



PUBLIC SCULPTURE PROJECT
COUNTY LOUTH IRELAND
JIM COLLINS
Installed May 2009

In June 2008 the original concept was begun with research and numerous drawings. Over several months ideas were presented to give three villages in County Louth their very own site-specific sculpture. Each of the designs considered was to be unique only to: Carlingford, Collon, and Heynestown. The finished work depicts subjects that are easily identifiable and distinctive to the three individual areas of the county. Place names were cut into the sheets of stainless steel in order to link with the historical past of the region. The three sculptures are constructed of 3/8 inch thick, laser-cut, stainless steel using the technique of silhouette which characterizes most of Jim Collins' work.

The Heynestown sculpture is presented in a seven and one-half feet high depiction of the Dunmahon Castle which is located in the vicinity of the school yard where this sculpture is sited. In addition to the castle there is a green calf, made of powder coated stainless steel. The green calf represents the children, not cows nor bulls yet, but growing calves. The green color is in keeping with the designation of this being a "Green School".

The rolling landscape of Collon is captured in a horizontal stainless steel sculpture on the green in the center of the village. Collann translates to "slope" and there are several slopes on roads of the area. The added element at this site is the addition of a small three-dimensional stainless steel house resting on the top edge of the sculpture between slopes and represents the village itself.

Carlingford with its rich history of the sea is presented as a great landmass diagonally incised with the open area of the lough or inlet. The upper shape of the sculpture silhouettes the outline of the coast and at the same time depicts the hills that shadow Carlingford to the northwest. Cairlinn is designated with the cutout of a star.