69/08/03

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TORNADO REPORT

LOCATION: Province: Manitoba

Reference Town: ~~Rosser~~ Winnipeg (Assiniboia Downs)

Lat. & Long.: 49° 56' N + 97° 13' W

TIME: (Year/Month/Day/Time (Z))

69/08/03/2300Z (warning) (suggested time)

LOCATION OF BEGINNING:

Lat.: 49° 59' N ?

Long.: 97° 29' W

Location of End:

Lat.: ? 49° 56' N

Long.: 97° 13' W

ASSOCIATED WEATHER CONDITIONS: Hail, rain, (golf ball sized hail), thunderstorms

Length of Track: ?

Direction of Track: ?

Visual Description: ? was sighted, "grayish white funnel" "a great roaring noise"

Path Width: ?

Fatalities: NIL

Injuries: NIL

SOURCE OF INFORMATION:

The Winnipeg Tribune, Tues. August 5th/69

The Stonewall Argus, Wed. August 6/69

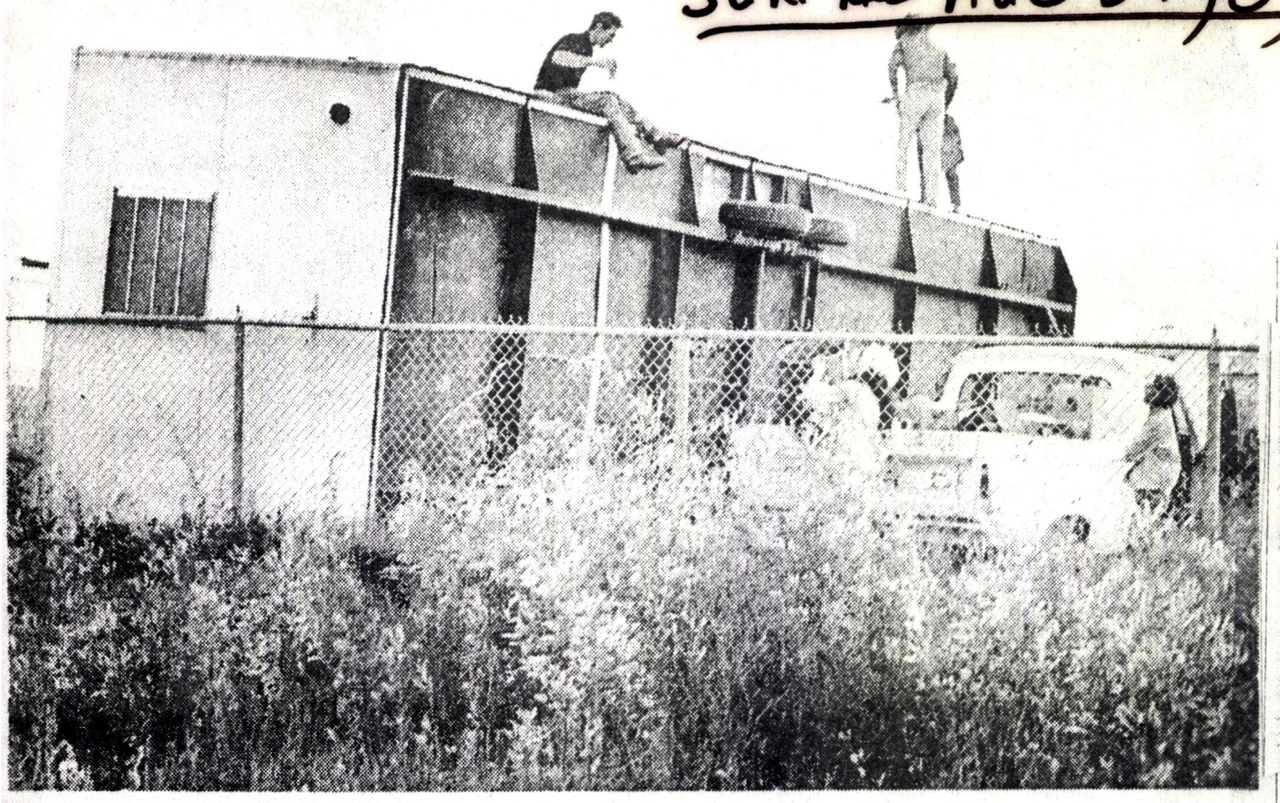
The Winnipeg Free Press, Tues August 5/69

