

A116 STRUBEN FAMILY PAPERS

A Struben Family Papers

A1 Diaries 3 books & 6 files 1881 – 1915

A1.1 Struben, Mary L. 2 books & 4 files 1881 – 1902

A1.1.1 2 diaries written by Mary, 1881 – 1887 & transcription (1 file), 1885.

A1.1.2 Excerpt from diary, Jun. 1892 (Photocopy).

A1.1.3 Diary kept by Mary on a trip round the world, 1902 (Photocopies).

A1.2 Struben, Edith 1 book & 2 files 1885 – 1888, 1897 – 1915

A1.2.1 Diary (and partial transcription) 1 Jan. 1885 – 12 Aug. 1888.

A1.2.2 Excerpts from diary 1897 – 1915 containing accounts of Queen Victoria's 60-year reign; Royal visit 1901; Death of Bishop Bonsfield (Photocopies).

A1.3 Struben, Alex 1 file 1863

Journal of Alexander Betts Struben's wanderings from Durban to the Interior of S.A. with illustrations (Photocopies). Originals with Mrs Krause.

A2 Correspondence

A2.1 Edith Struben 3 files 1885

A2.1.1 19 original letters from Edith to her mother Mrs H.W. Struben (Mary), 1885 written from the Willows and Wilgespruit.

A2.1.2 Transcription of letters from Edith to her mother 1885.

A2.1.3 Copies of letters from Edith to her mother 1885

Originals with Mrs R. Krause, Johannesburg.

A2.2 Mrs H.W. Struben (Mary) 10 files

A2.2.1.1 Letters from Mary to Edith 1 file 1885 – 1886

9 original letters, with covering letter from Beatrice M. Malleon to Professor Fouché in which she sends the letters to him for research, dated 31 Jul. 1939.

A2.2.1.2 Photocopies of letters from Mary to Edith 1 file ± 1882 – 1883

Written from the Willows, Pretoria. Originals with Mrs R. Krause (Photocopies).

A2.2.1.3 Undated letters from Mary to Edith 1 file

Photocopies of undated letters.

A2.2.1.4 Copies of letters from Mary to Edith & children 1 file ± 1885

Written from Cliffendale, Wilgespruit.

A2.2.1.5 U.K. 1 file 1889

Photocopies of postcard from Germany to Misses Struben, Stonehouse, Devon. Written in French, 1 Sep. 1889.

A2.2.1.6 Mary to her children 2 files ± 1889 – 1890

Written from Cape Town and overseas. Photocopies.

A2.2.1.7 Cape Town 1 file (item) 1914

Letter from St. John Ambulance Brigade Overseas, Cape Town to Mary in event of hostilities in Cape Town, to attend to wounded at Town Hall, Rondebosch.

A2.2.2.1 Mary to Harry Struben (her husband) 2 files 1885 – 1886

Batch of 24 letters written from Natal & The Willows. Sorted and marked by B.M. Malleon, Stellenbosch. Covering letter to Professor Fouché.

A2.2.2.2 Transcription of 3 letters May – Jun. 1885 written from Natal to Harry re. gold find.

A2.3 H.W. Struben (Harry) 5 files 1880 – 1898

A2.3.1 Letters from Harry to Livy (Sen.) Lys (his sister-in-law) 1 file 1885

8 original letters from the Willows & Wilgespruit & transcription.

