

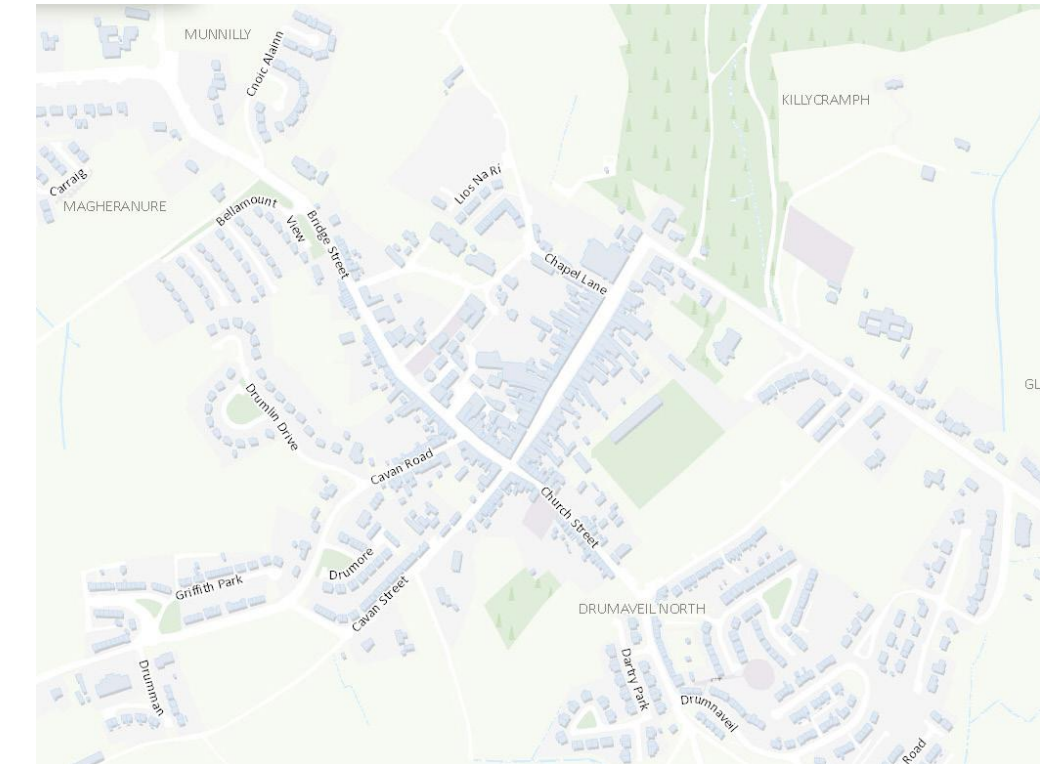
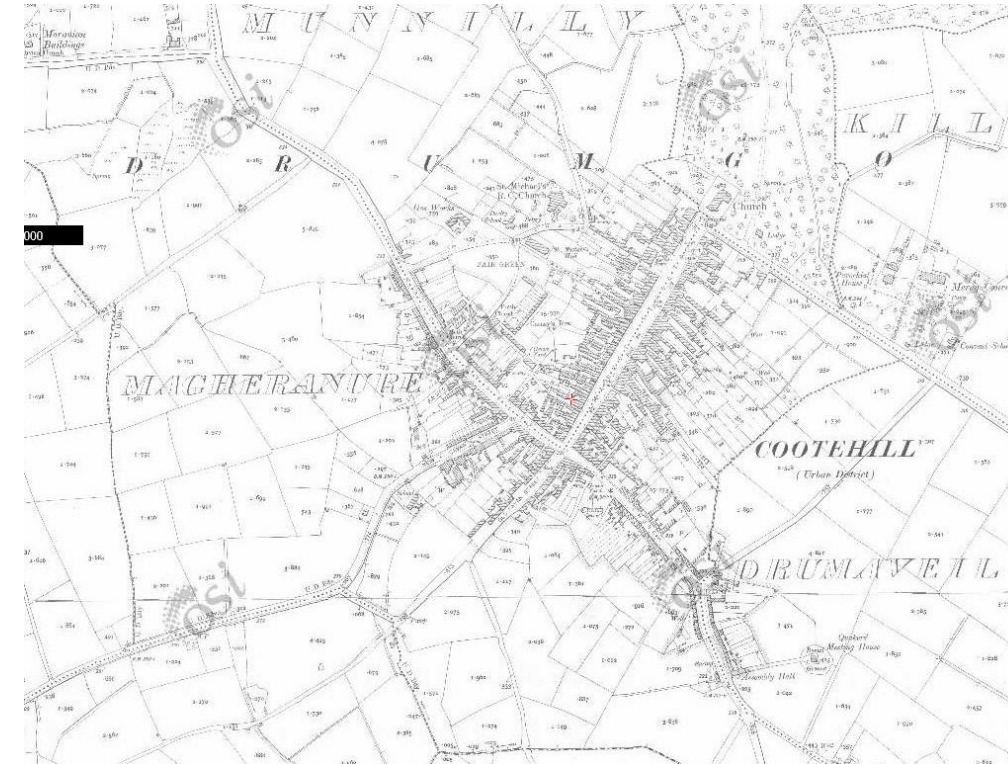
