

**Reference Number:** MC-16

**Title:** James & Abner Smith fonds.

**Dates:** 1844-1854, [1880-?], 1887-1890.

**Extent:** 8 cm of textual records, 1 photograph.

**Administrative history:** James Smith was born in MacDuff, Scotland on 18 March 1793 and died in Sackville, New Brunswick on 16 August, 1865. He married Isobell Bruce in 1815 and had eight children with her, one of them being Abner Smith (1835-1904), born in Shemogue, New Brunswick. Isobell died in 1842 in Shemogue, New Brunswick. James later married Abigail Peirse in Amherst, Nova Scotia in 1845. During the first half of the 19th century, James Smith manufactured harnesses, boots, and shoes, and by the 1850s his was one of at least seven tanneries located in Middle Sackville. Abner carried on his father's large-scale boot and shoe operation and in 1865 he established Abner Smith's Manufacturer of Boots and Shoes in Middle Sackville, New Brunswick. The company remained active for thirty-seven years until it was purchased by the Standard Manufacturing Company organized by A. E. Wry in 1903 (renamed A. E. Wry Standard, Ltd in 1914).

**Custodial history:** The first donation was made in 2007 by Walter Newcombe and Colin Mackinnon; an accrual was donated by Paul Bogaard in 2007; a second accrual was donated by Paul Bogaard, Colin Mackinnon, and Al Smith in 2008; and a third accrual was donated by Bliss Kay in 2014. It is possible Bliss Kay had these textual records due to his distant relationship with Abner Smith.

**Scope and content:** Fonds relates to the commercial activities of James and Abner Smith in Middle Sackville, New Brunswick. Fonds consists of James Smith's ledger from Saddler; Harness & Trunk Manufacturer; a photograph of Abner Smith's Manufacturer of Boots & Shoes Factory; and the daybook and order book for Abner Smith's Manufacturer of Boots & Shoes.

**Source of supplied title:** Title is based on the provenance of the records.

**Physical description:** Fonds is in fair to poor condition. The ledger and photograph are in fair condition, but the daybook and order book are in poor condition.

1 photograph: sepia; 15 x 20.5 cm on mount 25.5 x 30.5 cm.

**Arrangement:** This fonds was arranged and described by JC Bennett in 2021.

**Accruals:** Further accruals are possible.

**Related records in other fonds:** Related records may be found in MC-10 A.E. Wry Standard Manufacturing Company fonds, in MC-71 J.R. Ayer Company Tanners fonds, and in MC-23 Sackville Harness Shop fonds.

**Container list:**

<b>Accession Number</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dates</b>
9/12	James Smith's ledger from Saddler, Harness & Trunk Manufacturer, used to document business transactions, including customer's names, what was purchased, and how much was charged.	1844-1854
9/13	Photograph of Abner Smith's Manufacturer of Boots & Shoes exterior with a large group of people standing out front, some of them likely employees.	[188-?]
OS Shelf 3: 2008.2.1	Daybook for Abner Smith's Manufacturer of Boots & Shoes, used to record daily transactions and includes customers' names, items purchased, and prices charged.	1887-1888
13/8	Order book for Abner Smith's Manufacturer of Boots & Shoes, used to document business transactions, including customer's names, what was purchased, and how much was charged.	1888-1890