

# Irish and Scots-Irish Family Research Seminar

**SATURDAY, MARCH 23 | 9 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.**

Frank and Katrina Basile Theater | Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana History Center

Fintan Mullan, director of The Ulster Historical Foundation, and Brian Trainor, former director of Northern Ireland's Public Records Office provide extensive information on sources available for tracing Irish and Scots-Irish ancestors in all parts of Ireland.

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## Schedule

**8:30 to 9 a.m. | Registration and welcome**

**9 to 9:40 a.m.**

### **Introduction to Irish and Scots-Irish Family History Research Part 1**

An overview of the Ulster Historical Foundation, where to begin your research, the destruction of records in 1922, and the importance of place and administrative divisions in Ireland.

**9:50 to 10:30 a.m.**

### **Introduction to Irish and Scots-Irish Family History Research Part 2**

A broad overview of Scots-Irish and Irish research. Benefiting beginners and seasoned genealogists alike, it is practical, wide-ranging and informative using visual aids and exploring such issues as land divisions, the major collections of records and how to access them. This primer sets the program up for the day.

**10:30 to 10:45 a.m. | Break**

**10:45 to 11:35 a.m.**

### **Emigration from Ireland to America and the Sources for Its Study**

The story of the Scots-Irish and their experiences in Ireland and the New World. Using a range of documentary evidence, this presentation touches on the causes for migration, push-and-pull factors, the patterns of migration, the estimated size of the exodus and its implications for the development of American colonial society.

**11:40 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

### **Records Relating to the Different Churches in Ireland**

Detail about the church records available for the main Christian denominations in Ireland: Church of Ireland (Anglican), Presbyterian and Roman Catholic. We provide an understanding of the differences between the many Protestant denominations and look at the value of annotations found in Catholic Church records which can be of great benefit to the family historian.

**12:30 to 1:30 p.m. | Lunch**

**1:30 to 2:20 p.m.**

### **Understanding Irish Townlands: The Importance of Place, Identity and Administrative Divisions**

The different administrative divisions: e.g. townland, barony, civil and ecclesiastical parish, county, Poor Law Union, District Electoral Division, as well as where they originated and how they relate to each other. For Americans, the vastness of their own country often makes it difficult to comprehend the very local and tightly knit nature of Irish society and the world of their ancestors. The sense of place in rural Ireland is paramount, and gaining an understanding of this uniquely Irish sense of place and location is crucial to being successful in Irish genealogical research.

**2:20 to 2:35 p.m. | Break**

**2:35 to 3:20 p.m.**

### **Researching the Farming Community in the 18th and 19th Centuries**

Leases, rentals, maps and the significance of landed estates in Ulster, a province of landed estates in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The documents generated by the management of landed estates are among the most valuable of records for the local and family historian.

**3:20 to 4p.m.**

### **Irish and Scots-Irish Research: Not Always at the Bottom of the Pile**

A look at the lesser-known and more fragmentary sources available for the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries, including estate records, the Registry of Deeds, wills and other materials. Drawing attention to Irish sources not available elsewhere in the British Isles or Europe, the theme of this lecture is a counterpoint to the disparaging remark, "but I leave that to the bottom of the piles," in reference to researching Irish ancestors. Based on the erroneous notion that all Irish records were destroyed in 1922, some researchers have assumed there are few records at which to look. This lecture is the antidote to that attitude and demonstrates that in some instances Ireland has quite exceptional and unique sources.

**4 to 4:30 p.m. | Question-and-Answer Session**

## About the Speakers

**Fintan Mullan** has been with the Ulster Historical Foundation since 2001. He is a non-executive director of the Irish Family History Foundation, a board member of the Northern Ireland Publications Resource, a member of the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, Readers Forum, and a former non-executive director of the International Society for British Genealogy and Family History. He has spoken widely in the U.S. about Irish family history research and was a presenter in the genealogy section at the Smithsonian Folklife Festival in 2007, when Northern Ireland was one of the featured countries. He has also spoken in Canada, the UK, Australia and New Zealand. He has a bachelor's degree in Irish politics and philosophy and a master's degree in organization and management, both from Queen's University, Belfast.

**Brian Trainor** retired as research director of the Ulster Historical Foundation in 2010. He was educated at Queen's University, Belfast, and from there went for a time to the Institute of Historical Research in London. He returned to Belfast, where he lectured for several years at Queen's before becoming an archivist in the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland. He was director of the Public Record Office from 1970 to 1987 when he became director and then research director of the Ulster Historical Foundation. He holds an honorary doctorate of law from the National University of Ireland.

**\$35; \$28 IHS and GSMC members.**

**\$12 potato bar, dessert and beverage.**

Includes parking and *Indiana Experience* admission. This workshop is eligible for 7 general LEUs. Hosted by IHS and the Genealogical Society of Marion County.

**To register or for more information, visit [www.indianahistory.org](http://www.indianahistory.org) or call (317) 232-1882.**