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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

RKY DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	<i>2785</i>	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	<i>23. 11. 1876</i>	196

Not to be folded or roughly handled.

B.R.G.

2785

*Proceedings of the Madras Government: Public Works Department,
7th November 1876. No. 2,988.*

Read the following papers:—

No. 119. Read Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Judicial Department, dated 29th February 1876, No. 377.

Read the following letter from the Acting District Magistrate, Madura, dated 14th February 1876, No. 130.

With reference to G.O. No. 1,621, dated 22nd July 1875, Judicial Department, I have the honor to submit, for the orders of Government, plan and estimate for the construction of a Subsidiary Jail, Taluq Police Station, and Town Magistrate's Office at Madura, at a cost of Rupees 17,100.

2. I forward the above, as they seem to be what Mr. McQuhae wished; but I object to the plan for several reasons.

3. In the first place, I think it is a mistake that the Magistrate's Court should be upstairs. I cannot lay my hands on the papers; but I have a distinct recollection of Government objecting once before to the office room of a Covenanted Magistrate being upstairs, on the ground that it was thus made much less accessible to the people than if on the ground-floor. In the present case, the same reason applies, I think, and with additional force, from the fact that access to the stairs is through the Police Station. The public will therefore be much more exposed to the chance of being interrupted in their free access to the Magistrate than in the case of the Covenanted Magistrate's Office I have mentioned, and the working of the Police will be almost certain to be interfered with.

4. The stairs themselves I consider very inconveniently narrow as a means of access to an office so much resorted to as that of the Town Magistrate of Madura. It also seems to me that they are steeper than is desirable, and I also think that they should terminate on a spacious landing shut off by a door from the Court room, and into which a window should open from the Gumastah's room, so that persons requiring copies or having to put in process service fees, &c., might transact their business without interrupting business in the Court room itself. At my suggestion the District Engineer has provided such a window, but it seems to me to open on the stairs rather than on the landing, such as it is, which is also provided.

5. In such an office as this there should, I think, be a waiting room for Vakils and other respectable persons attending the Magistrate's Court.

6. I observe that it is proposed to build the building of brick plastered with chunam. I beg to suggest that coursed rubble stone work, as used in nearly all the works lately constructed by the Railway Company, would look far better, would be more durable, and, if care is taken in building, should not cost much more.

7. I have never yet seen a flooring of square tiles last well; I see the District Engineer proposes to tar the flooring. I believe this makes square tiles more durable, but I must say that such a flooring seems to me most unsuitable to such a building as this. I would suggest a cut-stone flooring which would never wear out or require repair.

The Government do not approve this plan in which the Madras Magistrate's Court is placed in an upper story above the Police Office, and are that any standard plan in accordance with it has ever been sanctioned.

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2. A revised plan and estimate more in accordance with the approved standard plans for Taluq Cutcheries must be submitted.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Chief Secretary.

No. 119-A. From Lieutenant-Colonel J. F. FISCHER, R.E., District Engineer, Madura, to Major-General G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madura, 27th April 1876, No. 376.

With reference to your memorandum, No. 528, under date the 22nd ultimo,

- 2 Original letters. and remainder thereon, No. 528 I, of the
1 Site-plan of the Sub-Magistrate's Cutcherry and Subsidiary Jail proposed to be constructed at Madura. 21 Assistant, I have the honor to forward, for your information, the correspondence noted in the margin,* and to state that I am unable to obtain the Collector's countersignature to the site-plan of the Sub-Magistrate's Cutcherry and Subsidiary Jail proposed to be constructed at Madura.
- 1 Design of the Sub-Magistrate's Cutcherry prepared by the District Engineer.
1 Sketch design prepared by the Collector.
* 1 Original letter from the District Engineer to the Collector, No. 186, dated 13th April 1876.
1 Original letter from the Collector to the District Engineer, No. 315, dated 24th April 1876.

2. The site-plan is herewith forwarded.

3. I have in my letters, Nos. 180 and 374, dated, respectively, 13th and 27th April 1876, explained the manner in which the Acting Collector interferes with the members of this department and then accuses me now of insulting him. I can only further add that the original design for these buildings was prepared by me after long consideration and communication* with

* See G.O., No. 43, dated 6th August 1875.

