

Appendix 5

Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs)

Ardee

Carlingford

Castlebellingham

Collon

Greenore

Newtown Monasterboice

Monasterboice

Salterstown

Whitestown

Appendix 5

Ardee Historic Core



Location and Boundaries

The Architectural Conservation Area covers the length of the main street, to the rear boundaries of all properties - Irish Street, Market Street, Castle Street, Bridge Street and William Street. The area includes the majority of the town's protected structures.

Historical Development of the Area

The town takes its name from the Irish - Ath Fhirdia, the ford on the river Dee where the legendary hero Cúchulainn fought and defeated his friend Ferdia in the course of the Táin Bo Cuailnge. In medieval times it was an important Norman walled town.

Character

Ardee is now an attractive broad-street town, and the commercial centre for its hinterland. The main street is lined by good houses, two and three storeys in height, with some interesting shopfronts, and is distinguished by two late medieval tower houses. The south end of the area features a pleasant riverside walk and some attractive rubble stone warehousing.

Materials

The prevailing materials in Ardee, as in most Irish small towns, are slated roofs and plastered facades with timber windows and shopfronts. The two tower houses and churches are of stone, while there are a small number of brick buildings, notably the Bank of Ireland and Hamills with decorative trim.

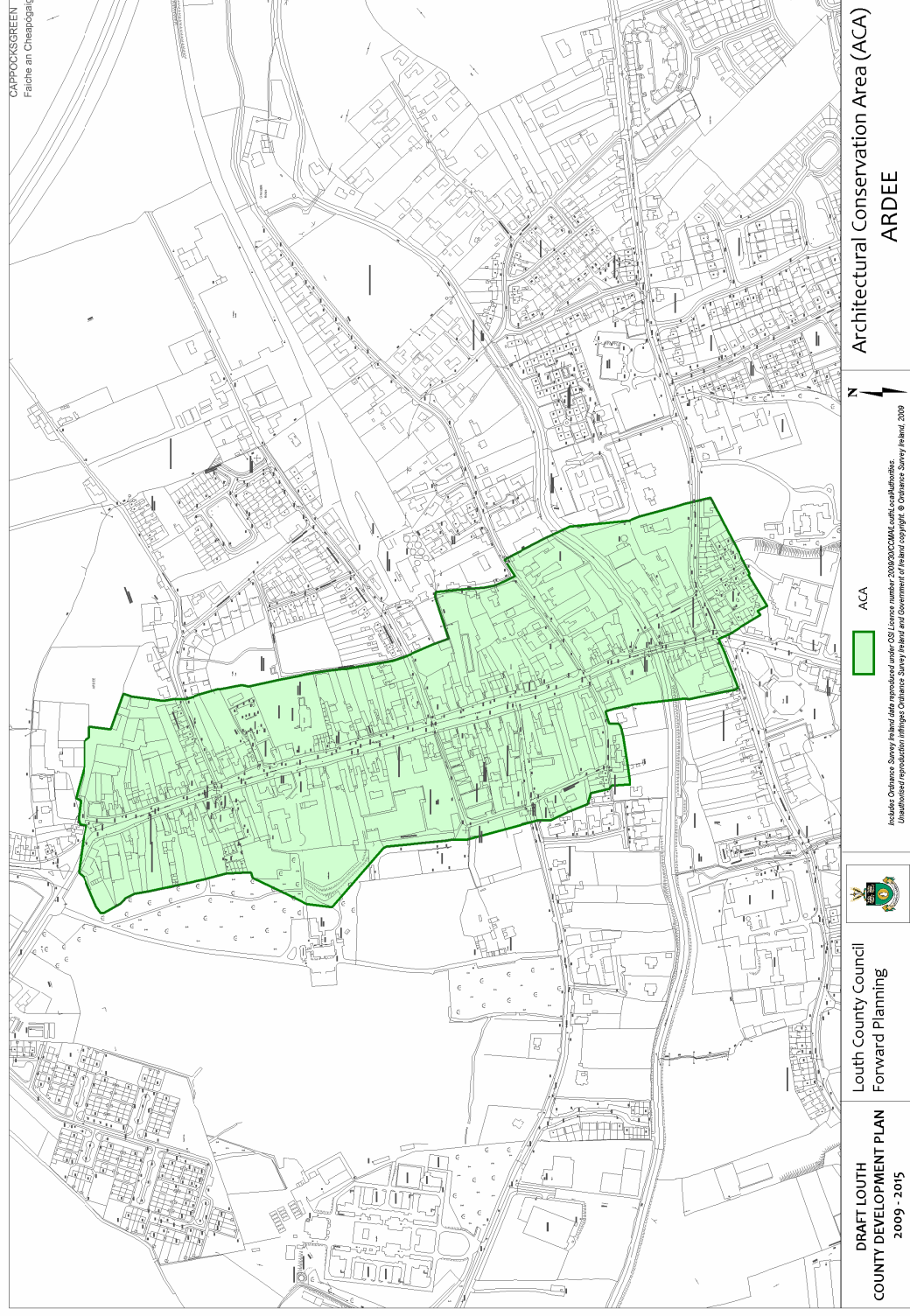
Views

Views up and down the street are dominated by Ardee Castle, while to the south the rich agricultural lands of mid-Louth can be seen.

Objectives

1. To preserve the special character of the historic town core and its setting through positive management of changes to the built environment, in particular, by requiring that the height, scale, design and materials of any proposed development within the village and in the surrounding area should complement the character of the village and not diminish its distinctiveness of place.
2. To protect the landscape setting of the village and the views outwards.
3. To encourage the removal of visually intrusive elements such as overhead cables and inappropriate signage.
4. To require the preservation and re-instatement of traditional details and materials on existing buildings and in the streetscape where improvements or maintenance works are being carried out.
5. To use appropriate materials, street furniture and lighting in any public development of the area.

