land or 2 acres in dry -
Major Rees should be told
what indeed he ought to

[illegible]

In the case of
Survey fields formed
by clubbing the
individual fields
must be sketched
in by the surveyor
the work goes on
to the intersection
of their boundaries

must be
shown in the field book
how much the Draftman
has to do to the work to
show the ground is
actually better than the
survey was made
and to have the
plan from draftman
area, then he comes
supply the notes to the
actual over laying, correct that
so changes has taken place
in over. every & the introduction
of the ground since.

V.B.
20.9.55

- 10 To the Highways Office Survey, 1955 & 1956
- 11 To the Highways Office, 1955 & 1956
- 12 To the Highways Office, 1955 & 1956