

FRANCESTOWN HERITAGE MUSEUM

HAY WAGON EXHIBIT

Dating to the 1890's, this hay wagon was also known as a Hay Wain or Hay Rack Wagon. A hay wain is a type of horse or oxen drawn wagon with four wheels and built by a "wainwright". This is distinct from 2 wheel hay carts that were built by "cartwrights". Note the metal strips (←) on the side of the wagon behind the front wheels that prevented the wheel from digging into the side of the wagon when turning.

A hay wain is the subject of John Constable's famous 1821 painting "The Hay Wain".

Heritage Museum Exhibit 104



The wagon was used to transport the cut hay from the fields to the barn or wherever needed. The hay was cut, gathered and pitched loose into this wagon using the scythes, rakes and forks on display in the wagon.



This wagon is a gift from Luis and Liesel Gilman.