

Goodwin College of Professional Studies



Drexel E-Repository and Archive (iDEA)

<http://idea.library.drexel.edu/>

Drexel University Libraries

www.library.drexel.edu

The following item is made available as a courtesy to scholars by the author(s) and Drexel University Library and may contain materials and content, including computer code and tags, artwork, text, graphics, images, and illustrations (Material) which may be protected by copyright law. Unless otherwise noted, the Material is made available for non profit and educational purposes, such as research, teaching and private study. For these limited purposes, you may reproduce (print, download or make copies) the Material without prior permission. All copies must include any copyright notice originally included with the Material. **You must seek permission from the authors or copyright owners for all uses that are not allowed by fair use and other provisions of the U.S. Copyright Law.** The responsibility for making an independent legal assessment and securing any necessary permission rests with persons desiring to reproduce or use the Material.

Please direct questions to archives@drexel.edu

Joe Reilly
International Psychohistorical Association Convention
Kimmel Building
New York University
New York, New York
Friday, June 9, 2006.
“**Bold Sons Of Erin: The Irish As Guerrillas and Gangsters.**”

Bibliography.

A & E Television:

American Justice: The Rise and Fall of the Jewish Mobster.

Adams, R. ***Six Guns and Saddle Leather.***

Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1969.

Asbury, H. ***Gangs of New York.*** New York: Capricorn Books, 1970.

Aponte, H. “Foreword,” xiii-xiv. In McGoldrick, M., J. K. Pearce, and J.

Giordano, editors. ***Ethnicity and Family Therapy.*** NY: Guilford Press, 1982.

Barra, Allen. ***Inventing Wyatt Earp.*** NY: Carrol & Graf, 1998.

Bellesiles, M. ***Arming America: The Origins Of A National Gun Culture.***

New York: Knopf, 2000.

Boyer, Glenn G. ***I Married Wyatt Earp: The Recollections of Josephine Sarah Marcus Earp.*** Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 1976.

Brandt, C. ***“I Heard You Paint Houses”:*** ***Frank ‘The Irishman’ Sheeran and the Inside Story of The Mafia, The Teamsters, And The Last Ride of Jimmy Hoffa.*** Hanover, New Hampshire: Steerforth Press, 2004.

Brenner, D. ***Soft Pretzels With Mustard.*** New York: Arbor House, 1983.

Brenner, D. ***Nobody Ever Sees You Eating Tuna Fish: Outrageous Adventures From One of America’s Favorite Comedians.***

New York: Arbor House, 1986.

Burrough, Bryan. ***Public Enemies: America’s Greatest Crime Wave and The Birth Of The FBI, 1933 – 1934.*** New York: Penquin, 2004.

Christopher, Robert C. ***Crashing The Gates: The De-WASPIng of America’s Power Elite.*** NY: Simon and Schuster, 1989.

Clinton, B. ***My Life.*** New York: Knopf, 2004.

Coppola, F. ***The Cotton Club.*** (1984).

Dalton, Emmet in collaboration with J. Yungmeyer. ***When The Daltons Rode.*** New York: Doubleday, Duran and Company, 1931.

Discovery Channel: ***Uncovering The Real Gangs of New York.***

English, T. J. ***The Westies: Inside The Hell’s Kitchen Irish Mob.*** NY: Putnam, 1990.

English, T. J. ***Paddy Whacked: The Untold Story of The Irish American Gangsters.*** New York: Reagan Books, 2005.

Feldberg, M. ***The Philadelphia Riots of 1844: A Study of Ethnic Conflict.***

Wesport, Connecticut and London, England: Greenwood Press, 1975.

Fox, S. ***Blood and Power: Organized Crime in Twentieth Century America.*** New York: Morrow, 1989.

Joe Reilly

IPA 2006 Convention

Bibliography (continued):

Glazer, N. and D. P. Moynihan. ***Beyond The Melting Pot: The Negroes, Puerto Ricans, Jews, Italians and Irish of New York City.***

Cambridge, Massachusetts: M. I. T. Press and Harvard Press, 1963.

Greeley, A. M. ***The Irish Americans: The Rise to Money and Power.***

New York: Harper and Row, 1981.

History Channel: ***The Conquerors: Oliver Cromwell, Conqueror of Ireland.***

History Channel: ***The Five Points Gang.***

History Channel: ***Gangs of New York.***

History Channel: ***Gangster Guns.***

History Channel: ***History's Mysteries: The Five Points Gangs.***

History Channel: ***History's Turning Points: Prohibition: Rise of the Mob.***

History Channel: ***Investigating History: Billy The Kid.***

History Channel: ***The Irish in America.***

History Channel: ***Law and Order in The Old West.***

History Channel: ***Lost Treasures of the Ancient World: The Celts.***

History Channel: ***Paddy Whacked: The Irish Mob.***

History Channel: ***The Real West: The Ten Most Wanted.***

History Channel: ***True Crime Authors: T. J. English, The Westies.***

Hornblum, A. ***Confessions of a Second Story Man.*** Fort Lee: Barricade, 2006

Hunter, J. M. and N. H. Rose, ***The Album of Gunfighters.***

San Antonio: Warren Hunter, 1931.

Jordan, M. **Washingtonpost.com**, September 28, 2005. "Belfast Catholics Ask: Who Will Fill The Void?: IRA Disarmament Leaves Sense of Unease."

Karbedo, T. ***Ireland and Hungary: A Study in Parallels.***

Dublin: Four Courts Press, LTD. 2002.

Lane, R. ***Murder In America: A History.***

Columbus, Ohio: Ohio State University Press, 1997.

Lawless, J. ***Philadelphia Inquirer***, "Britain weighed forced moves in bid to ease Northern Ireland woes." January 1, 2003, p. A5.

Levine, I. M. "Introduction," xi – xii, in M. McGoldrick, J. K. Pearce and J.

Giordano, editors. ***Ethnicity and Family Therapy.*** NY: Guilford Press, 1982.

Lukacs, J. ***Philadelphia: Patricians and Philistines, 1900 – 1950.***

New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1980, 1981.

McCaffrey, P. ***When Bosses Ruled Philadelphia: The Emergence of the Republican Machine, 1867 – 1933.***

University Park, Pennsylvania: Pennsylvania State University Press, 1993.

McDonald, Archie. ***Travis.*** Austin: The Pemberton Press, 1976.

McGoldrick, M., J. K. Pearce and J. Giordano, "Preface," xv – xvii, in M.

McGoldrick, J. K. Pearce and J. Giordano, editors. ***Ethnicity and Family Therapy.*** New York: Guilford Press, 1993.

