

EAST AFR. PROL  
54753

CC  
54753  
REC  
15 NOV 48

029  
Bowring 531

1918

29 Aug

Last previous Paper.  
307  
26906/14

GOVERNMENT HOUSE AT NAIROBI  
SANITATION

Submits report as to unsatisfactory state of Has  
authorised expenditure of Rs 4,115 to be met from  
savings. Requests authority to further expenditure of  
Rs 7,150 to be met in same manner.

Sir H. Read.

The more of this they get through  
before Sir E. Northey's young children get  
out the better. Possibly the sanitary  
arrangements may have to be varied  
later if more room accommodation  
is required for the Governor's family,  
but that cannot be helped.

Several of Dr. Radford's  
recommendations <sup>etc.</sup> have no comment  
attached or (b) are marked "unworkable".  
The <sup>last</sup> (a) has been done & that  
Dr. Radford concurs in (b).

A

? Approval of expenditure sanctioned  
- proposed & comment is at A.  
Copy of comment - to Sir E.  
Northey

Ans 851  
Copy to above to Sir Erskine, 22 Nov 48

Next subsequent Paper.

6.8.18/15

No. 531

54753  
Rd  
15 NOV 3

August 29 1918.

Sir,

Report

I have the honour to report that I recently requested the Medical and Public Works authorities to furnish me with a report on the sanitation of Government House Nairobi and the surrounding grounds, which appeared to me to require investigation.

2. I enclose a copy of this report and I have to inform you that, on the recommendation of the members of my Executive Council, I have authorized the immediate expenditure of Rs.4,115, being the sums referred to in the final paragraph of the letter from the Director of Public Works with the exception of item 6 "Boys' Lines Rs.7,150".

3. This expenditure will be met from savings on the Governor's vote and I should be grateful if you will authorize me to expend

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE  
WALTER LONG, P.C., M.P.,  
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,  
DOWNING STREET,  
LONDON, S. W.

No. 531

54753

August 29 1918.

RECEIVED  
15 NOV - 1918

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SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,

DOWNING STREET,

LONDON, S. W.

713  
expend the sum referred to in item 6. to  
be met in the same manner.

4. I think you will agree that the  
report discloses a somewhat unsatisfactory  
state of affairs.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your humble, obedient servant,

*W. Brown*

ACTING GOVERNOR.

INCLOSURE 219

Public Works Department,  
Head Office,  
Nairobi.

26th June, 1918  
17th July.

54753  
NOV 3

No. 278/25.

THE HON. AG. CHIEF SECRETARY  
NAIROBI.

A series of recommendations have been made by the Principal Sanitation Officer as the result of a careful inspection of Government House and grounds at Nairobi. A copy of these recommendations is attached, from which it will be seen that most of the recommendations have been already carried out, chargeable to funds at my disposal. There are, however, certain items that I am unable to undertake before obtaining your approval and sanction. These items are specially marked in the above mentioned copy, and are sufficiently clear and need little explanation with the exception of the following.

Item B. Water Closets. The plan asked for of the house is herewith submitted. Mr. Hand overy could be sent at any convenient time to point out to His Excellency the alterations in detail. It shows a re-arrangement of bath rooms and w.c. etc. that will put these rooms into direct communication with the outer air, with freer ventilation and better light. First, as regards the w.c. upstairs; originally one w.c. only was provided. It was eventually found desirable to improvise a second by converting a small store into a w.c. It was dark and badly ventilated. In re-arranging this part of the house, the improvised w.c. is converted into a passage leading to the new position of the w.c. which will here

communicate

communicate direct with the open air by a window 7' high with a fanlight or ventilator at the top under control. The bathroom, encroached on by the new W.C. is enlarged towards the verandah. This arrangement of bathroom and W.C. will entail the removal of the stairs from between the entrance corridor and Reception room to the verandah. The ascent will be near the clerks' room and the landing at a new entrance to be given to the Sitting room (A.D.C. and P.S.). These alterations entail several minor changes in the position of a few doors and windows.

