

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **FINTOWN**
County : **DONEGAL**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 16-06-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	19	20
The Built Environment	40	27	26
Landscaping	40	18	17
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	10	10
Litter Control	40	32	32
Tidiness	20	10	10
Residential Areas	30	19	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	27
General Impression	10	5	5
TOTAL MARK	300	168	166

Fintown, County Donegal

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The absence of a Development Plan suggests that progress is rather piecemeal. Certainly there have been improvements on last year, but not to the extent seen in most other centres of similar size and population. It is good that you have the co-operation of the Local Authority and FAS. There was no map in the space provided - next year, please be sure to include a map and mark on it all the sites where improvements have taken place in the previous twelve months.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

As last year, the handsome modern Church was very well cared for. The Hall was beautifully painted. The Comharchumann Inis Caoil building was also looking smart and clean. The old Railway Station house will be assessed once this imaginative project has had a chance to become established.

LANDSCAPING

Shrubs and other plants across the road from the Teach a' Scoil are well chosen and should do very well if constantly tended. Young trees were very favourably noted; a location where further tree planting could be undertaken to advantage is the school field.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

A number of possibilities were mentioned by last years adjudicator and there are several suggestions in the Tidy Towns booklet. The nature trail referred to should be an excellent development. When open, it should be conspicuously signposted, with an illustrated board showing species of plants, animals and birds indigenous to the area.

LITTER CONTROL

As last year, litter control was effective. Congratulations at keeping up the good standard.

TIDINESS

The trim verges and general care of this essentially linear village immediately strikes the passer-by. There are still a number of spots which counteract this good impression, and they could be improved without a great deal of trouble

and expense - such as the unkempt area immediately opposite Finian's Rainbow, the weedy forecourt of the Hall, unsightly corrugated iron sheds near the Railway Station and the Teach a' Ceoil, and the rushy field at the school.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

There are several really well kept houses, some with fine gardens. This is one of the first things expected of any well kept town or village.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Road surfaces and paving are good. Wooden pailings, where they exist, are preferable to post-and-wire. Stones walls, particularly at Finian's Rainbow and the McGeehan coach depot, give a huge 'lift' those areas. The Sean MacMeanman memorial was admired, and also the impressive contemporary wooden sculpture.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

A very pleasant village where a lot of good work has been done, but which does not seem to be reaching its true potential.