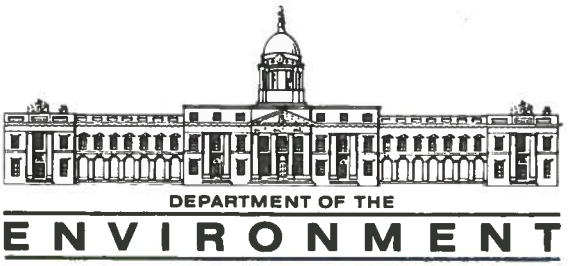

4. Other Information Signs

CHAPTER 4

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Chapter 4 Other Information Signs

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Chapter 4 Other Information Signs

Figure 4.1
Town or Village Sign

Figure 4.2
Alternative Route For
High Vehicles Sign

Figure 4.3
Car Park with facilities for disabled

Figure 4.4
Tourist Facility Sign

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The information signs described in this chapter can be categorised into four groups:

(i) Signs displaying civic or geographic information such as the name of a town or river.

(ii) Signs indicating alternative or diversionary routes.

(iii) Signs indicating facilities available ahead that are of interest to road users generally.

(iv) Signs indicating tourist facilities available ahead.

4.1.2 An example of each of these sign types is presented in Figures 4.1 to 4.4.

4.1.3 There is a mixture of directional and pure information signs described and defined in this chapter. The directional signs defined here should normally be mounted separately to those defined in Chapter 2.

4.1.4 The design of the signs should conform with the design rules covered in Chapter 2 for directional information signs. Sign size will be governed by the 'x'-height in the normal way as described in Chapter 2.

4.2 Geographic Information Signs

Town or Village Signs

4.2.1 The name of a town or village may be indicated by a sign as shown in Figure 4.5. In most cases the place-name should be indicated in both Irish and English languages. However, in Gaeltacht areas it is a requirement to show only the Irish language version of the name.

Figure 4.5
Town Or Village Sign

4.2.2 These signs should be coloured appropriate to the status of the road on which they are located i.e. white letters and borders on a green background for a national route or black letters and borders on a white background for a regional or local route. These signs should not appear on motorways.

County Boundary Signs

4.2.3 County boundary signs, as illustrated in Figure 4.6, indicate the name of the county and its crest if desired. All script shown on county boundary signs should appear in both Irish and English languages, unless within Gaeltacht areas in which case only the Irish versions should be shown. All county boundary signs should have white text and borders on a brown background.

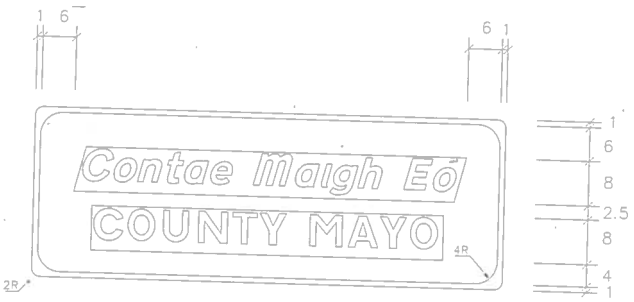

Figure 4.6
County Boundary Sign

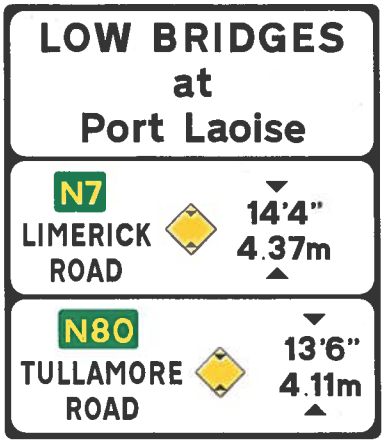

Figure 4.7
Advance Sign for Low Clearances

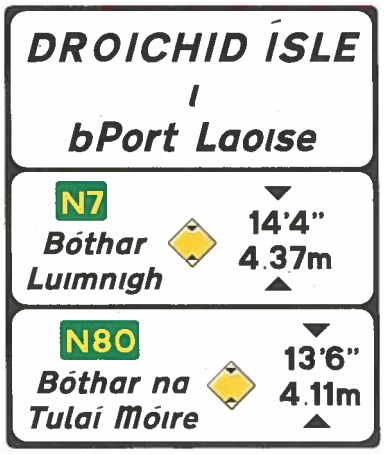

Figure 4.8

4.3 Advisory Information Signs

4.3.1 Advisory information signs provide details of alternative and diversionary routes.

Advance Sign for Low Clearances at Bridges

4.3.2 Advance information of restricted height clearances may be provided by the sign shown in Figure 4.7. The alternative Irish version is shown in Figure 4.8.

