



All lectures will be held in Tipperary County Museum, Mick Delahunty Square, Clonmel.



Lectures will commence at 10.30am sharp.



€5 per lecture. Space is limited. Seats will be allocated on a first come, first served basis



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Tipperary County Museum
Lecture Series



Farm, Field & Fireside: The changing patterns of land & home ownership

Farm, Field & Fireside: The changing patterns of land & home ownership

The saying goes a man's home is his castle! Regardless of scale or social class the desire to own one's own home has always been important to Irish people. This fifth annual Tipperary County Museum lecture series will examine the changing relationships and patterns of property ownership in 19th and 20th century Ireland. The economic and social factors that influenced these patterns and the consequences of such changes will be examined.

Political involvement pre and post independence has had a large influence on ownership and this will be examined through a discussion of the various land acts as well as Free State government policy on housing in the newly formed state.

The workload of the home owners and conditions within the house in some cases will be explored and anybody with objects associated with the domestic interior are encouraged to bring them to Claudia Kinmonth's lecture.

The inspiration for this lecture series came from looking at the many buildings, streetscapes, townscapes and villages featured in the Museums historic postcard collection that features in our current Exhibition A Message in Time - a multi-dimensional investigation of the relationship between humans and the written word, our obsession with communication, and how this continues to evolve and change as new technologies come on-stream.

1983.685 Farmhouse, Tramore by Joseph Cusack, Etching

Lecture Calendar

2017

LECTURE 01	JOHN FLANNERY Tipperary's Encumbered Estates	 SATURDAY OCT 7
LECTURE 02	WILLIAM A SMYTH Griffith's Valuation in mid-nineteenth century Tipperary	 SATURDAY NOV 4
LECTURE 03	PROF TERENCE DOOLEY Revolution and Land: the impact of Irish Land Acts, 1881-1923	 SATURDAY DEC 2

2018

LECTURE 04	BARRY O'REILLY Community life in Irish traditional hamlets	 SATURDAY JAN 6
LECTURE 05	PETER CONNELL Clearing the slums and the remaking of Irish towns in the 1930s	 SATURDAY FEB 3
LECTURE 06	CLAUDIA KINMONTH 'Her dairy, her calves & her homespun linen'; Women in the Irish farm kitchen	 SATURDAY MAR 3
LECTURE 07	CLODAGH DOYLE Home is where the Hearth is - Níl aon tinteán mar do thinteán féin	 SATURDAY APR 14

LECTURE
01



**Tipperary's
Encumbered Estates**

Saturday Oct 7th 10.30am

John Flannery



Biography: John Flannery compiled and presented the popular Talking History at Steeples talks on local history. He has lectured extensively to historical societies and schools throughout Munster. He is currently president of the Ormond Historical Society, based in Nenagh. He is deeply interested in local history, particularly the Irish Civil War period. John is currently completing an MA in History of Family at University of Limerick.

Synopsis: The Great Famine had a huge impact on the non payment of rents to Landlords and an increase in the number of evictions. This resulted in many landed estates becoming bankrupt. In 1849 the government passed The Encumbered Estates Act. This Act established the Encumbered Estates Court to facilitate the sale of insolvent landed estates, whose owners had been bankrupted by the Great Famine. This lecture will look at estates in Tipperary and how many of them availed of this act.

LECTURE
02



**Griffith's Valuation in mid-
nineteenth century Tipperary**

Saturday Nov 4th 10.30am

William A Smyth



Biography: William A. Smyth is a native of Clonmel. He earned his PhD in 2009 for his examination of Griffith's Valuation in the context of the political, social and economic history of the mid-nineteenth century. Having lectured in history on both the main Maynooth University campus and the outreach centre in Kilkenny, he is credited with having untangled the complexity of Griffith's Valuation to reveal its full potential, not only as a genealogical tool but, as "the most important source for nineteenth century Irish history".

Synopsis: Sir Richard Griffith's Valuation of Rateable Property in Ireland was completed in 1864. This was the culmination of a process that commenced in the 1820s with the detailed mapping of Ireland. Also referenced as the Poor Law Valuation, it remained the basis for assessment of agricultural rates until 1983 and continues in use for the collection of commercial rates to this day. Favoured by local historians for its detailed list of occupiers and their relative wealth, general historical studies have latterly recognised it's potential as a robust source for measuring the economic status of the country. This short lecture will focus on the insight that can be gleaned from both the printed valuations and the associated manuscript documentation into the quality and provision of housing in Tipperary during the tumultuous Famine period in the context of the political, social and economic developments of the time in the islands of Great Britain and Ireland.

LECTURE
03



**'Revolution and Land: the impact
of Irish Land Acts, 1881-1923'**

Saturday Dec 2nd 10.30am

Prof Terence Dooley



Biography: Professor Terence Dooley teaches in the History Department at Maynooth University, where he is also founder and Director of the Centre for the Study of Historic Irish Houses and Estates. He is the author of several books, most recently The decline and fall of the Dukes of Leinster: love, war, debt and madness and The Irish revolution: Monaghan, 1912-23.