A2.3.2 Letters to Godfray Lys (his nephew) 1 file 1880 – 1898

- 28 original letters from Harry to Godfray written from the Willows, Wilgespruit, Pretoria, Driefontein, Cliffendale, Cape Town, Anerley, Paris, London, Westoe, Mowbray, Torquay, Cape of Good Hope.
- A2.3.3 Transcription of letters to Godfray 1 file 1884 – 1898
- A2.3.4 Photocopy of transcription – letters & extracts, 1884
- A2.3.5 Memoirs 1 file
Copy of H.W. Struben's memoirs. Photocopies, with appendices.
- A3 Fred Struben 3 files 1884 – 1895, 1939
- A3.1 13 letters from Fred to Godfray Lys (his nephew) 1 file 1884 – 1895 & transcription.
- A3.2 Fred & Mabel Struben 1 file 1885, 1939
Extracts of letters including certified copy signed by Hubert F. Juta pro. C.A. Celliers of conditions upon which F.P.T. Struben was to prospect the farm Honing Klip. See also B5.2.
- A3.3 Extract from Struben Papers, 8 Apr. 1885. Ts. & original drawings. Ms. of 'Mirella' Reef by F.P.T. Struben with 4 photostat copies: matters of reference to 'Mirella' Reef. See also B5.2.
- B Documents: copies of documents supporting claim of Struben Bros. as discoverers of gold reef 45 items 1881 – 1934
- B1 Major Arthur Struben 26 items 1881 – 1934
- B1.1 Arthur Struben's own documents 6 items 1934
Letters & extract re. the discovery of the Rand. Correspondents: G. Buhler, W. Cullen, P. Duncan, H.R. Raikes & Private Sec., Minister of Mines [Signature uncertain].
- B1.2 Pioneer work of the Strubens 20 items 1881 – 1932
Annexures A – R.
- B1.2.1 Annexure A - Letter to A.M.A. Struben from P.C. Metelerkamp, 1931
- B1.2.2 Annexure B - Copy of Articles of Association of Sterkfontein Junction Mining Syndicate 1884.
- B1.2.3 Annexure C - Sterkfontein Junction Mining Syndicate, signed by 1906 F.P.T. Struben, certified by Mabel Struben, 28 Dec.1932.
- B1.2.4 Annexure D - Exact copy of map of the Rand, sent by Fred Struben
8 Apr. 1885 tp Pretoria, with newspaper cutting from the Cape Times 17 Mar. 1927 – The World's Greatest Goldfield.
- B1.2.5 Annexure E - Article which appeared in the Transvaal Advertiser. 12 Jun.1885
- B1.2.6 Annexure F - Memos of the Early History of the Rand by Fred P.T. Struben., 1903. Signed as a true copy by Mabel Struben, 1932.
- B1.2.7 Annexure G - Gold in Pretoria District – extract from the Transvaal Advertiser. 5 Jun.1885
- B1.2.8 Annexure H - Copy of article which appeared in De Volkstem. 8 Jun.1885
- B1.2.9 Annexure I - Extract from the Argus Annual and South African Directory. 1989
- B1.2.10 Annexure J - Struben's Five-Stamp Battery. First description after 46 years by Dr William Macdonald. 1931
- B1.2.11 Annexure K - Public Record Office copy. 1885
- B1.2.12 Annexure L - Letter to H.W. Struben from W. Eduard Bok (State Sec.). 18 Aug. 1886
Signed by C. Beyers (Sen. Archivist). In Afrikaans, with translation.
- B1.2.13 Annexure M - Letter to H.W. Struben & others from W.E. Bok (State Sec.)
18 Aug. 1886 signed by C. Beyers (Sen. Archivist). In Afrikaans, with English translation.
- B1.2.14 Annexure N - Letter to H.W. Struben & others from W.E. Bok (State Sec.). 20 Aug. 1886
Signed by C. Beyers (Sen. Archivist). In Afrikaans, with English translation.
- B1.2.15 Annexure O - Extract from Natal Mercury – Strubens Reef. 7 Jul. 1885
- B1.2.16 Annexure P - Extracts from diary of Mary Lydia Struben reporting 'Confidence' strike to A. Struben. 1881, 1883
Notes marked in red, not in diary, but added later by Edith Struben.
- B1.2.17 Annexure Q - Extracts from diary of Edith Struben, certified as true copy by Arthur Struben. 1885
- B1.2.18 Annexure R - Extracts from letters written by Edith Struben to her mother, Mary L. Struben, 1883 - 1885
Certified by Arthur Struben as true copy, with an 'N.B.', E.S., Claremont, 1932.

