



COURTS SERVICE
An tSeirbhís Chúirteanna



Kilrush Courthouse





Kilrush Courthouse

Kilrush Courthouse, Kilrush, Co. Clare

The renovation and refurbishment of Kilrush Courthouse commenced on site in September 2001 with a contract period of 18 weeks to be completed in December 2001.

History

The Courthouse, a two storey structure, dates from the 1830's. According to records, the foyer space was modified in the 1880's when a hardwood stepped gallery with fixed benches was added to provide a public gallery accessed from the existing foyer meeting space.

Brief

The Brief for Kilrush, required extensive reworking of the existing spaces to comply with current Building Regulations and Conservation Guidelines to protect the existing structure. Additional accommodation was necessary to facilitate the Circuit Court Brief including the addition of Consultation rooms, a Legal Practitioner's Room and the refurbishment of the existing Jury Room at first floor level. Subsequent facilities have been added to allow access for all with optimisation of the existing space and plan layout. The need to maximise daylight featured also in the Brief, as the original Courthouse layout limited the influx of natural light.

The Works

External Works

The main façade to Moore Street, which has historical provenance, quality and integrity has been fully restored.

Repair work has been carried out on the original stone features to the front façade – bevelled quoins, cavetto stringcourse and limestone coping at parapet level. To the front and side elevations a hydraulic lime render has been applied in keeping with conservation practice guidelines with the addition of an ochre lime wash to the front façade. New cast iron gutters have replaced the existing PVC rainwater pipes throughout.

Internal Works & Features

New vertical sliding sash windows have been installed replacing the 1980's additional casement windows to Moore Street. The hardwood sliding sash windows are in keeping with the design of what is considered to be similar to the original window detail of this location and period.

The entire structure has been modernised with the introduction of new mechanical and electrical services. A complete renovation, refurbishment and refit has been carried out in all rooms using high quality fittings and finishes with the objection to provide sufficient daylighting, ventilation, fire protection, accessibility and a good working environment for the building users. The works carried out on Kilrush Courthouse will ensure the structure will continue to function according to its intended purpose as a District Court while also facilitating Ennis Circuit Court for the duration of the refurbishment there.



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Building Team

Architects:
*The Office of Public Works
New Works 2*

Design Team
Michael Haugh
Assistant Principal Architect
Jean O'Laoire
Senior Architect
Rachel Scannell
Architect

Quantity Surveyors
Tom McNamara & Partners

Structural Engineers:
Nicholas O'Dwyer

Mechanical Engineers:
Don O'Malley & Partners

Main Contractors:
Martin Fitzgibbon Builders Ltd

Judges

His Honour Judge Seán A. O' Leary
(Judge of the Circuit Court)
His Honour Judge Desmond Hogan
(Judge of the Circuit Court)
Judge Joseph Mangan
(Judge of the District Court)

Court Officials:

County Registrar:
Mr Enda Brogan
Tel: 065 6821041
Fax: 065 6822499

Chief Clerk:
Ms Breda O' Dea
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