

nettle yards

By LEADER REPORTER

"LIMERICK IS full of old disused graveyards, some of which are in an appalling condition", said the director of Limerick Civic Trust, Mr. Denis Leonard.

On Friday evening last a special tree-planting ceremony marked the completion of the renovation to St. Michael's graveyard. Just two years ago it, too, was in an appalling condition. But then Limerick Civic Trust undertook its restoration as one of their major projects.

And with the assistance of a Department of Labour teamwork grant they transformed St. Michael's.

Chairman of the Trust, Mr. Seumas Gubbins, said that the success of this project must act as a prototype for restorations of other disused burial grounds throughout the city.

Earmarked

Mr. Leonard has already earmarked a number of graveyards which are in need of immediate repair - St. Patrick's, St. Bridget's and St. John's.

The Bishop of Limerick, Most Rev. Dr. Jeremiah Newman, said at the opening on Friday last that St. Michael's was a credit to everyone who was associated with its renovation.

"The Trust have done a lot of good work but there is still a lot to be done," he added.

Garden?

Cllr. O'Sullivan said that the committee would like to see some type of garden of remembrance at St. Patrick's.

Said Mr. Leonard: "Many of these projects are just too big for us to complete so we would welcome any assistance from the Corporation. We have done some work at the Jewish Graveyard but this was only a members project."

Welcoming the announcement by Minister Noonan on Friday last that the teamwork scheme has been extended, Mr. Leonard said that this scheme was an essential part of the Civic Trust.

"And we would now love to develop the St. Michael's Graveyard project out towards the Walls of Limerick - that area is an absolute disgrace at the moment," he added.

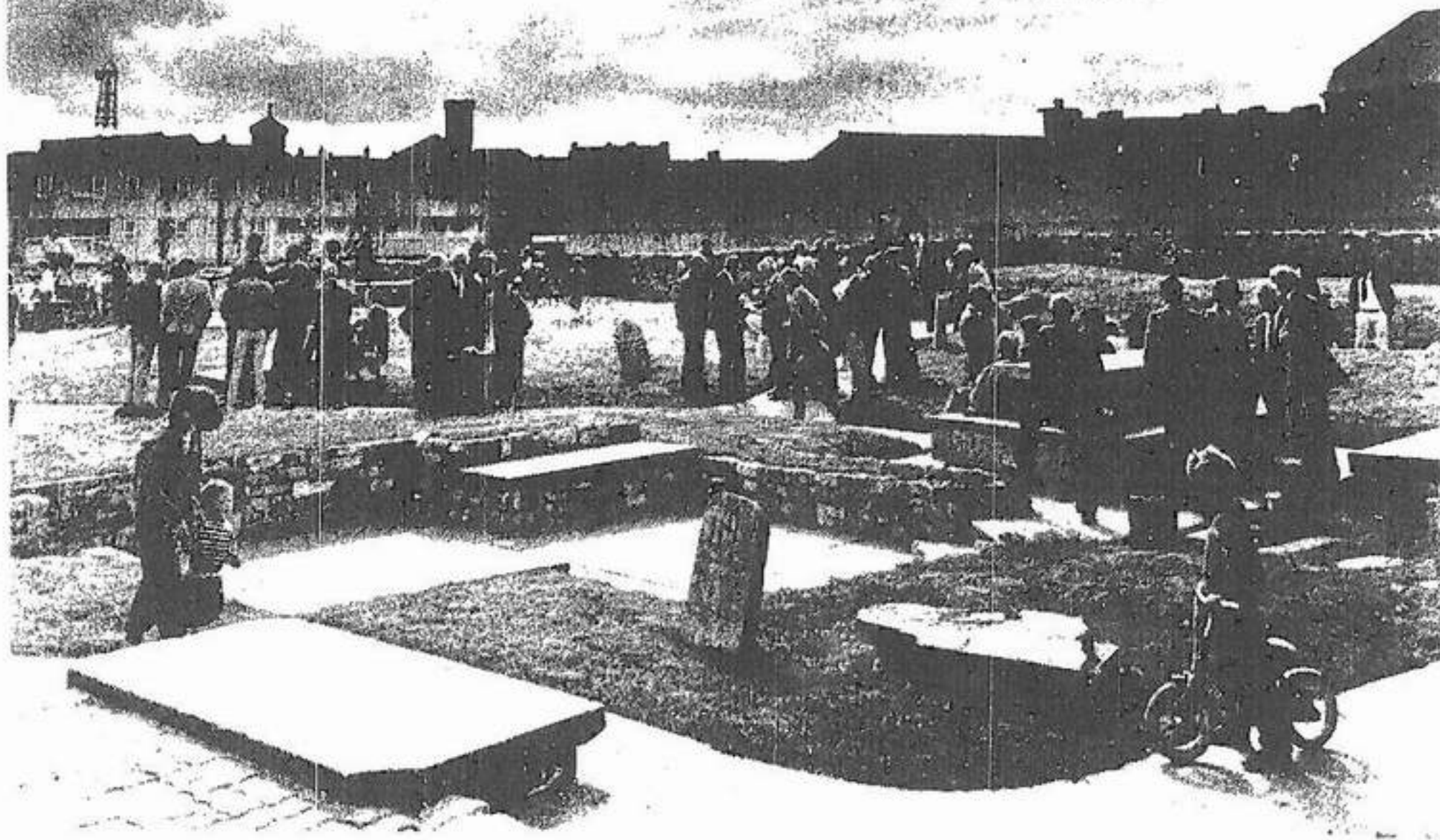
"I'm especially concerned about St. Patrick's Graveyard where our two bishops, Bishop John Young (1796-1813) and Bishop Charles Tuohy (1815-1828) are buried."

St. Patrick's is one of a number of graveyards throughout the city which are in the hands of the Corporation.

Chairman of the cemetery committee, Cllr. Jan O'Sullivan, said that the committee had visited ten graveyards in their care during the summer, "and we are now preparing a report with a view to taking immediate action."

"But before we complete this report we would like to also visit graveyards which are not under our care."

"We are very impressed with the work of Limerick Civic Trust at St. Michael's Graveyard and we would welcome their involvement with any of our future projects."



A dramatic sky for the opening of the newly-restored St. Michael's Graveyard. □ Picture: JOHN F. WRIGHT.

TOM BROWNE IN SHANNONTOWN

Last journey looms for the old crocks

□ THE REMOVAL of "old crocks" which are despoiling some areas of the town is the responsibility of Clare Co. Council, the Town Commissioners were told on Tuesday. Now, following a complaint from Comm. Michael McKee, there is



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Mr. Michael

