

# Guide to the British East India Company Records

MS 925



compiled by Janet Elaine Gertz

June 1983

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
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**CALL NUMBER:** MS 925

**CREATOR:** British East India Company

**TITLE:** British East India Company records

**DATES:** 1821-1853

**BULK DATES:** 1821-1839

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.25 linear feet

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Reports of agents of the East India Company in Mahi Kantha in Gujarat (western India) and dispatches from East India officials in Bombay sent to London. The reports provide a history of the Mahi Kantha before 1821 and describe political events there through 1839. The documents are all copies.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0925>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0925>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.      box  
f.      folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased, 1949.

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## Conditions Governing Access

The entire collection is available on microfilm. Patrons must use HM 264 instead of the originals.

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## Conditions Governing Use

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## Preferred Citation

British East India Company Records. Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

The British East India Company was founded around 1600 in order to control British trade, especially in spices, from India, China, and neighboring regions. Initially, the company held a monopoly on such activities and both exploited and expanded British colonial power, by acting as an agent to the Crown from the early eighteenth century to the mid nineteenth century.

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## Scope and Contents

The two volumes which constitute this small collection pertain to the activities of the British East India Company in the Mahi Kantha, a fiscal and military district now making up part of the state of Gujarat in western India. The first volume contains copies of reports (1821-1827) made to company officials in Baroda and Bombay from local agents, while the other volume contains copies of despatches (1826-1839) sent from Bombay to the Court of Directors of the East India Company in London. There is also one loose despatch from 1863. Taken together, these papers provide a history of the Mahi Kantha before 1821 and detail political and military events there through 1839.

These papers were purchased for Yale University in 1949. They were formerly known as the Bombay Presidency Papers.

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## Collection Contents

b. 1, f. 1reel 1U	Reports	1821-1827
b. 1, f. 2reel 1U	Despatches	1826-1839
b. 1, f. 3reel 1U	Despatch No. 57	1853

## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Geographic Names**

Asia  
Great Britain -- Colonies  
Gujarat (India) -- History  
Gujarat (India) -- Politics and government  
India -- History -- British occupation, 1765-1947

### **Corporate Bodies**

British East India Company  
East India Company