On the ground floor, the existing Lavatory and W.C. will be converted into a store, and the accommodation so displaced will be given in two small rooms built against the Map room.

The cost of the above is estimated to be Rs. 2,000.00.

Item I. Boys' Lines.

The present accommodation consists of eleven grass huts (Kikuyu pattern and all are in a very dilapidated condition and require either complete reconstruction or the substitution of quarters of a more permanent nature, i.e. walls of weather boarding and roof of shingles, size of each 12' x 12' costing Rs. 650/- each, or Rs. 7150/-. The alternative would be to reconstruct them as thatched huts. This could be done by prison labour, and the cost would be low. The work is of an urgent nature.

The total cost of all improvements recommended, and for which funds would be required, is as follows:-

Govt. House. Rearrangement of bathrooms and W.Cs.	Rs. 2,000.00
Kitchen	400.00
Dhobi's stand	150.00
Latrines, boys'	300.00
Store	250.00
Boys' Lines	7,150.00
receptacles	80.00
Incinerator	450.00
Cattle trough	500.00
Garage	10.00
Latrine, Goan	175.00
	<u>Rs. 11,265.00</u>

Sd/- W. Blain  
 for DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE AND GROUNDS.

HOUSE.

REMARKS.

A. House Drainage.

Appears to be generally satisfactory.

Recommendation - urgent.

Testing of all house drains and connections.

B. Water closets.

Generally of good type and in satisfactory working order: those erected in the centre of the house, and near the Private Secretary's Office are dark and unventilated, and would not be permitted to be erected if the Township Buildings Regulations were applicable; they should be condemned as insanitary.

Proposal. That a plan showing a new arrangement of both living quarters, latrines and bathrooms be prepared: this to embrace the chief guest chambers, suite of bed rooms, Private Secretary's quarters, bath rooms and latrines in the S. wing, upstairs and the lavatory and latrine accommodation near the Private Secretary's Office; and the removal of the latrines into such a position that free ventilation and light can be obtained, and also the removal of the soil pipe from within the building.

Plan is here-  
with submitted  
showing re-  
arrangement.  
Cost Rs. 2000/-

P.T.O.



Recommendations - urgent.

All latrines to be overhauled and cleansed, and the downstairs lavatory and latrine removed to a situation near the Map Room.

C. Outside Drains.

Recommendations - urgent.

1. The septic tank be cleansed and its outlet examined.

Unnecessary

2. The drain between it and the intercepting chamber be taken up and relaid.

Done.

3. The drain between the septic tank and the outfall be taken up and relaid, especially that portion beneath the new road to the stables.

Unnecessary.

N.B. 1, 2, and 3, these must be carried out immediately.

4. All drains, inspection chambers must be periodically examined, and the use of the clearing rod insisted upon.

5. Removal of the trap now situated between the lower manhole at the side of the house and the septic tank.

Done

D. Kitchen and Adjuncts.

Recommendations - urgent.

1. The provision of large gully traps and cages as per sketch to all outfalls from pantry, wash up places, boiler room and kitchens, and alteration of stone and cement work where necessary.

Items 1, 2 and 3 will cost Rs. 400/-

2. A complete reconstruction on sanitary lines of the washing up pantry, the immediate removal of all rotting wood work, and the supply of a new sink and draining board and fitting of cleaning caps to all joints in discharge pipes.

3. Immediate cleansing, repainting and whitewashing of kitchen and all adjuncts.

4. The provision and systematic use of a proper receptacle in the kitchen for the temporary collection of refuse.

5. The prevention of the use of meat safes as a store for boys' blankets.

6. The bestowal of proper attention to the cooking range and the daily scrubbing of all floors and shelves.

F. Attics.

Recommendations - urgent.

All attics to be thoroughly cleansed, and the flooring taken up where necessary; and the stopping of all rats holes in the house.

Done

GROUNDS AND BUILDINGS.