Map 1: Ardee Historic Core ACA



Carlingford ACA A Medieval Walled Town



Location and Boundaries

'The town is situated at the foot of Slieve Foye along a narrow ledge of land where the mountain slope meets the sea. The medieval town lay between the castle, on the north, and the parish church, on the south, with its long axis aligned north-south, accommodating itself to the narrow corridor of low ground. Both the castle and church are on high points but it is the castle built on a rock outcrop projecting into Carlingford Lough and forming a sheltered harbour which dominates the town.' (Bradley)

The boundary of the ACA is based on the line of the Medieval town walls and extends from the City wall on the west, to the coastline on the east, and from King John's Castle on the North to the Mill Pond on the south.

Historical Development of the Area

The town was originally a harbour for the Vikings along the northern coast nestled against the backdrop of the Cooley Mountains. It was with the arrival of the Normans in 1185 that the first urban settlement was established. Its natural defensive position at the head of the lough led Hugh de Lacy to construct King John's Castle c.1200, and subsequently the town grew as an important trading centre. The mid 19th century saw the arrival of the railway and growth of the harbour and quay walls.

Character

The medieval character of the town is evident in the survival of the medieval street pattern which provides a striking sense of enclosure - its two parallel streets running north/south, cut by three cross streets, the principle of being Market Street, and the narrow interconnecting laneways. A remarkable feature of the town is the number of medieval buildings surviving – King John's Castle, the Dominican Abbey, the Mint, the Tholsel, Taaffe's Castle.

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Buildings front directly onto the street for the most part, although the larger houses such as Carlingford House, the Churches, Court house and Garda Station, are set back from the street line with boundary walls and railings.

The 18th, 19th and early 20th century buildings are generally simple vernacular terraces of two and three-storey houses, gable ended, plastered and painted, and some attractive shopfronts.

Materials

Although the buildings are relatively unadorned, many retain original features such timber sash windows, raised plaster quoins and window surrounds, and with their slate roofs, make up the attractive streetscapes. Surviving medieval buildings have lost their traditional lime plaster finishes and the random rubble stonework of the walls are visible.

Views

1. The most important views are of the town against the mountain backdrop, showing the relation of the town and castle between mountain and water.
2. Views out from Carlingford across the Lough to County Down are also of importance for the appreciation of the context and setting of the town, including the harbour.