McGoldrick, M. "Ethnicity and Family Therapy: An Overview," 3 – 30 in M.

McGoldrick, J. K. Pearce and J. Giordano, editors. ***Ethnicity and Family Therapy.*** New York: Guilford Press, 1982

Joe Reilly

IPA 2006 Convention

Bibliography (continued):

McGoldrick, M. "Irish Families," 311 – 339, in M. McGoldrick, J. K. Pearce and J. Giordano, editors. ***Ethnicity and Family Therapy.***

New York: Guilford Press, 1982.

McWhinney, G. ***Cracker Culture: Celtic Ways In The Old South.***

Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 1988.

Masterson, B. ***Famous Gunfighters of The Western Frontier.***

Olympic Valley, California: Outlook Books, 1978.

Matthews, Chris. ***Hardball.*** MSNBC, 7 p. m. Eastern Time,

Mondays through Fridays.

Mushkat, J. ***Fernando Wood: A Political Biography.***

Kent, Ohio and London, England: Kent State University Press, 1990.

Myers, J. M. ***The Last Chance: Tombstone's Early Years.***

New York: Dutton, 1980.

O'Rourke, P. J. "Foreigners Around The World," ***National Lampoon,***

July 1976, 73 – 96.

Philadelphia Inquirer, October 9, 2005, C1, C3. "Rule America?: Liberal Elites ruined Britain as a hyperpower: The U. S. empire could meet the same fate."

Prassel, F. R. ***The Western Peace Officer: A Legacy of Law and Order.***

Norman, Oklahoma: University of Oklahoma Press, 1972.

Prassel, F. R. ***The Great American Outlaw.***

Norman, Oklahoma: University of Oklahoma Press, 1993.

Preece, H. ***The Dalton Gang: The End of An Outlaw Era.***

New York: Hastings Press, 1964.

Quigley, Martin. ***A U. S. Spy In Ireland.*** Dublin: Marino Books, 1999

Rickards, C. ***"Buckskin Frank" Leslie: Gunman of Tombstone.***

El Paso: Texas Western College Press, 1964.

Riordan, William L. ***Plunkitt of Tammany Hall.***

Introduction by A. Mann. New York: Dutton, 1963.

Sante, L. ***Low Life: Lures and Snares of Old New York.***

New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1991.

Schlesinger, A. M. ***The Disuniting of America.*** New York: Norton, 1992.

Sifakis, C. ***The Encyclopedia of American Crime.***

New York: Facts On File, 1982.

Silcox, H. ***Philadelphia Politics From The Bottom Up: The Life Of Irishman William McMullin, 1821 – 1901.*** Philadelphia: Balch Institute Press, 1989.

H. Sprogle, ***The Philadelphia Police: Past and Present.***

New York: Arno Press, and New York times, 1971. Originally 1887.

Steffens, L. ***The Shame Of The Cities.*** New York: Peter Smith, 1948.

Sternberg, A. ***The Transformation Of Criminal Justice: Philadelphia, 1800 – 1880.*** University of North Carolina Press, 1989.

Stevenson, J. ***"We Wrecked The Place": Contemplating An End To the Northern Irish Troubles.*** New York: The Free Press, 1996.

Joe Reilly

IPA Convention

Bibliography Continued:

Walsh, M. "A Mobster's Last Resort." *George Magazine*, August 1998, 104 – 107, 110.

Warner, S. B. *The Private City: Philadelphia in Three Periods Of Its Growth*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1968.

Webb, J. *Born Fighting: How The Scots-Irish Shaped America*. NY: Broadway Books, 2004.

Wolf, E. *Philadelphia: Portrait Of An American City*.

Harrisburg: Stackpole Books, 1975.

WYBE, Channel 35, Philadelphia. *Out Of Ireland*.

Thursdays at 7 p. m., Saturdays at 5 p. m. and Sundays at 8:30 a. m.

www.livinghistory.co.uk/1700 - 1800/articles/xw_121.html

"Biography of James Fitzpatrick, aka Sandy Flash."

<http://gangstersinc.tripod.com/BugsMoran.html>.

End Of Bibliography.

**Joe Reilly
IPA Presentation**

**Page One Of Twenty-One.
March 17, 2006.**

**Joe Reilly, Ph. D.
“Bold Sons of Erin: The Irish as Guerrillas and Gangsters.”
International Psychohistorical Association
Kimmel Building
New York University
New York, New York
June 9, 2006.**

**Goodwin College of Professional Studies
Drexel University
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
April 2006.**

Outline:

1. Irish family culture
2. Irish national culture
3. Irish guerrilla tactics
 - a. Michael Collins
 - b. Denny Byrne video interview clip
 - c. Tom Barry video interview clip
4. Irish influences on American culture
 - a. Irish Protestants in rural settlements
 - b. Irish Catholics in urban settlements
5. Irish bandits
 - a. The Clantons
 - b. The Daltons
 - c. The Dead Rabbits, Whyos, Gophers
 - d. Prohibition gangsters
Paul Kelly
Joseph Delancey
Owen Madden
6. Modern Irish bandits
 - a. The Westies
 - b. Frank Sheeran
 - c. The K & A Gang

Irish people have long memories and feel sure of personal and National causes. Holding grudges is common and routinely used in guerrilla war or gangster life. When researching lives of Irish guerrillas in the 1920s I read biographies. One late evening I read one biography, which listed a Cabinet appointment. I thought appointment was to ***“The Ministry of Revenge.”*** The Republic of Ireland is unique in having a ***Ministry of The Gaeltacht.*** This agency encourages use of the Irish language, ***An Gaeilge.*** I figured Irish government has an agency for settling scores. This is, after all, an ***Irish government,*** so it might be characteristic. I was not surprised the Irish would institutionalize revenge. For centuries informers and deserters have been killed automatically. **When I looked at it again I saw the appointment was for *“Revenue.”*** **However the idea makes sense within Irish culture.**

Culture is transmitted in family situations.
Emigrant culture is ethnic culture once established in a new country.
Ethnic culture carries over for at least three generations and likely longer.
Attitudes and behaviors last for centuries in family cultures.
Expectations are learned and shaped by experience.
Irish cultural members have always been important in US.
American rural areas settled by Irish Protestants.
They shaped American rural cultures.
American urban areas organized by Irish Catholics.
They shaped American urban cultures.
People retain their family cultures as generations continue.

