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Irish Latin American Research Fund
Application Form

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University or institutional affiliation	(Please specify department) Univ of Guelph, Canada
Member of the Faculty?	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If yes, rank: Associate Professor
(OR) Student?	Undergraduate <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate <input type="checkbox"/> Principal advisor or thesis director:
(OR) Independent Scholar?	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
Intended Product	Thesis <input type="checkbox"/> Dissertation <input type="checkbox"/> Book <input type="checkbox"/> Article <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Documentary <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> (describe)
Date degree expected or date of project completion	August 2006
Title or research topic (please include the time period being studied):	"Recruitment in Ireland for the Spanish American Independence Armies 1814-1824"
How did you learn about this research grant opportunity? (Please be specific)	website, contact with IAHS members
Proposed field trip: purpose, destination, dates of travel and proposed duration of stay (may be changed)	travel for archival research (May 2006)
Estimate of actual expenses; please provide details of air, automobile, bus, rail, or other expenses and local accommodations (please add an itemized budget):	attached
Amount of grant support requested (in Euros)	€ 1000

GRANT APPLICATION - IRISH ARGENTINE RESEARCH FUND

Proposed Research Topic: "Recruitment in Ireland for the Spanish American Independence Armies, (1814-1824)"

When the Napoleonic Wars ended, thousands of newly-unemployed Irish soldiers returned home with few options. Within months, Argentine, Venezuela and Colombian envoys in London began to set up recruitment offices in London and Dublin with the hopes of attracting these experienced fighters to the cause of Spanish American independence. The financial and material terms offered to potential Irish recruits were very generous and included promises of land grants, substantial cash payments, and bounty seized from the Spanish colonial oppressors. Indeed, Venezuelan Luis López Méndez's office was known as the "colonel factory" because of his willingness to raise each recruit's status by one full rank. The Irish soldiers' devotion to Spanish American independence went deeper than their pockets, however; in the era of the Great Atlantic Revolutions, these young men understood that the advance of liberty in one region would contribute to its progress in another. Greeks fighting to free themselves from the Ottoman Turks, Spanish Americans, Irish Catholics were all struggling for liberty, citizenship and freedom of religion within colonial systems. For this reason, Irish soldiers felt a natural affinity for the Spanish American patriotic cause which elevates their participation beyond the mercenary.

Although there were at least five major recruiting offices located in London, both the Argentine and Gran Colombian patriots set up active headquarters in Dublin and traveled throughout Ireland advertising their cause. They printed handbills and broadsides, held fundraising dinners in local taverns, and planted stories favorable to their cause in local newspapers. Local businesses welcomed the stimulus to sales and production that the recruitment process offered (each soldier had to outfit himself and pay for his own transportation across the Atlantic). General John D'Evereux was perhaps the most famous man to join the patriots; there were toasts made in his honour and parades held on Dublin streets to send him off. Major George Flinter married a Spanish woman and acted as a double agent; he pretended to befriend the Dublin recruits but treacherously reported on their activities to the Spanish Ambassador in London; I have already obtained his Dublin correspondence from the Archivo General de Simancas in Spain. Two returning Irish doctors carried out an extensive and bitter polemic in the press about the true conditions of service in Spanish America. In 1819, under pressure from the Spanish Embassy, passed the Foreign Enlistment Act which ended soldiers' pensions (and in some cases revoked citizenship) if they joined foreign armies. All these activities indicate that there is broader significance to the story of Spanish American recruitment in Ireland during the years 1814-1824.

This research topic falls squarely within the Society's scope of study. Hundreds of young Irish men shared the idealism of the Spanish American patriots and signed on to help their cause; many were killed or wounded, and many others opted to remain in Spanish America (notably Argentina, Chile, Venezuela and Colombia) and to start families as patriotic Spanish American citizens after independence was secured (Daniel Florencio O'Leary is the most famous example). The story of the Spanish American recruitment in Dublin has never been told.

I have contacted several Irish institutions and consulted the standard reference guide called *Manuscript Sources for the History of Irish Civilization*, (ed. R J Hayes). The following items are relevant for this research project and I expect to find many others when I am able to consult the detailed finding guides to collections available at each library and archive.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF IRELAND (DUBLIN):

Books and Rare Books:

- Fairburn's Edition of the Speech of Chas. Phillips, Esq. (the Celebrated Orator) to General D'Evereux, and the Regiments under his Command, Previous to their Embarkation at Dublin to Join the Spanish Patriots in South America.* London: Published by John Fairburn, 1819.
- Hackett, James. *Narrative of the Expedition Which Sailed from England in 1817 to Join the South American Patriots....* London: for the author, 1818.
- Imbert, Eric. *Voluntarios Británicos e Irlandeses en la Gesta Bolivariana.* Caracas: Dirección de Artes Gráficas del Ministerio de la Defensa, 1993.
- Hall, Francis. *An Appeal to the Irish Nation, on the Character and Conduct of General D'Evereux.* Dublin: Printed for the author by W. Underwood, 1820.
- [Maceroni, Francis]. *Memoirs of the Life and Adventures of Col. Maceroni, Late Aide-de-Camp to Joaquim Murat, King of Naples.* London: J. Macrone, 1838.
- Somerville, Alexander. *History of the British Legion and War with Spain, with an Appendix Containing Every Officer's Name, Rank, and Service in the Expedition.* London: James Pattie, [1823].
- Speeches of Charles Phillips, Esq.* London: W. Simpkin & R Marshall, 1822.

Manuscripts:

Gerry Lyne, Keeper of Manuscripts, tells me that the library's manuscript collections contain several items relevant for my research, including:

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| -Mss 33,565 O'Connell | Morgan O'Connell enlisted with John Devereux to fight for Bolívar. Also has copies of Daniel O'Connell's papers; he helped recruit for the South American cause and also for the Carlist wars in Spain. |
| -Bathurst Mss 1923 | Bathurst correspondence; incl recommendation to advertise immigration schemes to Canada for returning troops (June 16, 1815); military and naval issues |
| -Mss 1036-41, Kilmainham | Letterbooks of British army in Ireland, incl addresses and names of subjects [including those under surveillance?] |
| -Mss 1284, Kilmainham | Letters to Commander, incl date and address of senders (1815-18) |
| -Mss 11,489 | Daniel O'Connell to C Phillips (26 Sept 1817) |
| -Mss 4318-19 | Two manuscript indexes to Irish newspapers from 1794-1833 arranged in sections on politics, eccles affairs, milit etc |

