



A Study Of Colonial Constructions And Buildings For The Administrative Facility Of Tiruchirappalli

S. Nallathambi Full Time PhD Research Scholar

Dr S. Xavier Assistant Professor and Research Advisor P.G. & Research Department of History Periyar E.V.R. College (Autonomous) Affiliated to Bharathidasan University Tiruchirappalli – 620 023, Tamil Nadu

Email: thambi010689@gmail.com & wsxavier@gmail.com

Abstract

Tiruchirappalli is served as a different type of headquarter from the ancient period to the modern. In the 17th century C.E. Tiruchirappalli became headquarter of Madurai Nayak. As per the treaty of Carnatic, Tiruchirappalli was transferred to English in August 1801, John Wallace, an English Collector was appointed by East India Company. Then Tiruchirappalli became headquarter of a modern district. Tiruchy is the most prominent municipal corporation and the fourth major urban agglomeration in the state. Ample opportunities are available in the Tiruchirappalli District to witness these marvelous artistic features. Therefore, this region is having wide scope for the study of fine arts and architectural beauty. Several buildings were constructed through the ages for developmental and political purposes in this district. Railway Junction building, Ponmalai Railway Workshop and other premises, educational institutes like St Joseph's College, Bishop Heber College, popular Christian churches, Court building, Central Prison, and other buildings are to be studied as the remains of colonial memories. These buildings are very good from an architectural point of view, large and impressive. This paper highlights the colonial constructions and buildings which were serving as the centres of the administrative facilities in the Tiruchirappalli District.

Keywords: Colonial, British, Catholic, Carnatic, Tranquebar, East India Company

I. Introduction

Tiruchirappalli is served as a different type of headquarter from the ancient period to the modern. In the 17th century C.E. Tiruchirappalli became a headquarter of Madurai Nayak. As per the treaty of Carnatic, Tiruchirappalli was transferred to English in August 1801, John Wallace, an English Collector was appointed by East India Company and then Tiruchirappalli became headquarter of a modern district. Ample opportunities are available in the Tiruchirappalli District to witness these marvelous artistic

features. Therefore, this region is having wide scope for the study of fine arts and architectural beauty. Good numbers of buildings were constructed through the ages for developmental and political purposes in this district. Among them, a number of architectural buildings are large and impressive. This paper traces the colonial constructions and buildings of Tiruchirappalli District which were created by the Britishers for their administrative facility.

II. Tiruchy Municipal Corporation building

The Tiruchirappalli City Municipal Corporation Council, the legislative body, comprises 65 councillors elected from each of the 65 wards and is headed by a mayor assisted by a Deputy Mayor. The executive wing is made up of seven departments: general administration, revenue, town planning, engineering, public health, information technology and personnel and is headed by a City Commissioner. The Commissioner is assisted by a city engineer, a city health officer, two executive engineers for the east and west sections, and Assistant Commissioners for personnel, accounts and revenue departments, a public-relations officer and an Assistant Commissioner for each of the four zones. Covering 18 square kilometres (6.9 sq.mi), the municipality of Tiruchirappalli was inaugurated under the Town Improvements Act 1865 on 1st November 1866; it originally consisted of two ex-officio and nine nominated members. Council elections were introduced in 1877, and the first chairman was elected in 1889. The municipality was upgraded to a municipal corporation as per the Tiruchirappalli City Municipal Corporation Act 1994 by the inclusion of the erstwhile Srirangam and Golden Rock municipalities. Covering 167.23 square kilometres (64.57 sq.mi), the municipal corporation comprises 65 wards and four administrative zones; these are Srirangam, Ariyamangalam, Golden Rock and Abhishekapuram. Headquarters of Tiruchirappalli City Municipal Corporation Council, the legislative body, comprises 65 councillors elected from each of the 65 wards and is headed by a mayor assisted by a Deputy Mayor.¹

The executive wing has seven departments - general administration, revenue, town planning, engineering, public health, information technology and personnel - and is headed by a City Commissioner. The Commissioner is assisted by two executive engineers for the east and west sections, and Assistant Commissioners for personnel, accounts and revenue departments, a public-relations officer, a city engineer, a city health officer and an Assistant Commissioner for each of the four zones. A Local Planning Authority for Tiruchirappalli was created on 5 April 1974 as per the Tamil Nadu Town and Country Planning Act of 1971 with the District Collector of Tiruchirappalli as chairman and the Assistant Director of Town and Country Planning as its member secretary.

III. Tiruchirappalli Railway Junction Building

The Great Southern of India, a Railway Company was established in 1853 with Tiruchirappalli as its headquarters. In 1859, the company constructed its first railway line that connected Tiruchirappalli with Nagapattinam. Presently, Tiruchirappalli is an important railway junction in Tamil Nadu and is a separate division of the Southern Railway. Five rail line branches separately from Trichy junction.²

The development of railways, since the second half of the nineteenth century and the consequent construction of roads and bridges and the casement expansion of transport, linked together with the different parts of the country and facilitated an easy movement of goods and people, which gave an impetus to the growth of cities.³ The railroad heralded a new epoch of transport upon which the growth of modern urbanization is based. The opening of the railway line initiated a gradual shift to the centres of pull and also a change in the trade pattern. The railway introduced by the British brought in the origin of the railway town.⁴ The development of the railway town and its infrastructure helped to increase the action of urbanization.⁵ The Railway junction, as it has become an important transportation centre, began to draw certain specialized uses viz. military, marketing, education, various administrative activities and socio-religious interaction.⁶ Chief Engineer J.G. Hunter first surveyed the proposed project of the railway line between Nagapattinam and Erode through Tiruchirappalli in 1858.⁷

