

RECORDS ON CHURCH LIFE AND NATURE
GH.ACIG.PCG.03
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Finding aid prepared by Finding aid prepared by Reuben Saah

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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Summary Information

Repository	Carl Christian Reindorf Archives and Special Collections Section
Title	RECORDS ON CHURCH LIFE AND NURTURE
Date [inclusive]	1935-2012
Extent	13.44 Linear feet
General Physical Description note	:32 Boxes
Language	English
Abstract	<p>This collection contains records on the Department of Church Life and Nature in the Presbyterian Church of Ghana (1935 – 2012). The records were generated through the regular activities of the Department of Church Life and Nature. The collection consist of Women’s Ministry records, Men’s Ministry records, Evangelism and Worship records, Youth Ministry records, Hymns and Songs records and Regulations, Practice and Procedure records. It also includes records on Ministry, Training, Scholarship and Counseling.</p>

Preferred Citation note

[Description and date of item], [Box and folder number], Records on Church Life and Nature, 1935-2012, Johannes Zimmerman Library, Carl Christian Reindorf Archives and Special collection Section, Akrofi - Christaller Institute of Theology, Mission and Culture.

Biographical/Historical note

The Presbyterian Church of Ghana is a product of three main missionary movements, namely: the Evangelical Missionary Society, Basel, Switzerland, commonly known as the Basel Mission; the Moravian Church, Jamaica in West Indies and also the United Free Church of Scotland. The Evangelical Missionary Society, Basel, which was founded in 1815, sent missionaries to the then Gold Coast colony in 1828 at the request of the King of Denmark. They landed at Osu (Christiansborg), which was then controlled by the Danes, on 18th December 1828. After fifteen years of evangelisation, no single convert was won. Many of the missionaries sent, died. In 1843, a new beginning was made at Akropong Akuapem with the arrival of the Moravian Christians from Jamaica. These Jamaicans were brought because of their African descent which was deemed to enable them to withstand the tropical climatic conditions which had decimated the ranks of the early white missionaries and also to convince the indigenous people that Africans could become Christians. With the active support of devoted African Christians the small Christian community grew and exerted its influence in many communities. The Basel Evangelical Mission Church of the Gold Coast spread from Accra to Akuapem, Krobo, Akyem, Kwahu, Asante, Brong and northwards to Yendi.

By the close of the nineteenth century the Church could boast of a membership of about thirty-three thousand (33,000) baptised members. The products of the Seminary in Akropong, founded in 1848, constituted the elite corps of the missionary enterprise. These noble armies of trained teacher/catechists were and continue to be the pathfinders and pioneers in sustained missionary work in the Presbyterian Church of Ghana. Statistics of the first Synod of the Church held at Akropong-Akuapem in August 1918 indicated that the Church was then organized around eleven (11) central stations comprising two hundred (200) town and village Congregations under the supervision of thirty (30) African pastors and a host of teacher-catechists. The central stations were: Osu (Christiansborg), Abokobi, Aburi, Akropong, Anum, Odumase (Krobo), Nsaba, Begoro, Kyebi, Abetifi and Kumasi.

The Basel Mission Church contributed to, and in some cases pioneered the agricultural, medical, commercial and educational development of the country. Through the Basel Trading Company, the Basel Mission Church engaged in the development of the palm oil trade which preceded the development of cocoa as a cash crop and a major foreign exchange earner. It introduced cocoa into the Gold Coast on an experimental basis. A moratorium on personnel and funding from overseas was imposed on the Church with the repatriation of the German workers of the Basel Mission in the then Gold Coast colony during the First World War. The courageous army of African pastors, Catechists and Presbyters assumed direct leadership of the Church. The crisis created by the forced exodus of German missionaries during the First World War was effectively managed until the Scottish missionaries, led by the Rev. Dr. A. W. Wilkie, were invited by the British colonial authority to fill the leadership vacuum. The main stations, the boarding schools and seminaries were being managed by the Basel missionaries. Before the Rev. G. Zurchur, the General Superintendent of the Basel Mission left the Gold Coast during the repatriation; he placed each pastor in charge of a District and set up a standing ecclesiastical authority composed of African pastors and elders at Akropong in August, 1918.

