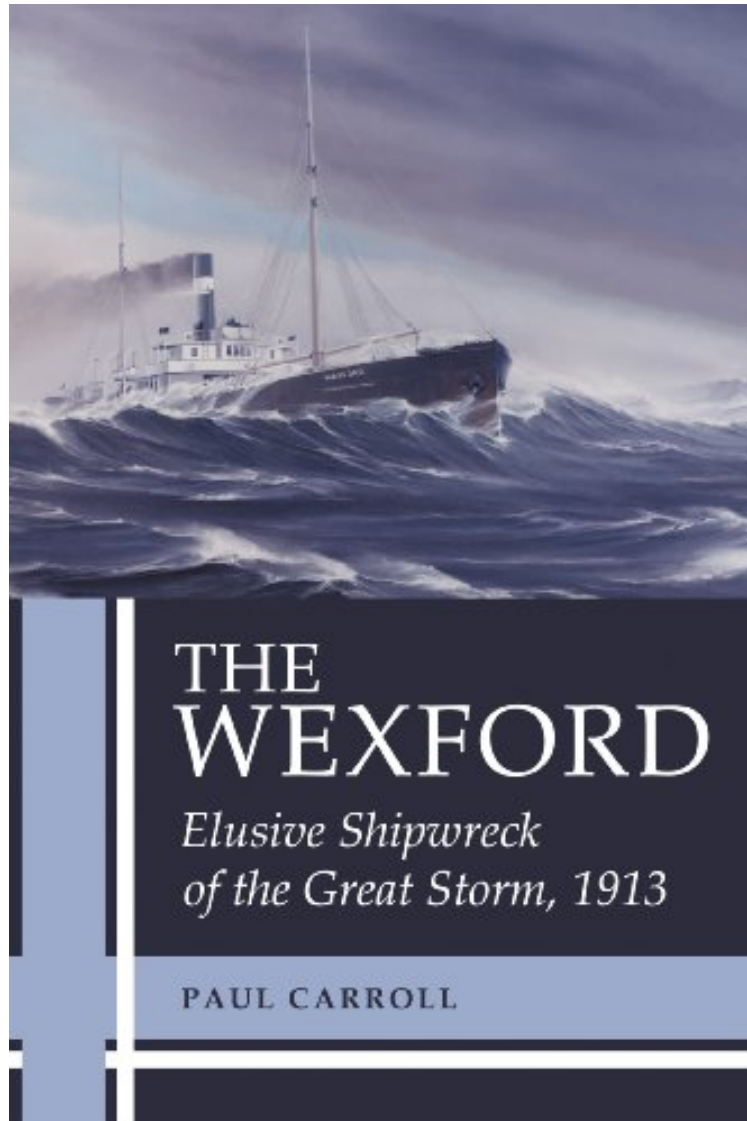


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## The Wexford: Elusive Shipwreck of the Great Storm, 1913

*Paul Carroll*

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**Paul Carroll : The Wexford: Elusive Shipwreck of the Great Storm, 1913** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Wexford: Elusive Shipwreck of the Great Storm, 1913:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Elusive quality along the wayBy Ontic HorizonNo local or regional history is free of its derelictions in style or dialectic amnesia--the Lakes especially, given that Huron, Superior, Ontario, Erie, and St. Clair front the U.S. and Canada (so is a gagger or a heller the same, that is, a terrific but not catastrophic storm as opposed to gale?) and bear the burden of two sets of jargon. However, the discovery of the Wexford seems to have brought from Huron's deeps more than the interesting archaic 'shelter rings' along the Alpena-

