

## journal of the wexford historical society no 14

Journal Of The Wexford Historical Society No 14 Journal of the Wexford Historical Society No 14 The "Journal of the Wexford Historical Society No 14" stands as a significant publication within the realm of Irish local history, offering a rich tapestry of articles, research, and archival insights focused on County Wexford. As the fourteenth issue in a series that has chronicled the social, political, and cultural evolution of this historic region, it continues to serve as a vital resource for historians, genealogists, students, and enthusiasts alike. This journal encapsulates a broad spectrum of topics—ranging from medieval history to modern developments—each contributing to a nuanced understanding of Wexford's past and its enduring legacy. In this article, we will explore the journal's structure, key themes, notable articles, and its importance in the broader context of Irish historical scholarship.

### Overview of the Journal's Purpose and Significance

#### Historical Context and Mission

The Wexford Historical Society was founded with the aim of promoting the study and preservation of the history and heritage of County Wexford. Its journal series, including No 14, functions as a principal medium for disseminating research findings, archival discoveries, and scholarly debates. The publication seeks to:

- Document the local history and genealogies of Wexford residents.
- Highlight archaeological discoveries and preservation efforts.
- Encourage community engagement with historical narratives.
- Provide a platform for academic and amateur historians to share insights.

#### Importance within Irish Historical Literature

While Ireland boasts a wealth of historical publications, regional journals like the Wexford Historical Society's series play a unique role by focusing deeply on local histories that might be overlooked in national narratives. No 14, in particular, is notable for its comprehensive approach, blending

scholarly rigor with accessible storytelling. It also contributes to the preservation of intangible cultural heritage, such as oral histories and local traditions, which are vital for a holistic understanding of the region's past.

### Structure and Content of Journal No 14

#### Editorial Focus and Sections

The journal is typically organized into several sections to cater to diverse interests. No 14 2 maintains this tradition, offering a well-rounded presentation of Wexford's historical landscape. The main sections include:

- Research Articles:** In-depth studies on specific topics such as medieval<sup>1</sup> landholding patterns, local industries, or notable individuals.
- Archival and Documentary Reports:** Summaries and analyses of newly<sup>2</sup> discovered or digitized records.
- Local Histories and Biographies:** Profiles of prominent Wexford figures and<sup>3</sup> community histories.
- Reviews:** Critiques of recent publications, exhibitions, or archaeological findings<sup>4</sup> relevant to Wexford.
- Community Contributions:** Personal essays, oral histories, and photographs<sup>5</sup> contributed by local residents.

#### Notable Articles and Themes in No 14

While each issue offers a diverse array of content, No 14 is distinguished by several key themes:

- Medieval Wexford:** Articles exploring the origins of the town, its fortifications, and mercantile activities in the Middle Ages.
- Irish Rebellions and Resistance:** Research on Wexford's pivotal role during the 1798 Rebellion and subsequent conflicts.
- Genealogy and Local Families:** Studies tracing the lineage of prominent Wexford families, including landowners and traders.
- Industrial and Social Change:** Examination of the rise and fall of industries such as linen production, fishing, and agriculture.
- Architectural Heritage:** Surveys of historic buildings, churches, and castles, with discussions on conservation efforts.

#### Highlighted Articles and Their Contributions

##### Medieval Wexford: A Commercial Hub

One of the standout articles in No 14 investigates Wexford's development as a medieval trading center. It draws upon archaeological evidence and surviving charters to illustrate how the town's strategic location facilitated commerce with continental Europe. The article discusses:

- The construction of the town walls and their strategic significance.
- The role of Wexford's port in facilitating trade and cultural exchange.
- Connections with the Hanseatic League and other trading networks.

<sup>3</sup> This research deepens understanding of Wexford's economic foundations and its

importance in medieval Ireland. The 1798 Rebellion and Wexford's Role Another significant contribution analyzes the events of the 1798 Rebellion, which was a defining moment in Irish history. The article examines: The causes of the uprising specific to Wexford, including local grievances and political tensions. Major battles and skirmishes within the county. The aftermath and how the rebellion influenced subsequent Irish independence movements. Such scholarship provides valuable insights into regional participation in national upheavals.

Genealogical Deep Dive: The Murphy Family A detailed genealogical study traces the Murphy family, one of Wexford's longstanding lineages. This article highlights the importance of local records, including church registers and estate documents, to reconstruct family histories. It emphasizes: Migration patterns within Wexford and beyond. Occupational histories and landownership changes over centuries. Connections to prominent historical events and local development. This piece exemplifies how individual family histories contribute to the broader understanding of Wexford's social fabric.