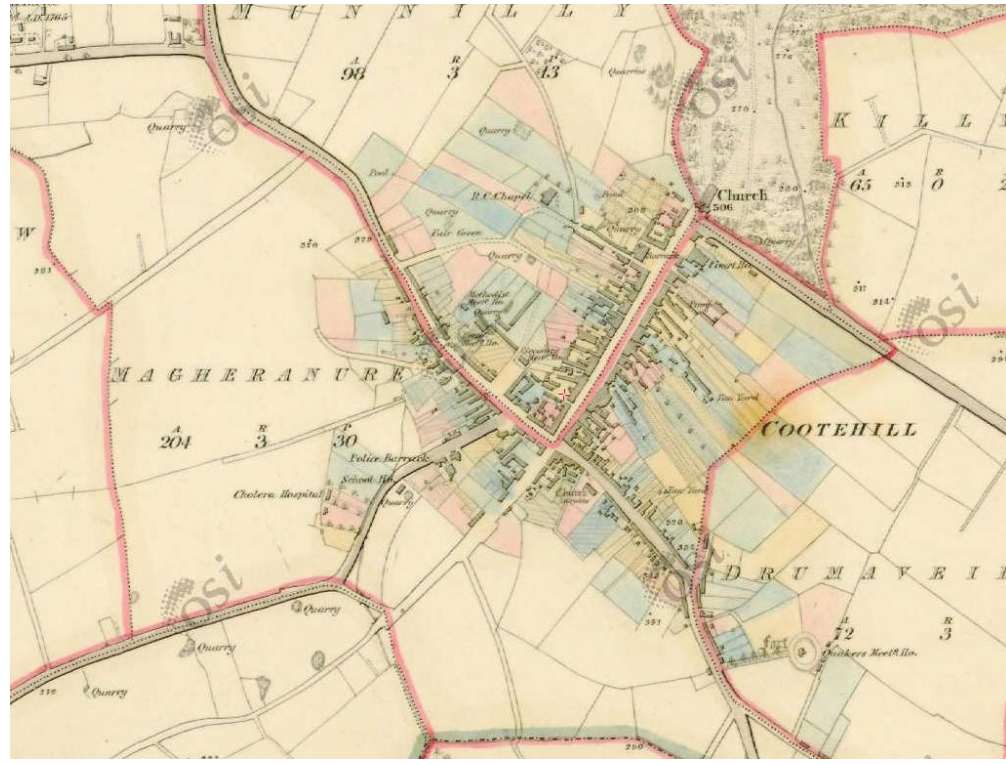
COOTEHILL