The standard gauge line was first completed from Nagapattinam to Tiruchirappalli Fort and opened for traffic in 1862.⁸ The second phase of construction from Tiruchirappalli Fort to Erode was started in 1862.⁹ Lands for this purpose were acquired. The railway line was laid and the work was completed up to Karur in 1866 and extended to Erode in 1868.¹⁰

The locomotive workshop situated at Nagapattinam was transferred to Golden Rock, on a rocky plain area near the town. The opening of this workshop at Golden Rock gained the more urban advantage on the industrial based urban centre, which became an important sub-urban area of Tiruchirappalli Town.¹¹ Quarters for engineers and workers were constructed in Golden Rock. Direct and indirect employment opportunity was provided to skilled and unskilled workers from the nearby places of the town. Junction station was expanded for the third time in 1880.¹² A land from the military Cantonment limit was transferred to South Indian Railway Company. For the fourth time in 1883, lands were allotted to the railway department from the military limits, for further extension. The workshop at railway junction was improved and land lying between the workshop and the main road was acquired for expansion of workshop.¹³ In 1908, Railway Tramway has proposed between Tiruchirappalli Junction and Fort Station and another service between Tiruchirappalli Junction and Srirangam in order to meet the heavy traffic.¹⁴ Quarters for the sergeant, inspector and officers of Southern Indian Railway sprang up at the

southern side of the Railway Junction which marked urban expansion.¹⁵ Regional Headquarters and Office of Audit and Administration of South Indian Railway were opened in 1911. This massive structural block of buildings enhanced the urban outlook.

IV. Ponmalai Railway Workshop

The Golden Rock Railway Workshop, (officially Central Workshop, Golden Rock) is situated in Ponmalai (Golden Rock), Tiruchirappalli in the Indian state of Tamil Nadu, is one of the three mechanical railway workshops serving the southern zone of the Indian Railways. This repair workshop is basically a "Mechanical Workshop" which comes under the control of the Mechanical Department of the Indian Railways. The other two mechanical workshops of Southern Railway are located in Perambur, Chennai. They are "Carriage Works, Perambur" and "Loco Works, Perambur". This central workshop was set up in 1897 by South Indian Railways at Nagapattinam mainly to cater to the requirement of steam locomotive maintenance. South Indian Railways decided to shift the workshop to Trichinopoly, presently known as Tiruchchirappalli, owing to its locational advantage. Consequently, the foundation stone was laid by Mrs R.P. MUNRO on 20.10.1926. It was shifted to Tiruchchirappalli in 1928 because of its strategic location. The Central Workshop, Golden Rock is functioning at Tiruchchirappalli since then.

The total area of this workshop is around 200 acres (0.81 km²), out of which 26 acres (110,000 m²) are covered under the roof. At present 6,091 employees are working in this workshop. This workshop is primarily engaged in the activities of DSL Loco POH, heritage steam locomotive POH, coaching stock maintenance and wagon manufacturing, and other sundry activities. This workshop does have a long traverser way around 600 metres long and 80 feet (24 m) wide. This workshop was involved repairing of Royal Air Force's airplanes during World War II. This workshop when built had state-of-the-art facilities rarely seen in those days. It had its own powerhouse which generated electricity for the workshop and the colony. In fact, the Railway colony, Golden Rock was one of the first places to be lit by electrical lights in Tiruchirappalli city those days.¹⁶

V. Ordnance Factory Tiruchirappalli

Ordnance Factory Tiruchirappalli (OFT) also called Ordnance Factory Trichy is a defence company based in Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu, functioning under the Ordnance Factories Board of the Ministry of Defence, Government of India. The company is headed only by an IOFS officer called General Manager (ex officio Additional Secretary to Government of India) who is the Chief Executive Officer responsible for the overall management of the company and is the main judicial authority. OFT is the largest small arms manufacturing company in India and has the most varied range in the country.

VI. Educational institutions

The 19th century witnessed the educational contribution of missionaries in Tiruchirapalli town. The Christian missionaries came forward to establish schools and colleges, while the East India Company was reluctant to accept direct responsibility for the education of the Indians.¹⁷ The new Madras Mission managed by the French Jesuits took a keen interest in education. The Tranquebar Mission had two divisions, such as the Society for the Propagation of Christian Knowledge (SPCK) and the Society for the Propagation of Gospel (SPG).