The Synod which was summoned at the instance of Rev. Dr. Wilkie marked the beginning of a radical break from the Basel Mission centrally controlled model of Church administration and governance to the more democratic participatory polity of the Reformed Tradition. Since the establishment of the Basel mission outpost in the Gold Coast in 1828 the life and work of the Church had been governed by Regulations issued by the Basel Mission Committee in Basel (see "Die Ordnung"). The adoption of the Reformed polity set in motion a chequered history of the development of the Reformed Presbyterian tradition which found its visible expression in the naming of the Church, in 1926 at the Abetifi Synod, THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE GOLD COAST. The first Synod at Akropong appointed the first African leadership of the Church: Rev. Peter Hall, Moderator, and Rev. N.T. Clerk, Synod Clerk. "Courts" of the Church were established. In 1929 the Regulations, Practice and Procedure (R.P.P) was completely revised to reflect the new polity, which was a break from the framework set in "Die Ordnung" of the Basel Mission.

In 1930 the Synod Committee was legally recognized as legal trustees of the Church responsible for property of the Church. In 1950 the posts of the General Manager of Schools and the Treasurer of the Church were taken over by indigenes. Thus from 1918 the Church started to be self-governing and by 1950 it had attained complete independence. After the independence of Ghana in March 1957 the Church became "The Presbyterian Church of Ghana".

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Presbyterian Church of Ghana Constitution, (2016). Waterville Publishing House, Accra - Ghana.

Arrangement note

The records are arranged in 9 series, two of them have been further arranged in sub-series. The series and sub-series arrangement of the records are as follows:

SERIES A, WOMEN'S MINISTRY RECORDS, 1965 – 2000.

SERIES B, RECORDS, ON OTHER MINISTRIES 1956 – 2002.

SERIES C, MEN'S MINISTRY RECORDS 1980 – 1998.

SERIES D, EVANGELISM AND WORSHIP, 1948 – 1995.

SERIES E, HYMNS AND SONGS, 1978 – 2001.

SERIES F, CHURCH LIFE AND NATURE DEPARTMENT RECORDS, 2000 – 2006.

SERIES G, REGULATIONS, PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE, 1953 – 1996.

SERIES H, YOUTH MINISTRY RECORDS, 1956 – 2012:

Sub-series 1, National Youth Council Records, 1963 – 2002;

Sub-series 2, Synod Records, 1978 – 2000;

Subseries 3, General Administrative Records – Youth Ministry, 1966 – 2008;

Sub-series 4, Presbyterian Students Union Records, 1982 – 1998;

Sub-series 5, Boys Brigade Records, 1959 – 2001;

Sub-series 6, Youth Resource Centre Records, 1996- 2007;

Sub-series 7, Young People Guild Records, 1962 – 1997;

Sub-series 8, PREYSA Records, 1992 – 2012;

Sub-series 9, General Youth Hand Books,1956 – 2002;

Sub-series 10, National Youth Council Hand Books, 1997 – 2000;

Sub-series 11, Committee on Youth council Hand Books, 2003 – 2007;

Sub-series 12, PREYSA Hand Books, 1992 – 2012;

Sub-series 13, Youth Resource Centre Hand Books,1996;

Sub-series 14, NUPSG Hand Books, 1998 – 2003;

Sub-series 15, Young People Guild Hand Books, 1987 - 2011.

SERIES I, MINISTRY, TRAINING, SCHOLARSHIP AND COUNSELLING RECORDS, 1935 – 2006:

Sub-series 1, Trinity Theological Seminary Records,1974 – 2005;

Sub-series 2, Abetifi Seminary- Abetifi Ramseyer Centre,1963 – 1990;

Sub-series 3, Scholarship Committee Records,1935 – 1999;

Sub-series 4, Pastors Conferences and Courses,1979 – 2004;

Sub-series 5, Akrofi- Christaller Institute,1982 – 2006;

Sub-series 6, Complaints and Arbitrations, 1996 – 1997.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Carl Christian Reindorf Archives and Special Collections Section

Conditions Governing Access note

This collection is open to researchers by appointment. However, some personal records will not be released to searchers unless advance written approval is given by the Presbyterian Church of Ghana. Please contact the Archives and Special Collection Section at +233342091490/1 (archive@acighana.org) for access.

Conditions Governing Use note

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Immediate Source of Acquisition note

This collection was donated by the Presbyterian Church of Ghana.

Processing Information note

The finding aid was prepared with kind support of Professor Philip T. Laryea, Professor Mrs. Gillian Mary Bediako, Clement Okai and Vella Ngaina. Entry into the Archivists' Toolkit was by Reuben Saah.

