UDHAGAMANDALAM

Historical Moments

Unknown to the outer world other than tribal populations, the popular Hill resort, originally known as "Ottakkalmandu", which means village of a single stone, was found by Sir John Sullivan, the then Collector of Coimbatore District, way back in the year 1819. Admired by the Beauty and Serenity of the place, Sir John Sullivan, started regular camping at the hills. Later in the year 1822 he constructed the first Government building at the hill station, which was known as 'Stone House'. Thus began the settlement by the people from the plain, in this popular Hill station. Sir John Sullivan was also the main Architect behind the formation of Udhagamandalam Lake in the year 1824-25, by constructing a bund across the stream running through the town from the east towards the west. Originally the Lake had an area of about 24 hectres, whereas it has now shrunken to half the area.