

# Growth of the Forest Industry in the Marévie from 1910 to 1971

Project "Objectif 4", is a component of the Perspective-jeunesse/Youth Outlooks programme, set up by the Federal government to put to use the talents of young university students during the summer vacation. Any group of young people could present a project. If the project is acceptable, it is entirely financed by the government. In 1971, this programme was still in its infancy and was not well known by the general public. It is in this context that J.Cecil Kilfoil, Georges Cyr, and Eudore Lavoie decided to encourage the participation of local college students in this project of Perspective-jeunesse/Youth Outlooks. Based on the interests expressed by the group, four projects were retained and from it came the name of their research: Objectif 4. A first project aimed at drawing a list of studies done in the area. A second component intended to present to a broader public a simplified version of the content of the Report of the Group of Study on the Union of the Maritimes, published in 1970. A third aspect of the study aimed at gathering information for the publication a phone directory that would be usable by both unilingual Anglophones and Francophones. Finally, a fourth project studied population mobilizations in the Marévie region in the last fifty years.

This study brought the group to establish a relation between the centralization or merging of agriculture lands and forest industry, on one hand and the desertion from the countryside and villages whose economy depended on local forest resources, on the other hand. The group also sought to establish a correlation between the increasing poverty level of the population and the disappearing of small local enterprises.

From these preoccupations follows the study of lands distribution and the systematic survey of the logging industry of the Marévie.

**Information provided in this survey dates from 1971.**

## By the research group : Objectif Quatre

The purpose of this study is to examine the importance, the impact and the development of sawmills as part of the forest industry of the Marevie. This region includes the county of Madawaska, Saint-Quentin, Grimmer and Eldon in the Restigouche, Grand Falls and Drummond in Victoria county.

Our study extends from 1910 to 1971. Although this period seems quite short, a general overview can give a fair insight into what went on in the forest industry in the area. The Marévie is characterized by very diversified geographical sectors. For instance, certain sectors are closely related and dependent on forest activities while others depend on agriculture. We will identify those Sectors later.

## General Overview

Let us first give a general outlook of the sawmills that were in operation in the past and those that are still active today in the region. After conducting a general survey by means of interviews, we found out that there were about one hundred and forty two sawmills in the area. Of those, sixty-three had a production of one million feet of timber or more per year. On the other hand, thirty-four sawmills were not known well enough to be part of this study. Data was collected in five sectors where one hundred and eight sawmills are located.

The first sector covers the parishes of Connors, Saint-François, Clair, Lac-Baker, Baker Brook, and Saint-Hilaire. The second sector is limited to the parishes of Madawaska, Edmundston (Sacré-Cœur, Immaculée-Conception and Notre-Dame-des-Sept-Douleurs), Saint-Jacques, Saint-Joseph, and Saint-Basile. In the third sector we find the parishes of Rivière-Verte, Sainte-Anne, Siegas, Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes, and Saint-Léonard. The parishes of Drummond, Grand Falls, and Saint-André make up the fourth sector. The parishes of Saint-Quentin, Grimmer and Eldon are included in the fifth sector. We have listed the reasons for the closing of sawmills. First we must eliminate 25.9% of the sawmills for which the reasons of closure were unknown. For the remaining sawmills:

- 18.5% were closed for financial reasons;
- 09.2% were closed because of fire;
- 04.6% were closed due to the death of the owner;
- 2.9% were retaken or sold to another owner;
- 14.8% were closed due to the loss of logging cutting rights. Only 13.9% of those still operate today.

We also verified the source of wood supply to the sawmills. We conclude that: 35.2% of the sawmills depended on farmers only to provide wood; we must remember that farmers cut wood on their own woodlots to feed the local sawmills.

12.0% of the sawmills were dependent on Crown lands leased to private individuals who owned sawmills.

5.5% of the sawmills got their wood directly from *New Brunswick Lands Company* or the *New Brunswick Railway Company*.

4.6% of the sawmills bought their wood from the United States or from Quebec. 30.6% of sawmills had to get their timber from the following companies: D'Auteuil-Canadian International Pulp and Paper, Dalhousie Lumber, Fraser, Irving, Miller, Richard Company, Shive Company, and Sidney Lumber. 12.0% of sawmills got wood from unknown sources. We have calculated the approximate number of employees that work in those mills. A total of 3,760 men were employed in all types of sawmills. On average – each sawmill hired 35 men. By examining each sector we can get a clearer picture of the location of the various sawmills and where are located those that still exist today.

### Upper Madawaska County

A survey of the **First Sector** revealed a great number of smaller sawmills. Those

sawmills depended on local farmers for their supply of timber. 42% of the sawmills depended on farmers to provide them with wood. Farmers brought their wood to the local sawmill and took it back after it was cut. This supplied sawmills with a very small amount of wood. Also, it happened that the owner of the sawmill would cut his own wood with that of the farmers. Sometimes he would even buy wood from individuals but that was a very uncertain source of timber supply. We have registered about fifteen mills of that type. The production (in foot-length) is quite low due to the fact that some sawmills operated only a few days each year. Most had an average production of **200,000** feet of wood per year.

When farmers had no more timber to provide, sawmills were forced to close down. Only those that found sufficient sources of supply would survive. That is the case for a minority of sawmills.

It is in the years **1940-1965** that we found more sawmills in operation. Before, during the 1910s, mills serviced farmers exclusively, with the exception of the Crocket Mill near the village of Clair - which employed in those days about fifty men. Also in Baker Brook, in the years around 1925, Fraser operated a mill whose production was very substantial (**85,000** to **100,000** feet of wood sawed per day). This mill employed about three hundred men. Sadly, those mills discontinued their activities.

If we look at the whole sawmill industry over the years 1910 to 1971 – we find out that about one hundred and eighty five men have been employed in this economic sector. This represents an average of 32 employees per sawmill. This industry which was much needed in those days, provided livelihood for many families.

The area covered in this Sector had very few important sawmills, that is to say sawmills with a production of one million or more feet of timber sawed per year. We can identify at least four that succeeded to develop. They are the mills of Hardwood Industries, of Bégin, and Waska in Clair, and Couturier Lumber in Baker Brook. We must add to those mills a very important manufacture of furniture: Nadeau & Nadeau Ltée of Saint-François. This manufacture specializes in school furniture and in the colonial style. Established in 1945, it employed a mere dozen workers at its outset whereas it now provides work to about a hundred persons. Together, the sawmills now employ two hundred workers.

We should note here that this Sector does not rely only on the forest industry. In fact –

some villages like Lac-Baker and Saint-Hilaire do not have a sawmill and they do not cease to exist.

### **The Edmundston Region**

In the **Second Sector**, we found a total of fifteen sawmills. Of these installations, five maintained a production of more than one million feet of timber per year. Their average production amounted to 3,200,000 feet of timber per year. As for the sawmills of the First Sector, we discovered that their operations varied according to the availability of supply. The vast majority of these sawmills relied on small woodlot owners for supply – that is about 66% of them.

It happened also that a sawmill was dependent on a contractor who had deals with a company. Thus, about 26% of sawmills depended on the Fraser and D'Auteuil companies. A major part of timber sawed in this Sector is exported – either to the United States or to the province of Quebec.

We also noticed that sawmills that were in operation in the period 1910-1971 had employed some seven hundred and fifty six men, which is an average of approximately fifty men per sawmill. In the most recent years, we can count about five hundred workers in only three sawmill installations. We must add that sawmills in existence from 1910 to 1950 were very small installations compared to what is found today. The Fraser sawmill hires around four hundred and sixty seven workers on a daily basis. The Edmundston Lumber Ltd. sawmill requires twenty to thirty workers.

Today, a third of the Edmundston Lumber supply comes from the United States and two thirds come from the Fraser companies. Half of its production is destined to the local market and the remainder is exported to the United States.

