



The British purchase of the Dutch Gold Coast

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Map of the British Possessions on the Gold Coast and the Territories of Ashanti and Fantee.

London, 1873. Original colour. Dissected and laid on linen as issued, total 365 x 555mm, folded into original covers with publisher's title label.

£280

A map of the coast of Ghana, showing from Abidjan on the Ivory Coast east to Lomo in Togo and inland to Selaga. The border between the British Possessions and the Ashanti is that negotiated by Captain George Maclean in 1831. An inset map shows the position of the colony between Britain and the Cape of Good Hope. In 1872 the Dutch Gold Coast was ceded to Britain by the Netherlands, which was problematic for the Ashanti as their trade routes to the Atlantic were blocked. An Ashanti rebellion was repelled by the British, and a retaliatory expedition ordered. This map was published as the arrangements were being made, with regular troops brought from Britain and a road to Kumasi, the Ashanti capital (here 'Coomassie'), built. The expedition started on January 1st, 1874, defeated the Ashanti at the Battle of Amoafu on the 31st, and walked into the deserted Kumasi on the 4th February, which they destroyed.

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