

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1738

~~Press~~
Mis.

Dated 20. 6. 19 1868

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
20th June 1868.*

No. 489. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the
Public Works Department:—

Communicating to the Superintending Engineer,
4th Division, Proceedings Public Department,
regarding the works proposed to be executed in
the Chepauk compound. } (Here enter 13th June 1868, No. 1,863.)

No. 490. ORDER THEREON, 20th June 1868, No. 1,738.

Miscellaneous.

Communicated to the Board of
Revenue and to the Superintendent of
Revenue Survey.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. SEWELL,
Acting Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue,
,, the Superintendent of Revenue Survey, } With Procs. Public Works Department, No. 1,863.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Read the following papers:—

No. 17. MINUTE by the Right Honorable the PRESIDENT, dated 29th May 1868.

The foundation of the Senate House on the shore between the Marine Villa and the Revenue Board buildings will entail the prosecution of heavy works and all the traffic belonging to them in that vicinity for two years at least. There will be an incessant crowd of carts and workmen, constant noise and dust, the Beach road will be in bad order, and the passage for carriages will be in some degree embarrassed and impeded. It is obvious that this state of things should not be unnecessarily prolonged. All the building works on that part of the shore should be prosecuted coterminously, and should cease, as far as possible, at the same time.

2. After the completion of the College and the Senate House it is obvious that the front of the Revenue Board and the Chepauk Palace could not be left in the present condition of meanness and disorder. Those buildings must be placed in harmony with the others. I propose, therefore, that the work be taken up at once and spread over the same period of time as the construction of the Senate House.

The object is to clear the sea-front of the Chepauk Palace and the Revenue Board, to remove the unsightly walls and godowns that encumber it, and to provide the persons and the offices now accommodated there with better lodging.

3. The buildings in front of the Chepauk Palace and the Revenue Board which should be removed are as follows:—

- (1.)—The quarters of the unmarried students in the Engineering College.
- (2.)—The quarters of the Serjeant.
- (3.)—Certain store-houses and yards belonging to the Public Works Depot.
- (4.)—Godowns belonging to the Survey Department.
- (5.)—The Office of the Survey Department.
- (6.)—A wooden building belonging to the Revenue Board used as a book-binding establishment and for luncheon rooms.
- (7.)—A group of European and Native latrines.
- (8.)—Another set of luncheon rooms.
- (9.)—An old chuttrum where horses and carriages are put up, with various broken walls and enclosures belonging to the same.

4. The proposal which I submit contemplates the abolition of all these structures, and the substitution of other accommodation in the following manner:—

- (1.) The unmarried quarters and Serjeant's quarters would be rebuilt on the Chepauk ground near the present married quarters.
- (2.) The store-houses and yards belonging to the Public Works Department would be obliterated, and the articles now deposited in them would be transferred to the Depot.
- (3.) The Survey Department would be accommodated in new quarters by an enlargement of the Revenue Board buildings.
- (4.) The luncheon-rooms, latrines, carriage sheds, and horse sheds would be transferred to the space between the Chepauk palace and the Public Works Depot now occupied by the office of the Forest Department, an abandoned store-room contiguous to the Palace, and a horse shed belonging to the Public Works Depot.

(5.) The Forest Department and the Binding Establishment of the Revenue Department would be provided for by the contemplated additions to the Revenue Board.

5. The order of proceeding which I would recommend would be to prepare quarters for the Forest Department at once, by rapidly building an upper story on the western face of the Revenue Board building, with a verandah, which would enable the accommodation required for the latrines, luncheon rooms, and carriage and horse sheds to be prepared at once on the space to the south of the Chepauk Palace, and between it and the Public Works Depot. The luncheon rooms would be close to the Palace; the carriage and horse sheds would come next with an interval; the latrines would be the nearest the Depot with another interval. None of these buildings would be more than one story high; free passage would be allowed for the sea breeze; and existing buildings would be largely used. In this way the worst buildings between the Chepauk Palace and the sea might be cleared in the present year, and the ground might be laid out and planted.

The development of the Revenue Board buildings and the transfer to them of the Book-binding Establishment and Survey Department would be the next part of the undertaking.

The transfer of the married quarters and Serjeant's quarters might come last.

6. The development of the Revenue Board buildings would involve the construction of an upper story on the present lower story, with a verandah, on the western face, and the construction of a new lower story and upper story, with verandahs, on the northern face. Verandahs ought, at the same time, to be built on the eastern and southern faces, already two stories high, and the whole of the new façades thus cheaply obtained might be harmonized with the fantastic but agreeable style of the old Native Palace. The Revenue Board buildings would thus become a complete and important block with ample accommodation at present for the homogeneous departments to be embodied in them. As the space required for the Revenue Board proper expands, the other offices may be successively thrust out and provided for elsewhere. If we regard the state of the archives belonging to the Revenue Department, and the increasing requirements which the lapse of time must unavoidably bring with it, we cannot doubt that the whole of the enlarged edifice will be eventually demanded by that department alone.

