

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **DROMAHAIR**
County : **LEITRIM**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 14-06-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	33	32
The Built Environment	40	27	26
Landscaping	40	26	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	16
Litter Control	40	31	30
Tidiness	20	13	12
Residential Areas	30	23	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	27	26
General Impression	10	7	6
TOTAL MARK	300	203	194

Dromahair, County Leitrim

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Judging by the entry form, the local community and official bodies have been supportive – this only happens when it is seen that a Development Association is making an important effort of its own accord. The village has progressed appreciably – there are still a number of headings under which one would like to see a greater increase in activity and therefore in marking, and one of these is Wildlife – but a definite air of confidence is sensed. When providing your sketch map next year, please be sure to mark all sites where improvements have been made over the previous twelve months – we are unlikely to miss them but one wishes to be certain.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Both churches are maintained in excellent order; they also make important and picturesque contributions to the townscape. The School and the Garda Barracks are well presented, though the boundary wall of the latter should be painted before long; the Hostel definitely needs painting. Stanford's Inn and the Hotel opposite each other are both very smart; the ivy-mantled Woodview Inn is one of the more distinguished building in the main street – the old motors behind it were perhaps not as conspicuous as last year. The fascia of a former shop in a handsome building opposite Breffni Cottages needs repair. Other business premises were well presented. The most interesting and praiseworthy development has been the restoration of the Depot.

LANDSCAPING

The area at the old pump is most attractively planted. Landscaping at the Sligo junction seems to have improved. Floral displays in tubs here and there give a real 'lift' to their particular locations. Planting at the Sligo junction seems to be an improvement on last year. New trees at the school were very favourably noted.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The space under the Wildlife heading had not been filled in this year – this is surprising, as Dromahair is ideally situated between lake and forest, between river and mountain, for initiatives of this kind. There are a number of suggestions in the Tidy Towns file. The old timber, so much a feature of the neighbourhood, is well preserved, giving a marvellous background.

LITTER CONTROL

New bins were seen at Drumlease, yet there was some litter quite near to them. There was very little litter in the rest of the village. Your efforts are proving successful – congratulations.

TIDINESS

The village could certainly be described as tidy on adjudication day. The results of dumping had vanished from Breffni Cottages. It may be that the abandoned tractor at Drumlease is for play – certainly children were enjoying it. Builders materials should always be removed when a project is completed.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The large estate at Drumlease was certainly better looked after than last year, though not all householders take the trouble to maintain their properties as well as the majority; new seating was noted here. Private housing is very well looked after, with several first rate front gardens. Older street houses remain most attractive. Woodlands, The Line and adjoining avenues form one of the pleasantest residential areas seen in the county this year; a new house of stone with brick facings is a good example here. (Is the charming row of small cottages in this area likely to be preserved?)

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Street surfaces and paving are generally of a high standard, though surprisingly some of the side avenues are less well surfaced. The stone walls, old and new, are a splendid feature – a small section at the Library needs repair, but this is a minor matter.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Dromahair has natural charm and real distinction. The materials are all present for a prize-winning village: what is needed, as mentioned by last year's adjudicator, is all groups and individuals assisting in the effort.