



## *Press Release*

### **A Job Well Done**

Long established Cork builders, Joseph Lane and Sons Ltd. enjoyed a unique opportunity to display their traditional and contemporary construction skills on the site of the former home of the Dunne (Dunnes Stores) family at Ringmahon in Cork.

The landmark restoration of Ringmahon House was a major exercise in conservation and restoration undertaken by Cork City Council with the generous assistance of Dunnes Stores. Under the guidance of architect Bertie Pope and Associates, the project took some eighteen months to complete and the delighted reaction of Dunnes Stores boss, Dr. Margaret Heffernan, when the “new” Ringmahon House was unveiled this week, spoke volumes for the successful outcome of the project..

The restoration of the striking period house, involved underpinning the portico area, the replacement of ceilings, the removal and restoration of various room cornices and centre pieces and the re-building of the impressive stairways.

Cork Vocational Educational Committee are to become the lucky new tenants in Ringmahon House and they will direct a variety of educational and community uses focused on young people in the area.

In addition, Ringmahon Court, a complex of sixteen apartments for the elderly were built where the former stables on site were situated. The overall cost of the two projects is believed to be in the order of €4 million.

Said Joe Lane, director, Joseph Lane and Sons Ltd, the main contractors on site : “We are obviously very pleased with the outcome and the reaction. The fact that we had to use a full repertoire of old and new construction skills made the project uniquely challenging. It was a great collaborative effort between everyone involved- Cork City Council personnel, our own company and the various sub- contractors. I think it displayed that there are great conservation and restoration skills available in Cork. It would be good to think that similar projects might become available in the future.”

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