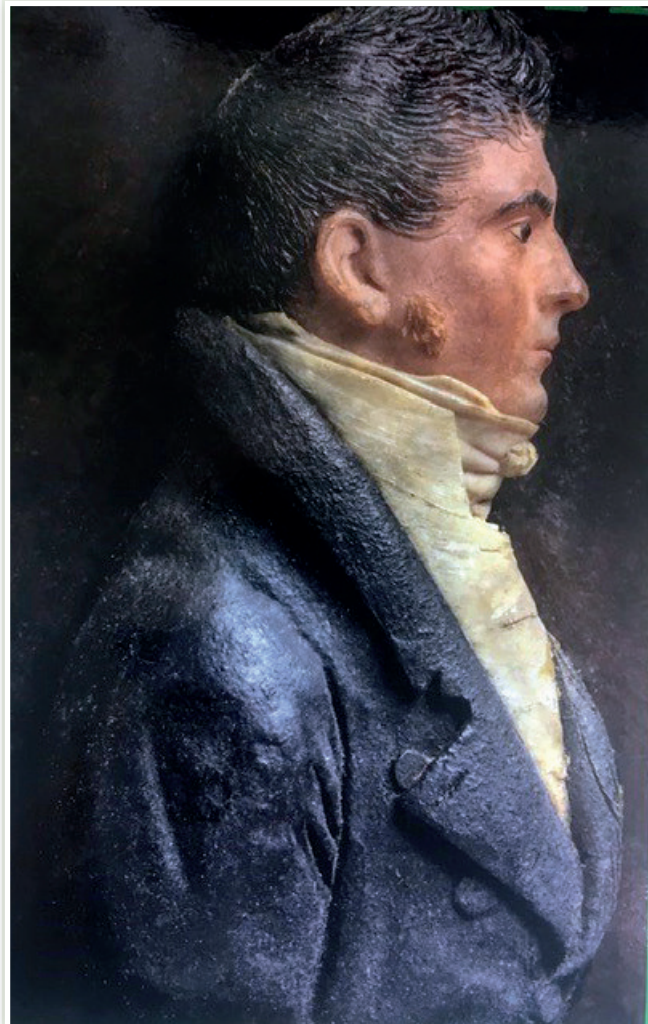




James Hoban

Callan and the Whitehouse



Office, Philadelphia with his credentials. By 1792, he was at work on the building site, having won the design of the President's House. He was placed in charge of the entire project, carpentry, stone masonry and brickwork. It was completed in 1800 for President John Adams to take residency there.

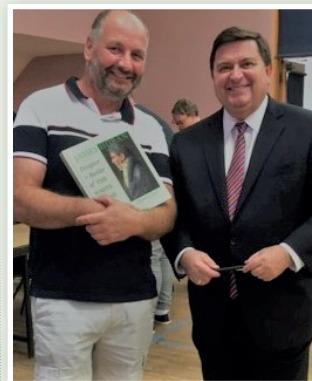
The house was destroyed in the war of 1812 and again in 1814 by British invaders. Hoban continued to renovate and extend the house throughout his life until 1824.

Today it is one of the most recognisable landmarks in the world.



These monuments were erected in memory of James Hoban in his homeplace of Desart and Callan. They were designed and built by a group of American students in the Spirit of Place/Spirit of Design program of The Catholic University of America, School of Architecture and Planning, Wash-

ington DC under the direction of Professor and Architect Travis Price and helped by local stonemason Seamus Kelly.



Book Launch by Stewart D. McLaurin



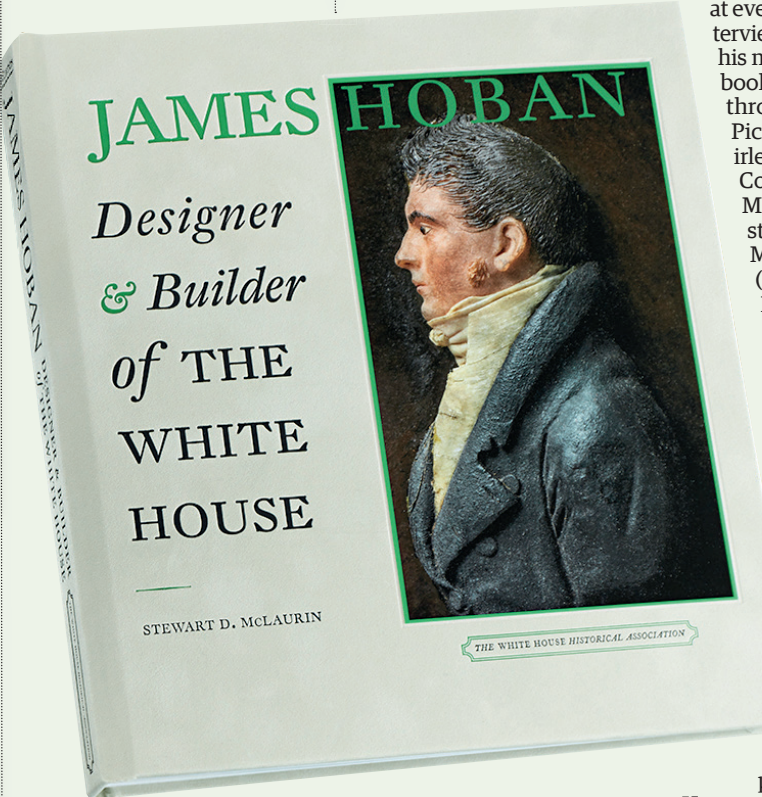
James Hoban was born in 1755 to parents Edward Hoban and Martha Bayne Hoban. His Father was a tenant farmer on the Cuffe estate in Callan. As a teenager he received training as a carpenter and wheelwright in the Desart Court workshops. He then moved to Dublin where he learned his profession.

He trained at the Dublin Society School of Architectural Drawing where he received his formal training as a designer of buildings. His knowledge of estates in Kilkenny including Westpark, Callan House, Grange house, Castletown Cox and Desart Court along with the many buildings he worked on in Dublin - The Royal Exchange, The Newcomen Bank and The Custom House was very influential to his building work in the US. Hoban became one of the first residents of Washington, marrying Susana Sewall from Maryland and they had 10 children. He lived the remainder of his life there until he died in December 1831.

The Whitehouse

In 1791 George Washington was introduced to a 'practical builder' from Ireland in Charlestown,

South Carolina. Washington was impressed by him and soon after Hoban appeared at Washington's



On Mon 15th August, we held the launch of Stewart D. McLaurin's book - 'James Hoban, Designer & builder of the white house' in Callan Library. Stewart is the



President of the White House Historical Association. He had visited Desart earlier that day. A wonderful educational evening was had by all. The following day he spoke



at event in Dublin and was interviewed by Ryan Tubridy on his morning radio show. The book is available to borrow through your local library. Pictured below is Cathaoirleach of Kilkenny County Council Pat FitzPatrick, Margo McGrath (Library staff), Author Stewart D. McLaurin, Patricia Lynch (Library Staff) and James Durkin (Library staff)

James Hoban's Legacy has been celebrated in many ways. Students continue to study about his life and works, relics of his life are treasured in the White House collection including his wax portrait which is on display in the Library and a desk he made (from leftover mahogany used in the construction of the White House) is on display in the visitor centre.

He was also honoured on the sesquicentennial of his death with a US postage stamp bearing his image and the North face of the white House.