

GAZETTEER: SITES AND FINDSPOTS

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The gazetteer combined with the distribution maps (Figs. 2 and 4) represents the minimum information on all known Romano-British occupation evidence and finds within the designated boundary of Milton Keynes New City to February 1981.

A number of points relating to the lists require extra discussion and clarification. The gazetteer has been divided into three sections as objectively as possible although with certain find spots some element of subjectivity must remain.

Part 1 includes a brief summary of all the major excavations, and sites where either limited excavation, trial excavation or a watching brief has taken place, usually in advance of development.

Part 2 represents features and finds of a nature indicating some degree of domestic occupation or industrial activity, mainly through fieldwork on undeveloped land where the site's status must remain in question.

Part 3 includes all the casual finds which do not fit into either of the above categories. Those finds range from single sherds and coins to complete vessels found in the 19th century, about which unfortunately little is known and which originate from a wide range of contexts.

Clearly the quality of information concerning many of the sites and finds in Parts 2 and 3 is of limited value, although it is felt that it is important to present a comprehensive account when considering an over-view of the development of the Roman landscape.

Sites and finds in Milton Keynes have, since 1974, been recorded using the Sites and Monuments numerical card index, compatible to the County system by adding the prefix 3,000, linked to period and area distribution maps at a scale of 1:2,500 and combined with a rapid retrieval Optical Coincidence Card system. Numbers 1-500 were initially assigned to prehistoric and Roman finds, the prehistoric sites representing the gaps in the sequence.

Where possible, sites have been plotted to the nearest 10 metres, an 8-figure National Grid Reference. Where a six-figure reference is given, this

either indicates an extensive area or that insufficient data is available for more accurate plotting. All National Grid References are prefixed by the letters SP. In several cases the locations of finds are unknown and only a reference to the parish can be given.

It has been decided not to refer to site locations in relation to parish boundaries and New City grid squares as this may lead to future confusion. Site names have been included where relevant in Part 1 for quick and easy reference, particularly for those who have been involved with the sites in question, and in a number of cases the names have had widespread usage in the available published literature. The names themselves originate from a number of sources including geographical/topographic features, field names, villages and city grid squares.

The site/find descriptions have wherever possible been checked against published sources and, in the case of unpublished sites, from level III information (DoE 1975) or alternatively taken from the Sites and Monuments cards; they give only the minimum quantity of information. The descriptions have necessarily been limited by space to a concise, objective summary of the character and finds from the site.

The date range of the sites and finds, if not based on numismatic evidence, is almost entirely from detailed analysis of the ceramic evidence by Pauline Marney.

A policy of re-examination of all pottery finds was adopted in conjunction with the formation of a local Roman pottery type-series. Occasionally the range given in the gazetteer will conflict with that of previously published sources, although this is only to be expected in such a rapidly developing field of research. It was not considered practicable to re-examine finds in private ownership and originally quote dates must stand.

Circumstances of discovery have again been made as succinct as possible and are mostly self-explanatory, although in several cases information is of too limited nature to allow a correct assessment. The dates of discovery have been included as a guide to the development of archaeological work and fieldwork in the area over the last two decades.

The date and nature of archaeological work that has taken place as a result of discoveries have been included in parentheses, and vary from watching briefs in the case of sites found during construction work to extensive area excavations over a number of seasons.

For reasons of clarity it has been decided not to include the names of the numerous individuals who found the sites and finds. It does, however, seem appropriate to mention the amateur archaeologist, Richard Griffiths, whose assiduous and unfailing work during the 1960's and early 1970's led to the discovery of numerous sites in the Bletchley area.

All available published sources have been checked, although reference has not been made to

every minor mention, particularly in the annual notes of *Records of Bucks*, or CBA Group 9 *Newsletters*, which add little more than is to be found in the descriptive column of the gazetteer. Reference to aerial photograph sources have been included.

The location of the finds is essentially self-explanatory, although the reasons for the two major repositories requires some explanation. Prior to the inception of the Milton Keynes Development Corporation Archaeology Unit in 1971, local material, if not retained by the finders, was loaned or donated to Buckinghamshire County Museum at Aylesbury. All of the finds from the unit's excavations and fieldwork are now preserved in the Buckinghamshire County Museum's store for the Milton Keynes area at Bradwell Abbey.

