

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

AMENITIES AND GENERAL INFORMATION. TOWNS AND VILLAGES (Other than Seaside)

BARONY OF Furris
TOWN OR VILLAGE Westport PARISH Aughrave COUNTY Fayo.

Location and brief description. Population 3,601.

Centrally situated at the South-eastern corner of
Colwyn Bay and on the Carronbeg River, which
flows through the town. The greater portion
of Westport lies in a hollow. A feature is the
hall where the Carronbeg River is spanned
by three bridges and on each side of which
are fountains, symmetrically placed, oak and

Is there a Town Hall? None Location see page 2

Parks, Gardens and Recreation Grounds. Brief description:
None.

Brief comments on water supply and sewerage:
Water:- Excellent supply from Blaghee 6 miles
from Westport through it is electrically pumped
to the town via a Foreymore (1 mile from Westport).

PUBLIC SERVICES

Nearest station Westport Distance 300 yds. Bus? Yes.
Public lighting by—Electricity? Electricity Gas? —

DANCING

Dance hall The Grand Central Hall, Proprietor M. J. Hoban,
James O. Westport.

CINEMAS AND THEATRES

Cinemas Town Hall Cinema Pictures shown 8.30 every night.
(nights)

Theatre None. Kind of shows —
(Drama, Comedy &c.)

elm trees. Westport is the distributing centre for the
 greater portion of Loughrea in the Flour, Coal,
 Cement, Timber, Grains, Manures, Wool, Leather
 and Boat trades, having the advantage of direct
 shipments and regular sailings to and from Liverpool
 Harbour and Liverpool, Glasgow, London and
 foreign ports; and it is the export centre for
 western Loughrea in the following trades; Cattle,
 Eggs, Farm Produce, Wool, ~~Wool~~ etc. The shopping
 district area which lies in the town of
 Westport is one 45 miles north to South and
 32 miles east to west, covering a total area
 larger than the County of Dublin or the
 entire County of Louth, and the population
 of the trading area is over 53,000. Being a
 prominent business place, the town is also a
 well known tourist centre, being the junction
 to the Connemara scenic area and Ards
 and Ballycroy beauty spots. Numerous tourists
 enter the area, and also the well known English
 Pilgrims Pilgrimage. The even-tempered climate
 see page 11

of the town, which is believed by many
 woodland, gives to the town a health giving
 reputation equal to the best town in Ireland.
 (See Co. H. O.H.'s Reports). At present in the
 business life of Westport there is very
 occasional trading from the large area; it
 has been and increased its natural prosperity.
 The industries are progressing very much, such
 as, The Irish Sewing Cotton Company employing
 about 350 hands, The Footwear Clothing
 Company employing about 100 hands, The Fish's
 Tanning Factory, The Reliable Shoe Company,
 Pallen's Fish, Westport Clog Factory, The Fish's
 Leather Lace Company and O'Connell's Printing
 Works. These industries are directly the cause
 of a continual daily spending in the shopping
 districts of the town - independent of fairs
 and market trade. Westport Docks and
 Harbour gives a wage roll of approximately
 £2,000 per annum, all of which is expended
 in the town. (This has been written from
 See page 5)

information supplied by the Town Clerk and
 portion of its tract's report under pre-war
 conditions).

Writing of Wexford, Mackerray says, "It seems
 an event in one's life to have seen this place,
 so beautiful is it and so unlike all the
 other beauties that I know of. Were such
 beauties lying upon English shores it would
 be a world's wonder; perhaps if it were
 on the Mediterranean or the Baltic, English
 travellers would flock to it by hundreds;
 why not come and see it in Ireland? Wexford
 is only one days journey from London, and
 lies in a country far more beautiful to
 look to than travellers than France or
 Germany can be."

See Mackerray's "Irish Sketches"

See article by "Spectator" in "Irish Independent"

for a few words of brief detail with
 Wexford. I cannot now find out the correct
 date of the article.