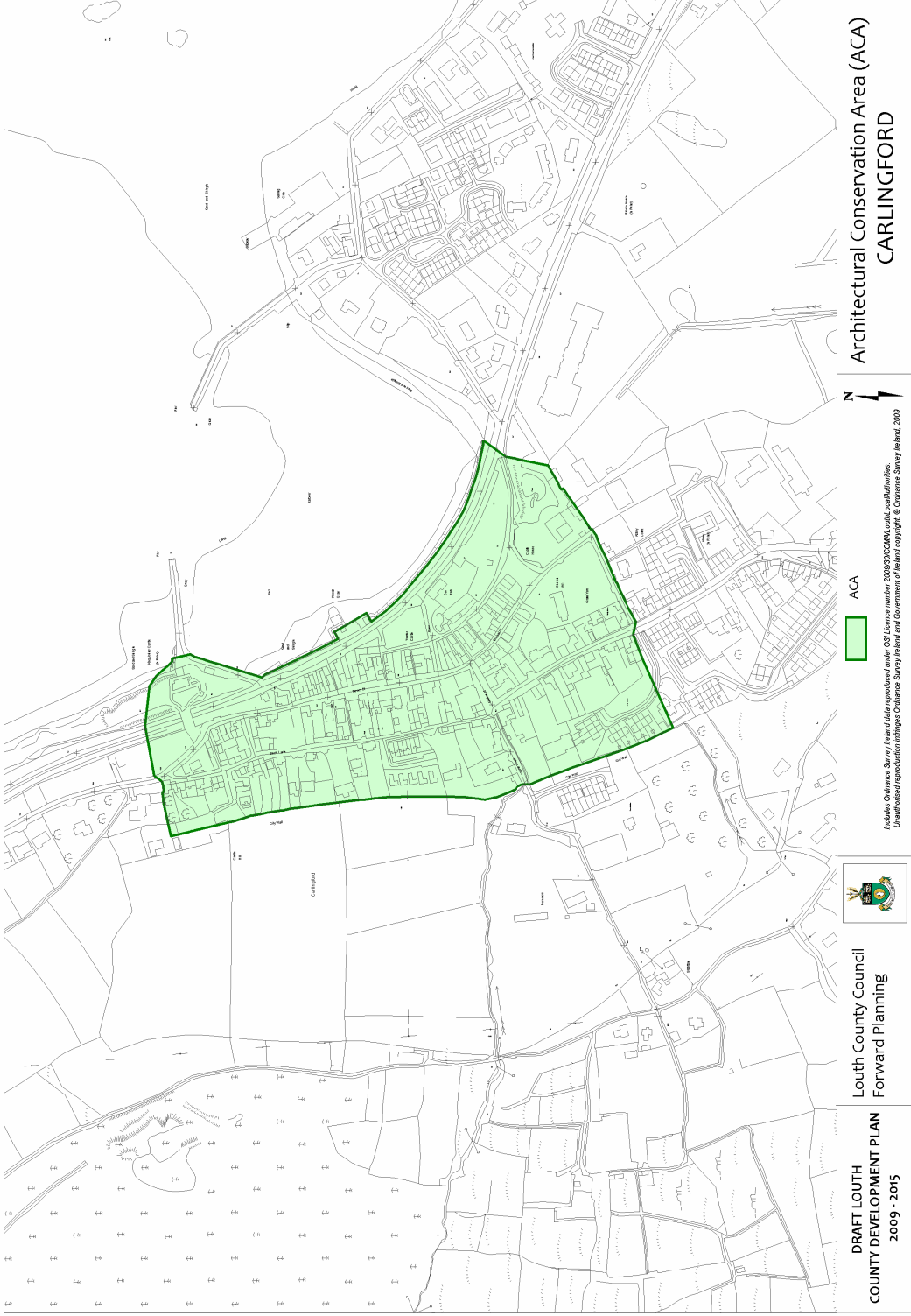
Objectives

1. To preserve the special character of the town, its medieval street pattern and its setting through positive management of changes to the built environment, in particular, by requiring that the height, scale, design and materials of any proposed development within the ACA and in the adjoining area should complement the character of the town and not diminish its distinctiveness of place.
2. To protect the landscape setting of the village and the views both inward and outward.
3. To encourage the removal of visually intrusive elements such as overhead cables and inappropriate signage.
4. To require the preservation and re-instatement of traditional details and materials on existing buildings and in the streetscape where improvements or maintenance works are being carried out.
5. To use appropriate materials, street furniture and lighting in any public development of the area.

References

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Bradley, John | Urban Archaeology Survey Part I, County Louth: Carlingford (unpublished report) |
| Oxford Archaeology | Carlingford Town Walls Conservation & Management Plan |
| Keith Simpson & Associates | Carlingford Architectural Conservation Area Character Appraisal 2007 |

Map 2: Carlingford ACA



Castlebellingham ACA (Proposed 2009) An Estate Village



Location and Boundaries

Castlebellingham ACA is centred on the old Dublin –Belfast Road which winds north-south through the town. The ACA starts on the south bank of the river, includes the bridge, mill, and mill race, church of Ireland and widows cottages, the green, and the main street of the town as far as the intersection of roads at the northern end.

Historical Development of the Area

The town's history is linked with the Bellingham family and the brewing trade. The most prominent feature of the town is Bellingham Castle with its impressive entrance gate arch. Reminders of the brewing trade can be seen in the brewery grain store on the triangular green, recently converted to retail and residential uses.

Character

The deep river valley generates a strong focal point in the landscape drawing the countryside into the town. The urban form of the proposed Castlebellingham ACA is much as it was in the eighteenth and nineteenth century with the main road providing a series of pleasant views and interesting spaces – at the Gateway, the green, and terminating at the northern junction. The Castle, Church and estate cottages form a picturesque grouping near the river. The main street is made up of a combination of residential and commercial buildings linked in terraces, with an occasional detached house, all generally two storeys in height, with only one three storey house on the Annagassan Road. The roofs are pitched and gabled. Of particular notes are the widows cottages with their highly decorative chimneystacks, barge boards, and windows.