These two societies under Rev. Schwartz made a beginning of organized modern institution-based formal education in Tiruchirapalli.¹⁸ Rev. Schwartz, the eminent among many missionaries, was the torch-bearer of education in the town. With the assistance of Major Preston, a military officer, Rev-Schwartz built a room for the purposes of worship as well as for learning for children. This was the Christ Church which was built in 1761 and the Schwartz School was formed in 1762 at Tiruchirapalli¹⁹ which had about 2,500 inhabitants. In 1763 military officers formed the 'Vestry Fund' which was utilized for the education of the children of European descent. In 1770 about fifty children in the English section and twenty-two in the Tamil section were imparted education.²⁰ This was a bright beginning of formal education in Tiruchirapalli town. The St. John's Vestry School is believed to be in the direct line of descent from Schwartz's English section and Bishop Heber Schools were from Schwartz Tamil Section. These Schools were started in 1762 under the SPG mission.²¹

In 1826 Rev. Joseph Wright, the Chaplain of Tiruchirapalli was instrumental in having the Vestry School moved from the Fort premises to the Mission compound at Puthur, the suburb of Tiruchirapalli where the military regiment was stationed.²² This 'outward move' of this cultural-based urban organ had a 'centrifugal effect'. In its shift, it had effected a new urban development in the Puthur area. Environmental conditions and military lines were the prime reasons for this transfer. Hence environment determines the form and pattern of culture. The zeal of missionaries further witnessed the proliferation of schools and morphological change of fort city and the growth of surrounding areas.

In 1826, Rev Bishop Heber expired at Tiruchirapalli. As a mark of respect to this departed Bishop, a 'Heber Memorial Fund' was created and donations were collected. A portion of this fund was spent for the construction of schools at Sengulam, Tennur, and Uraiur, the crowded urban villages of Tiruchirapalli.²³ These three SPG school buildings were constructed at respective places and opened for learning in 1827. A considerable number of children joined these schools.

The Primary School at Sengulam was the best Tamil School which gave free education in 1827 for 70 native children. The school building was extended about 1620 sq. feet in which 5 sections of classes up to 5th standard functioned. Like formal education, the subjects taught were Sculpture, Ancient History, Church catechism,

Arithmetic, Grammar, Tamil, and English.²⁴ In 2115 Sq. feet, the primary school at Tennur was a school of paying system, where 105 children from well-to-do families studied. The subjects taught were Theology, English, History, Geography, Mathematics, and English grammar. European children were in large number. Only one section was in Tamil which consisted of 30 boys and the rest were of English medium.²⁵ A Tamil school at Uraiyur was started by SPG in 1827, with an area of 45' x 36' was reserved for complete educational purposes and had classes up to the fifth standard where 54 children studied.

A school imparted free education to children from the poor backgrounds from the suburb of Uraiyur as well as from the urban fringe area.²⁶ This school was established in 1833 by a few native women and later on it was transferred to the SPG. It gave free education and had up to the 4th Standard taught by 2 native Christian teachers. There were six primary schools in 1840, of these 5 were situated in the crowded residential areas at Fort, Sengulam, Tennur, Uraiyur which was meant for girls.

Lord Macaulay's Minutes decided the system of English Education in India. The diffusion of education among the people started under the educational despatch of 1854.²⁷ In the second half of the 19th century, the proliferation of primary schools was marked high. At Tiperantotti (Tirupanturitthi) and Uraiyur bazaar primary schools were started in 1854 and 1860 respectively.²⁸ The formation of Municipality in 1866 took timely measures.

Educational opportunities to the depressed classes were provided by opening schools at the places where they resided. Of the two municipal schools, one at Devadanam and another at Tennur were started in 1891²⁹ which opened the door for social and cultural awakening enabling the depressed classes to adapt to urban culture. Their lifestyle changed due to education which opened new avenues in social attitude, especially towards urban culture.

In 1888, within the urban limits of Tiruchirapalli, there were 29 primary schools giving education to nearly 2050 children. Of the 29 schools, 50% were managed by missionaries. Due importance was given to female education even at the primary stage. In 1891, about 12 primary schools functioned exclusively for girls in this town. Besides the formal educational institutions, Normal schools and Industrial schools for girls imparted technical education in different fields. During this period there were three training schools in this town. Of which, two for mistress training managed by missionary and one for masters training and normal school where 37 boys and 137 girls pursued training. In addition to these, one more training school exclusively for girls was started in Roman Catholic Girls School, at Cantonment in 1896.³⁰ The Aryan secondary school taught coir and rattan work, knitting of banyans and bags for boys. In 1896, about 200 students studied technical education in various sections.³¹

The high standard of academic atmosphere and massive structural buildings added features to the urban conditions. SPG High School was the first one, formed in

1848 in Fort premises.³² Both English and Tamil were the medium of instruction, which enabled to learn both European and native pupils respectively. This school was started with 80 students in 1848 and raised to 783 in 1876 against 702 in 1875, and 664 in 1874. The rise of the Vestry Fund in 1762 was utilized to form a separate school for European and Eurasian pupils.

The landmark in the history of education and urban development in Tiruchirapalli town was the transfer of St. Joseph's College and school from Nagapattinam to Tiruchirapalli, the originally intended place. The entire school and college departments and students hostel were all accommodated at Clive's house.³³ Till then, Clive's house was an elementary school started by Fr. De Voircourt, where students not only from Tiruchirapalli town but also from various parts of the district attended. Secondary education for girls also had given due importance. Urban women's education also helped urban development and cultural and social improvement of the town. Except for the Hindu Girls' School at Varagneri, other secondary schools for girls were managed by Christian missionaries. In 1870, the growth of higher education accelerated the action of urban development and urban cultural activities.

