



Clare County
Development Plan
2023-2029

Draft Clare CDP 2023-2029 - Public Consultation Portal

Submitted By: Anonymous user

Submitted Time: March 27, 2022 6:35 PM

Name

Ennistymon Town Team

Address

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Email Address

[Redacted Email Address]

Please confirm your Email Address

[Redacted Confirmation]

Volume 1

Economic Development & Enterprise, Retail, Towns & Villages, Design & Placemaking, Architectural, Archaeological & Cultural Heritage

Volume 3(a) Ennis Municipal District Written Statements and Settlement Maps

Volume 3(b) Shannon Municipal District Written Statements and Settlement Maps

Volume 3(c) Killaloe Municipal District Written Statements and Settlement Maps

Volume 3(d) West Clare Municipal District Written Statements and Settlement Maps

Ennistymon

Associated Documents

None of the above

Environmental Reports

None of the above

Your Submission

Ennistymon Town Team wish to propose that Maloney's Forge building on Bridge Street Ennistymon be protected as a listed building as it is a fundamental component of the cultural heritage of Ennistymon and the surrounding area. This forge was the last of 8 original forges in the town and was in use until c1995. It is the only remaining building with the original vernacular forge intact. The buildings of Bridge Street and the adjoining area are the site of the original settlement of Ennistymon before moving across the river on completion of the stone bridge built in c1770. Interestingly, the forge and attached buildings are also the only buildings in the town to face onto the river. We have attached in the uploaded files section below a brief history of the Old Forges in Ennistymon and their importance as part of the towns history. We have also attached 2 letters of support for this application from local community groups and a further supporting letter from Failte Ireland.

Location Map



Upload Files

Supporting Document 1.pdf, 0.21MB

Supporting Document 2.pdf, 0.27MB

Supporting Document 3.pdf, 0.21MB

Forges of Ennistymon Document.docx, 2.85MB

John Maloney in his forge.jpg, 0.12MB



Subject Ennistymon
To: [REDACTED]
From Siobhan King <Siobhan.King@failteireland.ie>
Date Wed, 9 Mar 2022 at 10:38 AM

To Whom It May Concern

I understand that Ennistymon Town Team are hugely invested in the preservation and enhancement of the Town, with a number of projects that have potential to deliver in the future.

In particular we would support any development which would enhance the visitor experience, namely the building that housed the forge. It's restoration and availability to showcase a working forge, telling the story of how they were an integral part of Irish life, in particular in Market Towns, such as Ennistymon, would add to and enhance what is on offer to visitors.

Ennistymon is currently undergoing significant work on the main thoroughfare under the Failte Ireland Destination Towns Scheme. This work while retaining all the modern infrastructure that is required now and into the future, but has enabled the visual restoration to give the Old Market landscape.

Kind regards

Siobhan

Siobhan King

Projects Officer – Wild Atlantic Way | Fáilte Ireland

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ARDNACULLA RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

To whom it may concern,

The residents of Ardnaculla housing estate and surrounding areas would like to express their support of Ennistymon Town Team in their endeavour to have the buildings at Bridge st Ennistymon, which include Moloney's Forge listed for possibly future development .

This was the last working forge and was in operation up to 1995 when John Moloney passed away after a lifetime of Blacksmithing. After John's death his brother Pakie Moloney took over on a smaller scale for a number of years.

This Forge was in operation since the 1850's and was handed down the generations of the Moloney line, the people of Ennistymon and surrounding towns all came to Moloney's Forge through the generations.

This area of Bridge St and the buildings here are on the site of the original settlement of Ennistymon and only when the stone bridge was built in circa 1770 did the town move across the river and expand quiet quickly into the north Clare Market Town it is today.

A point to note when we look at Ennistymon we see that the town was built with it's back to the river and the cascades which is something we see in many towns and cities around the country but these buildings on Bridge St are the only buildings in the town that face the river.

Ardnaculla Residents' feel this area would be a fantastic area to be used as a local amenity with the buildings being used for crafts , blacksmutting and café etc.

