

# 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



### Flora Cowan

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13861>

Part Of: Fred McGuinness collection

Description Level: Item

Series Number: McG 9

Item Number: 20-2009.172

Accession Number: 20-2009

GMD: graphic

Date Range: [19--]

Physical Description: 5" x 7" (b/w)

Material Details: reproduction

#### History /

#### Biographical:

Mrs. Flora Cowan (1902-1986) was born on July 15, 1902 in Edinburgh, Scotland. She was the daughter of Adam and Helen Cruickshank and immigrated to Brandon with her parents in 1927. She married E.C. Cowan, and they had two children, Franklin and Ruth. From 1953 until Brandon College became Brandon University, she served as the Dean of Women. In 1966 she received the Good Citizenship Award of the Golden Boys of Manitoba. She was a member of the I.O.D.E. and a life-member of the International Peace Garden, and the Provincial Council of Women. From 1954 to 1970 Mrs. Cowan served as a member of the Brandon City Council and was the first woman to be appointed acting mayor. She was also the Chairman of the Board for Fairview Home, Inc. In 1967, Mrs. Cowan received the Trillium Business and Professional Club Woman of the Year Award. She was also a member of several other community committees. The women's residence at Brandon University, Flora Cowan, is named in her honour. In December 1980, Mrs. Cowan finally retired from her many positions. She died in Brandon on September 25, 1986 at the age of 84.

#### Scope and Content:

Photograph is a portrait of Flora Cowan

Name Access: Flora Cowan

Subject Access: portraits

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

Related Material: Trillium Business and Professional Women's Club records

#### Arrangement:

From 2009 loose photos, from File 13





## Royal George Hotel

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13712>

Part Of: Fred McGuinness collection

Description Level: Item

Series Number: McG 9

Item Number: 20-2009.22

Accession Number: 20-2009

GMD: graphic

Date Range: 1912

Physical Description: 9.75" x 7.5" (b/w)

Physical Condition: photograph is torn and has scotch tape residue

### Scope and Content:

Photograph shows the exterior of the Royal George Hotel located at 142-6th Street, Brandon. Striped awnings cover the second and third storey windows of the hotel. Dogs roam the sidewalk in front of the hotel. Advertisements cover the fence adjacent to the hotel and include: Fort McMurray town site settlement; Mortgage sale for city property; Starland Theatre featuring Miss Amy Lawrence, Soprano; Sherman Theatre; 15th Annual Horticultural Exhibition

Notes: Date ascertained from 15th Annual Horticultural Exhibition advertisement posted on fence adjacent to hotel. Address obtained from Henderson's Brandon City Directory for 1913.

Name Access: Royal George Hotel

Starland Theatre

Sherman Theatre

Horticultural Exhibition

6th Street

Subject Access: hotels

building exteriors

advertising

dogs

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

## 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





## 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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South Street, Hudson River - Poughkeepsie