DUBLIN, Ireland — Mark O’Meara has announced that he will be designing his first course in Europe at Carton Demesne outside Dublin. The project will consist of two courses, the other designed by Colin Montgomerie, and a hotel and convention center. The course will be located at Carton Demesne, a 17th-century estate that was the ancestral home to the Fitzgerald’s Earls of Kildare. “The property offers a host of options and is absolutely perfect for the development of a world class golf course,” said O’Meara. Designing his first course in Europe at Carton Demesne outside that was the reason for opening the course in one year rather than the two it usually takes to build a course in this region, said Rossiter.

“The need for quick cash flow was the reason for opening the course in one year rather than the two it usually takes to build a course in this region, said Rossiter.

“We worked 20 hours a day, seven days a week,” Rossiter said. “We built the course in loops. There were holes 1-2-17-18 in one loop, 3-13-14-15-16 in another loop, 4-5-6-12 in a third loop and 7-8-9-10-11 in the final loop. We might have been 80 percent complete in the first loop, 60 percent in the second, and 30 percent in the others. If the weather was too inclement to work in one loop, we could go work in another. So we kept the men and equipment going all the time. And we had fantastic weather just about the whole time... We understood the time line was very aggressive and knew the risks, but we met it.”

“The only problem has been the turf roughs, which suffered from this spring’s prolonged drought. “It was late growing in, but that could have happened anywhere,” Rossiter said.

“The practice facility was originally envisioned as a three-hole loop with sand greens, driving range and short-game center. But with the increasing number of top-quality courses on the island, Hurdzan convinced the developers to expand the practice facility to a nine-hole track with push-up greens and bunkers.

“That was a testament to Mike’s vision,” Straka said. “They just had a Canadian Tour stop there in late August and held a pro-am pairing local kids with the pros on the practice course. That drew a lot of people. The pro tournament itself was held in Brudenell, but will be moved to Dundarave permanently next year.”

Ann Chinouard, who is the coach for LPGA player Lorie Kane, is the director of the Brudenell Golf Academy. In addition to Dundarave and Le Diable, Hurdzan’s Canadian credits include Royal Woodbine, Devil’s Pulpit and Devil’s Paintbrush outside Toronto and Westwood Plateau near Vancouver.