



**Magdalene Institutions:
Recording an Archival and Oral History**
A project funded by the



IRISH RESEARCH COUNCIL
An Chomhairle um Thaighde in Éirinn

Catalogue of Interviews

Version: 3rd March 2016

Introduction

The archive of this project contains interviews from 80 interviews (91 interviewees) which are broken down as follows:

Former Magdalene girls & women	36*
Other institutions	4
Relatives	16**
Key Informants	16
Activists (excluding those in other categories)	5
Other witness	2
Total interviews	80

*One former Magdalene girl was interviewed twice (initially for a different project)

**Including 3 activists and 1 artist

Categories of interviewees

The archive contains interviews from former Magdalenes, relatives, key informants, activists, women who spent time in non-Magdalene institutions and other witnesses. The catalogue includes a list of keywords for each interview, which is intended as a broad guide to the contents of the transcript.

Availability of interviews

The first tranche of interviews is now available from the Irish Qualitative Data Archive (IQDA). Please visit the IQDA website [here](#) to enquire about accessing the transcripts. This catalogue is a 'living document' that will change over time as interview transcripts, audio files and donated papers become available. Newer versions will be posted on our website (www.magdaleneoralhistory.com). Please email us at info@magdaleneoralhistory.com if you would like to be notified when a new version of the catalogue is available.

Redaction and Transcription Process

A rigorous checking process has been adopted in this project to ensure accuracy and to protect the confidentiality of participants. Interviewees were strongly advised to adopt pseudonyms, however those who did not wish to do so had their wishes respected. Each oral history has been redacted on a case-by-case basis, however in general, individuals who are named by interviewees are given pseudonyms except where permission is granted to name the individuals or if they are public figures (unless an allegation is made

against said public figure). Locations and dates are accurately transcribed except where this might impact on a vulnerable interviewee's identification. Audio files for inclusion in the archive will be redacted in the same manner. The transcript cover sheets will include instructions on how to cite the interviews, as well as other basic information about the interviewee and the redaction process for the interview.

Glossary/Useful Information

- The laundry operated by the Sisters of Our Lady of Charity at Sean McDermott Street was also known as Gloucester Street
- Mother and Baby Homes were religious-run institutions where women who were pregnant outside of marriage stayed before and after the birth of their children. While some women carried out laundry work in these institutions, they were not Magdalene Laundries.
- Other institutions in which laundry work was carried out by women and girls, but do not come under the definition of 'Magdalene Laundry' include:
 - Sisters of Mercy Training Centre, Baggot Street
 - St Mary's Training Centre, Stanhope Street
 - Mercy Training School, Summerhill, Co. Wexford
 - Bethany House, Blackhall Place/Orwell Road, Rathgar

List of Magdalene Laundries in operation in the Republic of Ireland post-1922

Laundry/order	Initially opened	Taken over by order	Closed	Years Open
<i>Our Lady of Charity (of Refuge)</i>				
High Park	1831	OLC 1853/56	1991	138
Sean McDermott St	1821 (Mecklenburg St)	1860	1996	136
<i>Sisters of Mercy</i>				
Galway	1824	1845	1984	139
Dun Laoghaire	1790 (Bow St)	1880	1963	83
<i>Sisters of Charity</i>				
Donnybrook	1796	1833	1992	159
Peacock Lane	1809	1845	?	?
<i>Good Shepherd Sisters</i>				
Limerick	1826	1848	1982	134
Waterford	1842	1858	1982	124
New Ross	1860	1860	1967	107
Sunday's Well	1870	1872	1977	105

Source: Report of the Inter-Departmental Committee to establish the facts of State involvement with the Magdalen Laundries¹

