THE GREAT FAMINE AND SOCIAL CLASS: Conflicts, Responsibilities, Representations

Conference Programme (Draft)

Venue: Irish Studies Seminar Room, 6-8 Fitzwilliam St, QUB, Belfast

Thursday 20 April

8.40-9.00: Registration and coffee

9.00: Conference opening and welcome
Peter Gray (Queen’s University Belfast, conference host)
Marguérite Corporaal (Radboud University Nijmegen, network director)

9.15-10.15: Keynote 1
Chair: Peter Gray (Queen’s University Belfast)
- Cormac Ó Gráda (University College Dublin), ‘Famine's scars: reflections on recent and ongoing research’

10.15-11.30: Panel 1: Landlord-Tenant Relationships
Chair: Peter O’Neill (University of Georgia)
- Terry Dunne (Maynooth University), ‘The peasant problem: restructuring and resistance in the pre-Famine Midlands’
- Pawel Hamera (Pedagogical University of Cracow), ‘“[W]orse than the great Polish and Russian proprietors”: landlord-tenant relations in Ireland and partitioned Poland in the pre-Famine period’
- Ciarán Reilly (Maynooth University), ‘The geography and nature of Irish Famine eviction’

11.30-11.40: Coffee

11.40-12.40: Keynote 2
Chair: Marguérite Corporaal (Radboud University Nijmegen)
- Melissa Fegan (University of Chester), ‘How the other three-quarters lived: the cabin in Famine literature’

12.40-13.30: Lunch

13.30-14.45: Panel 2: Relief and Philanthropy
Chair: Ciarán Reilly
- Jerome Devitt (Trinity College Dublin), ‘The Royal Navy and famine relief in Ireland’
- Chris Lennon (University College Dublin), ‘“How can we feed and clothe so many?” Elizabeth Smith’s response to the Famine in Wicklow’
- Declan Curran (Dublin City University), ‘The rise and fall of the "Rate in Aid": from the Great Irish Famine (1845-50) to the Lancashire Cotton Famine (1861-65)’
14.45-14.55: Tea and coffee break

Chair: Cormac Ó Gradá
- Brian Griffin (Bath Spa University), ‘Sport and class in Ireland during the Great Famine’
- Adi McCrea (Imperial College, London), ‘Felony and famine: a spatial history of the prisoners of Dublin’
- Mikka Vuorela (Institute of Criminology and Legal Policy, University of Helsinki), ‘Criminality and the Finnish Famine of 1866–68’
- Liam Kennedy (Queen’s University Belfast), Don MacRaild and Brian Gurrin (University of Ulster), ‘Mortality, social class and the Great Famine in Ireland, 1845-51’

16.35-18.15: Panel 4: Emigration, Travel and Diaspora
Chair: Emily Mark-Fitzgerald (University College Dublin)
- Jason King (Independent scholar), ‘Migration and “the original sin of accumulated pauperism”: Stephen De Vere, colonization, and Irish-Canadian class relations in 1847-48’
- Testuko Nakamura (Komazawa University), ‘Travelling around the South of Ireland: representations of the Famine in post-Famine travel books’
- Christopher Cusack (HAN/Radboud University Nijmegen), ‘Transformative nationalism and class relations in Irish Famine fiction, 1896-1909’
- Jon Bolton (Auburn University), “Crosscurrents”: scenes of Irish naturalization and deportation in William Kennedy’s Quinn’s Book’

18.15-19.00: Book launch and drinks

19.15: Conference dinner

Friday 21 April

9.00-10.00: Keynote 3:
Chair: Luke Gibbons (Maynooth University)
- John Cunningham (NUI Galway), ‘Negotiating famine? Food blockades and other protests’

10. 00-11.15: Panel 5: Class and Policy
Chair: Liam Kennedy (Queen’s University Belfast)
- Andres Eiriksson (Independent scholar),”’Paupers and beggars brats”: Parsonstown workhouse and union policy during the Famine’
- Tim Keane (NUI Galway), ‘Contesting British narratives of the Irish Famine: The Labourer and Chartism’s defence of the Irish’
- Kersti Lust (Estonian Institute for Population Studies), ‘The role of manorial lords in Famine relief in post-emancipation Livland and Estland’

11.15-11.25 Coffee

11.25-13.05: Panel 6: Post-Famine Perspectives
Chair: Melissa Fegan (University of Chester)
- Paul Huddie (Independent scholar), ‘Class, the economy and war: post-Famine recovery and the Crimean War, 1854-56’
- Marguérite Corporaal (Radboud University Nijmegen), ‘Poor houses as heterotopic spaces in early Famine fiction’
- Lindsay Janssen (Emerson College), ‘Famine and social class in Famine fiction, 1871-91: progressive desires and traditionalist ideas’
- Cody Jarman (University College Cork), ‘Of ghosts and gods: mapping the Famine road in John Banville's The Infinities’

13.05-13.40: Lunch

13.40: Departure to buses for excursion

14:30-15.30 Down County Museum (Downpatrick) tour

15:30-15.45 Presentation (at Down County Museum)
- Peter Gray (QUB) ‘The Sharman Crawfords and the Great Famine in County Down’

15.45-16.45 Keynote 4 (at Down County Museum)
Chair: Jason King (Independent scholar)
- Peter O’Neill (University of Georgia), Famine Irish labour and America’s middle class: a cultural history

17.30-18.15 Return to Belfast by bus

Conference end