Abbreviations used in the Gazetteer

BAS	Buckinghamshire Archaeological Soc.	RCHM, AP	Royal Commission on Historic Monuments, Air Photographs
BCM	Buckinghamshire County Museum Accession no.	VCH	Victoria County History, <i>Buckinghamshire</i>
MKDC	Milton Keynes Development Corporation Archaeology Unit	WDASJ	<i>Wolverton and District Archaeological Society Journal</i>
MKJ	<i>Milton Keynes Journal</i>	WDASNL	<i>Wolverton and District Archaeological Society Newsletter</i>
NIA	No Information Available		
PC	Private Collection		
RB	<i>Records of Buckinghamshire</i>		

ROMAN GAZETTEER PART I

Summary of Excavated Sites and Watching Briefs (see separate reports and plans)

Site No.	N.G.R.	Site Name and Description	Date Range	Circumstances and Date of Discovery	Published Sources	Location of Finds
35	875 315	A complete storage jar and fragments of several others (found during housing construction)	1st cent.	Building work (watching brief) 1972		MKDC
36	8915 3677	(WALTON) Small circular enclosure c.17m diam., several gullies and pits and possible timber slots of rectangular buildings	Early-mid 1st cent.	Road-scraping (watching brief) 1972	MKJ 2, 1973, 10 RB 19, Pt 4, 1974, 414, 367-7	MKDC
44	890 354	(CALDECOTTE) Circular timber buildings of post-built construction and rectangular buildings with associated yard, industrial activity (pottery and metal working), field system, includes droveway	1st-2nd cent.	Fieldwalking 1960s (extensive excavation 1978-80)	Forthcoming report	MKDC

45	863 332	(HOLNE CHASE) Two stone-built rectangular buildings, 4.5 × 8m and 12 × 14m, the larger of which had a corridor	1st-4th cent.	Building work (limited excavation) 1967	WDASJ1, BCM 1968, 31-5
46	853 343	(SHENLEY ROAD) Complex of early ditches including a large V-shaped ditch, 3m wide and 2m deep, probably an enclosure ditch. Corn drying/malting oven associated with paved area	Early 2nd-late 3rd cent.	Building work (limited excavation) 1971	WDASJ1, BCM 1968, 33-5 422.67 RB 19, Pt 4, 1974, 414
63	8172 3914	(ABBAY BARN) Palisaded gulley enclosing an area at least 45 × 60m associated with several pits and ditches. Probably represents livestock enclosure, no firm domestic evidence	2nd-4th cent.	Fieldwalking 1958 (excavation 1958 and 1971)	WDASN1, BCM 5, 1960 250.71 RB 19, Pt 4, 1974, 483-500
64	8450 3974	(WOOD CORNER) Ditched enclosure later overlain by yard surface with three circular timber buildings on the NW side and large clay borrow pits	Mid 2nd-4th cent.	Fieldwalking 1961 (extensive excavation 1977)	MKDC
71	885 408	(COTTON VALLEY) Large three-sided enclosure with ditch up to 3m wide and 2m deep, two narrow ditches, two pits and ten post holes found inside, although no structure was visible	Mid-late 1st cent.	Aerial photography (limited excavation 1971)	RCHM, MKDC AP SP8040/1/102.3 RB 19, Pt 1, 1971, 92-3; Pt 14, 1974, 376-7
74	834 358	(DOVECOTE FARM) Fragments of a tessellated pavement, bricks and other indications of a villa reported to have been found at Dovecote Farm in 1901. Coin of Valentinian I and pottery found more recently in garden nearby	Coin 367-75	NIA	The Anti-quary 37, 1901, 342 MKDC
82	8072 3944	(KILN FARM) Ditches and possible circular house gulleys found after removal of topsoil. (Rescue excavation only)	Late 1st-mid 2nd cent.	Construction work (excavation) 1972	RB 19, Pt 4, 1974, 411 MKDC
90	8877 3671	(WALTON) Occupation levels and finds suggest the existence of a nearby building	Early 2nd-mid 4th cent.	Ditching (trial excavation) 1972	RB 20, Pt 3, 1977, 351-81 MKDC