### **Lower Madawaska County**

In the **Third Sector**, we counted thirty three sawmills. However, nine of those sawmills attained a production of one million or more feet of timber. The other sawmills were smaller installations that served small woodlot owners. About 52% of sawmills fit this category according to the computations covering the whole period of 1910-1971. Those sawmills are typically parish oriented enterprises since customers were farmers who cut timber on their own small woodlots. About 21% of sawmills depended solely on Crown lands (provincial government). The New Brunswick Land Company or the New Brunswick Railway Company supplied about 9% of the sawmills. Finally, 15% of sawmills were

dependent on leases granted by the Fraser and Irving companies. We must not forget that one sawmill which represented 3% of the Sector's production was supplied with timber from the United States.

We tabulated the total number of employees in all the sawmills of this sector over the period 1910-1971. That total number amounts to about one thousand men; which gives an average of 30 men per sawmill. This shows that some sawmills were fairly important since they hired a good number of workers.

Nowadays, there remain only three sawmills in this Sector. Two of these service only local individuals. They do not have a large production and hire only family members. Those sawmills favour poorer farmers by charging less. The other sawmill belongs to J.D. Irving and is located at Veneer. This installation employs about one hundred and fifty to two hundred workers, many of whom are cutting and hauling timber. Thus a many families find here a good means of livelihood.

We noticed that many sawmills discontinued their operations due to the difficulty of obtaining cutting rights on Crown lands or from the logging companies. Only a few sawmills closed because of fire or the death of the owner. One group ended its operations for financial reasons.

### **Grand Falls**

In the **Fourth Sector**, the forest industry had less clout. This is explained by the fact that resources in this sector are different from those of the other Sectors because of the importance of the potato industry. However, we notice that there were eight sawmills in this region during the period of 1910-1971. Of those eight sawmills, five sawed one million and more feet of timber per year. Most obtained their supplies of timber from the Crown leases - sometimes local farmers also cut wood on their own woodlots. The period where we recorded a greater centralization or merging of sawmills was in the years 1960-1970. During that period, four sawmills operated simultaneously. They had an average of 25 to 30 employees.

Two of those mills we closed due to a fire and three are still in operation. The other three ended their operations for unknown reasons. The last group includes sawmills belonging to owners who are independent from the large logging companies.

Of the eight sawmills in this Sector, five were located in Grand Falls. The most important sawmill as the Mathew Burgess installation

which sawed six to ten million feet of timber per year. This enterprise was in operation from 1915 to 1930 and employed about 60 men at the mill and another 150 in the woods.

The second important mill was that of Émile Sénéchal. It was operated between 1940 and 1951- it sawed one million feet of timber each year and employed 20 to 45 men at the mill and 150 in the woods. He marketed his hardwood in Ontario, in Quebec, and in Europe.

A third mill was owned by Mr. Roland Laforge. It is a shingles mill that started its operations in 1967 and is still being operated today. This mill has ten workers and its production reaches 1½ million feet of timber per year. He is supplied by a woodlot owner and also gets his wood from Crown lands. His market is centered mostly in Boston and New York.

Three of the eight sawmills are located in Drummond... The most important of them belongs to D.O.B. Davis. Its production reached 6 to 10 million feet of timber sawed each year and hired about 60 workers at the mill and 150 in the woods. This mill was in operation from 1913 to 1957.

It should be noted that after conducting a survey in the village of Saint-André, we did not find any sawmill in operation there during the period covered by this project.

### Western Restigouche

From 1910 to 1971- some 64 sawmills are deemed to have operated in **Sector Five**. Of that number, 31 had a production of one million feet or more sawed per year. Wood was supplied mostly from cutting rights granted by large logging companies such as Fraser, C.I.P., N.B. Lands and Railway, and others. ( about 77% of the 31 sawmills relied on those companies). Furthermore, some sawmill operators obtained wood from small woodlot owners or farmers. It is interesting to note that it is in the 1921 to 1930 period that there were the greatest number of mills in operation, that is 23. Most of the mills sawed one million feet per year on average and employed around thirty workers. We notice that 23% of the mills closed for two main reasons: they were either sold to the company that supplied them with timber, or they could not obtain cutting rights. Today, only four sawmills remain in this sector. The most important one is the Fraser mill in Kedgwick and the next one is that of Hardwood Industries of Saint-Quentin.

The Fraser sawmill has about two hundred workers regularly. Its production is important since it reaches up to 20 million feet of timber-

transformed mostly into chips and also into boards.

The Hardwood sawmill transforms its wood in the same manner but for hardwood only. Its production sometimes reaches 5 million feet per year. This work is done by about 30 employees.

In addition to the 30 large sawmills, about thirty small mills sawed less than one million feet of timber per year. They hired only a few men and sold their products locally. In general, sawmills did not have cutting rights in the woodlands; they were servicing mostly local individuals. Most of them closed because families did not have member willing to keep up the operation. Two of those mills still exist and are operated on a temporary basis. The totality of sawmills were in operation in this Sector, between 1910 and 1971. They employed about one thousand one hundred workers. Thirty-six workers were employed on average in each sawmill.

## Conclusion

It appears that, in the Maréville region, we assist to a long evolution toward a centralization of the operations in the logging industry. However, it is perhaps normal that we notice the disappearance of the least profitable enterprises and the emergence of larger sawmill installations.

Today we can count fifteen sawmills in the region. However, five of those sawmills are small installations limited to servicing local individuals. The others are bigger enterprises. The total manpower employed in the sawmills of the region numbers about 1099 workers.

We add to this text three tables that give an overview of the sawmills in operation during the period of 1910-1971. These tables divide the region into the five Sectors that were pre-determined. The first table classifies the enterprises according to the reasons of their closure. The second table identifies the enterprises according to their sources of supply. The third table shows that the number of employees in that period to give an idea of the importance of sawmills in each sector. The average number of workers per sawmill helps us to evaluate the value of the mills in that specific Sector. For instance, when an average of fifty men work in the sawmills of the Second Sector, that means that sawmills there had a high value.

Reasons	Sectors					Total	%
	I	II	III	IV	V		
Discontinued for financial reasons or other	3/21	4/15	12/33	--	1/31	20/108	18,52
Forced to discontinue for lack of cutting rights	..	3/15	3/33	3/8	7/31	16/108	14,82
Closed due to fire	3/21	1/15	1/33	2/8	3/31	10/108	9,26
Closed after death of owner	2/21	--	2/33	--	1/31	5/108	4,63
Moved or sold to another owner	1/21	2/15	3/33	1/8	7/31	14/108	12,95
Reason unknown	7/21	2/15	9/33	2/8	8/31	28/108	25,93
Still in operation	5/21	3/15	3/33	--	4/31	15/108	13,88

Sources	Secteurs					Total	%
	I	II	III	IV	V		
Individuals (farmers small lot owners)	9/21	10/15	17/33	2/8	--	38/108	35,19
Crown woodlands	--	--	7/33	5/8	1/31	13/108	12,04
Company cutting rights	1/21	4/15	5/33	--	23/31	33/108	31,55
Leases from NB Lands and Railwas Co.	1/21	--	5/33	--	2/31	6/108	5,55
United States or Quebec	3/21	1/15	1/33	--	--	5/108	4,63
Unknown sources of supply	7/21	--	--	1/8	5/31	13/108	12,04

	Sectors					Total
	I	II	III	IV	V	
Employees	685	756	994	207	1118	3760
Average number of employees per sawmill	32	50	30	24	36	35

# Inventories of sawmills

## Sector 1

Connors, St-François, Clair, Lac-Baker, Baker Brook

### CONNORS

#### **Clair [James T.]: 1930**

##### **-Shingles mill**

- workers: 12 men
- source: his own wood
- operates : one year

#### **Colter: 1956-1958**

- site:
- workers: 20 men
- source of wood supply: U.S. (Seven Island Land Co.)
- market : Montreal
- production: lumber and hardwood boards

#### **Connors Bob: 1875-1912**

- shingles mill (14 saws)
- sold to Wheelock in 1896 (**1896-1902**) –
- sold to Steadig & Mclean
- workers : 40 men
- in 1912 : destroyed by fire

