

D. 722/49A2

File No. 50 - 119 / 49-A2  
Collection No.

19

'INDEXED'

DESTROYED IN 1963.

Govt. of India

Ministry of Education

A-2.

*[Handwritten signature]*

2649/49A2

Pros. Serial Nos.

27

Subject.

Preservation of old historical maps in the Survey of India.

Previous References.

Later References.

Sub: Preservation of old historical maps in the Survey of India  
-----

S.No. 1

May be forwarded to the Ministry of Education for  
necessary action.

Sd:-

10.2.49

Ministry of Education  
Ministry of Agriculture No. 339-S/49 dt. 12.2.49

Ministry of Education

D. 722/49 A2

D.A. may kindly see for remarks.

50/16-2-49

ASIA  
D 11  
2/49

Would he also kindly  
suggest a date that would  
suit him to visit Dehra Dun?

Amishramdas  
17/2

DA

Mem. of Edu. U.O. Dy. No. 722/49-A2 dt 18/2/49

Earlier part of April will suit the Director of  
Archives best for the visit to Dehra Dun. The  
has accordingly asked the Surgeon General to confirm  
if that time will suit him. A further communication  
will be addressed to the Ministry of Education after  
a definite reply has been obtained from him. Copy  
of the Secretary Archives letter is placed below.

479/60-111-111  
Min. of Education

D.A. L

HO No. 1051A/49-PT/2

S. Roy  
Government of India

339-9/49

Ministry of Education

W

Information Ministry of Agriculture may also see.

607-1/49

D.S.  
3/49  
A.S. 2.2.49

Christman A.  
5/8/49

Min of Agri.

R.M.V. No. D.722/49-AND 7.3.49

Ministry of Agriculture.  
(Revenue Section)

Ministry of Education  
Govt. of India  
File No. 12 MAR 1949

been sent to Ministry of Agriculture.

Thanks.

Christman A.  
1943

8/3. 9.2.49 225(8)

Education Ministry

Min of Agri no. No. 339-9/49 Dt 12/3.

Jurisdiction

1176/47-48

Information

D.16  
3/49  
A.S. 2.2.49

Christman A.  
16/3/49

See 154-49.

40/2.5.49

No further action seems to be called for on these pp. along with file.

Fal (P)  
2/5

40/26.5.49  
D.26  
5

Serial No. 2

The Director of Archives has not submitted his inspection report on the records at the Map Record and Issue Office, Survey of India, at Hathibarkala, Dehra Dun.

The Records are stated to be fragile and in a bad state of Preservation. The storage conditions at their present location are not satisfactory. This is responsible for the disintegration of old records and will in course of time be the cause of deterioration of the current records also. At Hathibarkala there is no arrangement for repairing damaged records and the Survey General has neither sufficient staff nor proper equipment to take care of the older records.

The D.A. recommends that <sup>the</sup> non current records (series 12, 3 & 6) should be transferred to the N.A.I. for repairing and storage- He also recommends that a senior member of the staff of the M.P.O. should ~~also~~ be transferred to the N.A.I. to look after the Maps. This gentleman would ~~also~~ be responsible for training some of the members of the staff of N.A.I. in referencing these maps. For this purpose he has recommended that Mr. Sirinibas Nath a record keeper of the M.P.O. be transferred to N.A.I.

The D.A. hopes that this collection of maps and charts will eventually form the nucleus of the division of Maps and Charts which will have to be opened in the N.A.I.

Ministry of Agriculture may please see for remarks in the first instance in regard to the proposed transfer of the records and the services of Mr. Sirinibas Nath. That Ministry will have to bear the initial cost of transfer etc.

90/21-6-49.

A SCA)

Wants to see this also kindly indicate what the pay and scale of pay of Mr. S. Nath is and whether he is a permanent or a temporary but servant?

Min of Agri

1421-Ril 149

21/6/49  
A 76-5/49

72-9 2da u. o. No 722/49. A. 2. 22. 6. 49





Train prepage.

Ministry of Agriculture  
(Survey Section)

We need have no objection to the transfer of the non-current records of the M.P.O. to the National Archives of India as recommended by the Director of Archives in his report. We also need have no objection to the transfer of Shree Nath from the Survey of India to the National Archives of India Ministry of Education may please see B.G.'s note on prepage with reference to their note on page 3, 4 and kindly indicate the terms and conditions of on which the Shree Nath, N.A.I. is proposed to take his ~~Shree Nath's appointment~~ Mr Shree Nath.

