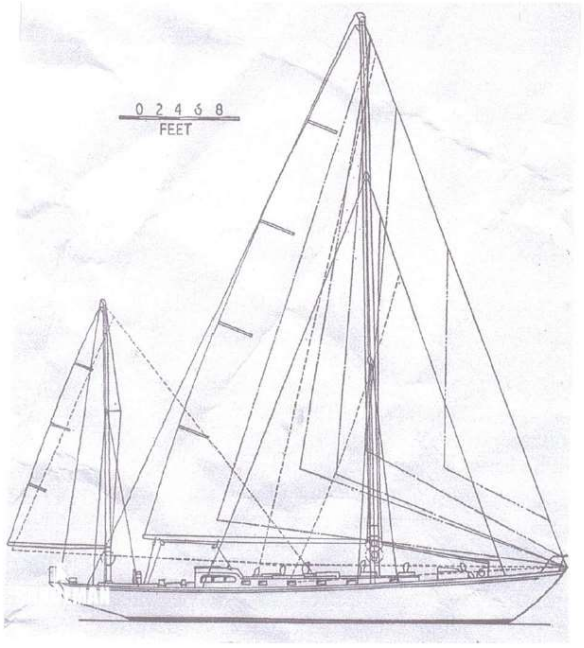
Classic Yacht Directory

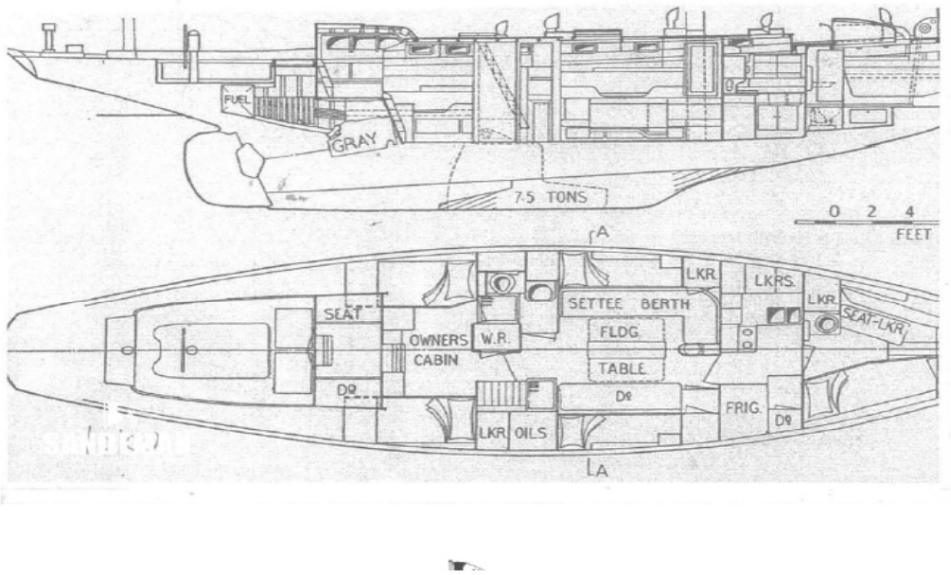
Specifications

ROB ROY ARTHUR ROBB 56 FT YAWL 1956

Designer Arthur Robb	Length overall 55 ft 9 in / 17 m	Construction Carvel mahogany planking on rock elm frames
Builder Herbert Wood Ltd Norfolk	Length waterline 42 ft 0 in / 12.8 m	Bermudian Yawl rigging
Date 1956	Beam 13 ft 1 in / 3.99 m	Engine: Craftsman 65HP
	Draft 5ft 11in-9 ft 10 in / 1.8-3 m (centerboard up/down)	Location: SouthWest France. Mediterranée
	Displacement 20.3 Tons	
	Lead ballast keel 7.5 tons	

Class


0 2 4 6 8
FEET



History
Custom designed for August Boorstein of NYC in 1956. Built by Herbert Wood Ltd Norfolk.

