

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **VILLIERSTOWN**
County : **WATERFORD**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 11-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	23
The Built Environment	40	28	26
Landscaping	40	32	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	22	21
Litter Control	40	28	28
Tidiness	20	15	14
Residential Areas	30	20	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	26
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	206	192

Villierstown, Co. Waterford

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for a well filled in form and for the information contained in it and for the useful map. Villierstown, a former linen town, is a delightful village. It forms a complete entity on its own, separated from the surrounding countryside by two quite charming entry points, one from Cappoquin through Dromana Drive and the other from Clashmore. All the work being done very much enhances the tranquillity of the village. Poles and overhead wires are however very discordant and their removal should be a primary objective.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Gate Lodge was a delightful and surprising entry to this village. The only other large buildings, the old Court House, the Church and the School are all well presented. The plaques explaining all items of interest are a wonderful addition. They bring the form and character of the whole village into focus. The colour schemes chosen are most successful and add vibrancy. The treatment of unoccupied buildings is very satisfactory. Rather than being discordant they blend in with the existing housing and shops.

LANDSCAPING

The clearing and restoration of grass at Dromana Drive has been most successful and this together with the Green give the village a wonderful sense of greenness and order. They are very well presented with suitable shrubs and trees. The link road to the Quay is also very attractive.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Villierstown is fortunate in its location and setting to be able to include many natural amenities. The proximity of the River Blackwater is a major asset in this regard. The small area of marshland that has been set aside close to the Quay to encourage waterside life is highly commended, as is the policy regarding hedge cutting.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control was excellent except for one black spot at the Quay where the small bin was overfull and the litter had spilt onto the ground. A larger bin might solve this problem.

TIDINESS

Again at the Quay, there was a problem. The cord from the pole to the life buoy was grossly tangled making the life belt useless. It is important that this always be kept in perfect condition even though one of the facts of contemporary living is that items like this life buoy seem to get vandalised. There was a slight clutter of signs at the end of the village. The finger sign directing to the Quay is difficult to read. Perhaps the readjustment of these signs

could be considered.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The residential areas are extremely well presented. The colour schemes used are most successful and together with the delightful gardens and green areas add vibrancy and unity to the whole village.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The finger sign directing to the Quay is difficult to read. Perhaps the readjustment of these signs could be considered. The drive down to the Quay from the village is very pleasant, with earthen banks and hedge. Ferns proliferate on these banks.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The general impression is one of pleasure at such a delightful village. The sense of co-ordination and pride among all those involved is very obvious. All are to be highly applauded.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (14/8/97)

Villierstown was excellent in its presentation on second adjudication also. There was no sign of the litter problem identified during our first visit. Margins and grassed areas were neatly trimmed, flower displays and shrubs were being well maintained and young trees are maturing nicely. A number of residential properties on the road to the school could have been improved in respect of their roadside boundary walls. One or two untidy sites were noted on the northern entrance to the village (Clashmore). We wish you well in your objective of developing a riverside walk and connecting this to the village by reopening an old pathway. It is very definitely a worthwhile undertaking. We also wish you well regarding derelict sites and buildings. Thank you for your continued participation in the competition.