- B2 Sterkfontein Junction Mining Syndicate 1 item 1884
- Minutes of a Shareholders meeting, held in office of D.M. Kirsch, Pretoria, Mar. 1884. Signed as true copy by David L. Fletcher, in possession of Mrs F. Struben, London, 31 Dec. 1947. (David L. Fletcher, grandson of Mrs Fred Struben referred to above), 8 Jan. 1948 – signed by Arthur Struben.
- B3 Photographs & Postcards 6 files 1884 – 1887
- B3.1 (6?) photographs of Confidence & Cliffendale, Cliffendale above Confidence, Cliffendale Fall nr. Johannesburg, 'local band' Johannesburg 1887, Johannesburg 1887.
- B3.2 2 Postcards – one of the Struben Brothers' camp at Wilgespruit as sketched by Edith Struben in 1885, where they discovered the Confidence Reef on Geldenhuys' farm, Wilgespruit 1884; one of old farmhouse long before the discovery of gold on the Witwatersrand and occupied by early diggers.
- B3.3 Photocopies of Godfray Lys of Godfray & his wife & others; (original in Africana Museum); Godfray on horseback; Godfray & Mr Whitehead; 1 photo of Godfray, his wife & 2 children; 5 negatives.
- B3.4 Photocopy of H.W. Struben (Harry) – original in Africana Museum.
- B3.5 Photographs used in 'The Strubens and Gold'
- B4 Publications 4 items 1885, 1887, 1907, 1987
- B4.1 1885 The World's Greatest Goldfield by Capt. W.W. Luffman.
1885 A Geological Section of the Witwatersrand drawn by Fred Struben in 1885.
- B4.2 1887 A Brief Autobiography by George Honeyball.
- B4.3 1907 New Rand Goldfield, Orange River Colony – paper read by A.R. Sawyer, London, 14 Jun. 1907.
- B4.4 1987 The Strubens and Gold, edited by Anna Cunningham.
- B5 Maps 4 files 1885 – 1889
- B5.1 Copy of F.P.T. Struben's original map of the area where he found gold in 1885; Fred Struben's map of the Rand, 8 Apr. 1885 and photocopies.
- B5.2 The Mirella Reef. See letters dated 8th & 16th April 1885 from Fred Struben to his sister-in-law, Mrs H.W. Struben (A3.3). Original & photocopy.
- B5.3 Photostat copies of Mynpachts 102, Driefontein, 104A, 24 Aug. 1886; Mynpacht 549, 11 Dec. 1886 from Mellor, 1917.
- B5.4 A new geological map of the Transvaal by F.P.T. Struben. Published James Wyld, London 1889.
- B5.5 Plan van de Geproclameerde Goud Velden te Witwatersval ZAR 1886 (copy).
- C Lys Family
- C1 Godfray Lys 55 items (1 file) 1883 – 1904 & Transcripts.
Letters from Godfray to his mother, Mrs Olivia (Livy, Sen.) Lys, describing his life at Confidence; his hope of making a home for his mother and himself in the Transvaal; his successes and disappointments; managership at Crown Reef. Transcription (partial).
- C2 Mrs Olivia (Livy, Sen.) L. Lys 138 items 1879 – 1889
- C2.1 1879 – 1885 14 items
Letters to her son, Godfray, re. home and money matters.
- C2.2 1886 47 items + 1p. transcription
Letters and scraps of letters to Godfray on matters in Pietermaritzburg; Godfray's work on the diggings; hopes that Heidelberg will not push Pretoria out of the world with talk of rich Heidelberg fields; heard in papers of second Sheba found by Strubens but no confirmation.
- C2.3 1887 – 1888 22 items
- C2.4 Letters to Godfray including his Crown secretaryship with Mr Whitehead; no reference to alluvial rush at Roodepoort, news of rich reef on Whitehead's property; Fred Struben starting another company in Pretoria.
1889 6 items

- C2.5 Letters to Godfray re. his Managing Directorship;
Undated 46 items
Letters and scraps of letters include news of wonderful offer for Crown Reef; Godfray to send her enough gold to make 4 children's bangles; wished Godfray had worked for Whitehead rather than the Strubens; hopes reflected glory will fall on Lys family.
- C2.6 Incomplete scraps of letters to Godfray
Re: hopes Harry will not be obliged to sacrifice for ready money; Donald Currie and Clarke toadying to Kruger; advises them to save money, make as much as they can, then clear out; in husband's diary found "21 July 1875 – Gold four in Pretoria".
- C2.7 Letters to G. Lys from George Frederick Gildea (Colonel) 13 items 1882 - 1892