Scottish  
Gy

~~5/1~~  
5/1  
Gy (P)

✓  
8 133/SBA2

Ministry of Education  
M/Agri of Agri. 34-5/50. dt. 7-1-50

Ministry of Education  
File No. ...  
7 JAN 1950  
Diary No. ...

Ministry of Education

D A may now please see the may also indicate the terms & conditions on which Mr. Nath is to be ~~take over~~ serve in the N.A.I.

Gy/A-50  
He may also kindly let us know whether there is enough space <sup>with NAF</sup> for the storage of the non-current records of the M.P.O., Survey of India (The delinquency)

missing the file which was due to oversight is  
(much regretted)

Ddo  
2/50  
u.s. (u)

Recd  
20.3.52.

D.A. no.  
E.N.U.O. NO. 8.722/49 A 2  
15.28-3-50

1051/A  
1952  
INDIA

N. A. C.

Nothing has been possible to do about  
the proposed transfer of MAP RECORDS  
~~Room~~ from the Survey of India as the  
apex is bound up with that of additional  
storage space. Before any definitive estimate  
can be framed either with regard to  
equipment or with regard to staff it  
is necessary to be sure about storage space  
without which no realistic calculation  
is possible to make.

Pending the setting up a MAP RECORD  
ROOM that would accommodate the 5 of  
maps the Department has as an  
interim measure trained up two employees  
of the Hq. Army office. Behr Durr is the  
instructor of preservation and repair of  
maps. These persons will for the present  
take care of the map records at the bankala  
and attend to such repair-problems  
as may need immediate ~~attention~~ treatment.

It may however be pointed out that the ~~arrangement~~ should not be looked upon as any better than merely temporary ones. They do not offer any permanent solution of the problem, which can be tackled only after we have been able to acquire the necessary storage space for them at the NAI Building. How acute is the problem is well be clear from the following facts regarding the <sup>present</sup> state of the preservation of the map collection.

(1) The maps in the ~~four~~ volumes are mostly cracking at the folds and very often little bits have completely disappeared. Most of the maps are wrinkled due to not too careful closing of the portfolios.

(2) ~~One of the~~ One end of the folded maps has been pushed to a strip of cloth and the binding has been done by stitching through the cloth guard, <sup>a process</sup> which is far from satisfactory. Bindings are moreover giving way.

(3) There are some maps which are partially burnt and need treatment.

(4) Many of the maps bear signs of having been affected by book-worms and the termite menace in the map room is very serious.



(5) The doors of the almshouses containing maps do not close very well and the contents are exposed to the attacks of insects & vermin. But dust gets into them quite freely.

(6) The non-map records including field books as memoirs are quite full of dust and bear evidence of infestation by vermin.

(7) The storage conditions of maps is also far from satisfactory.

The above findings are obvious lead to the conclusion that unless immediate steps are taken by Government to afford better protection to these maps they will be lost. The acute administrator and US historian. The acute of space which has prevented us from attending to the problem of setting up a library was treated in this report.

No D 2619/A 50-B dt 4. Nov 1950  
in which provision for the extension of the  
M.A. building was strongly recommended.  
The position has further deteriorated since  
that date owing to Govt's refusal to make  
provision in the budget of this year  
for the construction of the proposed building  
(vide Memo of Govt. U.O no 2227/50.A 2  
dt 30/1/51). The cost estimated by the

C.P.W.D. for the construction of the proposed wing is about Rs 21,93,828/. This, if spread over three years, will involve an expenditure of no more than Rs 7,31,000 per year. There will be an additional cost of about 5,49,000/ for the 3-year period, if air-conditioning of the building is taken up simultaneously with the building programme. This ~~cost~~ cost should not be considered very heavy considering the value of the materials the proposed building is expected to save.

There is also another side to the question which ought not to be ignored. But will have sooner or later to make suitable provision for the upkeep of its rapidly growing archival accumulations, which means they will have ultimately to construct a spacious building to accommodate these records. But as the cost of materials is steadily rising it will be more economical now to have the building than, for instance, five years hence. It is therefore for the consideration of Govt whether the case should not be reopened immediately and the matter finalised so that the CPWD may take up the work at the earliest possible date.

