

Old Waterford Society

DECIES

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FRONT COVER:

Our cover illustration shows the belfry of the Dominican Church at the corner of Bridge Street and O'Connell Street, Waterford. The Dominican Order established its first house in Waterford at Blackfriars, in the 13th century. The present edifice was erected in 1875.

We wish to express our sincere thanks to Waterford Corporation and to Waterford Regional Technical College for their valued assistance in the production of this issue.

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E D I T O R I A L.

Most of our readers will, no doubt, be familiar with those old, sepia tinted photographs of Irish scenes taken in the latter years of the 19th and the early years of this century which may sometimes be seen gracing the walls of coffee shops and the like around the country or appearing occasionally as bound collections.

Many of these emanated from the Lawrence Studio in Dublin, whose staff travelled throughout the country recording the passing scene in cities, towns and rural areas. Using the old fashioned wet plate cameras of the period they produced photographs of very high quality.

The National Library of Ireland holds a large collection of these photographs and they generously agreed to co-operate in an interesting project initiated by the Federation of Local History Societies, to which the Old Waterford Society is affiliated. This involved re-photographing 1,000 scenes from the Lawrence collection so as to produce 1,000 pairs of photographs of places throughout the 32 counties of Ireland, taken 100 years apart.

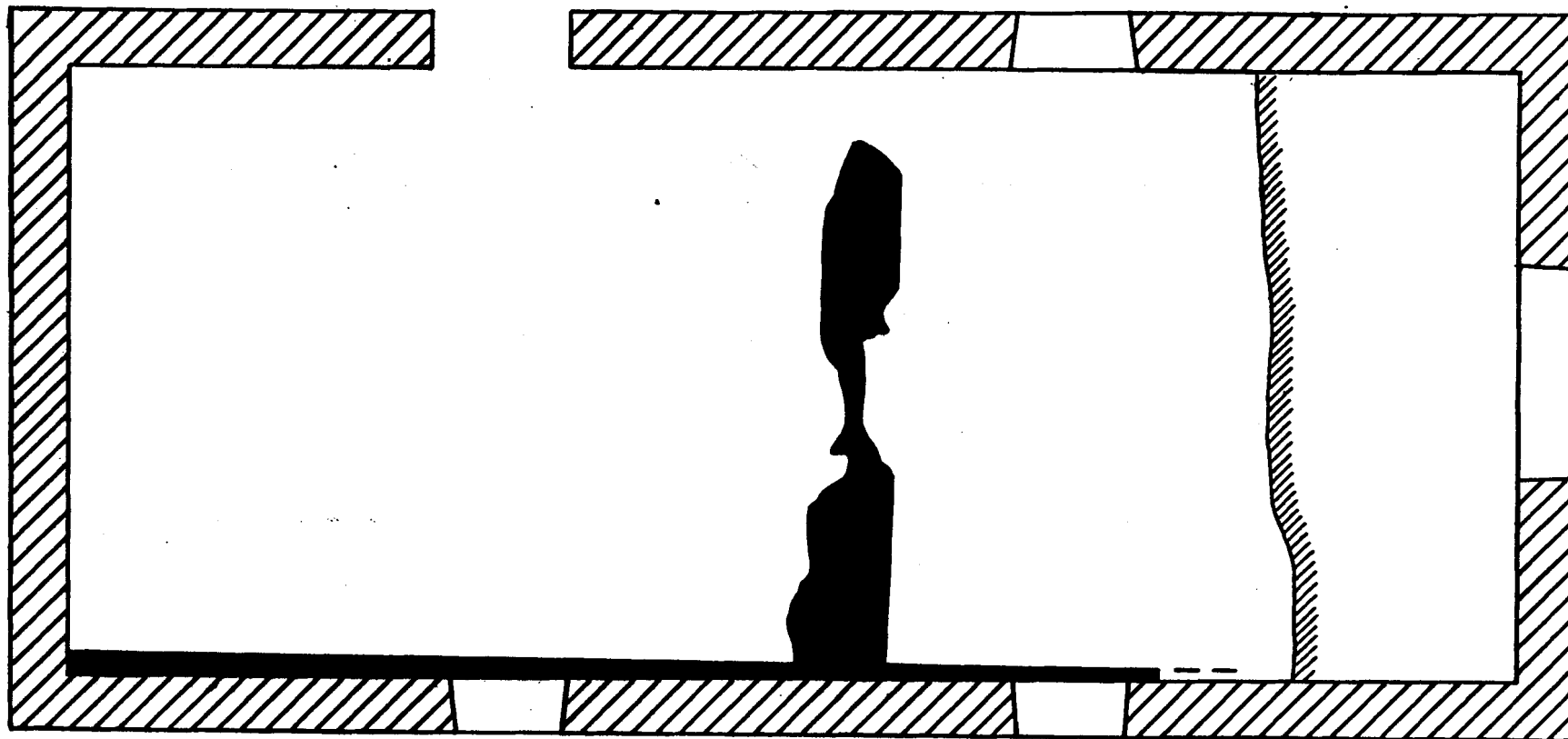
At the time of writing the project is well under way and as can be imagined the results are proving most interesting. In some cases the scene has changed very little over the years while in others it is hardly recognizable.




When the project is complete the new collection will be held in the National Library and a set of scenes from each county will be lodged with the local County Library, together with a catalogue of the new collection showing the scenes depicted and the names of the participating photographers, without whose assistance the scheme could not have gone ahead.

Valuable assistance was also given by Messrs. Fuji who generously sponsored the project by supplying and processing the film.

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FIG. 1: PLAN OF RATHMOYLAN CHURCH



-  TRUNCATED WALLS
-  STANDING WALLS
-  REVETMENT



