

A view from the Chairman.

John McCarthy

Hello to you all,

As we say goodbye to 2016 and welcome in 2017, we will all have mixed feelings of the year gone by. The world saw major changes in 2016, with the British electing to leave Europe, the Americans electing to vote in Donald Trump and the fallout out of the events in the Middle East, all our lives seems to be changing in ways we did not anticipate. It is extremely difficult to say what impact these events will have on our lives, if any, but I feel that problems arising from Brexit will be felt in Ireland if not this year, then further down the line.

If like me, you are fan of the music of the 1960s and 1970s, in 2016 you will have been very saddened by the death of Leonard Cohen, David Bowie and others of the era, whose music and writings were youthful, innovative and revolutionary; and certainly in my case, influenced my life. While these figures are now sadly gone, they will hopefully not be forgotten. The circle of life continues as always.

The circle of life continues for the present Committee of the Association. The Committee should consist of twelve members, but currently we have only nine. The Committee's secretary, Loughlin McSweeney, due to business and family demands, recently stepped down. Loughlin served the committee extremely well. His youthful enthusiasm, ideas and commitment to the area were inspirational. Loughlin built the Association's website and he has kindly undertaken to continue to maintain it.

It was my wish last year to step down as chair at the AGM but as nobody stepped up to the plate, I remained on in an interim capacity. I must now advise that I am not in a position to continue as Chair after the AGM in 2017.

This Association has been around for the best part of fifty years and has been very successful in serving the best interests of Rathgar. This has been achieved by having an active and enthusiastic Committee. To maintain its effectiveness, the Committee needs new members on board. I would urge members that at the **AGM, on Thursday 30th March 2017**, they put their names forward for election to the Committee and so ensure the continuance of an effective Association into the future.

May I also urge members to spread word of the Association, particularly where new residents have moved to the area. They may not be aware of its existence and its work. All details of the Association are at www.rathgarresidentsassociation.ie

My wish for the Association is that it will grow and prosper and remain a voice for the betterment of Rathgar. Please make a special effort in 2017 to promote your Association

Have a prosperous 2017

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Environment:

John McCarthy

Pedestrian Crossing: Bijou to the 108

At long last! Work on a new pedestrian crossing in the village should commence in the first quarter of 2017.

The Association has been requesting this crossing for more than twenty years!

Herzog Park:

The City Councillors in early January approved a programme of renewal and enhancement works for Herzog Park. These works will be spread over a period of three years. The Association had made a detailed submission to the Council. Although the Association has a number of reservations about some aspects of the work, the refurbished park will most certainly be a wonderful facility in the village.

Graffiti

Graffiti and 'tagging' are a constant eyesore to local residents. The Association has renewed discussions with DCC on ways of combating this problem.

Litter

There is a lack of litter bins in and around Rathgar. This leads to a build up of litter on the roads. Despite numerous complaints to Dublin City Council, nothing has been done to remedy the situation.

Autumn Leaf and Roads Cleaning

Most leaves were eventually cleaned away but not before every last leaf had fallen. In the mean time residents had to wade through a mush of rotting leaves.

Front gardens and the Litter Act 1997.

And just a reminder. There is an interesting section of the prevention of Litter Act which places an onus on owners of private property. Section 3 of part 2 of the Act requires the owner or occupier of property which has an outdoor area visible from a public place, to keep such area free of litter. Failure to do so can result in a fine or prosecution by the local authority.

How many properties (particularly badly maintained apartments) are in Rathgar where front gardens suffer from litter?

This is something that can be reported to DCC who are then obliged to take action!

Tidy Towns

Some suggestions have been made that Rathgar would benefit from having a Tidy Towns Group. What do you think? Write or email the Chairman with your views

P O BOX 9574, Dublin 6 or rathgarresidentsassociation.ie

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Planning Report

January 2017

Philip O'Reilly

Planning applications have continued on an upward trend during the period reflecting a near return to the boom times which left us now all of nearly 10 years ago. That was when the Tiger jumped over the cliff that nobody saw and self-destructed.

Many of recent planning applications have been for large flat roofed extensions to already large houses. It is the fashion trend of the moment and looks set to continue.

