

Kemmy seeks to ban cars on streets around Milk Market

By DYMPHNA BRACKEN

PROPOSALS to provide more pedestrian pathways linking the Milk Market and Cruises Street will be put to Minister for the Environment, Brendan Howlin, when he opens the refurbished Milk Market this Friday.

Mayor Kemmy said this week that he will advise Minister Howlin

of the need for improved footpaths and pedestrianisation of the area's streets to make it attractive for shoppers.

The complete restoration of the Milk Market and its official opening this Friday records the second historical milestone for the re-established Limerick Market Trustees.

The market, which was for many years the core of a very derelict part of the city, is now poised to become the centre of a renewed market quarter.

It is linked by Robert Street to Cruises Street, O'Connell Street and

Patrick Street, and bounded by Mungret Street, Mungret Court, Carr Street and Cornmarket Row.

It is envisaged that its restoration provoke a new vitality in the surrounding areas, and, in time, become a vibrant and once more historical trading and market centre of the city.

In the early decades of the last century there were several open markets within the borough of Limerick owned and controlled by the Corporation.

Their operations were poorly managed with no planning or constitution, and their entire affairs called for statutory remedy.

The Limerick Markets Act of 1852 provided for the proper establishment, management, regulation, control and development of markets in the city.

A body corporate was constituted, the Limerick Market Trustees, and was composed equally then, as now, of the Chamber of Commerce, the City Council and the County Council.

The business of the markets as part of the city trade and commerce for the following 30 years was remarkable in its increased volume and progressive industry.

However, in 1897, the Limerick Market Trustees were placed in receivership, which lasted for the next 90 years, the most protracted in history, until its termination in February 1988.

Since then, the Limerick Market Trustees, under the

management of the Chamber of Commerce, has been engaged in identifying, developing and realising the fullest potential of its assets and properties in the Milk Market, at Cornmarket Row, the Potato Market, at Merchant's Quay, and the general markets at Mulgrave Street.

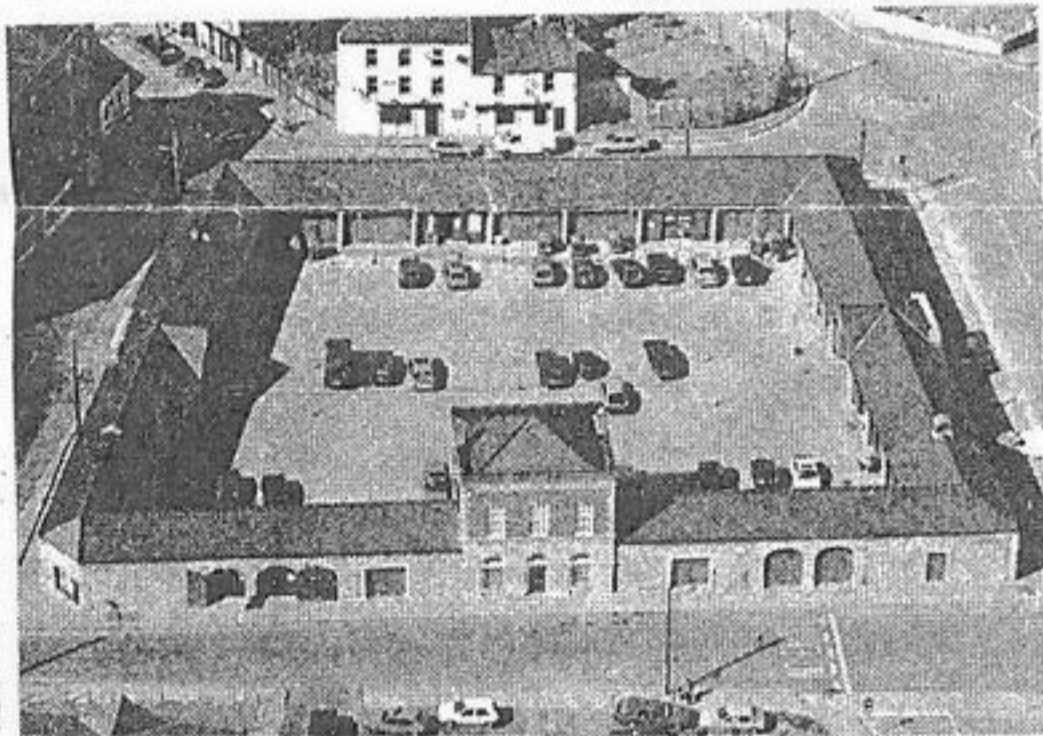
In order to operate in today's modern commercial environment, the trustees were obliged to amend the Act of 1852, and a Private Members Bill was drafted in 1989 for submission to the Oireachtas.

After two years of extensive application, the Limerick Markets Bill was passed on March 10, 1992, recording the first milestone in a new life of the trusteeship.

Shortly afterwards, a feasibility study was conducted by the trustees into the viability of restoring and re-developing the Milk Market, where open market trading has taken place almost continuously for several hundred years.

In 1993 the trustees entered a joint venture contract with Reidy Civil Engineer Ltd to restore the Milk Market.

The authentic retention of the buildings restoration in stone, brick, slate and cobble courtyard was recognised by a singular award under the European Architectural Heritage Conservation Programme.



The refurbished Milk Market which will be opened this Friday by Minister Howlin.

£2.8m Hunt Museum work gets under way

By DYMPHNA BRACKEN

WORK on the £2.9m restoration of the 18th century Custom House to

meant that they needed a more convenient office in the city.

The controller was encouraged to move his residence, and a penny post office was opened in the

