



The Museum of Newport Irish History MNIH

Second talk of our 24th Annual Lecture Series

☞ *Made possible by a generous gift from Larry Bartley* ☞

Irish American Identity in Transition: A Tale of Two Waves of Immigration, 1880s-1920s

Guest Speaker:

Timothy J. Meagher, PhD

Monday, October 20, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

Wyndham Newport Hotel

240 Aquidneck Avenue, Middletown, R.I. 02842

and Live-Streamed via Zoom

Timothy Meagher's most recent book, *Becoming Irish American*, traces the history of Irish Americans from their roots in Ireland through the American colonial and revolutionary periods to the election of John F. Kennedy. There is much to discuss about Irish Americans across those years, but in this talk, Dr. Meagher will focus on a significant period: the forty or more years straddling the turn of the twentieth century. In that period, the children of the massive Famine migration grew to maturity. This American-born generation would become very different from their immigrant parents, but, importantly, they would also be very different from their American "native stock" neighbors — in our New England expression — the Yankees.

Complicating the history of Irish America at that moment, another huge wave of immigrants came to America from Ireland in the 1880s, followed by significant, if smaller waves through the 1920s. Those Irish immigrants had their own understanding of being Irish in America.

Dr. Meagher will address these changes in Irish America throughout the turn of the century era, and with the help of Professor John Quinn and the audience, discuss how these changes did or did not affect the Newport Irish.

TIMOTHY J. MEAGHER was born in Worcester, Massachusetts, and his family spent many summers in Newport. He is a retired Professor of History and Director of Archives at the Catholic University of America. He received his PhD in American History from Brown University and, as a Fulbright Fellow, taught at University College Dublin and Dublin City University. He has written or co-edited five books, including recently, *Becoming Irish American: The Making and Remaking of a People From Roanoke to JFK* (Yale University Press, 2024)

Doors open at 5:30 pm. Light hors d'oeuvres & Cash Bar available

\$5 Lecture Fee is payable at door via cash or check to "MNIH." No fee to Zoom.

Reservations Required for In-Person and Zoom Participation

To reserve, visit www.NewportIrishHistory.org, click "Lectures," then the appropriate link to reserve under the Oct. 20 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 will be available on our website's "Lectures" page after the event.

Questions or Assistance with Registration: Please contact Ann Arnold at (401) 841-5493, (917) 270-3372, or tpm1@earthlink.net

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