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- Abetifi Basel Mission Seminary.
- Akrofi-Christaller Institute.
- Trinity Theological Seminary.

Genre(s)

- Correspondence
- Handbooks
- Hymns, Ga and Twi
- Minutes
- Reports

Occupation(s)

- Administrative Secretary
- General Youth Secretary
- NUPSG Natinal Vice President
- NUPSG National President
- NUPSG Vice President

Subject(s)

- Church youth groups
- Hymns, Ga

SERIES A: WOMEN'S MINISTRY RECORDS**Collection Inventory**

SERIES A: WOMEN'S MINISTRY RECORDS 1965-2000	
	Box
Annual national conference booklet undated	78A
Presbyterian women's work central committee (PC/09/20) 1965-1978	78A
Women's home 1970-1985	78A
Women's work committee 1972-1985	78A
Administrative secretary letters from sec W. W. C. C. 1980-1984	78A
Departmental committee women work central committee (PCG/WWCC/92/ VII) 1989-1998	78A
Minutes, reports and recommendation from workshop 2000	78A
SERIES B: RECORDS ON OTHER MINISTRIES 1956-2002	
	Box
Blue Sross 1956-1957	79A

SERIES C: MEN'S MINISTRY RECORDS

Blue Cross Society (PCG/ADM/015/VA) 1979-1998	79A
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Catechist Union Presby 1981	79A
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Blue Cross Society reports 1985	79A
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General Nurses Christian Fellowship of Ghana (PCG/ADM/015/96) 1990	79A
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Professional guild (PCG/ADM/PG/91) 1991	79A
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Prison ministry (PCG/PS.M/II) 1992-2002	79A
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Prison ministry (PCG/PS-M/I) 1993-1995	79A
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Student Christian Movement 1962	100B
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Student Christian Movement (PCG/ADM/015/XVI) 1979-1997	100B
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Bible Study and Prayer Group (PCG/ADM) 1980-1997	100B
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Market Ministry 1994	100B
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SERIES C: MEN'S MINISTRY RECORDS 1980-1998	
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	Box
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Men's fellowship-national executive committee 1980-1985	79A
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SERIES D: EVANGELISM AND WORSHIP

Departmental committee (PCG/ADM/02/VIIA) 1980-1985	79A
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Ramseyer Men's Fellowship (PCG/ADM/RMF/90) 1988-1991	79A
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Men's work central committee (PCG/ADM/MWCC) 1989-1998	79A
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Men's fellowship bible course booklet 1994-1995	79A
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SERIES D: EVANGELISM AND WORSHIP 1948-1995**Box**

New life for all (NLFA) 1948-1949	80A
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Committee on the Holy Spirit 1958-1967	80A
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Minutes worship committee 1961-1964	80A
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Worship committee 1966-1974	80A
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Evangelism B 1967-1991	80A
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Christian stewardship committee 1968-1969	80A
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Stewardship Education 1968-1970	80A
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Stewardship drive and correspondence (PC/09/29) 1969-1977	80A
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SERIES E: HYMNS AND SONGS

Evangelists- General 1978-1980	80A
Departmental committee (PCG/ADM/02/IX) 1978-1987	80A
National worship committee (PCG/ADM/WC) 1979-2000	80A
Courses and conferences (PCG/ADM/012/IV) 1980-1991	80A
Worship committee minutes book undated	80A
General file - national evangelist and deacons union 1988-1991	80A
Board of mission (PCG/ADM/BM /91) 1989	80A
Worship committee correspondence 1999-2000	81A
Evaluating committee report on Northern Outreach 1998	81A
Evangelism and lay training committee reports 1995-1996	81A
Department of Mission and Evangelism (PCG/ADM/ME/02) 2003-2005	81A
Committees, evangelism and lay training committee (PCG/ELTC/92) 1991-1997	80A
The Northern Outreach Programme 1995	80A
SERIES E: HYMNS AND SONGS 1978-2001	

SERIES E: HYMNS AND SONGS

	Box
Ga Peresbiteria lala wolo hee (2 copies) undated	94B
Ga Presbytery undated	94B
Jeo Bei Srotoi undated	94B
Esha ke kpomo undated	94B
Kristofoi Awala undated	94B
Sakramentoi ke asafo mli nitsumoi srotoi undated	94B
Kristofoi ashihile mli saji undated	94B
Yiwalaheremo gbe le undated	94B
ORN Duplicates (2 files) 1994	94B
Music Notes 1995	94B
Twi-Ga Note Book 1995	94B
Presby Church Choir's Union (PCG/ADM/CU/93) 1978-2001	94B
Notes 1992-1996	94B