S.P.  
2/5/51

I agree. The need for more space for the N.A.I. is obvious & urgent. Postponement would probably mean greater costs of building & certainly would in neglect & deterioration.

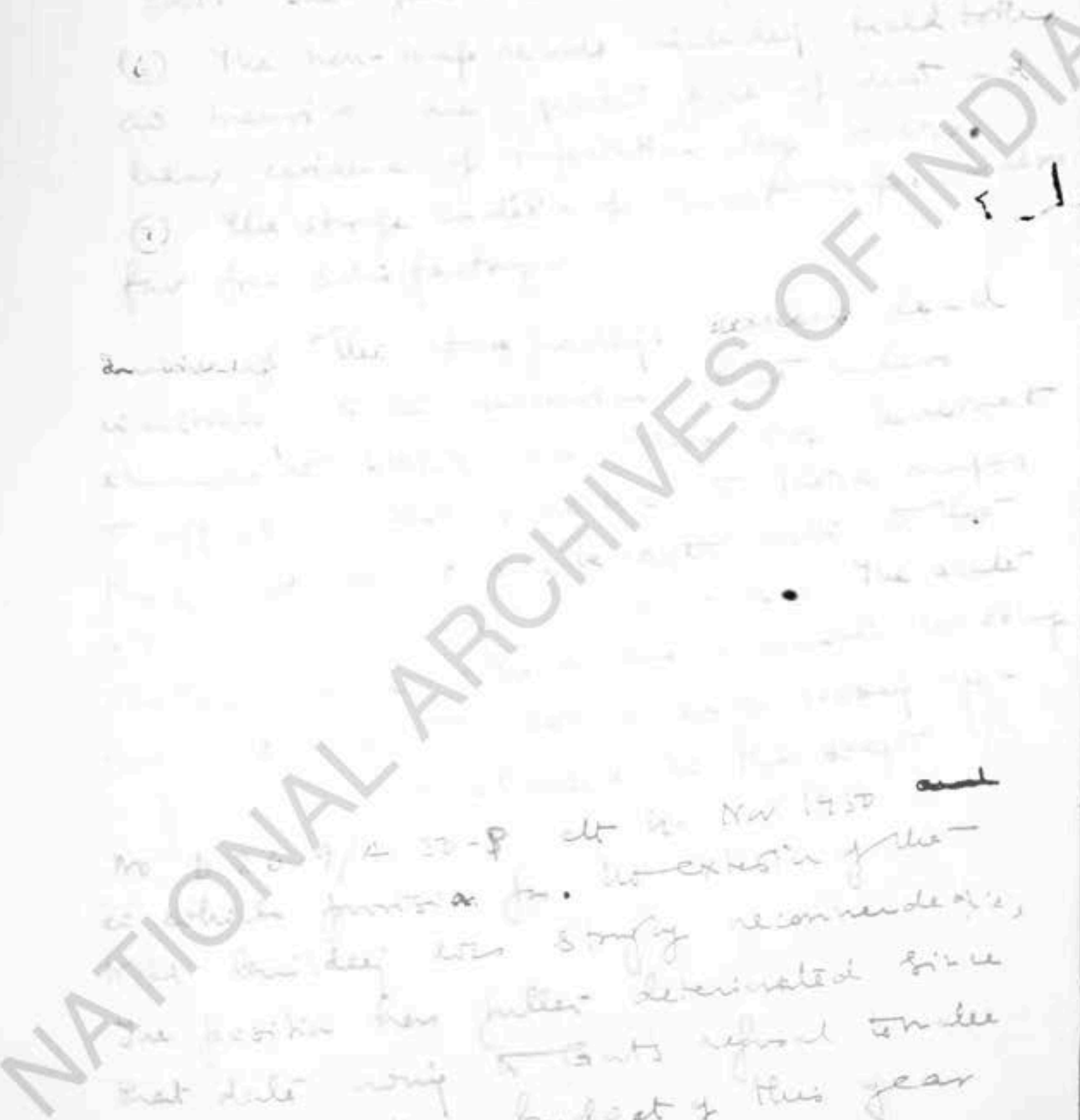
(5) The doors of the chambers containing papers do not close very well and the contents are exposed to the attacks of insects of every sort. That point must be taken into account.

