

# Now and Then

## *Newsletter*

*Local Studies and Archives Services  
Wexford County Council Public Libraries*

Welcome to the second issue of our newsletter. Some exciting developments have taken place since our first edition, not least of which was the building – in 2007 – of a new Library and Archives Management Services complex in Ardavan Business Park to provide safe storage for the Council's extensive archive and library collections.

Additionally, construction of the long-awaited public library building for Wexford town began at Mallin Street in early December 2009. Spread over three floors, the building will include a research facility which will give more extensive access to the Wexford Studies collections.

The first phase of the project will include individual panelled histories of the Castle, of the former museum, and of Enniscorthy during the 1916 period. These will be complemented by select displays from the museum collection.

### **RE-OPENING OF ENNISCORTHY CASTLE**

Currently undergoing a facelift, the Castle in Enniscorthy will re-open in the summer of 2010, as part of the year's 'Enniscorthy 1500' celebrations.

Work on restoring and refurbishing the interior will continue on a phased basis.



## HAYES'S MANUSCRIPT SOURCES NOW ONLINE

Richard Hayes's **Manuscript Sources** and **Periodical Sources** are now available as an online database on the website of the National Library of Ireland.

The database - **Sources: a National Library of Ireland database for Irish research** - contains over 180,000 catalogue records of manuscripts relating to Ireland and articles in Irish periodicals.



In the online database, you can search across:

- ✚ All of the National Library's own manuscripts catalogued up to the 1980s;
- ✚ Other manuscripts and archives relating to Ireland that were held in libraries and archival institutions in Ireland and worldwide at the time that the 14 volumes of Manuscript Sources were being prepared between the 1940s and the 1970s;
- ✚ Articles, reviews and other content that appeared in over 150 Irish periodicals up to 1969.

This huge resource, which is invaluable to both local and national historians, can be accessed directly at <http://sources.nli.ie/> or through the home pages of the National Library website at [www.nli.ie](http://www.nli.ie).

## CONSERVE, CONSERVE, CONSERVE....

Since our last issue, the county archive has been instrumental in obtaining funding from the Heritage Council, under its annual Museums and Archives Grant Scheme, for a number of conservation-related projects on behalf of other organisations in the county. These include:

**2005:** Repair and rebinding of extant primary school archives for St. Canice's National School, Rosbercon, New Ross, 1900-2000;

### ARCHIVES WORKSHOPS

Workshops on caring for personal collections will continue in 2010.

Individuals, local businesses and community groups can seek assistance and advice on the long-term preservation of their collections from the county archive in addition to advice on storage, handling and reproduction.

Please contact Gráinne Doran, Archivist at (053) 9176572 or Email: [archivist@wexfordcoco.ie](mailto:archivist@wexfordcoco.ie)

**2006:** Conservation of parish registers (baptismal, confirmation and marriage) for the parish of Rosbercon, New Ross, 1834-to date;

**2006:** Conservation of the two earliest registers (baptismal and marriage) for the parish of Crossabeg (incl. Ballymurn curacy), 1794-1856;

**2009:** Restoration costs of seven baptismal registers and four marriage registers from the collection of parish records at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Rowe Street, Wexford, 1724-1953;

**2009:** Conservation and repair of 10 fragile bound volumes from the former Wexford County Museum collection.

## **PHOTOGRAPHIC PROJECT**

**Wexford Library Service is building a contemporary photographic record of buildings and streetscapes of the towns, villages and parishes of the county.**

**The Council's Planning Department and Wexford Borough Council are helping and the project is ongoing.**

**Courtown, Ferns, Bunclody and Taghmon are among the areas completed. Significant buildings in Piercestown and Castlebridge are recorded. The Quays and main retail streets of both New Ross and Wexford Town are photographed also.**

**Some of the collection is now available for consultation. Contact your local library for details.**

### **COUNTY WEXFORD ORAL HISTORY PROJECT**

**This initiative of the Wexford Public Library Service collects the memory and life experiences of the people of County Wexford through audio and video recorded conversation.**

**The records are conserved to archival standard and held in trust for future generations. They are made available locally and globally for research and educational purposes. Audio CDs of many of the interviews completed to date are now available to borrow through your local library.**

**You are invited to nominate everyone you know who has an interesting story to tell. Fill out a nomination form, available from your local library or from the library website - [www.wexford.ie/library](http://www.wexford.ie/library)**

## NEWSPAPERS ON MICROFILM @ WEXFORD LIBRARY

The Echo:	1907 - 1909; 1913 - 1915; 1927 - 1985
Enniscorthy Guardian:	24 Dec. 1904 - Dec. 1985
Finn's Leinster Journal:	1767 - Nov. 1768; 1769 - 1776; 1778 - 1789; 1790 - 1799; 1801 - 1808; Feb. 1818 - 1828 (some issues missing)
Free Press:	1923 - 1971 (ceased publication Feb. 1971)
New Ross Standard:	31 Aug. 1889 - 27 Dec. 1890; 1891 - 1910
The Watchman:	17 Jul. 1869 - 22 Jan. 1870; 26 Mar. 1870 - 23 Dec. 1871; 1872 - 4 Sept. 1886
Wexford Independent:	1830 (17-31 Dec.); 1831; 1832 (7 Jan. - 28 Mar. and 2 Jun. - 29 Dec.); 1833 -1868; 1869 (2 Jan. - 10 Jul.); 1870 (9 Jul. - 31 Dec.); 1871-1872; 1873 (1 Jan. - 31 May); 1874 (17 Jan. - 30 Dec.); 1875-1881; 1882 (4 Jan. - 9 Dec.); 1883 (3 Jan. - 8 Aug.); 1884 -1904; 4 Jan. 1905 - 24 Feb. 1906
Co. Wexford Independent:	1906 (Mar.- Dec.); 1907; 1908 (Jan.- Aug.)

