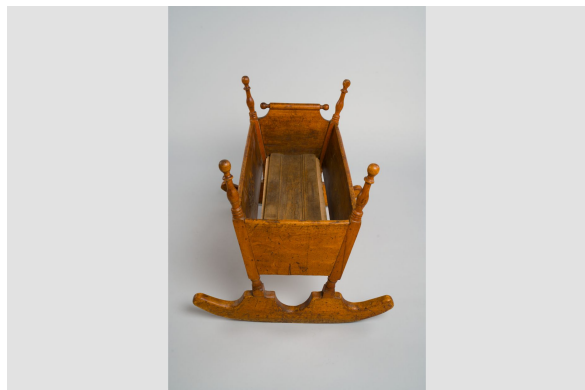
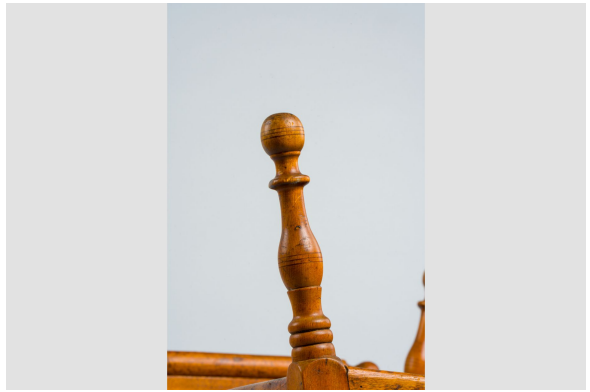


Cradle cattaills

<https://collections.pacmusee.qc.ca/en/objects/cradle-2019-024-002/>

Collections / cradle





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Antique wooden cradle with cattail uprights and heavy, curved runners.

Accession Number 2019.24.02

Date 1800 an

Materials wood, pine

Measurements 77 x 82 x 92,5 cm

Historical context

The cradle has been an integral part of Canadian home furnishings for centuries. Serving as a diaper for the newborn during its first months of life, it was frequently installed in the parents' bedroom or in the common room, where toddlers could be rocked to sleep.

In the 18th-19th centuries, most cradles were made of pine with cattail posts and heavy, curved runners, like the one in this photo. Others featured a headboard to protect the baby's head. The to-and-fro motion of the cradle was donated either by pressing the foot on the runners to keep the hands free for other tasks, or by shaking the cradle by the cattails.

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Photo by Victor Diaz Lamich