The first college as well as for a long time the only college was the SPG College. After a hundred years of service in school education, the SPG mission entered the field of higher education hence the SPG College was the outgrowth of Swartz School started in 1762.³⁴ As a second grade college, affiliated with Madras University; it was upgraded to first Grade College in 1883. During this time, the students' strength raised to 136. A number of degree courses were introduced. Students from different areas studied in this institution. In 1889 the student's strength was 202. The provincial government had granted 9.10 acres of land at the outskirts of Puthur to SPG College. In 1919 the revenue department acquired 7.61 acres of land for the famous SPG College, for the purpose of the playground and for the construction of a hostel. Then the College came to be known as Bishop Heber College in late 1920.³⁵ Honors Courses in History and Mathematics were introduced in 1925.

VII. Churches

In Tiruchirapalli town, during the British regime, a number of churches were built at different places around the fort which acted as a factor for urban development. The Christian missionaries began their work in 1606, in Tiruchirapalli town when the famous Madura Mission was started by Robert de Nobili. In 1623, another settlement was founded by the same missionary.³⁶ At the beginning of the 18th century, the Christian missionary Fr. Beschi alias Veeramamunivar bought a piece of land from the Nawab and developed the place as a worshipping centre.³⁷ At Eda Street (Dharmanathapuram) Rev. Fr. Ferdinand D Mandel constructed a church and now it is called Palayakoil (old church) Fr. Franchise extended this church, by buying the Farx Garden and donating it to this church.³⁸ People who followed Christianity started to

reside around the church. This church is noted for its architectural features of Gothic style.³⁹

In 1801, the East India Company acquired political power of this region; with this the Christian missionaries were allowed free access to involve in their services to the community. They established churches, schools, and hospitals, which acted as important urban characteristics. In 1838 Father Louis Granier de Falton was in charge of the Congregation of Tiruchirapalli, where he had erected the Cathedral and a building at Melapudur. The proposed college (St. Joseph's College) was shifted to Nagapattinam and then the building was converted as the residence of the Bishop.⁴⁰ In 1886, when the hierarchy of India was constituted, the Vicariate was made into a Suffragan diocese; the Episcopal residence was located at Tiruchirapalli. The Society of Jesus worked zealously towards the cause of Christianity with Tiruchirapalli as its headquarters.⁴¹

At Melappudur, the suburb of Tiruchirapalli, the St. Mary's Cathedral Church was constructed adjacent to the Bishop's residence. This church was built during 1839 - 1841. It was the replica of the world-famous St. Mary's Church at the Vatican.⁴² The Cathedral Church and the Bishop's residence at Melapudur served both the European and the Indian Societies.⁴³ As a religious headquarter; it was attended by a number of catholic people from urban as well as rural areas. Due to the influence of the church, Christian residential quarters emerged in the surrounding areas of the Church. The Ecclesiastical Department sanctioned grants for improving the condition of the church in 1872.⁴⁴

The Holy Redeemer's church, situated at Palakkarai, is a landmark in urban development. Rev. Fr. Coriz bought the land from Kanjamalai Mudaliar and constructed this church in 1881.⁴⁵ The dome-like structure and the tower combine the gothic and other western architectural motifs which were the special features of this church. St. Xavier's church at East Varaganeri is also the oldest church in Tiruchirapalli town constructed in 1881 surrounded by middle-class catholic Christians. This church was constructed as a result of the native inter-sect conflict that occurred within the Christian community in this town.⁴⁶

St. Lourdes church was constructed in western-style added architectural features. This church was a replica of the Basilica of Lourdes at Rome.⁴⁷ The construction of this Church began in 1890 and was completed in 1896. A gothic tower with a gilded cross was placed on the pedestal at 200 ft above the ground.⁴⁸ The sky-high tower opposite the rock temple is a feast to the eyes of the beholders who frequented the town in large numbers.

The Jesuits at Tiruchirapalli town bought a site at the heart of the core city (Fort) for five Brahmin converts.⁴⁹ The place is called St. Mary's thope. Once was an orchard, owned by the Nawab of Arcot of the Carnatic. In 1893 Fr. Billard and Fr. Louis Lacombe who were both members of the Society of Jesus bought this orchard, ('thope'-garden) and named it St. Mary's Thope.⁵⁰ In 1896 Fr. Billard constructed a small church and a few residential quarters. In 1912 the strength of the residents of this place was 45.⁵¹

VIII. Christ's Church

The Danish Mission of Tranquebar was the first protestant Christian missionary, which started its services in this town. Rev. Schwartz, who belonged to this mission visited Tiruchirapalli Fort city in 1761, he founded a school here in 1762. In 1766 the SPCK (Society for Propagation of Christian Knowledge) desired to establish a mission at Tiruchirapalli.⁵² It proposed Schwartz lead this service with the consent of the Danish College Mission and made Tiruchirapalli its headquarters. In the same year, with the generous help of Colonel Wood, General Horne, and other officers of the garrison, Rev. Schwartz built a church called Christ's Church within the fort wall. Rev. Bishop Heber delivered his historical address from this church just before his death on 3rd April 1826.⁵³ This historical ancient church was planned by EIC army engineers. This second oldest Protestant church was built east of the Suez Canal. Periodically government had sanctioned grants for its maintenance.⁵⁴

