

SWANLINBAR

Revitalising Cavan's Towns and Villages



History

The name Swanlinbar derives from the four entrepreneurs who founded an iron foundry in the town in 1700.

Swanlinbar was once a popular destination for its spas and natural springs due to the healing properties that they were believed to provide.

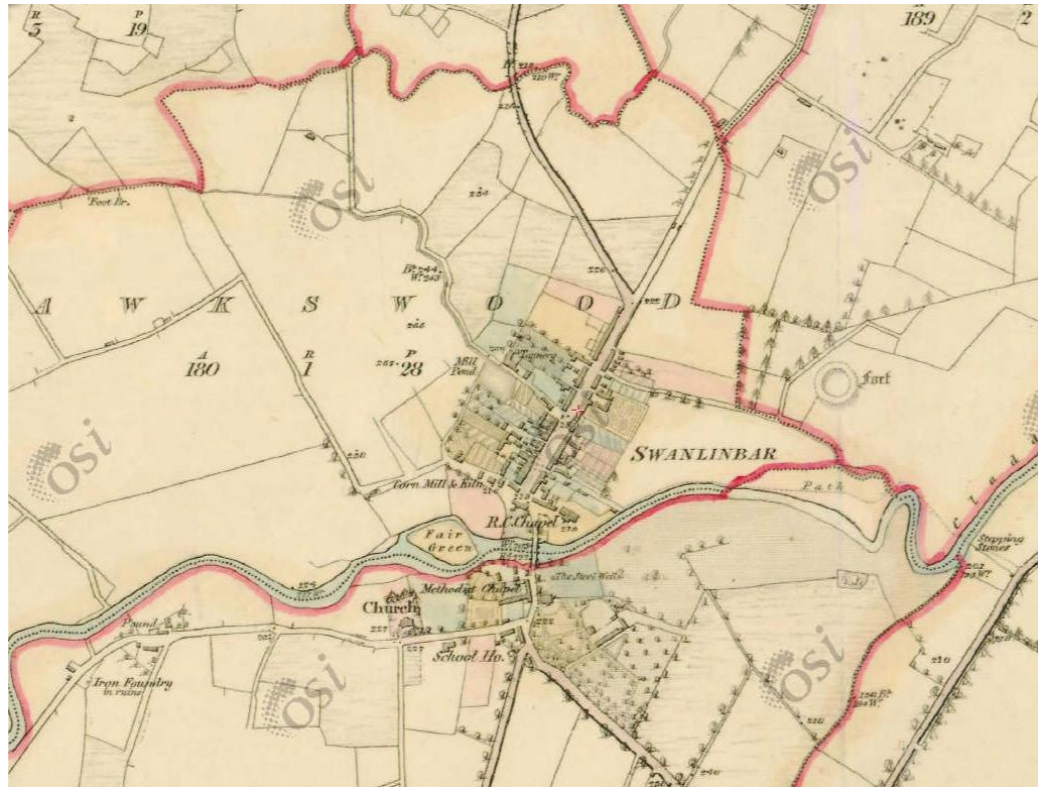
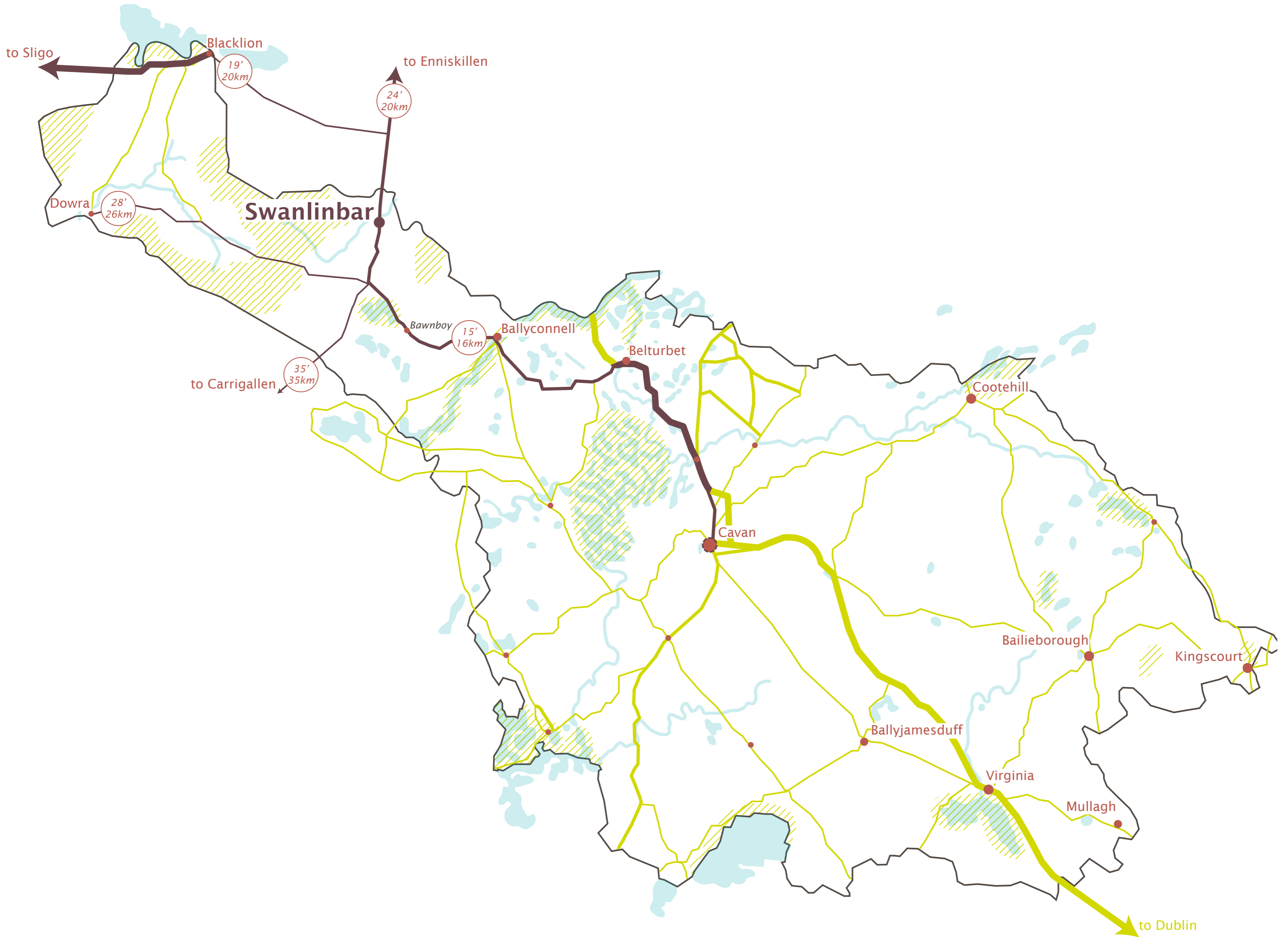