There have been some long and drawn out proposals for sites featuring a number of overlapping applications. These were involved and complicated requiring additional information. The old Dartry Dye Works site on Dartry Road is one such location where two separate applications have been running for some time, one for an increase in the size of the crèche currently operating on the site and another for a residential development on the same site. Decisions from the Local Authority are awaited on both. The old Smurfit site on Clonskeagh Road is another such site (The Association made an input because of its interest in the amenity of the greater Dodder Valley area) The outcome is looking disappointing.

A proposal for a mews development at Kenilworth Lane at the back of 16a Kenilworth Road was refused when local residents appealed a grant of permission to An Bord Pleanala.

In spite of a concentrated effort by the Association and local residents, an unacceptable development to the rear of no 1 Garville Road was granted permission by An Bord Pleanala. The proposal was for an enormous two storey flat roofed extension to a modest villa type house which couldn't in any way be considered to have been in accordance with the zoning objective of the area, from a residential amenity point of view.

Proposals for flat roofed extensions to two houses on Rathgar Road which had been

previously in offices but were sold to be used as residences was not contested by the Association.

Proposals for the demolition of nos 189 and 190 Rathgar Road and their replacement by a modern 3 storey development of nine apartments was opposed by the Association all the way to An Bord Pleanala; to no avail. A more recent proposal for the same site for 14 apartments incorporating a 4 storey element has just been granted by the Local Authority. This is the first example of the new permitted heights in the recently adopted Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022 in this area. The new rules allow for residential structures of up to 5 storeys in areas outside the canals.

We were approached by local residents regarding large residential development in the area of Riversdale House, off Bushy Park Road. We made a submission. Additional information was requested and a scaled down scheme was recently granted permission.

A proposal for a new build in the back garden of no 12 Highfield Road was opposed by the residents of Highfield Grove with the Association in support. This led to a modified design being submitted. The permission went to An Bord Pleanala who have recently given approval for the development as modified.

Non-permissioned developments which had taken place at the Orwell Nursing home on Orwell Road were recently ruled out of order by An Bord Pleanala. Such structures are normally required to be removed.

An application for a myriad of communications aerials to be placed atop the flat roof of the new 4 storey structure that now stands at the Orwell Nursing Home, Orwell Road (some 9 aerials in all) was recently turned down by An Bord Pleanala.

Meanwhile across the road on the Marianella site, a series of changes are being sought to the original proposal; given permission some years ago. The latest being an extensive roof garden element which will have the effect of adding another storey to the original development.

A further attempt to get one more house squeezed into the site at the back of 126 Leinster Road (with access from Grosvenor Place) was scuppered by another refusal from An Bord Pleanala. This site had already been developed with 9 houses. Had An Bord Pleanala's original permission been adequately specific, there would have been no room for subsequent applications- for two and then for one house on the only green open space on the site. The original proposal sought 4 houses immediately behind the pre-war houses on Grosvenor Place.

It has been a year of mixed results with some good results at the Orwell Road end of the area but extremely disappointing at the Rathmines end. We are now operating under a new City Development Plan which does little to foster improved principles of planning and development, rather quite the contrary, we see a drop in standards across the board and further pandering to the whims of developers on the pretext of "the housing crisis".

Some Notes and Comments

Annual Garden Competition July 2016

The winners were:-

Overall best garden (Dixon Cup) Michael & Anne Marie Morris(Highfield Road)

Winners in the other categories:-

Hilda McEvoy(Garville Avenue), Sheila McGlaughlin (Meadowbank), Fiona and David Maguire (Orwell Park) Duncan and Derbhla Cole (Victoria Road) Ann Byrne / Gordon Leadbetter (Highfield Road) Julie O'Neill (Garville Road) Loman Gallagher (Dartry Road)

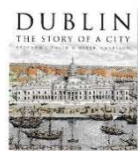
The following local businesses gave their generous support with prizes for the competition. The Association appreciates their support.

Bijou Restaurant, Quality Dry Cleaners, AM/PM Newsagents, Fortes Takeaway, Revolution Restaurant, Lernihán O'Neill, Thomas Collins, Mehek Restaurant, Lumanti of Nepal, Roche's Chemist, Lawlor's Butcher, O'Brien's Off Licence (Upper Rathmines), Kuts & Kurls

A Walking Guide to Rathgar

With Spring around the corner, members will recall that the Association in conjunction with DCC published a handy and informative guide to a 90 minute walk through Rathgar. Copies of this guide are available in the local libraries. Also they can be picked up in local shops. Alternatively you can email the Association and a copy will be sent to you.

