

## MAIN SOURCES FOR THE STUDY OF WICKLOW'S ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND MONUMENTS

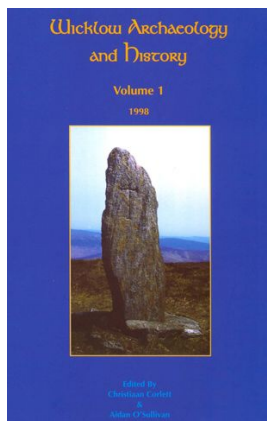
**Compiled by: Gerlanda Maniglia, Local Studies Librarian, Wicklow County Council Library Service**

This guide provides an overview of the main texts relating to the archaeology of County Wicklow currently available for consultation in the Local Studies Library, Salthouse Lane, Wicklow Town.

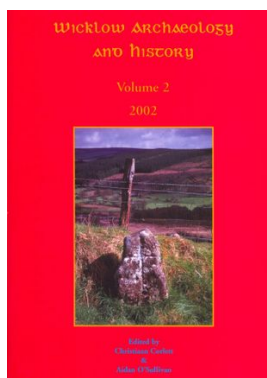
The aim of the guide is to provide a useful starting point for those carrying out research in this field or to those planning a visit to monuments and archaeological sites around the county.

A more comprehensive list of archaeological sources can be found on the Local Studies webpage at: <https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Libraries/Local-Studies/Local-Studies-Resources>

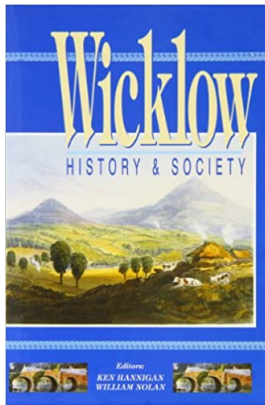
For further information, please contact the local studies librarian at: [wicklowlocalstudies@wicklowcoco.ie](mailto:wicklowlocalstudies@wicklowcoco.ie)



**Wicklow Archaeology and History Vol. 1** edited by Chris Corlett and Aidan O'Sullivan (1998). Articles, book reviews and notes covering eight thousand years of human settlement in County Wicklow. Chris Corlett explores the prehistoric environs of the Great Sugar Loaf. Tom Condit publishes the results of his research on Wicklow's hillforts. Conleth Manning discusses the little known cross-inscribed pillar stone on Tonlagee Mountain. Ragnall Ó Floinn reports on the various antiquarian accounts of Viking finds from the Wicklow coast. Edel Bhreathnach discusses the use of the term longphort in the Early Irish sources and Eoin Grogan provides an extensive synthesis of Wicklow's eighteenth-century tombstones by the stone cutter Denis Cullen.



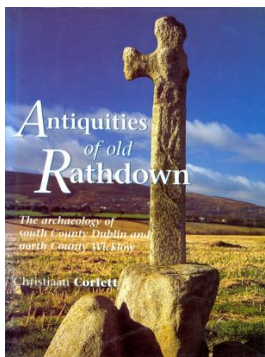
**Wicklow Archaeology and History Vol. 2** edited by Chris Corlett and Aidan O'Sullivan (2002). In this second volume, Daire Leahy discusses the burnt mounds and flint collections found along the slopes of the Little Sugar Loaf. Conleth Manning provides an account of the prehistoric cairn and early medieval church on Church Mountain and Leo Swan describes the medieval landscape of Killoughter, Ashford. Chris Corlett provides an account of the medieval borough of Dunlavin and Andrew O'Brien describes the Town Hall and Market House in Wicklow town.



