

**WATERFORD ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL SOCIETY**



**Philip Long: Insurgent**

Born in Waterford around 1772, not much is known about the early life of Philip Long, other than he might have lived in Spain from his late teens till his mid-twenties. He had a partnership with his uncle, John Roche, a wealthy merchant, though this relationship in business was severed due to Long's connections with the Irish patriot Robert Emmet. Nonetheless, Philip Long was considerable well off and was able to finance a cotton mill in France, which was run by William Puttnam McCabe, an exiled United Irishman, in 1802. This helped to provide cover for the individuals who were planing Emmet's rebellion from outside Ireland.

Leaders of the Emmet rebellion Long's residence at 4 Crow Street for meetings. Long was a prominent financier of the proposed rebellion, his contribution amounting to £1,400. He would play a key role in purchasing materials that were used in the manufacture of arms as well as networking with many supportive individuals such as Miles Byrne, particularly during the rising itself.

Incriminating documents found in Long's house led to his imprisonment in 1803. His address to the 'Citizens of Dublin' was far more incendiary than Emmet's proclamation, and he was considered a 'very deep conspirator'. While in prison he protested against the inhumane treatment that prisoners received, and, with his health and wealth deteriorating, he was released in 1806 without being charged. He died in 1814, a bachelor, never recovering the wealth and prosperity he once had.

**Cian Manning**