#### **Oakes Lucien: 1949-1959 (?) (in operation 10 years approx.)**

- workers : 5 to 6 men
- saws his own and individuals'
- bankruptcy (lack of wood supply)

#### **Thompson and Sirois 1944-1949-19500**

- site:
- workers: 12 men
- salary: \$2.00 per day
- wood supply : bought from individuals
- reason of closure: lack of lumber
- production: saws 4-foot boards

##### References:

Raoul Sirois  
Jos Michaud  
Ernest Sirois  
Roméo Bernier

### SAINT-FRANÇOIS

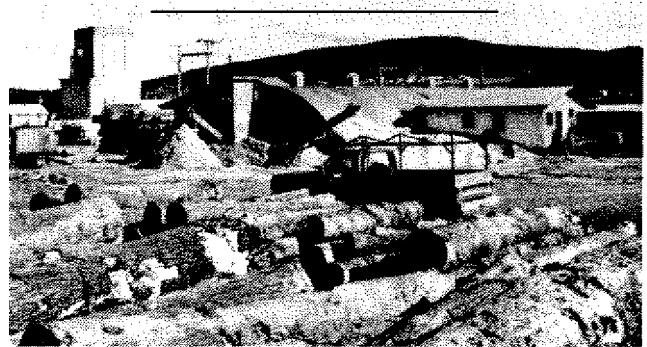
#### **Cyr Léopold 1945-1963**

##### **site:**

- workers: 10 men
- open year-round
- wood supply: his own wood plus bought from individuals
- market: railways company
- closure: death of owner

#### **Nadeau & Nadeau 1945-19...**

- established by Docithe Nadeau
- manufacture of furniture
- workers: 12 men (in the beginning)
- workers now : 95 men
- wood supply: Bégin (Gilles)
- wood supply: Bristol
- wood supply : Cabano (hardwood)
- wood supply : Grand Isle
- wood supply : Southampton
- wood supply : Sainte-Rose
- market : Quebec, Western Ontario, New Brunswick
- specialty : school furniture, colonial style
- production: 35 to 50 thousand pieces of furniture yearly.
- quantity of wood used : one million feet per year
- closure : start of regional schools building program in 1945



#### **Pelletier Mill: 1880 [Rémi Pelletier]**

- sold to Wilfrid Sirois & Hammond
- destroyed by fire around 1932
- transferred to Paul Rioux in 1933
- workers : 10 men (year-round operation)
- in 1857, moves to Clair because railway discontinued to Saint-François
- sold to Bégin (Gilles)
- workers: 15 men
- saws lumber
- today saws for a company
- usually bought wood.
- sells part of his production to Nadeau & Nadeau of Saint-François

#### **Verret [Wilfrid]**

- gristmill
- sawmill
- site: near the dam and railway crossing
- closer : death of owner
- bought wood from individuals and sawed for himself.
- sold to Denis Thériault

## CLAIR

### Bérubé [Martin] 1959-1962

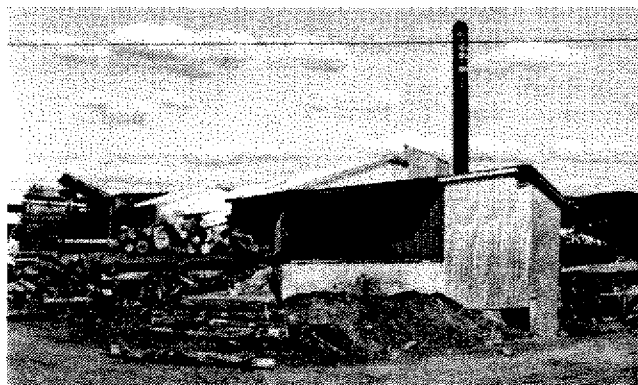
- site: Caron Brook
- employees: 10 to 15 men
- supply : United States, local suppliers
- he sawed for companies
- closure : death of the owner in 1862

### Corriveau Georges 1900-?

- site: Caron Brook
- employees : 4 men
- salary : \$1.00 per day
- supply : cut wood for individuals
- mill transferred to his son (Luc) who also cut wood for private individuals. (saws but does not buy wood)
- closure: fire in 1949
- production: cut soft wood
- references: Georges Paillard
- references: Denis Nadeau
- references Antonio Lang
- references: Paul Rioux

### Crocket Mill début du siècle

- site: Crocket
- shingles mill
- sawmill(closure in 1910)
- employees: 50 men
- year-round operation
- supply: on crown lands- sold to individuals



### Hardwood Industries 1962- .....

- site: rue du Parc
- employees: 20 men
- salary: 1.25 \$ per hour
- supply: United States
- he sells to the USA, Canada and Europe
- production: **3,000,000** feet of wood per year
- he saws hardwood (maple, beech-pruche\*)
- he makes boards and railways ties or sleepers

### D'Auteuil Lumber 1960-1968

- site: rue du Parc
- employees : 12 men
- salary: 1.25 \$ per hour
- source of supply : crown lands, N.B. railwaysCo.
- market : sold to USA and Canada(softwood and hardwood)
- closure : bankruptcy

References: Georges Paillard

References: Daniel Cuffley

References: Paul Rioux

Others: Mill was rented to Claude Cyr who bankrupted also.



### Waska 1970- .....

- site: Industrial Park
- employees : 18 men
- salary : \$1.25 per hour
- sources of supply : U.S.A.
- market : U.S.A., Nova Scotia
- production: unstable: 5 saws
- others: -shingles mill, owned by a few associates
- opening : on trial basis

## LAC-BAKER

### Lang Damase 1st mill 1935-1945

- site: Gerry Branch, Quebec border
- employees: 6 to 8 men
- salaire: \$2-00 jour
- source of supply : Takes wood on three of his woodlots ad saws also for individuals, only in winter. -
- closure: in 1945 mill destroyed by fire.

References: Damasse  
Lang References: Alexis  
Caron References: Bernard  
Lang

### Lang Damase 2e moulin 19.? A 1962

- site: near the Millpond
- employees: 10 men
- salary: \$1.00 to \$1.25/  
hour
- year-round operation (3 yrs)
- saws only for private individuals
- closure: in 1962, mill is destroyed by fire

References: Damasse Lang  
References: Alexis Caron  
References: Bernard Lang

### Joseph Lang ? 1910 ?

- site: rang des Collin (Cedar Brook)
- employees: 6 to 8 men
- summer operation only
- others : his men fell trees in winter ; he sold wood to Rivière-du-Loup (to make furniture)

References: Damasse Lang  
References: Cyr Caron

## BAKER BROOK

### Boy's and Murphy: 1930

- site: route of 5 cones (playground 1971)
- winter operation
- employees : 20 men
- source of supply: bought wood from individuals
- closure: World Economic Depression

Reference: William Cyr

### Morneaul Benoit: 19?? – 1960

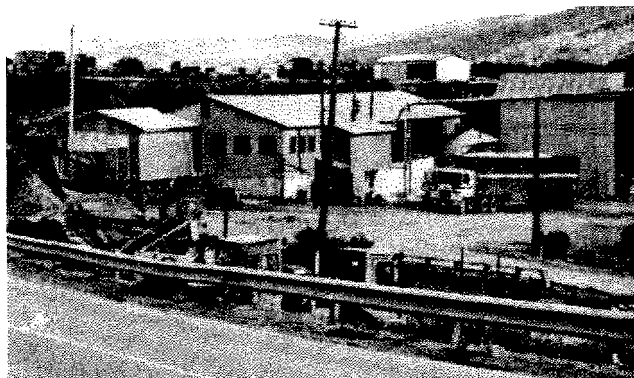
- sawed only for individuals

References: William Cyr  
References: Raoul  
Couturier

### Thériault Joachim 19 ? -1945

- sawed only for individuals
- flower mill
- site: in front of current Couturier (Raoul) mill
- sold to Raoul Couturier in 1945

References: Raoul  
Couturier References:  
William Cyr References:  
Mme Marquis