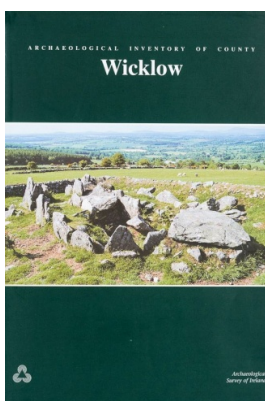
**Wicklow History and Society: Interdisciplinary essays on the history of an Irish county** edited by Ken Hannigan and William Nolan (1994). This definitive work provides a detailed account of the historic, archaeological, political and social development of County Wicklow over six millennia. Articles include an account of Wicklow's prehistoric landscape by Geraldine Stout, evidence of Scandinavian settlement by Colman Etchingam, an account of Medieval Wicklow by J.F. Lydon, the establishment of Anglo-Norman settlement in 1169 to 1350 by Linzi Simpson, as well as an article by Harry Long exploring the three settlements of Gaelic Wicklow in Rathgall, Ballinacor and Glendalough.



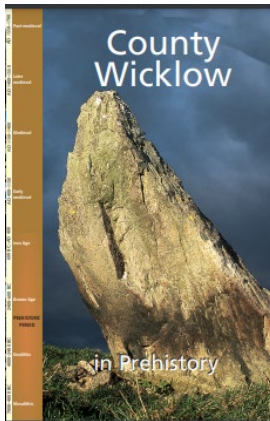
**A Guide to the Archaeology of County Wicklow** by Grogan, E. & Hillery, T. (eds) (1993). Published by Wicklow County Council Tourism, this guide provides information on 50 archaeological sites around the county including the notable passage tombs on Seefin and Baltinglass Hill, the Stone Circles of Athgreany and Castleruddery and Baltinglass Abbey.



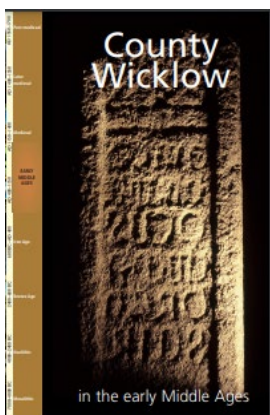
**Antiquities of Old Rathdown** by Chris Corlett (1999) provides an overview of the archaeology of the south-east Dublin and the north-east Wicklow region of Rathdown. The book contains a general history of Rathdown from prehistory right up to the twentieth century followed by an illustrated gazetteer of the archaeological sites and monuments of the area.



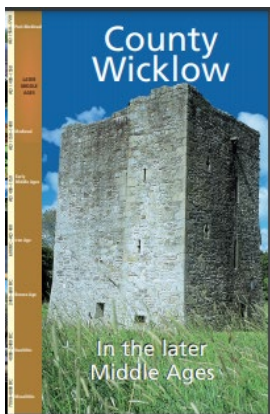
**Archaeological inventory of County Wicklow** (1997) by Grogan, E. & Killeather, A. Part of the series of county inventories compiled and published by the National Monuments Services. The information contained in the inventory is based on the 1986 Sites and Monument Record (SMR) for County Wicklow. 1200 sites are listed each with a brief description of the site, dimensions, the townland where the site is located, the national grid reference and accompanying location map.



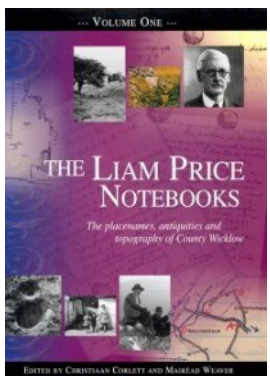
**County Wicklow in Prehistory** (2007) by Murray, C. and Corlett, C. One of three brochures produced by the Heritage Office under the title 'An Introduction to Archaeology in County Wicklow'. Generously illustrated, the guide provides an overview of prehistory activities in County Wicklow from the Mesolithic period (c.7000-4000 BC) to the Iron Age (600 BC-AD 400). The guide provides a list of suggested sites to visit along with a description of how to reach them. The guide can be downloaded from the Heritage Office Webpage: <https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Arts-Heritage-Archives/Heritage/Exploring-Wicklow/Heritage-Sites-to-Visit>



