

off the fence.

Clear The Way

2 x 60'

EPISODIC BREAKDOWN

1. Clear the Way

The story starts with a mystery - the discovery of the remains of an Irish soldier on the Antietam battlefield in 1988. Irish American actor Brian Mallon's quest to discover the identity of the Unknown Soldier opens up the first chapter of the history of the Irish Brigade. Through the experiences of central characters such as Waterford man Irish Brigade General Thomas Francis Meagher, this film traces the formation of the Irish Brigade, the story of the men and women behind this unique unit and the Civil War's impact on Ireland and America.

2. The Last Full Measure

In this second episode, we follow General Meagher and his Brigade to the Battle of Fredericksburg, a disaster for the Irish Brigade. With his brigade virtually wiped out, Meagher is under growing pressure. The remnants of the Brigade continue to fight and at the famous Battle of Gettysburg, the Irish play a crucial part in winning the battle. The exploits of Irish soldiers helped the Irish to integrate into American society and become a driving force of nationalism in Ireland, fuelling the struggle for independence.