SERIES F: CHURCH LIFE & NATURE DEPARTMENT RCORDS

94B

Ghana Presbyterian Church Brass Band Union 1980-1990

SERIES F: CHURCH LIFE & NATURE DEPARTMENT RCORDS 2000-2006**Box**

Church life and nature (PCG/ADM/CLAN/04) 2000-2005

101B

Church life and nature department (PCG/CLND) 2001-2002

101B

Church life and nature (PCG/ADM/CLN/04) 2004-2006

101B

SERIES G: REGULATIONS, PRACTICE AND PRECEDURES 1953-1996**Box**

Kristo Asomfo A Ewo Soro undated

98B

Woman Kusumnaa Yookpeemo Nodzoomo Solema (4 copies) undated

98B

Ghana Presbiteria Asofo Asofohye Yebea handbook undated

98B

P-PP Review undated

98B

Presbyterian Church of Ghana constitution (2 files) undated

98B

Regulations, Practice and Procedure (5 copies) 1953

98B

Liturgy 1964

98B

SERIES H: YOUTH MINISTRY RECORDS

Liturgy Ke Solemo wolo 1966	98B
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Liturgy ke solemo wolo 1966	98B
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R. P. P. Amendment 1968	98B
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Regulations, Practice and Procedure handbook 1985	98B
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Order of Proceedings 59th Synod Akropong 1988	98B
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Constitution 1990	98B
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R. P. P. Review Committee (RPP/AD/4) 1990-1996	98B
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Order of proceedings 65th Synod Sunyani, handbook 1994	98B
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Liturgy review committee 1995	98B
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SERIES H: YOUTH MINISTRY RECORDS 1956-2012**SUB-SERIES 1: National Youth Council Records 1963-2002****Box**

Youth committee minutes 1963-1965	81A
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Youth committee minutes (GYS.19) 1978-1989	81A
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SUB-SERIES 1: National Youth Council Records

Youth committee, General Correspondence 1979-1989	89A
Youth committee minutes and reports 1982-1984	81A
Youth Personal Fun (GYS/NO) 1983-1985	81A
Youth Desk: Education Committee (GYSO/43/92) 1988-1996	81A
Youth council (PCG/YC/1) 1988-1998	81A
National plan of work/papers; leadership training course (GYSO/20/92) 1989-1995	82A
Finances: Finance committee (GYSO 42/92) 1992-1995	82A
Student and youth week celebrations (GYSO 5/92) 1992-1997	82A
Women's work central committee (GYSO 16/92) 1992-1998	82A
Conference resolutions 1992-1998	82A
Youth council reports (GYSO 2/92) 1992-1997	82A
National Youth Council Working Committee minutes note book 1992	82A
National Youth council of PCG 1994-1999	82A
Youth guide handbook undated	83A

SUB-SERIES 1: National Youth Council Records

programme and message for youth students (4 copies) undated	83A
Youth farms project proposal handbook 1996	83A
Chairman of national youth council correspondence 1996-2000	83A
Youth Work correspondence 1996-1998	83A
Education Committee 1996-1999	83A
Youth Council meeting (minutes and agenda) 1997-2001	83A
Minutes & correspondence of working committee meetings 1997-2001	83A
Youth reports from presbyteries 1997-1998	83A
Youth council (Vol. II) 1998-2002	83A
National youth council reports 1998	83A
Youth work report 1998	83A
Christian Peace conference (GYSO 35A) 1981-1983	97B
Overseas Partners, Youth Excellence Programme (GYSO 6/92) 1989-1996	97B
General Correspondence 1992-1996	97B

SUB-SERIES 2: Synod Records

Working committee meetings (GYSO 3/92) 1992-1995	97B
Youth Council correspondence (GYSO 1A/92) 1992-1996	97B
Synod committee meetings (GYSO 11/92) 1992-1996	97B
Youth Council minutes 1992-1997	97B
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Synod committee meetings (GYSO .23) 1978-1984	84A
Papers of Synod (GYSO. 22A) 1979-1982	84A
Synod committee and executive (GYSO/ NO/23) 1984-1986	84A
Synod Clerk's desk (GYSO 25/92) 1992-1998	84A
Synod Committee reports (GYSO 12/92) 1992-1996	84A

