A “Manly Study”?

This page intentionally left blank

A “Manly Study”?

Irish Women Historians, 1868–1949

Nadia Clare Smith

palgrave
macmillan

© Nadia Clare Smith 2006

Softcover reprint of the hardcover 1st edition 2006 978-0-230-00904-2

Cover Painting: *Girl Reading* by Edmund Charles Tarbell, 1909.

Photograph copyright 2006, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

All rights reserved. No reproduction, copy or transmission of this publication may be made without written permission.

No paragraph of this publication may be reproduced, copied or transmitted save with written permission or in accordance with the provisions of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988, or under the terms of any licence permitting limited copying issued by the Copyright Licensing Agency, 90 Tottenham Court Road, London W1T 4LP.

Any person who does any unauthorized act in relation to this publication may be liable to criminal prosecution and civil claims for damages.

The author has asserted her right to be identified as the author of this work in accordance with the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988.

First published in 2006 by

PALGRAVE MACMILLAN

Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG21 6XS and

175 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10010

Companies and representatives throughout the world.

PALGRAVE MACMILLAN is the global academic imprint of the Palgrave Macmillan division of St. Martin's Press, LLC and of Palgrave Macmillan Ltd. Macmillan® is a registered trademark in the United States, United Kingdom and other countries. Palgrave is a registered trademark in the European Union and other countries.

ISBN 978-1-349-28451-1
DOI 10.1057/9780230596481

ISBN 978-0-230-59648-1 (eBook)

This book is printed on paper suitable for recycling and made from fully managed and sustained forest sources.

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Smith, Nadia Clare

A "manly study"? : Irish women historians, 1868–1949 / Nadia Clare Smith.

p. cm.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-1-349-28451-1 (cloth)

1. Women historians – Ireland – History. 2. Women historians – Ireland – Historiography. 3. Historiography – Ireland – History – 19th century. 4. Historiography – Ireland – History – 20th century. 5. Women historians – History. 6. Women historians – Historiography. I. Title.

DA908.S65 2006

941.5072'02—dc22

2006045753

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

15 14 13 12 11 10 09 08 07 06

Contents

<i>Acknowledgements</i>	vi
Introduction	1
1 Unionist Women Historians, 1868–1922	7
2 Nationalist Women Historians, 1868–1922	31
3 Women Historians in the NUI, 1922–1949	61
4 Women Historians at Trinity College, 1922–1949	99
5 Non-Academic Women Historians, 1922–1949	116
Conclusion	157
<i>Notes</i>	163
<i>Index</i>	207

Acknowledgements

A book about Irish women historians should begin by thanking several Irish women historians for their help and support for this project. I am indebted to Margaret O hOgartaigh for her friendship and insightful critiques of my work, and Mary O'Dowd and Maria Luddy for their support and their many insights about Irish women's history. At Boston College I would like to thank Kevin O'Neill, Rob Savage, and Peter Weiler for their invaluable help and support over the years, as well as Alan Rogers, Lynn Johnson, Colleen O'Reilly and other faculty members and friends in the History Department and Irish Studies Program. I am grateful to John Atteberry and David Horn at the Burns Library at Boston College, and the staff at the O'Neill Library, for their help as well.

Many thanks to Michael Strang, Ruth Ireland, and the production team at Palgrave for all their help with this book.

I am immensely grateful to others working in history and Irish Studies on both sides of the Atlantic who generously shared their knowledge and discussed aspects of my work with me, as well as those who shared memories of the women historians who appear in this book. Thanks to Maria Walsh, Angus Mitchell, Eunan O'Halpin, Angela Bourke, Ilaria Porciani, James Donnelly, Timothy Meagher, Tom Desmond, and Kevin Whelan.

My own undergraduate students at Boston College have indirectly contributed to this book, more than they realize, and I thank them as well.

I would like to thank the staffs of the National Library of Ireland, the National Archives of Ireland, the UCD Archives, and the Trinity College Library for all their help. Every reasonable attempt has been made to contact the copyright holders of material reproduced in this book. I gratefully acknowledge permission from the Board of the National Library of Ireland to quote from material from their collections. I am also grateful to the Board of Trinity College for permission to quote from material from their manuscript collection. The image on the cover has been reproduced by the kind permission of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.