

LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC HISTORY

WEST AFRICAN ECONOMIC HISTORY WORKSHOP Provisional Programme

Wednesday 27 April 2005

LSE Room D.106 (in Clement House, on the Aldwych), 2.00-7.00 PM

(NB: D.106 is not in Houghton St but in Clement House: on the Aldwych, near the post office)

This is to announce an informal research workshop, based on participants committing themselves to read the papers in advance. The papers must be short: no more than 4,000 words (excluding references, tables and diagrams) please, except for those coming specially from overseas, for whom 6,000 words (plus references) would be fine. Presentations will be limited to 15 minutes each to allow enough time for discussion.

All are welcome to participate: we hope that this will include other Africanists from London and beyond, and members of the History and Economic Development Group. If you intend to come, please inform Gareth Austin so that you can be sent the papers. The deadline for paper-givers is 20th April: again, send them to g.m.austin@lse.ac.uk

Where no institutional affiliation is mentioned below, it is LSE.

14:00-15:30: Welfare and Development

Jérôme Destombes, 'Peasant living standards under colonial rule: the case of northern Ghana'

Dede Amanor-Wilks, 'The Land Question in a Peasant and in a Settler Colony Compared: Ghana and Zimbabwe'

Miatta Fahnbulleh, 'In Search of Economic Development: Colonial Legacies and Post-Independence Realities'

15:50-17:50: Businesses and the Economy

Andrea Franc (University of Basel), 'Swiss private enterprise in British West Africa: Was it free trade or imperialism? The Basel Trading Company's cocoa trade with the Gold Coast/Ghana 1893-1960'

Gareth Austin and Chibuike Uche (University of Nigeria, Enugu), 'The banking cartel in British West Africa'

Stephanie Decker (University of Liverpool), 'War on the economy?'

Indigenisation in Ghana and Nigeria, 1966–77'

Ayowa Afrifa, 'Share price response to company information: A look at Ashanti Goldfields Corporation'

18:00-19:00: Roundtable Discussion on the State of the Field

The agenda is open, but issues may include the recent neglect of the precolonial era; promising and less promising approaches to quantification; economic implications of the burgeoning historiography of the African environment; the context of 'global history'; and 'beyond New Institutionalism?'