Tribalism has always been important in American culture and politics. A strong sense of “us” and “them” always dominated American life. This year Chris Matthews, a well-educated Irish Catholic with great experience in national politics and the national media, interviewed a veteran firefighter. Mr. Matthews asked ***“What is it about our people, the Irish, being drawn to firefighting?”*** This question shows how tenacious ethnic identity is even now.

Group culture is often given little importance in USA’s individualistic culture. All ethnic groups and both genders have a core of culture all members retain. Ethnic culture is central to religion, cuisine and personal behaviors. The Irish tend to have a high tolerance of pain yet are reluctant to complain. The cultural value is to act without complaining and accept without complaining. Irish children are often not praised to due parental fears of spoiling them. Many children in any cultural Irish family grow up without any praise. They often feel they are unwanted so some of them strive to be valued.

This focus is often shifted onto the public area.
Being valued by peers is considered important in Irish culture.
One's peers may be co-workers or other revolutionaries or other gangsters.

All marriages either are an exercise in **endogamy or exogamy**.

Endogamy is marriage within the group.

Exogamy is marriage outside of the group.

It is a matter of opinion to say what is "inside" or "outside" but religion or ethnicity
Are major distinctions in family and individual cultural back ground.

Endogamy easily makes sense of cultural influences: same values for both.

Exogamy confuses cultural influences since both parents are different.

The Invisible Irish have Irish mothers: Gene Hackman, Robert DeNiro,
Steve Buscemi, Martin Short, Tom Cruise and John Wayne are all Irish due to
their mother's background. All of them identified themselves as Irish.

Andrew Greeley stated Irish women are strong and unwilling to be defeated.

Greeley has said some Irish women become professional martyrs.

He also said that other Irish women become community leaders.

Having an Irish mother is like taking a degree in dramatics.

Resentment and vindication are accepted in this culture.

Irish women are usually very open about anything they dislike in life.

This behavior goes back for centuries in Irish culture.

Ancient Irish culture had property equality of genders.

Women functioned from a position of strength in family matters.

In my experience most Irish men in America do not marry Irish women.

They have had enough of that sort of combative lifestyle.

Women's power in Irish culture is represented in Ireland's national saga.

Tain bo cualgne, The Cattle Raid of Cooley, is due to property conflict.

A husband and wife argued about cattle ownership.

Resolution evolved into each raising an army and going to war.

The traditional Irish hero comes from this tale: **Cuchulainn**.

He is a small totally focused warrior who dies fighting an army

His last act is to wrap his belt around a tree to die on his feet.

He refuses to surrender or to negotiate: No surrender is his policy.

Irish Protestants and Irish Catholics carry this viewpoint for life.

Such cultural icons are often carried over in attitudes.

The story of **Cuchulainn** may or may not be known consciously.

The attitude of stubborn resistance against large odds is an Irish viewpoint.

This behavior was found in **William Barrett Travis** at the Alamo.

His last words were **"No surrender, boys!"**

Archie McDonald, his biographer, says Travis was the kind of Irishman who saw being stubborn as a virtue.
Actually, seeing stubbornness as a virtue only means he was an Irishman.

Daniel Patrick Moynihan mentions in *Beyond The Melting Pot* that it is common amongst Irish Americans to say ***"There are still a few of us left."***
The Irish often see themselves as besieged due to their difficult history. True to form, Irish people are stubborn about that viewpoint.

Irish family culture has firm ***cultural filters***, which expect conflict.
The Melting Pot is partial: Catholics as a general group have 50% exogamy.
Some people with non-Irish names have a life of Irish culture.
Some people with Irish names will not have a life of Irish culture.
American life is a mixture of backgrounds a culture.

Irish family culture carries over memory of mistreatment in Erin and USA.
Erin was dominated by British military power since 1169.
Six counties of Northern Ireland are still occupied by British troops.
The crucial event was ***The Great Famine***.
Ireland had at least four major famines between 1640 and 1845.
We have volumes of newspaper and magazine reports of the Great Famine.
The cultural attitudes of genocidal discrimination continue in family culture.
Historical knowledge is unneeded to continue attitudes.
Historical knowledge of mistreatment focuses attitudes and justifies them.
It has been noted in survey research that the Irish in Erin or overseas are not likely to minimize nor to deny their grievances.
Resentment carries on in a family culture, which approves of resentment.

British laws since the 1500s outlawed Irish language and culture.
These laws were ineffective for centuries due to enforcement inability.
Too many people in too many places spoke Irish and continued the culture.
Erin remained rural and Irish speaking into the 1800s.
Most Irish were farm workers with no land due to dispossession.
1845 – 1849: standard diet was potatoes but blight wiped it out.
1841 – 1851: Erin went from a population of 8 million to 4 million.
The understanding is **1.5 million deaths and 2.5 million emigrants**.
Throughout the 1800s and early 1900s **43%** of all Irish born emigrated.
The cultural carryover of the Famine is a strong sense of either/or. Irish people often see life as totally good or bad, people as good or bad.
Famine severely limited use of Irish language and adoption of English.
Even Andrew Greeley says the 1840s Famine was manipulated for Britain.
Resentment of callous treatment carries over in family life.
Emigration was routine as was a sense of resentment about daily life.

Roger Lane, Murder In America: "All culture is the product of history, the result of a given group's experience over time."

T. J. English, Paddy Whacked: "Neuroscientists contend that the concept of payback is deeply rooted in human physiology; when people are wronged or insulted, a part of the brain is stimulated, the same part that triggers feelings of hunger and desire. The Irish may not have an exclusive monopoly on the notion of vengeance, but some Irishmen have been known to make it their own."

The Irish experienced genocide due to limited relief given to Famine Irish. It has been rumored Queen Victoria wrote to the Kaiser during the Famine. She may have stated she looked forward to the elimination of all Catholic Irish. Once Erin was unpopulated, she planned to settle Scots Presbyterians. The Scots were loyal to her so the Irish would not trouble her again.

In 1920s the War of Independence coercion programs were done openly. British police force in Erin reinforced by veterans recruited to do terrorism.
The order was to make Ireland a hell for rebels to live in.
The Royal Irish Constabulary made Ireland a hell for anyone to live in.
One plan was to shoot a known Nationalist every day to eliminate resistance. Irish Nationalists would be listed and shot by local police in every locality.

Andrew Bonar Law, British Cabinet minister, proposed another plan. He wanted to round up Irish Nationalists and put them in prison camps. He proposed using gas chambers to eliminate Nationalist resistance. This was an expansion of previous colonial policy, aided by technology. In the 1900s South African War the British invented concentration camps. Boer families were put into prison camps and died in droves of illness. British Army had much lower death and disease rates in similar camps.

