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## Career Prospects ...

Visit

Opening Hours:  
Saturday / Sunday  
10.00

## Man dies from fall under truck

A 45-YEAR-OLD single man was killed in a freak accident at a quarry in south Co Kilkenny yesterday.

Thomas Stanley, from 10 Garran Green, Johnswell Road, Kilkenny, was attempting to get the attention of a gravel truck driver at Hennessey Sand and Gravel, Sheestown, Bennettsbridge, at around 9.40am when he stumbled and fell under the wheels of the truck.

The emergency services were called but the man was pronounced dead at the scene. His body was taken to St Luke's General Hospital, Kilkenny, and later transferred to Waterford Regional Hospital for a post mortem examination. He had been working at the quarry for the past year.

the Department of Agriculture

Model behaviour: Brothers Jonathan and Hassan Corrigan, Gardiner Street are absorbed by the lecture on flying model aircraft by expert Frank Boughton at the ILAC Library, ILAC Centre, Dublin yesterday. Picture: Martin Nolan

# Twelve-hour blaze guts £1m architectural gem

Ben Quinn  
and Brian McLaughlin

ARSONISTS are being blamed for destroying an 18th century mansion which was on the market for more than £1m.

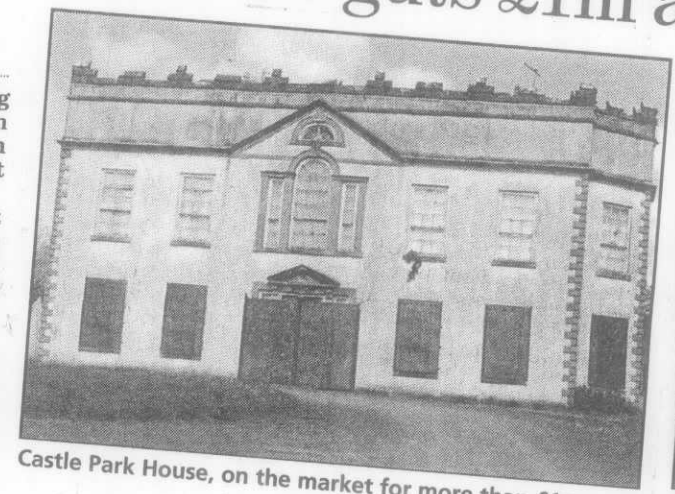
Castle Park House at Ballygrennan, just outside Limerick city, was almost completely gutted by a fire which began on Tuesday night.

Up to 30 firemen fought the blaze for 12 hours until Wednesday morning in an effort to control it after it started at the rear and quickly spread.

The mansion at Meelick Road, also known as Delmege House, was the home of the Delmege family and was considered one of the most important architectural features in the Limerick area.

A local auctioneer, Pat Kearney, said it was in very good condition and a client had expressed an interest in converting it into a luxury hotel.

"We were expecting in excess of £1m for the house," he said.



Castle Park House, on the market for more than £1m, was (right) gutted in a fire yesterday. Picture: Press 22



"It was in a lovely location and had great structure. It would have been served as a perfect grade A hotel," Mr Kearney said.

Gardai are treating the incident as arson and are carrying out an investigation, headed by Chief Superintendent Tony Kennelly.

Officials from Limerick County Council examined the scene yesterday and have begun to plan for how the building can be

restored. "It is absolutely appalling that a 250-year-old monument to native Irish architectural skill and craftsmanship has been destroyed in the space of 12 hours," said Tom Cassidy from the council's conservation department.

He said that the house had already endured a long war of attrition by vandals who had already ripped up parts of its staircase and threw them

outside. The building is covered by insurance to an extent while refurbishment work will be assisted by Limerick County Council and the Heritage Council.

The former Limerick city coroner, James Lyons, lived at Castle Park House up to his death last Christmas.

When he died, all the furnishings were removed because of vandal attacks and the building had to be

protected with shutters. The house is sited on what was originally a 1,641-acre estate but is now surrounded by 80 acres.

It was associated over the years with the Delmege, a family which had royal privileges in the area. Other families which have been associated with the building are the O'Connell and the Smiths.

A ghost is also reported to have haunt the property.