COMMENTS:

- Headline "Tornado strikes Rosser"
- up to 100% Hail Damage.
- half a granary roof blown off.
- equipment damaged.
- "storm varied from heavy rains in Stonewall area to tornado conditions in parts of Winnipeg.
- trees felled + gardens wrecked.
- home trailer picked up } Assiniboia Downs.
- stable roof badly damaged }
- "a small tornado funnel encircled from black thunderhead clouds"
- W.W.O. reported winds up to 40 mph.
- funnel was very narrow at bottom + increased to 6' diameter as it went up.
- 2 tornadoes

Winnipeg Free Press, Man.
Circ. 133,846
August 5, 1969

SUN AUG 3 1969



Twister hit Assiniboia Downs Sunday, overturning horse trailer.

Tornado Funnel Over Winnipeg

A small tornado funnel uncoiled from black thunderhead clouds over parts of Greater Winnipeg Sunday night but caused little apparent damage.

Some utility lines were reported down in the western part of the metropolitan area and the funnel also touched down at Assiniboia Downs on the western outskirts. Two horse trailers were reported overturned and some shingles lifted from a barn roof.

Homeowners in other parts of the city reported hailstones about three-quarters of an inch in diameter.

The federal weather office reported winds reached 40 miles an hour during the brief storm which began about 7:30 p.m. CDT. There was lightning and intensive rain.



Henry Wade, 7, of 386 Anderson Avenue, is shown with handful of large hailstones he scooped up following storm which hit parts of the Greater Winnipeg area Sunday evening.

Twin twisters cut brief but vicious paths

By JOHN FORSYTHE
Tribune Staff Writer

Debris was still being gathered up today from the wake of two tornadoes that raised roofs Sunday evening in St. James-Assiniboia and Rosser. There were no injuries.

Several homes were damaged, hydro poles and trees knocked over and the wall of a town house under construction was flattened.

Winds up to 40 miles-an-hour, torrents of rain and golf-ball sized hailstones accompanied the twisters. Hydro power was cut off for several hours in the McDermot and Furby St. areas of central Winnipeg.

The tornadoes were born early Sunday evening in turbulent air of thunderstorms west of the city.

Assiniboia Downs, where horse trailers were bowled over and part of a stable roof blown away, was hit by the first of the twisters. A house trailer owned by Darrel Hartley of Calgary was wrecked by the storm.

The second tornado followed a northerly course venting the main part of its fury on Keith Ryan's farm at Highway 221 and Sturgeon Rd. A granary roof was blown off, hydro wires knocked down and a propane tank damaged.

Before the first, more southerly tornado veered into higher altitudes, it cut a swath of minor damage in St. James-Assiniboia. Hardest hit was the home of Ernie Smith at 379 Hillery Crescent.

The swirling "greyish-white funnel" sheared a complete layer of asphalt shingles off the roof of the home.

"It was just plain luck it didn't hit a little lower," was Mr. Smith's reaction. He said he heard "a great roaring noise" as the tornado approached.

"It hit the peak of the roof and bounced up . . . the whole sheet of shingles rose in the middle like a huge bubble."

Mr. Smith estimated about $1,000 damage was done to his home and his car, scraped by the shingles as they flew off the roof.

Another eyewitness, Mrs. Warner Rottcher of 894 Parkdale Ave., said the tornado was preceded by "howling winds and white streaks (hail) that swirled round and round . . . the funnel was very narrow at the bottom and increased to about six feet wide as it went up . . . it didn't move very fast . . . it went up in the air as high as you could see . . . as it went past it rose in the air and seemed to disappear."

A neighbor commented, "I took all the kids down the basement when I saw it coming."

St. James-Assiniboine police said a car was hit by a falling tree on Ronald St., the wall of a town house under construction on Buchanan St. was blown over and a fence at 968 Crestview St. knocked down.

West Kildonan police reported that some basements were flooded by the rain-storm that accompanied the tornados.

The Winnipeg International Airport Weather Office said thunder storm activity extended across southern Manitoba into northwestern Ontario Sunday evening. Sheets of rain halted highway traffic in many places.

