## Irish Immigrants In Saugatuck

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## **Body**

## To the Editor:

It was pleasant to read about the <u>Saugatuck</u> section of Westport, Conn., where I reside ("An <u>Immigrant</u> Haven, a Sailor's Delight," Oct. 2), but no mention was made of the first wave of European <u>immigrants</u>. The first tracks for the opening of the New Haven Railroad were built by <u>Irish immigrants</u> in 1849. A combination of centuries of oppression and disastrous famine drove nearly a million <u>Irish</u> to a new life of freedom in America. Many of these early <u>Irish</u> settled in and near the <u>Saugatuck</u> railroad station and it was soon known as "Little Dublin." The street I live on, Treadwell Avenue, was known locally as "<u>Irish</u> Boulevard" as late as the 1930's.

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