### Couturier Raoul 1945-19...

- site:
- employees: 50 men
- salary: \$1.25 per hour
- sawed softwood and hardwood
- 1966: mill destroyed by fire
- 1968: planer workshop destroyed by fire
- shipped chips to Fraser
- production: 6 millions feet per year
- market: mostly local for softwood lumber  
sells hardwood to Montreal
- he makes potato crates (4' x 8')
- he makes wood for tombs

Reference: Raoul Couturier

### Fraser: 1st mill 1904-1922

- site: near the brook of Baker Brook
- employees: 300 workers (spring drive, sawmill)
- shingles mill (8 saws)
- sawmill: saws hardwood and softwood
- in 1922, sawmil destroyed by fire ; rebuilt in 1925 ; burns again
- production: 75 to 80 thousand feed per day

References: William Cyr  
References: Raoul Couturier

### Fraser 2nd mill 1926?-1928

- site: near Couturier mill
- in 1928, closure and discontinue marketing structure beams to cut pulp wood
- production: 80 to 100 thousand feet per day

References: William Cyr  
References: Raoul Couturier

### Sawmills of the Crano region

References for : Connors, Saint-François, Clair, Lac Baker, Baker-Brook

Roland Lang  
Bernard Lang  
Damase Lang  
Antonio Lang  
Reverend Lionel Daigle  
Léonard Pelletier  
Denis Nadeau

Edmundston  
Edmundston  
Lac Baker  
Clair  
Clair  
Clair  
Clair



Paul Rioux  
 Georges Paillard  
 Raoul Sirois  
 Jas Michaud  
 Sylvio Pelletier  
 Rhéo Quel lette  
 Reine Pelletier  
 Ernest Sirois  
 Émilienne Côté  
 Roméo Bernier  
 Alma Sirois  
 Paul-Emile Paillard  
 Daniel Cuffley  
 Alexis Caron  
 William Cyr  
 Père Franciscaïn  
 Raoul Couturier

Clair  
 Clair  
 Saint-François  
 Saint-François  
 Saint-François  
 Saint-François  
 Saint-François  
 Saint-François  
 Connors  
 Clair  
 Clair  
 Clair  
 Clair  
 Baker Brook  
 Baker Brook  
 Baker Brook

**3rd mill**

**Lévite Morneault 1938-?**

-he cut wood on his Quisibis woodlots, in Saint-François and in Maine.  
 -he bought wood from farmers and small woodlot owners who made up half his production.  
 -one million feet of wood came from the U.S.A.  
 -two million feet came from Fraser  
 -market : 50% local - 50% to U.S.A.  
 -production: 4 to 5 million feet of wood per year  
 -destroyed by fire in 1945  
 -employees: 14 men  
 -references: Wilbrod Côté, Edmundston  
 -references: Léonide Soucy, Saint-Basile  
 -references: Milo Gagné, Edmundston

**Prime Rossignol 1950-1960**

-he bought wood from individuals and resold it to government for building bridges.  
 -closer : he had cutting rights from Fraser for five million feet of timber per year. permit taken away after 1960 elections.  
 -production: 1959-1960 ; two million feet of hardwood; other years: 500 to 600,000 feet.

**Cf. Prime Rossignol**

**Charles Roy 1933-1969**

-1<sup>st</sup> mill 1933-1951  
 -2<sup>nd</sup> Falls  
 -source of supply : from the Restigouche woods  
 -he sawed for individuals  
 -production: 75,000 to 80,000 feet of wood

**2<sup>nd</sup> mill 1948-1951**

- in summer in Verret  
 - in winter in Restigouche

**3<sup>rd</sup> mill 1948-1969**

-Verret  
 -no employees, he sawed for individuals.  
 -next he sawed for contractors with 10 employees  
 -production: 1½ million feet of timber per year  
 -closure : contractors cut on D'Auteuil woodlots sold to Irving.

Reference : Charles Roy, Saint-Jacques

**Sector II**

Edmundston, Saint-Jacques, St-Joseph, St-Basile

**EDMUNDSTON**

**Emile Gagné 1900-today**

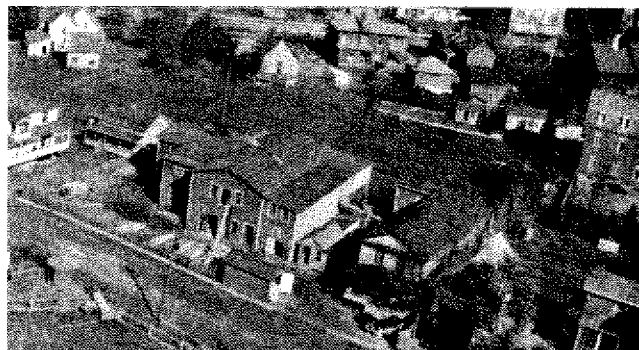
**1st mill**

**moulin Emile Gagné 1900-1929**

-owners: Emile Gagné, Philias Morneault, Lévite Morneault, Wilbrod Côté (Edmundston Lumber)

**-facing the cathedral**

-employees: 10 men  
 he sawed for farmers and traded his wood West (Douglas fir)  
 Douglas fir manufacturing here. Wood sold locally and for the Trans-Continental.  
 -Émile bien deceased, his wife sold the mill to Philias Morneault.



**2nd mill**

**Philias Morneault 1929-1938**

-site: until 1938, located in front of the cathedral until after which it was re-installed on the site of Edmundston Lumber and the owner was Lévite Morneault. Verret Office.

-employees: 75 men during sawing period

**ST-JACQUES**

**Morneault's Mill 1885-1960**

-employees: 25 men including woodlot workers.  
 -site: 2 miles from the village  
 -sources of supply : individuals, his own woodlots, also old wood and tree stumps from Fraser  
 - market : local  
 - closure: lack of wood  
 - production: 15,000 feet per day during 8 month.

**Goadyou 1910-1926**

- manager : Wilfrid Demers
- employees: 20 men
- site: north of Saint-Jacques parish (1½ mile)
- source of supply: bought wood from farmers-
- he shipped his wood by boats

**Demers Jos 1910-1960**

- employees: his family and 10 men
- site: Saint-Jacques- in route des vieux
- market : local
- closure: old age
- production : 100 000 feet per year

**Boys & Murphy 1940-1946**

- employees : 50 men plus woodlot workers
- site: bridge road
- source of supply: Quebec province (most) Thomas & Mercby and individual small woodlot owners
- market : exported to build warships
- closer : destroyed by fire twice ; not rebuild the second time.
- production: five million feet per year

Reference : Bill Cuffley (manager)

**SAINT-JOSEPH**

**Théodule Bossé 19?? -1945**

- sawmill
- employees: 15 men
- site: one mile north of Saint-Joseph church
- source of supply: individuals
- market : local

**ST-BASILE**

**Octave Corriveau 19? - 1935**

- gristmill and sawmill
- site: Roma Motel
- employees: family and students
- salaire : 12 cents per hour
- he sawed for individuals
- Closer: old age; his sons not interested

Reference : Fortunat Martin (Iroquois), Albert Lord (Saint-Basile) Léonide Soucy (Saint-Basile), Mme Lézime Corriveau (20 Ordonance, Edmundston)

**Thaddée Martin**

- 1<sup>st</sup> mill, Upper Iroquois (burned)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> mill, manufacture of gloves, Edmundston (burned)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> mill: Facing L.C. Lebel & fils (Iroquois)

Reference: Charles Roy (Edmundston)

**Georges I. Thériault 1915-1930**

- employees: summer : 40 men
- employees: winter: 3-4 men
- He bought lots along the Iroquois River and cut wood for individuals and shipped timber by train
- closure: lack of wood; he lost his leases when the mill burned
- production: 25,000 feet of timber daily for 2 years

Reference : Jean-Baptiste Guimond, Edmundston  
Alban Thériault, Edmundston.  
Fortunat Martin, Iroquois

**Jos Mercure 1933-1937**

- site: route des rangs, along the brook, Saint-Basile
- employees: 4 men
- he sawed for individuals
- closer: insufficient income
- production: spring only: 15,000 to 20,000 feet per year