Long racing history on US East Coast and Caribbean –

- Celebrated in 50s and 60s Miami-Nassau, Newport-Bermuda races vs FINISTERRE and others
- Famous for the celebrated “match races” against STORMY WEATHER in the 1980s
- Perennial contender in her class in Antigua Race Week from the 1980s until 2003
- Ex flag ship of the KnickerbockerYacht Club (NYC) and the Coral Bay Yacht Club (St. John, VI)

Transatlantic passage to the Azores and Ireland 2005
Extensive cruising throughout Europe, the Baltic, the Mediterranean and Aegean 2005 to 2018
Cruising and racing in West Mediterranean since 2018 (New Owner)

- Imported in Europe, registered in Holland
- **VAT Paid**

Racing in Spain and France since 2022

- Vela Classica Estartit 2022/2023/2024 /2025
- Les Voiles de St Tropez 2023,2024,2025

- Puig Vela Classica in Barcelona, September 2024,

Refits history

- Lovingly cared for by current and previous owners, keeping original parts and lay-out
- Complete refit in preparation of transatlantic passage, 2005
- Main works carried out by present owner with professional shipyards since 2018:
  - New main sail 2019
  - New VHF, EPIRB, depth sounder, 2019
  - New main mast (Sitka spruce) , 2020
  - New standing rigging, 2020
  - New Asymmetric spinnaker , 2021
  - Re caulking and check of complete hull, 2022
  - Hull new painting, 2022
  - New engine (Craftsman 65HP), new diesel tank 2023
  - Masts varnishing, 2024
  - New light Genoa (82 m2), 2024
  - Complete check and repair of the hull (30% planking changed), 5 frames changed, 2025

Construction

- Honduran mahogany planking bronze fastened onto Canadian rock elm frames
- Oak keel, stem, and stern timbers
- Teak decks,
- Teak deck house,
- Teak trunk cabin and interior joinery
- Extensive use of Monel; ring frames, centreboard trunk - Bronze centreboard

Acccomodation

- Summary accommodation for 8 to 10 people
- Doghouse
  - Accessed from cockpit bridge deck by double doors, sliding hatch and steps down - Hinged top chart table, bookshelf and seat to port - Seat with Navigation and engine control instruments to stbd
- Aft/master cabin
  - Large double berth on starboard (1.40m at shoulders)
  - Large single berth on portside (1.10m at shoulders
  - Stowage under and aft near centreline
- Head compartment, with WC, hot and cold shower and sink
- Doorway and steps down to Saloon forward and alternative companionway steps
- Saloon with
  - 1 x L shaped settee berth to port with 1 x Pilot berth outboard
  - Drop leaf table on centreline –

    - 1 x Settee berth to starboard with 1 x Pilot berth outboard –
    - Stowage under and in lockers / drawers forward
- Galley with 2 burners gas hob and oven - Fridge - Sink with hot and cold water - Stowage, outboard, under and on bulkheads fore and aft
- Fore cabin
    - Large double berths
    - - Shelves - Stowage under and in lockers above to starboard
    - Hatchway to fore deck –
    - Access to chain locker

RIG, SPARS AND SAILS

- Yawl rigged - Original Alaska Sitka spruce spars
- Spinnaker aluminium pole stowed stbd side deck
- Monel chain plates
- Stainless steel standing rigging
- All hanks-on head sails and staysails
- Main (2018),
- Mizzen, Staysail (Good state 2005)
- Yankee (Good state 2005)
- Light genoa (2024)
- Asymmetrical spinnaker (2021)
- Symmetrical spinnaker (2025)
- Other spare sails: #1, #2 and #3 Jibs - - Mizzen staysail - Additional #1and #4 jibs - Storm staysail –

Navigation, communication and electronics

- 1 x Danforth / White Constitution six inch main steering compass
- Furuno GPS
- Furuno radar
- Navtex
- Depth sounder
- VHF radio incl.AIS receiver
- EPIRB
- Aries windvane self steering system
- Brass cased clock and barometer on mast in saloon
- Batteries monitor system

Links :

Who is Arthur Robb? — Southern Woodenboat Sailing

Finisterre Captures Miami-to-Nassau Yacht Race for Second Year in Row; MITCHELL'S YAWL IS SAILING VICTOR Finisterre Wins on Corrected Time -- **Rob Roy** Is First Across Finish Line - The New York Times (nytimes.com)

https://research.mysticseaport.org/coll/spcoll031/#:~:text=Arthur%20Cecil%20(Arthur%20C.),%26%20Lorimers%2C%20Argyll%2C%20Scotland.