Book reviews: A recent publications of interest



Dublin -the story of a city.

Stephen Conlin & Peter Harbison

O'Brien Press €29.99

Narrative text is by Peter Harbison and illustrations by Stephen Conlin

The book traces in picture book form the history of our city from its Viking foundation to the present time.

The Schools' Collection The folklore of Ireland as recorded in 1937/39 by Irish school children. Available on line at Duchas.ie

Approximately 740,000 pages (288,000 pages in the pupils' original exercise books; 451,000 pages in bound volumes) of folklore and local tradition were compiled by pupils from 5,000 primary schools in the Irish Free State between 1937 and 1939.

This collecting scheme was initiated by the Irish Folklore Commission, under the direction of Séamus Ó Duilearga and Séan Ó Súilleabháin, Honorary Director and Registrar of the Commission respectively, and was heavily dependent on the cooperation of the Department of Education and the Irish National Teachers' Organization. It was originally to run from 1937 to 1938 but was extended to 1939 in specific cases. For the duration of the project, more than 50,000 schoolchildren from 5,000 schools in the 26 counties of the Irish Free State were enlisted to collect folklore in their home districts. This included oral history, topographical information, folktales and legends, riddles and proverbs, games and pastimes, trades and crafts. The children recorded this material from their parents, grandparents, and neighbours.

The scheme resulted in the creation of over half a million manuscript pages, generally referred to as 'Bailiúchán na Scol' or 'The Schools' Collection'.

There are 1,128 volumes, numbered and bound, in the Collection. A title page prefaces each school, giving the name of the school, the parish, the barony, the county and the teacher. A further collection of approximately 40,000 of the children's original copybooks are stored at the NFC.

British Pathe News (Anyone remember the newsreel before "*The Picture*" began ?)

A large collection of newsreels with an Irish interest are now on line. One collection "The Revolutionary period" contains footage of Collins at Griffith's funeral.

[Britishpathe.com/Ireland/Revolutionary period](http://Britishpathe.com/Ireland/Revolutionary%20period)

Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland, 63 Merrion Square host a series of lectures All lectures at 7.30PM

26th January Armada cannons from Sreedagh, Co Sligo

23 February 2017. Travel writers and literature associated with Lough Ree , particularly in the 19th Century

23rd March 2017 The early Irish manuscripts project of Trinity College Dublin

Talks

6th February Picturing Ireland: a view of the nation from the National Library's collection

6th March: Leap Castle ,Co Offaly

The Rathmines, Ranelagh and Rathgar Historical Society

Lecture Series

26th January The British army presence in Dublin by Henry Fairbrother

23rd February Deirdre Kelly Lecture: Bram Stoker's Dublin and the writing of Dracula by Paul Murray

30th March Sydney Owenson, Lady Morgan by Sally Corcoran

27th April The Fitzwilliams of Merrion – the last of the line by Des Smyth

25th May Forger, Freemason, Freeman:- the story of Samuel Clayton, Dubliner by Margaret Smith

17th June Outing: The Little Museum of Dublin, 15 St Stephen's Green and the Huguenot Graveyard, Merrion Row. Followed by coffee (Venue to be arranged). Meet outside the museum at 2.00 pm

Information: Rathmineshistoricalsociety.com or
email: rathmineshistoricalsociety.ie

Rathmines and Terenure Libraries

There is always a lot going on in your local library. So keep a watching eye. There are reading groups in both libraries.

Rathmines 4973539. Two groups: Group I meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 3pm and Group II meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 7pm. Shakespeare Reading Group - reads scenes from Shakespeare aloud followed by a viewing of relevant video clips and some guided discussion. You can just listen and watch as well. This group meets on the second Monday of every month from 6:15pm.

Terenure 4907035 Two groups: Group I meets on the first Monday of each month, 7pm. Group II meets on the first Wednesday at 7pm

For the historian the **Dublin City Archive and Library Reading Room** in Pearse Street is the place to be.

Marianella Development

The development of the Marianella site on Orwell Road which is due to be completed in 2018 will be one of the largest housing developments in Rathgar since the original development of the suburb in Victorian /Edwardian times. When complete the 250 apartments/houses will have a population of some 600 with parking for 360 cars.

The revised traffic flow layout on Orwell Road will mean that existing street parking will be removed. A small public park will front the development on Orwell Road

Support your local shops

Shop locally whenever you can. This will keep our local shops in business and retain the character of Rathgar as a living community.

