

# S. J. McKee Archives



## Wm. Muir General Grocer

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions9491>

Part Of: RG 11 Lawrence Stuckey fonds

Description Level: Item

Series Number: 3.1

Item Number: 1-2002.3.1E18

Accession Number: 1-2002

GMD: graphic

Date Range: 1888

Physical Description: 3 1/2" x 5"

Material Details: Negative

History /

Biographical:

Muir started as a clerk for Coombs & Stewart in 1882, went into business for himself 1888 and was still operating in 1938. He closed his 6th Street store in June of 1945 (Brandon Sun).

Muir was a good friend of my pioneer grandfather, Sam Gilmour, who lived a block up the street, and as a small boy I spent many nickels in this store (LAS).

Custodial History:

For custodial history see the collection level description of the Lawrence Stuckey collection.

Scope and Content:

Wm. "Billy" Muir & grocery store

Notes: Located on the west side of the 100 block of 6th St.

This photo presented by Wm. Muir to Martin Kavanagh and donated to collection of Assiniboine Historical Society.

Name Access: Wm. Muir General Grocer

Subject Access: businesses

general stores

grocery stores

Brandon business buildings & facilities before 1940

Repro Restriction: The McKee Archives is the copyright holder for the Stuckey materials.

Storage Location: Lawrence Stuckey collection

## Images



## Billy Muir's car c.1910

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13754>

Part Of: Fred McGuinness collection

Description Level: Item

Series Number: McG 9

Item Number: 20-2009.65

Accession Number: 20-2009

GMD: graphic

Date Range: c.1910

Physical Description: 5.5" x 3.5" (b/w)

Material Details: postcard

History /

Biographical:

William "Billy" Muir came to Brandon in 1881 where he worked at the Coombs & Stewart general store. He became the proprietor of Brandon's first grocery store located on 138-6th Street. The building was demolished in 1952 (see Brandon Daily Sun 04 September 1952). According to correspondence in the McGuinness collection (see McG 1.2 File 22), Dr. Matheson brought the first car to Brandon, which he later sold to Muir. A note in McGuinness' papers (see McG 1.2 File 53) identifies the first motor car as a Hupmobile, which was purported to have arrived in Brandon in 1905. The Hupp Motor Car Company, however, is reported to have manufactured Hupmobiles between 1909 and 1940. Mrs. (Jessie) R.M. Coombs was Allena Strath's (nee Coombs) mother.

Custodial History:

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

Scope and Content:

Postcard shows a woman, identified as Mrs. (Jessie) Robert M. Coombs, seated behind the wheel of a motor car.

Notes: Back of postcard reads: Mother Mrs. R. [Robert] M. Coombs in Billy Muir's car, Brandon around 1908

Name Access: Billy Muir  
William Muir  
Mrs. Robert M. Coombs  
Jessie Coombs  
Wm. Muir General Grocer

Subject Access: Transportation  
cars  
automobiles  
motor cars

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

## Images

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### 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

#### Images

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#### 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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