The Role of Archival and Oral Histories in No 14 Archival Discoveries and Digitization The journal often features reports on newly digitized collections, such as: Town council records. Land deeds and estate papers. Personal letters and diaries from local residents. These resources are invaluable for researchers and help preserve Wexford's documentary heritage.

4 Oral Histories and Community Memory Recognizing the importance of living memory, No 14 incorporates oral histories from Wexford's older generations. These narratives shed light on everyday life, local customs, and community responses to historical events, thus enriching written records with personal perspectives.

Conservation and Heritage Initiatives Highlighted in No 14 Historic Building Preservation Several articles discuss ongoing efforts to conserve historic sites such as: Hook Lighthouse, one of the oldest operational lighthouses in the world. Wexford's medieval churches and castles. Traditional thatched cottages and vernacular architecture. The journal emphasizes the importance of community involvement and funding in heritage conservation.

Heritage Education and Outreach The publication also highlights programs aimed at educating the public about Wexford's history, including school initiatives, guided tours, and

temporary exhibitions. These efforts foster local pride and ensure the transmission of cultural knowledge to future generations.

**The Impact and Future of the Wexford Historical Society Journal Series Academic and Community Engagement** The journal continues to serve as a bridge between academic research and community interest. Its accessible language and diverse content make it suitable for both scholarly audiences and local residents eager to learn about their heritage.

**Digital Accessibility and Global Reach** With increasing digitization, the journal's articles are now more accessible online, expanding its reach beyond Wexford. This digital presence invites international scholars and descendants of Wexford emigrants to engage with the material.

**Future Directions and Challenges** Looking ahead, the Wexford Historical Society aims to:

- 5 Incorporate more multimedia content such as photographs and maps.
- Expand community participation through oral history projects.
- Enhance collaborative research with national and international institutions.
- Ensure the preservation of fragile archival materials amidst modern development pressures.

**Conclusion** The "Journal of the Wexford Historical Society No 14" exemplifies the vital role regional historical publications play in preserving and interpreting local heritage. Through its diverse articles, archival reports, and community contributions, it offers a comprehensive view of Wexford's past—illuminating its medieval origins, revolutionary history, social transformations, and architectural treasures. As a cornerstone of local scholarship, it not only documents history but also fosters community identity and pride. Moving forward, its commitment to accessibility, community engagement, and preservation will ensure that Wexford's rich history remains vibrant and relevant for generations to come. Whether for academic research or personal interest, No 14 stands as a testament to the enduring importance of understanding and celebrating regional history within the broader Irish narrative.

**Question/Answer** What are the main topics covered in the Journal of the Wexford Historical Society No. 14? The journal primarily explores Wexford's local history, including historical events, notable figures, archaeological findings, and cultural heritage specific to the region, providing in-depth articles and research.

Who authored the significant articles in the Journal of the Wexford Historical Society No. 14? The

journal features contributions from various historians, local researchers, and academics specializing in Wexford's history, with some articles authored by prominent figures in Irish historical scholarship. How does the Journal of the Wexford Historical Society No. 14 contribute to local historical preservation? It documents and analyzes Wexford's historical sites, events, and traditions, helping to raise awareness and support preservation efforts within the community and among historians. Is the Journal of the Wexford Historical Society No. 14 available for purchase or online access? Yes, copies of the journal can typically be purchased through the Wexford Historical Society's website or local bookshops, and some articles or issues may be accessible online through their digital archives or partner platforms. 6 What new research or discoveries are highlighted in the Journal of the Wexford Historical Society No. 14? The journal features recent archaeological discoveries, newly uncovered documents relating to Wexford's medieval period, and fresh insights into local historical figures, enriching the understanding of Wexford's past. Journal of the Wexford Historical Society No 14 stands as a testament to the enduring dedication of historians and local enthusiasts committed to preserving Wexford's rich cultural and historical heritage. As a significant publication within Ireland's historical scholarship, this edition offers a wealth of insights into Wexford's past, ranging from medieval origins to contemporary developments. For researchers, students, or history buffs, understanding the depth and scope of this journal provides an invaluable window into the region's complex narrative. In this guide, we will explore the journal's themes, notable articles, and the broader significance of its contributions to Irish history, presenting a comprehensive analysis that underscores its importance. --- An Introduction to the Journal of the Wexford Historical Society No 14 The Journal of the Wexford Historical Society No 14 is part of an ongoing series dedicated to documenting Wexford's history through scholarly articles, essays, and local histories. Published periodically, each edition reflects the Society's commitment to fostering a deeper understanding of the county's past. Volume 14, in particular, is noteworthy for its diverse range of topics, including archaeological findings, socio-economic histories, and personal

narratives that paint a vivid picture of Wexford's evolution over centuries. This edition exemplifies the Society's mission: to promote research, education, and appreciation of Wexford's unique historical identity. Its articles are written by historians, archaeologists, and local experts, ensuring a blend of academic rigor and local authenticity. --- Key Themes and Topics Covered in No 14

