

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **NEWPORT-MAYO**
County : **MAYO**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 27-06-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	28	28
The Built Environment	40	28	28
Landscaping	40	26	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	13
Litter Control	40	30	30
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	14	14
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	24
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	187	183

Newport, County Mayo

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Newport is welcome to the 1999 Tidy Towns Competition. It is good to note that a plan is being prepared by Mayo County Council for Newport. Don't forget to send in a copy of this for next year. The overall townscape of Newport is quite magnificent with its stately bridge spanning the river and its pleasant combination of narrow streets, cul-de-sacs and the gentle rise of its streets together, of course, with its town centre. The beautiful stone church overlooking the town is, of course, one of Newport's finest features. The general maintenance of the town and the presentation of its buildings and amenity areas is good and complements the natural environment of the town.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The bridge over the river is a characteristic feature of Newport and is complemented beautifully by the immediate landscaping of nicely maintained grassed areas and abundant tree and shrub growth. The Parochial Hall needs to be refurbished to its roadside façade. Joyce's Garage could be upgraded together with the adjoining 'ecclesiastical' building. The terrace on Meddlicott Street, on which the Joyce's Garage is located, is highly visible from the Quay amenity area. Some building on the main street need to be cleaned or repainted. It is good to note that many buildings have retained some of their traditional features. The derelict building at the top of the street adjoining the Anglers Rest, although relatively tidy and well painted on adjudication day, presents a poor focus for the town centre and we look forward to the redevelopment of this prime site.

LANDSCAPING

Some of the shrub containers need to be refurbished or removed altogether. (Most of these are white ones). Others looked quite well. Landscaping throughout the town is beautiful and is complemented by the natural landscaping along the river.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The riverside amenity area and playground looks exceptionally well. The amenity area along Quay Road looks well, however the sprayed weeds should be eliminated altogether from the wall. The Tidy Towns Handbook which you have received this year features a number of approaches to competing under this category; you are referred to the section on Wildlife. Swans were noted on the river during adjudication.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control was good during adjudication and did not present any major problems. Do keep us informed of your litter control strategies / activities and remember that litter management is a year round undertaking and not confined to the summer months.

TIDINESS

A derelict property was noted on Newbridge Street. No doubt given its prime location, it will be redeveloped soon. Try to keep it to as high a standard as possible in the interim. Do try to remove discoloured weeds which have recently been sprayed as quickly as possible as they look unsightly in themselves. Some commercial premises near the handball alley are storing a lot of material in their curtilage area and look very untidy. Fortunately this is not in a prominent part of the town.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The terrace of two storey houses at the bridge on the Castlebar side of the village with their old world lampstandards on the footpath look gracious but some of them are a little weatherstained and will need to be repainted soon. The more recent residential development down Quay Road features a beautiful colour scheme. The older residential area behind it is nicely presented also but some boundary walls are weatherstained and in need of painting. A good overall presentation.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Entrances to the town from the major approach roads looked well. Perhaps the large advertisement sign located on the Westport Road between the Fáilte sign and the nameplate could be relocated. The overall presentation of street furniture, particularly lampstandards is excellent. One or two items are in need of attention, for example a seat near the handball alley. The wirescape free Main Street and Square, together with the attractive lampstandards and many good stretches of footpath are an attractive feature of Newport. The town is nicely presented as an integrated unit in that footpaths outlying to residential areas are provided.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The general impression of Newport is one of a tidy town with an interesting streetscape and many well developed amenity areas. It is a town that looks inviting and would entice members of the travelling public to stop and spend a while.