

in 1755, Alexis Landry settled at Little River, and others must have taken possession of other places, for in 1760, as an unpublished document in the Paris archives states, there were three French villages of 36 families and 150 persons at Caraquet, with another at Shippegan. We are not told their location, but one was no doubt Saint Jean's village at Ruisseau Saint Jean, one was Landry's at Little River, while the third may have been either near the Indian settlement at Chenard's Brook, or perhaps west of Little River, near the mouth of the Caraquet River. That at Shippegan, as implied by Smethurst's narrative, was apparently on the north side of the mouth of Ruisseau de la Chaloupe. But these villages were of short duration, for the very next year, 1761, Captain Roderick MacKenzie came with an armed force from Nova Scotia, and, in reprisal for attacks by Restigouche privateers upon English vessels, carried or drove off the larger part of the population of Nepisiguit, of Shippegan, and no doubt of Little River and one other French village at Caraquet, though Saint Jean, perhaps because he was not an Acadian, was apparently left undisturbed. It is quite likely, by the way, that Saint Jean continued to live here until other settlers returned, in which case Caraquet may claim to be the oldest continuously occupied settlement in all New Brunswick.

In the meantime another event of great local interest, and with a bearing upon the later history of Caraquet, had occurred. In the year 1760 the long struggle between England and France for supremacy in America was nearing its close, and among the places still held by the French was Restigouche, where a strong force of French soldiers, sailors and habitants was collected. Thence they sent out privateers against the English vessels in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. One of these privateers, as shown by documents in