4.3.3 This sign should be designed like a stack type sign (see Chapter 2). It should incorporate diamond warning signs of 300mm size, and the height restriction should be shown beside the diamond. The height(s) shown should be the same as that indicated on the warning signs located immediately before the hazard. A separate panel should be provided to display the location of the height restriction(s).

4.3.4 The sign should be sited in advance of the alternative route.

Alternative Route for High Vehicles

4.3.5 When an advance sign for low clearances is provided, signs indicating alternative routes for high vehicles should also be provided. Figures 4.9 to 4.12 indicate the signs prescribed for this purpose. Advance direction signs are shown in Figures 4.9 to 4.11 and should be mounted with other advance direction signs provided on the approaches to a junction. The direction sign shown in Figure 4.12 is used at a junction and should be mounted with other direction signs. These signs have white letters, symbols, arrows and borders on a black background.

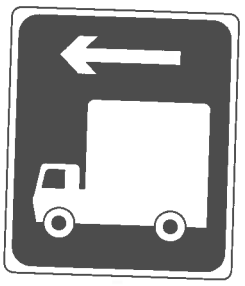

Figure 4.9
Advance Sign for High Vehicles

4.3.6 The alternative route should be signed at intervals throughout its length. An advance direction sign for high vehicles should be used at the start of an alternative route and should appear after the advance sign for low clearance.

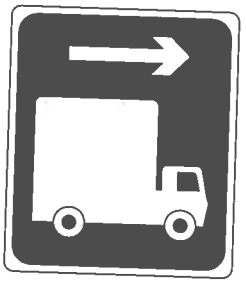

Figure 4.10
Advance Sign for High Vehicles

Slow Lanes

4.3.7 On long inclines, it is sometimes necessary to provide a "Slow Lane" to accommodate slow moving vehicles. The sign shown in Figure 4.13 should be used up to 300m before the start of the slow lane. This sign has black symbols, text and borders on a white background. For the associated road markings see Fig. 7.7 in Chapter 7.

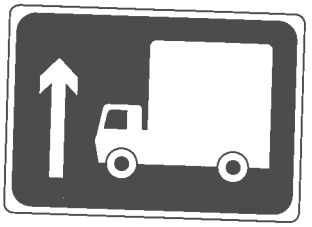

Figure 4.11
Advance Sign For High Vehicles

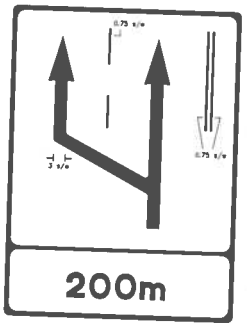

Figure 4.13
Slow Lane Sign

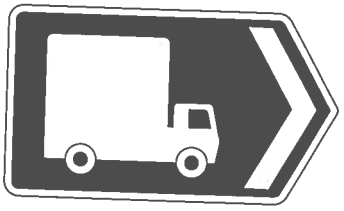

Figure 4.12
Direction Sign For High Vehicles

4.3.8 In order to indicate the end of the "Slow Lane", a warning sign denoting a narrowing of the road should be used (see chapter 6). This sign should be sited up to 200 metres before the start of the taper leading back to the normal carriageway.

Traffic Calming

4.3.9 At the entry point to areas where traffic calming measures have been put in place, the sign shown in Figure 4.14 should be erected. This information sign, in black and white, may be combined with the town or village sign and with the speed limit sign.

Figure 4.14
Traffic Calming Sign

Figure 4.15
Cul-de-Sac

Cul-de-Sac

4.3.10 The sign which may be used to indicate that the road ahead is not a through road is shown in Figure 4.15. It need not be used at the entrance to all such roads but should be used when the road user might otherwise expect the road to be a through route.