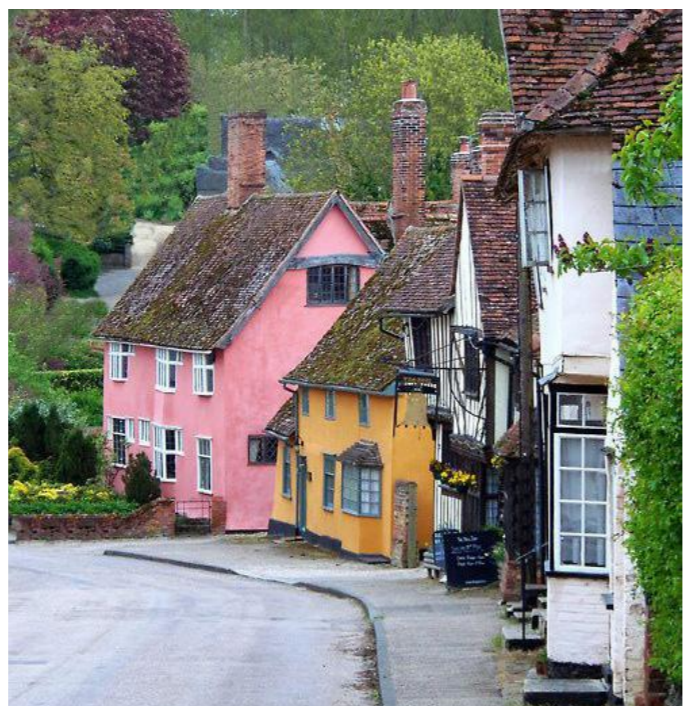
Figure 1.1.3 - Timeline evolution: 1800, 1900 and 2017



Precedents



Opportunity to create pedestrian friendly street



Opportunity to strengthen heritage value



Opportunity to improve public realm with local materials and plant species



Opportunity to re-purpose abandoned buildings



Opportunity to provide cycle amenities

Constraints

W Weaknesses

- 1 // Several abandoned properties
 - 2 // Several buildings - old garage, old St Mary's Hall in need of repainting or refreshment
 - 3 // Main street with dangerous passing by traffic and no traffic calming features or pedestrian crossing point
- // Lacking commercial and civic activity

T Threats / Challenges

// Declining Population



Abandoned properties throughout the village



Several properties are in need of refreshment



No calming traffic features on the Main Street



Unsympathetic development threatening the character of the village

Opportunities

S Strengths

// Located in a rural agricultural area and thus features a strong rural / countryside character with its hedgerows, native trees and shrubs

- 2 3 // With its few shops and services, Swanlinbar is an important local centre for its rural hinterland

// Attractive for walking and angling

- 1 // High visual and scenic amenity
- 4 // Well maintained landscaped areas with planters and hanging baskets throughout the village

