

The Museum of Newport Irish History

Third talk of the 2022-2023 Lecture Series ~ Our 21st Annual

Lecture made possible by a generous gift from



Ethnic Enclaves: Newport's Kerry Hill Irish in 19th & Early 20th Century

Guest Speaker:

Dr. Kurt C. Schlichting

Monday, November 14, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Wyndham Newport Hotel

240 Aquidneck Avenue, Middletown, R.I. 02842

and Live-Streamed via Zoom

The history of Newport, first settled in 1639, is complicated. The Irish arrived in significant numbers 180 years later in the 1820s. In the Famine years, the number of immigrants and their children born in America, increased dramatically. Irish immigration continued well into the 20th century.

Many immigrants arrived without significant resources and sought inexpensive housing. They settled on streets where Irish already lived. This pattern of “chain-migration” often reunited family members or people from the same village or county in Ireland. The Kerry Hill/ West Broadway neighborhood became the earliest large Irish enclave in Newport and will be the focus of this talk.

A revolution has occurred in historical research in immigration and settlement in the United States. It is now possible to obtain digital Census data for the 18th & 19th centuries for every city and county in the country. Using historical digital maps of Newport, the Irish, African-American, Italian, Portuguese or any immigrant population can be “geocoded” to their street addresses in the 1880s and the early 20th century.

KURT C. SCHLICHTING is the E. Gerald Corrigan '63 Chair in Humanities & Social Sciences Department and a Professor of Sociology at Fairfield University (CT) Emeritus. He is the author of *Grand Central Terminal: Railroads, Architecture and Engineering in New York* (Johns Hopkins U. Press, 2001), for which he received the 2002 Best Professional/Scholarly Book: Architecture & Urbanism Award from the Association of American Publishers. This book was the basis of "Grand Central," an *American Experience* documentary on PBS, for which Dr. Schlichting served as an academic advisor and was an on-screen interviewee. His most recent book, *Waterfront Manhattan: From Henry Hudson to the High Line*, was published by Johns Hopkins University Press in May 2018. Dr. Schlichting received his bachelor's degree from Fairfield University and his master's degree and a doctorate from New York University. We welcome Dr. Schlichting for this, his seventh talk, for the Museum of Newport Irish History.

A reception with light hors d'oeuvres will be held following the lecture. Cash Bar

Reservations Required for In-Person and Zoom Participation

To reserve: Visit www.NewportIrishHistory.org, click “Lectures,” then the appropriate link to reserve under the Nov. 14 listing (In Person or Zoom). You will receive an e-confirmation. If you do *not* see this email, check your SPAM. The talk will be videotaped and a link to view will be available later, on our website “Lectures” page.

~ \$5 fee/donation payable at the door via cash or check to “MNIH.” No fee to participate via Zoom.

Questions/Assistance with Registration? Contact Ann Arnold at (401) 841-5493 or tpm1@earthlink.net.