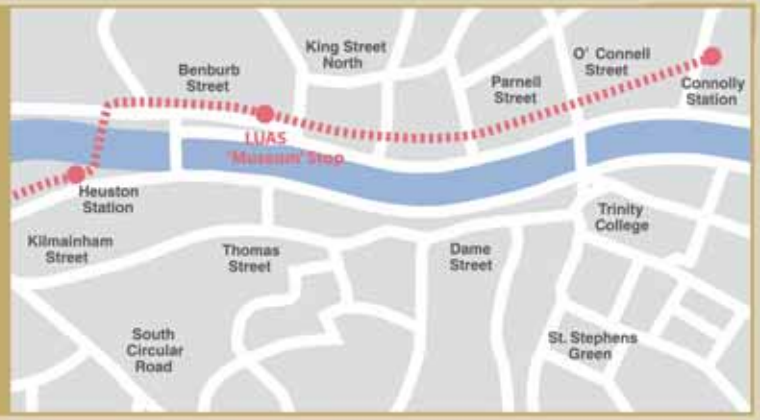
For further information and to book a place contact:

The Education and Outreach Department
National Museum of Ireland - Decorative Arts & History
Collins Barracks
Benburb Street, Dublin 7.

Tel: +353 (0) 1 648 6453
Email: bookings@museum.ie

www.museum.ie



How to find us:

Buses to Collins Barracks:
90 (Aston Quay),
92 (St Stephen's Green)
25, 25A, 66, 67 (Wellington Quay)

Luas:
Collins Barracks:
Dedicated Museum stop –
Red Line

museum
National Museum of Ireland
Ard-Mhúsaem na hÉireann

Decorative Arts & History

Conference

Irish Women and the Vote: Suffrage and Citizenship

Saturday 24th May 2008
10.00am - 5.00pm

Mary had a little bag,
And in it was a hammer,
For Mary was a suffragette,
For votes she used to clamour.
She broke a pane of glass one day,
Like any naughty boy,
A constable came along,
And now she's in Mountjoy.

This year marks the centenary of the establishment of the Irish Women's Franchise League. In January 1918, under the terms of the Representation of the People Act, Irish women over the age of 30 could vote in a general election for the first time. In December of that year, Countess Markievicz became the first woman to be elected as an MP to the British House of Commons, although, as a member of Sinn Féin, she never took her seat.

This conference, marking the 90th anniversary of Irish women attaining the vote, focuses on the Irish suffrage movement and its wider impact on public life in Ireland. A range of speakers will bring new research and perspectives to the history of Irish suffrage, looking at how the campaign developed both North and South and in urban and rural areas. The conference aims to explore the achievements, challenges and the legacies of the hard fought campaign for equal citizenship and is for anyone with a general interest in Irish social, cultural and political history.

A small exhibition of artefacts that relates to this theme will be on display from May. The Museum's historical collection contains a number of items, such as handbills, photographs and documents, that relate to the activities of the Irish Women's Franchise League and to individuals such as the Sheehy Skeffingtons and Countess Markievicz.

Tickets: €30.00
Students, Senior Citizens, Unwaged: €15.00

Includes morning tea/coffee and light lunch.

Booking essential.

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Telephone: 01 6486 453
Email: bookings@museum.ie

Speakers

Caitriona Beaumont is a Senior Lecturer in History at London South Bank University. Recent publications include *After the Vote: women citizenship and the campaign for gender equality in the Irish Free State 1922-1943* in L. Ryan & M. Ward (eds), Irish Women and the Vote: Becoming Citizens, Irish Academic Press, 2007.

Mary Clancy is a lecturer in women's studies and history at the National University of Ireland, Galway.

Catriona Crowe is Head of Special Projects at the National Archives of Ireland, and a former President of the Women's History Association of Ireland.

Rosemary Cullen Owens is a lecturer in women's history at the Women's Education Research and Resource Centre (WERRC) at University College, Dublin. Her publications include *A Social History of Women in Ireland* (Gill & Macmillan), 2005 and *Smashing Times, A History of the Irish Suffrage Movement 1876-1922* (Attic Press), 1984 & 1995.

Myrtle Hill is a senior lecturer in social, religious and women's history at Queen's University Belfast. Her books include *Women in Ireland: A Century of Change*, Belfast, 2003, *Women of Ireland, Image & Experience c1880-1920* (2nd edtn.) Belfast, 1999 (with V. Pollock). Recent articles include: *Ulster: debates, demands and divisions: The battle for (and against) the vote*, in Louise Ryan and Margaret Ward (eds), *Irish Women and The Vote: Becoming Citizens*, Irish Academic Press, 2007.

Leeann Lane is co-ordinator of, and lecturer in, Irish Studies at Mater Dei Institute of Education, at Dublin City University. She has published work on George Russell and is currently finishing a biography of Rosamond Jacob. In 2007 she held the position of summer scholar in Irish Studies in Boston College.

Margaret Mac Curtain is a distinguished historian with an internationally acclaimed academic career. She has an Honorary Research Fellowship in University College Dublin and was co-publisher of the Field Day Anthology of Irish Writing (4 & 5). Mac Curtain, a Dominican nun, is a leading independent thinker and leader of the resurgent Irish women's movement in the 1970s and 1980s and is respected today for her continuing input to Irish social development.

Carmel Quinlan is the Mature Student Officer and Lecturer in History in Women's Studies, University College Cork. Her PhD was a biographical study of the Irish suffrage pioneers Anna and Thomas Haslam, subsequently published as *Genteel revolutionaries: Anna and Thomas Haslam and the Irish Women's Movement* (2002).

Louise Ryan is the Deputy Director of the Social Policy Research Centre, Middlesex University. She has published numerous articles on the Irish suffrage movement. Her anthology of the suffrage newspapers the Irish Citizen, *Irish Feminism and the Vote* was published in 1996. She has co-edited two books with Margaret Ward, *Irish Women and Nationalism* (2004) and *Irish Women and the Vote* (2007).

Maryann Valiulis is the Director of the Centre for Gender and Women's Studies, Trinity College Dublin as well as directing the Research Unit of the Centre. Dr. Valiulis has published extensively in the field of Irish history, including both traditional and women's history.

Margaret Ward is Director of the Women's Resource and Development Agency, Belfast and was assistant director of the think tank Democratic Dialogue from 2000-05. Margaret was previously lecturer in history and women's studies at the University of the West of England and Bath Spa University. She has published a number of books on the role of women in Irish history and co-edited, with Louise Ryan, studies of Irish women and nationalism and the Irish suffrage movement.