(6) The new map should include the whole of the country and not only the part of the country which is under the jurisdiction of the Government.

(7) The maps should be made for the Government.

The maps should be made for the Government and not for the private individuals. The maps should be made for the Government and not for the private individuals. The maps should be made for the Government and not for the private individuals.

No. 2227/10.A2 dt 30/1/57. The first action taken by the Government in this regard was on 17/5/57. The Government has decided to take the necessary steps for the extension of the maps. The Government has decided to take the necessary steps for the extension of the maps. The Government has decided to take the necessary steps for the extension of the maps.







of records, Ministry of Education may kindly see,

P. N. Kishore  
Director of Archives,  
Government of India

Ministry of Education.

N.A. 9. 2/0 7. no 26/51-Rec. 8/8.5.51

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION.	
No. ....	
9 - MAY 1951	
2296/51	

M  
105-

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

12/11

This file deals with the transfer to NAI of a large stock of valuable historical maps of great importance dating back to earlier than 1850 lodged at present in the Survey of India, Dehra Dun. The Director of Archives inspected these records and submitted his recommendations as given below:-

1. The non-current records ( series 1,2,3 & 6 ) should be transferred to the NAI for repairing and storage.
2. A Senior Member of the Map Record Office, Dehra Dun should be transferred to the NAI to look after the maps. ( Mr. Sirinibas Nath ).

The Ministry of Agriculture to whom the file was referred for remarks agreed to the proposal (1) above and asked for terms and conditions of service on which the Director of Archives was prepared to take Mr. S.Nath.

The Director of Archives has now stated that though the proposed transfer of records to NAI is most essential but this question is linked with that of additional storage space. For the present the NAI has trained two employees of the Survey of India, Dehradun in the methods of preservation and repair of maps. These persons will for the time being take care of the map records at Dehra Dun and attend to such repair problems as may need immediate treatment. This is however, a temporary solution of the problem and the permanent solution will be possible after NAI is provided with additional space.

In this connection it may be stated that the Executive Engineer submitted an estimate for Rs 41,03,448 ( Rs 21,93,828 for buildings and Rs 16,48,218 for ~~equipment~~ air-conditioning) and we approached the Ministry of Finance for a budget provision of Rs 10,00,000 for construction of buildings and Air-Conditioning during the year 1951-52 but the Ministry of Finance agreed to a provision of Rs 2,50,000 for Air-Conditioning only. Under the circumstances it is for orders what further action we should initiate for providing additional space for NAI

slip N  
to 11/3 file  
no. 59/1  
12/5  
L.M.  
24/5/51  
U.S.(A)

✓ /

JS (A's) attention is invited to the office note above. Though it is now essential to make additions to the existing building of the W.A. 9 works can be done during the current year. There is no provision for construction of building during the current year.

B. S. S. S. 1

23.5.51

P. N. K. S. S. 1  
23.5.51

W.A. 9  
 (A)  
 W.A. 9 (A)

All works

B. S. S. S. 1

23.5.51

2. Division

S. P. S. S. 1  
 S. P. S. S. 1  
 25/5/51

14/

The Ministry of Agriculture may see notes from ~~page~~ 6 ante with reference to their note dated 7.1.50 on p 5 ante. In view of lack of storage space at the National Archives ~~at present~~, the proposal of transfer to the National Archives of a large stock of valuable historical maps of great importance lodged ~~xxx~~ in the Survey of India, Dehra Dun, cannot be considered for the time being and will have to wait till the position regarding additional accommodation in NAI improves.

8  
19/5  
Ink  
29/5  
1/5/51

B. [Signature]  
31.5.51

Food  
Agriculture

2784-F/SI  
4.6.51

722/40A-2-1.6.51



Ministry of Food & Agriculture  
(Surveys Section)

Education Ministry's note on pages 11 and 12 ante fully explains the case. S.G may please see, for his present information with reference to his note on page-4 ante.



MS  
4/6/51  
4/6

S.G.

[Signature]

Min of F+A (Agi) L.O. 2784-F/SI DC. 6.6.51.



15/



DEPARTMENT OFFICE.

Draft Letter  
Memorandum  
Telegram

File No.

Serial No.

1. Date of despatch

No.

Dated

2. List of enclosures

SURVEY OF INDIA.

Seen, thanks.

It is hoped that as soon as additional accommodation is available in the N.A.I. for storing our records, we will be informed.

