

Where history happened

The most authentic tours in the history of America

November 2007



See new lower prices on
The Ireland Never Seen!
Page 4—News

June 16-26, 2008 The Ireland Never Seen: A Journey Into Irish-American History

There is just something about Ireland. It has a steadfast rhythm of life that is an echo of long ago, a cherished existence that has not completely faded. It is said that Ireland has no ancient history because yesterday's affairs shape today's thought in an astonishingly direct way. For centuries the Irish have struggled for political and economic freedom, creating a turbulent past that comes alive with tales of heroism and hatred, murderers and martyrs, decisive dates and disputed deeds—a truly fascinating heritage just waiting to be discovered.

With Historian Guide Deirdre Burns you will travel back in time hundreds of years and discover a beguiling Irish-American stew that has transcended turbulence and troubles and forged bonds between the two countries that are deeply intertwined. From presidents to award-winning authors, Irish immigrants have played a central role in defining the American character and identity. The Irish-American family album includes the Kennedy's, Andrew Jackson, Patrick Cleburne, John Wayne, Georgia O'Keeffe, F. Scott Fitzgerald, and Grace Kelly, to name just a few. Almost 40 million Americans list their ancestry as Irish, and all bear witness to the strength and endurance of the Irish spirit.

The stirring events of Irish history through the centuries are made even more moving by the stunning

President
John F. Kennedy



scenery and dramatic landscapes. This country's hills and valleys have seen Neolithic farmers clear the land and fugitives hide in its woods; its plains have witnessed great armies massing ready for combat. The best way to understand this rich cultural, political, and social history is through some of Ireland's many outstanding national museums and heritage sites. Throughout the tour you will visit places of historical significance such as Bru na Boinne, Western Europe's most prominent Neolithic site, the restored 17th century homestead of Bellghy Bawn, the Ulster American Folk Park, and Cobh—The Queenstown Story which retraces the steps of those who emigrated from Ireland.

There is a whole world of history to be found with *The Ireland Never Seen*. Whether your passion is the ancient or modern, there are compelling sagas of the broadest scope and the perfect blend of saints and sinners, legends and lore, and war and peace. Let Deirdre Burns* with her exceptional knowledge and experience bring all these epic events to life. Come with us on this odyssey through the ages—a never-to-be-forgotten tour with HistoryAmerica.

*Bob Shapley, Phoenixville, Pennsylvania, took the HAT tour of Ireland in 2003. When he received our 2008 schedule, he wrote the following note.

"You will absolutely adore Deirdre Burns. She is extremely bright, articulate, charming, and one of the most knowledgeable historians you will ever employ. The Ireland trip is a must for folks who enjoy history."

A TOUR YOU SHOULD NOT MISS!

Pete Brown, founder of HistoryAmerica

Four years ago HistoryAmerica traveled to Ireland. Our itinerary stressed the synergy between the US and Ireland. The star of the show was Deirdre Burns, who helped plan the tour and acted as assistant historian and local guide. She charmed everyone with her deep knowledge of and love for her country. She was always good natured, bubbled every day, and used no notes. She was prepared to explore in depth all possible subjects with the group. She led us in song in the pubs on occasion and answered endless questions in detail daily.

The next year Julia and I went back on our own and spent more time getting to know the country and Deirdre. We knew she would be the ideal Historian Guide the next time HistoryAmerica visited Ireland. We also knew that we must include Northern Ireland, creating a somewhat expanded version of the first tour.

The 2008 tour will be a loop from Dublin with an extensive exploration of Northern Ireland. Time will be spent on the historic west coast with a night in Waterford. Even if you have been to Ireland multiple times, let me assure you that this trip will be unlike any other in terms of new and fascinating historic sites and ties that bind our two countries.

Without hesitation I can tell my many dear friends who have traveled with HistoryAmerica for all these years, this is a tour you should not miss.



The Coffin Ship, the National Famine Memorial

HISTORYAMERICA TOURS®

For reservations & information contact:
HISTORYAMERICA TOURS®
(800) 628-8542
www.historyamerica.com

April 27–May 4, 2008

Bad Hand Mackenzie: Legend of the Texas Indian Wars



Paul Weber
Cincinnati, Ohio

I have always been interested in American history. I usually read history books instead of novels. In college, my major was American History. My vacations as a child and as an adult have usually been full of visits to historical sites and museums. Lying on the beach or playing golf for a week has never been my idea of a vacation. A day of each is plenty. There are too many fascinating places to visit.

I discovered historical led history tours in 1999. I took my first HistoryAmerica tour in 2005. Since then, I have taken six tours with HistoryAmerica and have signed up for a seventh tour in 2008. Other tour companies do a good job. HistoryAmerica does a great job. "Taking you where history happened" is more than a catchy slogan. It is what HistoryAmerica accomplishes with every tour it produces. The owners, scouts and historians design interesting and varied itineraries that are impeccably combined with good meals and comfortable lodging. In addition to frequently visited places, HistoryAmerica takes its lucky customers to many less known and seldom seen historical sites. I would never have been able to find, let alone stand in, the remnants of Fort Dilts in western North Dakota; view the surrounding terrain from the same vantage point as Indian scouts did on Killdeer Mountain 140 years ago; visit the site where the Mississippi River broke through a levee in 1927 or walk in the ruts made by wagon wheels on the Oregon Trail without HistoryAmerica.