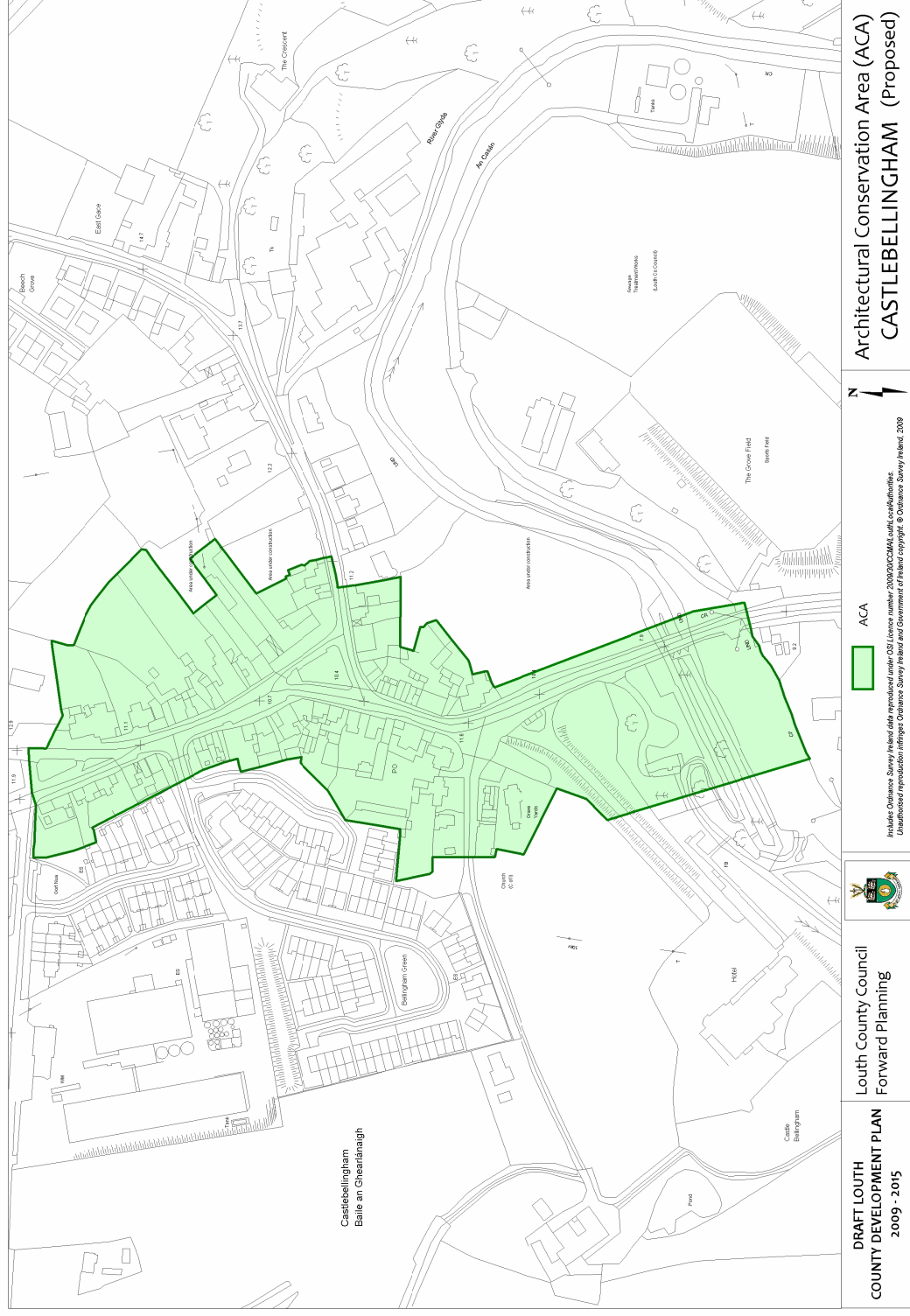
Materials

The prevailing materials in Castlebellingham, as in most Irish small towns are slated roofs and plastered facades with timber windows and shopfronts. The Church of Ireland is quite typically built of stone, and there are attractive stone boundary walls to the graveyard and from the Castle entrance area to the bridge. Castlebellingham is unusual however, for the inclusion of a number of brick buildings, particularly the brewery buildings, which formed the industrial core of the town, and the estate cottages which are of high quality stonework with brick trim.

Objectives

1. To preserve the special character of the village and its setting through positive management of changes to the built environment, in particular, by requiring that the height, scale, design and materials of any proposed development within the village and in the surrounding area should complement the character of the village and not diminish its distinctiveness of place.
2. To protect the landscape setting of the village and the views inwards.
3. To preserve the historic street pattern and character of the village, by the retention of buildings and materials as described above, and the retention of existing boundary features, walls.
4. To require the preservation and re-instatement of traditional details and materials on existing buildings and in the streetscape where improvements or maintenance works are being carried out.
5. To use appropriate materials, street furniture and lighting in any public development of the area.

Map 3: Castlebellingham ACA



Collon ACA An Estate Village



Location and Boundaries

The village of Collon is built on a steep hill around the intersection of the N2, Dublin to Derry road, and the R168 road to Drogheda, with an outlook over the valley. The boundaries of the ACA extend from the Round House at the north end of the town, to the river at the south, and from the Mattock Inn on Drogheda Street to the rear of the Church of Ireland graveyard on the west.

Historical Development of the Area

The town and manor of Collon once belonged to the Cistercian order of Mellifont Abbey until the dissolution of the monasteries under Henry II. Development took place in the 18th century with the arrival of industry, sited to take advantage of the river. Between 1780 and 1790 a spinning mill, hosiery factory and weaving company were established by the Rt. Hon. John Foster. After the famine many corn mills in the district converted to milling flax.

Materials

Buildings generally have plastered walls, traditionally a lime render would have been used, often with a limewash finish. In a limited number of cases, most notably the Erasmus School, the rubble stonework is exposed, otherwise rubble stone is confined to boundary walls or outbuildings. Both churches have fine ashlar limestone to the front facades. There are some good examples of ironwork, typically in the gates to the former parochial house, and railings to Collon House and Elmview. Timber is used for windows and doors and as such forms standard elements of the shop-fronts. Many buildings within the ACA retain their natural slate roofs which add to the visual richness of the area.

