



COURTS SERVICE
An tSeirbhís Chúirteanna



Nenagh Courthouse

Teach Cúirte An Aonaigh



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NENAGH COURTHOUSE, CO TIPPERARY.

Historical Background

Building work for a new courthouse commenced in late 1840 or early 1841 (tenders were sought in April of 1840). The successful contractor, John Hanley, was already building the gaol and appears to have completed the work by 1844 as the Spring Assizes were held in the new courthouse in that year.

The contract price was £6,000 for the courthouse building, and £1,000 for the portico. Funding came from the Commissioners of Public Works, who were reimbursed by the Grand Jury in whole or in part.

Description of the Building Plan

The plan is in the shape of a slightly asymmetrical Greek cross with rather thick arms. The main façade faces south towards the town, and the south arm consists of the entrance hall and portico. The east and west arms contain the District and Circuit Courts respectively, and the north arm consists of the office wing. The central crossing consists largely of a light well at first floor level with accommodation at ground and basement floors, and with two smaller light wells at ground level, which originally penetrated to the basement. The building is effectively a two storey building over a basement, but the main elements, namely the courtrooms and the entrance hall are two storeys high.

Previous Extensions to the Court Building

Additions to the original buildings were, for the most part, built in the 20th Century and were not outstanding examples of the architecture of that century. Their retention would have made it almost impossible to upgrade the court buildings to comply with modern requirements and regulations, especially with regard to disabled access.

Extension and New Accommodation

A new extension provides up-to-date office accommodation for court staff, a new public entrance for day-to-day access by the public, a lift to give disabled access to all levels of the building, toilet facilities for the disabled and the legal profession, a judge's chamber for the Family Court Judge, a probation officer and a video evidence room, space for future expansion and access to and from the secure carpark.

New uses were allocated to existing spaces; for example, the re-location of the Judges' Chambers and the use of the original Grand Jury Room, later the Council Chamber, as the new Family Court. Original features were repaired and retained, for example, in the case of the Family Court, the glass fronted cupboards which were part of the original Grand Jury room were retained.

The most significant structural change was the removal of the original main staircase, which only linked the ground and first floor. It was replaced with a new staircase which links all floors open to the public and is located in a more central position. This alteration is in the best interest of the building as a whole, and will be a major factor in enabling this protected structure to continue to perform efficiently into the 21st Century.





TEACH CÚIRTE AN AONAIGH, CO. THIOBRAID ÁRANN.

Cúlra Stairiúil

Thosaigh obair tógála do theach cúirte nua déanach sa bhliain 1840 nó go luath in 1841 (lorgaíodh forthairsintí in Aibreán 1840). Bhí an conraitheoir rathúil, John Hanley, i mbun an príosún a thógáil cheana agus is amhlaidh gur chríochnaigh sé an obair ar an dteach cúirte faoi 1844 mar tionóladh Séisiúin an Earraigh sa teach cúirte nua sa bhliain sin.

Ba é £6,000 praghas an chonartha do fhoirgnimh an tí chúirte, agus £1,000 don phóirse. Tháinig maoiniú ó Choimisinéirí na nOibreacha Poiblí, a chúitíodh ag an Ard-Ghiúiré ina iomlán nó chuid de.

Cur síos ar Phlean an Fhoirgnimh

Tá an plean i gcruth crois Ghréagaigh atá beagáinín neamhshiméadrach le géaga measartha tiubh aige. Tugann an phríomh aghaidh aghaidh ó dheas i dtreo an bhaile agus is é atá sa ghéag theas ná an halla iontrála agus an póirse. Tá na Cúirteanna Dúiche agus na Cuarda sna géaga thoir agus thiar faoi seach, agus tá an eite oifige sa ghéag thuaisceart. Is é atá sa trasnán lárnach don chuid is mó ná tobar solais ag leibheal an chéid úrláir le lóistín ag úrlár na talún agus úrlár an íoslaigh, ach le dhá tobar sholais níos lú ag úrlár na talún, a chuaigh chomh fada leis an íoslaigh ar dtús. Is foirgneamh dhá stór thar íoslach go héifeachtach é an foirgneamh, ach tá na príomh eilimintí, is iad sin na seomraí cúirte agus an halla iontrála, dhá stór ar airde.