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Parents(or grandparents) never despair for your offspring

A letter written by WB Yeats aged eleven

Autumn 1876, Farnham Royal

My Dear Lily(Yeats Sister Susan)

I have two water lizards in a jar a glass one. They eat the worms I gave them first but they spit them out now. I had some frogs too but I let them out because I didn't know how to feed them. I put a little peace of wood on top for an island they go on it...I am getting stilts. Mr Earls son can go very well on them he was walking over a pool on them and they stuck in and he fell in have you any frostyet we have a little. The kind of lizards I have got are called salamander lizards have you any frogs we have lots of them...My lizards walked off one nigh ,Mrs Earls came in one morning to cettle the books on the top of the cupboard on which were the lizards but when she found them gone she was afraid to touch the books lest she should put a hand on them, we looked everywhere for them but have not found them yet...

I am your affectionate brother

WB Yeats

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Ivy – Friend or Foe ?

Mary Forrest

Whether sprawling along the ground in Bushy Park, peeping over, under, or through walls and fences in gardens or climbing high through the trees by the River Dodder or adorning mantelpieces or windowsills in houses, Ivy must be the most common shrub in the district.

One reason why ivy is so abundant is its adaptability to growing conditions. It grows in shade cast by other trees and shrubs and in dark areas by walls and sheds.

Good light conditions also favour its development and once stems have made their way up through a tree or over a wall or fence to reach direct sunlight they become more shrub-like and develop a dense mass of free standing stems.

Secondly it can grow from seed, often dropped by birds, or by runners. Stems lying along the ground, known as runners, root into the ground and new plants develop. In recent years Ivy seems to have been growing with such vigour and intensity that when weeding or pruning it is not unusual to pull stems of nearly a metre in length from a shrubbery or a wall.

How does Ivy climb? By short clinging roots, which adhere to walls and trunks of trees. Once Ivy becomes taller stems encircle the branches of trees or the stems of shrubs, hence the specific name of the *helix*, the Greek word for spiral. The genus name *Hedera* is derived from the Latin for Ivy.

Leaves are another interesting feature of Ivy. On walls and along the ground the foliage is five lobed, or palmate, like a human hand and similarly veins are noticeable on the upper side of the leaves. As the plant matures and the leaf shape becomes diamond shaped. At this stage Ivy flowers and fruits. Symmetrically shaped cluster of green/yellow flowers are borne in in late autumn early winter. Ivy is an important source of pollen and nectar for bees and wasps as they prepare for winter. A distraught questioner on a gardening programme wondered which plant with green leaves and clusters of black fruits was invading from their neighbour's garden. The experts were puzzled but an armchair expert considered it was Ivy. Ivy berries are eaten by woodpigeons and thrushes. Ivy either as groundcover or in trees provides secure places for birds to forage for food or nest or roost.

Sometimes Ivy is considered a parasite, i.e. it lives on the tree through it climbs, but this is not so. Ivy is rooted in the soil and absorbs moisture and nutrients from the soil. Some consider it unsightly. Where it leaves smothers or stems strangle a tree, the stems of ivy can be cut near ground level, but it will grow again.

Though widespread throughout the country, unlike Oak or Birch, the name Ivy occurs in few place names. Consulting the website logainn.ie the Irish word for Ivy, Eindhneán, is found in place names, Einaun Island, Co. Kerry, and Inane, townlands in Co. Cork and Co. Tipperary. In the 1830's an Ivy, with large dull green leaves was collected by a Mr. W.H. Andrews in Ballybunion, Co. Kerry and given the name *Hedera hibernica*. This species makes an effective ground cover beneath shrubs and more importantly remains a groundcover.

Charles Dicken's concluded each stanza of his poem *The Ivy Green* with the refrain 'A rare old plant is the Ivy green'. It is a friend rather than a foe.

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No thank you.

Just our regular coffee then? Yes

Space for milk? Yes please.

For here or to go? To go?. (sometimes American has to be translated, just to be sure).
To take away No, having it here

Want anything with it ? A muffin, please. Blueberry, Lemon, Raspberry?

Blueberry. Heated? No thank you.

Have you a loyalty card? No. Would you like one ? No thank you.

We could include you in our loyalty scheme on line. No need to carry a card that way.
No thank you, I just want a cup of coffee. So no loyalty card then, not even on line? No.

