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i2®©: Investigative and Interpretive Radiochemistry - The Precursor to Nuclear Forensics

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In the early 1990's when radioactive material began to feature in legal proceedings following its interception by Government Agencies there was a requirement for analysis of the material to support the judicial process. This requirement went on to grow into what is now commonly known as Nuclear Forensic Science.

Since the discovery of radioactivity at the close of the 19th Century the science of radiochemistry has developed to address topics related to the uses of radioactivity. The techniques developed over the roughly 100 years between the discovery of radiochemistry and the early 1990s form the basis of Nuclear Forensic Science. This paper will highlight some of the achievements of the radiochemistry community in the century prior to 1990 which were available to be used and built upon as validated science to support the needs of the legal and judicial communities when required in the last two decades as part of the Nuclear Forensic Science Community.

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