

Revenue (1899) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 1519

DATED 24 April 99

[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording Procs. of the Public Works Dept. sanctioning
with remarks, the estimate of Rs 17,660 for additions and
alterations to the ~~Secy~~ Secretariat offices on St. Michael
Hill, Solacamund.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Revenue (1899) Dept.

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Government (1899) of Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.



Circular No 2577

Recd. 17th April }
Regd. 19th do } 1899.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 967 W., 6th April 1899.

APRIL.

G.O. (Civil) 1579/24-4
Recorded.
24/4/99

Secretariat Offices on Stonehouse Hill, Ootacamund

Estimate of Rs. 17,660 for additions and alterations to the —, sanctioned, with remarks.

21-4-99
22/4/99

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Buildings and Roads.
Civil Works.

Read—the following papers:—

Office-note from W. B. DEWINTON, Esq., Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, to the Executive Engineer, Coimbatore division (unofficially), dated Ootacamund, 29th September 1898, No. 1002 D.

No. 881 D., dated 26th August 1898.

" 794 D., " 11th " "

" 774 D., " 8th " "

" 633 D., " 12th July "

The accompanying file on the subject of additional accommodation in the Secretariat buildings, Stonehouse, is forwarded to the Executive Engineer, in continuation of the verbal instructions already given by the Chief Engineer.

The following are the proposals:—

- (1) To extend the telephone rooms eastwards and give the enlarged room on the north to the special branch and the one on the south to the telephone clerk.
- (2) To extend the eastern gable upstairs in a northerly direction, remove the Public Works Department Under Secretary's room and bath-room, and build an upper story over the Revenue clerks' room, and in place of the Public Works Department Under Secretary's room and the Chief Secretary's bath-room, with terraced roof, with passage on site of present bath-room, and bath-room beyond as shown on the pencil plan.
- (3) To raise the roof of the room occupied by the Chief Assistant, Public Works Department, to the same height as the room of the Joint Secretary, Railway Branch.
- (4) To add on a room to the detached building to the north of the library, of the same size as the latter.
- (5) The rooms in the detached building between the passage and the library, now in the occupation of the Local and Municipal Department, are to be slightly enlarged by curtailing the breadth of the passage, and the dividing wall between the rooms should be pierced with an arch so as to throw the two rooms into one. The new room thus formed will be allotted to the office of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
- (6) All rooms allotted for clerks' offices should be fitted with racks for records similar to those in the present library.

No. (1) above will do for the special branch clerks.

" (2) will do for the Under Secretary, Chief Assistant and clerks of the Public Works Department.

" (3) will do for the Under Secretary, Railway Branch.

" (4) will do for the new library, the old one being used partly for a tiffin room and partly for a lumber room.

The Local and Municipal Department clerks will occupy the room now occupied by Public Works Department clerks, and the room of the Chief Assistant, Public Works Department, might be used as a retiring room for the Secretaries.

Please submit plans and estimates with all possible speed as the additions have to be ready for occupation in April next.

ENCLOSURE.

STATEMENT of additional accommodation required in the Secretariat buildings at Ootacamund.

Serial No.	Office.	Number of clerks to be provided for.	Approximate area.	Remarks.
1	Public Works Secretariat ..	One attender, one muchi and one clerk.	200 square feet ..	May be provided by extending present room to the east. The accommodation required for these clerks can be provided by alterations in the existing detached building.
2	Chief Engineer for Irrigation.	Two clerks ..		
3	Local and Municipal Secretariat.	One Assistant and three or four clerks.	Assistant's room 160 square feet. Clerks, 400 square ft.	The clerks' rooms will have to be racked for records.
4	Special Branch ..	One clerk and records.	144 square feet.	
5	One general lumber room ..	For empty record boxes.	400 "	
6	One tiffin room for European clerks.		64 "	

Note.—In addition to these, one retiring room for the Secretaries is required.

From the Superintending Engineer, IV Circle, dated 23rd November 1898, No. 608 W. IV 6th December " 634 W.

Telegram from the Superintending Engineer, IV Circle, dated 2nd January 1899.

From the Superintending Engineer, IV Circle, dated 3rd January 1899, No. 4 W.

" Consulting Architect to Government, dated 6th March 1899, No. 3838.

Note by the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department.

On a reference made by the Chief Secretary in July last, regarding the necessity for providing additional accommodation in the Secretariat offices, Stonehouse Hill, Ootacamund, investigations were set on foot regarding the requirements of other departments, and the best means of satisfying them. The requirements are shown in the statement attached to office-note No. 1002 D., dated 29th September 1898. After consultation with the Secretaries of the other departments concerned, the Chief Engineer issued the instructions contained in the above-mentioned office-note, for the preparation of plans and estimates. These were received in December last from the Superintending Engineer, IV Circle, with his letter No. 634 W., dated 6th December 1898, but the design for additions and alterations to the main building was found defective in important particulars, and was handed over to the Consulting Architect by Mr. deWinton with oral instructions for revision. A revised plan and estimate have now been received from the Consulting Architect, and they provide for the following accommodation:—

(a) *Main building—Northern wing.*—Extension of the telephone rooms on the ground floor to the north and west, the enlarged room thus formed on the west of the passage being allotted to the special branch of the Chief Secretariat, and the room on the east of the passage to the telephone clerk. Erection of an upper story with retiring rooms over the rooms proposed to be allotted to the special branch and the telephone clerk, for the use of the Under Secretary, Public Works Department.

