The Encyclopedia of the Irish in America

Comprehensive, Definitive Survey Of Irish-American History.

A detailed reference work chronicling the effects of Irish immigration on the American story begins with the mass emigration of the 1840s and traces the many contributions made by Irish-Americans over the next century and a half.

My Personal Review:
Encyclopedia Of The Irish In America, Edited by Michael Glazier.
University of Notre Dame Press, 1999.

At almost a thousand pages, this is a big book, listing, alphabetically, many, many Irish Americans, from the very famous to those know only to historical specialists. Further, there are subject sections that are very interesting. For example, from pages 275 to 292, the section, entitled, Ethnic Relations, gives a concise summary of the history of how the Irish in America dealt with the Blacks, Germans, Italians, Jews and Poles. There is also a state by state examination of the history of the Irish immigrants; some sections are only a few pages (e.g.. Montana), while other state sections (New York, New Jersey) are necessarily larger. If you are interested in which state had the greatest collection of Irish-born, take a look at the table on pages 461-462.

You could spend many a night going alphabetically through this excellent reference, and you will be surprised with the achievements of the Irish-Americans, ranging from their many different occupations to the many awards the Irish-Americans have garnered. Page 635: Audie Murphy, most decorated soldier in World War II. Page 369: Andrew Greeley, priest, sociologist and novelist (his books are listed on Amazon). Page 601: Thomas Francis Meagher, Civil War General and editor. If you wanted to know more about the Irish in America, this book is a good place to start.
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