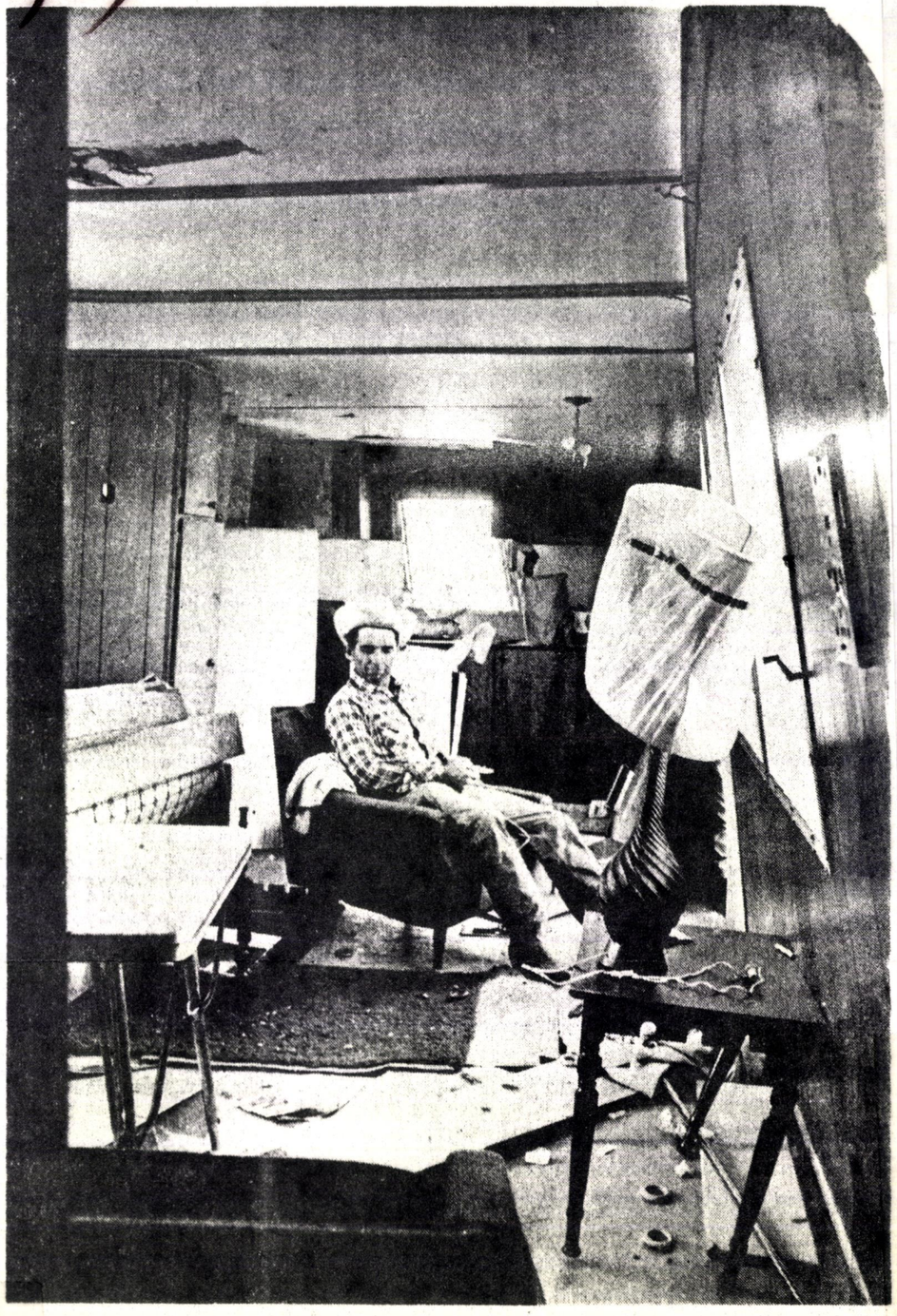
And a sodden audience sat through the Rainbow Stage performance of Funny Girl.

WINNIPEG FREE PRESS AUG 5, 1969
STORM DATE SUN AUG 3, 1969

K 1055 SUN EVE AUG 5 1969



The metal roof on this Assiniboia Downs stable was peeled by the storm.



Darrel Hartley, of Calgary, surveys his tornado-damaged house-trailer.

WINNIPEG FREE PRESS AUG 5, 1969
STORM DATE SUN AUG 23, 1908.