

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **GLENAMADDY**
County : **GALWAY**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 18-06-98

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1998	Mark Awarded 1997
Overall Developmental Approach	50	22	22
The Built Environment	40	24	23
Landscaping	40	23	22
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	11	11
Litter Control	40	24	24
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	20	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	22
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	166	163

Glenamaddy, County Galway

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Almost all centres entered have by now provided 3- or 5-year Development Plans, which all have found useful in identifying long-term objectives and assigning projects to be completed in successive years according to priorities. Yours appears to be still in preparation - it is greatly looked forward to, for Glenamaddy has excellent potential and, clearly, an enterprising community. Next year, please include a sketch map in the space provided, and mark the sites where projects have been completed or are in progress - it is unlikely that they will be missed, but one wants to be sure.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The most significant buildings from an architectural point of view are the Church, which is very well maintained, and Keaveny's by virtue of its commanding position: it is very attractively painted. The schools and banks are all well presented, the community hall is good and the library excellent. Most of the business premises are well kept, though a few near the village centre have unsightly mass-produced signage. (There is a permanent townscape anomaly, in visual terms, where the roofline of a significant row of shops does not accord with the gentler and more traditional roofs and upper storeys of the rest of the village.) This adjudicator was particularly taken by Harte's well-designed, unelaborate and tasteful shopfront, which fits it very well with the streetscape; but a number of others are very good too.

LANDSCAPING

Planting was favourably noted at the approaches to the village and also in the centre. There are plenty of opportunities for tree planting - for example, on both sides of the road as you come from Ballymoe which is at present rather bleak, and on either side of the very spacious street leading south. The extension to O'Keefe Park should have trees planted as a matter of course, especially in the grassed space at the end.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

This topic does not seem to exercise the Group greatly. For a start, you might initiate a school project where students are invited to identify as many species of native flora and fauna as they can - this has been done very successfully elsewhere and caused much interest. Arising from this, an illustrated board showing trees, flowers, birds and animals could be prominently erected. There are other suggestions in the Tidy Towns pack supplied to you.

LITTER CONTROL

There was appreciable kerbside litter on the day of adjudication.

TIDINESS

Glenamaddy is a relatively tidy village. There are a very few areas which, if smartened up, would make an immense improvement - such as the space at the side of Glen Crafts, the shed between this and the cross-roads, and the site next to the Spar shop.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

In general the older street houses are very attractive - including houses which are also business premises. The house under construction next to the Pharmacy looks promising - respecting the proportions of its neighbours. The terrace south of Keaveney's is especially pleasant and well kept. The homes in O'Keefe Park are well looked after, some with nice planting, and only one or two need freshening up with paint. As last year, St Bridget's Close is well presented. There are several houses of individuality, with fine gardens, on the Cregg and Dunmore roads.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The four main approach roads are well surfaced. Paving and kerbing in the village centre is good - a real improvement here. Stone walls, some of recent construction, are excellent. It is good to see the local tradition of building in stone kept up.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

A lively and pleasant village - the kind of place you would be glad to bring up a family in. It would be good to see a really imaginative development plan, for this Group could certainly carry it through.