



Architect report examines interesting built and unbuilt work in Cork

Niamh Áine Ryan

naryan@corkindependent.com

A new report published this week takes a look at Cork in terms of its architecture.

It's the first time that the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland (RIAI) has focused on just one location in the report called 'Architecture Ireland'.

It takes a close look at the topic of 'Cork towards a second city.' The Cork Issue is also the RIAI's largest edition of Architecture Ireland in almost a decade. The topic 'Cork towards a second city' is explored through a series of essays, opinion pieces and features on both built and unbuilt work throughout Cork city and county.

Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government, Simon Coveney TD, launched the report on Monday at the Lewis Glucksman Gallery in UCC.

Among the highlights is a cover story featuring the Beaufort Laboratory, a maritime energy research and national ocean testing facility at Ringaskiddy by McCullough Mulvin Architects, which demonstrates the pioneering research being carried out at UCC.

It also includes the new Michael Collins Museum in Clonakilty by JCA Architects and the Clonakilty Masterplan (Phase 2) by Municipal Architect Giulia Vallone for Cork County Council, both exemplars in successful place-making and the importance of quality design in Irish towns.

Architecture Ireland also features the transformation of a former fire station in Cork County into the My Place community re-

source centre, by Horgan Carroll Architects and the One Albert Quay Offices by Henry J Lyons Architects, in Cork city.

In addition to these built projects, Architecture Ireland features a large section of projects currently in planning or under construction; from O'Donnell + Tuomey's new Student Centre at UCC and the Brewery Quarter Student Accommodation on South Main Street by Scott Tallon

Walker; to Henry J Lyon's Stryker Global Innovation Centre and Wilson Architecture's Capitol building project.

Projects were identified following an open call-out to RIAI members and visits by the Architecture Ireland editorial team.

RIAI President, Carole Pollard said: "What this issue of Architecture Ireland demonstrates is the high level of talent, expertise and skills of architectural practices in Cork and throughout Ireland, which contributes significantly to the creation of such a quality built environment."

Minister Coveney said: "As Minister of Housing, it is of particular interest to see featured, three proposed social housing schemes in Cork City, a further phase of the regeneration of Knocknaheeny and two infill projects at Gerald Griffin Street and Deanrock.

"This edition also reiterates the need for balanced regional development as initiated in the consultation document 'Ireland 2040 Our Plan' which I launched in February," added the South-Central TD,

Other highlights include a discussion by urbanist and architect James Pike

on a new masterplan for the Henry Ford Factory site, as well as the exploration by architect Sean Kearns of Cork city's negative population trend over the past 50 years and the identification of significant growth opportunities, particularly in the Cork Docklands.

For more information, visit riai.ie.