*K. L. Dhanraj*

(K. L. Dhanraj)

for Surveyor General of India.

Ministry of Food & Agriculture (Agri).

S. of I. U.C. No. 4119 / 1046 dated

19 June, 1951.

3115-F/S1  
22.6.51  
333-8

M. G.

Ministry of Food & Agriculture  
(Survey Section)

Education Ministry may kindly see SG's note above with reference to their note on page 13. That Ministry will no doubt inform us in the matter, as soon as the <sup>additional</sup> accommodation is available in the N.A.I. for storing the records of the Survey of India.

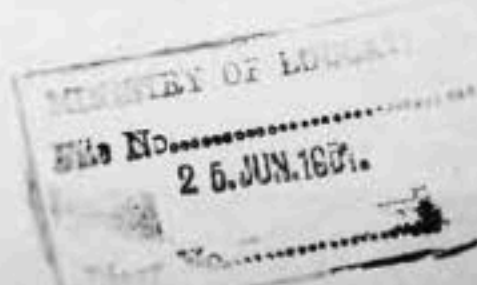
ME  
28/6  
June 28/51  
23/1

*Omney Ed*

(A. G. MBNON)  
Deputy Secretary  
Tel. 42646.

14  
26-6

3880/S102 Min of F & A (Agri) U.C. No. 2787-F/S1 D.O. 25.6.51



from prep. 15- ✓

Submitted for information D.A. may also see.

A  
26/6/51  
26.6.51

uski  
+



B llt  
27.6.51

DA  
722/4A ..... 27.6.51.

(National) Archives of India

See, thanks. Relevant extracts from the file have been copied for our use.

B.W.  
10.7.51

828  
10/7/51

for  
Director of Archives  
Government of India.

11-7  
1255  
4174/51  
M. of Edu

N.A.I. no 26/51. Rec 7 11-7-51

MINISTRY OF	EDUCATION
File No.	11-7-51
Diary No.	JUL 1951

DEPARTMENT/OFFICE.

W

Draft <sup>Letter</sup> Memorandum <sub>Telegram</sub>

File No.

Serial No.

1. Date of despatch

No.

Dated

2. List of enclosures

16.

Submitted for information.

12/7  
2-2-51  
copy  
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A-

B. all  
13.7.51

Record 110  
90/8.25

15.5.51  
188  
2.0  
6/11/51  
7/12/51

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

As reply to this letter should be addressed to the Surveyor General of India and not to any Officer by name. The number and date of this communication should be quoted.

316-104  
No. 1293 / 1046.

Telegrams—SURVEYS

Survey of India  
SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
OLD SECRETARIAT BUILDINGS,  
DELHI (INDIA).

Delhi Civil Lines No. 2  
Dated the 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb. 1949.

339-779 FROM

THE SURVEYOR GENERAL OF INDIA,

Suo I

The Secretary to the Government of India,  
Ministry of Education.

(THROUGH THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE)

Subject:- Preservation of old historical maps in the  
Survey of India.

Sir,

I have the honour to state that large stocks of valuable historical maps of great importance dating back to earlier than 1850 are at present lodged in the Survey of India Map Record and Issue Office at Bathindkala, Dehra Dun. Many of these maps are now in a fragile condition and are apt to be damaged by slightest handling. It is considered essential that these valuable maps should be very carefully preserved for posterity with the aid of the modern scientific methods.

2. An unofficial proposal was made by this Department to the National Archives of the Government of India in 1947, for the transfer of these collections, but this did not materialise as that Department had at that time neither the space nor the staff nor the storage equipment and repair materials required for the purpose.

We shall therefore have to look after these maps as best as we can and to take steps for the avoidance of further damage to them until such time as it is possible for the National Archives of India to receive them. For this purpose we would welcome a personal inspection of our maps at Dehra Dun by and the expert advice of the Director of National Archives.

3. It is therefore requested that the Government of India may see fit to ask kindly Dr. S.N. Sen, Director of National Archives, to inspect our ancient historical maps lodged in the Map Record & Issue Office at Dehra Dun and to advise us on the best means of preserving and storing them.

