

Charles Robin Company, rigging loft

The building moved to the Village Historique Acadien and was one of the sheds of the Robin, Jones and Whitman Company in Caraquet, was known as the Rigging Loft by the regulars. The attic storey of the shed was used to store the fishing gear during winter months. The lower floor, at ground level, was used for salting and packing the codfish. Taking into account the fact that the Charles Robin Company was in full expansion between 1838 and 1875, we propose the year 1845 for the construction of the shed.



In 1767, Charles Robin is present in the Chaleur Bay area and launches his business with the local people, including those residing in northern New Brunswick. The system in use involves never paying cash to the fishermen but offering, in exchange for the fish, merchandise stocked in the company stores. In 1793, the Charles Robin Company purchased a tract of land in the Caraquet harbor and here the Robin establishment will be erected.



The building located at the Village Historique Acadien has been furnished according to its subsequent occupations. On the first floor, about ten four-hundredweight barrels (*boucauts* or *toubes*) have been placed. A fish press, a set of scales, a counter displaying several objects related to fishing, among others dried eel skins for making shoelaces, wooden buoys, *poigns de signe* (?), a cod jigger and its mold, tow for draughtproofing boats, monkey's fist

knots, a square dipping-net, a shellfish gauge, etc. on the upper floor, two ancient boats are on display as well as more barrels. Anchors and tools used for fetching ice may also be seen.

Outside, drying racks for cod are laid out around the shed, on which the fish was spread to dry. Also on the site is a steam box, used in boat building, an *aboiteau* or sluice box and a small wharf.

Specifics:

- Size: 25 X 40 feet
- Framework of large spruce beams joined by tenons and mortices

- Clapboard siding
- Sturdy wooden doors on both floors and several openings