

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
5th April 1873.*

No. 28. Read the following letter from Colonel F. J. B. PRIESTLEY, Superintendent of Revenue Survey, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Chempauk, 26th November 1872, No. 2,589-68:—

In their order dated 20th April 1872, No. 641, paragraph 5, Government desire to be informed what becomes of the survey field books after the work is plotted.

2. I have the honour to append a statement of the manner in which the original field books are distributed.

3. I take advantage of this opportunity to solicit instructions on the subject of their disposal.

4. I am of opinion that, as long as it exists, the Central Survey Office is the proper depôt for all original Survey records without exception. The Acting Director of Revenue Settlement, on my applying to him for the return of the original Amin's field books of the Trichinopoly, Salem, and part of the Chingleput District, of which the settlement was complete, informs me that those of the first-named district are not in his charge, and that the Collector who has them would probably object to give them up. He goes on to say that in the Proceedings of the Revenue Board, 3rd March 1863, No. 1,288, the Collector's Cutcherry was deemed the fittest place for their custody, and that the Survey is only a temporary department. To me, however, it is not so clear that this is the true interpretation of the Board's order.

5. One important aim I had in view, when obtaining sanction to the substitution of an area list for a field book to be supplied to the Settlement Department, was to retain these original field books in the Central Survey Office. If Mr. Banbury is right, all that has been effected is that needless work in the preparation of an additional record (the area list) has been imposed on the Survey.

6. With an accurate map, showing every plot of ground on a large scale from which measurements to within a few feet can be taken, I cannot see that these records of great value (because original and because they cannot be re-placed without a re-survey) should necessarily be kept in the Collector's Cutcherry. I am of opinion, moreover, that they are in safer custody here where no one has an interest in altering or destroying them than in the locality where their evidence may be favourable or fatal to the interests of so many unscrupulous persons. Practically, the field books, if kept in the Collector's Cutcherry, will, for many taluqs, be as little available for testing measurements on the ground as, if deposited here, for almost any other purpose the maps and Land Registers are sufficient.

7. If the record of every survey measurement is required not only by the Settlement officers (to whom they are always furnished, and whose minute check by re-measurement renders the survey a marvel of accuracy), but also by the Collector of the district, then doubtless the field books should be copied and returned to this department. The Curnums either themselves copy the Land Registers or are provided with a copy on payment. This register till lately was compiled by the Settlement Department, and I think the same rule might be carried out with regard to these field books. Another reason for having an authenticated copy of this record in addition to the original is that in Bengal it has happened that the survey records of more than one locality have been destroyed by fire, and a fresh survey has in consequence been necessary.

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ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Statement showing where Amin's Field Books are deposited.

Districts.	Taluqs.	Original Books.	Fair Copies.	Remarks.				
Godavery	Ramachendrapuram	In Central Office	Collector's Cutchery.	Fair copies have not been made since the date of the Board's Proceedings of the 3rd March 1863, No. 1,288, as it was intended to substitute area lists for field books.				
	Amalapur							
	Narasapur							
	Tanuku							
	Ellur							
	Yernagudum							
	Peddapur							
	Rajahmundry				Supplied to Sett. Dept.			
	Bhimavaram							
	Gudivada							
Bundur								
Bezwadah								
Nandigama								
Sattanapalli								
Kistna	Repalli	In Central Office.						
	Guntur							
	Narasarawpet							
	Bapatla							
	Palnad							
	Vinnukondah							
	Gudur				In Central Office.			
	Rapur							
	Nellore							
	Atmakur							
Udayagiri	Supplied to Settlement Department.							
Kanigiri								
Kavali								
Kundakur								
Ongole								
Sydapet								
Trivellore		Do.						
Ponnery								
Salem								
Ahtur								
Namakal								
Trichingode								
Tripatur	Do.							
Otengiri								
Oossur								
Darampury								
Kistnagiri								
Trichinopoly								
Kulitalai		Supplied to Collector by the Sett. Dept.						
Oodiarpaliem								
Perambalur								
Mussari								
Chidambaram								
South Arcot	Cuddalore		With the Sett. Department.					
	Senkarapuram							
	Chekkady Jaghire							
	Tinnevelly					In Central Office.		
	Tenkasi							
	Ambasamudram							
	Jammalmadagoo							
	Poddatur							
	Tinnevelly						Do.	In Central Office.

CHEPAUK,
26th November 1872.

(Signed) F. J. B. PRIESTLEY, Colonel,
Superintendent of Revenue Survey.

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No. 29.

ORDER THEREON, 5th April 1873, No. 391.

Miscellaneous.

With the permanent demarcation and the excellent maps now furnished, the Government do not see any necessity for supplying the district authorities with more than the correct areas of fields. The survey field books should be preserved in the office of the Superintendent of Survey, and, when circumstances render resort to them necessary, certified extracts should be furnished, the originals being thus exposed to no risk. It is not worthwhile to incur the expense of making copies of these field books. The cost would be considerable; as the copies to be of real use would have to be very carefully examined and compared with the originals. The Government conclude that Colonel Priestley has safe receptacles for all important records.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

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

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

11-2-78

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

C. No. 3791.

Superintendent of Rev Survey -
Dated 26 November

1872

FOR ORDERS.

With the permanent
demand on the Exchequer
I do not see any
necessity for supplying
the District with the
little more than the current
amount of public The Survey
Field books should, I think,
be

No. 391-

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 5th ~~Apr~~ 1873.

Read the following letter from the
Supt of Rev. Survey.

Appending a state-
ment of the manner in
which the original field
books are distributed &c. } (H.C. 26th November 1872 No. 2589/78)

With the permanent
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certified

FOR ORDERS.

C 4 Dec/72 R 24: Inad/73

certified extracts should
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pared with the originals.
The Govt conclude that
Col Priestly has safe
receptacles for all im-
portant records.

[Signature]

List from Orders

[Signature]

- 13. Supd. of Rev. Sundry Desjapin 173
- 14. Board of Rev. S
- 13. Dir. of Rev. Pettit S

[Signature]

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Distribution of Original
Sydney Field Books