



Emmett Square



Emmett Square



Emmett Square Before



Emmet Square After

# Clonakilty 400 Urban Design Masterplan

Phase 1 Total Area: 2995m2 | Phase 2 Total Area: 3454m2  
Phase 1 Contract Value: €800,000

The project crafts a contemporary public realm layer, regenerating the town center of Clonakilty, West Cork Ireland. Asna Square, a former carpark and Emmett Square, a neglected public park are reconnected by a new urban streetscape punctuated by *pocket squares* (Phase 2 - currently under construction). Although delivered with a limited budget, a high quality result was achieved through the judicious and rational use of local materials and craftsmen.

At Asna Square, a paved ellipse, crafted from Irish limestone, binds the receiving environment with a strong groundscape statement establishing a shared surface. Its geometry is generated by two existing heritage focal points; Asna Monument and the Horse Chestnut tree. Contemporary lighting poles in Corten steel are raked to symbolize the battle formation of Pike men adjacent to the monument of Tadhg an Asna from the uprising of 1798.

Further up the street, alterations to Emmet Square, a unique example of Georgian Architecture square in rural Ireland, creates access to everyone with a new wide main entrance reaching across the street, drawing in patrons, as a welcoming threshold to enjoy the re-landscaped park, water feature and newly commissioned bronze sculpture; *CLOCH NA gCOILLTE*, by sculptor Michael Warren. A paved central area provides additional gathering spaces ideal for children's activities, traditional music sessions, etc. This new connection visually and physically links the existing statue of Michael Collins to the new Michael Collins House museum behind.

The project has been successful in making people re-engage with their existing town heritage by enhancing the space for people as a priority, over cars. Roads have been reclaimed as streets for pedestrian friendly movement and to accommodate social activities in public spaces.

Clonakilty represents a template for typical Irish towns where, generally, townscapes have been undermined since the introduction of the motor-vehicle, and out of town retail competition. This shows how the People's sense of ownership of public space is crucial for delivering strong communities, place making and promotion of visual awareness through quality urban design intervention.



- Legend**
- 1 Michael Collins House Museum
  - 2 Michael Warren Sculpture
  - 3 Water Feature
  - 4 Michael Collins Statue
  - 5 Pocket Square Template
  - 6 Kilty Stone
  - 7 New Plinth for Tadhg O'Donovan Asna Statue
  - 8 Pikemen Tribute Lighting



Michael Warren Sculpture



7 Section, Asna Square



8 Section, Emmett Square