Revitalising Cavan's Towns and Villages



History

Cootehill is a planned town built during the georgian era. It was formally established as a market town in 1725 when Tomas Coote obtained a charter to hold markets and fairs; thereafter strong ties to the Irish linen industry were cultivated. Cootehill gets its English name from the marriage of Thomas Coote to Frances Hill. The dominant architectural style reflects the 18th and 19th centuries, with a number of Georgian buildings in the town centre.



Maps of Cootehill in 1800, 1900 and 2017



Precedents



Pedestrian and cycle streets



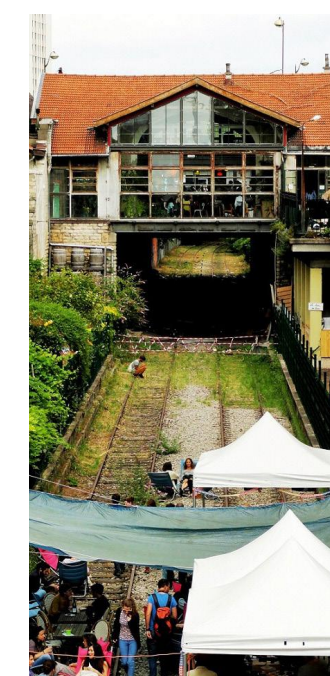
Opportunity to use local materials e.g. limestone to upgrade public realm



Use of native species in landscaping



Opportunity to refurbish industrial heritage



Opportunity to create a leisure space along Moynalty River

Constraints

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Weaknesses

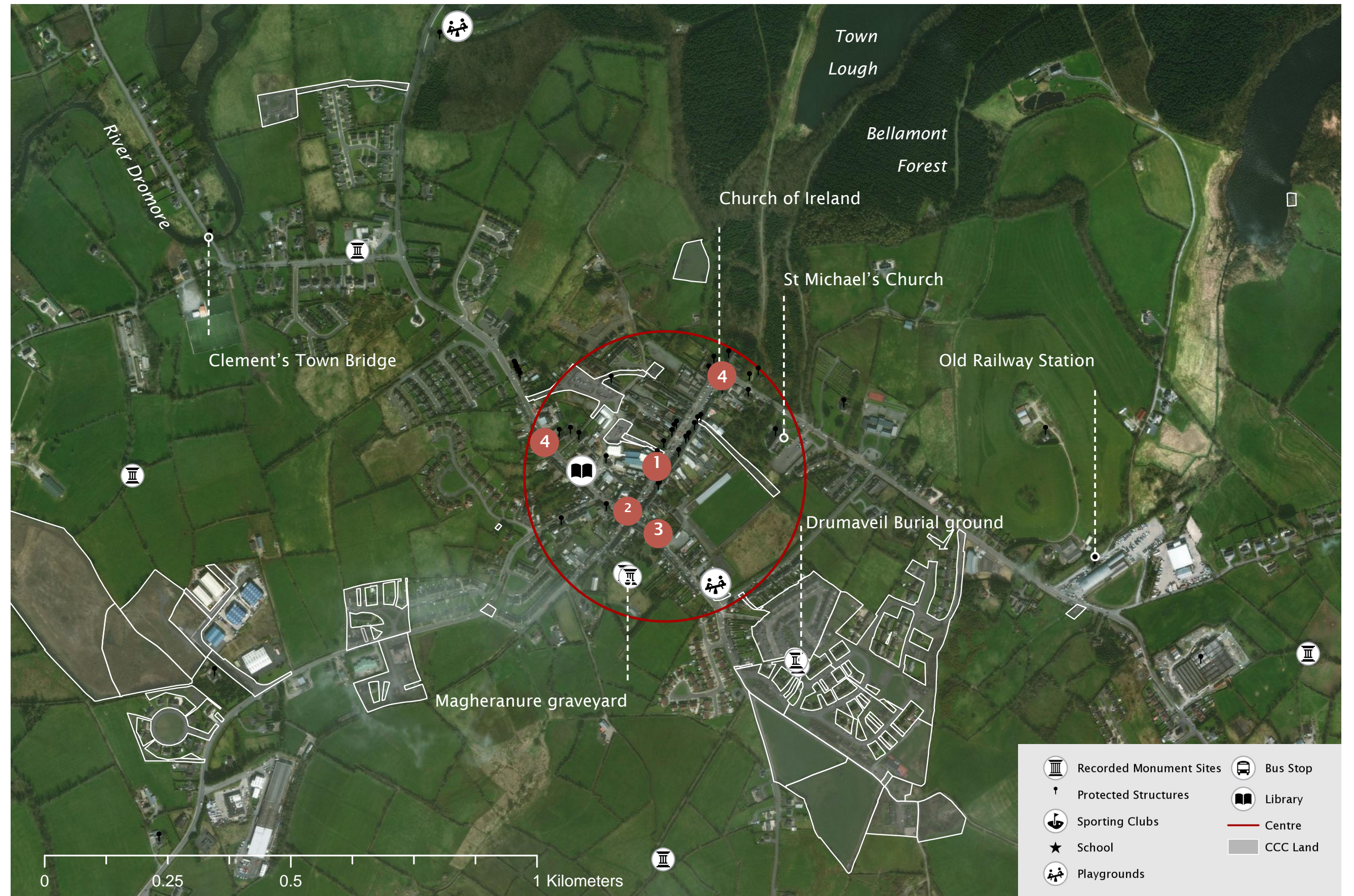
- 1 // Through town traffic and invasive on-street car parking generate traffic congestion
- 2 // Relative decline of the town core as growth occurred on the outskirts of Cootehill
- 2 // Several vacant businesses and industrial units
- 3 // Poor quality of the public realm: derelict concrete paving and furniture, wide roads, lack of tree planting or landscaped areas, invasive on-street parking, lack of traffic calming features, lack of amenities for pedestrians and cyclists, such as seats, road crossing points or cycle lanes

