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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No.	3321	Press. / Mis.
Dated	28.11.1877	197 .

9

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Archives I—5,806—24-2-78.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

28th November 1877, No. 3,321.

Read the following papers :—

No. 288. From Colonel C. M. MACGREGOR, C.B.I., for President, Intelligence Committee, to the Surveyor-General of India, dated Committee Room, Office of Quartermaster-General in India, Simla, 22nd August 1877, No. 1 (Intelligence Department).

I HAVE the honor to request the favor of your furnishing me, for the information of the Intelligence Department Committee, with a clear statement showing the character of the survey of the different parts of India executed by your department and accompanied by a diagram showing at a glance how far each description of survey has progressed, and specimens of the different kinds of maps produced by you.

2. I am also to inform you that the Committee are at present inclined to the opinion that there should be some clear division of duties as regards the production of maps between the Survey Department and the Intelligence Branch of the Quartermaster-General's Department, and to request the favor of your opinion as to where this line should be drawn.

No. 2 (Intelligence Department).

MEMORANDUM.

FOR information with a request that similar information may be furnished from the Madras Presidency.

(By Order.)

COMMITTEE ROOM, OFFICE OF QR. MR. GENL. IN INDIA, SIMLA, 22nd August 1877. (Signed) C. M. MACGREGOR, Colonel, for President, Intelligence Committee.

To the Superintendent, Revenue Survey, Madras (through Madras Government).

REFERRED to the Superintendent of Revenue Survey for remarks.

28th August 1877. (Signed) C. G. MASTER, Secretary to Government.

No. 289. From Lieutenant-Colonel A. DEC. SCOTT, R.E., Acting Superintendent, of Revenue Survey, to C. G. MASTER, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Chepauk, 16th November 1877, No. 3,551-167.

I HAVE the honor, in reply to your endorsement, dated 28th August 1877, on the letter marginally noted, to make the following remarks regarding the scope and nature of the operations of the Revenue Survey Department working in this Presidency.

Letter from Quartermaster-General in India, Intelligence Department, requesting to be furnished with clear information regarding the character of the Madras Survey, its progress, and with specimens of the various maps produced.

2. The main object in view is the production of cadastral maps of the cultivated and settled portions of the country which are under ryotwari tenure

and pay an annual assessment to Government. These maps are drawn on a scale of 16 inches to a mile or 5 chains to the inch or $\frac{1}{3960}$. The boundaries of the holdings are shown by firm lines; the details, such as houses, rivers and streams, topes, rocky ground and isolated hills of small dimensions situated within the cultivated tract, roads and foot-paths, railways, &c., are sketched in from the data as to position afforded by the field boundaries which adjoin. Villages held as agraharam are occasionally interspersed amongst those under ryotwari. The former term is applied where the villages are held by Brahmins on favorable terms, a quit-rent only being exacted. The details of such villages are surveyed by chain and compass on a scale of 4 inches to a mile.

3. Zemindaris or private estates and hilly tracts are excluded from survey or mapping on the 16 inches to a mile scale. The boundaries of the estates and Government forest reserves as well as those of taluqs or districts are surveyed by traverse with the theodolite, and the work is plotted on scales varying from 2 inches to ½ an inch to a mile according to the nature of the country, the wilder tracts being mapped on the smallest scales. The traverse work is connected with the main triangulation of the trigonometrical survey, and is occasionally supplemented by minor triangulation based thereon. The interior detail, such as hills, roads and rivers, and the boundaries of forest tracts, and the position of villages, is sketched in with the aid of the plane-table.

The portions of taluqs which have been surveyed and mapped on the scale of 16 inches to a mile are reduced by photography to a scale of one inch to a mile, and the reductions, together with the plane-table work of the wilder or excluded tracts, as well as the private estates, form the material from which the taluq maps on a scale of one inch to a mile are compiled. These are printed taluq by taluq, each forming a separate map.

4. The taluq maps are again reduced by photography to a scale of ½ an inch to a mile, and they are combined to form district maps. Taluqs in this Presidency correspond to tahsils in Bengal.

5. It is intended to utilise the topographical maps of districts prepared as above described for the purpose of revising the sheets of the Atlas of India on a scale of 4 miles to an inch, and some small progress has, in point of fact, already been made in this direction.

6. The above is a description of the general course of the work of the Revenue Survey Department. It results as will be observed—

1*st.*—In cadastral maps on a scale of 16 inches to a mile of cultivated tracts belonging to Government.

2*nd.*—In topographical maps of taluqs or tahsils on a scale of 1 inch to a mile showing all the principal hills.

3*rd.*—In topographical maps of districts on a scale of ½ an inch to a mile also with hills and finally in revised sheets of the Atlas of India on a scale of a ¼ inch to a mile.