Mr. McQuhae and the Superintendent of Police to suit the means we had available by the sale of the old jail buildings, Rupees 15,000, and the only site we could find without adding 10,000 or 12,000 Rupees to the cost of them. I have prepared a sketch design in accordance with the Orders of the Government of the 29th February 1876, No. 377, in the Judicial Department, and beg to submit the same, together with a sketch design proposed by the Acting Collector; but as neither of these will fit the site which Mr. Bliss considers is suitable, I must solicit further orders and instructions. In my sketch design I have adhered as closely as I could to the Government standard design, and I cannot conceive of any better, but I believe I could alter my original design, if returned to me, to obviate some of the objections now raised.

No. 119-B. From the same Officer, dated Madura, 29th April 1876, No. 380.

On further consideration I regret to say I find that in both the rough sketches for Subsidiary jail, &c., sent to you yesterday with this office letter, No. 376, dated 27th April 1876, two lock-ups for the Police have been omitted, so that more space will be required for these buildings on the design ordered than the site provides.

2. If a new site can be found, and the conditions laid down by the Government that the sale of old buildings is to provide for the construction of the new ones as much as possible, the orders to prepare the design in accordance with the standard designs for Cutcheries, as much as possible, can be easily attended to; but, so far as I am aware, this is impracticable.

3. When Mr. McQuhae had this matter under his consideration, I pointed out to him that the difficulty could be got over by having an upper story, and to this he at once acceded, and I can see no valid objection to the proposed arrangements, none at least have been communicated to this office, the order for a change in the design having been obtained without reference to this department, and hence loss of time and perhaps increase of cost.

No. 1,030.

MEMORANDUM.

No. 119-C.

The subject of the above is a proposed Sub-Magistrate's Cutcherry and Sub-ordinate Jail at Madura, and its site. The latter is approved by the Collector, but the District Engineer objects that it will hold neither building planned by either of them. That planned by the District Engineer is 131½ feet by 103½ in extreme dimensions; that planned by the Collector 148½ by 55½. The site-plan shows that either of them might be contained within the space available. The Chief Engineer has marked on it a quadrangle 175 feet by 140, within which either of them might be located. But on reference to the revised standard plan of a second-class Cutcherry issued with G.O., No. 642, of 13th March 1876, he finds 93 feet by 55½ to be the extreme dimensions allowed. Within these are comprised—

1 Court room	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 × 16
1 Clerk's room	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 × 16
1 Record room	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 × 16
1 Police room	...	...	...	...	...	...	22½ × 16
2 Male Wards	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 × 16 each
2 Female „	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 × 16 „

with a retiring room walled off from the verandah round the Cutcherry, which is 6½ feet in width. The Chief Engineer is instructed to order the District Engineer of Madura to plan and estimate for two additional male wards in the space available, making the extreme width 90½ feet; also to add an Inspector's room and waiting room each 12 by 16, making the extreme length 120 feet as blocked out on the site-plan. The Collector's further requirements in the matter of enlarging the Court and other rooms to the extent of about 50 per cent. are considered inadmissible.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Major-General, R.E.,
Chief Engineer, Public Works Dept.

4th July 1876.

No. 119-D. From Lieutenant-Colonel J. F. FISCHER, R.E., District Engineer, Madura, to Major-General G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Camp at Dindigul, 31st July 1876, No. 1,366.

ADVERTING to your memorandum, No. 1,030, dated 4th July 1876, I have the

- honor to submit, for the sanction of Government, the accompanying plan and estimate, amounting to Rupees 15,280, for constructing a Deputy Tahsildar's Cutcherry and Subsidiary Jail at Madura.
- 1 Estimate of Rupees 15,280.
1 Plan.
1 Site-plan.
1 Copy of District Magistrate's letter, No. 819, of the 27th July 1876.

2. I am of opinion that the accommodation now provided will be found to be insufficient for so large a city as Madura, particularly for the Police, the prisoners and the Court, but I have adhered strictly to the instructions of Government.

3. The Acting District Magistrate in his letter, No. 819, dated 27th July 1876, copy of which is enclosed, agrees with me in thinking that the accommodation for the Court and Police is insufficient.

4. It will be observed from the accompanying estimate that no provision has been made for a well and compound wall, as they are considered to be unnecessary. There is already a large well situated in the vicinity of the proposed site of the building which is surrounded by private dwellings, &c., and it is therefore advisable to have a large space round a building in the heart of a large native town as far as possible, as it is always surrounded by great crowds, and this was provided for in the original design by an upper story for the Court.

From H. W. BLISS, Esq., Acting District Magistrate, Madura, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. F. FISCHER, R.E., District Engineer, Madura, dated Madura, 27th July 1876, No. 819.