1. Medieval Wexford and Its Political Structures One of the prominent themes in No 14 involves exploring Wexford's medieval period, emphasizing its role as a significant trading port and political entity. Articles delve into:
  - The influence of Norman settlers and the establishment of walled towns.
  - The development of local governance and feudal structures.
  - The impact of Norman laws and customs on Wexford's society.
2. Archaeological Discoveries and Preservation Recent archaeological excavations form a core part of the journal's content. Notable discoveries include:
  - Medieval artifacts uncovered during urban redevelopment projects.
  - Submerged structures along the coast indicating ancient trade routes.
  - Preservation efforts for historic sites like Wexford's ancient walls and churches.
3. Socio-Economic Development The journal examines Wexford's economic history through various lenses:
  - The rise of the linen industry and its influence on local prosperity.
  - The effects of the Great Famine on the population and landscape.
  - Modern shifts towards tourism, maritime industries, and agriculture.
4. Personal Narratives and Oral Histories Adding human interest, No 14 features oral histories and personal stories that provide intimate insights into Wexford's communities:
  - Journal Of The Wexford Historical Society No 14 7 Accounts from descendants of early settlers.
  - Stories of emigration and return.
  - Community responses to historical events such as the Easter Rising and Civil War.

--- Notable Articles and Their Contributions

"Wexford in the Norman Era: Foundations of a Trading Hub" This article provides a detailed analysis of Wexford's establishment as a Norman port in the 12th century. It discusses:

- The strategic importance of Wexford's location.
- The influence of Norman architecture and planning.
- The integration of Gaelic and Norman cultures.

"Unearthing the Past: Recent Archaeological Finds" Highlighting recent excavations, this piece examines:

- The discovery of medieval pottery and weaponry.
- Evidence

of early Christian settlements. – The significance of underwater archaeology along Wexford's coast. "The Linen Industry and Wexford's Economic Rise" Focusing on the 18th and 19th centuries, this article explores: – The development of linen production and trade. – Key figures involved in the industry. – How this industry shaped Wexford's social fabric. "Voices from the Past: Oral Histories of Wexford's Communities" This collection of personal stories captures: – Experiences during the Irish War of Independence. – Daily life in rural Wexford during the early 20th century. – The resilience of local traditions amid change. --- The Broader Significance of the Journal The Journal of the Wexford Historical Society No 14 is more than a compilation of articles; it is a vital resource that bridges academic research and community memory. Its significance can be appreciated through several key aspects: Preservation of Local Heritage By documenting archaeological sites, buildings, and traditions, the journal ensures Wexford's history remains accessible for future generations. Academic Contributions The publication elevates local history within the broader context of Irish and European history, contributing to scholarly debates and research. Community Engagement Through personal narratives and local histories, the journal fosters a sense of identity and pride among Wexford's residents. Educational Resource It serves as an essential tool for educators, students, and history enthusiasts seeking to understand Ireland's regional histories. --- How to Engage with the Journal For those interested in exploring Journal of the Wexford Historical Society No 14, consider the following avenues: – Access through local libraries or archives: Many public and university libraries in Ireland hold copies. – Membership with the Wexford Historical Society: Members often receive copies of the journal and can participate in society events. – Digital copies and online resources: Check the Society's official website or digital archives for downloadable or searchable versions. – Attend conferences and talks: Society-organized events often feature discussions on articles from recent editions. --- Conclusion: The Value of Regional Historical Publications The Journal of the Wexford Historical Society No 14 exemplifies the importance of regional publications in preserving and understanding local history. Its comprehensive approach—combining

archaeology, socio-economic analysis, personal narratives, and scholarly research—creates a layered narrative that enriches Ireland’s national story. For anyone passionate about Irish history, Wexford’s past, or the broader field of regional Journal Of The Wexford Historical Society No 14 8 studies, its pages offer a treasure trove of knowledge and inspiration. By engaging with such journals, we not only learn about the past but also contribute to ongoing conversations about cultural identity, heritage preservation, and community resilience. As Wexford continues to evolve, its history—carefully chronicled in editions like No 14—remains a vital foundation for future generations to understand, appreciate, and build upon. Wexford history, historical society publications, Irish local history, Wexford archives, historical research, Irish heritage, Wexford genealogy, local history journal, Irish historical society, historical society journals

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