

Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland

- Event title:** **An Introduction to field walking techniques for ploughzone archaeology**
- Date:** Saturday 12th May 2018
- Venue:** Skerries Mills, Skerries, Co. Dublin
The venue is kindly being provided by the owners of Skerries Mills
- Trainer:** **Dr. Conor Brady (Department of Humanities, Dundalk Institute of Technology)**

Introduction

Ploughzone archaeology is a relevant component of every archaeological project, be it EIA's, Research or development driven excavations of brown field sites.

This one day introductory training CPD course will enable participants learn how to set up effective recording controls for systematic field walking, carry out field walking with the supervision of a trainer who will assist in helping you identify materials of archaeological significance. The course will show how to record the finds, analyze the finds distribution and be familiar with best practice in terms of storing, recording and handing materials to the statutory authorities.

Please note:

1. this is a practical field based training course. **Participants need to bring suitable footwear and clothing for a day on site in a ploughed field.** Skerries Mills have kindly made their facilities available to participants
2. due to uncharacteristic growth conditions with weather, issues over crop protection, which are beyond our control may affect the field walking as planned on the day.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this introductory course, the participants will have an understanding of:

1. The methodology and objectives of ploughzone archaeology, detailing the types of materials found and the time periods represented in the ploughzone.
2. The practicalities of establish an appropriate grid using a sighting compass, and taping and pacing in advance of fieldwalking.
3. An awareness of the value of the use of maps and aerial photographs
4. The most appropriate methods of walking in a systematic manner in the ploughzone
5. The techniques involved in washing, bagging, recording and analyzing finds.
6. The best practice regarding statutory and professional deposition of collected artefacts with the relevant statutory authorities.

Programme

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| 10.00-10.15 | Registration |
| 10.15-11.30 | Introduction to theory and methodology and establishing gridelines |
| 11.30-12.00 | Tea/ Coffee |
| 12.00-13.30 | Practical walking of ploughzone and collection of artefacts |
| 13.30-14.15 | LUNCH (Not included in registration fee) |
| 14.15-16.00 | Practical walking followed by advice on the best practice when processing, washing and processing ploughzone finds. Advice on the value and analyze of the distribution of the finds. |
| 16.00 | Summation and close |

Registration:

Members can register their place on this course, by completing the Registration form in the Members Section of the IAI website. An option to pay the course fee via paypal is also available in the Members Section.

Non-members can register on the IAI website and pay the course fee via the paypal link - <http://www.iai.ie/cpd/cpd-events/>

Course fee:

Members - €30

Students/ Associate - €15

Non-members - €45

Students/ Associates/Unwaged - €20

Please note: Course fee includes light refreshments, lunch is not included

Parking facilities

Parking is available for participants at Skerries Mills