

Irish Servicewomen in the Great War

STARTER CHART / basic facts for further research for: **CO. FERMANAGH**

Sources include : <https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/womens-army-auxiliary-corps-service-records-1917-1920/>

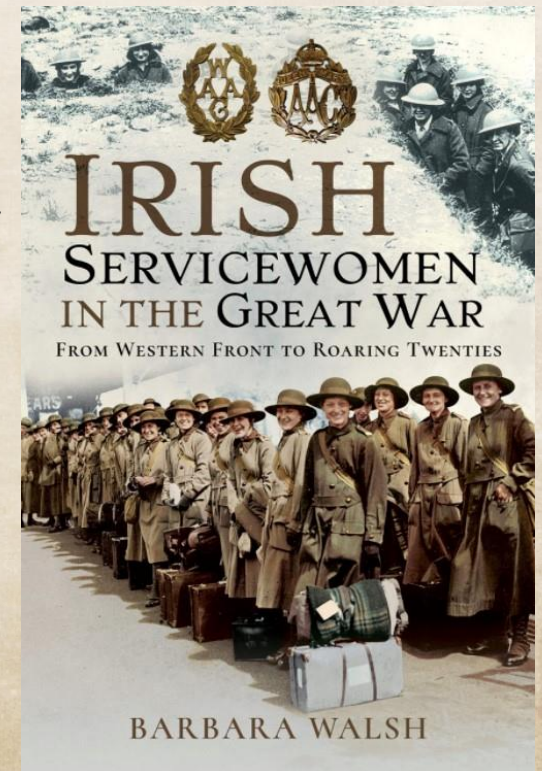
More than 80 percent of the c.60,000 First World War army service records for women who had served from 1917-1921 were completely lost when their archive was later damaged in a German bombing raid on London in the 1940s.

The number of surviving records for Irish-born women who served with the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (later Queen Mary's Army Corps) consequently only totals just over 500 names, mostly those of lower- ranking young women. Sadly, the memory of the contribution they had made in the First World War continues to be in danger of being completely side lined and forgotten, not only by the historical record and knowledge of the public but even by their own descendants today. It is a topic that local history and / or family history societies can help to redress.

Drawn from every level of society and from every creed and background, these ladies had come forward from all 32 counties of Ireland to offer skills at every level of ability in addition to high-tech expertise in key areas such as the telecommunication networks in France (telegraph and telephone) which linked frontline battlefields to army bases. Their work was categorised into separate sections:

- A = Office Clerks
- B = Catering /Cleaning
- C = Drivers
- D = Unskilled
- E = Telephone & Postal Services / Lines of Communication
- F = Miscellaneous
- G =Technical

The higher-ranking officers (the Officials / Administrators) are marked in the chart as: Off/I.
A usefully supportive background story of their experiences is published by Pen & Sword Books (2020)



FERMANAGH DETAILS for 6 identified recruits. Sources: *National Archives, Kew*

Cat:	Name /birth place and address	Date birth & Address in 1917 if different	Relig.	Previous civilian work	Army work	Applied & Service dates	Where served	Army No.
B	McMANUS , Mary b. Co. Fermanagh	21/05/1896 Hamilton St.,Belfast Also / 39 Oxford St., Totterdown, Bristol	RC		Waitress	Mar 1918 ~ May 1918 to Sept/Oct 1919	Randalstown and St. Pol	39015
A	HOGG , Annie b. Lisnaskea, Co.Fermanagh	20/01/1900	C of I	Shnd / Typist Father a boot merchant	Typist	May 1918 ~ June 1918 to May 1920	Woking and Bostall Heath	42843
B	BLACK , Rebecca b. Ballydoolagh, Co. Fermanagh	20/07/1894 20, Townhall Street, Enniskillen, Co.Fermanagh	C of I	Father a Herd	Waitress	May 1918 ~ July 1918 to Sept 1919	School of Musketry, Dublin and Ballykinlar	42842
B	EVANS , Rebecca b. Enniskillen	20 /01/1899	C of I	Servant Father a labourer	General Domestic	Oct 1917 ~ June 1918 to Nov 1918	Ebrington Bcks, L/derry	42858

A	FUREY , Harriett b. Farnacurkey, Lisnaskea Co.Fermanagh	17/02/1895	RC	Had previous Post Office work but was not GPO vol. Father a farmer	Copying Clerk	May 1918 ~ Sept 1918 to Dec 1919	London HQ and Boulogne	48862
B	CREIGHTON , Maggie b. Co. Fermanagh	2/02/1897 Kilskeery, Co Tyrone	C of I	Cook Father a farm labourer	Cook	Sept 1918 ~ Nov 1918 to Oct 1919	Bostall Heath,	52545