LIBRARIES

Public Libraries *St. Patrick's Library in Town Hall.*

Private Lending Libraries *P.J. Clarke, Altamont St.
Mrs. J. Ruddy, Shop St.*

CHURCHES AND SERVICES

Church	<i>St. Marys R.C.</i>	Services (Sundays)	<i>8.30 am. 10 am. 11.30 am 7.30 p.m.</i>
	<i>Church of Ireland.</i>		<i>11 a.m.</i>
	<i>Methodist Church.</i>		<i>11.30 am.</i>

POSTAL FACILITIES

Location of Post Office *The North Mall.*

Business (? M.O., Telegraph, Telephone) *all business.*

BANKING

Banks *Quinlan & Keirste, Shop St.
Bank of Ireland, North Mall.
Ulster Bank Ltd, North Mall.*

SPORTS AND PHOTO SUPPLIES

Sports Dealers *The Gibbons, Shop St.
Wm. Hewitson, Bridge St.
P.J. Duffy, Bridge St.*

Photographic Stores *Mrs. B. Walsh, Shop St.
C.P. Koberly, N.P.S.I., Bree Hill St.
Gerard S. Gouder, N.P.S.I., Bridge St.
The Stack N.P.S.I., Bridge St.
~~Mrs. Healy~~*

SWIMMING POOLS AND BATHS

Swimming Pool? Location _____

Public Baths? *Yes.* Location *At Park Hotel, Roman Dolan
Westport Quay 100 yds Westport.*

Water Supply (Contd). There is an emergence a process of natural filtration through beds of limestone. The water, is from potable water and has good pressure. Reservoir contains 5000 full 1,500,000 gallons. 7" main.

Sewerage: The Sewerage does not undergo any process before reaching the Outfall at Glass Bay 3 miles from Westport. Half the Sewer pipes are of the joint-up type while the remainder vary to 6", 9", 18" and 24". The volume of water in the Outfall is greater than the required by public health standards.

Fines (Contd from Item D.) December 1st. These claims stand for each year, but none are due from June or Sunday, as this is held on the day following.

SOCIAL CLUBS, CULTURAL SOCIETIES, &c.

Social Clubs *M. 1 sticks club, Town Hall.*
G. A. C. club, Town Hall.

Cultural Societies *None.*

INDUSTRIES AND HANDCRAFTS

Industries (1) *Mc Gigs Tanning Industry*, (2) *Duck Sewing Company* (3) *The Reliable Shoe Company* (4) *The Cordwearer Woollen Company* (5) *Pellegrini Mills* (6) *Westport Soap Factory* (7) *Mc Gigs Leathers Lace Company*. (8) *Mayo News General Printing Co.* (9) *O'Garra's Printing Works*. (10) *Mally's Furniture Factory* (11) *Kelly's Furniture Factory*

Handcrafts or Cottage Industries (Give names of craftsmen, employer, &c.):
None.

PUBLIC MONUMENTS

(Brief description ; inscription to be quoted)

None.

IMPORTANT PUBLIC BUILDINGS

(Give brief notes on architectural features)

See page 2, 6, 7 + 8 of answer

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

Christian Bros. National School.
Convent of Mercy N.S.
Convent of Mercy Secondary School (Safford's)
Church of Ireland N.S.
Westport Vocational Schools.

HOSPITALS

None.

Church of Ireland: This a beautiful building among
the woods on point of the Sligo Estate. It consists
of a nave and aisles and seating accommodation
for 600 people. The nave is lighted by 4 windows
on the South side and 3 on the North. The apse is
lighted by 3 windows - the West end by a large
"rose" window consisting of 14 panes. North & South
sidewalls and the West gable are decorated with tracery
is technically called "Cartoons" consisting of biblical
stories (or references). On the West side is a copy of
De Vinci's "Last Supper" and Holman Hunt's "Good
Shepherd". The panes are of white Italian marble
with the figures in relief are in black cement. The
background of each being gesso. The tracery is of
Italian marble and large panes over which
are mosaic panels. The pulpit is a beautiful
structure consisting of three different types of
marble. The organ is Schuler's Organ to the altar
at the North Sidewall. There are three altars
each of which may be covered a main entrance
see 8