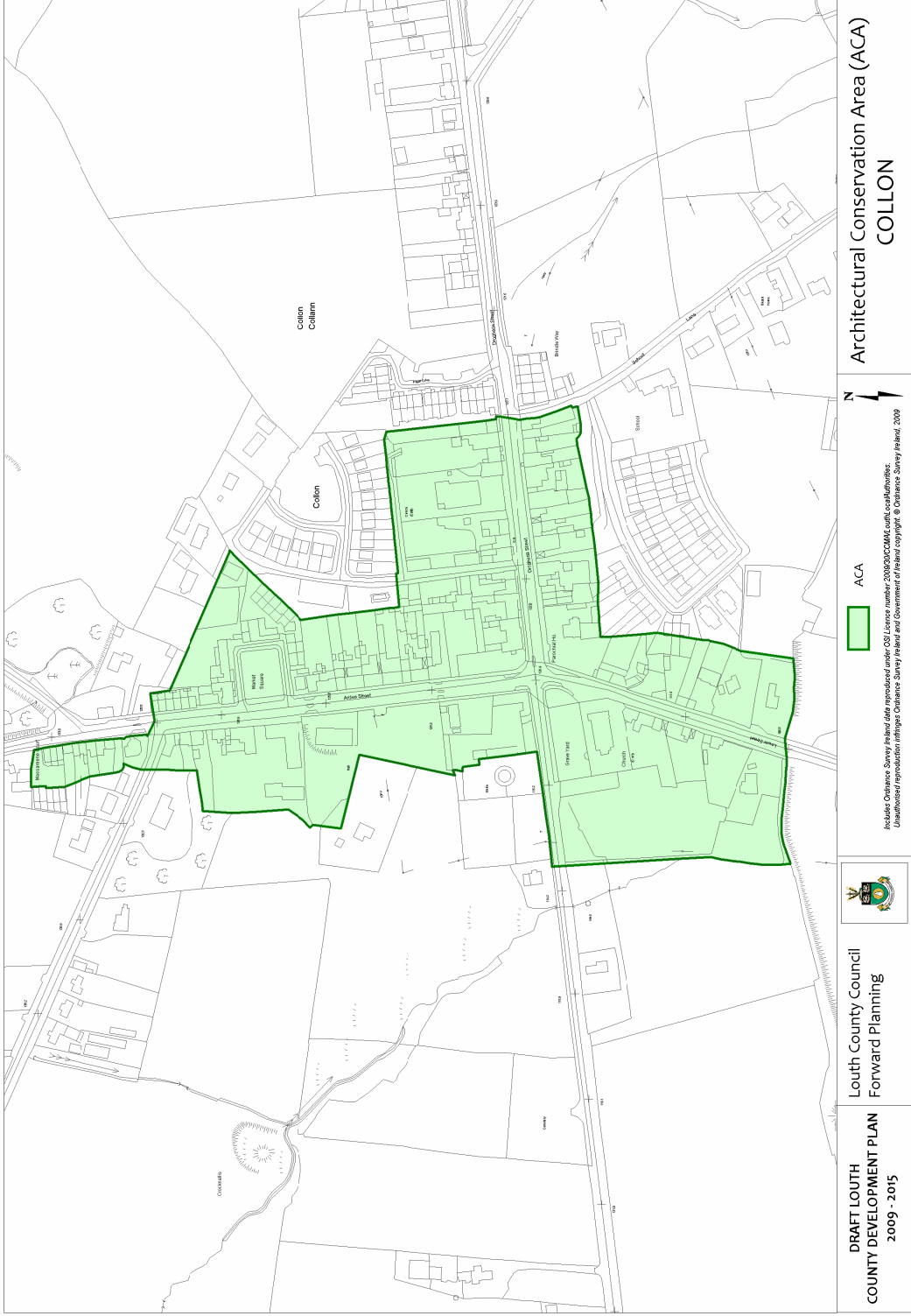
Character

The overall present impression is of a Regency character, the best preserved in the County, attributed to the local landlord, Lord Oriel, who built the main street in the “ English style “. A significant early Georgian three storey house (built 1740) gives solidity to the north east corner of the junction. The village green, designed for an open air market, is set back from the road and creates a focus for the north end of the village. Later Victorian and early 20thC buildings have in general been consistent with the earlier buildings and blended well into the mix. Buildings both front onto the street or are set back with a boundary of railings, or railings and boundary wall. There is a gap in the streetscape on the north-west side.

Objectives

1. To preserve the special character of the village and its setting through positive management of changes to the built environment, in particular, by requiring that the height, scale, design and materials of any proposed development within the village and in the surrounding area should complement the character of the village and not diminish its distinctiveness of place.
2. To protect the landscape setting of the village and the views outwards.
3. To preserve the historic street pattern and Regency character of the village, by the retention of buildings and materials described above, and the retention of existing boundary features, walls, and railings.
4. To encourage the removal of visually intrusive elements such as overhead cables and inappropriate signage.
5. To require the preservation and re-instatement of traditional details and materials on existing buildings and in the streetscape where improvements or maintenance works are being carried out.
6. To use appropriate materials, street furniture and lighting in any public development of the area.

Map 4: Collon ACA



Greenore ACA



Location and Boundaries

Greenore is located on the northern shore of the Cooley peninsula. The ACA starts at the bungalows on the southern outskirts, and includes Euston Street, Andlesey Terrace, and the coastguard houses.

Historical Development of the Area

Greenore was constructed to provide an alternative passenger train and ferry route from Ireland to England. The harbour complex, pier and railway station were designed by James Barton, a pupil of John Macneill – engineer for the Great Northern Railway line. A hotel, houses for the staff, and a school for the children was added, and in the late 1890's, a golf course and bungalows for the officers.

Character

Although Greenore ceased to operate as passenger port in 1952 this remarkable group of buildings survives in an almost complete state, the major casualty of recent years being the hotel. The stone and brick terraces of Euston Street, brick schoolhouse, and timber frame bungalows are one of the finest groupings in Ireland.

Materials

While the area is notable for the high quality stonework of Euston Street with its brick dressings, a lighter note is struck in the plasterwork of the coastguard houses, and delicate ironwork of lamp standards and decorative ironwork railings. Stone boundary walls surround the semi detached and detached houses at the southern end, and form the eastern boundary of the ACA along the lane to the rear of Euston Street.

