THOSE WHO SETTLED

Topic 3.2
Those who initially settled came from almost entirely from England and Ireland
- Very small numbers from France, Scotland
Most Newfoundlanders can trace their ancestry back to either
- Southwest of England or
- Southeast of Ireland
Introduction

- Settlement was encouraged by merchants
  - Not desired of Europeans
- Most settlers were young, single men
  - Few women and children
Immigration involves **push** and **pull** factors

- **Push** – Reasons why people wish to leave an area
  - In our case
    - Low wages, poverty, boredom

- **Pull** – Reasons why people wish to move to a certain place (Newfoundland)
  - In our case
    - Adventure, good wages, freedom
English Immigration

- There was a surplus of labor in England and Ireland
- Britain’s desire for fish grew during wartime
  - More employment opportunities
- Merchants advertised for people to move to NL as servants and planters
- Immigrants usually settled in same community as merchant
Crop failures led to a loss of many jobs in early 1700s (Plenty of poverty)
NL offered a new start to many Irish
By 1800s, Irish settlers comprised about 50% of total population of NL
There were very few Scottish in NL until the 1800s.

Most Scottish immigrants (at first) were merchants who traded with NL and were well educated.

Merchants set up shop in St. John’s, Harbour Grace, Trinity and Bonavista.

Others lived on west coast (Codroy Valley and St. Georges.)
French were among first to arrive in NL (during migratory fishery)
- Were permitted to fish along the west and north coasts (French Shore)

These settlements declined in late 1800s. They either
- Left to go home
- Moved to bank fishery off St. Pierre
The Last Waves

- After 1835, immigration declined
- Most population increase was because of natural increase
- At beginning most immigrants still referred to themselves as (English, Irish, etc.
  - By 1857, 90% of people were born in Newfoundland (knew no other home)
  - Fishing communities changed from ``work camps`` to ``outports``
Settlements at this time existed as internal migration
- Moving about within Newfoundland
- Crowded harbours and communities led to people moving to other areas
  - New communities created

Most immigrants initially moved to St. John`s Conception Bay and Ferryland
- People were now leaving these areas to newer outports (Burin, Bonavista, etc.)
By 1880s, the economy could not support the population
- No longer plenty of jobs
- People began to move to Nova Scotia or USA (mostly those of Irish descent)