Yours faithfully

Frank McNamara

Chair Ardnaculla Residents' Association

Ennistymon Town Team



c/o Paul Conway,
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Sir/ Madam


I confirm that Ennistymon Town Team supports the application for listing of the buildings and curtilage near the Bridge known as Moloney's Forge in the Record of Protected Structure for Ennistymon in the Clare County Development Plan 2023 - 2029.

It is a written policy of Ennistymon Town Team to support the protection of the built and social heritage of our town.

This location is part of the oldest inhabited area in the Town, and has been highlighted as an opportunity site in the Ennistymon Enhancement Strategy, currently being developed by the Town Team in association with Clare County Council and Clare Local Development Company

Please give this proposal your full consideration. If you have any further queries, feel free to contact me at 065 682 1155.

Yours Sincerely,



Chairperson of Ennistymon Town Team

Dated: 3rd March 2022

Ennistymon Town Team:

Chair: Paul Conway; Coordinator: Caroline Hueston; Secretary: Maude Hogan; Finance: Communications: Team: Maurice Harvey; Frank McNamara; Gerard Reidy; Dan McInerney; Shane Talty; Richie Dodd

FORGES OF ENNISTYMON TOWN.

2021



A SURVEY CARRIED OUT BY BPL TOWN PLANNING Ltd.

June - September 2021.

Funded under the Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2021.

An Chomhairle Oidhreachta
The Heritage Council



INTRODUCTION

This document has been prepared for Ennistymon Town team to be used to allow Clare County Council assess if Maloney's and any other forge still in existence within the Town of Ennistymon should be placed on the Record of Protected Structures as part of the new development 2022-2027. This report is a section of a larger report and survey carries out for Ennistymon Tidy Towns group by BPL Town Planning Ltd in 2021.

FORGES IN ENNISTYMON TOWN

In Ireland in the early 1900's there was not a village, town or city that did not have a Smithy also known as forges. In Ireland we refer to them as forges and the person whom works in one as a Blacksmith. These forges can be identified on the ordinance survey maps from the 1840's onwards by the three initials Smy. an abbreviation for *Smithy*. The forge and its blacksmith were an essential part of the community. The work of the blacksmith took place within specially built forges. No two forge buildings were the same. The Blacksmiths were as vital as the car mechanics of today's world. For up until the early twentieth century the horse was the car, the Bus and tractor of the day. The horse was central to all movement of goods and people and all heavy agricultural work.