The Methodist Missionary started its services in Tiruchirapalli town in 1823. The English soldiers of the permanent barracks initiated the construction of a church in 1823 with the help of Rev. James Linche. In 1845 Rev. Peter Batchlor bought 2.8 acres of land at Bhimanayagan Palayam, the suburb of Tiruchirapalli where a church was constructed in 1849 at a cost of Rs.1500 and it was known as St. Christopher's Church. It was built in a simple Gothic architectural style.⁵⁵ Englishmen from Cantonment lines and natives from Bhimanayaganpalayam attended this church regularly. Uraiyur was the headquarters of the Diocese of Methodist Missionary.⁵⁶ At Uraiyur, within the Missionary campus, a Board School for girls was opened. Later on, it was upgraded to high school. In 1933 at Uraiyur, a primary school building was converted into a church called St. Paul Church.⁵⁷

From 1850 onwards, the Lutheran Missionary, which got concentrated in Tiruchirapalli town, began to extend its services. In 1865 a site was bought from Chintamani Pillai where a small worshipping centre was founded. In 1869 a piece of land was bought near Mailam Shandy with the help of Banbury, the District Collector where a school and an Orphanage were opened in 1871.⁵⁸ The Zion Church was built near the right side of the Tanjore road by Rev. Handmann, it was completed by 1878. In continuation of this Zion Church, seven churches were built at Golden Rock Crawford, Eachampatti, Tranquebar House, Thiruverambur, Subramaniapuram, and Puthur.⁵⁹

IX. Post and communication

Postal communication and its administrative functions act as an important urban factor, accelerating urbanization and urban development. The political, cultural, and social importance of Tiruchirapalli bestowed more postal communicational activities. Right from 1801 onwards postal functions was under Imperial authority. In 1837 the Postal Regulations were revised and the Act XVII gave the Government the sole right of

conveyance of mail, made necessary the establishment of the post office within the company's territories, and banned all private postal service except a very few which was operated under license.⁶⁰ Since the Imperial postal services did not penetrate into the mofussil areas there developed a parallel organization viz the District Postal System connecting the headquarters of each district with police and revenue stations.⁶¹ The postal department was controlled and manned by the district officials. The Collector of Tiruchirapalli acted as Superintendent of Post (District) in Tiruchirapalli town.⁶² An old building in the Fort was occupied by the post office in 1859. The postal function was supported by a cess levied on the Zamindars or on the local people supplemented wherever necessary by an Imperial grant in-aid.⁶³ In Tiruchirapalli, a separate building for the post office was constructed and the fund was allotted in the budget of 1860–61.⁶⁴

In 1893 District Post Office functioned from Mangammal Mahal, later on, it was shifted to an old building near Teppakulam.⁶⁵ There was another branch at Kotwal Chawdi within the Fort premises.⁶⁶ In 1910 a new building for the district post office was built in front of Main Guard Gate, which added more glory to urban postal activities in this town.⁶⁷ Its wide postal functional activities provided employment opportunities and encourage urban–urban and urban-rural contacts as well as and accelerated urban development. Since railway traffic was opened in the town in 1862, the railway mail service was started from Tiruchirapalli.

X. Markets

Tiruchirapalli has been a great marketing centre even from the days of the Nayaks. Its importance continued during British rule. The old fort city acted as the Central Business District. Farmers used to bring their agricultural products including paddy from the distant rural countryside of the district to the Fort for marketing. These agricultural products were exempted from the customs duty in 1811⁶⁸ and generally purchased and utilized for soldiers in the troops and for general urban residents of the fort. Urban industrial products were distributed to the neighboring areas through this market. Handloom silks and cotton fabrics, cigars, and artifacts were traditional cottage industrial products of the town. The general road system (urban-rural link) encouraged urban trade. The Military bazaar on the other side encouraged marketing activities among the soldiers, which was established at Puthur in 1822.⁶⁹ Tiruchirapalli town played an important role as the mutual exchange centre for urban-rural products vice-versa. In 1868, the then-existing Mailam Market looked dirty and completely blocked the streets.⁷⁰ A proposal was made to renovate this market. The general plan of the market is covered by a 300 x 150 feet brick wall all around with a part of the roof of palmyra and tiles.⁷¹

The present market site was formed on the reclaimed moat and on the site formed out of the demolition of the fort wall. The new market building had been raised upon the most central and eligible site and it was well calculated to meet the immediate

requirement of the town. Nearly 160 stalls were opened. The complete estimate of the market was Rs 18,650 and it was subsequently repaired and extended at considerable cost from time to time.⁷² The income derived from the market was considerably increased in consequence of this extension of the building. At a distance of a few hundred yards from the Fort market, another market was constructed for trading straw and firewood. There were also two small markets, at Uraiur and Marsackpetta near the cantonment for the convenience of the inhabitants of the town.⁷³

St. Joseph's College management opened a new shopping complex in Clive's Mandapam in 1902. This tank view business complex enhanced urban marketing activities.⁷⁴ The marketing system was well guarded and a superintendent, one peon, and two watchmen were employed for the fort and corn markets. The respective ward inspectors collected the rent of the markets. There was a Mappillainayagam tank area that extended about 14 cents and was raised to the surface level and converted into a market in 1937.⁷⁵ All these markets covered almost the entire urban area of the Tiruchirapalli town. Both urban residents and people from an urban fringe area frequented these markets. Products from rural as well as distant towns were brought here and distributed to outside. Business activities had accelerated the expansion of the urban area.