96	844 339	(WINDMILL HILL) Complex of ditches, possible enclosures. Three corn drying/malting ovens and timber slots of possible rectangular buildings	Lte 2nd-4th cent.	Construction work (excavation) 1974 1970-1	MKJ 2, 1973, 7	MKDC
100	866 345	(SHERWOOD DRIVE) Ditches, yard surfaces and two small stone buildings, cremation. Finds suggest proximity to larger stone building with hypocaust	Mid 1st-late 4th cent.	Fieldwalking 1966 Construction work (limited excavation) 1972	MKJ 3, 1974, 7, 14-22, 97-105	MKDC
105	8273 4033	(BANCROFT) Stone-built winged-corridor villa with tessellated floors, mosaics and hypocausts, two bath suites and at least three agricultural outbuildings	1st-5th cent.	Fieldwalking 1971 (extensive excavation 1973-8)	Occas. Papers on Arch., 1, 1975, MKDC	MKDC
109	8665 3945	(LITTLE WOOLSTONE) Rectilinear network of ditches and several pits. Much domestic refuse, no evidence for buildings	1st-4th cent.	Fieldwalking 1967-80 (excavation 1981)		MKDC
111	8498 3460	Early ditch and several amorphous features noted in underpass cutting	1st cent.	Road construction (watching brief) 1978		MKDC
127	8361 3967	Large ditch associated with iron-smelting activity	Late 2nd-early 3rd cent.	Road construction (watching brief) 1978-9		MKDC
137	8429 3990	(HEELANDS) Stone-built T-shaped corn drying/malting oven, not associated with any other features	Late 2nd cent.	Building construction (excavation) 1979		MKDC
210	860 400	(DOWNS BARN) Features and occupation levels seen in cutting	Late 1st-2nd cent.	Building construction (watching brief) 1978		MKDC
211	8285 3893	(WYMBUSH) Stone-built five-roomed building with later corridor. Open-fronted outbuilding	Late 2nd-4th cent.	Fieldwalking 1973 (excavation 1979)		MKDC
269	8809 4085	A Roman ditch was found cut into an old ground surface within a medieval moat	Late 2nd-mid 3rd cent.	Excavation of Willen Medieval Moat 1972	RB 19, Pt 3, 1973, 350	MKDC
297	8615 3774	(WOUGHTON) Ditches, hut circles and possible timber slots for rectangular buildings	1st-4th cent.	Fieldwalking 1969 Road construction 1974 (excavation 1974, 1975, 1977)		MKDC

304	8550 3527	Ditches and gullies	2nd-3rd cent.	Fieldwalking (trial excavation) 1975	MKDC
301	8444 4123	(STANTONBURY) Stone-built building with evidence of hypocaust and bath house, also circular stone building, and associated agricultural features	1st-4th cent.	Building construction (limited excavation) 1975, 1980-82	MKDC
307	8291 4001	Ditches/pits seen in section of road cutting	Late 1st-mid 2nd cent.	Road construction (watching brief) 1975	MKDC
309	8833 3490	(SIMPSON SEWAGE WORKS) Extensive scatter of sherds found from fieldwalking—excavation revealed only a number of field ditches	1st-2nd cent.	Fieldwalking Aerial photography (trial excavation) 1975	MKDC
313	8561 3816	Ditches, pits and gullies sealed by later cobbled yard possibly associated with post-built structure	1st-2nd cent.	Road construction (limited excavation) 1975	MKDC
341	8847 3325	(SAFFRON GARDENS) Ditches, gullies, pits and post holes adjacent to a former silted-up river bed with possible revetment of the former river bank.	1st cent.	Excavation for rubbish tip. (Limited excavation 1964)	<i>WDASJ</i> 2, 1967, 17-18 <i>RB</i> 19, pt. 4, 1974, 373-414 BCM 393.79
343	8278 4058	Waterlogged deposit approx. 1m deep containing Roman finds including organic remains	1st-4th cent.	Ditching operation (Limited excavation 1980)	MKDC
345	8263 4058	Shallow ditch containing large quantity of pottery	Late 1st-early 2nd cent.	Road construction (Limited excavation 1980)	MKDC
346	8116 3969	(HODGE LEA) Group of pits and ditches	Mid 1st-2nd cent.	Road construction (Watching brief) 1978	MKDC
351	8843 3569	Rectilinear ditches containing 1st and 2nd cent. pottery. No structural evidence. Residual 3rd-4th cent. material	1st-2nd cent. with residual 3rd-4th cent. material	Lake construction 1981	MKDC
354	8905 3489	Features concentrated over an area 30m across. Some stone present—impossible to define if building material or yard surface. Site destroyed without excavation.	3rd-4th cent.	Lake construction 1982	MKDC