Synopsis: Land and the national question, dominated Irish politics and society since at least the Act of Union. By independence in 1922, despite revolutionary land legislation passed for Ireland by successive British governments, that had culminated in a dramatic transfer of landownership, especially under the 1903 Land Act, no final solution to the land question had been achieved. Historians of modern Ireland, have been slow to acknowledge the scale and influence of the agrarian dimension to the 1917-23 period, which culminated in the passing of the 1923 Land Act, the first major piece of social legislation introduced by an independent Irish government. Not only did it contribute to ending the Irish Civil War, but it was a major achievement for a poorly resourced fledgling state to financially engineer a land purchase programme costing upwards of £30 million.

LECTURE
04



**Community life in Irish
traditional hamlets**

Saturday Jan 6th 10.30am

Dr Barry O' Reilly



Biography: Dr Barry O'Reilly's background is in archaeology, folk tradition and architectural heritage. His main area of research is vernacular (traditional) architecture, in which he has an MA from University College Dublin and a PhD from Oxford Brookes University. Most recently he has studied traditional settlements (mainly farming hamlets) in Ireland and internationally. He has managed National Inventory of Architectural Heritage surveys throughout Ireland, including North and South Tipperary. Barry also has an MUBC degree from UCD that included a study of corrugated iron. Barry has lectured widely on vernacular architecture and on architectural heritage in general. He lives near Fethard.

Synopsis: This talk will look at life in our traditional farm settlements, with the emphasis on community. It will focus on four places in counties Donegal, Galway, Kerry and Kilkenny. Perceptions of these places, by both insiders and outsiders, are an interesting aspect of the subject. Everyday life, historically and today, will be presented, as will changes over time in population and economy. Folk traditions add a further dimension.

LECTURE
05



**Clearing the slums and the
remaking of Irish towns in the
1930s.**

Saturday Feb 3rd 10.30am

Peter Connell



Biography: Peter Connell recently completed his PhD in Trinity College Dublin based on research into the provision of public housing in Irish provincial towns between 1890 and 1945. A native of Navan, Co. Meath, he has written extensively on the history of the county. He is editor of Ríocht na Míde, the journal of the Meath Archaeological and Historical Society and contributed to the Atlas of the Great Irish Famine published by Cork University Press in 2012.

Synopsis: Housing conditions in many Irish towns were amongst the worst in western Europe in the early twentieth century and had improved only marginally by the early 1930s. In towns such as Drogheda, Tipperary, Kilrush and Ballina over a quarter of the population lived in overcrowded conditions. Under a series of Fianna Fáil-led governments between 1932 and 1945 the state addressed these conditions in a concerted manner for the first time. Almost 10,000 condemned dwellings were demolished and most of their residents were rehoused in newly-built council housing. The scale of this enterprise represented a remaking of many towns with old lanes and streets demolished and new housing schemes generally located on peripheral sites. An examination of the housing programme also exposes the political and financial strains it imposed on municipal authorities and the challenges facing those ordered to vacate their condemned homes.

LECTURE
06



**'Her dairy, her calves & her
homespun linen'; Women in the
Irish farm kitchen**

Saturday Mar 3rd 10.30am

Dr Claudia Kinmonth



Biography: Claudia Kinmonth has published numerous books including Irish Country Furniture 1700-1950, and Irish Rural Interiors in Art. She has worked at London's Victoria & Albert Museum, and the Sir John Soane's Museum. She is also Conservation Consultant to Cork Butter Museum and Cork Public Museum. She lives in West Cork with her family, lectures widely and broadcasts for television, film and radio.

Synopsis: Drawing on her own research into Irish country furniture, and paintings of Irish interiors, Claudia Kinmonth tells a richly illustrated tale of life in the Irish farmhouse. The farm kitchen was chiefly the woman's domain or workshop. A range of traditional occupations enabled women to better themselves, and control their own destiny, while raising children and keeping things clean. So alongside cooking and keeping the fire going, they were often charged with raising young-stock, milking and churning butter. On the smaller farms, rearing of poultry enabled some women to earn more than their husbands. Spinning, sewing and knitting, lace-making, mending and washing clothes, as well as those of other people, can also be seen in early paintings. The audience is encouraged to bring objects along for discussion afterwards.

LECTURE
07



**Home is where the Hearth is -
Níl aon tinteán mar do
thinteán féin**

Saturday April 14th 10.30am

Clodagh Doyle



Biography: Clodagh Doyle has been working with the Irish Folklife Collection of the National Museum of Ireland since 1995 and is now based at The Museum of Country Life, Turlough Park, Castlebar, Co. Mayo, the fourth site of the National Museum. She has a degree in Irish Folklore and Archaeology and her MA thesis is on the subject of Traditional Hearth Furniture. As Assistant Keeper, she curates the Calendar Custom, Religion, Sport & Leisure, Childhood, Ceramics & Glass and Hearth Furniture Collections. She has worked on the inaugural exhibitions at Collins Barracks, Dublin and when the Irish Folklife Collection moved to Mayo in 2001, she curated much of the permanent galleries at this new facility.

Synopsis: Everything in the home centered around the fireside - It was the main focus of the home. The positioning, construction, activities and folklore of the hearth combined with the objects used for tending the fire will be covered in the lecture. Cooking over the open fire is as old as mankind and the cookware of our parents and grandparents will be looked at in detail. The talk will be illustrated with archival photographs and images of objects from the National Museum's Irish Folklife Collection.