XI. Hospital and Public Health

The introduction of medical societies promoted urban features.⁷⁶ Hospitals and laboratories are the principal components of medical services.⁷⁷ From 1801 to 1880 the medical services connected European and native troops, who were conducted by two distinct departments, the former being administered by the Army Medical Department and the latter by the Indian Medical Department in addition to all the medical duties in connection with the civil department.⁷⁸ In this case, the general public medical services were provided by a system of civil hospital dispensaries and asylum under the control of the British Indian Medical Department.⁷⁹ The District Administration of Public Health managed the public health of the district as well as the urban area of Tiruchirapalli. In 1806 Mr. Hay was appointed as the District surgeon, he showed much attention to public health of the urban as well as rural.⁸⁰

During the early 19th century, European Artillery Barracks was converted into military hospitals exclusively for soldiers and for other military officers. The Military Board showed special attention to maintaining this hospital.⁸¹ In 1851 there were two hospitals, one in the new European Cantonment (south of Uyyakondan canal) and another one in the Cavalry Line which were exclusively for European soldiers.⁸²

A hospital for native soldiers was functioning from Puthur in an old building. This old building seems to have afforded sufficient accommodation for the sick, of whom a large number were treated and separate accommodation for females was provided in a small building.⁸³ This rented building was renovated and made as a permanent hospital, functioned till 1863. In 1863, it was found necessary

to shift the institution from Puthur to a rented bungalow close to the garrison hospital and just outside cantonment limits; again it was shifted to a rented house in Bhimanayakanpalayam close to the railway crossing.⁸⁴

XII. Court complex

From 1803 to 1843,⁸⁵ Tiruchirapalli was the headquarters of the Southern Provincial Court which was presided over by three judges who had jurisdiction throughout Tiruchirapalli, Tanjore, Salem, Coimbatore, Madurai, and Tirunelveli districts.⁸⁶ Tiruchirapalli town had been a converging point of the vast area of judicial administration.

The District Court was functioning in a rented house. In 1805, a District courthouse was constructed.⁸⁷ In 1843, the Provincial Court was abolished and a Civil and Session judge was appointed for the Tiruchirapalli alone.⁸⁸ The Auxiliary court was also established at Tiruchirapalli town administered by a District Munsif.⁸⁹ The jurisdiction of District Munsiff court covers the whole of Tiruchirapalli taluk with an exception of 72 villages.⁹⁰ Uraiyur barracks was converted into a Courthouse of District Munsiff.⁹¹ Again from Uraiyur, it was shifted to Puthur. In 1860 the Munsiff court house from Puthur was shifted to a mission house, situated on the southern banks of Uyyakondan canal at Bhimanayakanpalayam.

XIII. Central Prison

Central Prison is one of the biggest central prisons in Tamil Nadu. It has the main jail, and one woman special, and camp jail on the same campus. It consists of association and cellular blocks. It is located in the Kottapattu village of Tiruchirappalli district. It was constructed during the British period. There is an inscription available at the main gate. From that, it was constructed in 1865. The authorized accommodation of this prison is 2517 including the accommodation of 600 prisoners, in the camp jail. This prison consists of eight associations and eight cellular blocks.⁹²

The Inspector-General of Prison is the executive head of the jail department, entrusted with implementing the policy framed by the Government. He works under the secretary of the Home Department of the State. The Central jail has two big water storage reservoirs. The prisoner utilises this water for various purposes. The circle-shaped central jail has a total area of 289.10 acres and the prison building occupies an area of 114.74 acres.⁹³

The formation of jail is land-use planning in urban areas and it is a part of the larger process of city planning. It is basically concerned with the location, intensity, and amount of land development required for socio-political reasons. The jail was situated at the northeast corner of the Fort of Tiruchirapalli. When the British assumed power, in 1804 the British authority proposed to build a District prison in Tiruchirapalli town.⁹⁴ The Collector of Tiruchirapalli authorized Major Lenon to construct a prison who

preferred the spot at the southern side of Fort Southern wall.⁹⁵ Besides this new jail residential quarters emerged and the street came to be called Jail Street.

The second shift of prison took place in 1846 in the suburb of Tiruchirappalli town due to administrative and security reasons. The major project of formation of the District Central Jail was proposed and a committee was constituted in 1866 under Gen. Armstrong, the civil and session Judge Hon. Ellis, Inspector General of Prisons, the senior Medical officer, and the Executive Engineer. This committee studied and selected a spot in the vicinity of Golden Rock.⁹⁶ The massive building with the highly protected district jail was constructed in 1866 at the estimate of Rs.3,79,297, which was completed in 1872.⁹⁷ Besides this, residential quarters for the superintendent of Jail were also constructed.⁹⁸

XIV. Gandhi Market Bell Tower

In 1869 Gandhi Market was established in Tiruchirappalli with the land of 6 acres. It was covered with an iron sheet consisting of 218 shops. In front of the Gandhi Market, there is a war memorial consisting of a huge tower with a Roman clock on its top in commemoration of the services rendered by the Indians in World War – I. It was built in 1919.