Irish experience with regular armed forces has been disastrous. Uniformed Irish armies organized and were defeated several times.
Rebellions in 1798, 1803, 1848 and 1868 were overwhelmed.
1916: coalition of Nationalist groups formed Irish Republican Army.
They declared a Republic and fought British Army for a week. They were defeated and most of the leaders were executed.

The prisoners of war rank and file was imprisoned in Wales. The surviving officers were imprisoned in England.
Michael Collins, a staff captain, became organizer of the IRA.
He spoke Irish and he was a trained accountant. Collins realized that organization could defeat overwhelming might.

He was misclassified as an enlisted Volunteer rather than an officer.
Collins followed an Irish language proverb in his strategy:

An te nach bhfuil laidir ciathfidh se bheith glic
He who is not strong needs to be clever.

A guerrilla is an irregular soldier.

He does not have resources of a regular soldier.

He must be clever since he is not strong.

A gangster is an irregular businessman

He does not have resources of a mainstream businessman.

He must be clever since he is not strong.

Collins organized an intelligence service operating within British administration. Two detectives in the Dublin Police's Political Branch reported to him daily. He organized guerrillas to fight Royal Irish Constabulary and British Army. The RIC was uniformed, in garrisons, carried carbines and hand grenades. They used Irish Constabulary pistols, which are still valued for accuracy. His intelligence unit, called ***The Squad***, operated in Dublin.

Dennis Byrne was one of his gunmen.

This videotape clip shows Dennis Byrne recounting his work in The Squad.

In the countryside the IRA fought in military units.

They were usually in non-uniformed volunteer units called ***Flying Columns***.

The most famous unit leader of this era was ***Tom Barry***.

This videotape shows Tom Barry recounting his work in a Flying Column.

Play videotape clip of Tom Barry in 1972.

The tactics were hit-and-run in the country or the city.

Planning was the key: they set up an action ahead of time.

Their retreat was always carefully planned and hiding places were ready.

Since the Irish were not strong they had to be clever.

The Volunteer soldiers of the IRA have been judged to be 5,000.

The population of Ireland was about four million then.

Most of the population supported the IRA with intelligence, food, hiding places.

Troop movements and other intelligence readily supplied by supporters.

The Irish saw the formal British government of Ireland as illegitimate.

The Irish saw the informal government of IRA was seen as legitimate.

Non-uniformed gunmen shot spies and informers.

This behavior was seen as Nationalist revenge rather than crime.

The Irish have long memories of mistreatment.

Personal grudges were settled in some killings during 1920s.

War of Independence lasted from 1919 to 1921.

It was on a small scale compared to world wars.
The war was fought between two governments and two armies.
Both sides wanted to control Ireland.
The IRA's irregular warfare brought British Prime Minister to a truce.
An imperfect peace treaty resulted.

Treaty was agreed to when British P. M. threatened genocide upon Ireland.
Prime Minister Lloyd George had two letters ready: one listed Treaty agreement.
The other letter said Treaty was not accepted by Irish delegation.
"Immediate and terrible war" would begin if he sent the second letter.

I have never seen it in print but I was told by a Penn State
Professor the plan was to shell Dublin by the Royal Navy.
Thousands of non-combatants would have been slaughtered.
If this really would have been done or if it was only a bluff is unknown.
Irish delegation, including Michael Collins, accepted Partition.
They accepted an Oath to the British Crown.
As irregular soldiers the IRA did not have a navy for defense or retribution.
Irish Free State, ***Saorstát*** in Irish, was established in 1922.

A Civil War resulted in Ireland due to Treaty's imperfections.
It was guerrilla war fought by uniformed Free State troops.
A die-hard faction of the IRA was irregular troops.
The Irish people generally supported an end to war with Britain.
Irregulars received some support from the population.
Irregulars lost within a year and ended hostilities.
Their actions are still approved by many as an attempt at total victory.

Since 1969 the Anglo-Irish War has continued.
The Nationalist population of Northern Ireland has supported IRA.
IRA is not uniformed but acts as police and army for this population.
We may never know the complete details of the IRA's activities.
Secret armies usually do not leave many records to be found.
There is no question IRA has included opportunists and criminals.
There is no question IRA defended its home areas from violent enemies.
Car bombs and assassinations have been features of this conflict.
Given disinformation by both sides we will never know what really happened.
Some former guerrillas take their tales to the grave.
Some former guerrillas write memoirs after the war is over.
The cultural icon of the Irish guerrilla is central to Irish culture.

***Irregular military defense was a practice exported by the Irish.
The Texas Rangers organization was founded by Jack Coffee Hays.***

He was an Irish Protestant from Tennessee.
The Rangers had no uniform and only a loose military structure for years.
The Confederate Army used irregulars in the Civil War.
The IRA had rank distinctions only for operational reasons.
The Rangers were individualistic with limited orders.
Confederate soldiers respected only officers who earned respect.

The Irish military attitude is a ranking officer is only different in rank.
The cultural viewpoint is no one is better than anyone else.
A military superior only has a superior rank temporarily.
An Irish proverb explains this viewpoint: ***Might is not lasting.***

The egalitarian nature of Irish culture fits criminality well.
As an irregular soldier lacks resources so does a criminal.
A criminal is defined as a criminal by formal codified law.
If there is no law against a certain behavior, there is no criminal.
Once a behavior is made criminal, the practitioner is defined as a criminal.

American history has many individuals who can be defined as criminal.
One writer has stated Western bandits were expected to be Irish.
The migration of Irish Protestants into North American began in the 1600s.
They usually landed in Philadelphia and moved south or west.
Grady McWhinney and James Webb have documented this migration.
Both writers are very clear that American rural culture is mostly Irish.
Country music is an evolution of Irish music.

American military tradition is rooted in American Southern culture.
Most US professional officers and noncommissioned officers are from South.
The only rival to West Point for military education is the Virginia Military Institute.
American tradition of Western banditry is an evolution of Irish culture.

For centuries the Irish had secret societies, which evened scores.
We certainly do not know all of the organizations or their operations.
British historical sources always label them as criminals.
Irish writers label them as a resistance movement's local units.
The Whiteboys, Ribbonmen, Defenders and Hearts of Oak are known.
These guerrilla organizations avenged themselves on their enemies.
One of their activities was to steal cattle.
Cattle rustling was invented in Ireland and transferred to the USA.
Stealing cattle from the foreigner is a Nationalistic act.
Making a profit on it can be a criminal act or an act of survival.
The situation and opinion of the onlooker sets that determination.

