

An
Bord
Pleanála

Observation on a Large-scale residential development Appeal: Form

Your details

1. Observer's details (person making the observation)

If you are making the observation, write your full name and address.

If you are an agent completing the observation for someone else, write the observer's details:

Your full details:

(a) Name

Deirdre Dennehy

(b) Address

22 Pic Du Jer Park, Ballinlough, Cork, T12T8R2

Agent's details

2. Agent's details

If an agent is making your observation, please provide their details below. If you are not using an agent, please write "Not applicable" below.

(a) Agent's name

Not Applicable

(b) Agent's address

Not applicable

Postal address for letters

3. During the appeal process we will post information and items to you **or** to your agent. For this observation, who should we write to? (Please tick ✓ one box only.)

You (the observer) at the address in Part 1

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The agent at the address in Part 2

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Details about the proposed development

4. Please provide details about the appeal you wish to make an observation on. If you want, you can include a copy of the planning authority's decision as the observation details.

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(for example: Ballytown City Council)

Cork City Council

(b) An Bord Pleanála appeal case number (if available)

(for example: ABP-300000-19)

324153

(c) Planning authority register reference number

(for example: 18/0123)

2544442

(d) Location of proposed development

(for example: 1 Main Street, Baile Fearainn, Co Abhaile)

Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

Observation details

5. Please describe the grounds of your observation (planning reasons and arguments). You can type or write them in the space below or you can attach them separately.

923 babies were discarded like rubbish on the site of Bessborough in the most callous of ways, the location of only 64 is known. The precedent has been set at Tuam with the Institutional Burials Bill 2022, and while the exact site of the remaining 859 children is unknown no chance must be taken that their tiny remains will be lost forever and their memory erased and discarded with the pouring of concrete.

The human rights of these children and their mothers were annihilated by our state. In their death and many would say their murder, they deserve nothing less than the chance of identification, return to families, and proper burial. This might seem completely impossible, and if their location is never to be known this land should be protected for them, for their memory, for their families, and for the collective grief of the Irish people.

I object in every way possible to this development.

Supporting materials

6. If you wish, you can include supporting materials with your observation.

Supporting materials include:

- photographs,
- plans,
- surveys,
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- technical guidance, or
- other supporting materials.

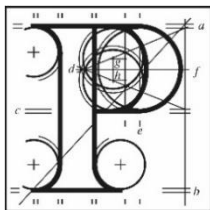
Fee

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Your full details:

(a) Name

Ceara Hurley

(b) Address

12 McGrath Park, Church Road, Blackrock, Cork.

Agent's details

2. Agent's details

If an agent is making your observation, please provide their details below. If you are not using an agent, please write "Not applicable" below.

(a) Agent's name

Not Applicable

(b) Agent's address

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To whom it may concern,

I wish to object to the planned development and building of apartments on the Bessborough site in Ballinure, Cork. I am horrified that this proposal has been approved by Cork City council.

I am aware that 923 children died there. 859 of these babies burial places are unaccounted for. An Coimisiún Pleanála themselves acknowledge they are likely buried on the grounds of Bessborough. I thought that Ireland's dark history in its treatment of women and babies was just that- history, but it seems the violations of human rights at the hands of the state is ongoing. The council are lacking in any sense of moral compass and are far removed from the will of the people they serve when they think that this is acceptable.

These babies were not allowed dignity in life, the least they deserve is to be given it in death.

It is an abhorrent moral and political failure of every Cork City Councillor who approved this.

It is a kick in the teeth for every survivor, many of whom are still alive and searching for family members. What kind of a human being would approve and build a house on dead babies?

Ceara Hurley

Martha Hurley

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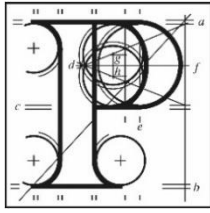
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Your full details:

(a) Name

Click or tap here to enter text.

Georgina Sweetnam

(b) Address

Click or tap here to enter text.

39 Careystown Woods, Whitegate, Midleton,
Co.Cork. P25 RX90.

Agent's details

2. Agent's details

If an agent is making your observation, please provide their details below. If you are not using an agent, please write "Not applicable" below.

(a) Agent's name

Not Applicable

(b) Agent's address

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There are bodies of dead babies on the grounds that need to be exhumed.
And for Justice to be shown to the babies and mothers of Bessborough.

