

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **MILFORD-DONEGAL**
County : **DONEGAL**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 28-06-96

| | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded |
|--------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50 | 30 |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30 | 15 |
| Landscaping | 40 | 22 |
| The Built Environment | 40 | 22 |
| Litter Control | 40 | 20 |
| Tidiness | 20 | 10 |
| Residential Areas | 30 | 15 |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas | 40 | 20 |
| General Impression | 10 | 6 |
| TOTAL MARK | 300 | 160 |

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Welcome back Milford to the National Tidy Towns Competition after a long absence. Congratulations to the IRD, Milford which amongst their other activities have taken on the Milford Tidy Town endeavours. This is community based organisation which in time will be of great benefit to the town and its environs. It is working closely with the Local Authority, FAS and other State agencies to improve the appearance of Milford and the ambitious work programme submitted augurs well for the future. Thanks are due to the Manager of the IRD for the excellent submission, photographs and maps which were a great help.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

It is noted that the IRD and your Walks Committee have been in consultation with Coillte regarding Lough Columbkille. The development programme proposed for this area to be carried out by the Community Employment Scheme over the summer months will enhance Milford's appeal considerably. A worthy project.

LANDSCAPING

There is some fine tree planting on the Ramelton approach and the Catholic Church grounds looked very attractive with a nice rosebed. The flower beds and shrubs opposite the entrance to Moyle Road is also worthy of comment. The display of window boxes, flower tubs, and hanging baskets in the Main Street was most colourful. The flowerbed at the Diamond looked well, however the directional sign needs freshening up. The grounds of the Ceard Scoil were well maintained. Grounds and tree planting at the Loreto College looked well (broken wooden fence visible here) as did the surrounds of the IDA Complex with its nice stone walls. The graveyard on the Carrigart approach whilst well maintained had a lot of wind blown litter visible!. There are two neglected green areas left and right in the vicinity of the Diamond.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The streetscape on the Main Street is most attractive. There are a number of buildings, both public and commercial in Milford which are well presented, the Catholic Church, the schools, the Presbyterian and Church of Ireland building on the Kilmacrennan Road, the FCA building and Garda Station. Commercial buildings which caught the eye were Milford Hotel, Snooker Centre (nice stone building), The Pharmacy, The Lobster Pot, Credit Union Building, McBrides Shop, Post Office, McGettigans and a very neat little shop near Upper Marian. The White Heather Inn is also worthy of comment. There is some very noticeable dereliction on the Main Street. The facade at McMahan's is well presented with its nice mural. There is a derelict shed on the right of the Ramelton approach as well as a most untidy builders yard (with petrol pumps). The buildings at the rear of the Snooker Centre have a very unkempt appearance.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter was visible on the Main Street and on some of the approach roads. As already high in your report it was very visible in the area of the National School. Some dumping and litter on the Moyle Road. The litter bins are very prominent throughout the town, however, rather neglected by the residents! Perseverance is the key to this problem.

TIDINESS

In terms of tidiness Milford has a very busy ambience. The bottle recycling bins are very visible in the car park opposite the Moyle Road and should be screened by the shrubs and flower beds. The placing of gas cylinders and shop equipment on the pavement should be avoided where possible. The forge at the Diamond and the Lagg Chapel project are most impressive.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Most of the private houses in Milford and on the approaches are extremely well presented. Lovely houses and gardens with nice stone walls on the Kilmacrennan approach. The two main estates Lower Mount Marian and Upper Mount Marian are reasonably well presented. Construction work is still going on at Lower Marian, however, Upper Marian was very attractive with its well kept green areas, tree planting, lovely houses and gardens and floral displays (well done!)

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approach roads in general were reasonably well presented, Kerrykeel approach was good, however, litter was very visible on the Carrigart, Kilmacrennan and Moyle Road approaches. Ramelton approach was spoiled by a derelict van on the left and the builders yard (already mentioned). The Moyle approach has some very untidy neglected areas and a derelict shed. The pavements could be improved in the Main Street and the road surface is very uneven. The flower bed on the Moyle approach also needs attention. The two graveyards on the Church Road are well maintained.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

There is obviously a very keen community spirit in Milford. An excellent effort by all concerned. Stay with your work programme. Well done!