XV. Conclusion

Tiruchirappalli widely called Trichy or Tiruchi is an important urban centre in the southern state of Tamil Nadu. Trichy is the fourth most prominent municipal corporation and the fourth biggest urban agglomeration in the state. The Rock Fort city of Trichy spreads 64.57 sq. mi on the fields between the Shevaroy Hills in the north and the Palani Hills in the south and southwest. Trichy city is totally fenced by agrarian fields on all sides. Popularly known as the 'Boiler Capital of Tamil Nadu', the Tiruchirappalli Municipal Corporation has carried distinguished attempts in constituting a lot of government offices in and around the city. Find below the list of important Government Offices in Trichy along with their location and contact details.

¹ **St Joseph's College Magazine**, Vol. I, 1912, p. 90.

² **Indian Antiquary**, Vol. XLV, 1916, p. 86.

³ Cherunilan, Francis., **Urbanization in Developing Countries (A Socio – economic and demographic analysis)**, Himalaya Publishing House, Bombay, 1984, p. 19.

⁴ Yadav, C.S., **Comparative Urbanization, City Growth and change**, Vol.3 Concept Publishing Company, New Delhi, 1986, p. 311.

⁵ **Op. cit.**, Cherunilan, Francis, (1984), p. 199.

⁶ Stenhouse, David., **Understanding Towns**, Wayland Publishers, Great Britain, 1977, p. 69.

⁷ **Selection From the Old Records of Trichinopoly District**, Madras, 1931, pp. 84-85.

⁸ Hemingway, **Gazetteer of the Trichinopoly District**, 1907, p.183

⁹ Proceedings No 697 PWD, 28th February 1866.

-
- ¹⁰ Lewis Moore, **Manual of the Madras Presidency Tiruchirapalli District**, 1878, p. 267.
- ¹¹ Proceedings No. 3582, **Railway**; 3rd April 1878.
- ¹² Proceedings No 1108, **Revenue**, 14th October 1880
- ¹³ Proceedings No 9537, (Mis) **Revenue**, 16th November 1883.
- ¹⁴ G.O. No. 1426 (M), **Local & Municipal**, 24th August 1908.
- ¹⁵ **Collectorate Records**, Tiruchirapalli 958/1000, 7-12-1900.
- ¹⁶ Pharaoh, **A Gazetteer of Southern India**, Madras, 1855, p. 341.
- ¹⁷ Hemingway, **Gazetteer of Trichinopoly District** 1907, pp. 75-76.
- ¹⁸ **Ibid.**, pp.76-77.
- ¹⁹ Devasikamani, S.K., **SPG High School** Diocesan Press, Madras, 1935, p.11.
- ²⁰ Prasad, D.P.N., **A concise History of St. John Church**, Tiruchirapalli, 1988, p. 29.
- ²¹ Lamb, Rev.G.H., **Memoir of Christian Frederick Schwartz**, The Christian Literature Society for India, Madras, 1848, p. 12.
- ²² **Ibid.**, p. 12.
- ²³ **Op. cit.**, Prasad, DPN.(1988) p. 31.
- ²⁴ **The Putturian** October 1934, Vol. I, No.1, p. 1.
- ²⁵ State of Education 1854, **Letter** of J. Bird, ICS Collector of Trichirapalli District to Secretary to the Madras University.
- ²⁶ **Ibid.**, pp. 52-53.
- ²⁷ **Ibid.**, p. 44.
- ²⁸ **The Putturian**, October 1934, Vol. I, No.1, p. 83.
- ²⁹ Proceedings No. 2032 (Mis), **Local & Municipal (M)** 19th November 1891.
- ³⁰ Proceedings, **Department of Public Instruction**, 15th April, 1896, p. 11.
- ³¹ **Op. cit.**, Arunachalam, N.(1990), p. 57.
- ³² **Op. cit.**, **State of Education 1854**, pp. 59-60.
- ³³ **150 years commemoration Volume**, St. Joseph's College Tiruchirapalli, p.39.
- ³⁴ **Magazine**, The SPG High School, July 1913, Vol.II, No.1, p.12.
- ³⁵ **Silver Jubilee Souvenir** Bishop Heber College Tiruchirapalli. 1992.
- ³⁶ **Gazetteer of the Trichinopoly District** 1907, p.74.
- ³⁷ **Souvenir**, 250 years Peru Vizha (Grand Festival)
- ³⁸ **Ibid.**
- ³⁹ Arunachalam, N., **Socio-Economic History of Tiruchirapalli District From A.D. 1700 TO A.D. 1947** (Unpublished Thesis), p. 209.
- ⁴⁰ **150 Years Commemoration Volume**, St. Joseph's College, Tiruchirapalli, p. 45.
- ⁴¹ Herbermann, G. Charks. (Ed), **The Catholic Encyclopaedia An International Work of Reference on the constitution Doctrine Discipline and History of the Catholic Church**, Vol. XV, The Encyclopaedia Press INC., Holborn W.C.1913, p. 41.
- ⁴² Thekkedath, Joseph. **History of Christianity in India**_Vol. II, Theological Publications in India, Bangalore, p. 218.
- ⁴³ **Nam Vazhvu** (Weekly Magazine) 3-12-1995.
- ⁴⁴ Proceedings No 81 (R.L.) **PWD**, 10th September 1872.
- ⁴⁵ **Dinamalar**, (Daily News Paper), 20-09-2000.
- ⁴⁶ **Op. cit.**, Arunachalam, N., p.183.
- ⁴⁷ **150 years Commemoration Volume** St. Joseph's College, Tiruchirapalli, pp. 52 - 53.
- ⁴⁸ **Ibid.**, pp. 52 – 53.
- ⁴⁹ **Op. cit.**, Thekkedath, Joseph., p. 150.
- ⁵⁰ **Centenary Souvenir**, St. Mary's Thope, Tiruchirapalli, 1995.