F. Dhobie Stand.

Recommendations - urgent.

1. Extension of water pipe laterally beyond the dishing so that the water from the tap does not splash over the ground.

Items Nos. 1, 2, 3. will cost Rs. 150/-

2. Extension of the cement drain to terminate in a large French Pit.

The construction of this pit should be immediately undertaken.

3. Surface around the dishing to be re-murramed and rammed.

N.B. Unless the Dhobie is an essential complement of the entourage, and his retention in the compound considered desirable, I recommend that the stand be entirely removed, and a new site at some distance from the house be selected. Under existing circumstances, and in the absence of proper supervision one of the greatest nuisances on the premises to-day is connected with and maintained by the Dhobie Stand.

G. Latrine. Recommendations - urgent.

That used as a bathroom close to the Dhobie's Stand must be immediately demolished; and a proper washing place for boys substituted. The new site for this should be selected.

Cost  
Rs. 300/-

H. Store. All skins at present stored there should be disposed of, and a rat-proof floor laid down.

Cost Rs. 250/-

N.B. The retention of this building in its present form is a menace to health.

I. Boys' Lines and headman's House.  
Recommendations - urgent.

I. The immediate removal of all dilapidated huts, and the erection of sanitary huts, these to be provided with windows, and their floor to be raised at least 1 foot above the ground. All should be provided with drains to allow of the

11 huts (Kikuyu pattern) demolished and rebuilt of weather boarding walls and shingle

ready removal of surface water.

2. The immediate cleansing of the ground, and removal of bottles, litter, tins, and rubbish.

3. All grass should be cut in the vicinity of the huts.

4. The maintenance of cleanliness in the neighbourhood of the dwellings, the daily sweeping of the ground, and placing of all rubbish in covered receptacles must be insisted upon.

5. Murram to be put down where necessary, and a receptacle for rubbish provided.

6. An incinerator should be erected at some distance from the house where all refuse should be burned daily.

7. Adequate supervision must be exercised, and I recommend that a Headman be appointed who shall be held responsible for the cleanliness of the boys' compound, possibly an Ex-K.A.R. (Nubian) could be found to superintend these matters.

roofs. Each 12' x 12'. Cost Rs.650/- each or Rs.7150/-

4 @ Rs.20/- each Rs. 80/-

Cost Rs.450/-

J. Cattle Trough.

Recommendations - urgent.

1. The removal of the trough from the precincts of all dwellings.

2. The flow of water to be regulated by a ball valve and the removal of the ordinary tap now in use.

3. The "padding area" for cattle should not be within 1 mile of the house.

Rs. 350/-

Done

K.

K. Main Earth Drain.

The earth drain from the donga between Government House and the Attorney General's which take the storm water from the grounds and main buildings runs for some distance parallel to the drive and crosses it and eventually crosses beneath Anderson Road. The drain needs regrading, realigning and clearing of undergrowth. On the Government House side of the culvert in Anderson Road a Swamp is formed in wet weather. The culvert may need lowering to prevent the formation of the swamp mentioned.

In hand

L. Intercepting Drain at back of Premises.

This requires constant supervision and repair.

Duty of  
Government  
Sanitary  
Staff.

M. Cement Drains protecting store, old stables and Garage.

These are too small, and should certainly be cleared of all rubbish daily, and their outfalls maintained in a proper manner.

N. Drainage Garage Pit.

This is defective, and should be immediately repaired.

Cost Rs.10/-

O. Sanitary Staff.

The formation of a sanitary staff who shall undertake the clearing of all drains and compounds.

P. Stables and Posho Store.

All stables and posho stores should be made rat proof with concrete floor and plinth, and should not be adjacent.

