

# S. J. McKee Archives



## Barber George Irwin in shop

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13767>

Part Of: Fred McGuinness collection

Description Level: Item

Series Number: McG 9

Item Number: 20-2009.78

Accession Number: 20-2009

GMD: graphic

Date Range: [1909?]

Physical Description: 6" x 4" (b/w)

Physical Condition: Photograph is scratched

History /

Biographical:

Gordon Irwin (1878 - 1968) was a long-time barber in Brandon, Manitoba. Irwin was born in Allenbank, Ontario. He married Elizabeth Jane Rollings (b. 04 Dec 1880, Napanee, ON; d. 24 Jul 1976, Brandon, MB) in Malton, Ontario, on January 11, 1905, and the couple moved to Brandon shortly thereafter. According to Henderson's Brandon City Directories, Gordon Irwin worked as a barber, for more than 49 years, in various establishments throughout the city. Notable shops include: the Imperial Hotel (1906), the CPR Barbers (1913-1923), Heise's (1929-1935), Kidds (1930-1941), and Robert Fowles (1949-1955). The Irwins celebrated their diamond anniversary in 1965, which was photographed and profiled in the Brandon Sun (14 Jan 1965, 8). According to his Brandon Sun obituary (19 April 1968, 12), Gordon Irwin passed away in Brandon on April 17, 1968, and was interred in the Rosewood Cemetery.

The decorative ceiling and border are consistent with another photograph of a tobacconist's shop in the McGuinness collection (see 20-2009.1). According to Henderson's 1909 Brandon City Directory, Gordon Irwin - a barber - and tobacconist J.S. Rosby shared at storefront at 919 Rosser Avenue. This address is situated on the north side of Rosser Avenue, adjacent to a laneway. It is possible that the back of the shop overlooks the Grand Union Hotel on the corner of Pacific Avenue and 10th Street.

Scope and Content:

Photograph shows the interior of a barber shop. Three barbers are posing by their chairs and two customers are receiving a shave. The barber in the centre has been identified as Gordon Irwin. A display for Rudolf's Patent Pipes is in the foreground. An ornate tin ceiling and elaborate border are visible in the photograph. Framed pictures hang above the mirror, including an advertisement for undertakers Vincent & Macpherson (1901-1906).

Notes: Writing on the back of the photograph reads: Dave Dick says centre barber is Gordon IRWIN, location may have been about 813 Rosser. May have been Kidd's Barber Shop. Harold Tackaberry confirms IRWIN. MCGUINNESS.

Name Access: Gordon Irwin  
J.S. Rosby  
Rosser Avenue

Subject Access: store interiors  
building interiors  
barbers  
barber shops

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

Related Material: McG 20-2009.1

## Images

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### Early scene of Rosser Avenue facing west

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13782>

Part Of: Fred McGuinness collection

Creator: Photographer: I. Bennetto & Co. (Winnipeg)

Description Level: Item

Series Number: McG 9

Item Number: 20-2009.93

Accession Number: 20-2009

GMD: graphic

Date Range: c.1882

Physical Description: 9.25" x 6.26" (b/w)

Material Details: on matting

Physical Condition: Photograph mat is bent. Emulsion problems with image.

Scope and Content:

Photograph shows Rosser Avenue in its incipient stages. Canvas tents are mixed amongst wooden structures. The James Smart Hardware store, Winter & O'Neail Groceries & Provisions, and the law office of F.G.A. Henderson in the Molesworth Block can be seen on the north side of Rosser Avenue. A street sign designating 6th Street can be seen below the Winter & O'Neail sign. A horse and buggie is traveling down the dirt track that is Rosser Avenue. Groups of men can be seen congregating outside some of the local businesses.

Notes: Front of photograph reads: Rosser Avenue, Brandon 1882-1883, from east of Six Street. Back of photograph is stamped: I. Bennetto & Co., Photographers, Opposite Post-Office, Winnipeg, Man.

Name Access: James Smart Hardware store  
Winter & O'Neil Groceries and Provisions  
F.G.A. Henderson Law Office  
Molesworth Block  
Rosser Avenue

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

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

## Images

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### Queen's Hotel on the corner of 10th Street and Rosser Avenue

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13778>

Part Of: Fred McGuinness collection

Description Level: Item

Series Number: McG 9

Item Number: 20-2009.89

Accession Number: 20-2009

GMD: graphic

Date Range: 1883

Physical Description: 7.25" x 4.25" (b/w)

Material Details: on matting

Physical Condition: Left hand corner of mat is bent. Mock-up instructions are written in pencil at the bottom right hand corner. Portions of the photograph itself are marked with pen.

## History /

### Biographical:

The Queen's Hotel was located on the corner of Rosser Avenue and Tenth Street (Steen & Boyce, 1882. Brandon, Manitoba, Canada and Her Industries. Steen & Boyce Publishers Printers & Binders, 81.). Therefore this photo appears to display Rosser Avenue looking east. P.E. 11/06/09

### Scope and Content:

Photograph shows early Rosser Avenue under construction between 9th Street and 10th Street in the 1880s. Buildings that line the avenue are wood framed and there are wooden boardwalks in front of a few structures. On the north side of Rosser Avenue signs for Fortier & Bucke Commision Agents and Transit House (Hotel) can be seen. On the south side of Rosser Avenue, the Queen's Hotel and Robinson Brothers and Company groceries and dry goods store are open for business. A family appears to be standing on the stoop at the dry goods store. A boy is lounging in the entryway of the Queen's Hotel. A man is standing on a wooden plank that extends across the dirt road of Rosser Avenue between the dry goods store and the commission agents' shop.

Notes:	The back of the photograph reads: FRED McGUINNESS
Name Access:	Queen's Hotel Rosser Avenue Fortier & Bucke Commision Agents Transit House Robinson Brothers and Company
Subject Access:	downtown construction Brandon Street Scenes Before 1940 hotels hardware stores street scenes store exteriors building exteriors grocery stores general stores dry goods
Storage Location:	RG 5 photograph storage drawer 2 (hanging photos)
Related Material:	Lawrence Stuckey collection 1-2002.3.1C17

## Images

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