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## The Settlement of Rustico.

**T**HE first European settlers of Rustico were French, and the name of the district is derived from a Frenchman called Racicot. He came from Port la Joie and settled at the head of the creek where Stevenson's mill now stands, not far from Rustico Chapel.

That the district called Rustico had for ages been a camping ground of the Indians is conclusively shown by the number of stone axes, flint arrowheads, and other remains of prehistoric times found in the vicinity. Huge mounds of decayed oyster shells and bones of animals were found by the early inhabitants on the banks of Wheatley River. These have since completely disappeared, having been carried away and used as fertilizers. It is regrettable that the Indian name for the district has not been preserved, as Indian names are most expressive and picturesque; and in many cases they are the only record of the race.

To return to the French: there seem to have been forty heads of families when the first census of the Island was taken in 1798. There were about two hundred and fifty individuals of all ages in Lot 24. The Gallants were the most numerous, as they are to-day. The names of Martin, Peters,