357	8909 3558	Pottery kiln and associated ditches destroyed by earth-scrappers. Ditch contained large quantity of kiln waste. Part of MK44	Late 1st-early 2nd cent.	Lake construction 1982	MKDC
360	8253 4058	Stone, tile and tesserae scatter on field surface associated with group of model iron weapons. Religious site	1st-4th cent.	Fieldwalking 1982	MKDC

ROMAN GAZETTEER PART II

Finds scatter suggesting occupation sites

<i>Site No.</i>	<i>N.G.R.</i>	<i>Site Name and Description</i>	<i>Date Range</i>	<i>Circumstances and Date of Discovery</i>	<i>Published Sources</i>	<i>Location of Finds</i>
53	873 335	1 small flagon found associated with 2 skeletons at approx. 0.45m deep in gravel. The remains of 4 individuals were found nearby in 1928, one of which had sword wounds to the skull. Coin of Hadrian	2nd cent.	Unknown 1921	<i>RB</i> 12, pt. 2, 1928, 57-9	BCM 115.21
58	8487 3337	Ditches, pits, sherds and building stone were found in the foundation trenches of houses		Building work 1973	<i>RB</i> 19, pt. 1, 1973, 93	Unknown
72	8940 3768	Extensive fieldwork has located a light scatter of abraded sherds on a north-facing slope. No building materials or tile have been found, although several fragments of German lava querns were located	3rd-4th cent.	Fieldwalking of ploughsoil over several years 1968-80		MKDC
77	834 371	Fragments of 2 coarse greyware vessels were found c.3-4 ft. deep. Workmen reported them in association with walls and also some coins were possibly found	2nd cent.	Construction of Loughton by-pass 1955		BCM 81.55
87	820 333	Approx. 50 sherds found in ploughsoil with a piece of tegula and part of the upper stone of a conglomerate rotary quern	1st-4th cent.	Fieldwalking ploughsoil		BCM 410.67
95	854 372	Fieldwork revealed a slight scatter of sherds, and a possible scatter of stone	2nd-3rd cent.	Fieldwalking ploughsoil 1977, 1969		MKDC

106	845 392	Several fieldwork visits have distinguished a light scatter of sherds covering a number of fields, as well as occasional burnt pebbles and a fragment of stone	2nd-3rd cent.	Fieldwalking ploughsoil 1972, 1973, 1977	MKDC
132 & 133	8382 4017	Shallow gully/pit with a compact brown/khaki clay fill containing parts of 7 vessels, all badly damaged by earth scrapers	1st-4th cent.	Construction site. Topsoil stripping 1978	MKDC
144	9032 3679	Scatter of sherds and three fragments of tile covering approx. 1200m ²	Mid 1st-early 2nd cent.	Fieldwalking ploughsoil 1980	MKDC
145	9042 3687	Light scatter of sherds	Mid 1st-2nd cent.	Fieldwalking ploughsoil 1980	MKDC
209	8875 3452	A section across the former river channel of the Ouzel revealed a number of finds in the silted-up river bed, possibly representing the eroded remains of a nearby occupation site	1st-4th cent. mainly early	Excavation for trunk foul sewer 1973	MKDC
252	829 339	Scatter of sherds and a fragment of tegula found on surface of ploughed field	2nd-4th cent.	Fieldwalking ploughsoil 1965, 1976	MKDC
271	827 391	Fieldwalking has revealed a dispersed scatter of sherds over several fields	2nd-4th cent.	Fieldwalking ploughsoil 1973, 1977, 1978	MKDC
273	8490 3399	Sherds were found associated with a ditch and gulleys	1st cent.	Construction work, 1972	RB 19, PC pt. 2 1972, 218, 219
295	830 337	Light scatter of sherds found over surface of ploughed field	1st-4th cent.	Fieldwalking ploughsoil 1976	MKDC
333	8870 3375 to 8878 3368	Quantity of roof tile and sherds from dredging adjacent to Magiovinium	1st-early 2nd and some 3rd and 4th cent.	Dredging of river Ouzel 1979	MKDC
341	9013 3672	Scatter of sherds and fragments of querns over an area of approx. 900m ² . Ploughing has also brought up several patches of dark soil and gravel. Building stone and roof tile absent	Late 1st-2nd cent.	Fieldwalking ploughsoil 1980	MKDC

