



Gerry Griffin, chairman, Limerick Civic Trust, at the old sallyport with Paddy Hoare, Trust trustee. (LL)

# Civic Trust sallies forth to reopen old city gate

By **EUGENE PHELAN**

THE finest example of Limerick's historic walls, hidden for hundreds of years, is to be made a top tourist attraction.

Gerry Griffin, chairman of Limerick Civic Trust, revealed that work will begin shortly on a new linear park at the new Johnsgate village.

Part of the old walls had been hidden by old housing for centuries, but the new major housing development opposite St John's Hospital has given the public a chance to view it.

"It is the largest stretch

of the old wall in Limerick and our men will be moving in before Christmas to do work on the linear park," explained Mr Griffin. He said that FAS would also be involved in the scheme.

Work will include capping the wall, putting down a paving, and, hopefully, some seating, as well as a general clean up.

The Civic Trust chairman said that work will begin when the Crescent project is finished.

"It will add to the tourist attractions in the city, and is the finest example of our famous walls," said Mr Griffin.

It includes two sallyports and ramparts and is

around 150 yards in length.

The sallyports are small passage ways inside the walls of Limerick, which were used at night by people to gain access to the city when the main gates were closed.

It starts, appropriately, at the new Sallyport public house, and continues on opposite the new houses at Johnsgate village.

The Johnsgate village development work was carried out by Paddy Hoare, a former chairman of Limerick Civic Trust, and includes 53 houses, six apartments, eight shops and 12 commercial units, and included an investment of over £3m.