7. I hope that the plan which I submit has been rendered partly intelligible to my colleagues. It can scarcely be fully understood without local inspection. My proposals are made with the concurrence of Colonel Orr, who accompanied me on the ground, and who will be able, he thinks, to provide funds for a commencement of the works during the present season, should they obtain the sanction of Government.

8. Nothing that I have here suggested would interfere with the scheme of a general range of Government Offices on the Chepauk ground for the accommodation of those departments which are now scattered in hired lodgings in the city; nothing being, in fact, suggested, as far as Government Offices are concerned, except the completion of the Revenue Board buildings to their natural extent.

9. In these proposals I also presume that a suggestion which I lately made for the appropriation of the Chepauk Palace for the purposes of a Military Hospital will not be accepted by the Committee appointed to report on that question. I

understand that such is the case from Dr. Hadaway. But even if the Chepauk Palace were so appropriated, the scattered buildings in front of the Revenue Board and the Palace must still be cleared away, and the Revenue Board building must be still developed to the extent indicated above.

In conclusion, I beg to recommend that the Department of Public Works be instructed to prepare plans and estimates for the purposes above described, and submit them for the consideration of Government.

(Signed) NAPIER.

I concur.

(Signed) W. A. McCLEVERTY.

No. 18. MINUTE by the Honorable H. D. PHILLIPS, dated 30th May 1863.

If money can be had for what will involve a very large expenditure, I think the changes and improvements suggested by His Lordship may be proceeded with. But I see great objection to embarrassing these plans with the construction of a place for the carriages, horses, ponies, julkas, &c., of the officials belonging to the several departments to be accommodated in the buildings it is proposed to construct. On a late occasion, the Government most unnecessarily, as I believe, laid out a deal of money in building stables and carriage houses for the Judges and principal officials of the High Court. In some correspondence which, since that, has reached the Government, I have observed, as I recollect, that no such provision was even thought of for the Calcutta High Court Judges, who necessarily make their own arrangements for the livery and standing of their horses and carriages when they are on duty in the Court-house.

2. It occurs to me that any place built for carriages and horses near the Revenue Board Offices must be out of keeping with the improved character of the new and enlarged structures in contemplation, unless large funds be wastefully expended in beautifying this place. I would not have it at all. It stands to reason, I think, that, outside the Chepauk limits, a livery stable is sure to spring up when it becomes known that the Government have determined no longer to build stables for their servants besides giving them handsome salaries.

3. Such stabling near the Revenue Board Office cannot be said to be necessary on any public ground, for, even if no livery establishment does come into existence, as I have supposed it will, the members and others have simply to send their horses and carriages to Taylor & Co., or Waller & Co., or others, near the Round Tannah station on the Mount Road, and have them brought back at a stated hour.

4. I should have similarly objected to the luxury at the public cost of "luncheon rooms," but it has been urged that as the members of the Government have tiffin, so, therefore, is it to be inferred that subordinates must lunch, and as they cannot be allowed to eat their midday meal at their office desks, rooms must be assigned to them for the purpose.

(Signed) H. D. PHILLIPS.

No. 19. MINUTE by the Honorable A. J. ARBUTHNOT, dated 30th May 1868.

I concur in the proposals made by His Excellency the Governor. Considering the distance of the office of the Board of Revenue from any livery stables at present

5th June 1868.

in existence or likely to be available, I apprehend that the omission to provide accommodation for carriages and horses on the Chepauk grounds would cause material inconvenience.

2. I consider the removal of the various unsightly buildings adverted to by His Lordship to be urgently required.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT.

No. 20. ORDER THEREON, 5th June 1868, No. 680.

With a view to limit to as short a time as possible the obstruction of the roadway fronting the sea between the Marine Villa and the Revenue Board Office, caused by the extensive building operations connected with the College and Senate House, His Excellency the Governor in Council considers it necessary that all the building works on that part of the shore shall be prosecuted contemporaneously, so that these may cease, as far as possible, at the same time.

2. It will also obviously be necessary that, after the completion of the College and Senate House, the front of the Revenue Board Office and the Chepauk Palace should not be left in the present condition of meanness and disorder, and that the unsightly walls and godowns which encumber this space should be removed, and that the persons and offices at present occupying these buildings should be provided with better accommodation.