¹ <http://www.justice.ie/en/JELR/Pages/MagdalenRpt2013>

Tranche1						
Ref No.	Surname	Name	Pseudonym	Interview Date	Category	Keywords
MAGOHP/04/ANON	n/a	Mary	Yes	05/01/2013	Survivor	St Patrick's Mother and Baby Home; Philomena's Convent, Stillorgan; St Mary's Industrial School, Lakelands, Sandymount; Our Lady of Charity of Refuge Magdalene Laundry, Gloucester Street; Good Shepherd Magdalene Laundry, Limerick; Residential Institutions Redress Board; Family Group Home, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal; intergenerational institutionalisation; rebelling; illegitimacy; emigration.
MAGOHP/07/ANON	n/a	Lucy	Yes	23/03/2013	Survivor	Sisters of our Lady of Charity Laundry, Sean McDermott Street; training centre at Sean McDermott Street; social services; sexual abuse; difficulties with counsellors; suicide; inter-generational effects.
MAGOHP/41/ANON	Plunkett	Chrissie	Yes	09/08/2013	Survivor	Good Shepherd Sisters; Waterford Magdalene Laundry; disability issues; lack of money/financial awareness; learning difficulties; punishments for learning difficulties; Árd Mhuire Mother and Baby Home, Dunboyne, Co. Meath.
MAGOHP/46/ANON	Flanagan	Pippa	Yes	07/08/2013	Survivor	St. Bridget's Industrial School for girls, Loughrea, Co. Galway; physical abuse; rape and sexual abuse; suicide and self-harm; depression; punishment of child because mother could not pay for keep in industrial school; denial of contact with fellow survivors after release from laundry; alcoholism; marital breakdown; emigration; lack of birth certificate; Residential Institutions Redress Board (RIRB); difficulties with solicitors at RIRB; Magdalen Commission.
MAGOHP/50/ANON	O'Sullivan	Kate	Yes	17/07/2013	Survivor	Good Shepherd Magdalene Laundry, Sundays Well; Residential Institutions Redress Board; Inter-departmental Committee on the Magdalene Laundries; Magdalene Restorative Justice Scheme; lack of birth certificate; missing records/destruction of records.

Tranche 1 continued						
Ref No.	Surname	Name	Pseudonym	Interview Date	Category	Keywords
MAGOHP/57	Culhane	Anne	No	Dec 2008	Key Informant	Good Shepherd Magdalene Laundry, Limerick; institutionalisation; renovation of Magdalene Laundry sites; adoption; illegitimacy.
MAGOHP/58	O'Shaughnessy	Paul	No	May 2010	Key Informant	Good Shepherd Magdalene Laundry, Limerick; exhumations; institutionalisation; renovation of Magdalene Laundry sites; layout of Limerick laundry.
MAGOHP/59	Cowhey	Michael	No	August 2010	Key Informant	Good Shepherd Magdalene Laundry, Limerick; St. Joseph's Industrial School, Glin, Co. Limerick; 'The Mount' school (Sisters of Mercy), Limerick.
MAGOHP/61	Heaney	Trevor	No	July 2010	Key Informant	Good Shepherd Magdalene Laundry, Limerick; institutionalisation; renovation of Magdalene Laundry sites; layout of Limerick laundry; mothers and children living separately in same campus; living and working conditions; punishment cells.
MAGOHP/62	Gilligan	John	No	Dec 2008	Activist	Good Shepherd Magdalene Laundry, Limerick; deaths at Magdalene Laundries; memorialising Magdalene women; lack of names on headstones for vulnerable populations; mischaracterisation of Magdalene women as prostitutes; Legion of Mary.
MAGOHP/63	Kennedy	John	No	June 2011	Key Informant	Good Shepherd Magdalene Laundry, Limerick; religious sisters; structure of Good Shepherd Order; Limerick Lace; haircutting as punishment; psychological abuse; history of Limerick laundry; 'The Mount' school (Sisters of Mercy), Limerick; St George's orphanage/school; mothers and children living separately on same campus; women with intellectual disabilities being sent to laundry; institutionalisation; attitudes towards inscribing names on Magdalene graves; accidents; exhumations; names of institutions that sent laundry to be cleaned.

Tranche 1 continued						
Ref No.	Surname	Name	Pseudonym	Interview Date	Category	Keywords
MAGOHP/64	O'Mara	Mary	No	June 2010	Key Informant	Good Shepherd Magdalene Laundry, Limerick; Irish Girl Guides; St George's orphanage; illegitimacy; lone parenthood; forced adoption; institutionalisation; physical punishments.
MAGOHP/65	Logue	Pat	No	August 2010	Key Informant	Good Shepherd Magdalene Laundry, Limerick; recollections of Limerick laundry during 1950s; illegitimacy; names of institutions that sent laundry to be cleaned.
MAGOHP/66	O'Byrne	Pat	No	21/10/2010	Key Informant	Good Shepherd Magdalene Laundry, Limerick; recollections of Limerick laundry during 1960s; institutionalisation.

