

A GUIDE TO THE RECORDS RELATING TO GHANA
IN REPOSITORIES IN THE U.K.
EXCLUDING THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

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This thesis covers the papers of non-governmental organizations and private individuals in the United Kingdom whose documentary materials relate to Ghana. The organizations are the churches and other missionary societies, businesses, and secular societies which either worked in Ghana or dealt with matters concerning the country. The individuals include travellers, colonial officers, merchants, missionaries and teachers. Through their normal day-to-day transactions they have created many documents, most of which relate to the social and economic development of Ghanaians; for example, the missionaries and others who worked in remote areas and came into close contact with the people, got the opportunity of obtaining first-hand information about the people, their customs and traditions through observation and enquiries. The papers of such people constitute a very useful source of information.

Unlike the official records in the Public Record Office that were created as a result of Britain's administration of the then Gold Coast which are easily accessible for research, the extant documents of these organizations and individuals are fragmented and scattered among many repositories in the British Isles. What is more, there is no unified guide from which researchers looking for Ghanaian material would be able to know what relevant documents are available and where to find them. The need for such a guide is met by this thesis.

The Guide consists of the documents of thirty-eight main organizations, and 370 collections belonging to 273 individuals. These are scattered among fifty-five repositories. To facilitate a quick and easy identification of listed papers, a directory of the repositories and their listed collections (Appendix I) has been provided. There is also a list of companies for whom no papers have been traced (Appendix II), and an index of names and subjects.

Samuel Kwasi Agyei, 1988

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