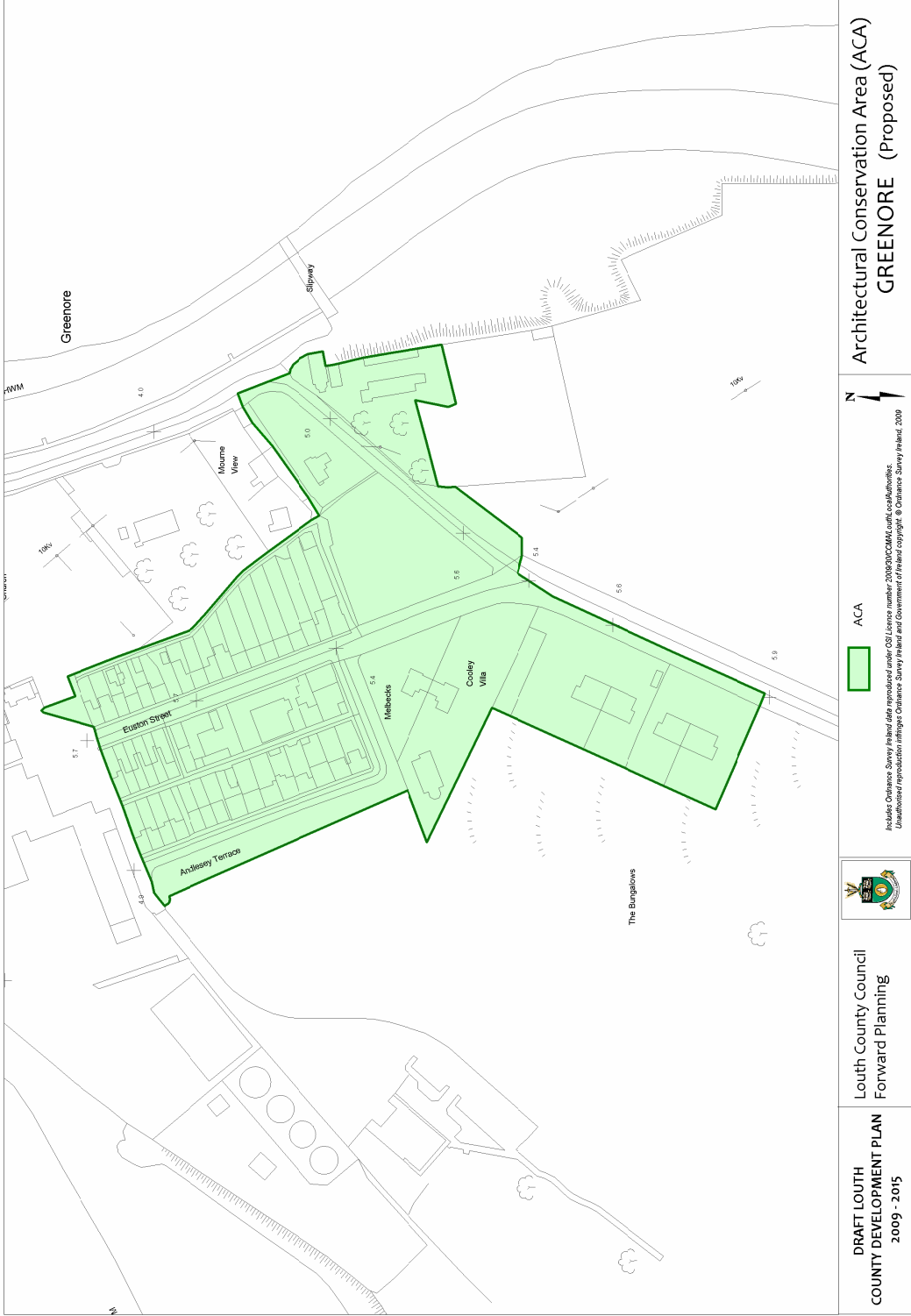
Views

1. Along Euston Street, north to the Mournes.
2. Eastward from the coastguard houses and the seafront

Objectives

1. To preserve the special character of the village and its setting through positive management of changes to the built environment, in particular, by requiring that the height, scale, design and materials of any proposed development within the village and in the surrounding area should complement the character of the village and not diminish its distinctiveness of place.
2. To protect the landscape setting of the village and the views outwards.
3. To preserve the historic street pattern and character of the village, by the retention of buildings and materials as described above, and the retention of existing boundary features, walls, and railings.
4. To require the preservation and re-instatement of traditional details and materials on existing buildings and in the streetscape where improvements or maintenance works are being carried out.
5. To use appropriate materials, street furniture and lighting in any public development of the area.

Map 5: Greenore ACA



Monasterboice ACA Monastic Site and Clachan Settlement



Location and Boundaries

The area of ACA covers the overall historic settlement, with its souterrain sites, and is largely unspoilt and free from modern development. There is archaeological evidence for enclosures and surviving deposits in the ground.

Traces of the circular earthen ramparts which once enclosed the monastery can be seen from the top of the tower.

Historical Development of the Area

This uniquely important early medieval monastic site was founded by St Búiithe about AD 500 and was an important centre up to the twelfth century, when its importance was eclipsed by the foundation nearby of the first Cistercian abbey in Ireland at Mellifont.

The principle monuments are the Early Christian Round Tower, High Crosses, and Medieval church ruins. Muiredach's Cross and the Tall Cross, which date from the late ninth or early tenth century are among the most remarkable works of early Irish Art. These are beautifully carved with scenes from scripture and, as some of the finest examples of their type, are of undoubted international importance.

The Round Tower is 35m high and in very good condition.

Objectives

1. To protect the landscape setting of the mediaeval structures and ensure that the Round Tower remain the dominant vertical feature of the skyline.

Newtown Monasterboice ACA A Clachan Settlement



Location and Boundaries

Newtown Monasterboice is located off the N1 to the north of the town of Drogheda. The ACA covers the area of the village to the rear boundaries of the plots.

Historical Development of the Area

A Clachan refers to a small settlement of clustered houses with no church, and usually, no shop or school. There would normally have been ties of kinship between the families in a clachan.