The outlaw in Irish society is seen as heroic and elusive.
He is a trickster hero as well as an enemy of the enemy's misrule.
Sandy Flash was the first Western bandit in the American tradition.
He was a Revolutionary War era bandit.
He operated west of here in Chester County and Delaware County.
James Fitzpatrick was the son of an Irish immigrant.
He joined then deserted from the Revolutionary Army twice.
Sandy Flash was imprisoned for desertion and escaped twice.

Sandy Flash did not rob the rich and give it to the poor.

Sandy Flash robbed rich Patriots and gave it to himself.

He was feared as a quick draw accurate shot and a merciless combatant.
Sandy Flash went by various aliases and roamed freely in local towns.
He posted taunting notes on trees when posses followed him.
Sandy Flash was famous for going into a tavern and ordering a round of drinks.
Everyone knew who he was and no one dared to move against him.
Then he would draw his pistols, dare anyone to oppose him, and he left.
He never paid because he victimized Patriot tavern owners.
His downfall was due to a standard Irish fear of betrayal.
A woman he was involved with informed the authorities.
Sandy Flash was caught when he visited her.
He was hanged on September 26, 1778 in Chester, Pennsylvania.

Technology and climate and topography shaped culture everywhere
Westward movement brought established American culture.
Irish Protestants developed American culture and moved it westward
Firearms technology improved so firefights became more deadly

The Western gang of greatest historical notoriety was a group of Irish Texans.

The Clanton Gang was formed in the 1870s in Texas.

The efforts of the Texas Rangers, led by Captain McNelly, ran them out.
The Clanton Gang moved to Arizona in 1878 to avoid the Rangers.
The original leader was Old Man Clanton who was killed by Apaches.
The Clanton Gang rustled cattle from Mexico to continue Texan traditions.

It was easier to ride south into Mexico than to ride west for cattle.

It was easier to steal cattle than raise it or pay for it.

The extra value here was for Texans that they stole from Mexicans
Another bonus was they sometimes shot Mexicans
My thesis advisor, Don McQuarie, is from Arlington, Texas
He is a well read progressive Democrat with well-considered opinions.
I learned long ago how to change his personality completely.
Whenever I mentioned the Alamo he became angry
He is convinced Mexico has not suffered enough for the slaughter at the Alamo

Texans in the 1870s were even more convinced of their opinions
The Clantons lived in a desert area with Apaches all around
The silver strike in Cochise County was a gift to them
The town of Tombstone, Arizona became their market
A town of 5000 based on the mines gave the Clantons much income
They sold cattle to the local butchers
They robbed stagecoaches of mineral shipments
They ran afoul of Irish police as often happens to Irish criminals

The Earp brothers were Irish Protestants from the Northern states.
The Clantons were Irish Protestants with Confederate sympathies.
Doctor John Henry Holliday was a University of Pennsylvania graduate.
He was also an Irishman and a Catholic.

The Earps were mining and farm speculators who moved to boomtowns
They became police officers in various towns for political advantages
Ike Clanton was the oldest son of Old Man Clanton
Where the Earps tended to be sober and deliberate, Ike was mouthy
He drank too much and made threats which he could not fulfill
The Earp-Clanton Feud of 1879 – 1881 resulted in a dozen or more deaths
The Clanton Gang had the egalitarian structure of Irish criminal gangs

The Irish gang leader's post was temporary.
All Irish gang members were volunteers

Ike was not respected due to his cowardice and heavy drinking
Billy Clanton, his younger brother, was courageous and a fine shot
The gunfight near the O. K. Corral, in the lot next to it, involved the Clantons
The two McLaury brothers of Mississippi joined the Clantons
Clantons were accompanied by two gang members who ran away
Wes Fuller and Billy Claiborne ran away when they saw the Earps coming.
Doc Holliday was a close friend of Wyatt and Morgan Earp

Wyatt Earp is generally remembered because he was a good interviewer
He was interviewed many times about this feud and this particular gunfight
Both sides fired 30-some shots.
Five of the Clanton shots hit one of the Earp party.
Nearly every one of the Earp-Holliday shots hit one of the criminals.
How were eight men facing each other five feet apart so different?
That puzzled me for years then I read the memoirs of Wyatt Earp's widow.

Sarah Josephine Marcus dictated her memoirs in the 1940s
She said that just before the Clanton gang members stopped to face the
Lawmen they threw away an empty whiskey bottle

I had not expected heavy drinking was a sensible preparation for a shootout
Of course Ike Clanton had been making death threats against the chief of police,
Virgil Earp, a local U. S. Deputy Marshal, Wyatt Earp, and a well-known Wells
Fargo shotgun guard, Morgan Earp. Doc Holliday already had killed 16 men.

The Clantons were volunteer criminals.

They organized rustler groups on a volunteer basis

Texas fugitives joined and left the gang at will

***They also had another Irish practice: police on their payroll
Cochise County Sheriff Johnny Behan was the corrupt local politician.***

Behan was a NYC native who held various political posts in Arizona

He wound up as Warden of the Territorial Prison in the later 1870s

He lost that post due to irregularities which might have been embezzlement.

His claim to fame was he tried to stop the confrontation of Clantons and Earps

Behan's tenure of office was during the heyday of the Clanton Gang.

He found few criminals and often they escaped from his jail with ease.

Behan fits a choice insult heard in many an Irish argument:

"He seems like a nice guy but what do you expect of the son of a priest?"

Johnny Behan's father was a defrocked priest.

The Clantons were ruined because of deaths and imprisonments in the 1880s.

Wyatt Earp, Bob Paul and other lawmen hunted them down mercilessly

Since it was a volunteer organization it fell apart quickly

The last major Western gang in the 1800s was the Dalton Gang

The Daltons had a core of brothers from Kansas

Emmet Dalton, the only survivor of the brothers, wrote his memoirs

He said that his brother Bob was "***a fine clan chief***" with good judgment

In the film ***When The Daltons Rode*** the mother figure is an immigrant

Actually the Daltons emigrated four generations before the Gang's era

The Dalton brothers had been U. S. Deputy Marshals

They became horse thieves and bank robbers

They were pursued by an Irish railroad detective, J. J. Kinney.

