

THE	
NATIONAL	
ARCHIVES	

QUICK FACTS

Source: The National Archives, United Kingdom

Size: Approximately 350,000 pages

Content Types: Manuscripts; government documents, including correspondence, reports, conference minutes, surveys

Date Range: 1896–1993

Available: Winter 2024

Newly Digitised Materials: 100%

Disciplines Supported: Environmental history, geography, sociology, anthropology, imperial history, law and legal history, international relations, contemporary politics, British Empire and Commonwealth studies, African studies, economics and development studies, international development, public and social policy

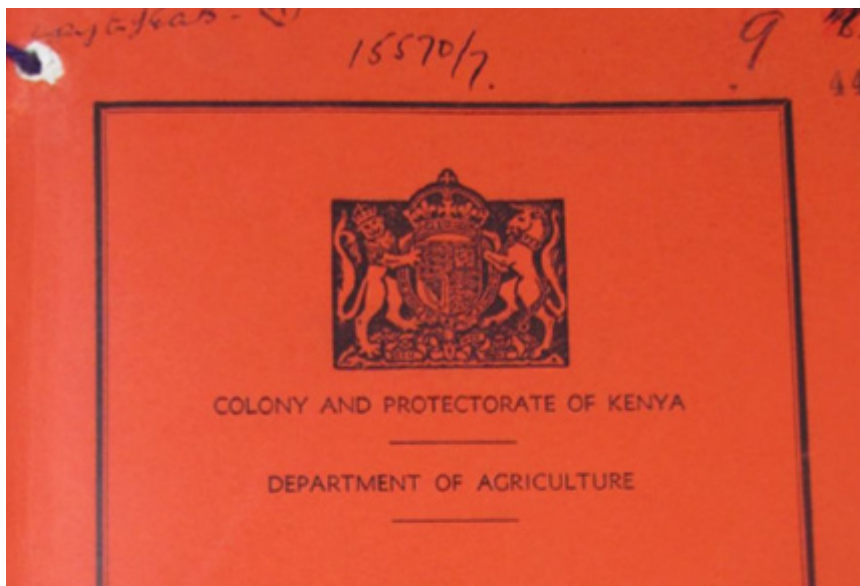
Complementary Gale Archives:

- *Environmental History: Conservation and Public Policy in America, 1870–1980*
- *Decolonization: Politics and Independence in Former Colonial and Commonwealth Territories*
- *State Papers Online Colonial*

Usage Highlights:

- Mine this content within *Gale Digital Scholar Lab*
- Enhance student instruction with the forthcoming Learning Center
- Cross-search content from other *Gale Primary Sources* archives
- Find related resources in the *Gale eBooks* collection using the Related Resources feature
- As a complement to searching, browse content in the file order in which it was arranged by the source library

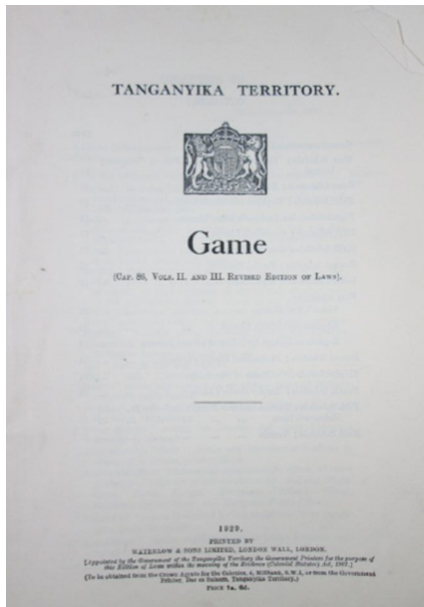
ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY: COLONIAL POLICY AND GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT, 1896–1993



"Kenya: A Visit to the United States of America to Study Soil Conservation," by C. Maher (March, 1939). Colonial Office: Economic General Department and predecessors: Registered Files. Soil Erosion. CO 852/310/3B; Crown Copyright images reproduced courtesy of The National Archives, UK.

DELIVER GREATER RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

Expand your collection with twentieth-century British government material relating to environmental issues and the history of human-environment interaction. Access files from three departments, focusing on themes such as colonialism, land use and exploitation, exploration, agriculture, the technological revolution, industrial change and urbanisation, conservation, pollution, climate, development programs and sustainability, natural resources, and industries such as forestry and mining.



“Tanganyika Territory: Game” (1929). Colonial Office: Colonies, General: Original Correspondence. Preservation of fauna and flora of the empire. CO 323/1608/3; Crown Copyright images reproduced courtesy of The National Archives, UK.

ABOUT THE COLLECTION

This collection, the second installment of the new *Environmental History* series, supports research and teaching across various disciplines, including environmental history; twentieth-century global history; transnational studies; imperial and colonial history; and the regional histories of Africa, South Asia, Southeast Asia, and the Caribbean. Cross-disciplinary themes of sustainability and development, colonial legacies in environmental contexts, and international relations across regions of British imperial and colonial activity give this a broad appeal across subjects that include geography, anthropology, and other social sciences departments.

