

NATIONAL G S O C I E T Y

U, WE'D THINK FIRST.

Office. Manager: Con Daly.
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Glin, is now head of the
 £1m project to build the
 new chapel at Bachelors
 Walk on the quays near
 O'Connell Bridge.

The building in D'Olier
 street, which houses the
 chapel when it was estab-
 lished 22 years ago by the
 Congregation of the
 Blessed Sacrament has
 deteriorated so badly that it
 was decided to build a new
 church.

"We estimate that having
 a completely new church on
 Bachelors Walk would cost
 about half the £2.3m, which
 it would take to rebuild in
 D'Olier Street," said Father
 Costello.

He added: "Subject to
 planning permission, the
 new location will provide a
 larger church, living accom-
 modation for members of
 the Congregation and
 rooms for community relat-
 ed activities."

Fr Costello has no illu-
 sions about the scale of the
 task he has undertaken.

"We are looking at costs
 in excess of £1m, and we
 are depending on support
 from other provinces of the
 Congregation and from the
 people of Ireland for suc-
 cess," he said.

Fr Costello joined the
 Congregation of the
 Blessed Sacrament in 1975
 and was ordained in his
 home town of Glin in 1983.

He served the
 Congregation in their parish
 in Leicester for eight years
 and as novice master and
 director of students, before
 being appointed director of
 the redevelopment project.



Some of the US graduates at the conference. (LL)

EC stall delays £50m Hunt Museum launch

BY EUGENE
 PHELAN

THE £50 million Hunt
 collection which was to
 go on permanent show in
 the city next year, will
 now not go on display in
 the Custom House until
 June 1995 at the earliest.

And this date is subject
 to EC Structural Funds
 being made available, for
 what has been described as
 one of the most exciting
 projects ever.

News of the collection
 going on permanent display
 in the Custom House was
 announced to a fanfare of
 excitement by Government
 Ministers last year.

Described as the finest
 private collection in the
 world, its works include
 pieces by Leonarda da
 Vinci, Picasso, and Gauguin.

A delay on anticipated

funds coming from Europe
 is holding up the project,
 though many of the items
 are now on display in the
 Foundation Building in the
 University of Limerick.

There is now major con-
 cern in some circles with
 the delay in moving into the
 Custom House, even though
 plans are well advanced.

With no Minister from
 Limerick in Cabinet, there
 are fears that the Hunt col-
 lection could be pushed to
 the background.

Around £2.5m is needed
 to put the Custom House
 and collection in place for
 what would be a major
 tourist attraction for the
 city.

Mairead Dunlevy has
 been appointed director of
 the museum, but she could
 not be contacted this week
 to comment on the latest
 happenings about the

implications of European
 Union.

Already, Adare and the
 surrounding area has felt
 the executives' presence,
 with all accommodation
 booked out for the week.

And, according to Mr
 O'Reilly, many of them
 have already planned to
 return on holidays. "They
 are absolutely knocked out

visit to the University of
 Limerick this Wednesday
 where they met with Barra
 O Cinneide and were pre-
 sented with a case study of
 a local tourist development.

The conference ends this
 Friday.

The graduates hold a
 reunion every 18 months
 and Ireland beat of competi-
 tion from Turkey, Italy and
 New Orleans to hold it this
 time round. Previous con-
 ferences have been held in
 the Cayman Islands and
 Australia.

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