Yi

are the tracings of which are carved out in
limestone, The lower which contains the Gelfay
is situated at the base end of the South Green wall
and is a height of 130 ft. The bell
contains a peculiar little figure inscribed
which is as follows:

To call the folk to church in time

I chime

When with a pleasure to the wing

I ring

When from the body parts the soul

I toll.

It is of the English style and is carved
out in a peculiar type of granite quarried
locally. See photograph.

Dr. May's Roman Catholic Church, Dr. mainly
of modern architecture, the present building
having been built on the site of the
previous church. The only portion of the old
see page 111

chapel remaining to the NE end of
 on the main entrance. The entrance ^{are} through
 3 plain boarded doors, and the ^{chapel}
 consists of a nave, ^{transverse}, ~~aisles~~ aisles and
 gallery ends being accommodation for
 approximately 2,000 people. The nave and aisles
 are connected by arches supported by 18
 massive pillars, all these also support the
 roof. The building is ^{is lighted} lit by direct ^{light} from
 of simple ecclesiastical design. The organ is situated
 at the N.E. end. The new portion is constructed
 of concrete while the old portion is
 of limestone.

Canon. Ferris, Cam. advised he to see in
 touch with Mr. J. E. Butler, 82 Nelson Square,
 Dublin, who was the architect and would
 give the ^{perfect} architectural description.

The Methodist Church.

This is a very small building measuring
 40' x 18' wide approximately

is seen on the limestone. The windows of
 a house with feeling accommodation for
 the people. It is of simple design, there
 being no arched doors, or windows with any
 architectural features worth note.

Westport Church.

St. Mary's Catholic Church is situated in on the Mall overlooking the river.

In 1927 the old church was reconstructed and the major part of a new church was built at the rear. The front portion of the old building and original facade still remain.

(Received by phone from R.M. Butler & Co., 82, Merrion Sq. — the architects, — who have promised to supply a full description, if necessary. The above account does not even mention the style of architecture, and altho' the person who answered the original enquiry by phone stated that the church is regarded as one of the best modern churches in that part of Mayo, there is some doubt as to whether the building is really imposing.

R.O.B. 26/4/45)

FAIRS AND MARKETS ; HALF-HOLIDAY

Monthly fairs and markets *Fairs:- Jan 1st Feb 11th March 21st April 27th*
May 22nd, June 27th Aug. 7th Sept. 22nd October 31st (2 days)
 Weekly market day *Tuesday* Half-holiday *Wednesday*

GARAGES AND PETROL STATIONS

Timothy Hastings, Fair Green.
Jack Buhery, Castlebar St.
John Buske, Budge St.
Mr. Fitzgerald, James's St.

CONVEYANCES FOR HIRE (Owners)

Taxis *Wm. Loftus, Hill St.* *Jack Gannon, Newport Road.*
W. Turey, Peter St. *Mr. Fadden, The Quay.*
Mr. Fitzgerald, James's St. *Mr. John Loughlin, Peter St.*
John Kelly, Altamont St.
H. Mc Loughlin, The Quay. *Tim Hastings, The Fair Green.*

Motors (Touring) *As above.*

Boats (State type) *John Gady, Sailing boat.*
J. Lambert, Sailing boat.

Bicycles *W. Hewatson, Budge St.*
(Before war, does not apply at present)

Caravans *None.*

Horses *None.*

CAMPING SITES

(At principal holiday resorts)

Location *Excellent Camping sites at Quay.* Landowner *Jacques O'Diogo*
hospital near
hospital.

Local Improvements Committee *None.*

Secretary _____

DATE *16/6/44.*

(Signed) *J. Gannon*