

Erfenisstigting-argief

Verw. PV 40

**INVENTARIS VAN DIE
ROOTH & WESSELS PROKUREURS
VERSAMELING**

Saamgestel deur: Petra Luus

April 2021

Pretoria

Voorwoord

Die volgende inligting is deur Rooth & Wessels Prokureurs verskaf:

The firm owes its establishment to Edward Rooth who hailed from the Cape Colony and journeyed to the Transvaal as a young man with his father when the latter, a land surveyor, was instructed by the Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek to survey and plan the town of Middelburg, Mpumalanga. Rooth established an attorneys' practice in the Cape on 1 November 1887, but was attracted by the allure of the North. He therefore availed of the first opportunity to establish an office in Pretoria.

Rooth was a multilingual attorney who spoke Dutch, English and French and gained the confidence of statesmen of the time. Among his contributions were the creation of the Municipality of Pretoria and the establishment of the Law Society of the Transvaal on 19 October 1892.

In 1889 another Capetonian, ML Wessels, who was the brother of the Chief Justice, Sir John Wessels, joined Edward Rooth. On 12 July 1889 the founding of the partnership of Rooth & Wessels was published in the Provincial Gazette. Their office was situated in the Bank of Netherlands on Church Square.

From its inception the firm attracted outstanding attorneys and leaders in the profession. HL Malherbe succeeded Edward Rooth as senior partner of the firm. Under his leadership the firm grew in stature and reputation. Under his stewardship the firm assisted with the drafting of the South African Reserve Bank Act in 1920. Malherbe also served as President of the Law Society of the Transvaal for fourteen years.

There after the era of Sydney Bam arrived. He was a partner of the firm for 49 years, 30 of which as the senior partner. The firm expanded its client base and its composition and became known and respected nationally and internationally. The main characteristic of the firm since its inception has been the expertise and integrity of its practitioners. Subsequent senior partners such as Willem du Plessis, Catherine Smith, Tippy Luttig, Roland Brink, Louis Wessels and others continued in the same tradition. Several judges of the High Court, past and present, were practitioners previously associated with the firm. Almost 200 judgments reported by the High Court, the Supreme Court of Appeal and the Constitutional Court emanated from the firm. The firm is also a founding member of the Arbitration Foundation of South Africa.

On 14 April 2016 the Board of directors resolved to henceforth practise under style of RW Attorneys under the leadership of Andre Bloem as the Managing Director and Joseph Maluleke as the Chairman of the Board.

The rebranding coincided with the firm celebrating 127 years of practice. It reflects the firm's commitment to old fashioned values of honesty and integrity whilst at the same time showcasing the dynamism and adaptability of the firm to modern day needs of all its clients.

Adding value has become central to the firm's brand. Being more valuable to its clients has always been part of the firm's philosophy and continues to be at the center of the

firm's service. The firm's new corporate identity presented the opportunity to strengthen and modernize.

RW has never been better equipped with regard to manpower, technology and personnel to provide relevant and innovative solutions to its clients.

Source: Internet: History. <https://www.rwafrika.com/about-us/history/> . 13 April 2021.

Die versameling is in November 2020 deur die Direkteure van Rooth en Wessels aan die Erfenisstigting geskenk. Die versameling is in 'n ou trommel en kartonhouer oorhandig. Meeste van die dokumente was nog in hul ou koeverte.

Ten spyte daarvan dat die dokumente baie oud is, is dit nog in 'n redelike goeie toestand. Die dokumente dateer vanaf 1889 tot 1972.

Die versameling bestaan uit korrespondensie, ooreenkomste, kontrakte, aandelesertifikate, testamente en transportaktes wat deur die firma vir kliënte opgestel is. Daar is ook 'n groot geraamde versameling, wat bestaan uit briewe, sertifikate, finansies, transportaktes, publiksasies, en foto's.

Veral die transportaktes kan huidiglik vir navorsers van belang wees agv grondeise.

Die kliente se dokumentasie is volgens hul vanne in die inventaris opgeneem en die ou koeverte is saam met die dokumente elkeen in 'n afsonderlike sakkie gebêre. Die versameling bestaan uit 42 volumes.

<u>Inhoudsopgawe</u>	<u>Bl.</u>
1. <u>Privaat dokumente van Edward Rooth</u>	1
2. <u>Kliënte</u>	1
3. <u>Tekeninge</u>	4
4. <u>Mandaatvorms</u>	4
5. <u>Aandeesertifikate</u>	4
6. <u>Finansiële dokumente</u>	5
7. <u>Geraamde versameling</u>	
7.1 Korrespondensie	5
7.2 Sertifikate / Persoonlike inligting	5
7.3 Finansies	5
7.4 Dokumente in verband met eiendomme	6
7.5 Skilderye	6
7.6 Publikasies	6
7.7 Foto's	6