

## Babineau Farm, 1855

The Babineau farm represents a typical Acadian farm in the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century in Kent County, New Brunswick. This house was located in a small village called Bedec, near Richibucto-Village. The ancestor of this Acadian family is Nicolas Babineau, dit Deslauriers, who arrived in Acadia in 1671.

Visitors may see a home whose furnishings reflect the furniture of the 1850s. It fits within a transition period in Acadian furniture, from 1825 to 1875. An improvement in the articles of furniture may be observed. While retaining their utilitarian function, they become somewhat more decorative and made with greater care.

In the Babineau home, one may notice a home-made bread trough, a washstand with a towel rack showing a very simple molding, a small cabinet with twin doors and a drawer, a rocking chair and wicker chairs, a small cast-iron stove from the Saint-Maurice ironworks in Trois-Rivières, a linen chest, a cradle, three rope beds, a fireplace and finally a bench-bed. The vast majority of the furniture in the Babineau house is made from pine.

Regarding the bench-bed or beggar's bench, it is commonly seen in several Acadian areas as well as Quebec areas. It is said of the beggar's benches that they could serve as a bed for a passing beggar looking for a place to sleep. Up to four small children could also sleep in one of those folding beds.

This is then a farm with a house, a barn and a few other outbuildings. Various animals such as sheep and cows can be seen here. Also on hand are several agricultural implements of the period.

As for the family of Jean Babineau, its builder born at the beginning of the 19th century, since the house is interpreted in 1855, his wife Marie Daigle had already given birth to every one of their ten children. On the other hand, we know that the family property was inherited by Luc, deceased in 1901, and afterwards his brother Jean.

Specifics of the house :

- Structure of vertical beams, attached by means of tenons to the joist and string-piece
- Massive stone fireplace
- L-shaped stairway
- Plastered interior walls
- Partition walls
- Symmetry of door and window openings



**Eddie Allain Barn**

Specifics:

- Open frame of large hewn beams
- Outside walls covered with vertical boards
- Symmetry of the façade with its large doors and two small side doors

**John Frenette shed**

Specifics:

- Cedar shingle siding
- Small size