I HAVE the honor to return the estimate, &c., received with your letter, No. 1,448, dated 22nd July 1876, countersigned as requested.

2. I concur with you that the Court and Police accommodation is insufficient. That for the jail will, I think, be found practically enough.

3. I notice that the plan makes the jail the right, and the Court the left, wing of the building instead of the reverse as requested in my letter, No. 528, dated 26th June 1876; and, as shown on the site-plan, I hope this will be altered when the work is actually carried out.

4. I think the building should be set back further than is shown in the site-plan, nearly up to the building now used as the District Press.

No. 119-E. From Lieutenant-Colonel J. F. FISCHER, R.E., District Engineer, Madura, to Major-General G. W. WALKER, R.E., Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Madura, 18th October 1876, No. 2,645.

With reference to your memorandum, No. 1,485, under date the 5th instant, I have the honor to state that the Sub-Magistrate at Madura is at present accommodated in

1 Copy of correspondence.

the Mantapam referred to in paragraph 3 of the District Magistrate's letter, No. 311, of the 9th October 1874, printed with Government Order in the Judicial Department, No. 1,996, of the 29th idem, and not in the old jail.

2. I beg to enclose for your information the correspondence noted in the margin, regarding the question contained in para-

1. From the District Engineer to the District Magistrate, dated 17th May 1873, No. 635.
2. From the District Magistrate to the District Engineer, dated 28th May 1873, No. 141.
3. From the District Engineer to the Collector of Madura, dated 26th July 1873, No. 1,763.
4. From the District Engineer to the District Judge of Madura, dated 26th July 1873, No. 1,764.
5. From the District Judge to the District Engineer, dated 2nd August 1873, No. 229.
6. From the District Magistrate to the District Engineer, dated 1st Aug. 1873, No. 1,466.
7. From the District Engineer to the Consulting Architect to Government, dated 8th August 1873, No. 1,935.

graph 6 of G.O., dated 25th April 1873, No. 1,194, and I am not aware why Colonel Roberts, R.E., took no further notice regarding the same, and all this had taken place before I took charge of the district.

3. It is on receipt of G.O. No. 1,996, quoted in paragraph 1, that steps were taken to prepare the necessary plans and estimate for a Sub-Magistrate's Cutcherry, Subsidiary Jail, and Police Station at

8. From the Consulting Architect to Government to the District Engineer, dated 22nd September 1873, No. 518.

9. Endorsement from the District Engineer to the District Magistrate, dated 6th October 1873, No. 2,859, communicating copy of the above letter.

10. Endorsement from the District Engineer to the District Judge, dated 6th October 1873, No. 2,859, communicating copy of the above letter.

Madura, and these have undergone several revision owing to the difference of opinion as to the extent of accommodation to be provided for the same, and finally this question was settled by your memorandum of the 4th July 1876, No. 1,030.

4. The proposal in my letter of the 19th September 1876, No. 2,267, is the

same as that made by the District Magistrate in paragraph 3 of his letter printed in G.O., of the 22nd July 1875, No. 1,621, and the Government did not raise any objections to the proposal, as the arrangement well suited the requirements of the Municipality, and I did not therefore consider it necessary to trouble them further in the matter.

5. I will send the detailed and block plans called for by you as soon as I can get them prepared by the Range Officer, Madura.

From Lieutenant-Colonel R. A. ROBERTS, R.E., District Engineer, Madura, to W. McQUHAE, Esq., District Magistrate, Madura, dated Madura, 17th May 1873, No. 635.

As the Government in their Order, No. 1,194, dated 25th April 1873, desire to be informed how the Town Sub-Magistrate of Madura is at present accommodated, whether in a building rented for the purpose or in a building the property of Government, I have the honor to request that you will, at your early convenience, be so good as to furnish me with the required information regarding the Muntapam now occupied by the Town Sub-Magistrate, in order to enable me to comply with their orders on the subject.

From W. McQUHAE, Esq., District Magistrate, Madura, to Lieutenant-Colonel R. A. ROBERTS, R.E., District Engineer, Madura, dated Camp at Shembaganoor in Peralakulam Taluk, 28th May 1873, No. 141.

In reply to your letter of the 17th May, No. 635, I have the honor to inform you that the Town Magistrate's Office is now held in a Muntapam adjoining the Collector's Cutcherry.

