
This is a ground-breaking edited collection charting the rise and fall of forms of unfree labour in the ancient Mediterranean and the modern Atlantic, employing the methodology of comparative history. The eleven chapters in the book deal with conceptual issues and different approaches to historical comparison, and include specific case-studies ranging from the ancient forms of slavery of classical Greece and of the Roman Empire to the modern examples of slavery that characterized the Caribbean, Latin America and the United States. The results demonstrate both how much the modern world has inherited from the ancient in regard to the ideology and practice of slavery, and also how many of the issues and problems related the the latter seem to have been fundamentally comparable across time and space.

More info from Cambridge University Press.

Caitriona Clear: Social Change and everyday life in Ireland, 1850-1922 (Manchester University Press, 2007)

Men and women who were born, grew up and died in Ireland between 1850 and 1922 made decisions – to train, to emigrate, to stay at home, to marry, to stay single, to stay at school -based on the knowledge and resources they had at the time. This, the first comprehensive social history of Ireland for the period 1850–1922 to appear since 1981, tries to understand that knowledge and to discuss those resources on the island, for men and women at all social levels, as a whole.

More information from Manchester University Press.

Dáibhí Ó Cróinin: The Kings Depart: The Prosopography of Anglo-Saxon Royal Exile in the Sixth and Seventh Centuries, Quiggin Pamphlets on the Sources of Gaelic History No 8,(Dept of Anglo-Saxon, Norse, and Celtic, University of Cambridge, 2007)
Science in the Marketplace: nineteenth-century sites and experiences (University of Chicago, 2007) edited by Aileen Fyfe and Bernard Lightman

The nineteenth century was an age of transformation in science, when scientists were rewarded for their startling new discoveries with increased social status and authority. But it was also a time when ordinary people from across the social spectrum were given the opportunity to participate in science, for education, entertainment, or both. In Victorian Britain science could be encountered in myriad forms and in countless locations: in panoramic shows, exhibitions, and galleries; in city museums and country houses; in popular lectures; and even in domestic conversations that revolved around the latest books and periodicals. Science in the Marketplace reveals this other side of Victorian scientific life.

More information from University of Chicago Press.


The history of the British Isles is the story of four peoples linked together by a process of state building that was as much about far-sighted planning and vision as coincidence, accident and failure. It is a history of revolts and reversal, familial bonds and enmity, the study of which does much to explain the underlying tension between the nations of modern day Britain. The Making of the British Isles recounts the development of the nations of England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland from the time of the Anglo-French dual monarchy under Henry VI through the Wars of the Roses, the Reformation crisis, the reigns of Henry VIII and Elizabeth I, the Anglo-Scottish dynastic union, the British multiple monarchy and the Cromwellian Republic, ending with the acts of British Union and the Restoration of the Monarchy.

More info from Pearson...

Kimberly LoPrete, Adela of Blois: Countess and Lord, (c.1067-1137) (Four Courts, 2007)

Based on a comprehensive re-evaluation of unpublished and published charters, letters, poems, and narrative sources, this is the first scholarly volume devoted to the life and political career of Adela, the youngest daughter of William the Conqueror (c.1067-1137), who ruled as countess of Blois, Chartres, and Meaux for over twenty years. Well-known to literary historians for generations, Adela, in this book, emerges as a powerful lord who ably used her status, literacy, wealth, familial and feudal networks, and comital powers to rank among the most important players on the French political scene in the first two decades of the twelfth century.

More information from Four Courts Press.

In this first volume of the Royal Irish Academy's multi-volume *New History of Ireland* a wide range of scholars have produced studies of Ireland's archaeology, art, culture, geography, geology, history, language, law, literature, music, and related topics. Initial chapters examine geography and the physical environment, neolithic, bronze-age, and iron-age Ireland, and Ireland up to 800. Society, laws, church, and politics are all analysed separately as are architecture, literature, manuscripts, language, coins, and music. The volume is brought up to the twelfth century with chapters, amongst others, on the Vikings, Ireland and its neighbours, and opposition to the High-Kings...


Agrarian Elites American Slaveholders and Southern Italian Landowners by Enrico Dal Lago, (Louisiana State University Press Baton Rouge, 2005)

Between 1815 and 1861, American slaveholders and southern Italian landowners presided over the economic and social life of two predominantly agricultural regions, the U.S. South and Italy's *Mezzogiorno*. *Agrarian Elites* charts the parallel developments of plantations and *latifondi* in relation to changes in the world economy. At the same time, it examines the spread of "paternalistic" models of family relations and of slave and free-labor management that accompanied the rise of large groups of American slaveholders and southern Italian landed proprietors in the early-to-mid-1800s.

Roisin Healy, *The Jesuit Specter in Imperial Germany* (Brill, 2003)

From 1872 to 1917 legislation banned Jesuits from Imperial Germany. Believing the Jesuits sought to control the social, political, and religious realms, the Protestant bourgeoisie championed the ban and promoted a politics of paranoia against the Jesuits... The core of the book is evenly divided between an analysis of the political struggle over the passage, gradual dilution, and eventual repeal of the Jesuit Law and the main themes of anti-Jesuitism: the order's internationalism, moral theology, and scholarship...

More from *Brill*...

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*Early Irish History and Chronology* (2003), by Dáibhí Ó Cróinín

These essays bring together the fruits of twenty years' research into the concepts of time and time-reckoning that were formulated by Irish scholars in the centuries between the coming of Christianity and the age of Bede.

More details from *Four Courts Press*...

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*The American South and the Italian Mezzogiorno* (2002), ed. by Enrico dal Lago and Rick Halpern

The essays gathered in this volume explore the prospects for comparison between the American South and the Italian Mezzogiorno - two regions with similarities in their processes of modernization, but also with striking social and cultural differences.

More details from *Palgrave*...
Women of the House (2000), by Caitriona Clear

The picture often painted of Irish women who were not in the paid workforce in the first four decades of Irish independence was one of narrow, optionless lives, ceaseless drudgery, and severe subordination. This study blends official records and personal testimonies of all kinds from these years, to show us that this was not necessarily so.

More information from Irish Academic Press...

Ireland in the Age of the Tudors, 1447-1603 (1998), by Steven Ellis

This book explores Ireland as a frontier society divided between the English and Gaelic worlds. Our understanding of both worlds, and their interaction (culminating in the Tudor conquest and the collapse of Gaelic rule) has been transformed over the past thirty years through the detailed research of Irish and Tudor specialists alike; and this wealth of new scholarship is fully synthesised in the text.

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