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4.4 Signs Indicating Facilities Ahead

4.4.1 This section describes signs showing facilities available on the road ahead that may be of interest to road users generally. (Tourist signs are described in the next section).

Parking Signs

4.4.2 Parking signs may be used to indicate lay-bys, car parks or other parking areas. The basic white on blue "P" symbol should be the main feature of parking signs and is shown in Figure 4.17.

Lay-Bys

4.4.3 Lay-bys are important parking and resting facilities particularly on long stretches of road in rural areas. The lay-by may be indicated up to 500 metres ahead by the sign shown in Figure 4.16. Figure 4.17 should be used to indicate the existence of the lay-by itself and should be erected to face oncoming traffic at the start of the entry taper to the lay-by. Both signs have white symbols, lettering and borders on a blue background.

Figure 4.16
Lay-by Ahead Sign

Figure 4.17
Lay-by Sign

Car Parks

4.4.4 Car parks can be signed using the "P" symbol together with any legend or symbols associated with the car park. Signs to car parks should have white lettering and borders on a blue background as shown in Figure 4.18.

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4.4.5 The "P" symbol may be supplemented by another symbol positioned below or to the right, such as the disabled persons symbol (white symbol on blue background). This is illustrated in Figure 4.19. This sign should be used to indicate the location of parking facilities which incorporate wide spaces to facilitate easy access by persons who use wheelchairs.

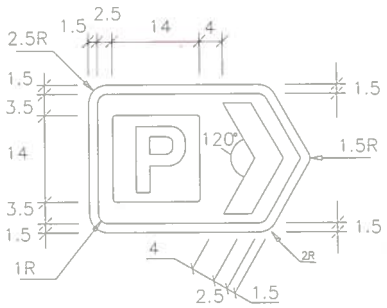

Figure 4.18
Car Park Sign

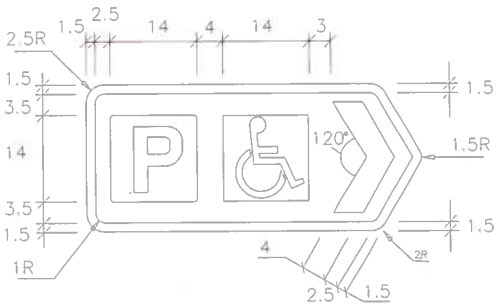

Figure 4.19
Disabled Car Park Sign

Hospital Signs

4.4.6 The main feature of all signs indicating hospitals should be the "H" symbol illustrated in Figure 4.21.

4.4.7 The hospital may be indicated up to 500m ahead by the sign shown in Figure 4.20. In the immediate vicinity of the hospital, the sign shown in Figure 4.21 should be erected to face oncoming traffic. Both signs should have white symbols, lettering and borders on a blue background.

Figure 4.20
Hospital Ahead Sign

Figure 4.21
Hospital Sign

Airport Signs

4.4.8 Airports should be signed using the aeroplane symbol shown in Figure 4.22. This symbol should normally be incorporated onto the directional signs shown in Chapter 2 and will assume the relevant colour scheme. For example, an airport located on a national route should be shown with a white symbol on a green background, as shown in Figure 4.23. Repeat signs showing only the symbol will normally be black on a white background

