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RULES

WITH

RESPECT TO THE REGULATION OF TOWNS
AND VILLAGES UNDER SECTION 27 OF
THE ASHANTI ADMINISTRATION
ORDINANCE, 1902.



GOLD COAST:

Government Press, Accra, Gold Coast West Africa.

1911.

**Rules with respect to the Regulation of Towns
and Villages under Section 27 of the
Ashanti Administration Ordinance, 1902.**

In accordance with the powers vested in me by Section 27 of the Ashanti Administration Ordinance, 1902, (No. 1 of 1902) I do hereby make the following rules:—

1. The occupier of any premises having any wells, tanks, barrels or other receptacles for the catching and storing of water thereon shall have the same fitted with properly constructed covers so as to render them mosquito proof.

2. In order that a tank may be opened, inspected and cleaned it should be furnished with a closely fitting trap door.

3. All openings into a tank whether for the purpose of ventilation, inlet of water, or overflow of water, must be properly and securely covered with wire gauze, the meshes of which are sufficiently fine to prevent the passing through of mosquitoes and other insects.

4. For the withdrawal of water, tanks and barrels situated above ground should be provided with suitable taps. In the case of wells and underground tanks wherever possible pumps should be fitted.

5. Wells, tanks, barrels or other receptacles for the catching and storing of water which are not rendered mosquito proof in manner above mentioned and are thus likely to form breeding places for mosquitoes, are liable to be treated with petroleum, kerosine or such other substance as the Health Officer or Inspector of Nuisances may deem beneficial for the prevention of the propagation of mosquitoes, and the cost of such treatment may be recovered from the owner of such well, tank, barrel or other receptacle aforesaid in addition to any penalty of which he is liable for a contravention of these rules.

6. Any Inspector of Nuisances, Health Officer or Director of Works, or any person authorized in writing by any Health Officer together with any assistant may enter and inspect any premises at any time between six in the morning and six in the evening for the purpose of ascertaining whether any well, tank, barrel or other receptacle for the catching and storing of water exists thereon, and of enforcing compliance with these rules.

7. The chiefs, sub-chiefs and headmen of any town shall cause to be dug and maintained pit latrines for the use of the inhabitants of such town.

8. It shall be lawful for the Health Officer of the town, if any, or if there shall be no such Health Officer for the Commissioner of the District in which such town is situated, to appoint a place or places in or near such town at which pit latrines may be dug, and where any such appointment has been made it shall be unlawful to dig a pit latrine at any place other than one so appointed.

9. It shall be lawful for the Health Officer of the town, if any, or if there shall be no such Health Officer for the Commissioner of the District in which such town is situated, to order the use of any pit latrine to be discontinued, and the Chiefs, sub-chiefs and headmen of the town shall forthwith cause the same to be filled up.

10. These rules shall be read in conjunction with the Rules "For the better regulating of "Towns and promoting the Public Health in "Ashanti" dated the 1st February, 1910.

Dated at Coomassie this 13th day of March, 1911.

ARTHUR J. PHILBRICK.

Acting Chief Commissioner of Ashanti.

I approve

H. BRYAN,

*Acting Governor of the
Gold Coast Colony.*

Directions for the Guidance of those laying out a new Village and for the Sanitation of Villages.

1. A suitable site should be selected from which to obtain soil for the purpose of making swish, and constant supervision should be exercised to prevent the formation of mosquito breeding puddles on the site.

Inhabitants of villages should only be allowed to take soil from such place as has been selected for this purpose.

2. Plans of the village should be prepared, as well as plans for future extension, in order to secure the laying out of the village on sanitary principles.

3. Provision should be made for sites for latrines, dustbins, slaughter house, market place, cemeteries, cattle-pounds, refuse destructors, and a piece of land well away from the town, should be set aside for a treatment area in the event of a pan latrine system being subsequently introduced.

This area should be calculated at the rate of an acre for every 1,000 inhabitants.

4. A clearing should be made for at least 50 yards around each village, the big trees being left, and beyond this area the natives should be encouraged to cultivate the soil.

5. If the village water supply is derived from a river or stream:—

(a) A washing place should be selected below the point from which the natives take their drinking water.

(b) The banks of the river or stream should be cleared of all bush except the big trees, for a distance of 50 yards on each side of the places used by the natives for obtaining drinking water or for washing purposes.

(c) The path between the village and the stream should be kept well clear of bush, except for big trees, for a distance of 30 yards on each side.

6. The streets should be straight and intersect one-another at right angles. The principal ones should be so constructed as to be in the direction of the prevailing breeze.

7. No street or road in a village should be of less width than 30 feet clear of verandahs and no back lane of less than 15 feet, *i. e.*, in front of the house there should be a roadway of at least 30 feet, and behind the backyard of the house a lane of 15 feet.

8. Houses should be built in continuous lines with an alignment, in their front and rear, to be prescribed by the local authority, and demarcated on the ground.

9. Between all detached houses abutting on the roadways of the village there should be a space of at least 9 feet measuring from eaves, to eaves or of 12 feet between the houses. This space, together with the backyard, may be enclosed by the respective owners by boundary walls not higher than 6 feet.

10. The floor-level of the house should be raised at least one foot above the centre of the road.

11. Not more than two-thirds of the house site should be covered with buildings.

12. Where a dwelling house abuts on a courtyard its height measured from the level of the courtyard or street should be less than its horizontal distance from the face of any opposite house.

13. A sufficient number of persons should be employed to :—

(a) keep the village and its surroundings clear of all bush and long grass.

(b) to collect and bury all old bottles, tins or other disused vessels capable of holding water.

14. Incinerators should be erected to burn all refuse. A plan of a simple and inexpensive form of incinerator can be obtained, on application, from the Senior Sanitary Officer.

15. Wherever possible wells should be lined with concrete, protected from surface pollution by means of lips or curbs and provided with pumps. A plan of the Macgregor type of well can be obtained, on application, from the Senior Sanitary Officer.

16. If latrine pits are used they should be roofed over, their edges banked up and drains should be cut round them to keep out storm water. A quantity of dry earth should be stored under the roof and persons should be told off to sprinkle dry earth over the contents of the latrines at least twice a day.

17. Provision should be made for the carrying off of storm water by surface drains.

18. As houses fall into decay an attempt should be made to reconstruct the village on the lines laid down in paragraphs 6 to 12.

All ruinous buildings should be demolished and the debris removed.