

Quebec; and later by the other Acadians whose names appear as grantees upon the map. With them settled some others not Acadians,—one De Galley from Guernsey of the Channel Islands, one Russell from Neguac, and a McGowan from Ireland, who afterwards departed. Originally these families settled at and near the present Tracadie Village, and their locations are shown upon the old plan reproduced herewith; but their descendants spread gradually to Big Tracadie and Portage River, where they were gradually joined by other Acadian families from other sources, notably by Gould (originally Doiron) and Vienneau from Westmorland County, by Savoy from Neguac, by Cassie and St. Coeur from Bay du Vin, and by John Niles (dit John Boy), of English descent, from Cumberland, Nova Scotia. It is the descendants of these settlers, for the most part, who occupy the Tracadie to-day, and are gradually expanding farther up the streams and to the back lands.

Such was the origin of the French population of Tracadie, which is thus chiefly Acadian, though partly Canadian. The settlers came at diverse times in small groups or singly, and not in any large groups together. Evidently they were not brought here by any large impulse or movement. They were the more adventurous spirits of the expanding older settlements, those who heard of a new farming district with much lumber and a good fishery, and came pioneering to Tracadie to make new homes.

But like so many of the North Shore settlements of New Brunswick, Tracadie has had a dual French-English origin, and the English settlement is almost as old as the French. It was in 1786, or thereabouts, as the local tradition has it, that three disbanded soldiers, William and Thomas Ferguson, from the north of Ireland, and Charles McLaughlin, a Scotch Highlander, came and settled at the mouth of Little Tracadie.