The “What Lies beneath: Fingal Geophysical Survey Project” exhibition was launched in Blanchardstown Library by Acting Mayor Cllr. Kieran Dennison, along with Fingal Community Archaeologist Christine Baker, in front of an enthusiastic audience on Monday. The exhibition is the result of survey work undertaken late last year at St Catherine’s Park, Corduff Park, Dublin 15, Rosepark, Balrothery, Lusk, Swords and Newbridge Demesne. The project is a community one to discover the sub-surface remains in our parks and open spaces and to raise awareness of what is literally on people’s doorsteps!

Archaeology is everywhere. The need for both development and preservation has resulted in many archaeology sites being incorporated into the open space of housing estates or within public parks. Members of local communities raised awareness of these sub-surface remains by participating in these geophysical surveys across six sites in Fingal.
Speaking about the project Fingal Community Archaeologist Christine Baker said ‘There are over 30 greenspaces within housing estates or within parklands throughout Fingal where we know archaeological remains have been preserved. The aim of this project is to connect people with the story of what is literally on their doorstep’.

At the launch Councillor Kieran Dennison praised the project as a means of applying modern technology to our past. ‘The What Lies beneath project is a way of integrating new communities with the heritage of an area’ he said ‘As well as making sure these sites are protected into the future’.

‘Not only did we confirm the location of the long since destroyed house at St Catherine’s Park but we uncovered a completely new site within Newbridge Demesne’ said Fingal’s archaeologist Christine Baker ‘The What Lies Beneath project which was supported by the Heritage Council, demonstrates how the community and professionals working together can produce wonderful research results’.

The results of the geophysical surveys are currently on display in the What Lies Beneath exhibition in Blanchardstown Library. The exhibition will run until 8 March 2019, when it will move to other venues around the County.

Ends

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