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Agonizing Question for Irish: What to Do With Children's Remains?



An investigation confirmed a local historian's suspicions that hundreds of children, many of them infants, were interred between 1925 and 1961 at the site of a mother-baby home in Tuam, Ireland.
Paulo Nunes dos Santos for The New York Times

By Dan Barry (<http://www.nytimes.com/by/dan-barry>) Jan. 13, 2018

A few years ago, an amateur historian shook Ireland to its core with a ghastly allegation: Hundreds of bodies of young children (https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2017/10/28/world/europe/tuam-ireland-babies-children.html?_) appeared to have been buried in an abandoned septic system by Catholic nuns who for decades had managed a home for unwed mothers and their offspring in the County Galway town of Tuam.

Then, early last year, investigators confirmed that many commingled human remains have been found in just a single corner of the seven-acre site, where a subsidized housing project had long since replaced the old mother-and-baby home.

Amid the many emotional reactions that followed was one particularly painful