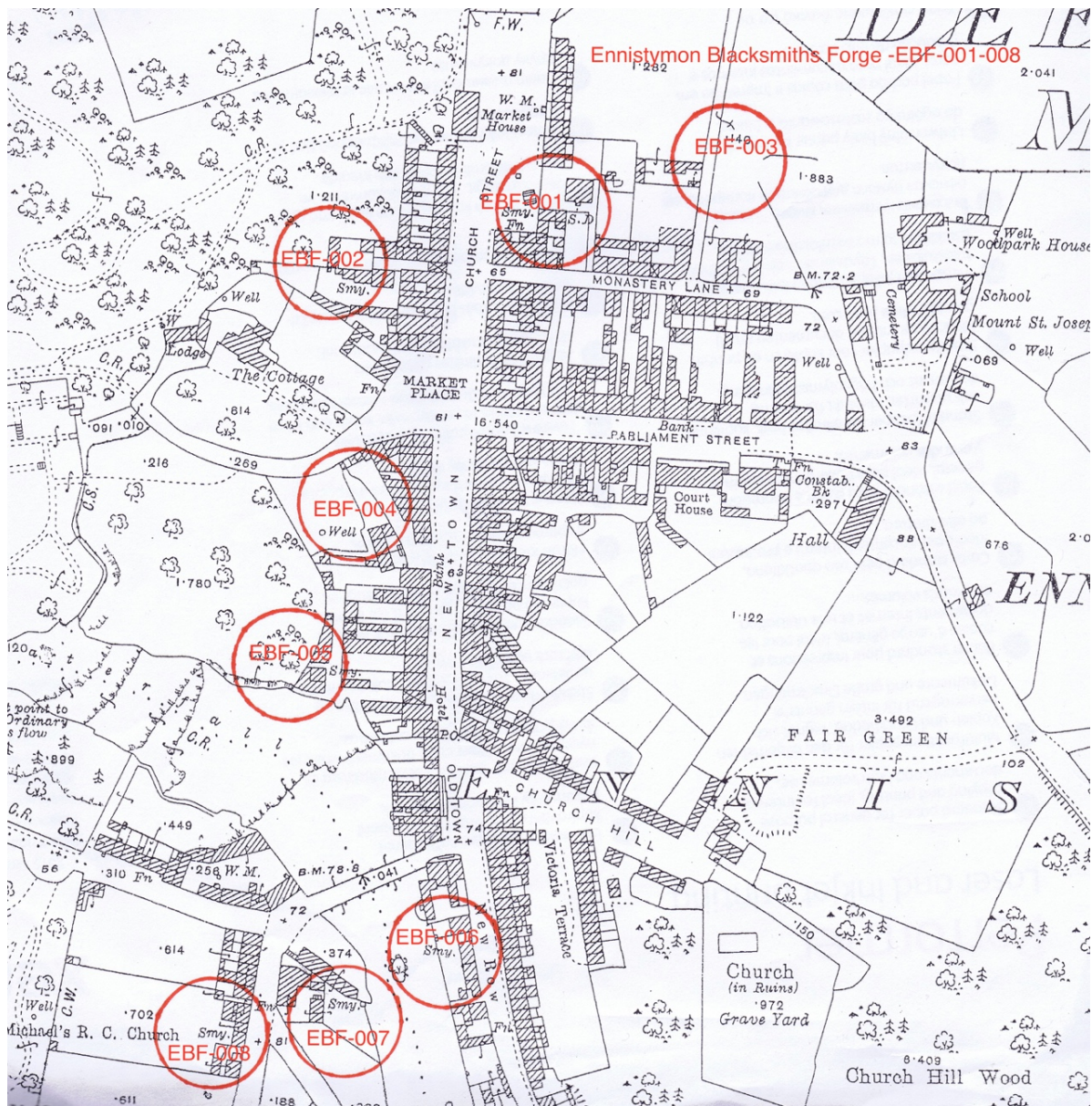
The blacksmith and his craft had a special place in communities. His work combined great strength and finesse and included skills that were vital to an agricultural based society in particular the shoeing of horses and donkeys. The Blacksmith could make various farm tools and implements and all types of wrought iron gates, brackets, hinges, bolts, nails, metal rims for cartwheels and of course repair many different implements from saucepans and plates to ploughs and harrows.

FORGE OWNERS

From looking at the Ordinance Survey (O.S) maps from the early 1900's it is possible to identify that Ennistymon had six forges marked Smy on the map. There is evidence of another forge that was beside Tessie Hills house behind the Main Street (Newtown Street) and off Monastery Lane on Larry's Road, but these two are not marked on the O.S map. The following are a list of the 8 forges within Ennistymon Town around the early 1900's and later decades. By interviewing local people whom remember the forges it was possible along with the 1901 and 1911 census to attribute the Blacksmith associated with the forges.

Forge Location	Blacksmiths Name	Reference on map	
Church Street	Edward Roche	EBF-001	GPS 52.941624 -9.292929
Skerritt's Lane	Callinan & Skerritt	EBF-002	GPS 52.941457 -9.293934
Larry's Road	Mullin's	EBF-003	GPS 52.942122 -9.291757
Rear of Main street	Mick Garrahy	EBF-004	GPS 52.940538 -9.293910
Bow Lane	John & Pat Blake	EBF-005	GPS 52.939932 -9.294215
New Road	James & Michael Healy	EBF-006	GPS 52.938919 -9.293292
Bridge Street	John Maloney	EBF-007	GPS 52.938800 -9.294036
Bogberry Street	Patrick & Mikie Gorman	EBF-008	GPS 52.938553 -9.294542

Table 1: Shows all known forges that existed in Ennistymon town the blacksmiths name and the forge location on accompanying map.