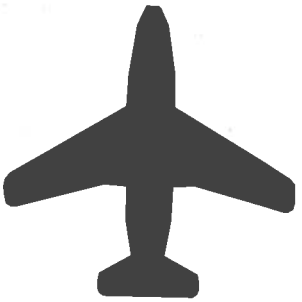

Figure 4.22
Airport Symbol

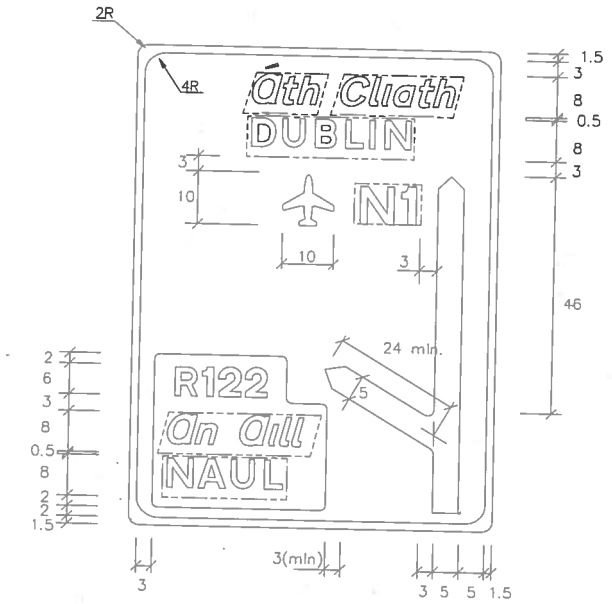

Figure 4.23
Directional Sign Incorporating Airport Symbol

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Ferry Terminal Signs

4.4.9 Ferry terminal signs incorporate the ferry symbol shown in Figure 4.24 which should assume the colour scheme of the route along which the ferry terminal is reached. The ferry terminal symbol should normally be accompanied by the relevant name such as Dún Laoghaire. This is shown in Figure 4.25. Where the ferry does not accommodate trucks, the truck symbol may be replaced by a car.

Figure 4.24
Ferry Symbol

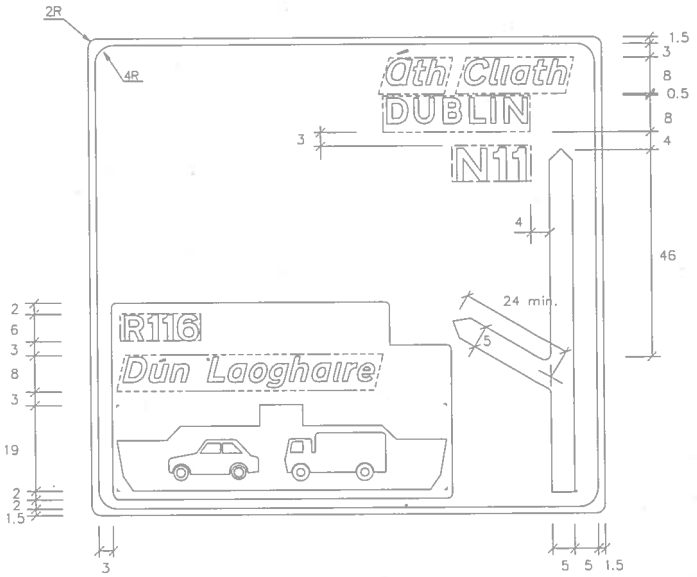

Figure 4.25
Directional Sign Incorporating Ferry Symbol

Industrial Estate Signs

4.4.10 Signs to industrial estates follow the same rules as ferry terminal and airport signs as previously described. The industrial estate symbol is shown in Figure 4.26 and should be incorporated onto signs as shown in Figure 4.27. The symbol may be fore-shortened by the omission of one (1) roof peak.