Yours faithfully,

*E.R. Wilson*

(E.R. WILSON),

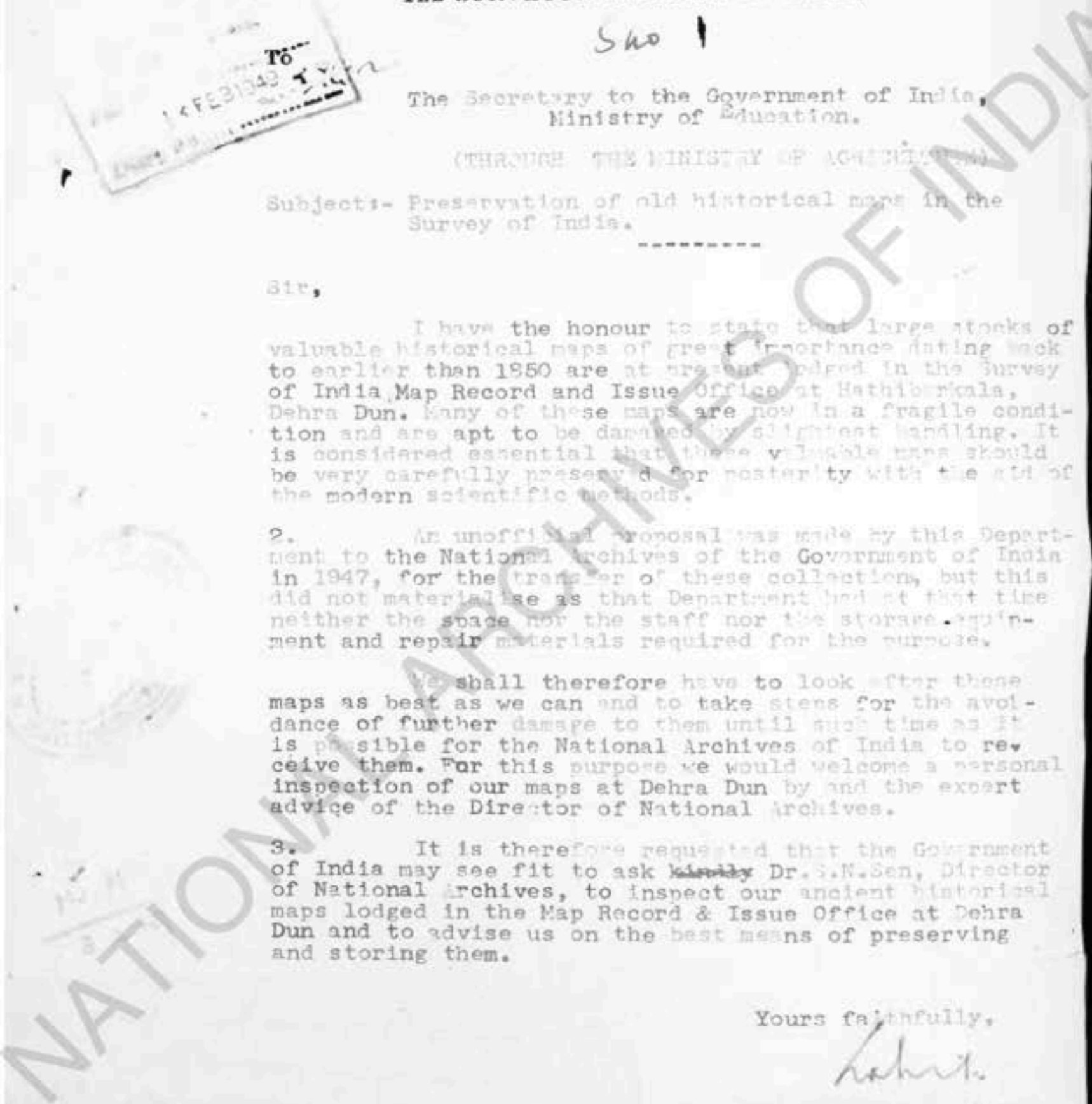
For Surveyor General of India

Ministry of Agriculture,  
(Revenue Section)

D.722/49-A2

D.722/49-A2

Forwarded to the Ministry of Education





10  
No. 119/119-P  
NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA.  
New Delhi-6, the 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 1949.

FROM Dr. S.N. Sen, .A., Ph. D. Litt., (Oxon.), D. Litt.,

DIRECTOR OF ARCHIVES,  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

TO

The Surveyor General of India,  
Old Secretariat Building,  
Delhi Civil Lines No. 2,  
D\_e\_l\_h\_i .

