In the words of Naomi E. S. Griffiths, Acadians, “…[were] a community that kept itself separate from the larger community, where religion played an important role in its identity…” (Griffiths 326). That is to say, while religion was important to Acadians, it was not solely what made a person an Acadian. From the time of its founding in 1604, to the Great Upheaval in 1755, Acadian identity had never been defined by the religious or military views of the French or British empires.

Although Acadian identity was dependent upon religious and cultural views, it was not limited to them either. Kinship was equally as prevalent in Acadian identity as religion. It possessed the ability for not only, “…binding together families within villages but also linking the expanding settlements to one another,” (Griffiths 330). In addition to the previously mentioned aspects, Acadia was also independent in terms of its economy, as well as its ever growing demographic. The ability to be self-sustaining in terms of both its population and its economy meant that instead of relying on the British or French empires, Acadia was able to not only exist, but thrive on its own.

Although Acadians pledged their allegiance to the British Crown in 1730, this still did not define their identity. Acadia remained neutral, refusing to fight the French of Aboriginals. This choice, along with the deeply rooted heritage of the families before them, lead to the “Golden Age” of Acadia from 1713 to 1755. By not identifying as either French or British, the colony maintained its unique identity; the amalgamation of several European countries and their traditions and culture.