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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	264	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	1-2-1876	196-

Not to be folded or roughly handled

264

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
24th June 1875.*

Headquarters.

No. 113. Read the following letter from Colonel A. S. MOBERLY, R.E., District Engineer of Cuddapah, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, Fort St. George, dated Cuddapah, 24th April 1875, No. 186:—

With reference to G.O., No. 26, of the 3rd April 1875, I have the honor to inform you that the Collector's Cutcherry is a disgrace to the district, the want of a new Collector's Cutcherry has been, I believe, repeatedly brought to the notice of Government and was included in the list submitted to Government by the Jail and Cutcherry Committee in 1867 or 1868, but not having the Government Order in my records I cannot quote the number and date. In 1868 or 1869, when Mr. VansAgnew was Collector of this district, a site for a new Cutcherry was selected, but as no Standard Plan had been prepared nothing further has been done.

2. The Collector's present Cutcherry is a small building having two rooms, in one of which the Collector sits and in the other such of his clerks as are immediately required; there are also two small bungalows of one room each for the Collector's Assistants. The compound in which these are situated is triangular in shape and of about two acres in area. The value of these buildings is about Rupees 3,000; it would take about Rupees 2,500 to put them into thorough repair, and Rupees 6,000 to build them on a new site.

3. In the adjacent small compound on the west side is the Sheristadar's Cutcherry and English Record-room. This is an old native building, and with the exception of being cramped in space and low, answers its purpose very well. The roof is not in good order. It would cost about Rupees 2,000 to put the building into good repair, and Rupees 4,000 to build it at another site. Its present value is about Rupees 1,500.

4. Opposite the north gate of the Collector's Cutcherry is the Deputy Collector's Cutcherry and Printing Press. It has often puzzled me how they have managed to do their work in it for it is low and dark and they are very much crowded. To put it into thorough repair and make it fit for its purpose would require so much alteration that I think it could not be done under Rupees 2,500, and that a more convenient building could be constructed for Rupees 4,000.

5. At about 200 yards from the Collector's Cutcherry are the Huzur Treasury and Native Record-room; these are old native buildings showing signs of fast decaying away, and estimates for their repair, &c., cannot be well made.

6. The Ouddapah Taluq Tahsildar's Cutcherry is an old building in a bad state of repair; a new Taluq Cutcherry has been proposed, but it has been postponed until those more emergently required in the other taluqs are built.

7. The Civil and Sessions Court has whiteants in the roof, and the verandas all round require removing; the Sub-Judge's Nazir room and lost-property room are in a dangerous state and must be entirely rebuilt, and a new record-room is required. The cost of all this would be about Rupees 7,000, and for rebuilding on a new site Rupees 24,000.

8. The Munsif's Court is a small and confined building; it would cost about Rupees 2,000 for putting it into repair, and Rupees 4,500 for building a new one.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
24th June 1875.*

9. The Jail buildings are old native buildings and sheds; they could not be put into thorough repair without rebuilding them; the cost of constructing a new jail would depend on the design and accommodations required.

10. I am not aware if Government wish me to report on the Zillah School, on which a report has been already submitted, the Police Hospital which is a thatched building in the Civil Dispensary compound, the Post-office, and the Engineer's Office.

No. 187.

Transferred to the Judicial Department, with reference to order passed in that Department, No. 650, dated 18th March 1875.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government, P.W.D.
1st May 1875.

No. 114.

ORDER THEREON, 24th June 1875, No. 1404.

It is evident from the report of the District Engineer, Cuddapah, that a considerable sum of money will be required to replace the existing public buildings at Cuddapah by suitable new buildings. The station itself is considered extremely unhealthy.

2. Before, therefore, incurring any expenditure on new buildings at the place, the Governor in Council directs that further inquiry be made as regards the site proposed for the headquarters station of the district at Camalapore. The site is free from sanitary objection. It is on the line of rail, and is only sixteen miles distant from Cuddapah, and with one exception will afford a convenient site for public buildings and private houses. The exception is that the Papagni river some years ago overflowed its banks and flooded some portion of the old river-bed close to which is the proposed site. But since that occurrence, embankment works have been constructed to divert the currents of the freshes to the other side of the river, and the site is probably quite safe now. On this point, however, it is necessary to have a professional opinion, and the Governor in Council resolves that Major Shaw-Stewart, the Consulting Engineer for Railways, be requested to carefully examine and report upon the suitability of the building-sites in the immediate neighbourhood of Camalapore.