SIR,

Kindly refer to your letter No. 1293/1046 dated the 3rd February 1949. I shall be at Dehra Dun in the earlier part of April and I wonder whether you can wait till then. If not, kindly let me know and I shall try to come sometime in the last week of this month.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/ S. N. Sen

Director of Archives,  
Government of India.

TSingh/

No 2641/49 A.2

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA.

~~Delivered, the~~ 17th June 1949.  
18th

FROM Purnendu Basu *[Signature]*  
Assistant DIRECTOR OF ARCHIVES,  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

To The Secretary,  
Ministry of Education,  
Government of India.

SIR,

In continuation of this office u.o. No. D. 1051-A/49-P dated the 4th March 1949, I have the honour to forward herewith my inspection report on the records at the Map Record and Issue Office, Survey of India, at Hathibarkala, Dehra Dun, for information and such action as the Government of India may see fit to take in the matter.

Yours faithfully,

*[Signature]*

Assistant Director of Archives,  
Government of India

101 files

Ministry of Education	
No	.....
18 JUN 1949	
Diary no.....	.....

21

11

Report on the Records of the Map Publication  
Office, Survey of India, at Hathibarkala, Dehra Dun.

I visited the Maps Publication Office (M.P.O.) of the Survey of India at Hathibarkala about four miles from Dehra Dun Railway station on April 13 and 20. The purpose of my visit was to inspect what the Surveyor General's Office terms "Historical Maps Collection and Records" of the Survey of India, with a view to their continued preservation in good state.

**HISTORY**

Itself under the Ministry of Agriculture, the Surveyor General's Office has its headquarters at Delhi (Old Secretariat) and four circle offices each under a Director, Eastern Circle at Shillong with a Branch under a Deputy Director at 13, Wood Street, Calcutta; Northern Circle at Karanpur, Dehra Dun; Southern Circle at Bangalore; and Map Publication Office at Hathibarkala. The Geodetic and Research Branch of the Survey of India is also located at Karanpur. Besides these, there is the Geographical Section of the General Staff, which works under the Surveyor General.

The M.P.O. as well as Eastern Circle Office at Calcutta prepares maps from the data supplied by field surveyors of the department itself, prints and supplies them on indent to Government Departments, semi-official bodies, private firms and the public on payment. Special Extra Departmental maps are also printed for and supplied to Government Departments and others. The originals are filed at the M.P.O., corrections carried out in them as and when required and fresh copies printed when necessary. Besides this the M.P.O. also does a certain amount of commercial printing.

Established about 1860 the M.P.O. was located in Calcutta until about the end of 1942 when it shifted to Dehra Dun, stayed for a few months with the Geodetic Branch at Karanpur and came to its own building at Hathibarkala early in 1943. The operating records of the M.P.O. with which we are concerned here are located in room No.95 which is 88' by 56'

**MAPS  
RECORD  
ROOM**

by 21'.9" high. It is a well lighted, well ventilated room and does not admit any direct sunlight to the records that are kept inside. The records are kept in either steel or wooden almirahs which will be described later on. The staff handling these records for purposes of reference also sit in this room and there are large tables on which to spread the maps out but the tables are not always large enough. Smoking is not permitted in the room. There are some arrangements for protection against fire. The room is not air-conditioned and the temperature in Dehra Dun ranges from a maximum of about 103°F in summer to a minimum of about 30°F. in winter. The daily variation also amounts to from 20°F to 30°F. No record has been kept of the temperature and humidity variations in the room. The place is very damp during the rainy season which begins about the middle of June and continues till early October. The floor and walls become somewhat damp during this period. During the rest of the year the air is quite crisp and dry. Dehra Dun is a fairly dusty place and there is evidence of a good deal of dust in the record room itself in spite of regular manual dusting. The almirahs and the floor are dusted and so are the exposed portions of the records on the shelves, but inside the volumes and folds of the documents dust accumulates until a particular volume or map is open<sup>ed</sup> which happens very very infrequently among the "historical collection"

From physical appearance there are the following kinds of records:-

1. Bound volumes containing maps. The maps are mostly on paper, some being on tracing cloth and some on a special type of tracing paper. These are mostly manuscript maps though there are some printed ones. The maps have in many instances been backed with cloth though some are unmounted. Being generally of a very large size these have been folded and put into the "folios" which measure 2'8" by 1'10" by 1"-2" thick.