2. There is nothing on record to show how this building came into the possession of Government, but it appears to have been used by the Collector for many years, at first as a record room and for about twelve years as a Magistrate's Office.

3. Ventasawmy Naik, as Manager of the Meenatchy Sundereshwaral Devasthanam, claims the building on the ground that it was originally built by one Ambalavana Pillay and belongs to the temple, but he appears to possess no information regarding the original entry of the Muntapam in the list of public buildings.

4. Unless the Devasthanam authorities make out a much stronger case than they have at present, I shall not recommend the surrender of the building. It is suggested that the Collector had charge of the temples and took the building, but many such buildings are used as public offices in different parts of the country, and they have probably been public offices since the beginning of the century. The old Sub-Collector's Office at Caroor is an example, and several old Taluk Cutcheries and Munsif's Courts.

From Lieutenant-Colonel R. A. ROBERTS, R.E., District Engineer, Madura, to the Collector of Madura, dated Madura, 26th July 1873, No. 1,763.

In reference to your letter, No. 141, dated 28th May 1873, on the subject of the Muntapam in which the Town Magistrate's Office is now held and which, as you inform me, is claimed by the

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Manager as the property of the Medatchy Sundereshwaral Devasthanam, I have the honor to suggest, with a view of carrying into effect the wishes of Government as expressed in G.O., 25th April 1873, No. 1,194, that the Town Magistrate be located in the octagon dome at present occupied as the Mahomedan school.

2. This dome, as you are aware, is designated in the printed diagram as the Judge's private room, but inasmuch as it is vastly in excess of the space required for the purpose, and as the access to this private room will be very inconvenient owing to the Court dais arranged to be at the western end of the bed chamber hall, and as, moreover, if used as the Town Magistrate's Court, the dome and its entrance can be entirely separated from the rest of the Palace buildings, I do not see why the question of locating the Town Magistrate in this dome is not deserving of consideration.

3. Of course an adequate private room for the Judge must be provided, but I apprehend no difficulty in Mr. Chisholm's affording the same with far greater conveniences to the Judge than the dome in question prevents.

4. It is probable that the Devasthanam authorities would be glad to purchase the Government lien on the Muntapam by contributing to the expense of restoring the dome in question on the consideration that the Muntapam be handed over to them.

5. I would call your attention in this connection to my letter, No. 977, dated 12th June 1873, requesting the valuation of the tenements that now diffuse the north and west faces of the Palace. I shall esteem it a great favor if you can let me have this valuation at an early date, if not for all the buildings, at all events for those situated between the dome under reference and the latrine or its eastern flank.

6. In conclusion, I have to inform you that my attention has been called by the Sub-Magistrate to the general stuffiness and unhealthiness for want of ventilation of his present office. I have prepared an estimate, amounting to Rupees 424, for doing what is necessary to remedy the defects brought to notice; but of course, before forwarding this estimate for your approval, I am anxious to have the question of the location of the Town Magistrate's Office definitively settled.

7. I shall send a copy of this letter to the District Judge, with a request that he will favor me with the further expression of his views on this subject.

From Lieutenant-Colonel R. A. ROBERTS, R.E., District Engineer, Madura, to P. P. HUTCHINS, Esq., District Judge, Madura, dated 26th July 1873, No. 1,764.

In forwarding you a copy of a letter No. 1,763, which I have this day addressed to the Collector of Madura on the subject of transferring the office of the Town Magistrate to the dome now used as the Mahomedan school, I have the honor to request the favor of your informing me whether you have any objection to offer to the proposal, provided always that Mr. Chisholm can furnish you with other accommodation suitable in all respects for your private room.

From P. P. HUTCHINS, Esq., District Judge of Madura, to Lieutenant-Colonel R. A. ROBERTS, R.E., District Engineer, Madura, dated 2nd August 1873, No. 229.

With reference to your letter of the 26th ultimo, No. 1,764, I have the honor to inform you that, subject of course to suitable accommodation being provided elsewhere, I have no other objection to your proposal to allot the octagonal dome to the Town Sub-Magistrate than the general objection which I have already urged to so many noisy and crowded Courts being placed so near together; at the same time, I beg to remind you that I have already given up about half of the space formerly allotted for the District and Session Court, and that when I did so I had noticed that the premises occupied by the Mahomedan school were in excess of what was necessary for my private room, and intended that the extra space should otherwise be made use of. If that is now taken away from me, I shall require space elsewhere, not only for my private

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room, but also for the other offices which I contemplated locating there, and I do not think that this can be found so readily as you imagine. I very strongly prefer having the octagonal dome for my private room as originally proposed.