3. The buildings which require removal are :—

- I. The quarters of the unmarried students in the Engineering College.
- II. The quarters of the Serjeant.
- III. Certain store houses and yards belonging to the Public Works Department.
- IV. The godowns belonging to the Survey Department.
- V. The Office of the Survey Department.
- VI. A wooden building at present used by the Revenue Board Office for the book binding establishment, and for their clerks' luncheon rooms.
- VII. A group of European and Native Latrines.
- VIII. Another set of luncheon rooms.
- IX. An old chuttrum used as stables and coach houses with broken walls and enclosures.

4. In lieu of these it will be necessary to provide as follows :—

- I. Unmarried quarters and Serjeant's quarters, to be built on the Chepauk ground near the present married quarters.
- II. The store houses and yards belonging to the Department Public Works will be entirely removed, their contents being transferred to the Depot.
- III. Quarters for the Survey Department by an enlargement of the Revenue Board buildings.
- IV. The luncheon rooms, latrines, and sheds for horses and carriages will be transferred to the space between the Chepauk Palace and the Public Works Depot now occupied by the office of the Forest Department, an abandoned Store-room, and a horse shed belonging to the Public Works Depot.

5th June 1868.

V. Provision will be made for the Forest Department and the Book-binding Establishment in the contemplated additions to the Board of Revenue buildings.

5. These works will be executed in the following order :—

The quarters for the Forest Department will be at once provided by the construction of an upper story, with a verandah, on the western face of the Revenue Board building. This will at once afford a site for the luncheon rooms, carriage and horse sheds, and latrines on the space to the south of the Chepauk Palace, and between it and the Public Works Depot. These subsidiary buildings will be placed in the order above described, with intervals between each. As they will all be single storied, a free passage of the sea breeze will be secured.

6. The most unsightly of the buildings between the Chepauk Palace and the sea being removed during the present year, the ground can be cleared and planted. The additions to the Revenue Board buildings required to provide for the Forest and Survey Departments and the Book-binding Establishment will be undertaken next, and, lastly, the quarters for the unmarried students in the Engineering College and the Serjeant's quarters.

7. The development of the Revenue Board buildings will involve the addition of an upper story to the present lower story, with a verandah, on the western face, and the construction of a new lower and upper story, with verandahs, on the northern face. Verandahs should also be added on the eastern and southern faces of the existing double storied buildings, and the whole of the new facades be harmonized with the style of the old Native Palace.

8. These Proceedings will be communicated to the Public Works Department, with a view to the early preparation of the necessary plans and estimates.

(Signed) R. S. ELLIS,
Chief Secretary.

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5th June 1868.*

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6. The most unsightly of the buildings between the Chepauk Palace and the sea being removed during the present year, the ground can be cleared and planted. The additions to the Revenue Board buildings required to provide for the Forest and Survey Departments and the Book-binding Establishment will be undertaken next, and, lastly, the quarters for the unmarried students in the Engineering College and the Serjeant's quarters.

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8. These Proceedings will be communicated to the Public Works Department, with a view to the early preparation of the necessary plans and estimates.

(True Extract)

R. S. ELLIS,
Chief Secretary.

To the Public Works Department.
„ Revenue Department.
„ Director of Public Instruction.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
13th June 1868.*

No. 291. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Department :—

Calling for plans and estimates for the works }
proposed to be executed in the Chepauk } (Here enter 5th June 1868, No. 680.)
compound.

No. 292. ORDER THEREON, 13th June 1868, No. 1,863.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 41.

1. Communicated to the Superintending Engineer of the 4th Division, who will make immediate arrangements

for commencing the erection of an upper story on the western face of the Revenue Board building for the accommodation of the Forest Department, and of a new lower and upper story on the northern face for the better accommodation of the various establishments attached to the Board. The first of these additions should be at once put in hand and completed without delay, in order that the Office of the Forest Department being removed into it, the proposed improvements within the space to the south of the Chepauk Palace, and between it and the beach may be carried out. A verandah will be completed on the west face of the building, and will be carried round the northern and eastern faces.

2. Colonel Boileau will prepare and submit estimates for these works as early as possible, as also for quarters for the Serjeant and unmarried Students of the Engineering College.

3. The Superintending Engineer will further arrange for removing during the present year, the most unsightly buildings between the Chepauk Palace and the sea, and for clearing and planting the ground.

4. Colonel Boileau will provide the funds required for the works in anticipation of an allotment being made from savings later in the year.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

True Copy

*Amn. at. Mr. Col. P. E.
Secretary to Govt.*

To the Superintending Engineer, 4th Division.
„ Public Department.
„ Controller of Public Works Accounts.
„ General Superintendent of Public Works Stores.
„ Revenue Dept.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

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