Your name? Pat. Did you say Pat ? Yes (so rare in Ireland you must say it twice)

Anything else? No thank you. That will be three euro twenty five. Thank you.

Your coffee is collected over there with the milk(whole, half, skimmed and tissues).

Pat waits patiently for his mug of guilt free coffee to arrive. It does with the name Matt scrawled on it in black marker on its glossy white surface touching lip level.

Would you mind removing the name please? Why? It's not carcinogenic.

I'm sure that's true but it's at lip level and I don't want black marker on my lips.

And so Matt disappears and I'm free at last to have a cup of coffee.

Patsy McGarry "In a Word" Irish Times

Enjoy. Have a good one.!

From *Links of the past*

September 1996

Rathgar Quarry

One of the most significant developments, which catalysed a small group of conscientious citizens to action, was the environment threat posed by the now disused quarry behind the Allied Irish Bank, running behind Orwell Road. Many newcomers to Rathgar may not even be aware that when quarrying ceased, water flowed in producing a dangerously deep lake. This Victorian lake as it has been described, whose depth was between 100 and 200 feet, was an environmentalist's dream, with swans and various species of ducks. However, two drownings compelled the Corporation to fill it in for safety

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Some further snapshots of the historic period 1910-1922

Kevin O'Shiel, Judicial Commissioner, Dail Land Courts, 1920 -1922 recalls the Township of Rathmines in 1910

The typical Rathminian, and even more so the Rathgarian, was a remarkable type. To begin with, he had developed a most peculiar accent which, immediately he opened his mouth, revealed his venue. It is quite impossible to describe the accent in mere words, and it is greatly to be regretted that it disappeared before the coming of recording; a record of it should have been made and preserved in the national archives. The best description I can give of it is that it was what the "Rathmines Johnny", as the city "Jackeen" contemptuously referred to him, thought was a good-class English accent. English accents, as we Irish know, are hard to imitate with any degree of accuracy; and a fortiori, all the harder when, like the vast mass of Rathminsians in those days, one has never been to England. The Rathminian was terrifically, indeed embarrassingly loyal to King and Empire, on certain aspects of which, its army and navy, for example, and its world-wide conquests, he was intensely interested and extremely well-informed. After that, his big interest was the delectable "loyal burgh" of Rathmines. As for Ireland, for the greater part of it at all events, his interest was nil. And, indeed, as I am determined to make this narrative as candid as possible, I must say this for the Rathminian: when his much-vaunted loyalty was put to the great test in World War I, he was certainly not found wanting, but joined up at once in the Dublin Fusiliers, and, in nine cases out of ten, never saw his beloved Rathmines again. But, to return to the Dublin Corporation of those days At that time, that Corporation possessed an unenviable and, I fear, well-earned reputation for inefficiency, extravagance and corruption. Nepotism was

widespread in the City Hall, influential corporators having no qualms in placing their relations and connections into well-paid, cosy and often redundant jobs in its various services, regardless as to whether or no they were suitably qualified for them. For the greater part of the first two decades of the century, the city was completely in the hands of ward politicians, many of them of very doubtful character. There were pickings and prizes to be got in being an Alderman or a Councillor, say, for example, in voting on contracts or awarding tenders, which were not to be despised or sneezed at. After all, every office has, or should have, its particular perquisites and rewards, and why not that of the unpaid member of a public body? At all events, such was the simple creed of those City Fathers of 40 years since.

Excerpt from witness statement to the Bureau of Military History
www.bureauofmilitaryhistory.ie/reels/bmh/WS.1770Part2pp209-211

Connections between Rathgar and the 1916 Uprising

The Property Losses (Ireland) Committee (PLIC) was established in June 1916 to assess claims for damages to buildings and property as a result of the destruction caused by the 1916 Rising. The Committee succeeded the Dublin Fire and Property Losses Association, which had been established in May 1916 by business interests and property owners who met on 8 May 1916 in the Mansion House, Dublin. Led by well-known businessman William Martin Murphy, the Association exerted pressure on the Irish Parliamentary Party and the British government to provide compensation to those who had lost their business or property and to provide for the associated costs of rebuilding in the wake of the Rising.