## RECENT ACQUISITIONS

<b>Wexford Conservative:</b>	<b>September 19 1832 - April 18 1846</b>
<b>Wexford Freeman:</b>	<b>May 1832 - May 1837</b>
<b>The People:</b>	<b>1 January 1853 - 31 December 1994</b>

## **PAPERS OF LORD TEMPLEMORE, DUNBRODY PARK ESTATE, ARTHURSTOWN (WXCA / P 242)**

These estate papers were acquired by the county archive in April 2008. They deal mainly with the administration of three landed estates from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century to the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century in the south of Wexford and as far away as north Donegal and Down.

In addition to the main Dunbrody area and the village of Ramsgrange, the Wexford estate included the three fishing villages of Ballyhack, Arthurstown and Duncannon. The townlands included in the Wexford estate were:

Arthurstown	Duncannon	Rosetown
Battlestown	Haggard	Saltmills
Ballyvellig	Kilbride	Shanacloon
Ballygow	Kilhile	Shelbaggan
Clonsharragh	Kingsquarter/Carrowanree	Mersheen
Clonlard	Nook	Ballyhack
Coleman	Monachee	Grange
Curraghmore	Newtown	Tinnock
Dunbrody	Ramsgrange	

The series of rentals and accounts, while not fully complete, offers a remarkable case study of the fortunes of Irish landowners from the famine through the land wars, the Irish revolution and the effects of two world wars into a rapidly changing society as the 20<sup>th</sup> century neared its close. The effects of the various land acts may be observed in the shrinking of estates and the relevant correspondence. The collection includes two fine series of maps of the Wexford estate and a set of valuation books.

Due to the size of the collection, work on listing the documents can only be approached on a phased basis. The first phase has already commenced and includes a listing of tenants for each townland, the acreage they held and a corresponding townland map.

This information, which is an invaluable genealogical and local history resource, will appear on the Archives web pages in early 2010.

[www.wexford.ie/wex/Departments/Library/YourServices/Archive/](http://www.wexford.ie/wex/Departments/Library/YourServices/Archive/)

## RECENT ACQUISITIONS IN THE ARCHIVE

Wexford County Archive Service relies on the generosity and cooperation of depositors and benefactors to continue to grow the county archive collection. Below are listed some recent additions to the archive:

- ✚ The P. J. Roche archive (The Maltings, Enniscorthy and New Ross), 1851-1973;
- ✚ Rental and particulars of sale of the lands of Grange, Garryduff, Clondaw, Kilconnib, Poulsallagh, Graherogue and Greenfield (parish of Ballymore and barony of Forth) and of Mulmuntry (parish of Taghmon and barony of Shelmalier West), 24 June 1856;
- ✚ Business archives of Mary & Philip Doyle, New Ross, publicans, 1850s;
- ✚ Papers of the Carley Owens collection (Carley's Bridge), 1866-1960s;
- ✚ Minute books from New Ross Commercial Club, 1885-2001;
- ✚ Copy deeds of premises in Spawell Road, Wexford, 1911-31;
- ✚ Deeds relating to land at Ballindoney (barony of Bantry), 1921;
- ✚ Copy letters from John Crean (executed March 1923) to his mother;
- ✚ Photograph (B&W) of Enniscorthy Company, L.D.F., September 1942;
- ✚ Two minute books from the Wexford Drapers' & Boot Merchants' Association, 1944-56;
- ✚ Postcards featuring various views from the town of Enniscorthy;
- ✚ Bill heads and invoices from the business of Maurice Breen, grocer and provision merchant, Dungulph, Fethard-on-Sea;
- ✚ Collection from Nunn's, Castlebridge.

If you wish to donate to the Archive or you have concerns about the vulnerability of a collection, please contact Gráinne Doran, Archivist at (053) 9176572 or Email: [archivist@wexfordcoco.ie](mailto:archivist@wexfordcoco.ie)

## PLEASE NOTE

It remains the policy of Wexford County Archive Service that material is **NOT** made available for research purposes until it has been properly processed, i.e. cleaned, arranged and listed. This inevitably results in a considerable backlog of unprocessed collections. We appreciate the patience and cooperation of our donors and researchers in this regard.

Watch out for our newly improved Archives web pages site currently under construction. In an effort to make more information accessible to the public, the Archives pages will be updated regularly, particularly with regard to collections ready for access.

Check out the new content in February 2010 on  
[www.wexford.ie/wex/Departments/Library/YourServices/Archive/](http://www.wexford.ie/wex/Departments/Library/YourServices/Archive/)



Enniscorthy LDF - 1942



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