Sarnia ridge. Carroll's account is direct, straightforward, and happily willing to err on the side of over-quoting primary source or accounts. There are few Melvillisms (an apparently unavoidable construction concerning the Lakes encribed in *\_Moby Dick\_* and quoted freely with reference to screaming crews--that is, a purple line that only Melville could get away with--once--or even he fell to its charms) but a well-apportioned history of the ship, its known construction, and those crew of local and regional memory. 1913 was a geophysical cataclysm on and around Huron, especially. The atmospheric physics reconstructions alone make you a touch queasy. Beyond that is the fact that multiple large and modern ships vanished. With as much at stake, Carroll provides the perfect blend of summary, regional maritime lore and wisdom, and first-hand accounts of the rediscovery of the salty. The only problem is the conversion to e-text--you have to be on your toes to note the transitions to quotation in some cases and the magnificent photos will not expand. However, given the tales of plunder and looting (ahem...salvage...) perhaps the latter was intentional. Otherwise, delight in a telling, even if the tale is far from delightful. Carroll has managed the story and taken care with the memory--all in all, the kind of cataclysmic history represented by *\_Young Men and Fire\_*. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. The Wexford? By Customer While the book prepossess to be about the Wexford it more seems to be about everything else but. The book goes into great discussions about what the captains log supposedly looked like with supposed entries based upon the authors own experiences. Very little of the book is about the search or exploration about the wreck. More pages are devoted to how the wreck is being ruined by careless divers "stripping" her and how there is no provincial ways to stop it. The book would have made a better magazine story by leaving out most of the material and not repeating large sections multiple times. In addition there was no flow to the reading and not really any new information brought forward. I was very disappointed in the book and would not recommend it unless you know absolutely about the Wexford, shipwrecks, underwater searches or diving. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Very informative book By William Mohney This is well written and packed full of information and details both from an objective and personal perspective. Well worth having in anyone's library

Winner for the 2010 SOS Marine Heritage Award The steamer Wexford, with her flared bow, tall masts, and her open, canvas-sided hurricane deck, charmed spectators as she carried cargo across the Great Lakes. The romance and adventure of her British and French history in the South American trade followed her. Under newly appointed 24-year-old captain Bruce Cameron, her fateful final voyage was punctuated with opportunities to be saved from destruction , but his persistence in trying to make port at Goderich led to tragedy - a victim of the storm of 1913. Over a period of 87 years, she eluded many efforts to locate her remains, but was finally discovered in 2000 by a sailor using a fish-finding device. Since then, she has been visited by thousands, but sadly plundered. Our story traces her history from her British origins in 1883, through the transition to become a "Laker," the eventful storm, the search, and her ultimate discovery in southern Lake Huron, and the controversy over how she should be protected.

... the standard by which other shipwreck accounts will be judged. Carroll has demonstrated his love of history and the Great Lakes... and has shown high respect for the sailors lost... -Don Bamford, Marine Historian Author... something for everyone, appealing to history buffs, boaters and sailors, and anyone who enjoys a well-told story. --Carolyn Parks-Mintz, Journalist, Goderich Signal-Star Paul Carroll leaves no stone unturned the book serves as an ideal primer for the Great Storm itself. (The Waterloo Region Record) It is an interesting and well documented story of the ship's disappearance." (Skip Gillham Thorold Niagara News 2010-07-14) "The Wexford ... has something for everyone, appealing to history buffs, boaters and sailors, and anyone who enjoys a well-told story." (Carolyn Parks-Mintz Signal-Star 2010-06-16) "The Wexford (the book) is both an exciting story of shipwreck exploration and a timely examination of issues surrounding maritime and underwater cultural heritage. It clearly shows Paul Carroll's passion for maritime history and would make an excellent addition to the libraries of shipwreck enthusiasts." (Ontario History magazine) The steamer Wexford, with her flared bow, tall masts, and her open, canvas-sided hurricane deck, charmed spectators as she carried cargo across the Great Lakes. The romance and adventure of her British and French history in the South American trade followed her. Under newly appointed 24-year-old captain Bruce Cameron, her fateful final voyage was punctuated with opportunities to be saved from destruction , but his persistence in trying to make port at Goderich led to tragedy - a victim of the storm of 1913. Over a period of 87 years, she eluded many efforts to locate her remains, but was finally discovered in 2000 by a sailor using a fish-finding device. Since then, she has been visited by thousands, but sadly plundered. Our story traces her history from her British origins in 1883, through the transition to become a "Laker," the eventful storm, the search, and her ultimate discovery in southern Lake Huron, and the controversy over how she should be protected. From the Inside Flap The steamer Wexford charmed spectators as it carried cargo across the Great Lakes. The Wexford's fateful final voyage was punctuated with opportunities to be saved, but attempts to make port led to tragedy. Paul Carroll traces the steamers history here, as well as the controversy over how the wreck should be protected. About the Author Paul Carroll, a "wharf rat" in his youth, brought forward the first Waterfront Development Plan for the long-term evolution of the Goderich shoreline and was involved with the sidescan sonar search for the Wexford. Paul's most recent book is *Four Years on The Great Lakes*. He and his

wife Mary live near Goderich.