Reference: Alphé Leblanc and Rita Mercure (Saint-Basile)

**Albert Lord 1940-....**

- employees: 26 men
- he saws for individuals and cut on his woodlot
- 1<sup>st</sup> mill in 1940
- 2<sup>nd</sup> mill in 1947
- 1951-1953 he cuts for Dauteuil in the Restigouche (mobile mill)
- production: 4 millions feet of wood in 3 years
- Comment: Many operators could live well if they cut and sold their wood to Fraser or Irving. The new machines replace men

Reference: Albert Lord (Saint-Basile)

## Sector III

Rivière-Verte, Sainte-Anne, Siegas, Keegan (Maine), St-Léonard

**GREEN RIVER**

**Verret-Bouchard 1910-1925**

- site: along the Green River near the bridge
- employees: 3-4 men
- source of supply: leases on crown lands and individuals
- market : local
- production: 4 to 5 thousand feet per day
- others : his mill is combined with a gristmill.
- Between 1910 and 1925 the mill belonged successively to Verret and Bouchard

Reference: Vital Thibodeau

### Mac Gregor 1911-1918

- site: along the CPR lower Saint-Basile
- employees: 40 - 100 men at the mill
- employees: 60 men working in the woodlots
- market: he fabricated wooden spools and exported them to the U.S.A.
- source of supply: bought birch from small woodlot owners and obtained leases on the crown lands.
- closure: Fraser Companies cut softwood on the same leases. The company reported to the government that he damaged softwood.
- production: 10 thousand cords of birch per year
- other: the mill was bought by Perry who sawed softwood for a year
- closure: the mill was dismantled and sent to the U.S.A.

Reference: Vital Thibodeau  
Reference: Jos Lévesque  
Reference: Jos Morin

### McClish 1910-1915

- site: at the Rivière-Verte bridge
- employees: 15 men at the mill; 15 men in the woods - source of supply: crown lands leases, operated only in summer
- production: 100,000 per year

Reference: Vital Thibodeau  
Reference: Hubert Clavet

### Onézime Beaulieu 1942 [november] - 1970

- site: in the village
- employees: 1 man
- source of supply: bought wood from individuals and from Irving
- market: he sold shingles to Van Buren
- fermeture: too old to continue
- production: 10 thousand daily (4 packs of one thousand)
- others: 1944: destroyed by fire and rebuilt
- others: 1940-1942 took over Mack Moreau's mill.

Reference: Hubert Clavet  
Reference: Onézime Beaulieu

### Arthur Cyr 1924-1926

- site: near Michel Doucet's brook
- employees: 15 men
- sources of supply: bought wood from individuals; cut hardwood on the crown lands: made ties for the railroads
- production: 1 million feet per year
- other: in operation only five of six months per year

Reference: Vital Thibodeau

Davis site: sur la Rivière-Verte 1923-1839  
site: higher than the bridge of the First Lake  
-employees: 60 to 65 men, 300 lumbermen  
-source of supply: obtained leases on crown land  
-market: logs  
-closure: conflict between Davis and Fraser. The latter won arbitration; Fraser bought the Davis mill and retook its leases.  
-production: 6 to 7 million logs  
-other: Davis moved to Veneer Siding  
Reference: Hubert Clavet  
Reference: Lévis Thibodeau

### Mack Moreau 1930-1940

- site: along the St John River near in the Green River plain
- employees: individuals provided men
- source of supply: he sawed timber brought by individuals; could never obtain leases.
- market: wood stayed with the individuals
- closure: insufficient capital (cash)
- other: mill sold to Onézime Beaulieu in 1940 (mill combined with a gristmill)

Reference: Jos Morin  
Reference: Vital Thibodeau  
Reference: Hubert Clavet

### William Moreau 1946-1965

- site: along the Trans-Canada Highway
- employees: during one year: 60 men day and night shifts (1956-1965)
- employees: all other years: 10 men days only
- source of supply: lease obtained from government and also from individual woodlot owners.
- closure: closed by government for unstated reasons
- production: 1½ to 2 million per year
- production: he sawed hardwood
- others: Jos Hudon furnished William Moreau with wood until his leases were revoked by the Crown along with his 40 lots. Later- Moreau obtained leases

Reference: Vital Thibodeau

### Murphy 1940-1945

- site: along the Rivière Verte (Bert Cyr's curve)
- employees: 60-65 men, day and night operation
- source of supply: hardwood leases on Crown lands
- market: exported
- closure: hardwood too far to get; he moved away from Saint-Jacques
- production: 3 million per year

Reference: Hubert

Clavet

### Chester Plante 1938-1940

- site: Montagne des Roy
- employés: 3-4 men at the mill, 20 lumbermen
- source supply: on a grant
- market: local
- production: minimum
- others: sawed only during high water periods and cut wood in summer.

Reference: Jas Morin

### Hervé Rioux 1958.1961

- site: Bull Road
- employees: 4-5 men
- source of supply: his own woodlots
- market: local
- production: low but sawed for individuals
- closure: not enough income

Reference: William Morin

**Jean Roy 1900-1918**

-site: First Falls  
-employees: 20-25 men, at the mill and in the woods –source of supply: he sawed for individuals  
-market: wood stayed with the individuals  
-closure: mill destroyed by fire  
-he sawed all types of timber

Reference: Hubert Clavet  
Reference: Onézime Doucet

**Claude Thibodeau 1907-1913**

-site: on his lot in the village  
-employees: 3-4 men  
-source of supply: on his woodlots mostly and also from individual  
-market: for building the church and rectory and for personal construction  
-closure: he used wood for his personal needs  
-production: 200,000 feet per year  
-others: the mill did not operate year-round

Reference: Vital Thibodeau

STE-ANNE

**Fraser 1925-1932**

-site: affluent of Quisibis and Saint John Rivers  
-employees: 350 workers  
-closure: the spring drive on the Quisibis River. Log deposited on farm lands and farmers demanded heavy compensation for the damage to their lands.  
-production: 110,000 feet per day  
-others: planer mill, spruce and shingles

Reference: Louis Michaud, Edmundston  
Reference: Maurille Voisine, Saint-Basile

**Louis Michaud. 1921-1963**

-site: Quisibis River, facing the C.N.R. station  
-employees: day and night operation : 25 men  
-employees: day or night operation: 12 men  
-he sawed for contractors who had leases on the Irving lands  
-he sawed for individuals  
-closure: in 1960 his production goes down because of fewer contractors.  
-closure :in 1963 because of the construction of the Trans-Canada Highway  
production: day and night: 4<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> million per year  
day and night: 2½-3 million per year

**Vallier Ouellette 1966.....**

-site: along the Trans-Canada Highway in Sainte-Anne  
-employees: relatives  
-source of supply: he saws for the individuals and from his own woodlot.  
-market: he uses his own wood to build his house  
-production: very little now compared to two or three years ago.

