

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **CAPPOQUIN**  
County : **WATERFORD**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 16-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	40	39
The Built Environment	40	23	23
Landscaping	40	26	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	24	23
Litter Control	40	31	31
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	21	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	25
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>206</b>

## **Cappoquin, County Waterford**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

The integration of the Tidy Towns Committee and the Development Company within a company limited by guarantee seems to be a logical and forward-looking step, and best wishes are extended to the governing body. The resulting proposal for the approach roads reads very well, and it is possible that it has already resulted on improvements to the landscaping of the Lismore road. Other documentation is impressive. Thank you for the excellent map and for marking relevant sites on it.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The handsome Roman Catholic church is still in need of repainting. The same is the case for some school buildings on the road which leads towards Glenshelane. On the date of adjudication the pretty Church of Ireland church had weed growth on the tower and an adjoining building. The Credit Union was looking very smart, as were the banks and the Fire Station. As a traditional town centre hotel, the façade of Walsh's has great but unrealised potential. The Scout Hall, which needs attention, is evidently about to be removed. A first class painting scheme on the entire frontage of an unnamed building, with the charming iron balcony done in blue, was in progress on adjudication day: the finished result will be looked forward to next year. The fine gates of Cappoquin House form an important focal point in the streetscape.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The principal innovation is the imaginative Jardin Chanat-la-Mouteyre off Twig Lane. Judicious planting appropriate to the location was admired. It would be premature to propose this garden for the landscape award as it would have little chance of success at this early stage against literally dozens of more mature schemes: wait till the plants proliferate and flourish. The grotto was looking well. Small plantings here and there add interest and charm.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

Cappoquin seems to be taking advantage of its supreme riverine and sylvan situation, and developments already signalled will be eagerly monitored. The Glenshelane Woods project is very worthy indeed: the co-operation of Coillte is admirable. The walks will surely be enjoyed by residents and visitors alike, and native wildlife encouraged. Perhaps the new Company will consider some suggestions

made by last year's adjudicator.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

Control is generally quite effective – congratulations. The only appreciable litter on the date of the visit was, unfortunately, in the Jardin Chanat-la-Moutyre and Twig Lane area.

## **TIDINESS**

Any untidiness that there is in Cappelquin largely from untended or derelict sites, rather than from the usual problems encountered in other towns such as weed growth, signage clutter, overhead wires etc. – though there is some of the latter. The surroundings of Twig Lane, as you descend from the western end of Main Street, remain quite untidy, although where it opens out at the new garden the change is splendid. Some bad 'backs' are all too visible from this area. Other sites which need improvement are the garage in Barrack Street, and a Hall near the Fire Station.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Most older street houses and terraces are very well kept indeed – among the many, two terraces on the south side of Mill Street should be mentioned. On the outskirts, there are a number of homes with excellent gardens, enhancing the general tone of their neighbourhoods. A small estate near the Day Centre is a good example of neatness.

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

It is obvious from the report of the landscaping consultant that the appearance of approach roads will all be greatly improved over the coming years by extensive planting. Surfaces of approach roads are good, and surfacing in the town is variable. Very good paving is in evidence, contrasting with a few areas where paving is still poor. New stone walls at the east end of the town are admirable. The new lamp standards, made to a traditional pattern, at the Jardin, are graceful and dignified; in the course of time they should be extended to the main streets. Unsightly 'backs' have been referred to above; fortunately, their incidence is few.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

The appearance of Cappelquin has improved again in more recent years. There is a definite feeling now that imaginative and important changes are under way.