Every tour I take with HistoryAmerica adds to my knowledge of this great country's past and makes me want to learn more. I am very glad that HistoryAmerica is continuing its strong tradition of well-planned and interesting tours. I always look forward to seeing people I have traveled with before on HistoryAmerica tours and meeting new history enthusiasts. I hope to collect memories and share good times with fellow travelers on HistoryAmerica tours for many more years.

Bad Hand Mackenzie—are you familiar with this unique man who became a legend during the Texas Indian Wars? Who is this man who was fearless in the face of warring Indian tribes, but terrified in the company of a pretty young woman? He and his exceptional accomplishments fascinate those who know of Bad Hand. Those of you who do not know of him now have an excellent opportunity to learn why others are so intrigued. As Historian Guide Neil Mangum leads you on the tour *Bad Hand Mackenzie: Legend of the Texas Indian Wars*, he will introduce you to the man who General Ulysses S. Grant said was "the most promising young officer in the army."

The story of Mackenzie in Texas cannot be told without including the stories of the near disappearance of the buffalo; of Isatai, the young warrior and medicine man; and of Quanah Parker, the half-breed son of a Comanche chief.

In June 1874, while in the Texas panhandle, Isatai summoned the tribes to Adobe Walls, where there were a large number of buffalo hunters who had moved into the forbidden land of the Medicine Lodge Treaty. Quanah was in charge of one group of warriors, the Quahadi. The battle was a victory but also Quanah's closest brush with death—he was shot twice. A month later Lt. Gen. Philip H. Sheridan ordered five commands to ignore the Medicine Lodge Treaty and converge on Indian hideouts. In September Mackenzie, in the most daring and decisive battle of the campaign, destroyed five Indian villages in Palo Duro Canyon. With the Indian's food source depleted and under constant pressure from the army,



**Comanche War Chief
Quanah Parker**

the Quahadi Comanches finally surrendered in 1875 and moved to a reservation in southwestern Oklahoma.

The story of Quanah Parker does not end there; Mangum will tell you the end of the tale of this amazing warrior who went from stone age man to statesman. You will also hear the end of the story of Ranald S. Mackenzie, Civil War hero and Indian fighter extraordinaire; how he was later sent north to tame the tribes that had destroyed Custer and finally why General Mackenzie was retired from the military because of a mental illness—a tragic end to a glorious career. All these stories converge when Neil Mangum, master storyteller, takes you on the tour *Bad Hand Mackenzie*.

Stokestown Park Famine Museum



The National Famine Museum is located on the grounds of the former estate of the Mahon family in the Roscommon market town of Strokes-town. *The Ireland Never Seen: A Journey Into Irish-American History* travelers will view the thoughtfully designed exhibits explaining how before the potato blight three million Irish peasants had survived on a diet of buttermilk and potatoes—twelve pounds of potatoes per day for the average male laborer. The blight explains the crop failure, but the dramatic and deadly effect of the famine was exacerbated by other factors of economic, political, and social origin which are also emphasized at the museum.

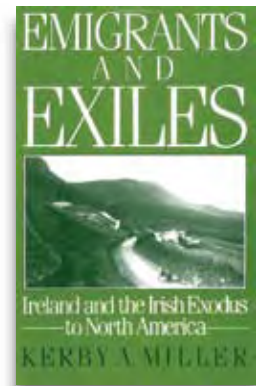
Major Denis Mahon, the ill-fated landlord during the famine, found it cheaper to fill three “coffin ships” bound for America with his evicted, starving tenants than pay the taxes for their upkeep in the local workhouse. When almost half died at sea of “famine fever,” he was assassinated. This is one of many examples of the great gulf between the Protestant landowners and their Catholic servants in the mid 19th century.

No single historical event has had more dramatic effects on both Ireland and America than the Great Potato Famine. The years 1845 to 1849 were the bleakest period of Irish history—

so traumatic that the Irish population plummeted by death and by a desperation that sent at least half a million Irish peasants across the globe to America. The famine and the post famine depression depleted the Irish population by approximately 25%. The famine also crystallized Irish-nationalist hatred of British rule because during the famine nutritious food continued to be exported from Ireland to England. A visit to the National Famine Museum gives a clear picture of the times and the related factors that threw an entire nation into a hopeless downward spiral that lasted into the 20th century.



Famine children digging for potatoes
(from the *London Illustrated News*, 1845)



Emigrants and Exiles By Kerby A. Miller

Emigrants and Exiles is the story of the Great Potato Famine and its effect on both Ireland and America. Librarian and HistoryAmerica consultant Liz Clare says, “*Emigrants and Exiles* has a great reputation—somewhat on the scholarly side ..., but very rewarding to read for anyone really interested in the subject. Certainly a primo choice for this topic!”