SUB-SERIES 3: General Administrative Records -Youth Ministry

Synod committee special reports 97 1993-1996	85B
Reports, balance sheet and statement of accounts 1994	85B
Synod committee minutes ⁹⁷ 1996-1998	85B
Synod committee executive reports 1996-1998	85B
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Synod committee executive minutes 1996-2000	85B
Synod committee minutes, Abokobi 1997	85B
Synod committee minutes 1998-1999	85B
Synod committee reports 1998-1999	85B
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SUB-SERIES 3: General Administrative Records -Youth Ministry

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Agenda and minutes of Akwapim/Volta youth conference (YC. 01/7) 1966-1967	86B
Report on youth work of the church report (YC. 01/7) 1966-1968	86B
Singing Band Union Youth Organization (PC/015/9) 1968-1977	86B
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General Youth Secretary 1980-1983	86B
Newsletter AACC (GYS 30B) 1980-1983	86B
All Africa Press Service (GYSO 35) 1981-1983	86B
Administrative Secretary Desk (GYSO 26/92) 1987-1998	86B
Inaugurations/registered J. Y. and YPG (GYSO) 1988-1992	86B
Ashanti Presbytery (GYSO 29/92) 1990-2000	86B
Akuapem Presbytery (GYSO 32/92) 1990-1994	86B
Western Presbytery (GYSO 33/92) 1990-1994	86B
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Award Scheme handbook for africa 1991	87B
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Moderator's Desk (GYSO 24/92) 1993-1997	88B
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Akuapem Presbytery Youth Conference 1994	88B
Ga Presbytery Y. P. G. final accounts and budget proposal 1994	88B
Scheme of work programmes 1994-1998	88B
Annual leadership training course (GYSO /NO) 1994	88B
PCG-NRC Exchange Programme 1994-1996	88B
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Synod Executive Report (Desk) 1999	88B
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NUPSG Note book 1973	89B
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Joseph a surprising life story undated	102B

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Vice Presidents - NUPSG 1985-1994	90B
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National Vice President of NUPSG-SICE 1986-1996	90B
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National Vice President NUPSG 1988-1995	90B
National Union of Presbyterian Students of Ghana (NUPSG) Note book 1989	90B

SUB-SERIES 5: Boys Brigade Records

National Vice President NUPSG 1989-1996	90B
NUPSG 1994-1996	90B
National Vice President of NUPSG 1995-1996	90B
NUPSG Alumni 1998	90B
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Boys Brigade 1961-1966	91B
Boys Scouts Association 1971-1974	91B
General Girls Guild (PCG/ADM/015/XIV) 1978	91B
Boys Brigade (GYSO. 9) 1978-1989	91B
Letters from the boys brigade 1980-1984	91B
General Boys Scouts (PCG/ADM/015/XIII) 1980-1990	91B
Ghana Council, the Boys Brigade Annual Reports 1986-1987	91B

SUB-SERIES 6: Youth Resource Centre Records

The Boys Brigade - General (PCG/BB/Vol.II/93) 1986-1997	91B
The Boys Brigade - Ghana (2 copies) 1995	91B
Youth Desk, Boys/Girls Brigade 1999-2001	91B
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Youth resource centre 1997-1999	91B
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Mr. Joseph Antwi, youth resource centre 1999-2001	91B
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Youth Resource Centre PV's 2003-2007	108B
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National Confab Reports/Minutes 1962-1988	92B
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Ashanti Presbytery 1974-1983	93B
National conference programmes 1976-1992	93B
Y.P.G. Hostel Building Committee 1977-1986	93B
Akim Abuakwa Presbytery 1977-1987	93B
Y.P.G. Textile Design 1978-1986	93B
General Presby Y.P.G. 1979-1992	93B
Annual Delegates Conference 1979-1986	93B
Annual Presbyterial Delegates Conference 1982-1986	93B
Annual Presbyterial Delegates Conference 1982	93B
National Y.P.G. conference 1985	93B
Ashanti Presbytery Youth Ministry 1988-1991	93B

SUB-SERIES 8: PREYSA Records

93B

Akyem-Abuakwa Presbytery (GYSO 31/92) 1992-1994

93B

JY Papers 1994

93B

National Conference (GYSO 41/92) 1994-1997

SUB-SERIES 8: PREYSA Records 1991-1997**Box**

100B

PREYSA Correspondence 1991-1992

100B

PREYSA Other materials 1992-1997

100B

Youth and Students Assembly 1992

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