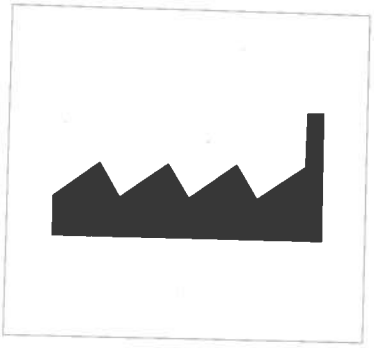

Figure 4.26
Industrial Estate Symbol

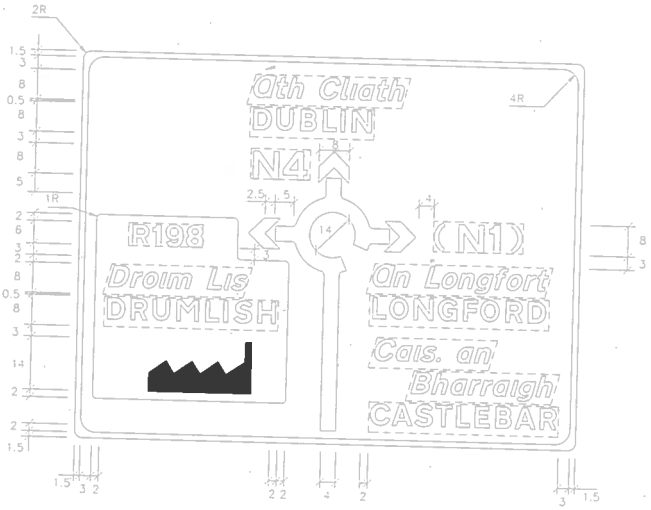

Figure 4.27
Directional Sign Incorporating Industrial Estate Symbol

Disabled Drivers Parking Bay

4.4.11 Where a parking bay for disabled drivers has been provided, the traffic information sign shown in Figure 4.28 should be provided. The associated road markings are described in chapter 7.

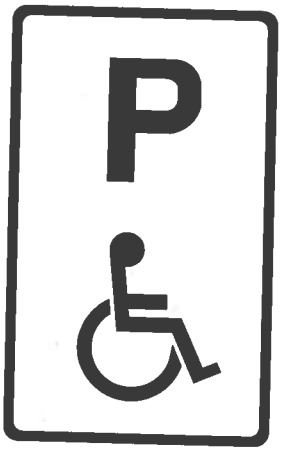

Figure 4.28
Disabled Drivers Parking Bay

4.5 Signs To Tourist Attractions

4.5.1 Signs indicating tourist attractions and amenities have white lettering and symbols on a brown background. These are not traffic signs; however, they are very wide-ranging and have extensive usage, and they are therefore, of considerable relevance to road users.

4.5.2 The criteria for the provision of tourist attraction signs are set out in a memorandum issued by the Department of the Environment, under circular letter PD 12/14 of 2 September, 1988. The memorandum includes a comprehensive range of standard symbols and a list of suitable bilingual legends for use on these signs.

Sign Design and Siting

4.5.3 The basic sign designs should conform to the normal design rules for traffic signs described in Chapter 2 and should feature white legend, borders, arrows and chevrons on a brown background. Reflectorisation is recommended on national routes and where attractions are open after dark.

4.5.4 Examples of some standard tourist attraction signs are shown in the appendix. The criteria, as set out in Chapter 1, for the use of Irish on traffic signs should be applied also to all tourist/amenity information signs.

4.5.5 Particular care must be taken with the siting of signs so as to avoid clutter and intrusion. Advance direction signs to major tourist attractions should be combined with those to other destinations by using brown panels on map or stack-type signs (see examples in appendix). On the other hand, in the case of direction signs (finger post signs), separate signs should be used for tourist attractions. Where these signs, due to number or size, intrude on traffic signs, they should be mounted on a separate pole.

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Tourist Advance Direction Sign

Tourist Attraction Direction Sign

Sign Showing Distance to Tourist Attraction

Signing to Approved Tourist Information Points

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Signing to Approved Tourist Information Points

Advance Signing For A Lay-by With Tourist Information Panel

Direction Sign

Continuity Repeater Sign

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Pedestrian Sign To A Tourist Information Point Or Centre

Pedestrian Sign To A Tourist Attraction

Pedestrian Sign To A Car Park

Advance Direction Sign To Local Services

Direction Sign to Local Services

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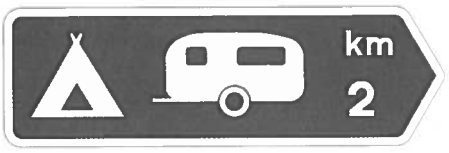
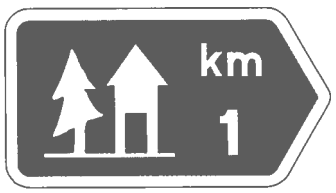
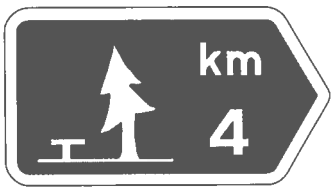


The Distance May Be Replaced By A Chevron

The Distance May Be Replaced By A Horizontal Arrow



Signs For An Óige Youth Hostels



Signs For Picnic Sites

Advance Sign For Facilities In Lay-by