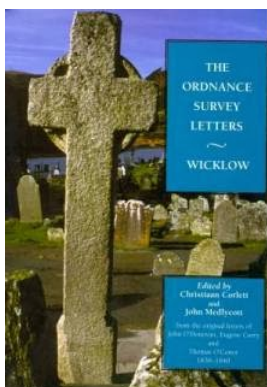
**County Wicklow in the early Middle Ages** (2007) by Murray, C. and Corlett, C. is the second brochure in the 'Introduction to Archaeology in County Wicklow' series. This guide traces human activities in Co. Wicklow during the early Middle Ages (c. AD 400-1150) including the Early Christian and Viking periods. An overview of the main sites and monuments are presented along with suggestions for Early Christian sites in County Wicklow suitable for visiting. The guide can be downloaded from the Heritage Office Webpage: <https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Arts-Heritage-Archives/Heritage/Exploring-Wicklow/Heritage-Sites-to-Visit>



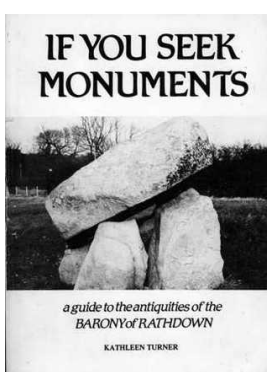
**County Wicklow in the later Middle Ages** (2007) by Murray, C. and Corlett, C. is the third brochure in the 'Introduction to Archaeology in County Wicklow' series. The guide provides an overview of the Norman conquest of Ireland and subsequent activities in Co. Wicklow. An overview of some of the most prominent sites is provided including Baltinglass Abbey, the Black Castle, Wicklow, Oldcourt Castle in Bray and Threecastels Castle, Blessington amongst others. A number of suggestions are made for site visits. The guide can be downloaded from the Heritage Office Webpage: <https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Arts-Heritage-Archives/Heritage/Exploring-Wicklow/Heritage-Sites-to-Visit>



**The Liam Price Notebooks: the placenames, antiquities and topography of County Wicklow Vol. 1 & 2** edited by Christiaan Corlett and Mairéad Weaver (2002). Liam Price is probably best known for his work on the placenames of County Wicklow. Serving as a district justice in Wicklow for nearly 40 years, Price travelled around the county recording the antiquities, placenames and folklore he found along the way. His observations were recorded in a collection of notebooks with the first entry made in March 1928. These original notebooks, illustrated with photographs and sketches, are a treasure trove of information for anyone interested in the county's archaeology and associated folklore. The original field notebooks have been carefully edited and brought to publication in these two volumes.



**The Ordnance Survey Letters – Wicklow** edited by Christiaan Corlett & John Medlycott (2000). The Ordnance Survey for Ireland was established in 1824. Their remit was to carry out a survey of the island of Ireland to update land valuations for land taxation purposes. As part of the survey, surveyors were required to submit, by letter, information relating to the history, placenames, antiquities and architecture relating to each county. This book contains an introduction to the work carried out by John O'Donovan, Eugene Curry and Thomas O'Connor during their field work in Co. Wicklow during the winter of 1838 and 1839, along with a reprint of the letters they sent back to Dublin. The letters contain invaluable observations, sketches and details about archaeological sites and monuments they encountered during their fieldwork.



**If You Seek Monuments: a guide to the antiquities of the Barony of Rathdown** by Kathleen Turner (1983). This is an illustrated guide to the historic monuments in south county Dublin and Bray, Co. Wicklow. Monuments listed include megalithic tombs, churches, castles, standing stones and high crosses, as well as Martello Towers. A grid reference and directions are provided for each monument.

### **Other publications:**

Wicklow County Council Local Studies subscribes to several archaeology journals. These include *Archaeology Ireland* and the *Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland*, both of which available for consultation in the main Local Studies Library in Wicklow Town.

Relevant articles are also free to download from the JSTOR website. These can be accessed free of charge in your local library branch.

### **Heritage maps and trails:**

The Heritage Office has produced a series of brochures setting out the heritage trails of the Blessington Lakes, West Wicklow and South West Wicklow Heritage Routes. Hard copies can be picked up at the main Local Studies Library in Wicklow Town, local tourist offices or can be downloaded from the Heritage Office website at:

<https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Arts-Heritage-Archives/Heritage/Exploring-Wicklow/Heritage-Sites-to-Visit>