

Moynalty Architectural Conservation Area

Historical Development

The Civil Survey of 1654 recorded that the village of Moynalty contained a castle, a ruined church, two ruined mills and a fishing weir. Larkin's map of 1812 recorded houses, on fairly informal plots on both sides of the road, north-west of the church and parallel to the river. The 1820s and 1830s saw the transformation of Moynalty, with the rebuilding of the Church of Ireland church and building a new Catholic one. The village was laid out and built during the 1820s by an improving landlord, John Farrell.

Summary of Character

The main street follows the contour of the ground and is roughly parallel to the path of the river. At all the entrances the roads bend, providing a sense of enclosure.

The architectural form consists of two-storey estate houses with dormer windows, and gables, while the design of certain properties on the northern side of the main street is based on Swiss architectural styles and were built on the north side of the street in order to maintain the views of the Moynalty River and its associated valley.

The attractive stone walls and backdrop of mature trees add to the pleasantness of the scene while the streetscape is enlivened by traditional water pumps, gates, and milestones.

A six arch stone bridge crosses the Borora river and makes a distinctive entrance to the village. The survival of the stone weir complete with its sluice gates, mill race and machinery make it an interesting contributor to the architectural and industrial history of Moynalty.

Objectives:

1. To preserve the character of the village and its setting 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 and the views to and from the village.
3. To encourage the removal of visually intrusive elements such as overhead cables or inappropriate signage.
4. To require the preservation and re-instatement of traditional details and materials on existing buildings and the streetscape where improvements or maintenance works are being carried out.

A detailed statement of character and planning guidance is available to download from the website.