

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **INISTIOGE**
County : **KILKENNY**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 06-07-99

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	36	36
The Built Environment	40	33	32
Landscaping	40	36	36
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	20
Litter Control	40	33	33
Tidiness	20	17	16
Residential Areas	30	23	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	31	31
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	300	237	233

Inistioge, County Kilkenny

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

There has been a very positive approach to developments over the years and now Inistioge has reached a very high standard of presentation. The community commitment is the key to this success. Towns and villages need more than restoration, they also need ongoing renewal. The trees on the square – large copper beech, lime and plane will not last for ever. The people that planted them are long passed and could never have hoped to see them at the state of maturity of today. We need to plant trees of this sort for the enjoyment of the next two generations.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The two churches and restored buildings look wonderful. It is a delight to ramble through the churches and around the back, the cemetery and all the interesting graves therein. Walls are another great feature - the walls around the churches are lovely. Business premise and private homes show a sense of pride which in turn reflects the beauty of the streetscapes.

LANDSCAPING

The line of mature lime trees along the approach road from New Ross is beautiful and gives a perfect entry. The waterfront area is very well presented and the idea of walking under the arch of the bridge helps to frame lovely schemes. The formal square part of this feature along the roadside may be coming to a stage for a redesign of the entire area. The concrete kerbing and tarmac with very squared shapes could be changed with new design. Individual gardens play a tremendous part in the overall landscape of the village. People take great care of their gardens and the varying heights of the houses up the hill make a lovely presentation. The Green in the town has a nice collection of trees. The cordyline trees may be a little out of place here. Consideration could be given to removing the concrete posts and chain and replacing it with a stone kerb or nothing at all.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Developments in this regard are looked forward to.

LITTER CONTROL

There is good litter control. Some litter was noted by the picnic tables and in some parts of the village roads. It is so difficult to cope with the litter problem. Constant vigilance and encouragement of people to understand the value of litter-free living will help. A considerable amount of litter was present in the stream at the bridge beside Healeys Hotel which was disappointing.

TIDINESS

There is a very tidy appearance with so many tidy gardens and homes. A lot of homes and gardens are very tastefully treated

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

As stated there is a great pride in the care and maintenance of homes. Some renovations are noted. The river is very tastefully presented and is a delight to stand and view together with its surrounds.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The narrow little roads give this village great character. The approach roads are well cared for in a simple way. Car parking must become a major problem on busy days, and a plan to deal with this is important. Car parking should not be allowed on cobble stones by restaurants on river front as the stones will be damaged.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Inistioge is a beautiful village with great character lent by the river setting, trees and the housing which is carefully tended on the sloping roads.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (12/08/99)

It would have been impossible not to have stopped in Inistioge, for it was looking irresistible in early August. Congratulations to the Tidy Towns Committee, and all individuals concerned with maintaining and improving the village - and especially to those responsible for tidying the historic and picturesque graveyard. It was good to see at least two houses in the process of refurbishment; a couple of others were in need of some attention, but the overall picture was very pleasing. The waterside area was photographed and will be entered for the award, but some of the tables were seen to require cleaning or repainting, and there was some litter. The topic of continuity of adjudicators' views and comments, as raised in your notes, will be examined at the annual meeting. All adjudicators carry previous reports with them for reference, and the second adjudicator in any year is almost always very familiar with the particular place. A rota of adjudicators has the benefit for the committee of providing, e.g., a person with town-planning qualifications this year, a landscape designer the next, a dendrologist the next, etc, so that expert comments are made on all categories over a period. Your point has been well taken.