The Daltons made operational mistakes in robbing two banks in Kansas

Most of the gang shot dead while escaping

They were too optimistic about their fearful reputation

While the American countryside was organized by Irish Protestants,

American cities were organized by Irish Catholics

Famine immigration was roughly a quarter million Irish each year of 1845 – 1855

Philadelphia, New York and Boston were overwhelmed by the newcomers

Anti-Catholicism was a standard WASP viewpoint before the Famine

***Anti-Catholic political action was common in USA in 1820s
Anti-Catholic hiring practices symbolized by signs stating NINA:
Even an illiterate who could not speak English could learn to recognize it
No Irish Need Apply was a common hiring policy in the USA in the 1800s***

Famine immigrants often unskilled, only 50% spoke English, most were poor
The large group of Irish in any city formed their own community
As they became citizens and could vote, they voted as a bloc
Survival was their first achievement followed by prosperity
***New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Kansas City were organized by Irish
political figures, who were usually in the Democratic Party***

Philadelphia was unique: it was organized then modernized by Irish Protestants
They were Republicans
They were more corrupt than any Democratic organization
Philadelphia GOP Machine was called ***The Five Percent Gang.***
They required 5% of all city contracts and salaries as kickbacks.
Necessary city improvements were done in the 1900s like the Gas Works
The Gas Works was a patronage gold mine for decades
All Gas Works employees paid 5% of their salary to keep their jobs

One large public works project was totally unneeded
In the early 1900s the Machine decided to make a large city improvement
Many jobs would be created and many kickbacks would occur
The Roosevelt Boulevard, named for Theodore Roosevelt, was unneeded
Few people lived in the area between Broad Street and the town of Frankford
The city later developed around the Boulevard rather than vice versa

Philadelphia is remarkable for its conflicts of Irish and Natives
In 1844 Bible reading was done every day in Philadelphia's public schools
The question of using a Catholic or King James Bible was very emotional
In May of 1844 an anti-Catholic political rally was held in Kensington
The local Irish residents of 2nd and Jefferson heckled the speakers
The rally became a street fight
The street fight became a riot that lasted for two days
A Native thug named George Shiffler was shot dead
The story was he was protecting the American flag from the Catholics
The story was the Irish wanted to desecrate the flag
For weeks various people claimed to have the flag Shiffler held

July 4 celebrations that year became a second riot
Native gangs broke into Irish homes, piled up the furniture and burned it.

The Irish retreated to stone churches and fired weapons at the thugs.
The native thugs burned two Catholic Churches then obtained a cannon
The cannon was taken from a ship and rolled into Kensington
Irish sharpshooters picked off the cannon crew repeatedly so it was not used

A major figure in the riots was a ward leader named William McMullin
He was a political leader of Irish Catholics, a street thug and war hero
He enlisted and was a decorated war hero in the Mexican War.
McMullin guarded a church during the riots and had Church support for years
McMullin was a career politician, tavern owner and local gangster
He ran a local gang called **The Killers**: I do not need to say any more there

Voluntary gangs were common amongst Irish immigrants
The Irish tradition of secret societies was the framework for male groups
They were usually fraternal, occasionally defensive, and only rarely criminal
The desperate level of economics and illness made life a difficult matter
The cities had no organized relief so community organizations helped people

Native groups formed similar gangs in response
Throughout the 1800s Native and Irish gangs invaded or defended turf
New York City's gangs often had a thousand or more members
The Dead Rabbits, drawing their name from Irish **Dod Rabbitte**,
Meaning Angry Tough Guy, defended the Lower East Side from
The Bowery Boys Native gang.

The Dead Rabbits was voluntary and had an intermittent participation
They usually were friends and became combatants as needed
A small number of Dead Rabbits were professional criminals
They tended to be physically large and very confrontational
In street fights with other Irish gangs or Native gangs the Rabbits usually won
Dead Rabbits defended their Five Points neighborhood as needed
Occasionally they invaded Bowery Boys neighborhood bars
The fights usually used only fists but occasionally used firearms
July 4, 1857: Rabbits and Bowery Boys rioted for four days
They were politically connected to Tammany Hall, the Democratic machine
They protected their own voters and intimidated other voters
As living conditions improved the need for large gangs reduced
The Dead Rabbits eventually disbanded since they were no longer needed

Dead Rabbits accepted outsiders who became Irish culturally
This may have been for protective coloration or to join the winning team
Paul Kelly was a noted leader of a gang in the Five Points
He was well educated and spoke five languages

He had feuds with other gang leaders, especially Joe Delancey
Kelly and Delancey had a boxing match to settle a score after
Several of each gang's members were killed in shootouts
Both of them were confrontational and direct in Irish cultural traditions
What makes them notable is that Paul Kelly's birth name was Paolo Vaccarelli and Joe Delancey's birth name was Edward Osterman An Italian and a Jew became gang leaders by becoming Irish Other interesting characters who became Irish were the vaudeville comedian Lou Murphy and a boxer named Marty O'Brien. Lou Murphy's birth name was Lou Brenner and his son is David Brenner Marty O'Brien's birth name was Martin Sinatra. His son was Frank Sinatra If you can't beat them then join them and pretend to be one of them.

The culture and economy changed over the years.
In the 1870s to 1890s the premiere Irish gang in NYC was The Whyos.
They were a general group but a number of them were skilled burglars.
They were destroyed by executions and imprisonment in the 1890s.

The gangs were close to Irish culture.
The distinct names of Irish gangs are more Irish than they appear.
Whyo, I had thought, was a wordplay on "boy-o" which imitates Irish.
In the Irish language the word for "boy" is "buachaill."
Irish speakers usually say "boy-o" instead of "boy" in English.
Actually the name is directly from Irish.

Noble Few in Irish is Uathadh Uais, turned into "Whyo."

Another notable gang of the 1800s was the Plug Uglies.

Their name came from Bail Oglagh, Member of Volunteers.

A group of thieves in the 1800s was called The Patsy Conroys.

Their name came from Pairt sa Connradh, Partners in League.

The Irish language survived in limited form amongst the Irish.
Irish cultural conventions survived in complete form amongst the Irish.
Every Irish criminal I have read about was known for holding grudges.
Every one of them was known to always seek vindication.

As living became more secure and medicine saved lives, culture changed.
The mass gangs of the 1800s splintered and even disappeared.
Police presence in poor neighborhoods became more efficient
Poor people, in some cases, moved up in the world and became peaceful
Roger Lane in ***Murder In America*** says in the 1870s ***Regularization*** occurred
He means that work became oriented to the clock and pay was weekly
For many their life became manageable and predictable.
He says this meant a drop of crime in industrial nations and urban areas

Lane points to another change: Honor versus Dignity

His definition of Honor is focused on public respect and personal scores
The 1800s society expected all insults and injuries to be avenged quickly
Letting an insult or an injury go unanswered meant others took advantage
Anyone insulted or robbed in the 1800s usually settled scores personally

For the educated and financially secure Dignity was their culture
Dignity focuses on self-respect rather than group respect
An injury or insult might be ignored if it was only a slight
An injury or insult would generate a lawsuit or arrest warrant if significant
A man of Honor sought out and punished his adversary
A man of Dignity had his lawyers or the police settle the scores.