// Close to several designated natural sites: Cuilcagh - Anierin Uplands, Claddagh River, Tullydermot Waterfall, Swanlinbar River, Dromod Glebe / Drumbrughas

// Several well-maintained protected structures: Swanlinbar Methodist Church, the Presbytery, St Augustine's Church of Ireland

// Strengthen the tourism and leisure economy related to spa, walking and countryside experience: Old Spa house could be retrofitted into a hostel, creation of a glamping area etc

// Strengthens the heritage value of the sweat houses and spa remains

- 1 // Strong natural features

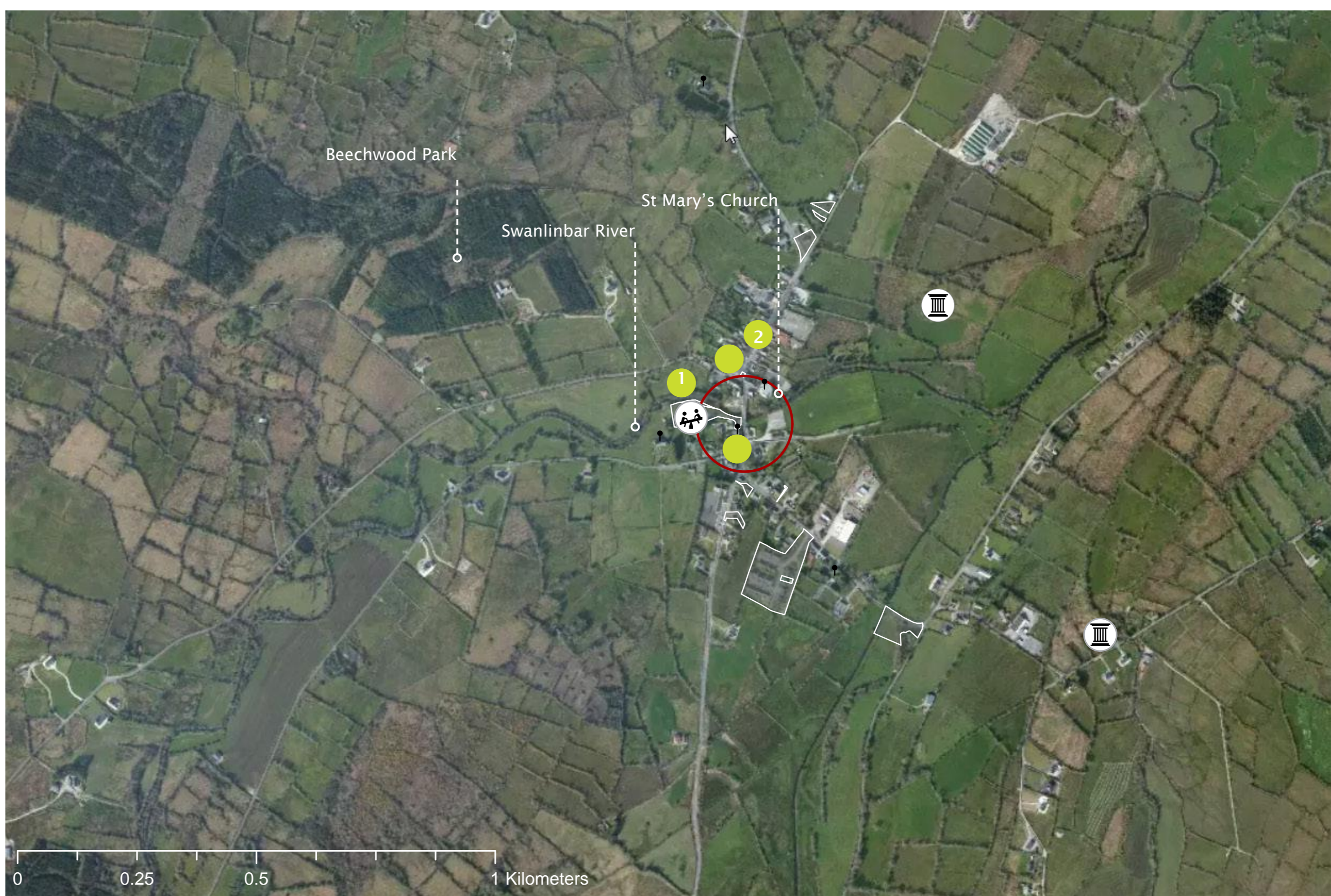
// 11% of the houses in Swanlinbar are dated from before 1919 and represents a valuable heritage

- 2 3 // Maintain and strengthen the vitality of the local retail and services

// Improve public realm with the use of local materials such as limestone paving

// Develop a economic strategic to regenerate the town and re-purpose the abandoned buildings

// Enhance pedestrian link between the river and the town



Views from Swanlinbar



Swanlinbar's amenities include: several shops and pubs, a post office, bank, credit union and filling station. Community infrastructure include a GAA club, church, community centre, national school, day care centre and playground



Well maintained public realm and landscaped areas