



Reading your Local Landscape: The Dunmore Schools Project

The Dunmore Schools Project is the first part of Dunmore Heritage Group's 'Reading Your Local Landscape' initiative. This part of the project includes research on the early national schools of our area. It involves identifying the location of disappeared and deserted schoolhouses, collating old photographs, visually recording remaining buildings/features, collecting stories from the 1930s Schools Collection

<https://www.duchas.ie/en/cbes> and recording memories from past pupils.



Dunmore National School

Dunmore Schools



Shanballymore National School

From our findings in the Dunmore Heritage Audit, among the first formal school houses built in the Dunmore area were in Dunmore Town, Flaskagh More, Strawberry Hill and Shanballymore.

We have started to catalogue many of these historical buildings and look forward to learning and sharing more about the stories they hold and collecting tales of life and learning in years gone by.



Flaskagh National School amalgamated with Dunmore in 1981



Carrowkeel National School amalgamated with Dunmore in 1972



Ballinlass National School old and new



Garrafrauns National School's many Reincarnations



Many thanks to the owners who helped us create this collection of our school buildings through the years.

Schools' folklore collection

In 1937 the Irish Folklore Commission, in collaboration with the Department of Education and the Irish National Teachers' Organisation, initiated a revolutionary scheme in which schoolchildren were encouraged to collect and document folklore and local history. Over a period of eighteen months some 100,000 children in 5,000 primary schools in the twenty-six counties of the Irish Free State were encouraged to collect folklore material in their home districts.

The topics about which the children were instructed to research and write included local history and monuments, folktales and legends, riddles and proverbs, songs, customs and beliefs, games and pastimes, traditional work practices, and crafts, etc. Enjoy a few of these great stories from the dúchas collection of Flaskagh National School.

**NATIONAL
HERITAGE
WEEK 2021
14-22 AUG**



A selection of Flaskagh school's folklore collection



<https://www.duchas.ie/en/cbes/4591089/4589548>

Making Boxyty

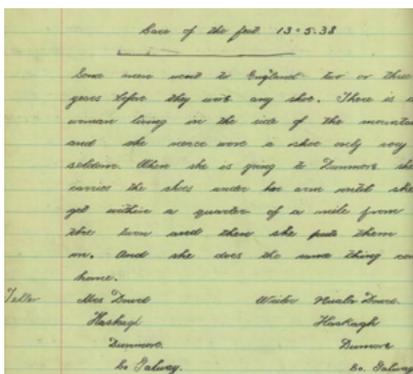
Our food heritage is an important part of our everyday lives. We may not realise it, but the food we eat every day has links to the past and the lives of our ancestors. Boxyty was a very popular food and while it is still available in shops today, in the past, like most meals, it was made at home using potatoes grown in the garden.

Mrs Dowd from Flaskagh More, Dunmore provided the details of boxty making to J. Dowd as part of the Schools' Folklore Collection. She described the board that was used measuring 18 inches by 6 inches. Onto this board a level piece of tin was added. This tin had holes made with a nail so that it looked like a grater. This could then be used to scrape the potatoes so that the watery juice could be removed. After this, the potatoes were mixed with flour and put down to bake with some more pre-boiled potatoes and 'pounded into a thing called cally. The people enjoyed this very much with a cup of milk and some butter'.

<https://www.duchas.ie/en/cbes/4591089/4589561>

Old Shopping

Peg Dowd while collecting stories from Mrs Dowd was told the stories of some of the old shopping habits. She said that every Friday an old man and woman went around the area with a basket of bread and herrings and in exchange for these she would swap for some eggs. On market days women packed baskets of eggs and carried them in their shawls on their backs to the market and hawkers would also attend the fair collecting rags and horsehair.



<https://www.duchas.ie/en/cbes/4591089/4589558>

Care of the feet or care of the shoes?

A story told by Mrs Dowd and collected by Nuala Dowd of Flaskagh tells of men emigrating to England with no shoes. Locally, a woman living near Dunmore on the side of a mountain only very seldom wore any shoes. When she would make the journey into Dunmore, she would carry the shoes under her arm until she reached about a quarter of a mile from town, then she would put on her shoes to do her business about the town but take them off again for the journey home.

Find out more about the 'Reading your Local Landscape' initiative later this week as we highlight our work so far on The Dunmore Bog Walk.

We will be keeping you updated on the progress of this project on our facebook page www.facebook.com/dunmoreheritage So come and join us there.