- 4 // Car park on Market Street leads to pedestrian safety issues

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Threats / Challenges

- 1 // Urban spread could threaten the character of the town, reduce walkability levels and lead to environmental issues
- 2 // Decline in retail activity as a consequence of the decline of the town core
- 1 // Low population growth



High level of traffic coupled with invasive on-street parking



Abandoned premises on Market Street



Lack of pedestrian and cycle amenities



Poor public realm quality

Opportunities

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Strengths

- // The historic settlement pattern and cruciform shape gives identity and character to Cootehill
- // The compact form of the town form means that all parts of the town are easily accessible
- 1 // The Main Street has a planned urban form with traditional heights and building types. Most of its facades are freshly painted and colourful. At its end the church is a pleasant focal point.
- 1 // The town core is animated with a number of frontshops
- 2 // Possesses a wealth of Protected Structures and items of heritage value: Bellamont House, Cootehill Railway Station, Clement's Town Bridge, Vent Pipe, Courthouse.
- // Attracting visitors: angling sites, Heritage Trail, festivals
- 4 // Number of natural assets: Dromore Lough, Bellamont Forest, Dartrey Forest, Tockcorry-Cootehill Ribbed Moraines geological heritage site.

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Opportunities

- // Potential for economic development and increased retail diversity with a number of vacant business and newly constructed 'Enterprise Technology Centre Hub' on Station Road
- // Public realm quality improvements: traffic calming features, tree planting, transforming of the wide roads into pedestrian and cycle friendly streets, upgrading footpaths e.g. using local limestone paving
- // Permeability improvements: pedestrianisation of key laneways, creation of a cycling network, creation of new pedestrian links, enhancement of the existing archways
- 3 // Strengthen the angling offer for example through the creation of a dedicated centre
- // Refurbish the railway station and enhance industrial heritage features



The Main Street



Bellamont House



Cootehill Railway Station



Dromore Lough and Dartrey Forest