(b) *Southern wing.*—Extension of the room hitherto occupied by the Chief Assistant, Public Works Department, to the west, and the erection of an upper floor over it, in continuation of the room occupied by the Joint Secretary, Public Works Department, Railway Branch, the lower room thus extended being allotted to the clerks of the Local and Municipal Department, in addition to the room hitherto occupied by the Public Works Department clerks, and the upper room newly formed, to the Under Secretary, Railway Branch.

(c) *Central block.*—Improving the western portion of the room occupied by the clerks of the Revenue Department, and building an upper story over it for the use of the clerks of the Public Works Department, a portion of the upper room thus formed being allotted to the Chief Assistant, Public Works Department.

(d) Provision of two wooden staircases on the north and the south of the Revenue Department clerks' room, so that the present main staircase may not be used by the clerks and servants of the Public Works Department.

(e) *Detached Building*.—Addition of a room to the north of the existing library, of the same size as the latter, to be used as a library, the existing library being altered into two rooms, one for use as a tiffin-room for European and Eurasian clerks, and the other as a lumber room.

(f) Alterations and enlargement of the room hitherto in the occupation of the clerks of the Local and Municipal Department, so as to form one large room for the records and the clerks of the Joint Secretary, Irrigation Branch, the room hitherto occupied by the clerks of the Irrigation and the Railway Branches being exclusively reserved for the latter branch.

2. The above additions and alterations will be seen on referring to the plans, and have been designed by the Consulting Architect, after reference to the Chief Secretary and the Secretaries in the Revenue and the Local and Municipal Departments.

3. The original estimate of Rs. 17,700 submitted by the Superintending Engineer has been reduced by the Consulting Architect to Rs. 17,660, and the latter estimate is recommended for sanction.

4. In G.O., No. 376 W., dated 6th February 1899, the Consulting Architect was authorised to proceed with the improvements in anticipation of sanction to the revised estimate, and these are now in an advanced stage of progress. The building will, it is stated by the Consulting Architect, be ready for occupation by the time the Government goes to the Hills.

5. The accommodation proposed for the Public Works Secretariat requires re-arrangement. The room provided for the Chief Assistant, Public Works Department, is too small. He is at Ootacamund for the whole season, and conducts the whole correspondence connected with the Public Works and Marine Departments under the supervision of the Secretary. He is also Secretary to the Sanitary Board. For the efficient and prompt discharge of his duties in both capacities, he requires to have at hand a large reference library, portfolios of plans, stock files, Acts of the Legislature and many papers containing rulings of general importance. Unless his room contains ample space for the methodical and orderly arrangement of these various sources of information, confusion, delay, and probably mistakes are likely to occur in the disposal of the work of the Public Works and Marine Departments of the Government, and the numerous questions laid before the Sanitary Board. Under the proposed arrangement, the Under Secretary, Public Works Department, has to pass through the rooms allotted to the Chief Assistant and the Public Works Department clerks, in order to get to the Secretary's room, which is most inconvenient. The building is too far advanced to make any special alterations in construction, and everything necessary can be done by re-arrangement of the proposed accommodation. The Railway Under Secretary is mainly an inspecting officer, and on this ground is excused signing on behalf of Government, and has not hitherto been provided with a separate room. No separate provision for his accommodation is necessary any more than for the accommodation of the Under Secretary, Irrigation Branch. The following re-arrangement of accommodation is, after careful consideration, therefore proposed, as likely to better meet the interests of all concerned:—

(a) The room marked on the plan for the Joint Secretary, Railway, to be allotted to the two Under Secretaries, Public Works Department and Irrigation, the former Under Secretary being resident on the Hills for five months.

(b) The room marked for the Under Secretary, Railway Branch, to be given to the Chief Assistant, Public Works Department.

(c) The room marked for the Under Secretary, Public Works Department, and that marked C. A. W.'s room to be made over to the Joint Secretary, Railway Branch, to be utilized as he may desire.

6. The above arrangement will not curtail, but will considerably increase, the accommodation which the Joint Secretary, Railway Branch, has hitherto had, the area of the proposed rooms, with the retiring room, being 675 square feet against the existing area of 481 square feet. His Under Secretary will also be close to him. The advantage for the Public Works Secretariat generally will be that its Chief Assistant will have sufficient accommodation and the three Public Works Secretaries will have their assistants within easy reach of them.

(Signed) A. W. SMART, Colonel, R.E.,
Acting Chief Engineer.

11th March 1899.

ORDER—No. 967 W., dated 6th April 1899.

The estimate, amounting to Rs. 17,660, as altered by the Consulting Architect, for additions and alterations to the Secretariat offices on Stonehouse Hill, Ootacamund, is sanctioned.

2. The re-arrangement of accommodation, proposed in paragraph 5 of the Chief Engineer's note read above, is approved.

3. A sum of Rs. 9,500 has been allotted to the work in the current official year, and the balance of the estimate will be provided in the final issue of the Provincial Civil Works budget for 1899-1900.

4. The conversion of the existing library in the detached building into two rooms, referred to in paragraph 1 (e) of the Chief Engineer's note, should be held in abeyance until after the move of Government to the Hills, when a decision will be arrived at.

5. Of the two retiring rooms, adjacent to the Revenue Department clerks' room, on the lower floor of the main building, the southern one will be allotted for the much of that department.

6. Two additional record-racks should be provided for the Local and Municipal Department clerks' room.

7. The sanction accorded in paragraph 1 has been registered as Provincial No. 2 W. of 1899-1900 and classified as Civil Buildings—Original Works.

(True Extract.)

A. K. M. S.
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, IV Circle.
" Consulting Architect to Government, with seven enclosures.
" Examiner, Public Works Accounts.
" Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
" Consulting Engineer for Railways.
" Public Department.
" Revenue Department.
" Local and Municipal Department.

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STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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