2. Unbound .....



23

2. Unbound maps.
3. Bound volumes of records, and,
4. Kodak prints.

The "folios" which are 206 in number have been kept in five steel almirahs with 13 shelves each and ~~on~~ five shelves in a sixth almirah. Each shelf has 3 to 5 volumes laid horizontally on each other. The shelves measure 3' by 2'.4" high.

One series of unbound maps called "Miscellaneous Old Originals" are kept horizontally in four wooden almirahs on shelves measuring 3' by 3'.7" deep and 4" high, there being 30 shelves to each almirah.

second set of bound records containing maps viz. the Revenue Survey maps and Village Plans (Traverses) are kept in 27 steel almirahs with 3 shelves in each measuring 3' by 2'.4" deep by 1.7" high. The volumes are kept vertically. The over-size Revenue Survey records which could not be kept vertically have been placed in 14½ steel almirahs horizontally on shelves measuring the same as above only being 4½" high instead of 1'.7", there being 13 shelves in the almirah.

The remaining unbound maps viz. Topographical, the B.P.O.s (Black Print Originals of topographical maps for which the originals no longer exist) and extra departmental (of which some are in rolls) are kept in 27 steel almirahs and 20 wooden almirahs. These are the current maps of the M.P.O.

The maps in the "folio" volumes are mostly cracking at the folds and very often little bits have completely disappeared; most of the maps are also wrinkled due to not too careful closing of the portfolios. One end of the folded maps has been pasted to a strip of cloth and the binding has been done by stitching through the cloth guard. Binding is between boards and leather backed, not very skilled work .....

24

work although in most cases they hold the maps together. Some bindings are given way. There are some maps which are partially burnt and it is believed they were burnt during the mutiny. Many of the maps bear signs of having been affected by bookworms, but I was told that that happened while they were at Calcutta. The present repository seems to be free from bookworms, silver fish and cockroaches, but the termitic menace is very serious but it is entirely free from rats. In order to protect the records from termites, the legs of the almirahs are set in circular vessels filled with solignum. Formerly at Calcutta Carbolic acid or Phenyl was used to treat in these ~~xxx~~ vessels as a protection against termites. The doors of the almirahs do not close very well and it would be quite easy for the termites or insects to get into the shelves. Dust certainly gets into them quite freely. Crinkled maps when discovered and when the paper is not too brittle are flattened by being pulled straight and kept under ~~weight~~ something heavy for two or three days. Many of the maps, however, are too brittle to admit of this treatment.

The same remarks as above are applicable to the older set of the unbound maps and the Revenue Survey maps and Village Plans.

The non-map records to which reference has been made consist of Memoirs and Field Books which used to be kept at Calcutta before. There is a descriptive list which shows that the total number of volumes in this series is 580 of which only 342 have been transferred to Dehra Dun. These are bound and kept vertically in steel almirahs not closely packed and therefore inclined at an angle. These are all manuscript volumes and are of different sizes. The paper in these is not uniform: some being very good quality rag paper and others being of a very much inferior quality. They are all quite dusty and bear evidence of borers. These records include sketches, Observations .....

27/

involving major and skilled repair which cannot be given them at the M.P.O. Leaving them there further will undoubtedly ensure their total loss. Unprovided as the National Archives of India is to keep these special types of records, even so I believe we will be able to take up at least the repair work straightway. This of course assumes that our new repairing machinery will be working without undue delay having been properly set up and equipped with personnel.

I would therefore recommend the immediate transfer to the National Archives of India of Series 1, 2, 3 and 6 of the records described above. I would also recommend the bringing over of one of the older hands from the M.P.O. to look after these records. A suitable person will be Mr. Srinibas Nath, a Record Keeper who has been in the maps records division of the M.P.O. since 1921. He has a few years' service left to him, and may be willing to come over as a ~~Junior~~ Technical Assistant. During the remaining years of his service, he could train up some of our own men in referencing these maps.

If these map records are transferred to ~~the latter~~ the National Archives of India the latter will have to provide special containers for them. This collection can form the nucleus of the Division of Maps and Charts which will have to be opened eventually in the National Archives of India. We can perhaps also get some fairly senior member of the M.P.O. staff to organize that Division.