7. In addition to the above, the department has completed, or is now engaged on, a number of special surveys or compilations on various scales. Of these may be instanced the map of the town of Madras on a scale of 6 inches to a mile. The survey of the settlements of Ootacamund, Coonoor, Wellington, and Kotagherry on the Nilgiris, scale of 24 inches to a mile. The survey of the coffee estates, waste land blocks, and forest reserves in the Nilgiris, Wynaad, and Coorg, scale 16 inches to a mile. Surveys of railway stations and villages within a radius of one mile from stations on a scale of 16 inches to a mile, &c.

8. The series of maps which is at present in course of preparation seems to be sufficiently extended to meet most military requirements, and the Madras Survey Department would have no difficulty in executing for the Quartermaster-General any surveys on a large scale of military cantonments as well as of sites for arsenals, fortifications, or depôts which might be called for.

9. It seems to me that the work of the Intelligence Department as regards the production of maps might be restricted, first, to the collection of information not given on the maps as they exist or are being produced, and which is only of value from a military point of view, and, second, to the compilation of special maps in which the information so acquired might be inserted, while at the same time matter of less importance might sometimes be omitted, as in cases where the detail with the proposed additions would be too crowded.

10. The sources from whence additional information might be derived are various. The Public Works Department could supply much regarding the condition of the roads and could state whether they were metalled or unmetalled, bridged or impassable during flood. The position of fords and passes in mountain ranges would naturally come within the knowledge of District Engineers.

Information as to population in towns and villages is supplied to a certain extent by the Revenue Survey Department on the maps as now issued, characteristic type being used in printing the names of such places, the character having reference to the population. Further details regarding the resources of the districts generally which might be required for tabulation on maps could be derived from the Revenue Officers or from census reports or statistical returns. The various Railway Departments would be the sources whence details regarding the character of station buildings, the points at which breaks of gauge occur, and other matters of interest would be derived.

While it would always, I think, be one of the functions of the Intelligence Department to produce maps specially adapted for affording information in conducting military operations, probably much might be done towards rendering the ordinary topographical maps turned out by the Survey Department, better suited than they are at present to fulfil the same purpose, and that without at all injuring their usefulness to other departments of the administration or to the public in general. What is required by the Survey Department is a clear précis of the points regarding which it is considered, from a military point of view, that the maps should convey information in order that these requirements may be kept in view during the field survey and the compilation of the maps.

No. 290. ORDER THEREON, 28th November 1877, No. 3,321.

Miscellaneous.

ORDERED to be forwarded to the Quartermaster-General in India.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintendent of Revenue Survey.
,, the Board of Revenue.
,, the Military Department.
,, the Public Works Department.

Exd. J. W. Fischer.

Fwdd Cv. 5281/77.

Govt. of India.
REVENUE.
To the SUPERINTENDENT of
Madras Survey.
&c.
Dated November 1877.
Read

G.O., 28th November 1877, No. 4322.

NOVEMBER.
Nos. 283—290.

Despatch and return of the operations of the Madras Survey Department.—Reading to forward to the Quartermaster-General in India letter from the Acting Superintendent of Madras Survey submitting a report regarding the —.

Committee Room.
Office of Quarter Master General in India.
Simla. 22d. August 1877.

No. 1

Intelligence Department.

1877

From
The ~~Actg.~~ Superintendent Madras Survey.

To
The Registrar Govt Office
New Depts.

Dated 22d November
Despatched
Received

Enclosure No.

General No.
Departmental No.

Subject.

Memorandum
REFERENCE
Dated 20th November 1877
asking for Government
endorsement dated 28th
August 1877 on a letter
from the Quarter Master
General in India Intelligence
Department.

The Deputy Quarter Master General of India.
Simla.

Committee Room.
Office of D. M. Genl in India.
Simla. 22d August 1877.

I have the honor to request the favor
of your inviting me for the information
of the Department Committee,
a statement shewing the
present Survey of the different parts
of India ~~by~~ ~~your~~ Department,
~~to be~~ carried by a diagram, shewing
how far each description of
the Survey has progressed, and specimens of
the different kinds of maps produced by your
Department.

2. I am also to inform you that the
Committee are at present inclined to the
opinion that there should be some clear
division of duties as regards the production
of maps between the Survey Department

and

The original letter
received with the
endorsement is returned
herewith. The endorsement
intended for record in
this Office was mislaid.

W. J. Sanger Major
Assistant Surgeon U.S. Army

Copies and extracts of the questions of the
Revenue Survey Department—Replies to
forward to the Quartermaster-General in India
letter from the Acting Superintendent of the
Survey submitting a report regarding the—

NOVEMBER
Nos. 288—290.



Committee Room.
Office of Quarter Master General in India.
Simla. 22d. August 1877.

No 288

No 1
Intelligence Department.

To
The Surveyor General of India.
Simla.

Committee Room.
Office of D.M.Genl in India.
Simla. 22d August 1877.