Reference: Vallier Ouellette

SIEGAS

**Thibodeau recovered by Salomon [fils] 1900-1920**

-site: Siegas  
-employees: 2-3 men  
-source of supply: wood from individuals  
-other : sawmill combined with gristmill  
Cf. Lévite Michaud

**Léo Ouellette 1963-1966**

-site: Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes  
-source of supply: sawed for individuals  
-market: lumber stayed with the individuals  
-closure: death of the owner

Reference: Jim Daigle  
Reference: Lévite Michaud

**Armand Thériault 1970 .....**

-site: back road of Notre-Dame de Lourdes  
-employees: no other than relatives  
-source of supply: he saws for individuals  
-market: lumber stayed with the individuals

Reference: Armand Thériault

KEEGAN (Maine)

**Lacroix & Brown 1880-1934**

-site: along the Saint John River  
-employees: 125 men at least (majority of Canadians),  
-source of supply: on the Lacroix woodlots at the Black River of the Allagash. He was planning wood, board and shingles  
-market: exported elsewhere in the United States.  
- production: 75,000 feet per day  
- Others : Irving bought Lacroix  
- others: Beforehand Lacroix had bought from Brown in 1916. He hires many Canadians.  
- others: it was the biggest sawmill in State of Maine

References: Walter Bourgoin, Bellefleur, Lévite Michaud

SAINT-LÉONARD

**Burgess: 1920-1930 ,**

-site: Flemming  
-employees: 60 men in summer ; on average 300 men in winter (lumbermen included)  
he sawed softwood in summer; hardwood in winter;  
-sources of supply: he took his wood on N.B. Land woodlots today Irving's woodlots  
-market : sold his wood locally; also exported to the U.S.A.; shipped on boat from Dalhousie.  
production: 10-12 million per year

Reference: Walter Bourgoin  
Reference: Bellefleur

### **Clavette, Antoine**

-site: route 17  
-employees: 10 men year-round  
-source of supply: he sawed to mark the road to Saint-Quentin  
-market: locally sold

Reference: Bellefleur

### **Daigle, Adolphe 1905-1956**

-site: Saint-Léonard Parent  
-employees: about 4 men  
-he sawed softwood and hardwood;  
-source of supply: his own woodlots and used it to build his own buildings; he sawed for local farmers.  
-this mill was activated by a water wheel and therefore was in operation only during water surges  
-closure: farmer did not bring enough wood to keep the mill going.

Reference: Jim Daigle

### **Dubé, Aimé 1933-1934**

-site: Flemming  
-employees: 3-4 men  
-source of wood supply: he sawed wood for individuals and produced only boards  
-marché: wood boards stay with the individuals

Reference: Bellefleur

### **Gervais, Paul 1920-1925**

-site: Bellefleur  
-employees: 2 men  
he sawed for the individuals and sawed all types of wood ; operated only in summer.

Reference: Léo Gervais

### **Ludger Godbout**

-site: Bellefleur  
-employees: no stranger  
-source of supply: he had 2 lots of 100 acres that supplied his wood.  
-market: he used his own wood for his buildings  
-closure: unused  
-other: mobile mill

Reference: Léo Gervais

### **Michaud- Aimable**

-site: Bellefleur  
-employees: 2-3 men  
- he sawed for individuals and all types of wood; operated on in summer  
-closure: he had a mobile sawmill and went where he was required  
-production: 30,000 to 50,000 feet

Reference: Léo Gervais

### **Michaud- Thaddée 1890-1920**

-site: Flemming  
-he sawed softwood and made shingles

-operated only in summer  
-sources of supply : he took very little wood on the N.B. Land and sawed for the farmers  
-market : sold locally  
-closure: he sold to Burgess  
-production: 1 million per year  
-he took back his father's mill.

Reference: Walter Bourgoin  
Reference: Bellefleur

### **Morin, Cyrille 1920-1927**

-site: Bellefleur  
-employees: 2 to 3 men  
-he sawed for the individuals and all kinds of wood ; was opened only in summer.  
-closure: he has a mobile sawmill and went where required..  
-production: 30,000 to 50,000 feet of wood.

Reference: Léo Gervais  
Reference: Bellefleur

### **Ernest Nadeau 1930-1935**

-site: town of Saint-Léonard  
-employees: 3-4 workers  
-source of supply: he used softwood from individuals and local mills.  
-he fabricated windows and sold them locally  
-closure: upon the death of Ernest Nadeau the mill is sold to Epiphane Nadeau.  
-other : year-round operated

Reference: Walter Bourgoin  
Reference: Bellefleur

### **Pelletier Nelson 1890-1925**

-site: Coombs Road  
-employees: 5 to 8 men  
he sawed all sorts of wood and mostly softwood; he owned 1000 acres of woodland; he produced shingles and laths  
-source of supply : he bought wood from individuals and used wood from Crown lands but hired lumbermen to cut it.  
he sawed only in summer or when water was high which was ¼ of the year.  
-closure: death of the owner  
-production: 50,000 feet per year

Reference: Jim Daigle  
Reference: Walter Bourgoin  
Reference: Honoré Roy

### **Pratt 1961-1962**

-site: town of Saint-Léonard  
-employees: 10 local men  
-source of supply: took wood from other mills.  
-market: he was planning wood for finished jobs and shipped it to others place for being worked into finished products.  
-closure: failure to finance and lack of good administration.  
-production: vague  
-other: he got a government grant of \$ 50,000

Reference: Walter Bourgoin  
Reference: Adrien Lévesque

## Sector IV

Grand Falls, Drummond

### GRAND FALLS

#### Mathew Burgess before 1915-1930

- employees: 60 men at the mill
- employees: 150 men in the woods
- source of supply: he cuts softwood at the Petite Rivière on Crown lands
- closure: destroyed by fire
- production: between 6 and 10 million feet per year

Reference: Emery Rossignol  
Reference: Wade Taylor

#### Daigle Lumber [Valley Lumber] 1962-1970

- employees: 7 to 8 men at the mill
- salary: 9-hour days, paid by the hour ; day shift only
- source of supply: he gets wood on his woodlots and also on Crown lands lease
- market: sells locally
- closure: his land is used by a shopping mall.
- production: 800,000 feet per year

Reference: Stewart Charest  
Reference: Réginald Chamberland

#### Clovis Laforge 1944-.....

- site: on the left of the Saint-André road.
- he manufactured barrels (potato)
- employees: 9 to 12 men
- source of supply: buys wood from farmers
- market : sells locally
- production: going down in last three years; passed from 19,000 to 3,000 (due to Harvesters); increased in 1971 because barrel manufactures closed; therefore competition is less than the 3 years ago: 18,000 feet per year for the last 3 years: 3,000 feet per year; (1971): probably 20,000 feet per year.

Reference: Clovis Laforge

#### Roland Laforge 1967-

- shingles mill
- site: right of Saint-André road
- employees: 10 men
- salary: 48 hours a week, operates only in daytime ; pays per job
- source of supply: gets his wood from Omer Thériault (Saint-Quentin)(leases from Crown lands)
- market: sells shingles to Boston and New York
- production: 15 million feet a year.

#### Maxime St-Amant 1952-1968

- since 1968, works leisurely each evening
- site: Ennishore
- employees: until 1968, 2 employees
- he cuts spruce and balsam
- source of supply: he saws for individuals; they sell their own wood.

-production: 20,000 to 50,000 feet per year

Reference: Maxime Saint-Amand

#### Emile Sénéchal 1940-1951

- site: Little River
- employees: 20 to 45 at the mill (depending on the time of year); 150 in the woods;
- he cuts hardwood
- source of supply: Crown lands
- market : exports to Ontario, Quebec; in Europe on boats and in England on planes.
- production: 1 1/2 to 1 million feet per year
- closure: Irving took over the Crown land leases

Reference: Emile Sénéchal

### DRUMMOND

#### Jos Côté 1920-1925

- site: along the Salmon River
- employees: 20 men at the mill; 40 men in the woods
- he cut only softwood
- closure: destroyed by fire
- production: between one and two million feet per year

Reference: André Côté

#### O.B. Davis 1913-1957

- best year : 1940
- site: Salmon River (Big Brook), junction of Salmon River
- employees: 60 men at the mill; 150 men in the woods;
- in the last years : in summer he cut softwood, in winter hardwood;
- source of supply: wood from his own woodlots, also from individuals with Crown land leases
- closure: Irving took over the Crown land leases
- production: 6 to 10 million feet per year

Reference: Emery Rossignol  
Reference: Wade Taylor  
Reference: R. Harold Fraser

## Secteur V

Saint-Quentin, Saint-Martin, Saint-Jean Baptiste, Kedgwick

### SAINT-QUENTIN

#### Eloi Blanchette 1925

- he sold to David Plante

**Alfred Bouchard 1928-1940**

-site: Restigouche Milling  
-employees: 10 men  
-production: he fabricated axe handles, sawed boards and planks, he made shingles