Other reviews:

Philip Caudill, Professor of Journalism and Communication at Gaylord College says “Miller begins and ends the book with recollections of Irish oral tradition to help understand the essence of the Irish emigration experience....

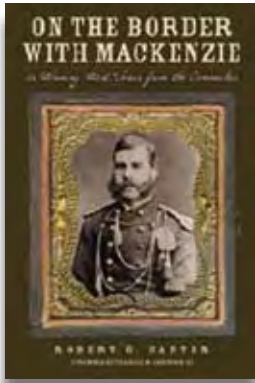
Kerby Miller’s work is unquestionably a rich treasure of outstanding historical scholarship.”

One of Miller’s students writes, “I was fortunate enough to have taken an Irish History class taught by Mr. Miller, and he is quite simply the pure embodiment of knowledge. From what I understand, this book is regarded as the definitive work on the subject, and I heartily agree. As an undergraduate student, initially only mildly interested in American/Irish relations, I read this book as an assignment; the subsequent three times, out of zeal and desire.”

Available online or through your local book stores.

ISBN 0-19-505287-4

BOOK NOTES



On the Border with Mackenzie by Capt. Robert G. Carter

Charles M. Robinson writes that when first published in 1935, *On the Border with Mackenzie*, by Capt. Robert G. Carter, became known as the most complete account of the Indian Wars on the Texas frontier during the 1870s. Today it still stands as one of the most exhaustive histories ever written by an actual participant in

the Texas Indian Wars. Carter, a Union Army veteran and West Point graduate, was appointed in 1870 to serve as second lieutenant in the 4th US Cavalry stationed at Fort Concho, Texas, under Ranald S. Mackenzie. He was awarded the Medal of Honor for his gallantry in action against the Indians during the battle of Blanco Canyon. The 4th soon became one of the most effective units on the western frontier.

Charles M. Robinson is the author of *Bad Hand: A Biography of General Ranald S. Mackenzie* and a history instructor at South Texas Community College. "Long out of print" he states, "this definitive history of the Indian Wars will now have the accessibility that it deserves. It is essential to any study of the Indian Wars of the Southern Plains."

Available online or through your local book stores.
ISBN: 978-0-87611-228-1

HISTORYAMERICA NEWS

Georgia's oops is your gain! She's red faced but delighted to learn that Ireland is on the euro, not the pound. That's why the price of *The Ireland Never Seen* has gone down. It's now \$4695 per person double occupancy and \$5595 per person single occupancy.

★★★★★★★★★★

We thank all of you who traveled with HistoryAmerica in 2007 and those of you who have plans to travel with us in 2008. Two thousand seven has been a great year. We have met many regulars and made many new friends. We have proved that we can continue to serve our travelers with the same quality tours that have been the hallmark of History-America since its inception. We will proudly continue "taking you where history happened."

★★★★★★★★★★

We have so enjoyed the HistoryAmerica travelers that we have been fortunate enough to meet. Your intellect, your enthusiasm, your curiosity, and your positive outlook have convinced us that we must meet more of you. In 2008 Sharon, Michael or Georgia will be on every HistoryAmerica tour.

★★★★★★★★★★



Taking you where history happened

Announcing our exciting 2008 schedule!




- ★ **Vicksburg: Fighting for The Gibraltar of the Confederacy** ★
April 7 – 11 with Historian Guide Ed Bearss
- ★ **Bad Hand Mackenzie: Legend of the Texas Indian Wars** ★
April 27 – May 4 with Historian Guide Neil Mangum
- ★ **Lake Champlain: The Crucible of North American Wars** ★
May 29 – June 6 with Historian Guide Tom Mandeville
- ★ **The Ireland Never Seen: A Journey into Irish-American History** ★
June 16 – 26 with Historian Guide Deirdre Burns
- ★ **Nez Perce: The Failed Flight for Freedom** ★
July 5 – 15 with Historian Guide Ed Bearss
- ★ **Kit Carson: Mountain Man and Much More** ★
August 3 – 10 with Historian Guide Michael Koury
- ★ **Nova Scotia: Fulcrum of the Seven Years War** ★
August 27 – September 5 with Historian Guide Brian Cuthbertson
- ★ **Cheyenne Outbreak: The Desperate Escape** ★
September 7 – 14 with Historian Guide Neil Mangum
- ★ **Icons of the Confederacy: With Lee, Davis and Jackson in Virginia** ★
October 6 – 12 with Historian Guide Robert E. Lee Krick
- ★ **Marching Through Georgia: Sherman Wages Total War** ★
October 22 – 30 with Historian Guide Ed. Bearss
- ★ **Civil War on the Carolina Coast: First Shot to Final Battles** ★
November 2 – 9 with Historian Guide James McPherson







HistoryAmerica TOURS 4265 Peridot Lane, Rapid City, SD 57702 Phone (800) 628-8542 www.historyamerica.com

The 2008 Travel Guide is now available!