Intelligence Department

Sir,

I have the honor to request the favor of your furnishing me for the information of the Intelligence Department Committee, with a clear statement shewing the character of the Survey of the different parts of India executed by your Department, and accompanied by a diagram, shewing at a glance how far each description of Survey has progressed, and specimens of the different kinds of maps produced by you.

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and the Intelligence Branch of the Quarter Master Generals Department, and to request the favor of your opinion, as to where this line should be drawn.

Jam 8.

J. Chalmers Capt

A-2.

Intelligence Department. Intelligence Department.

Memorandum,

For information with a request that similar information may be furnished from the Madras Presidency.

By order.

Chalmers Capt
for President Intelligence Committee

To.

The Superintendent,
Revenue Survey,
Madras.

Revenue Survey Office
Chepauk
16th November 1877

No. 355 / 14

332 / 78

From

The Acting Superintendent Revenue Survey.

To

The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department

SIR

I have the honor in reply to your endorsement dated 28th August 1877 on the letter marginally noted to make the following remarks regarding the scope and nature of the operations of the Revenue Survey Department working in this Presidency.

Letter from Quarter Master General in India, Intelligence Department requesting to be furnished with clear information regarding the character of the Madras Survey, its progress & with Specimens of the various maps produced.

2 The main object in view is the production of Cadastral maps of the cultivated and Settled portions of the Country which are under Ryotwari tenure and pay an annual assessment to Government. These maps are drawn on a Scale of 16 inches to a mile or 5 chains to the inch or $\frac{1}{3960}$. The boundaries of the holdings are Shewn by firm lines, the details such as houses, rivers & Streams, topes, rocky ground & isolated hills of

of small dimensions situated within the cultivated tract, roads & foot paths, railways &c are sketched in from the data as to position afforded by the field boundaries which adjoin. Villages held as Agraharam are occasionally interspersed amongst those under Ryotwari. The former term is applied where the villages are held by Brahmins on favorable terms, a quit rent only being exacted. The details of such villages are Surveyed by chain & compass on a Scale of 4 inches to a mile.

3 Zemindaries or Private estates and hilly tracts are excluded from Survey or mapping on the 16 inch to a mile Scale. The boundaries of the estates & Government Forest reserves as well as those of Talugs or Districts are Surveyed by traverse with the Theodolite and the work is plotted on Scales varying from 2 inches to ½ an inch to a mile according to the nature of the country, the wilder tracts being mapped on the smallest Scales. The traverse work is connected with the main triangulation of the Trigonometrical Survey & is occasionally supplemented by minor triangulation based thereon. The interior detail such as hills, roads & rivers & the boundaries of forest tracts, & the position of villages, is

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The portions of Talugs which have been Surveyed & mapped on the Scale of 16 inches to a mile are reduced by Photography to a Scale of one inch to a mile and the reductions together with the Plane-table work of the wilder or excluded tracts as well as the private estates, form the material from which the Talug maps on a Scale of one inch to a mile are compiled. These are printed talug by talug, each forming a Separate map.

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5 It is intended to utilise the topographical maps of Districts prepared as above described for the purpose of revising the Sheets of the atlas of India on a Scale of 4 miles to an inch & some small progress has in point of fact already been made in this direction.

6 The above is a description of the general course of the work of the Revenue Survey

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7 In addition to the above, the Department has completed or is now engaged on a number of Special Surveys or compilations on various Scales. Of these may be instanced the map of the Town of Madras on a Scale of 6 inches to a mile. The Survey of the Settlements of Ootacamund, Coonoor, Wellington & Kotagherry on the Nilgiris, Scale of 24 inches to a mile. The Survey of the coffee estates, waste land blocks & forest Reserves in the Nilgiris Wynaad & Coorg, Scale 16 inches to a mile, Surveys of Railway Stations & villages within a radius of one mile from Stations on a Scale of 16 inches to a mile

8 The Series of maps which is at present in course of preparation Seems to be Sufficiently extended to meet most military requirements and the Madras Survey Department would have no difficulty in executing for the Quarter Master General any Surveys on a large Scale of Military Cantonments as well as of Sites for Arsenals Fortifications or Depôts which might be called for.

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requirements may be kept in view during
the field Survey & the compilation of the
maps.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant
Andrew Scott Lieut Colonel R.E
Acting Superintendent
Revenue Survey

Encl

Revenue 1877 Dept

From No 4838

The Ag Superintendent

Revenue Survey

To The Secretary to Government

Revenue Department

No 3321.

Dated 16

Ordered to be

Desp'd 19 November 1877

forwarded to the Quarter

Rec'd 19

Master General in

India

E.V

28-11-77

No 3551

167

Subject

With Order

No 3321 - 28 November 1877

Submitting a report

regarding the scope and

nature of the operations

of the Revenue Survey

Department

1 To the Secretary Revenue Survey Dept No 4838
14 The Board of Revenue
7 The Secretary Govt
21 The Govt Govt

100
6

C. 27. from Rev Dept

227-25