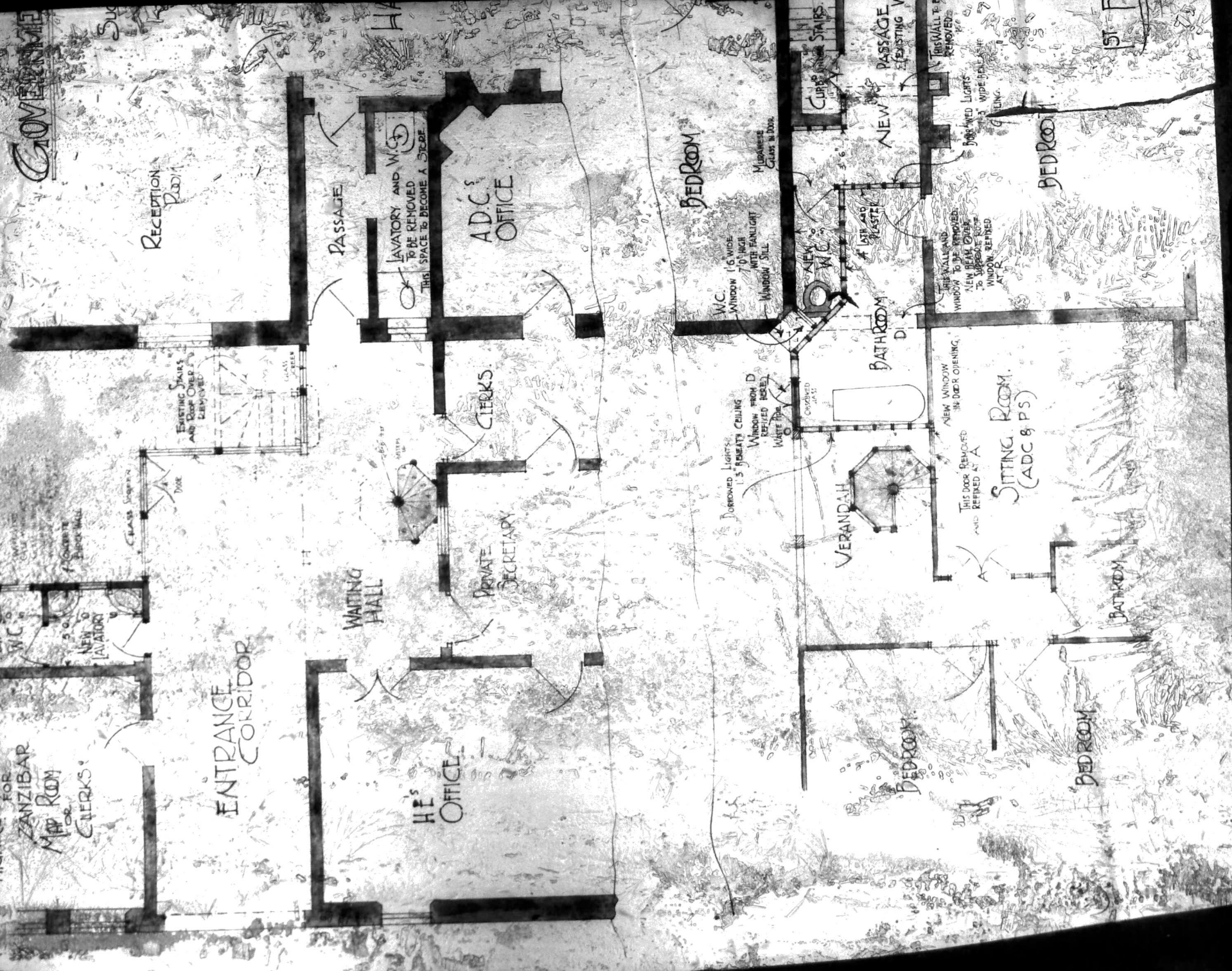
Done

Q. Latrine, Goan.

A new latrine on an approved pattern should be constructed for the use of the Goans. It may be possible to connect the affluent from this with the septic tank.

Cost Rs.175/-

R.G.R.