Tranche 2						
Ref No.	Surname	Name	Pseudonym	Interview Date	Category	Keywords
MAGOHP/10/ANON	n/a	Evelyn	Yes	02/03/2013	Survivor	High Park Magdalene Laundry; High Park Industrial School; Sisters of Our Lady of Charity; sexual abuse; social services; physical punishment; emigration; forced informal adoption within family; intergenerational effects of childhood abuse.
MAGOHP/12/ANON	n/a	Bernadette	Yes	11/02/2013	Survivor	Good Shepherd Mother and Baby Home, Belfast; Nazareth House, Fahan, Co. Donegal; adoption; class differences; Factories Acts/health and safety issues; difficulties with obtaining adoption information.
MAGOHP/31	Smith	Mary	No	05/03/2013	Survivor	Clonakilty Industrial School; St. Joseph's Industrial School for Girls, Mallow, Co. Cork; family separation; rape and sexual abuse; Residential Institutions Redress Board; Sacred Heart Mother and Baby Home, Bessborough, Cork; St. Joseph's Industrial School, Greenmount, St. Patrick's Industrial School, Upton; homelessness; St Stephen's Psychiatric Hospital, Sarsfields Court, Cork; Queen of Angels School, Cork.

Tranche 3						
Ref No.	Surname	Name(s)	Pseudonym	Interview Date	Category	Keywords
MAGOHP/13/ANON	Murphy	Bernadette & Francis	Yes	23/02/2013	Survivor/Relative	Good Shepherd Magdalene Laundry, New Ross, Co. Wexford; Good Shepherd Magdalene Laundry, Sundays Well; survivor support groups; emigration; Residential Institutions Redress Board; friendships between survivors; linen, embroidery and sewing industry in laundry; institutionalised survivors; lack of contact with family in laundry; Child of Mary; dowries for religious sisters; lack of socialisation; post traumatic stress disorder.
MAGOHP/15	Currington	Mary	No	23/02/2013	Survivor	Good Shepherd Magdalene Laundry, Sundays Well; St Aidan's Industrial School, New Ross; industrial school regime; County Homes; sexual abuse; physical abuse; sewing and needlework; Viyella; sales of Magdalene Laundry needlework; separation of siblings; institutionalisation; rebelliousness; escape attempts; Gardaí returning women and girls to laundries; transfer of religious sisters for questioning laundry/industrial school regime; public interaction with Magdalene women and girls; illegitimacy; post-natal experiences of unmarried women and girls; adoption; surveillance after leaving Magdalene Laundry; emigration; Residential Institutions Redress Board; long-term impact of sexual abuse; family reunion experiences; rejection; loss of identity; religious order as family; survivor reunions; shame; Magdalene Laundry finances; survivor groups; difficulties with solicitors.
MAGOHP/27	Morgan	Phyllis	No	29/04/2013	Activist	Activist; Irish Women's Survivors Support Group; St Philomena's Convent, Stillorgan; Lakeland's Convent, Sandymount; St Patrick's Mother and Baby Home, Navan Road; industrial schools; discrimination because of industrial school background; emigration; survivor support groups; alteration of birth certificates; domestic

						violence; long-term impact of family separation; Residential Institutions Redress Board (RIRB); difficulties with solicitors at RIRB; Irish Women Survivors Support Network; memorials; survivor interaction with religious orders.
MAGOHP/48/ANON	n/a	Martha	Yes	28/02/2013	Survivor	Good Shepherd Sisters; Waterford Magdalene Laundry; sexual abuse; incest; sexual abuse in Magdalene Laundry; Interdepartmental Committee on the Magdalene Laundries; McAleese Report; inter-generational effects.
MAGOHP/77/ANON	Barrett	Johanna	Yes	06/08/2012	Relative	Good Shepherd Magdalene Laundry, Limerick; deaths in Magdalene Laundries; access to information for relatives of Magdalene women; institutionalisation; inter-generational impact of Magdalene Laundries; feminist perspective on Magdalene Laundries; symphysiotomies; church/State interaction.