From Lieutenant-Colonel R. A. ROBERTS, R.E., District Engineer, Madura, to R. F. CHISHOLM, Esq., Consulting Architect to Government, dated Madura, 8th August 1873, No. 1,935.

REFERRING to paragraph 6 of G.O., No. 1,194, dated 25th April 1873, relative to the provision of accommodation for certain offices in the Palace, I have the honor to forward the correspondence noted in the margin, and to request the favor of your opinion regarding the subject in question.

1 Copy of letters to the Collector and the Judge, Nos. 1,763 and 1,764, dated 26th July 1873.
1 Copy of Collector's reply, No. 1,466, dated 1st Aug. 1873.
1 Copy of the Judge's reply, No. 229, dated 2nd Aug. 1873.
1 Copy of Collector's letter, No. 141, dated 28th May 1873.

From W. McQUHAE, Esq., Collector of Madura, to Lieutenant-Colonel R. A. ROBERTS, R.E., District Engineer, Madura, dated Dindigul, 1st August 1873, No. 1,466.

In reply to your letter, dated 26th ultimo, No. 1,763, I have the honor to state that I see no objection to your proposal to locate the Sub-Magistrate's Office in the octagon dome referred to if the Judge consents to that arrangement.

2. I do not know whether the Devasthanam authorities will consent to pay anything for the Muntapam alluded to in paragraph 4, but, as the title of Government to the building is good, perhaps they may be induced to do so.

From R. F. CHISHOLM, Esq., Consulting Architect to Government, to Lieutenant-Colonel R. A. ROBERTS, R.E., District Engineer, Madura, dated Madras, 22nd September 1873, No. 518.

In reply to your letter, No. 1,935, dated the 18th ultimo, I have the honor to state, after an inspection of the Muntapam used as a Town Magistrate's Court-house, that I think it preferable to repair the Muntapam then to bring the Court into the octagon dome of the Palace. The modifications you propose making to the Muntapam will greatly improve its appearance and the accommodation it affords, and, if at any time the Devasthanam authorities made good their claim, the alternative of transferring the office to the Palace would always be open.

2. The octagon dome could not be made into a complete Court-house without considerable outlay.

No. 2,859.

FORWARDED to the Collector of Madura for information, in reference to his letter, No. 1,466, dated 1st August 1873.

MADURA, (Signed) R. A. ROBERTS, Lt.-Col., R.E.,
6th October 1873. District Engineer, Madura.

No. 2,860.

SAME to the District Judge of Madura, in reference to his letter, No. 229, dated 2nd August 1873.

MADURA, (Signed) R. A. ROBERTS, Lt.-Col., R.E.,
6th October 1873. District Engineer, Madura.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
7th November 1876. No. 2,988.

No. 120. ORDER THEREON, 7th November 1876, No. 2,988.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 12-A.

(a). Heads of Service.—Provincial.
Fund.—Ordinary.
Class.—Original Works.
Main-head.—Civil Buildings.
Sub-head.—Judicial Department.
Section.—1, Court-houses.
Name of Work.—Sub-Magistrate's Cutcherry and Sub-
sidiary Jail at Madura.
Amount.—Rupees 15,180.
To be carried out by the Public Works Department.

In view of the many objections to locating the Sub-Magistrate's Offices in the Palace, the plan and estimate, amounting to Rupees 15,180, for constructing a Cutcherry and Subsidiary Jail at Madura, are sanctioned.

2. Provision will be made in the Budget of 1877-78 for the commencement of this work.

3. This sanction has been registered as Provincial No. 180 W of 1876-77.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Madura.
„ Examiner of Public Works Accounts.
„ Judicial Department.

Order in the Judicial Department 22 November
1876, no 2429

Communicated to the Collector
of Madura.

True Extract

[Signature]

Chief Secretary

Exd. E. C. Shunker.
Spare Copies

To

The Revenue Department.
Mr. J. K. S. S. S.
Collector Madura

Revenue 1876 Sept^r

✓ No 5102.

Pro: of Govt. Ind: Sep^r 1876

Sept 22nd } Nov^r 1876
Dec^r 22nd }

1876-77

Comm: 8 to the

Govt of Madras Dec: 1876.

Sanctioning estimate of Rs 15,180 for constructing a

sub-clapnet's kitchen

& subsidiary, will act

Madras.

1876-77

1876-77

