Famine Times

A lot of people lived in our area before the great Famine happened. There were more people living in Ireland then ever before, there were almost twice as many people living in our area before the Famine. A lot of people died and emigrated in the Famine.

Seven hundred and fifty seven people lived in the five towns around Ugoday in 1841, just two hundred and sixty nine remained.

These two hundred and sixty nine people had their houses pulled down by the crew-bar Biggfort. They were driven out of their houses by the cruel land lords [Lord Sligo and Lord Lucan] to the work house, emigration and death.

After the eviction, the area was given to Captain William Houston who turned it into a big sheep and cattle farm.

In 1861 just three families lived in this same area, these were the people who worked on the farm.

A lot of people went to America during and after the Famine. Our ancestors starved through good and bad for each and every one of us.

[That's what my dad said!!!]
Before the famine, the Lumpan was the best potato because it produced more than any other. The people only ate potatoes and paid rent with their vegetables. So when the famine came, they couldn't survive. Some people think because they were beside the sea, they must have fished but they didn't know how to.
There was an estimated 12,000 people living between Buggool and Wesport before the famine and 6,000 after the famine.

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