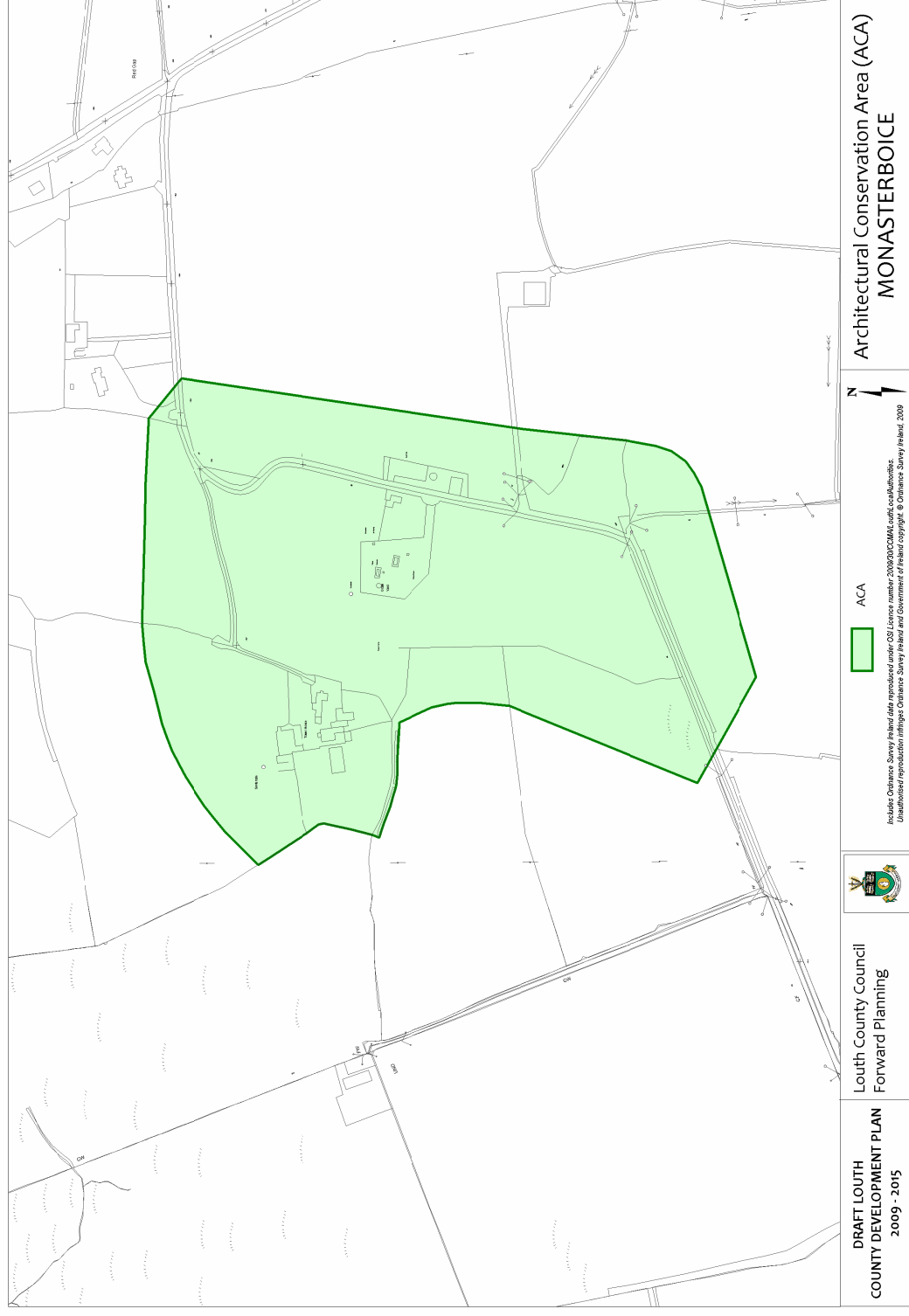
Character and Materials

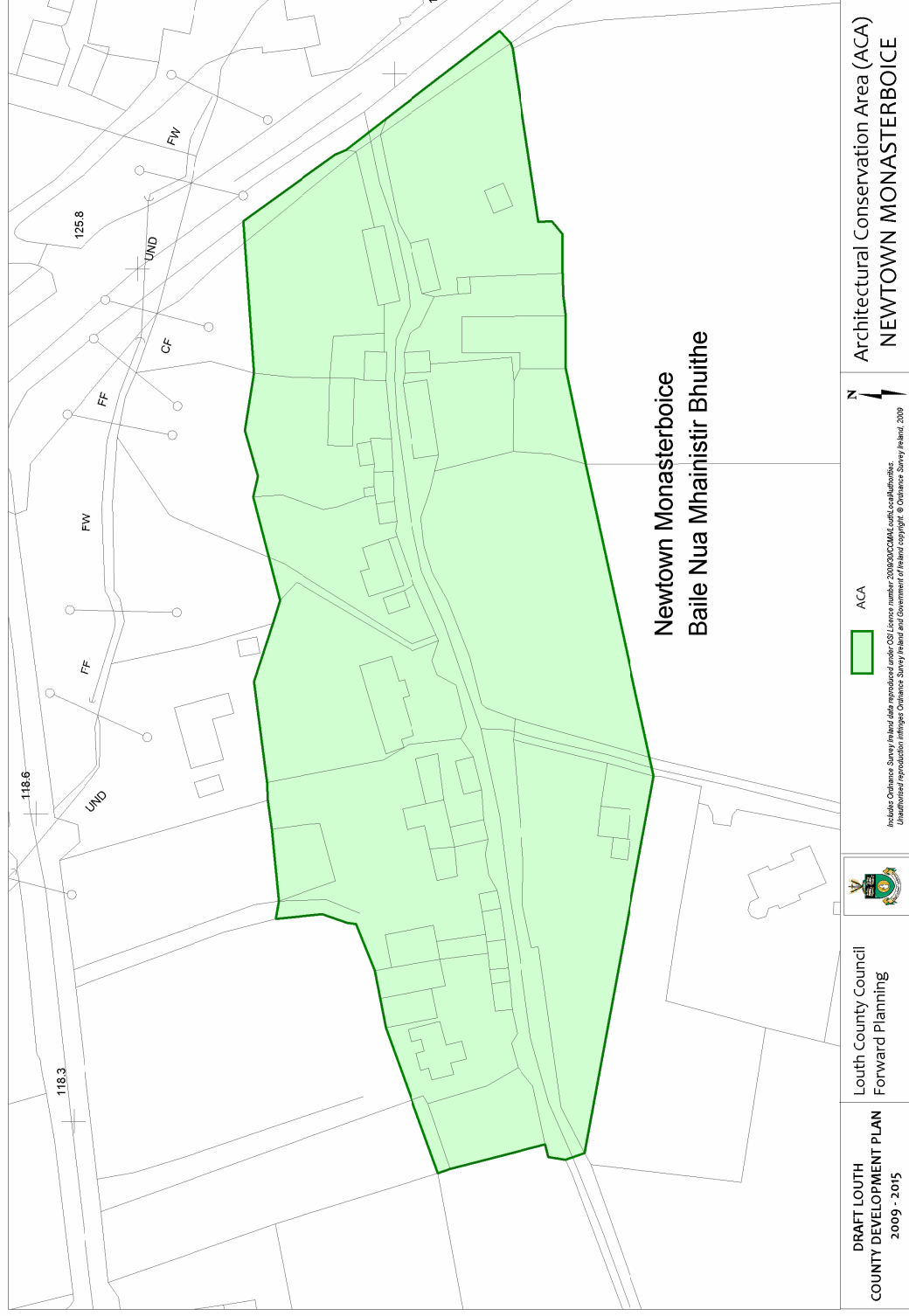
Although a considerable number of new houses have been built in the area in the 20th century, the character has survived to a reasonable extent. The roadway is narrow and winding, with good and varied examples of stone walls and pleasant tree-lined views. The original buildings are vernacular, with single, 1 ½ or two storey dwellings with adjoining outbuildings, the roofs are slated, thatched or corrugated iron, walls are stone, natural, plastered or whitewashed.

