

# S. J. McKee Archives



## Coombs & Stewart general store c. 1881

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13756>

Part Of: Fred McGuinness collection

Description Level: Item

Series Number: McG 9

Item Number: 20-2009.67

Accession Number: 20-2009

GMD: graphic

Date Range: c.1881

Physical Description: 6.5" x 5" (b/w)

Material Details: on matting

Physical Condition: Photograph is stained and water damaged. A newspaper clipping about William (Billy) Muir is glued to the top left hand corner of the mat. The image is exfoliated in the right hand corner. The negative has been reverse printed.

### History /

#### Biographical:

Coombs & Stewart opened the first general store in Brandon in 1881, which was located on 6th Street and Pacific Avenue. According to G.F. Barker (Brandon: A City, 1977, 291), William (Billy) Muir worked at the store until he opened his own grocery store in 1888.

#### Custodial History:

Donated to Fred McGuinness by Allena Strath (nee Coombs).

#### Scope and Content:

Photograph shows the Coombs & Stewart general store located on the corner of Pacific Avenue and 6th Street. A group of men pose in front of the wood-framed store.

Notes: Back of photograph reads: One of first stores in Brandon, Coombs...[?]

Name Access: Coombs & Stewart  
Pacific Avenue  
6th Street  
Wm. Muir General Grocer

Subject Access: Pioneers  
general stores  
building exteriors  
store exteriors  
horses  
grocery stores  
Brandon business buildings & facilities before 1940

Storage Location: RG 5 photograph storage drawer 2 (hanging photos)

Related Material: Lawrence Stuckey collection 1-2002.3.1E13



## William Muir General Grocer building

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13757>

Part Of: Fred McGuinness collection  
Description Level: Item  
Series Number: McG 9  
Item Number: 20-2009.68  
Accession Number: 20-2009  
GMD: graphic  
Date Range: post-1888  
Physical Description: 4.5" x 7.5" (b/w)  
Material Details: on matting  
Physical Condition: Matting is bent and has a thumbtack hole.

### History /

#### Biographical:

According to G.F. Barker (Brandon: A City, 1977, 291), William (Billy) Muir worked at Coombs & Stewart's on Pacific Avenue until he opened his own grocery store in 1888. The shop was located at 143-6th Street, Brandon, and was demolished for a parking lot in 1952.

#### Custodial History:

Donated to Fred McGuinness by Allena Strath (nee Coombs).

#### Scope and Content:

Photograph shows the "Wm. Muir General Grocer" building on 6th Street. Two men pose in the doorway of the store. The man on the left is likely William Muir. Barrels are lined on the boardwalk in front of the store. Apples and mason jars can be seen in the shop's windows.

#### Notes:

Front of photograph reads: Sixth Street between Rosser - Princess. Back of photograph reads: Billy Muir's Store, 143 6th Street Brandon - 57 years in business in this location. An address label affixed to the back of the mat reads: Mrs. James Strath, Box 421, Souris, Man.

#### Name Access:

Coombs & Stewart  
Pacific Avenue  
6th Street  
Wm. Muir General Grocer

Subject Access: Pioneers  
general stores  
building exteriors  
store exteriors  
grocery stores  
Brandon business buildings & facilities before 1940  
Storage Location: RG 5 photograph storage drawer 2 (hanging photos)  
Related Material: Lawrence Stuckey collection 1-2002.3.1E18

## Images

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## Stores near the corner of Rosser Avenue and 6th Street

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13783>

Part Of: Fred McGuinness collection  
Description Level: Item  
Series Number: McG 9  
Item Number: 20-2009.94  
Accession Number: 20-2009  
GMD: graphic  
Date Range: 1881-1882  
Physical Description: 9.25" x 6.25" (b/w)  
Material Details: on matting  
Physical Condition: Corners of photograph mat are bent. Picture is cracked.

### Scope and Content:

Photograph shows an early view of Brandon's 6th Street in the 1880s. The Winter & O'Neil Groceries & Provisions and James Smart Hardware storefronts have been photographed. A street sign designating 6th Street can be seen below the Winter & O'Neil sign. A horse and cart is parked in front of the grocery store. A number of men wearing hats and jackets are standing along the boardwalk while posing for the picture. Lumber/timber saws are displayed in the windows of the hardware store.

Notes: Front of photograph reads: 6th Street, Brandon, Manitoba, 1881-1882, Entrance [to Winter & O'Neil] corner of Rosser Ave & 6th Street.

Name Access: James Smart Hardware store  
Winter & O'Neil Groceries and Provisions  
6th Street

Subject Access: downtown  
hardware stores  
Pioneers  
dry goods  
street scenes  
Brandon Street Scenes Before 1940  
grocery stores

Storage Location: RG 5 photograph storage drawer 2 (hanging photos)

### Images

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