

'Limerick leads' at Potato Market

By LEADER REPORTER

"LIMERICK CAN be justifiably proud in giving a lead to the rest of Ireland in showing that art and commerce can prosper side by side and indeed complement each other", said the Taoiseach, Mr. Charles J. Haughey, when he officially opened the Potato Market this Thursday afternoon.

He described the project as "a major and imaginative development of what was until recently a derelict site, which will now provide an invaluable outlet for young workers in arts and crafts to display and hopefully sell their wares".

The brainchild of Limerick Civic Trust, the project took three years to complete and gave job opportunities for 28 people, of whom three were full-time. In all, over 200 trainees participated in the project.

£400,000

Costing £400,000, including a £50,000 footbridge, the restored market will now be



An Taoiseach being greeted by Denis Leonard and Paddy Hoare (centre), chairman, Limerick Civic Trust, as he arrives to officially open the Potato Market. Also included is Mr. Michael Noonan, Minister for Defence.

used as a venue for Limerick's first "Flea Market", specialising in high quality arts and crafts.

Financial assistance was received from AnCO, Limerick Corporation, the Department of the Environment, Limerick Market Trustees, the Ireland Fund and a wide range of local commercial and private sources.

At the opening ceremony, Mr. Haughey said that the study

of history and especially local history gave us an enhanced perspective and strengthened our sense of community.

"Local history teaches us to appreciate our man-made surroundings and recognise and esteem the craftsmanship which went into creating them", he declared.

He said that Limerick city had

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