The PLIC operated as a three man committee, composed of one businessman, Sir William Goulding of the fertiliser and phosphates company W and HM Goulding, along with two individuals with wide-ranging experience of insurance assessment, William E Osborn of Messrs Selfe and Company of London and Samuel Pipkin, general manager of the Atlas Assurance Company Limited of London. The secretary of the Committee was James J Healy of the Commissioners of Public Works.

Claims for damages caused during the events of 24th April 1916 and the following days

Thomas Devin, 40 Rathgar Avenue Claim for £7-13s damage to volunteer uniform. Payment of £4-13 s recommended by committee

James Henry, 21 Rathgar Avenue. Location: Bow Lane Distillery. Claim £2 for

waterproof coat looted at Bow Lane distillery. Payment of £1 15s recommended

George Wm Barrett, 126 Rathgar Road. Location: Globe Parcel Express Eden Quay. Claim £31-5s-8d for goods looted at Eden Quay .see PLIC/1/5188

Margaret Josephine Ryan, 118 Rathgar Road. Location: at 29 Henry Street. Claim for £1,745 0s 2d for destruction of house and premises at 29 Henry Street. No decision recorded

John Latimer 148 Rathgar Road. Location: 96 Harcourt Street. Claim for £327.1s 4d. for destruction by fire of dwelling house at 96 Harcourt Street. Dealt with under claim of lessee Thos O Reilly see PLIC/1/2716

Wm McCabe, Weston Rathgar. Location: Warrenmount Mills, Mill Street Claim for £43.17s 6d for damage to factory roof due to rifle fire . Full payment recommended

Letitia Edison, 1A Rathgar Road. Location: 7 Serpentine Avenue . Claim for £15 for destruction of mirror and household effects due to rifle fire. Payment of £10 recommended

Margaret O Keeffe, 141 Rathgar Road. Location: Royal Hibernian Academy, Lr Abbey Street. Claim for £21 for paintings destroyed by fire. Recommended payment £8.10s

James A Young, 139 Rathgar Road as well Edith Greene and Jane Young Location: 68 Lr Abbey Street. Claim for £8617.0s 09d for building and contents destroyed by fire . Payment of £2715 recommended for building and £2060 for contents.

Alice Maude Magenis, 160 Rathgar Road. Location: May & Sons, Professors of Music, Pianoforte and Music Sellars, 130 St Stephen's Green. Claim for £420 9s 1d for damage to property and contents by insurgents in occupying 130/130A St Stephens Green Recommended payment £177 15s 6d

As a footnote

The Royal Hibernian Academy which in 1916 was located in Lower Abbey Street was completely destroyed in the days of the 1916 rising. This resulted in losses to a number of renowned artists who lost material.

Jack B. Yeats, lost three paintings

Sir John Lavery lost a painting entitled *Girls in Sunlight*.

A number of book binding and printing businesses were also destroyed including

Alexander Thom and Company Limited and Maunsel and Company Limited; resulting in the loss of manuscripts by writers and artists, including the stained glass artist Harry Clarke, who lost cover designs and illustrations also Jack B. Yeats, and the writer Stewart Lennox Robinson.

First World War trench systems in the Phoenix Park

The first evidence of First World war practice trenches were identified from in 2015 from aerial Google Earth aerial imagery . The trench systems lie to the south of the main road running through the Phoenix park(Chesterfield Avenue. Interestingly they are directly opposite the avenue leading to Aras an Uachtairin. At the time of their construction this would have been the residence of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland

The aerial photography shows two distinct groups of trenches: a large rectangular enclosure and two lines of linear trenches. These two lines are approximately 110 m long and some 50m apart. The entrenched enclosure is c76mx80m. A twisting communication trench connects both sides of the of this enclosure. Along the trenches were positioned firing bays which projected 4m outwards.

In mid 2016 Google Earth added further imagery indicating a further and larger area of practice trenches. This covers 24ha of the parkland. Here there were at least three parallel lines of trenches and five rectangular enclosures. One of these trenches is 225m long. There is clear evidence of communicating lines connecting these trenches.

Who would have used these trenches? There is little historical records of their use as training grounds in preparation for the First World war battlefields

However there is a reference on a website dedicated to the Royal Dublin Fusiliers that the 6th and 7th battalion would have used the Phoenix Park before departure to England in May 1915 from whence they were deployed to Gallipoli in late June.

Further references www.dublin-fusiliers.com also Cavan County Museum: replica trench system, Virginia Road, Ballyjamesduff

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