-
- ⁵¹ **Op. cit.**, Herbermann, Charles G (1913), p. 41.
- ⁵² **The Madras Diocesan Record**, p. 21.
- ⁵³ **Souvenir, Christ Church**, Fort, Tiruchirapalli, 27th August, 1987.
- ⁵⁴ Proceedings No.19 M(W), **PWD.**, 6th January 1890.
- ⁵⁵ The Hindu, a daily newspaper, 25th April 1992, pp. 18-20.
- ⁵⁶ **Ibid**, pp. 18-20.
- ⁵⁷ **Ibid.**
- ⁵⁸ Wilson Mohanraj., Rev. F., **The Functioning of the Lutheran Mission on the Banks of the River Cauvery**, 1990, p. 16.(Unpublished Thesis)
- ⁵⁹ **Ibid**, p.16. **President's Report**, TELC 36th Triennial Synod 1989-92, Tiruchirapalli. **Op. cit**, Wilson Mohanraj, Rev. F. (1990), p. 16.
- ⁶⁰ Anand, Mulk Raj, (Ed) **Story of the Indian Post Office**, New Delhi, 1954, p. 8.
- ⁶¹ **Ibid.**
- ⁶² Consultation No.7-8, Vol.No.461, **Revenue**, 21st March 1858.
- ⁶³ Consultation No. 32-33, Vol.376 (I) **Public**, 8th March 1859.
- ⁶⁴ **Ibid.**
- ⁶⁵ Proceedings No.1393 (W) **Public**, 25th May 1893.
- ⁶⁶ G.O.No.804 W (B) **PWD**, 6th July 1918.
- ⁶⁷ G.O. No. 378 (W) **PWD**, 23rd April 1910.
- ⁶⁸ **Old Records of Trichirapalli**, Vol. II, p. 314.
- ⁶⁹ Proceedings No 1050, **Public**, 26th August 1868.
- ⁷⁰ **Ibid.**
- ⁷¹ Proceedings No 985, **Public**, 16th July 1869.
- ⁷² Moore, Lewis, **Manual of the Trichinopoly District**, 1878, pp. 280-281.
- ⁷³ **Annual Report 1925-26, Municipal Council**, Tiruchirapalli. (Also see **G.O.** No.978(M), Local Municipal 15th March 1927)
- ⁷⁴ Proceedings of Municipal Council, Tiruchirapalli. **Resolution No 757**, 11th November 1937.
- ⁷⁵ Noble, Allen G. K. and Ashok K. Dutt. **Indian urbanization and Planning: vehicles of Modernization**. Tata McGraw Hill Publishers Company Ltd., New Delhi, 1978, pp. 65-66.
- ⁷⁶ Cherunilan, Francis., **Urbanization in Developing Countries (A Social Economic and Demographic Analysis)**, Himalaya Publishing House, Bombay, 1984, pp. 199-200.
- ⁷⁷ Oak, S.C., **A Handbook of Town Planning**, Hind Kitalas Limited, Publishers, Bombay, 1949, p. 19.
- ⁷⁸ **Manual of Madras Administration**, Vol. 1, Part 1, 1886, p. 507.
- ⁷⁹ **Ibid.**
- ⁸⁰ Consultations No. 2498, Serial No. 18, **Judicial**, 5th August 1806.
- ⁸¹ Consultations No. 81, 82, Serial No. 16023, **Military**, 14th October 1845.
- ⁸² Consultations No. 157, 58, Serial No. 1831, **Military**, 25th March 1891.
- ⁸³ Consultations No. 25, 26, Serial No. 1931, **Military**, 25th March 1851.
- ⁸⁴ Consultations No. 16, 17, Serial No. 1931, **Military**, 2nd October 1851.
- ⁸⁵ Moore, Lewis, **Manual of the Trichinopoly District**, 1878, p. 313.
- ⁸⁶ Consultation S.No.10, **Judicial** 22nd March 1805, p. 437.
- ⁸⁷ Consultation S.No.19, **Judicial** 3rd September 1806, p. 2863.
- ⁸⁸ Consultation S.No.361, **Judicial** 1st February 1839, p. 1269.
- ⁸⁹ **Op. cit.**, Lewis Moore, (1878), p. 314.
- ⁹⁰ Consultation No. 19 & 20: S.No.540 **Judicial** 22nd August 1848, pp. 4115-4116.

⁹¹ G.O. No. 618 (Press) **Judicial** 24th April 1866.

⁹² http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tiruchirappalli_Junction_railway_station_cite_note-trichydivision-5

⁹³ Hari Rao, **Tiruchinopoly and Sri Rangam**, Unpublished thesis, Madras University, Madras, 1947, p. 91.

⁹⁴ **Old Records of Trichinopoly**, Vol. II, p. 416.

⁹⁵ Consultation No.8, **Judicial**, 30th December 1804.

⁹⁶ **Op. cit.**, Lewis Moore (1878), p. 292.

⁹⁷ **Ibid**, p. 293.

⁹⁸ G.O. No.240-41, **Judicial**, 24th September 1866