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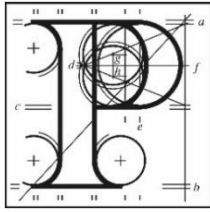
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Your full details:

(a) Name

Emma Ní Thuama

(b) Address

19 Bridgefield Grove, Curraheen, Cork. T12 Y4XH

Agent's details

2. Agent's details

If an agent is making your observation, please provide their details below. If you are not using an agent, please write "Not applicable" below.

(a) Agent's name

Not Applicable

(b) Agent's address

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It is absolutely unconscionable that any building should take place on this land. 923 babies died there, with the majority of their remains unaccounted for. It is a shameful stain on our history, and the very least that the women and children who suffered in Bessboro are owed is that the area is treated properly. It is an absolute disgrace that consideration is being given to the development of the land for profit!!

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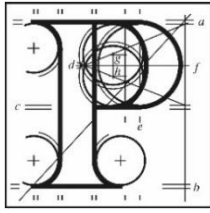
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If you are an agent completing the observation for someone else, write the observer's details:

Your full details:

(a) Name

Click or tap here to enter text. Muireann Lane

(b) Address

28 The Woods, Glounthaune, Co.Cork. T45 DE78

Agent's details

2. Agent's details

If an agent is making your observation, please provide their details below. If you are not using an agent, please write "Not applicable" below.

(a) Agent's name

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The Decision to grant Planning permission on the grounds of the Bessborough mother and baby homes is appalling and disappointing, especially given that it is probable there are around 850 children buried in unmarked graves. We know 859 children 19 mothers are unaccounted for. There appears to be no compassion shown to the children failed by the state and church, that their memory can be wiped away so easily and concrete thrown over it. It feels like an attempt to bury the failings of the past and the State appears to have washed its hands of Bessborough's disappeared children and women, and their many living mothers and other relatives. Instead of building these apartments, I would implore the council to treat the site with the sensitivity and care it deserves. There should be investigations into the site to find and identify all remains. There should be a memorial honouring them and all of their suffering.

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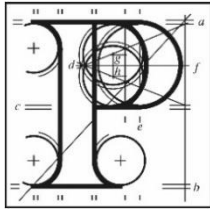
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If you are an agent completing the observation for someone else, write the observer's details:

Your full details:

(a) Name

Laura O'Connell

(b) Address

72 Coppingers Acre, Bantry Park Road, Cork

Agent's details

2. Agent's details

If an agent is making your observation, please provide their details below. If you are not using an agent, please write "Not applicable" below.

(a) Agent's name

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I am writing to support the Bessborough Mother & Baby Home Support Group objection.

The condition of the planning granted ie works must stop if something is found is contradictory in itself. Therefore, the burial grounds, the history and horrific treatment of all the Bessborough must be protected and no planning or building works should be allowed ever on this site.

I'd like to reference the Institutional Burials Bill.

Bessborough is a profound historical, conflictual place steeped in trauma and human significance. We need to protect vulnerable and marginalised groups and Bessborough mothers and babies are part of these protections. These babies and mothers and families deserve the upmost sensitivity, care and restraint.

The impact on the community, Cork and Ireland will be devastating.

Given the gravity of all the history associated with this place, I strongly urge ABP to strongly consider the two appeals and refuse this planning permission and all future planning applications.

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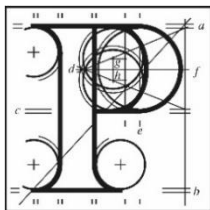
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(a) Name

Laura O'Connell

(b) Address

72 Coppingers Acre, Bantry Park Road, Cork

Agent's details

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I'd like to reference the Institutional Burials Bill.

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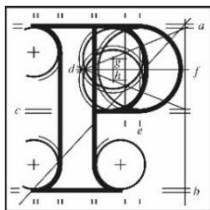
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Your full details:

(a) Name

Michael Dennehy

(b) Address

22 Pic du Jer park, Ballinlough, Cork. T12T8R2

Agent's details

2. Agent's details

If an agent is making your observation, please provide their details below. If you are not using an agent, please write "Not applicable" below.

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It is very likely that there are remains of babies on this site and I believe perhaps mothers who are also unaccounted for. Crimes are also likely to have been committed here. The victims of Bessborough deserve dignity in death that they were not granted in life. The survivors deserve respect and justice, their voices must be listened to. I object to the building on this site.

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