

National Archives of Namibia

Findaid 1/1/213

Birth, Marriage and Death Registers

BMD

Compiled by Werner Hillebrecht, 2013

National Archives of Namibia
Findaid 1/1/213: BMD
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Introduction

Birth, marriage, and death records (BMD records) are normally not being transferred to the National Archives of Namibia but kept permanently with the Ministry of Home Affairs. Before Namibian independence in 1990, these records were sent to the relevant South African government department (existing under changing names). Since 2008, South Africa has been repatriating BMD records to the Namibian Ministry of Home Affairs and Immigration. The repatriation process has not been finalised.

The records that have been reconstituted into the archival group BMD come from two different sources. Storage units 1-5 consist of registers by the German colonial administration and by the South African military administration of South West Africa during World War I, that had been removed to South Africa at an unknown date, had been accessioned at the National Archives of South Africa, and were repatriated with other Namibian records to the National Archives of Namibia in 2005. There are indications that further German record books are still in South Africa at an unknown repository. (See file ARG 14/5, vol. 1 (1983-2010), no.122)

Storage unit 6 consists of registers kept by the Resident Commissioner of Eastern Caprivi between 1940-1972. They were found in unaccessioned records in the National Archives in 2005. It could not yet be ascertained how they had been transferred, although it is likely that they came together with records of the Caprivi Bantustan Government.

Werner Hillebrecht, January 2013

Box	Code	Title	Period
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Storage Unit 1. Bethanien

1	SR BET 2	Sterberegister für das Kaiserliche Gouvernement von Südwestafrika. Standesamt Bethanien. Band II	1914-1914
1	GR BET 2	Birth and Death Certificates 1915-1921. [Military Magistrate Bethanien]	1915-1921
1	HR BET 2	Marriage register [Military Magistrate Bethanien]	1916-1920
1	HR BET 1	Heiratsregister für das Kaiserliche Gouvernement von Südwestafrika. Standesamt Bethanien. Band I	1905-1913
1	GR BET 1	Geburtsregister für das Kaiserliche Gouvernement von Südwestafrika. Standesamt Bethanien. Band I	1905-1915

Storage Unit 2. Grootfontein

2	GR GRF 1	Geburtsregister für das Kaiserliche Gouvernement von Südwestafrika. Grootfontein. [Band 1]	1904-1912
2	GR GRF 2	Geburtsregister für das Kaiserliche Bezirksamt Grootfontein. Band II	1912-1914

Storage Unit 3. Grootfontein

3	HR GRF 1	Heiratsregister für das Kaiserliche Gouvernement von Südwestafrika. Grootfontein. [Band 1]	1904-1911
3	HR GRF 2	Heiratsregister für das Kaiserliche Gouvernement von Südwestafrika. Grootfontein. Band II	1912-1915

Storage Unit 4. Grootfontein

4	SR GRF 1	Sterberegister für das Kaiserliche Gouvernement von Südwestafrika. Grootfontein. [Band 1]	1903-1913
4	SR GRF 2	Sterberegister für das Kaiserliche Bezirksamt Grootfontein. Band II	1913-1915

Storage Unit 5. Namutoni

5	SR NAM 1	Sterberegister für das Kaiserliche Gouvernement von Südwestafrika. Distrikt Namutoni	1910-1915
5	GR NAM 1	Geburtsregister für das Kaiserliche Gouvernement von Südwestafrika. Distrikt Namutoni	1909-1910

Storage Unit 6 (Large format). Eastern Caprivi

6	DR CAP	Death Register Eastern Caprivi Zipfel	1961-1972
6	BR CAP	Births Register (Whites). [Eastern Caprivi]	1948-1962
6	MR CAP	Original Marriage Register. Eastern Caprivi Zipfel	1940-1942