



An Chartlann Náisiúnta **National Archives**

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Our Ref: 140

16th January 1989.

Mr Padraig Ó hUiginn,
Secretary,
Department of the Taoiseach,
Government Buildings,
Dublin 2.

CONFIDENTIAL

NPCI Project - National Archives Building

Dear Mr Ó hUiginn,

I refer to your Department's request for details of any projects relating to the National Archives which might be considered appropriate for inclusion in the National Programme of Community Interest for the Greater Dublin area.

I enclose a proposal that a project for the design and construction of a new National Archives Building at Smithfield, Dublin 7, be included in the National Programme. I hope to send you a proposal for a National Archives Genealogical Database within the next week or so.

The project for the design and construction of a new National Archives Building is unique, in that it would simultaneously:

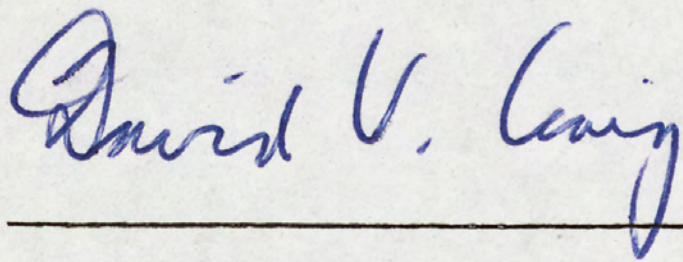
- (a) overcome the accommodation crisis faced by the National Archives;
- (b) reduce the need for expenditure by Government Departments on accommodation for record storage;
- (c) provide a new home for a major national cultural institution;
- (d) make a substantial contribution to the development of cultural tourism in the Dublin region;
- (e) significantly reduce urban blight in a depressed area of Dublin;
- (f) enhance Smithfield in particular and Dublin City in general by the addition of a major new public building.

The possibility of some private sector sponsorship for the project should not be excluded. The most obvious possibility in this regard is that it might be possible to interest the Irish Distillers Group in giving sponsorship, for the reasons set out in section 20(c) of the enclosed proposal.

I am sending a copy of this letter and the enclosed proposal to the Chairman of the National Archives Advisory Council, Mr Justice Niall McCarthy, for his information. I am asking him to treat the matter as confidential.

|| I am also sending copies to Mr Stokes and Mr Buckley of the Arts and Culture Division of your Department.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "David V. Craig", is written over a horizontal line.

David V. Craig
Acting Director

DVC/JH