Dignity meant fewer violent people were committing violence
Educational and employment opportunities encouraged Dignity
A wider prosperity and better health encouraged thought over action
A majority of modern people practiced Dignity
A minority of modern people practiced Honor
Anyone who could not use the courts or police still settled their scores

The great change in Irish gangsters was due to a political blunder
The imposition of Prohibition on the American people was senseless
Temperance Movement in the 1800s initially promoted social drinking
Temperance Movement in the 1900s promoted abstinence from alcohol
This pressure group gained enough power to pass the 18th Amendment
The Volstead Act was the enabling legislation

Americans were not allowed to manufacture, transport or sell alcohol
The practical matter was that brewing, distilling and vinting still could be done.
It was done either unsafely or safely, in the United States or oversea
Prohibition gave organized crime a huge profit center for 13 years.
The expectation was a sober workforce
The result was widespread breaking of a law held in low repute by man
The general understanding is that Prohibition profit was an Italian preserve
Irish gangsters profited from Prohibition more than any others

The most significant importer of alcohol in the 1920s and 1930s was Irish
Bill Dwyer earned millions every year in the 1920s
In the 1920s a salary \$5000 a year was a pharmacist's income
Dwyer is generally unknown because he chose to be unknown
He died rich and in bed and blessedly unknown

An organized gangster is usually a businessman of irregular means

This irregular businessman supplies goods or services outlawed by society

Beer, wine and whiskey in demand by Americans in 1920s and 1930s

Some Americans never bought alcohol in the 1920s and 1930s

Many Americans bought alcohol during Prohibition days

Bill Dwyer owned ships and gunboats to import safe foreign alcohol

Irish gangsters did not manufacture rotgut bathtub gin

They made connections in Europe, Canada or Cuba for safe alcohol

They were practical businessmen who sold a quality product to earn customers

They were consistent in price and quality to keep customers returning

Dwyer had a difficulty with competitors

His competitors hijacked his trucks full of valuable liquor

He needed a director of security

He found another Irishman who established and maintained fine security

His director of security became the premier American gangster

Owen "The Killer" Madden was born in Liverpool in 1892

He came to the United States in 1902

He joined a street gang and became the gang's enforcer

He was only 5 feet 3 inches tall but he was quick and strong and smart

Madden was shot 5 times by adversaries at age 20.

He would not talk about it to the police

When he recovered he hunted down each of the gunmen

Madden was known to always settle a score

He always knew how much anyone owed him

He made sure he was always paid in full

Prohibition is represented to most by Al Capone

Capone was an enforcer and a liquor supplier but primarily a pimp

He established brothels in any area he had under his control

He found staunch enemies in Irish gangsters against prostitution

Several Irish gangsters ran liquor and killed adversaries in gunfights

These gangsters, such as Cicero, Illinois' O'Donnell Gang fought Capone

The reason for the opposition was due to competition in the liquor trade

The moral motivation was the O'Donnells were practicing Catholics

They considered prostitution a sin of the flesh, a mortal sin

Capone often hunted down enemies but tended to be hasty

In 1932 he participated in a drive-by shooting on the O'Donnell Gang

He killed two members of the O'Donnell Gang

He also killed the Cicero, Illinois District Attorney

The law enforcement pressure was intense afterward

Only his vast wealth and large organized allowed his survival
He died in prison of syphilis

Owen Madden organized distribution of liquor for Bill Dwyer
Madden made millions and bought restaurants and other legit concern
He began as an insurance salesman
He sold insurance that guaranteed if you paid your business would be safe
Otherwise the business might have a firebomb thrown into it that night
If you paid the firebomb insurance you would not have a firebomb thrown
At least for that night, your business was safe
He made a lot of money in that business

Madden was always ready and able to leave the world of crime

He died of old age in 1965 in Hot Springs, Arkansas
His last years involved a quiet retirement of a wealthy man
He had a grade school boy run errands for him
Bill Blythe bought cigars and newspapers for the older man
Bill Blythe changed his name to his stepfather's name at age 16
Since the 1950s he has been known as William Jefferson Clinton

Owen Madden knew many celebrities as well as Bill Clinton
Madden bankrolled Broadway shows for Mae West
He was a childhood friend of George Raft and met James Cagney
Raft and Cagney based movie characters of gangsters on Madden
Madden had a huge organization, which ran like a well oiled machine
He made sure that deliveries of alcohol were made without a hitch
On some occasions he had to deal with disagreements with competitors
He usually made sure that the problem was settled

When Patsy Doyle tried to take over Madden's operation, Madden responded
He was cautious with Doyle and only gave him a serious beating
Doyle persisted so Madden hunted him down in a Manhattan bar
It would have been a shootout if Doyle's gun ability matched his nerve
Madden was known as the most accurate shot in NYC's underworld
Doyle did not have a chance against a fast shot with an exact proficiency
Owney The Killer Madden shot down opponents more than once

One of his hired men was Vincent Coll
Vincent Coll was an Irish speaker from County Donegal
He was a handsome gunman without fear
He also was without much sense
Coll tried to muscle into Madden's operation
Coll was known as "Mad Dog" to the Irish and "Mad Mick" to Italians

Coll was disappointed when Madden refused an unearned partnership
Coll responded by kidnapping members of Madden's gang
Madden arranged a phone call to arrange a truce
Coll called Madden from a pharmacy's phone booth
It is unclear what happened next

**Someone came into the pharmacy and fired several shots into Coll
Two bullets went into each arm and one into his heart
It is unknown if Madden or a lieutenant did it
The assassination had the focused completion of a Madden operation.**

Madden's most interesting cultural achievement was owning The Cotton Club
He employed Duke Ellington and other important jazz musicians
Madden's patronage changed the course of American music and culture
He appreciated fine music and encouraged new achievements

Francis Coppola made the film ***The Cotton Club*** in 1984
Bob Hoskins played Owen Madden
Bob Hoskins played him with an American accent
Madden had an English accent
Madden was portrayed as well dressed, polite and decisive
Those characteristics were correct
Richard Gere played a role similar to George Raft and James Cagney
Nicholas Cage played a role similar to Mad Dog Coll
Coppola was probably trying to make an Irish ***Godfather*** film
It was a nice try but not very successful
Madden was a complex real person
Don Corleone was a fictional composite of Italian gangsters
The Irish are more complex than most people give them credit.