VALUE OF THE ARCHIVE

- **Unique Content:** Focuses on a highly topical area in environmental studies and providing content with few overlapping products.
- **International Interest:** To aid transnational comparisons, supplies a regional focus on Africa (particularly Nigeria, Uganda, Kenya, Ghana, and South Africa), Southeast Asia and the Indian subcontinent, the Caribbean and Central America, and the Middle East.
- **Breadth of Themes:** Expands on trade, industry, agriculture, and resource use as well as disasters, natural sciences, and public and economic policy—supporting interest in “envirocolonialism” and the exploitation of imperial resources as well as Western concepts on the mental impact of aid and development in the latter half of the twentieth century.
- **Interdisciplinary Appeal:** Ideal for researchers across the humanities and social sciences, the Learning Center provides case studies for teaching at an undergraduate level.
- **Popular Perspective:** Increases scholarly interest in the field of environmental history and provides a topical perspective through which to look at more-traditional political, economic, and social histories.
- **Quantitative Data:** Provides data useful for researchers tracking historical trends in climate change as well as environmental factors such as rainfall.

UNCLASSIFIED
 FM PCD
 TO PLASH MEXICO CITY
 TELNO 1057
 OF 2014381 SEPTEMBER 85
 INFO PLASH PANAMA CITY

THIS OVERTAKES TEXT IN MY TELNO 1056.
 MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO PRESIDENT DE LA MADRID
 1. PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO THE PRESIDENT AS SOON
 AS POSSIBLE.

REGULNS
 DEAR MR PRESIDENT

I WAS DISTRESSED BEYOND MEASURE TO HEAR OF THE DEVASTATING
 EARTHQUAKE WHICH HIT MEXICO YESTERDAY. ALTHOUGH THE FULL
 DIMENSIONS OF THE DISASTER ARE NOT CLEAR AS I WRITE, THE
 SUFFERING AND DAMAGE ARE CLEARLY ON A TERRIBLE SCALE. MAY I
 EXTEND THROUGH YOU MY DEEPEST SYMPATHIES TO THE FAMILIES OF THE
 DEAD AND INJURED. WE ARE READY TO HELP IN WHATEVER WAY WE CAN AT
 THIS TIME OF TRAGEDY FOR YOUR COUNTRY.

PLEASE LET ME KNOW HOW WE CAN MEET YOUR MOST PRESSING NEEDS.
 YOURS SINCERELY, MARGARET THATCHER.
 ENDS

“Disaster aid to Mexico following an earthquake on 19 September 1985” (1985). Ministry of Overseas Development and Overseas Development Administration: Disaster Unit: Registered Files (DIS Series). OD 69/28; Crown Copyright images reproduced courtesy of The National Archives, UK.

COLLECTIONS INCLUDE

Colonial Office (CO) & Foreign Office (FO) series

Date Range: 1896–1965

Material from Series: CO 323, CO 852, CO 927, FO 881

Themes cover the environmental impact of colonialism, including forestry; irrigation; soil surveys; tropical disease; agriculture; mining; industry; land use; conservation; trade; and commodities such as oil, cocoa, animal hides and skins, minerals, and timber.

Department of Technical Co-operation and successive Overseas Development bodies (OD) series

Date Range: 1963–1993

Series: OD 25, OD 45, OD 53, OD 58, OD 68, OD 69, OD 139, OD 140, OD 199

Themes cover postcolonial aid and development, disaster response, urbanisation, energy and natural resources, international relationships, science and technology, climate, pollution, and international development programs.

SAMPLE FILES FROM THE COLLECTIONS

- The International Conference for the Protection of Flora and Fauna of Africa, 1933 (5 files within series CO 323): files led to the Convention Relative to the Preservation of Fauna and Flora in their Natural State, a key agreement among colonial powers now known as the Magna Carta of wildlife conservation.
- New aid strategy for worldwide rural development policy. (3 files within series OD 68)
- North Borneo: slaughter of gibbons, 1939. (2 files within series CO 323)
- Empire Forestry Conference, India 1940. (CO 852)
- Ethiopia: humanitarian aid, including food aid and disaster relief. (11 files within series OD 53)
- Oil leases in British Honduras: Shell Petroleum Development Company. (6 files within series OD 25)

GALE DIGITAL SCHOLAR LAB

With the help of feedback from librarians, faculty, and students, Gale continuously refreshes its award-winning, data-mining research environment. Open even more valuable research pathways with *Gale Digital Scholar Lab*, the intuitive, cloud-based analysis platform that helps tell impactful visual stories with historical data—and helps students build valuable new skills for the workforce.

With Gale Digital Scholar Lab, your library can:

Remove Barriers to Digital Humanities: Using streamlined tools and the comprehensive Learning Center, the *Lab* sets users of all skill levels right to work analysing any plain-text data, regardless of technical experience.

Harness the Power of Data-Led Scholarship: With the *Lab*, sourcing, cleaning, and analysing content from *Environmental History* alongside millions of pages of other *Gale Primary Sources* has evolved using enhanced visualisation techniques and natural language processing.

Boost Usage of Your Institutional Investment: Use of the *Lab* has resulted in increased usage of *Gale Primary Sources*.

Now researchers can:

Work in Groups: Using *Gale Digital Scholar Lab: Groups*, students and faculty can collaborate in real time with others in the institution, directly within the platform.

Acquire New Digital Skills for the Workforce: The comprehensive Learning Center is continually updated with sample projects and learning content to promote digital literacy in the classroom and in the workforce.

LEARNING CENTERS FOR GALE PRIMARY SOURCES

Gale now offers instructional support on nearly 40 *Gale Primary Sources* archives, and counting, to make them as accessible as possible—at no additional cost to the library. Built with the student researcher in mind, Learning Centers pursue an urgent goal: to help connect the library's interdisciplinary content to student success.

Learning Centers promote usage and amplify data literacy by:

- Orienting new users with the content available in a digital archive
- Providing guidance and best practices for searching, browsing, citing, and reusing primary sources
- Kindling inspiration for new research topics



Learn more at gale.com/gpscatalog