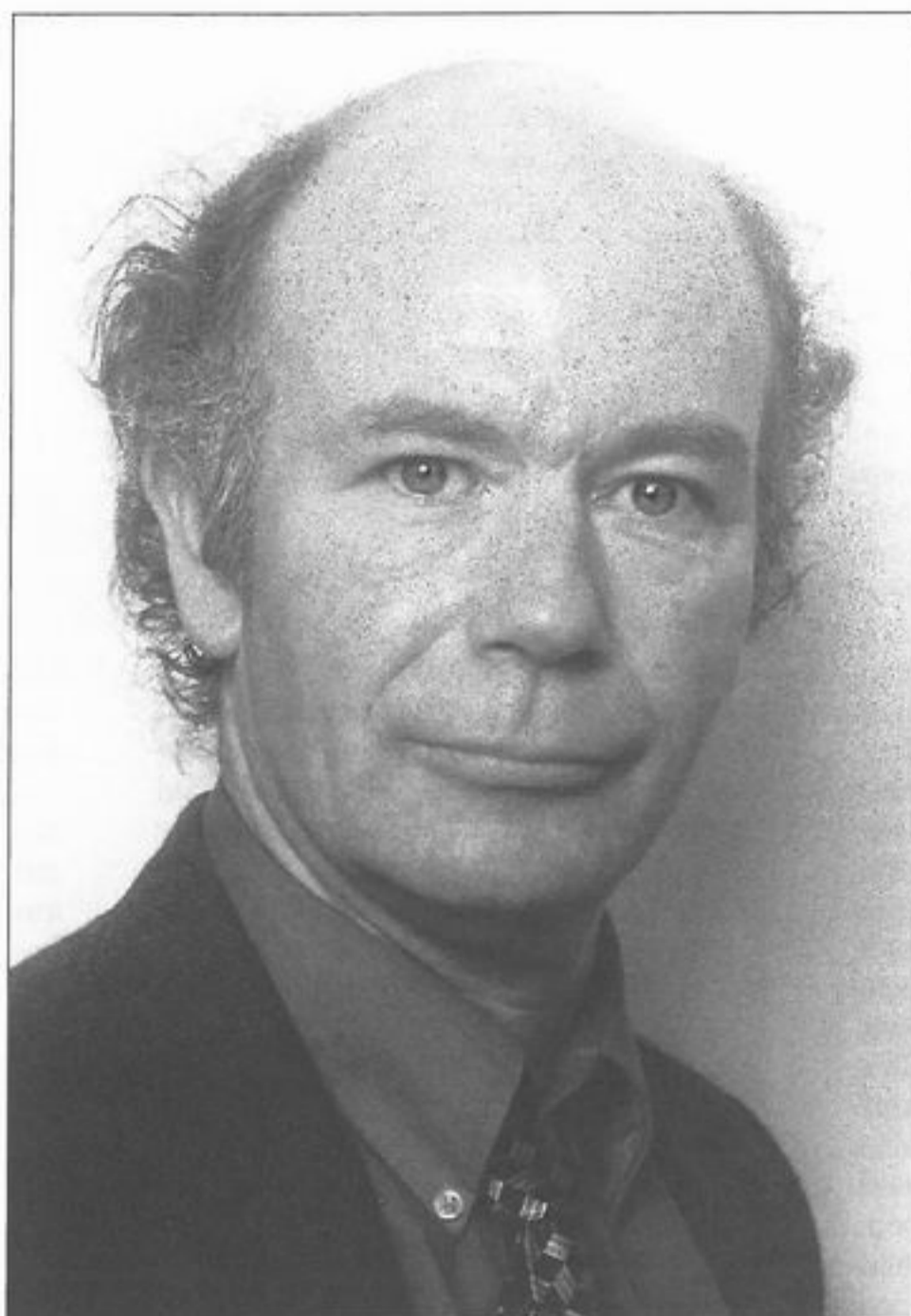


OBITUARY

Larry Walsh



It is with great sadness we have to record the death of Larry Walsh former editor of this journal. Larry took over the editorship on the death of founder editor Jim Kemmy and edited vols 34 to 43 (1998-2009) However he was closely involved with the journal from its beginning firstly featuring prominently in the acknowledgements and then from 1989 onwards as assistant editor.

Larry was born on the 9th September 1949 and was the third of seven children. He was educated through Irish at Gormanston College from where he went on to study archaeology at UCD achieving his MA in 1975. While studying he worked on many of the important sites of the time including Wood Quay in Dublin. His final excavation was at Kilrush church in the Limerick suburbs.

In 1977 Larry started work as part-time curator of Limerick museum. At the time the displays had been dismantled and the collection put into storage in the basement of the Carnegie Library (now Limerick City Gallery of Art). He was soon made permanent and oversaw the museum's move to its new home in St. John's Square. After 20 years in St John's Square the museum was moved again to Castle Lane where the opening exhibition '20 Years a Growing' consisted entirely of material collected during his stewardship. The display of Limerick Silver took pride of place. Larry inherited a single piece, but by the time the new museum opened there were over 150 pieces in the collection. In 1981 the museum won the Museum's Trust Special Award for an exhibition of Limerick silver and in 1992 the Gulbenkian Award for Museums for the "Kings in Conflict" exhibition marking the Tercentenary of the 1691 siege and treaty of Limerick

Larry was an early adopter of new technology. The museum was one of the very first in the country to begin the digitisation of its collection and just after the Millenium became the first local authority museum in the country to make its entire catalogue available online. This stands as a lasting monument to Larry's work and today there are over 55,000 items available. Larry's first love was archaeology, but he was not closeted in a particular genre or discipline and his many articles in this journal will testify to that fact.