3. Should his opinion be adverse he will report also on the site at Rajampett. It is on the line of rail, there is a good supply of water, and the place can be easily reached by rail from Cuddapah.

4. The District Engineer, Cuddapah, will at the same time be called upon to estimate the full cost involved in the removal from Cuddapah of all departments, Revenue, Judicial, Police, Public Works, &c., &c., including residences for the several officers.

(True Extract.)

To the Public Works Department.
" Board of Revenue.
" Sanitary Commissioner.

Exd. J. Wright.

Officiating Chief Secretary.

No. 172.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 21st January 1876.

Read the following letter from W. D. HORSLEY, Esq., Collector of Cuddapah, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 8th December 1875, No. 248:—

I must bring to the notice of the Board the condition of the public buildings at Cuddapah.

2. I have been hitherto under the impression that the buildings containing my office and the offices of the Head and Assistant Collectors were strong and trustworthy, and that the Court-house was one of the most substantial buildings in the district. Possibly, owing to the unusually heavy rains last year, the buildings have this year shown unmistakeable signs of weakness. The wood in the terraced roofed verandah round my office is perfectly rotten. Some of the pillars which support the verandah are now aided by wooden props. The Assistant Collector's room leaks vigorously on the least provocation, and an ominous crack has appeared in the wall of the room beneath a large beam near which the roof leaks. I am informed by the Department Public Works Range Officer that the Court-house requires re-roofing. The roofs of the Huzur Sheristadar's Office and of the English and Vernacular Record-rooms leak very much, and the Treasury and the Deputy-Collector's Office are in an equally unsatisfactory condition. With the exception of the Court-house and my office all these buildings have repeatedly been in the hands of the Department Public Works Officers but to no purpose. They are evidently beyond repairing. The roof of the Jail Hospital has been pronounced by the Deputy Surgeon-General as unsafe.

3. The estimates for the work required to make the above buildings safe and weather-tight are being prepared, and I am informed that an expenditure of at least rupees 50,000 will be necessary.

4. It remains to be considered whether it is worthwhile to spend so much money to patch up buildings which are so thoroughly old and worn out. The question as to whether Cuddapah is to continue to be the head-quarters of the district is still under consideration, but even if it were settled suitable office accommodation must be provided while new public offices are being erected. It appears to me as the most economical plan that thatched sheds should be made for the offices, and that money should be spent only on the Record-rooms and Treasury, which must be kept for the present where they are, as it would not be safe to place their contents in a temporary shed. Private buildings in Cuddapah might be rented for public offices, but this could not be done without rendering Government officers houseless. More-over private houses in Cuddapah are, if any thing more, in need of repairs than are the public buildings. I can think of no other plan than that I have suggested, viz., building thatched sheds with mud or sun-burnt brick walls.

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government with reference to G.O., dated 24th June 1875, No. 1,404, Judicial Department.

2. Until the question whether Cuddapah is to be retained as the head-quarter station of the district is finally disposed of no expenditure on the public offices beyond what is absolutely necessary should be incurred. The erection of sheds as proposed by the Collector appears to be the best course to adopt, and the Board accordingly support his recommendation.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

Calcutt
Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Chief Secretary to Government, Judicial Department.
Copy to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" to the Collector of Cuddapah.
Exd. W. J. Lewis.

Recd 24 Jan 75 No. 113

5/1/75
18.5.75

1 To the Secy of the Govt. of Madras

No. 332

Revenue 1876. Defrtd

BOARD of REVENUE,

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 21ST JANUARY 1876, No. 172.

Copy 26 Jan 76

Encl.

To the Secy

Received 27 Jan 76

JANUARY.
No. 172.

Public Buildings—in Cuddalore.—Submitting for orders of Government Collector's report on state condition of —.

21.264.

Recd

18.7.6.76.

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