Letters from Tullichewan Castle, Dumbartonshire, London & Aldershot re. army life; hopes to have a slug at the Boers & wants Godfray to join his staff; wants to know when Transvaal will become a British Colony.
- C3 Press Clippings 5 items 1886
Clippings re: "Herr" Cloete and racing; Lys' buildings in Pretoria; Witwatersrand Gold Fields excitement; Rosetta Gold Mining Company 'quasi Paardeplaatz' AGM.
- C4 Cyanides 1 item
Ms article by James Burgess Readman.
- D Miscellaneous Lys and Struben Papers 1875 – 1934
- D1 Letters to G. Lys from his family 24 items 1879 – 1888
- D1.1 14 letters from his sister Livy Jnr. (Midge) 1879 – 1887
- D1.2 4 letters from his sister, Zoe 1885 – 1887
- D1.3 3 letters from his brother, George 1887
- D1.4 1 letter from his brother, Arthur 1886
- D1.5 2 letters from his aunt 1888 & undated
- D2 Miscellaneous letters 40 items 1875 – 1901
- D2.1 To Godfray 22 items 1884 – 1901

Correspondents include: Major Birkett, A.J. Cloete, D.L. Findlay, G. Lys, H. Nourse, R. Patterson, George H. Raw, M. Ross, N.A. Stoppard, Robert [Struben?], J.A. Tilney, H.C. Trull, Allan Tulloch - Godfray's godfather.
- D2.2 Percy Whitehead to Godfray 6 items 1884 – 1892

Letters re. Godfray's farm, machinery for prospecting, had interesting talks with Cecil Rhodes, etc.
- D2.3 Letter from G. Lys to Walter 1 item 1885
Re. receipt signed and attested by Theophilus Shepstone.
- D2.4 Miscellaneous Accounts 10 items 1885 – 1886

Accounts of Mr & Mrs Lys and Mr Redwood; Brunshill and Henderson, Durban; Jesse Smith & Son; The Lunatic Asylum, Natal; Cornforth & Becker, Pretoria; P. Davis & Sons, Pietermaritzburg; S.A. Bank of South Africa Ltd of A Henderson & G. Lys; horse register under Volunteer Law 1885.
- D2.5 Diary 1 item 1875
2½ pp. of G. Lys' diary, as a young boy, Jan. 1875.
- D3 Miscellaneous – Lys Family 28 items 1884 – 1888
- D3.1 From Alexa 3 items 1885, 1888
Letters from Lichtenburg & Ventersdorp.
- D3.2 From Others 9 items 1884 – 1886 & undated
Correspondents include: Z.A. Bert, Jessie Durrell, R.T.S. Granger, A. Hart [indecipherable], Fred Jeppe, W.M. Montgomery, M. Struben, & J.A. Tilney.

Subjects include: housing in Pretoria due to good prospects of Goldfields; racehorses; crushing of gold.
- D3.3 Mrs Lys (Sen.) 14 items 1888

Cut up scraps of diary of reminiscences; dictionary of plants, with emblems.
D3.4 Livy Lys (Jun.) to H.W. Struben 1 item 1885
Letter to Uncle Harry re. shares. Unsigned.

D4 Mrs Beatrice Matteson (Beta) 1 item 1939
Letter to Mrs Phyllis Lys (Godfray's wife).

D5 History of the Lys Family 1 file

Mostly of Robert Oliver Godfray Lys, pioneer of Pretoria and the Rand. From the Makin Family.

E Struben Wills.

E1 J.W. Struben 1 file 1892

Death Notice 1p. & Will, 3pp. (7261/0) of J.W. Struben with Computer Prints (388): Strubens.

E2 E Struben 1 item 1934, 1936

Will, 10 Apr. 1934 with Codicil 6 Apr. 1936. Certified copies (Photostats).