Objectives

1. To preserve the special character of the village and its setting through positive management of changes to the built environment, in particular, by requiring that the height, scale, design and materials of any proposed development within the village should complement the character of the village.
2. To preserve the street pattern and character of the village, by the retention of buildings and materials as described above, and the retention of existing boundary features.
3. To require the preservation and re-instatement of traditional details and materials on existing buildings and in the streetscape where improvements or maintenance works are being carried out.
4. To use appropriate materials, street furniture and lighting in any public development of the area

Map 6: Newtown Masterboice ACA





Salterstown ACA A Clachan Settlement



Location and Boundaries

Salterstown is located 2 km northeast of Annagassan. The ACA covers the area of the village to the rear boundaries of the plots.

Historical Development of the Area

A Clachan refers to a small settlement of clustered houses with no church, and usually, no shop or school. There would normally have been ties of kinship between the families in a clachan.

Salterstown is remarkable in that it has continued to evolve slowly, with new houses being built during the 20th century, but its traditional character has largely survived.

Character and Materials

The buildings are vernacular, with single, 1 ½ or two storey dwellings with adjoining outbuildings, the roofs are slated, thatched or corrugated iron, walls are stone, natural, plastered or whitewashed.

There are some good and varied examples of stone walls within the settlement and pleasant tree-lined views.

Objectives

1. To preserve the special character of the village and its setting through positive management of changes to the built environment, in particular, by requiring that the height, scale, design and materials of any proposed development within the village and in the surrounding area should complement the character of the village and not diminish its distinctiveness of place.
2. To protect the landscape setting of the village and the views outwards.

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3. To preserve the historic street pattern and character of the village, by the retention of buildings and materials as described above, and the retention of existing boundary features, walls, and railings.
4. To require the preservation and re-instatement of traditional details and materials on existing buildings and in the streetscape where improvements or maintenance works are being carried out.
5. To use appropriate materials, street furniture and lighting in any public development of the area.

A map of the Salterstown Architectural Conservation Area (ACA). The ACA boundary is highlighted in green. Inside the area, several buildings are shown as black outlines. A road runs along the bottom edge of the ACA. The map also shows surrounding roads and fields. Labels include "Salterstown" and "Baile an tSalainn".

**DRAFT LOUTH
COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN
2009 - 2015**

Louth County Council
Forward Planning

ACA

ACA

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**Architectural Conservation Area (ACA)
SALTERSTOWN**

Whitestown ACA



Location and Boundaries

Whitestown is located on the south eastern tip of the Cooley peninsula, close to the coast. The ACA covers the historic area of the settlement to the rear of all plots and includes a buffer zone on all approach roads.

Historical Development of the Area

A Clachan refers to a small settlement of clustered houses with no church, and usually, no shop or school. There would normally have been ties of kinship between the families in a clachan. Whitestown is remarkable in that it has continued to evolve slowly, with new houses being built during the 20th century, but its traditional character has survived.

Character

The village consists of a single street, with clusters of buildings forming secondary spaces and courtyard areas set back from the street. Some houses face onto the street, some are end-on, producing a varied street edge.

The buildings are vernacular, with single, 1 ½ or two storey dwellings with adjoining outbuildings. Both gables and frontages face the road creating semi-enclosed spaces. The roads are not defined by kerbs, but edged with grassed verges, or change surface gently to meet the buildings.

Materials

The roofs are slated, thatched or corrugated iron, walls are stone, natural, plastered or whitewashed.

Objectives

1. To preserve the special character of the village through positive management of changes to the built environment, in particular, by requiring that the height, scale, layout, design and

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materials of any proposed development within the village should be consistent with the character of the village and not diminish its distinctiveness of place.

2. To protect the integrity of the village and its landscape setting, by limiting the extent of development along the approach roads to the village, and requiring that any new development on its periphery should be compatible in layout, form and materials with the existing character of the ACA.
3. To preserve the historic building pattern and character of the village, by the retention of buildings and materials as described above, and the retention of existing boundary features, walls, and railings.
4. To encourage the retention or re-use where appropriate of intact structures, repair or reinstatement of derelict or disused structures, and to permit infill development where this is sensitive to the character of the settlement.
5. To require the preservation and re-instatement of traditional details and materials on existing buildings and in the streetscape where improvements or maintenance works are being carried out.

Map 8: Whitestown ACA