**Jim Burgess 1913-1918 [?]-1925**

-site: Hazen (rang 10 in Saint-Quentin, Georges Dupéré's lot)  
-employees: 40 men

**2<sup>nd</sup> mill**

-site: Grande Rivière

**3<sup>rd</sup> mill**

-site: Big Forks (site of the Veneer mill)

**Jean-Baptiste Chouinard 1935-1938**

-site: in 5th and 6th rang  
-employees: 5 to 6 men  
-source of supply: he saws individuals wood  
production: saws squared cedar  
closure: sold to Pierre Valcourt

**Narcisse Couturier**

-site :rang 12 Frost :

-site : Jean Fournier's lot

-source of supply : gets wood from companies

-production: boards and planks  
-closure: sold to F.E. Rivard

**Urbain Guimond**

**1<sup>st</sup> mill 1914-1928**

-site: on the site of the actual Fina service station  
-employés: 25 men  
-source of supply: from Lynch companies, Fournier, Patrick Jean. Saws the wood belonging to companies which sold also their wood themselves. After 1921, he gets wood from individuals. Urbain has cutting rights leases from C.I.P.  
-market : rarely sold his own wood since he only saws the wood of others. Some farmers sell him wood, the others only required sawing service.  
-production: one million feet per year

**2<sup>nd</sup> mill 1934-1962**

-site 7 & 8 north (neighbour to C.I.P. limits)  
-employees: 25-30 men  
-bigger mill than his first  
-production: same as first mill but saws also shingles  
-source of supply: same as for first mill

**3<sup>rd</sup> mill 1948-1952**

site: Mennéval  
-employees: 12-15 men  
-wood supply: same as first mill  
- production: 0,5 million feet per year

**4<sup>th</sup> mill 1954-..**

-site: village (near Wilfred's )  
-planer mill, operates occasionally  
-owned by Patrick Guimond  
-employees: 3 to 5 men  
-saws and planes for local individuals and others who require his services to plane wood  
-production: 0,5 million per year

**Jean Hammond 1920-1928**

site: Nickel Siding rang 7 & 8 -  
employees: 15 to 20 men

**John & Dave Harquail**

**1st mill 1930-1934**

-site: Jardine Brook  
-employees: 25 to 30 men  
-source of supply: gets his wood from Miller and Fraser (lease on Crown lands)  
-market : in Campbellton (Harquails Manufactures (windows, tomb, boards)  
-production: 4 millions per year  
-closure: rarity of wood ; moves to a brook 6 miles farther; too far for horses to haul.

**2<sup>nd</sup> mill 1934-1937**

-site: at the 6 miles brook (roads 7 & 8)  
-employees: 25 to 30 men  
-source of supply: he cuts on Crown lands and gets wood from Miller, Fraser and Richard Companies.  
-market : sells in Campbellton  
-production: 4 million feet per year  
-closure : lacking wood moves to Four Mile Brook

**3rd mill 1937-1942**

-site: Four Mile Brook  
employees : 25 to 30 men  
-source of supply: gets wood from C.I.P.  
-market : sells in Campbellton  
-production: 4 million feet per year  
-closure: from 1935 to 1940, unknown people cut 4 million feet in Veneer; this takes his wood supply away from Harquail and sells to Patrick Jean

**Harwood Industries 1963-....**

-site: at Five Fingers  
-employees: 30 men year-round, 50 men in summer in woods  
-source of supply: Fraser Companies and C.I.P.  
-market: United States and England  
-production: saws hardwood 4 to 5 million feet per year  
-others : he leased his cutting rights on Crown lands to Fraser Companies and C.I.P.  
-others: 1963: sawmill  
-others: 1964: shingles mill  
-others: 1966: wood chips mill

**Patrick Jean**

**1st mill 1923-24 to 1430**

-site: Jardine Brook (source of Jardine, south route 17) -  
employees: 25 to 40 men at the mill; 45 to 60 men in the woods

-salaries: board and lodgine: \$20.00 to 22.00 per month, sometimes \$18.00 per month  
-they work 10 hours a day  
-source of supply: gets his wood from the N.-B. Lands & Railway Co.  
-market : 75% of his production goes overseas (softwood) and to the United States (hardwood)  
-production: mill in operation 3 months in summer  
-production: 30,000 feet per jour; 4 million feet per year, in winter cut in woods  
saws balsam, spruce and cedar  
-closure : sold to Harquail in 1930

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> mill 1935-1961**

-site: at rang 12  
-employees: 40 to 50 men (45 men at the mill after 1950)  
-salaries : in the 1950s (\$1.00 to \$1.25 per hour)  
-source of supply: from 1935 to 1944 gets his wood from N.B. Railway Co., pays \$8.00 per 1000 feet  
-source: after 1944 buys wood from Fraser & C.I.P. (pays \$12.00 per 1000 feet)  
-closure in 1961: Patrick Jean must discontinue at 72 years old; his son, Normand, stops operating the mill in spite of cutting rights.  
-production: at first, he cut 3 millions per year, then increased to 7 million per year around 1955 ; between 1955 and 1961 reaches 10 to 12 million feet per year  
-before 1950- same men work at the mill and in the woods  
-le moulin damaged by fire twice (in 1945 and 1955)  
-in April he build a planer mill  
-after 1950, he cuts between 15,000 and 20,000 feet of wood in winter and 30,000 feet of spruce in summer

#### **3<sup>rd</sup> mill 1940-1945**

-site: rang 5 and 6  
-employees: 40 to 50 men  
-salaries: \$2.00 per day; \$2.80 per day in 1942; \$3.25 daily in 1943-1944;  
-days work : 10 hours a day, 6 days a week  
-source of supply: takes his wood from N.B. Lands Co.  
-market : 80% of production exported : hardwood (U.S.A.), softwood (Overseas)  
-closure: Irving buys the woodlots in 1944 and Patrick has no more wood supply  
-production: 2 to 3 million per year  
-in 1943, D'Auteuil buys a point of land South of the River

#### **4<sup>th</sup> mill 1942-1944**

-site: 4 miles from Saint-Quentin  
-source of supply: N. B. Lands and Railway Company  
he buys Harquail's mill to get pieces of equipment from the mill and to reduce wood cutting.

#### **David Laplante**

site: rang 18  
mill in 1925, bought from Eloi Michaud  
there was another mill in 1935-1936 at rang 18  
he sawed hardwood and softwood to make shingles  
-source of supply: sawed for individuals

#### **Elisée Lauzier 1920- .....**

-site: Lauzier Siding  
-source of supply: sawed for individuals  
-employees: 15 men  
- shingles mill at Five Fingers (water wheel activated)  
-mill of Lauzier Siding bought by Ernest Michaud

#### **Lauzier et Bario 1918-1923 (?)**

built his mill in 1917-1918  
-site: at Florent Chouinard (garage)  
-source of supply: sawed for individuals (spruce) ; saws cedar into shingles

#### **Malenfant, Louis 1915-1920**

-shingles mill  
-source of supply: saws for the Richards Co. who benefits from cutting rights in the rang 18

#### **Mc Laughlin 1918-1922**

-site: mill located at Jos Castonguay -  
employees: 30 men

#### **Ernest Michaud 1912-1925**

-site: Restigouche Milling  
-source of supply: he takes his wood from the Richards Co and saws for individuals.  
-market : sells locally; Richards' wood is shipped to Campbellton  
-closure: mill destroyed by fire  
-production: 5 to 6 million per year  
-in 1922, Fred Richard of Saint-Léonard inherits he mill when Ernest Michaud dies without a will  
-in operation during about 2 years.

#### **Ernest Michaud 1913-1920**

-site: Lauzier Siding  
-employees: 50 men  
-source of wood supply: he takes his wood from the Richards Co. and from individuals  
-market: he sells to individuals and to Campbellton  
-closure: sold mill to Elisée Lauzier in 1920  
-production: 3 to 4 million per year

Reference: Ernest Michaud

#### **Miller W.H. 1914-1925**

-site: Nickel Siding during 1916-1922  
-site: Rang 8 and 1  
-closure: destroyed by fire

#### **Pelletier Baptiste 1914-1918**

site: Rang 10

#### **Pelletier Narcisse 1918-1922**

-site: Five Fingers (on Fred Coulombe's lot)  
-employés: 20 men  
saws lath  
-closure: limited cutting rights (taken over by large companies)  
-other: Narcisse buys the mill of Alphonse Deschênes at Five Fingers that was in operation since 1911.



