

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **ABBEY**  
County : **GALWAY**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 22-06-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	22	21
The Built Environment	40	22	22
Landscaping	40	27	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	17
Litter Control	40	28	27
Tidiness	20	12	12
Residential Areas	30	17	17
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	18	20
General Impression	10	7	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>171</b>

## **Abbey, County Galway**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Abbey is a delightful village featuring four distinct areas of interest, the river and church area, picnic shop and pub area, the monastery, post office area, and the wildlife area. This variety of feature gives the village a distinctive charm and environmental quality. The village is showing many positive results from its interest in tidy towns.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The central architectural feature is the church which is very well maintained and presented. While there is nothing architecturally striking about the other village buildings, they are well maintained and painted. Grey paint has been successfully used to understate the impact of corrugated roofs on outhouses and derelict buildings along routes connecting the geographic elements of the village.

The monastery is a major centre of interest and is well presented with its surrounding graveyard and trimmed lawns

### **LANDSCAPING**

The main feature is the picnic area in the centre of the village. With a backdrop of deciduous trees, this area is well maintained with attractive flower beds at each end, along with a water pump feature. New trees have been planted along the stream feature along the approach road from Portumna. Considerable effort has been made in developing a water feature in this area. While commending the effort it is felt that consideration be given to a more natural presentation, for example to flow the water over a rockery rather than steps and replace the conifers with indigenous shrubs.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

It was very pleasant to see the work ongoing at the wildlife sanctuary at the corner of the Portumna Road. It is a fine example of what can be done to encourage the development of riverside wildlife. Generally, the natural environment is well presented with hedgerows in the classic style, a mixture of hedge and tree varieties which provide food and safety to wildlife.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

There was virtually no litter visible on adjudication day.

### **TIDINESS**

In almost every respect Abbey is a tidy village. Care should be taken in use of plastic signage. There is a little wirescape in evidence but it is not too intrusive. A more decorative chain around the picnic area might help highlight this attractive facility.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Abbey is a residential village, and houses are well kept and a number of gardens well displayed.

## **ROADS, STREETS, AND BACK AREAS**

The roads to the village are in good order. Within the village the surfaces are well presented and add to the sensation of spaciousness.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Abbey is a small but very attractive village in which the community are demonstrating considerable pride.