GOVERNMENT

FOR ZANZIBAR MAP ROOM OF CLERKS

RECEPTION ROOM

ENTRANCE CORRIDOR

WAITING HALL

H.E.'S OFFICE

PRIVATE SECRETARY

CLERKS

A.D.C.'S OFFICE

LAVATORY AND W.C.  
THIS SPACE TO BECOME A STORE

PASSAGE

BEDROOM

W.C. WINDOW 16 WIDE 7'0" HIGH WITH FAULIGHT WINDOW SILL

MIRRORED GLASS IN DOOR

CURTAIN STAIRS

VERANDAH

BATHROOM

BEDROOM

BATHROOM

NEW PASSAGE EXISTING V

NEW WINDOW IN DOOR OPENING

THIS DOOR REMOVED AND REFRINED AT A

SITTING ROOM (ADC & PS)

THIS WALL TO BE REMOVED

NEW BEAM COVER TO SUPPORT ROOF WINDOW REFRINED AT R

NEW WIDED LIGHTS WIDE HALF INCH WIDING

BEDROOM

BEDROOM

BATHROOM

ST - F

# GOVERNMENT HOUSE NAIROBI

FILE NO. 15

SUGGESTED ALTERATIONS AND  
ADDITIONS

Scale 1/4" = 1 foot

## GROUND FLOOR PLAN.

HALL

## 1ST FLOOR PLAN.

RECEPTION ROOM

PASSAGE

LAVATORY AND W.C.  
TO BE REMOVED  
THIS SPACE TO BECOME A STORE

A.D.C.'S  
OFFICE

BEDROOM

W.C.  
WINDOW 16" WIDE  
7'0" HIGH  
WITH FANLIGHT  
WINDOW SILL  
MIRRORS  
GLASS IN WOOD

NEW W.C.

NEW BATH AND  
TOILET

CURB DOWN STAIRS

EXISTING STAIRS  
UP TO ATTIC

UPPER  
HALL

NEW PASSAGE  
(EXISTING W.C.)

THIS WALL TO BE  
REMOVED

BORROWED LIGHTS  
11 1/2" WIDE REAR  
CLUNG

BEDROOM

THIS WALL AND  
WINDOW TO BE REMOVED.  
NEW REAR OVER  
TO SUPPORT ROOF  
WINDOW REFINED  
AT 2

DIRECTOR PUBLIC WORKS  
NAIROBI K. A. F.

S. Rand. Cooy.  
GOVERNMENT ARCHITECT  
16. 7. 18.



34753/18 Cont

21

Ind

See

22 November 1918

Sir,

I have the honours to  
ack the recd of your dep. no 531  
of the 20th inst. & to inform you  
that I approve the expenditure  
on improvements in the sanitation  
of Fort Home at Kaniolu ~~the~~  
~~same~~ which you have already  
sanctioned & of the further <sup>expenditure</sup> ~~amount~~  
which you propose.

I notice that no comment  
is made on some of the recom-  
mendations in the P.M.O's  
report & that others are simply  
marked "unnecessary". I presume  
that in the former case the  
necessary work has already  
been carried out, that  
<sup>in the latter</sup>  
D. Radford's has concurred  
the amount attached to the latter  
concurrence has been obtained.

DRAFT.

o.d. Sat  
no 851

MINUTE.

- Mr. Stanley 19 Nov.
- Mr. Robinson 20/11
- Mr. Bollenby 22/11/18
- Mr. Grenille
- Mr. Lambert
- Sir H. Read
- Sir G. Fiddes
- Mr. Havins
- Mr. Long

Copy to Mr. Stanley - Drafts

Att. overleaf

9  
m

Staff

LS

22 November 1918

Major General Sir  
Edward Northey  
KCMG

Sir

I am in to the London for  
your info, the enc copy of  
corres with the staff of  
the L.S.P. regarding certain  
improvements which are  
being carried out in  
the sanitation of the Fort  
House at Nainital

L/S 19 Nov

Per Holman, 27/11/18

2000 531 29 Aug

20 851 22 Nov

27/11

STEWART H. READ