**F.E. Rivard 1916-1922**

-site: on the land of Jean Fournier  
-employees: 30 to 40 men  
-source: gets wood from companies  
-he buys Frost's mill.

**Charles Roy 1913-1920**

-site: former Lounsbury garage  
-employees: 15 men  
-source of supply: services individuals  
-production: 150,000 to 200,000 feet per year

**Saucier, Arthur**

-site: he builds a mill (Restigouche Milling) in Saint-Quentin  
-closure: sold to Fred Bouchard

**Wilfrid Guimond 1962-.....**

-site: west of N.B. Dept. of Highways garage  
-employees: 8 to 10 men  
-other: operated occasionally for lack of wood cutting rights.

SAINT-MARTIN

**Donat Albert 1935- ??**

-site at the end of rang 16, at crossroads of the three  
-production: sawed shingles  
-other: he buys parts of Bob Lynch's mill ; sawed for companies  
-market : sold locally

Reference: Eddy Savoie

**Charron**

-source of supply: From Crown lands to the North West of  
Upsalquitch River (Crown lands companies leases)

**Freddy Fortin**

-source of supply: cuts on Crown lands and with cutting rights of the  
C.I.P.  
-production: 200,000 to 300,000 feet per year

SAINT-JEAN BAPTISTE

**Herménégilde Bouley 1931**

-employees: 10 men  
-source of supply: saws for individuals

Reference: Mrs Peter Guérette

**Gonzague Desjardins 1956.....**

-employees: 30 to 45 men  
-source of supply: he cut on blocks of the Fraser  
Companies woodlots  
-production: 5,000,000 feet per year

**Alphonse Lavoie**

**1<sup>st</sup> mill 1950-1955**

-site: C.C. Siding  
(Ménéval) -employees: 20  
men  
-source of supply: cuts for Bob Lynch and all comes back to  
C.I.P.

**2<sup>nd</sup> mill**

-site: Saint-Quentin at Restigouche Milling  
-other: Bob Lynch bought back the mill  
-production: 5,000,000 per year

**Lepage Jos: 1940-1944**

-site: White Brook  
-employees: 20 men  
-source of supply: sawed softwood, obtained wood through wood  
cutting rights on C.I.P. leases ;  
he buys Miller's White Brook mill  
-production: 2 million feet per year

**George and Walter Lockhard 1941-19?**

-mill operated in winter  
-cuts timber in summer  
-employees: 15 men  
-production: 5,000,000 feet per year  
-source of supply: from the leases of Sidney Lumber  
-other: sold to C.I.P.

**Lemieux Ludger 1920**

-employees: 15 men  
-source of supply: sawed for  
individuals  
-closure: in 1924  
-production: 0,5 million per year

KEDGWICK

**Joe Bélanger 1918-1923**

-site: Little West (Charles Bernier'land)  
-employees: 6 men  
-salaries: \$1.00 per day at 10 hours a day  
-source of supply: took his wood from the Richards Co.  
-closure: mill destroyed by fire  
-production: he sawed boards and planks; 8,000 feet per  
year; and produced shingles; 3,000,000 feet per year.

Reference: Albert Lavoie (Kedgwick)

**Jos Bélanger 1924-1965**

-site: Little West of Kedgwick  
-employeeed: 3 men  
-sources of supply: he cut for individuals  
-closure : dismantled  
-other: fabricated shingles  
Reference: Albert Lavoie (Kedgwick)

**Cyrille Couturier 1925-1945**

-employees: 5 to 6 men  
-source of supply: sawed for individuals  
-fermeture: destroyed by fire in 1948  
-production: 1/2 million per year

-closure: 1969 he sold to Fraser

#### **Etienne Couturier 1925-1965**

site: at Rang-double  
-source of supply: took his wood from Crown lands

#### **Devrost 1925-1928 (?)**

employees: 10 men  
-production: one million per year

#### **Fleurie 1916-1920**

-employees: 10 men  
-source of supply: took his wood from individuals  
-individuals paid only for his sawing services but sold their own wood themselves

#### **Gartin & Ledou 1914-1918**

-site: on the site of the actual Fraser mill  
-employees: 15 men  
-closure: he sold to Cie Rivard of Matane

Reference: see file on Cie Rivard of Matane

#### **Albert Saint-Jean**

-source of supply: he cuts still for individuals  
-employees: 2 to 5 men  
-production: 200,000 feet per year

#### **Lavoie Albert 1942-1958**

-site: other side of village before Fraser  
-employees: 30 men, 75 in the woods  
-source of supply: cutting rights from C.I.P. and Fraser  
-daytime operation only  
-closure: in 1958 his mill burned down, he rebuilt and closed it in 1966  
-other: in operation 8 months a year  
-production varies from 2 to 3 million per year.

#### **Bobby Lynch 1922-1936**

-site: 4 miles from Kedgwick (buys Ernest Michaud's mill)  
-source of supply: he buys wood from individuals and has cutting rights from Richards, C.I.P., Fraser, Rapids (Green River and Kedgwick)  
-employees: 10-12 men (50-60 in the woods)  
-closure: 1 ¾ to 2 million feet per year.  
cuts hardwood, ties for the C.N.R., laths; he sold and moved in 1935-1936  
-owner Donat Albert and others.

#### **Ernest Michaud 1913-1923**

site: four miles from Kedgwick  
source of supply: takes wood from individuals and from Richards Co.  
-market: sells to individuals and in Campbellton  
-closure: sold to Bob Lynch  
-production: 2 to 3 million feet per year

#### **W.H. Miller 1959-1969**

site: Fraser's mill  
-employees: 50 men at the mill, 150 workers in the woods  
-source of supply: cutting rights on Fraser leases  
-production: 6 to 7 million per year

#### **Richard Company 1909-1916**

-employees: 50 men at the mills (cedar mill- spruce mill)  
-employees: 300 men in the woods  
-closure: Richards' limits sold to Fraser in 1927 and Shive (Campbellton)  
production: from two mills: 8,000,000 feet per year  
-market: sold in Campbellton

#### **Roy Charles**

-he sells to Miller Snell  
-he came from White Plains, New York –mill at Kedgwick

#### **F.-X. Saint-Laurent 1920-1939**

-employees: 30 men  
-source of supply: sawed for Richards, Shive, Dalhousie Lumber  
-closure: mill destroyed by fire  
-production: 7 to 8 million feet per year  
-production: after the first fire in 1923; 28 million per year, he cut wood to rebuild and also must cut unburned wood so as not to lose the first years; he cut softwood and finally hardwood  
-other: in 1923 there were 28 camps in the woods ; there were always on average 10 camps.

#### **W.H. Miller 1935-1958**

-site: Kedgwick (White Brook)  
-employees: 30 men  
-salary: 0,40 per hour  
he buys wood cut on Fraser and C.I.P. leases  
-production: 35,000 to 40,000 per day, he sawed hardwood and softwood  
-other: bought Charles Roy's mill

-References for the mills of Saint-Quentin, Kedgwick, Saint-Martin, Saint-Jean-Baptiste

#### **Saint-Quentin**

Félix Cyr  
Hector Buisonnault  
Edouard Savoie  
André Thérault  
Charles Labrie  
Hector Savoie  
Donald Guimond  
Urbain Guimond  
David Perron  
Orner Thériault  
Alphonse Guimond

#### **Kedgwick**

Albert Lavoie  
**White Brook**  
Mme Doucet  
**Saint-Jean Baptiste**  
Pete Guerette  
Bernard Leblanc  
Lazard Mallais  
Claude Gagnon

#### **Ménéval**

Frank Léonard