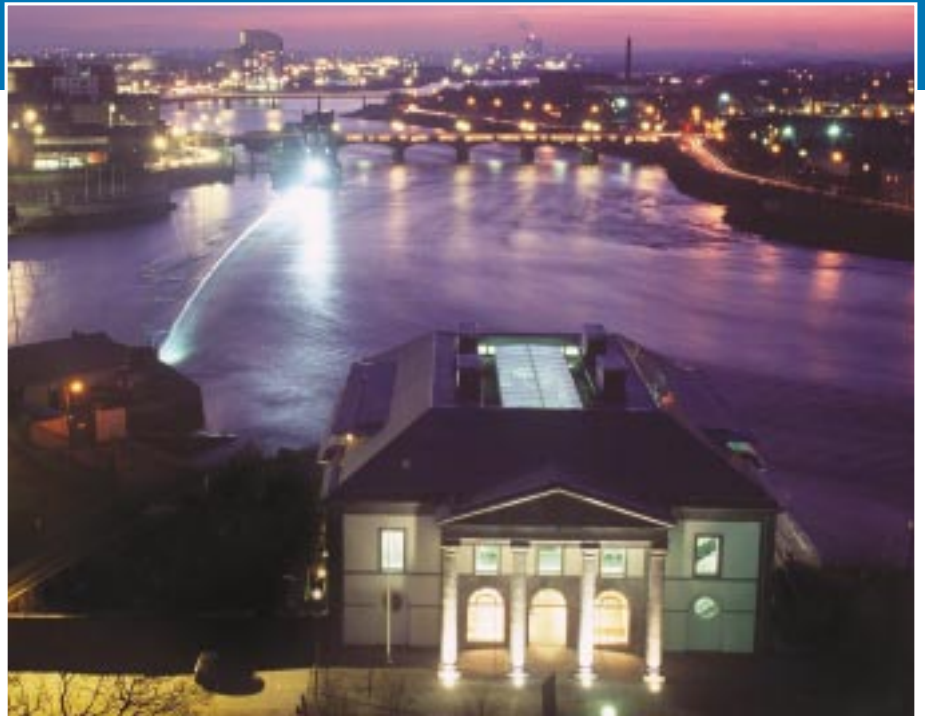




COURTS SERVICE
An tSeirbhís Chúirteanna



Limerick Courthouse





Limerick Courthouse

The Limerick County Courthouse in its original state was completed in 1810 by two local architects, Nicholas and William Hannon. The stone portico was added in 1813.

The building has remained as a functioning courthouse since this time. It is a Grade 'A' listed building.

Prior to the refurbishment works, the envelope of the building retained much of its original form with some later additions of a cell block and remodelling of windows and doorways on the west elevation. The interior of the building was completely and extensively remodelled in 1956 with all remaining historical detail and features removed. The pitched roof was replaced by a flat roof, greatly detracting from its neo-classical form.

From the outset of the project it was considered appropriate that the new accommodation should be contained as far as possible within the footprint of the existing building. This required considerable time and effort in resolving the competing needs for space and the complex security issues of courthouse design.

In respect of the building envelope, the intention was to retain and upgrade the historical fabric including the dressed stonework and to reinstate original window locations while removing the cell block and service yard.

The proposal for extending the additional accommodation into the roof space was significant as it avoided building outside the footprint. More importantly, the reinstatement of the roof was vital in re-establishing the original profile of the building (earlier photographs of the courthouse outlined the original form of this roof).

The Circuit Court office and administration are located in the new roof structure. In line with accommodating modern office space, there was a requirement for daylight and ventilation to be provided. The emphasis has been on integrating with the original architecture, while creating a pleasant and functional working environment.

The building's location in the heart of the heritage district forms part of a necklace of historical buildings that enhance the riverside walk on the city waterfront.

Limerick Courthouse





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Building Team

Architects:
Murray O'Laoire Associates.

Quantity Surveyors:
Bruce Shaw O'Sullivan.

Structural Engineers:
*Thomas Garland and Partners,
Consulting Engineers.*

Contractors:
Purcell Construction.

Judges

*His Honour Judge Seán A. O'Leary
(Judge of the Circuit Court),
His Honour Judge Carroll Moran
(Judge of the Circuit Court),
Judge Thomas E. O'Donnell
(Judge of the District Court),*

Court Officials:

County Registrar:
Mr. Patrick Meghen
Tel: 061 414655
Fax: 061 319819

Chief Clerk:
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