Sintí do Fhoirgneamh na Cúirte roimhe sin

Tógadh sintí do na foirgnimh bhunaidh, don chuid is mó, sa 20ú Céad agus ní samplaí suntasacha iad d'aitireacht an chéid sin. Lena goinneáil d'fhéadfadh sé a bheith beagnach indéanta na foirgnimh chúirte a uasghrádú agus cloí le riachtanais agus rialacháin nua-aimseartha go háirithe maidir le rochtain do dhaoine faoi mhíchumas.

Síneadh agus Lóistín Nua

Tugann síneadh nua lóistín oifige suas chun dáta do fhoireann, bealach isteach nua le haghaidh iontráil laethiúil ag an bpobail, ardaitheoir chun rochtain a thabhairt do dhaoine faoi mhíchumas ag gach leibhéal den fhoirgneamh, áiseanna leithris do dhaoine faoi mhíchumas agus do dhaoine sa ghairm dlíthiúil, seomra dlí do Bhreitheamh na Cúirte Teaghlaigh, oifigeach promhaidh agus seomra fianaise fise, spás le haghaidh síneadh sa todhchaí agus rochtain go dtí agus ón carrchlós daingin.

Dáileadh feidhmeanna nua do spásanna a bhí ann cheana, mar shampla, an ath-lonnú de Sheomraí Dlí an Bhreithimh agus an úsáid de sheomra an Aird-Giúiré, níos déanaí an Seomra Comhairle, mar an Chúirt Teaghlaigh nua. Deisíodh agus coinneáladh gnéithe bhunaidh, mar shampla i gcás an Chúirt Teaghlaigh, coinneáladh na cófraí le haghaidheanna gloine iontu a bhí mar chuid de sheomra an Ard-Ghiúiré bhunaidh.

Ba é baint an phríomh staighre bhunaidh a cheangal úrlár na talún agus an chéad úrlár amháin an t-athrú struchtúrach is suntasaí. Cuiríodh staighre nua ina áit a cheaglaíonn na húrláir go léir atá ar oscailt don phobail agus atá suite i suíomh níos lárnaí. Tá an t-athrú seo ar leas an fhoirgnimh mar iomlán agus beidh ról tábhachtach aige mar thosca a ligfidh don struchtúr chosanta seo leanúint lena fheidhm úsáideach go ardleibhéal éifeachtachta isteach sa 21ú Céad.



Design Team:

Architects :
Costello Murray Beaumont
t/a CMB Design Group

Structural Engineers :
White Young Green

Services Engineers:
PMC Partnership

Quantity Surveyor :
Bruce Shaw Partnership

Main Contractor :
Duggan Brothers
(Contractors) Ltd

Project Management and
Architectural Services of
the Office of Public Works

Judges:

*Her Honour Judge Olive Buttimer
His Honour Judge Michael O'Shea
Her Honour Judge Alice Doyle*
Judges of the Circuit Court

Judge Michael Reilly
Judge of the District Court

Court Officials:

County Registrar :
Ms. Mary Delahanty
Tel: 052 29183
Fax: 052 21258

Chief Clerk :
Mr. Gerard Connolly
Tel: 052 29183
Fax: 052 21258

District Court Clerk:
Mr. John Buckley
Tel: 067 31319
Fax: 067 41405

Southern Regional Manager :

Mr. Eamonn Kiely
Tel: 021 4509374
Fax: 021 4552708

Foireann Dearthá:

Ailtirí :
Costello Murray Beaumont
t/a CMB Design Group

Innealtóirí Struchtúracha :
White Young Green

Innealtóirí Seirbhísi :
PMC Partnership

Suirbhéirí Cainníochta :
Bruce Shaw Partnership.

Príomh Chonraitheoir :
Duggan Brothers
(Contractors) Ltd

Bainistíocht Tionscadail
agus Seirbhísi Ailtireachta
d'Oifig na nOibreacha
Poiblí

Breithiúna :

*An Breitheamh Onórach Olive Buttimer
An Breitheamh Onórach Michael O'Shea
An Breitheamh Onórach Alice Doyle*
Breithiúna na Cúirte Cuarda

An Breitheamh Michael Reilly
Breitheamh na Cúirte Dúiche

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Produced by the Courts Service Information Office on the occasion of the official opening of the courthouse by the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform, Mr. Michael McDowell T.D., on Friday, 23rd June 2006.

Táirgthe ag Oifig Eolais na Seirbhíse Cúirte ar ócáid na hoscailte oifigiúla den teach cúirte ag an Aire Dlí agus Cirt, Comhionannais agus Athchóirithe Dlí, an tUasal Michael McDowell T.D., ar Aoine, 23ú Iúil 2006.