Al Capone was a publicity hound who gave press conferences
He chose to be a public figure
Later gangsters like John Gotti and Joey Merlino courted public attention
Irish gangsters understood the wisdom of invisibility
Irish gangsters have continued but generally been unknown

Manhattan had The Westies gang in the 1950s through 1970s
The gang managed loan sharking and gambling in their neighborhood
Mickey Spillane was their leader
His namesake wrote mysteries but the gangster did not like the novels
The gangster, a practicing Catholic, was repelled by the sex in the stories
As a devout practicing Catholic he found sexual promiscuity as sinful
This was a man ready to kill anyone who challenged his authority

Spillane was on the wrong side of the Generation Gap of the 1960s
Jimmy Coonan, a young gang member, felt Spillane was too hide bound
Jimmy recruited Mickey Featherstone to be his right-hand man
Featherstone was a Vietnam veteran with a drinking problem
Jimmy and Featherstone became friends over a bar fight

One night Featherstone was in a bar minding his own business
A local Mafia member thought it would be funny to hassle an Irishman
Featherstone was unarmed and left with a sense of shame
He lived a life of Honor and wanted to fight the Mafioso and win
Featherstone went into another local bar and met Coonan
They knew each other casually but Coonan made them friends
Coonan handed Featherstone his personal handgun
How many times has this happened to you?
You need something but you don't have it!
When somebody lends you what you need, you become friends
Featherstone returned to the first bar, shot it out, walked out alive
Featherstone became Coonan's friend for life

Coonan and Featherstone overthrew the Old Guard of the Westies
Coonan made contacts with the Gambino Family
The Mafia wanted to manage the local rackets more efficiently
The Irish gangsters' income went up
The Italians were glad to have Irish gunmen at their call
The Irish were afraid of Irish gunmen who were relentless
The Mafioso hoped life for all of them would quiet down
The Mafioso were wrong
The Westies were truly Wild Irishmen
Featherstone hated the Mafioso
They were overdressed and he called them "Al Colognes."

Featherstone was framed for a shooting he did not do
He was the first Irish gangster to turn state's evidence
He was a feared gunman but framing him showed disloyalty
The Irish never forgive disloyalty
He paid Coonan's disloyalty back with disloyalty
Featherstone is in the Witness Protection Program at last word

Philadelphia is an historically an Irish town
People from Northern Ireland, Ulster, have migrated there since 1700s
Irish resistance to British rule has always been strong in Ulster
In recent years the Irish Republican Army was army and police there
Thompson machine guns were sent to Erin in 1920 from Jenkintown

The IRA always had close connections to Philadelphia
Philadelphia has always produced important Irish gangsters

Frank Sheeran, a union and Mafia gunman, came from Darby, PA
He lived in and around Philadelphia for most of his life
He was a war hero in World War II
After the war he worked as a truck driver

He became friends with Russell Bufalino, a major Mafia figure
Bufalino liked Sheeran since Sheeran spoke Italian from war experience
Sheeran liked Italian cuisine and red wine
When Sheeran was threatened he beat any opponent to a pulp
Bufalino called him "The Irishman" and promised to help him
He asked Sheeran what he wanted to do with his life
Sheeran wanted to help people, he said, he wanted to be a union man
Bufalino knew Jimmy Hoffa so he recommended Frank as an organizer

Sheeran dictated his memoirs as a dying man
A priest had absolved his sins but advised him to confess his crimes
Sheeran was a practicing Catholic and true believer
Sheeran stated he was proud of his adherence to Church structure
He stated proudly that despite many affairs he never masturbated
It was against Church morality to masturbate
He assaulted and killed a number of people in his lifetime
His claim to fame, so to speak, is he claims to have killed Jimmy Hoffa
He was a friend of Hoffa and Hoffa's family

James Hoffa Junior has stated Sheeran was friends with Hoffa
He and his family always felt Sheeran was involved in the death
His disappearance went so long that death was accepted
Sheeran was listed in Federal crime reports as a Mafia advisory member
To most of us he was unknown for most of his life
As we have seen, Irish gangsters often hide from publicity
We do not know now who is operating as a gangster but unknown
Years from now we may find out about a contemporary Frank Sheeran

The most interesting recent Irish gang was well known in Philadelphia
***The K & A Gang were known in Philadelphia and in few areas elsewhere
They were the most efficient and successful burglars in US history***
Kensington and Allegheny is a major intersection in an old Irish neighborhood
It is called "K and A" all throughout the city
It was a major commercial area for generations
Now it is somewhat rundown but it holds nostalgic value for many people

They were a pool of active burglars who combined for certain jobs
It was called "Production Work" since burglary was a vocation
Most of the members were high school dropouts with few interests
They knew little about the outside world and usually stayed in Kensington
The only traveling they did was for business

Allen Hornblum's book ***Confessions Of A Second Story Man: Junior Kripplebauer and the K and A Gang*** is based on interviews of many Members of the Gang.

They traveled to Texas, Florida and the Carolinas in winter
Warm weather destinations meant housebreaking without snow
They robbed some wealthy families more than once
They had an intuitive sense of where money and jewels were hidden
They could disarm any burglar alarm system invented
They drove back home with cars full of fur coats and silver and jewels

One fascinating dimension of their lifestyle was their sense of propriety
The Irish often are concerned about appearing respectable
The K & A Gang always dressed in suits and ties to burglarize homes
The suits helped them look proper for upper class neighborhoods
The suits also confirmed for them that they were not losers
In bars during recreational drinking bouts they always dressed well
A history of poverty and starvation told these Irish gangsters look good
Fifteen minutes in a house and the Kensington crew cleaned it out

They were caught only because of a member's laziness
One member was ordered to throw away excess loot
He threw it away in a motel dumpster and was spotted
The gang was arrested, faced multiple charges, went to prison
When Junior Kripplebauer (McGinty on mom's side) was arrested he
 Showed his Irish sense of propriety
A female FBI agent arrested him, shoving a shotgun in his face
He was annoyed and told her flatly she had no business doing this,
She should be at home in her kitchen, raising her children.

There are more incidents and notables to tell about in this area.
Some Irish gangsters ran guns to Northern Ireland in the 1970s
In 1940 IRA officer was offered the post of head of commandos by
The British Government due to his successful operations in Ireland.
We do not know who is operating in the shadows now. Irish gangsters
have been active for centuries. We only know of some of them.

End Of Notes.