

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE IN MILTON KEYNES

**To:** Buckinghamshire Historic Environment Forum

**Date:** March 2009

**Authors:** Senior Archaeological Officer & Archaeological Officer,  
Design and Conservation, Milton Keynes Council

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To inform the Committee of current archaeological matters in Milton Keynes.

B. FIELDWORK PROJECTS

2. Attached is a list of fieldwork projects (Events) that have been undertaken in the Milton Keynes area between July and December 2008.

C. PLANNING

3. Between 1<sup>st</sup> July and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2008 there were 83 consultations in respect of archaeology as a direct result of planning applications, pre-development enquiries, schemes by English Partnerships, Anglian Water, and Eastern Electricity.

D. HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD

4. The Historic Environment Record was visited by researchers 13 times between July and September.
5. Development of the HER database included:
  - a) Adding a new section on 'History' & tick boxes for 'period' in the 'monument' table
  - b) Adding specialist reports and key assemblies on the 'events' table. The latter two items were included after discussions with the EH Regional Science Officer.

The revised 'monuments' form is set out below:

Microsoft Access - [MONUMENT]

File Edit View Insert Format Records Tools Window Help

MS Sans Serif 8

**MKC HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD - MONUMENTS and ARTEFACTS**

MONUMENT / ARTEFACT | PUBLISHED SOURCES | Guidance notes

ID: 3 Visible\_remains

CASSNo: 4500000 File: 45 Event\_ID: 53 Caribase: 4500000 SiteArea:

SiteNm: Gorefields Location: Stoke Goldington LocalName:

Status: National ref. discovery:

General classification: Archaeological Site Class\_def: Religious ritual and funerary Broadterm: Religious House

NItemFORM: Clunioic Grange NItemFUNCTION: Clunioic Grange Artefact repository:

Eastng: 481630 Northing: 248990 NGRlocation: NGR = centre of feature Artefact ref: BCM1

Geology: Boulder Clay PASref: BCM2

Summary: Moated grange belonging to the nunnery at Delapre, Northampton. Site bulldozed and ploughed in 1963 and excavated in 1969-71

Notes:
 

- 1) A fine moat, still intact 5 in water. Fishpond & smaller moats. No sign of buildings above ground [sources: 1 (1900)].
- 2) Excavated 1969-71 to see if it was Saxon Nunnery of Gare, referred to C12th. 4 periods of development found [sources: 6, 8].
- 3) Trench dug by farmer in 1968 found a wall that may have been Saxon. It had Roman tile built into its lowest course [sources: 6].
- 4) C13th / C14th pottery found on destruction of site known as Gorefields, after moat was filled in (in 1968) [sources: 4].
- 5) Further search on site in 1968 after levelling, produced much medieval tile & some C18th

Commenced: Medieval 12th century Terminated: Post medieval 16th century

UND P M N BA IA R EMed MED C16 C17 C18 C19 C20 C21 PM

Digital\_data: plans: Photographs: access\_date: 2007

Confidential:

History:
 

C12th Benedictine Nunnery of Gare is known only by a reference by Gervase of Canterbury [sources: 6] 1900 Moat intact [bib 1]

C13th Delapre Abbey, Northants, had land in Stoke Goldington later c13th, possibly La Gare, originally granted 1329, this corresponds with a close called variously Gorefield / Maynawdelyn / Chapelfield / Gorefields [bib 2]

1760 Farmhouse on site demolished 1963 Site bulldozed ploughed, then left waste [Bib 6-8]

1963 trench cut through [Bib 6-8]

1968 Moat filled in. Trench by farmer located possible Saxon wall [Bib 6-8]

1969-71 Excavated [Event 63]

Events (class base)

Events (Event ID)

Sources (class base)

Sources (Mon ID)

Pictorial

Topography

Maps / plans

related entries

Close Form

Comp\_date: 24/08/1990

Compiled by: AFP

amendments: 4

Amend\_date: 25/02/2008

Amended by: BLG

Record: 3 of 8124

Form View

Start September Inbox - Microsoft Ou... Arch Serv in MK Mar... MK\_HER : Database MONUMENT Adobe Photoshop EL... 15:41

E. STAFF

6. Brian Giggins, the Council's Senior Archaeological will be retiring at the end of March after 12 years in the post. The post is due to be advertised in April. In the interim period Nick Crank will be acting Senior Archaeological Officer.

F. OUTREACH

7. On November 15<sup>th</sup> the Archaeological Officer organised the second MK Council Archaeology Day. This event, held in the Local Studies Library was well attended and attracted press and radio coverage. The day centred around a series of presentations by professional archaeologists on recent work in the borough in addition to a key note talk on Roman Mosaics by Dr David Neal. Stands from active local field work groups also proved popular as did Ros Tyrrell (Finds Liaison Officer) on finds identification duty. This year's Archaeology Day will offer a wider range of stands, displays and activities for all ages and will take place across the entire Central Library.

G. PROPOSED ACTION

8. The Committee is asked to note this report.