Map 1: Early 20th century ordinance survey map showing all known forges that existed in Ennistymon Town. Six are marked Smy. While another two don't appear on this earlier map but their location is circled as close to as possible. They are labelled Ennistymon Blacksmiths Forge followed by their survey number (EBF-001)-(EBF-008). Each location has been GPS locations given



Forge buildings EFB-003 as it appears in 2021 and still intact.



Forge building EFB-004 in 2021.

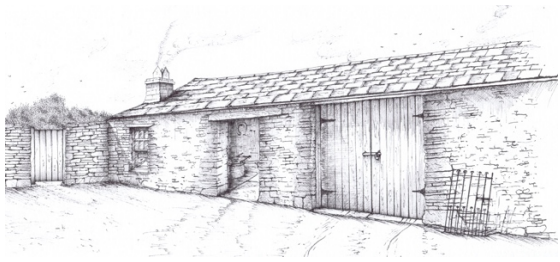
It was demolished sometime in the 1990's some of the stone walls still survive in 2021.



EFB – 005 Blakes forge Bow lane Ennistymon circa 1900 and the site and as is in 2021



EFB – 006 Healy's forge Ennistymon the site August 2021.



Forge building EFB-007 and as it appeared 1990 and August 2021 in a derelict state.

(Illustration by BPL Town Planning).

MALONEYS FORGE. BOGBERRY, ENNISTYMON, COUNTY CLARE.



Photograph 1. Setting of Maloney's forge Ennistymon. As appears in 2022.

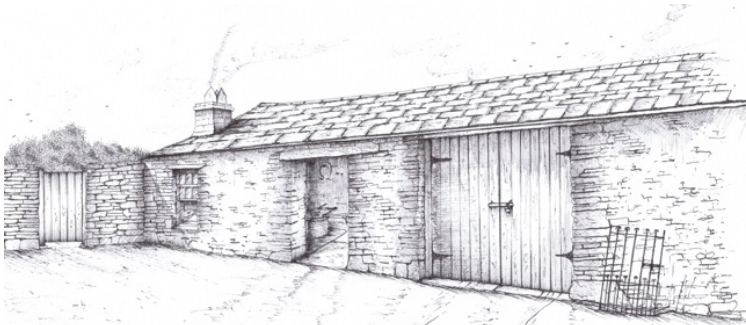


Illustration 1. Maloney's forge Ennistymon as appeared in mid 1950's.



Photograph 2. John Maloney of Maloney's forge Ennistymon. Working iron in 1984. Photograph Iisa Theilin.

Survey Site Number: Ennistymon
Architectural survey
Ennistymon Architectural Survey
(EAS: 001).

LOCATION:
Street: Bogberry Street.
Town: ENNISTYMON
Townland: ?

MAP INFORMATION
GPS:
52.938800 -9.294036

Statutory Protection:
C.C.C.R.P.S. No
N.I.A.H. No

CLASSIFICATION

DATE: Circa Early 19th century
Vernacular forge.

Condition: In a poor condition throughout with an intact interior layout and forge chimney canopy where bellow fanned fire existed. Roof collapse January 2022.

TYPE: A vernacular forge.

Original type: Vernacular Forge operated until 1991 when last of the working blacksmiths died.

In Use as:
Vacant since 1991

Rating as per N.I.A.H.
Regional.

OWNERSHIP:
Owner: O' Connor family, Bogberry.

Description

A single storied vernacular forge located along the Western side of the River Inagh. shop/pub
This forge dates to the late 19th century and is constructed of random rubble and would have had originally a Moher flagged roof. Dating to the late 18th early 19th century. It is a long slender building of lean too in form. Openings are one sash window and two larger door openings. A small chimney the south gable façade allowed smoke from the fire canopy fanned by a large bellows.

Appraisal.

This surviving example of a vernacular forge dating to the early 1800's forms an important group of vernacular structures along the western bank of the river Inagh in the town of Ennistymon. Along with Armstead's and Griffins this structure form an intact vernacular street / riverside complex and when Blakes and Linnanes come back into use and the old bridge pedestrianised this forge can if preserved and restored play a pivotal role in the cultural and economic life of this the oldest part of the town of Ennistymon. Its listing will be the first step in this process.