ROMAN GAZETTEER PART III

Casual Find Spots

<i>Site No.</i>	<i>N.G.R.</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Date Range</i>	<i>Circumstances and Date of Discovery</i>	<i>Published Sources</i>	<i>Location of Finds</i>
34	8801 3740	Bronze coin	1st-3rd cent.	Found on playing fields, 1972		MKDC
40	8313 3998	Upper stone of rotary quern. ? Roman		Fieldwalking ploughsoil 1962		BCM 66.62
43	831 402	Base sherd	NIA	Fieldwalking 1964	BCM	67.64
50	8816 3266	2 sherds	1st-4th cent.	Dredging of canal 1966		BCM 420.67
51	8679 3342	Bronze coin Claudius Gothicus	268-70	NIA		PC
55	879 325	Sherds and 2 bronze coins of Trajan	103-17	Building work 1969		BCM 210.69 & 303.67
56	863 349	7 sherds	1st-4th cent.	Topsoil stripping 1966		BCM 428.67
57	876 320	1 sherd and fragment of tegula	NIA	NIA		PC
60	880 323 881 322	50 sherds	Late 1st- early 2nd cent.	From spoil of sewage trench		MKDC
65	8305 3968	Bronze sestertius of Faustina	138-61	NIA 1960		PC
66	8660 4035	2 abraded sherds	4th cent.	Fieldwalking ploughsoil 1968		BCM 243.68
69	853 361	1 sherd	2nd cent.	Fieldwalking ploughsoil 1977		MKDC
70	825 379	2 sherds	NIA	Ploughsoil 1962		BCM 204.62
73	846 325	4 sherds	1st-2nd cent.	Fieldwalking ploughsoil 1967		BCM 444.67
78	836 370	1 sherd	Late 1st-mid 2nd cent.	Construction of Loughton by-pass 1956		BCM 53.56
79/1	8236 3560	3 bronze coins. Claudius and Constantine III and an intaglio	1st-4th cent.	Ploughsoil		Unknown

79/2	831 366	1 sherd	NIA	Construction of private driveway 1973	BCM 261.73
80	843 402	1 sherd	Undiagnostic	Fieldwalking ploughsoil 1971	MKDC
81	843 402	1 sherd	Undiagnostic	Fieldwalking ploughsoil 1971	MKDC
83/1	7889 3987	Bronze denarius of Hadrian	117-38	NIA 1961	PC
83/2	7882 4001	Sherds	2nd-3rd cent.	Foundation trenches for building 1966	PC
84/1	7812 4096	1 pot	2nd-4rd cent.	Found during construction of bridge 1835	<i>VCH</i> 2, 11-12 BCM 85.1918
84/2	781 410	Two hipposandals		Found under foundations of bridge in 1840	BCM 320.1. 1885
84/3	783 410	3 sherds	1st-4th cent.	From dredging of river Ouse 1973	MKDC
85	841 340	Base sherd of colour-coated Nene Valley beaker	2nd-4th cent.	Allotments 1978	PC
88	839 333	Sherds	NIA	Ploughsoil (field-walking 1966)	PC
89	8854 3628	6 sherds; glazing bar	1st-4th cent.	Fieldwalking ploughsoil 1967	BCM 438.67
91	8730 3895	2 sherds	Undiagnostic	Fieldwalking ploughsoil 1977	MKDC
94	828 397	Tile fragments		Streamworks excavation 1971	MKDC
97	856 329	8 sherds	2nd-4th cent.	Spoil from water-main trench 1965	BCM 424.67
99	808 399	Tile		Fieldwalking ploughsoil 1978	MKDC
101	828 397	Sherds and tile	4th cent.	NIA 1971	MKDC
104	836 333	Sherds	1st-2nd cent.	Fieldwalking ploughsoil 1971	PC
107	889 397	Sherds	NIA	Found during stripping for gravel extraction	NA

115	801 405	1 sherd	Undiagnostic	Fieldwalking ploughsoil 1974	Unknown
118	8841 3470	9 sherds	4th cent.	Fieldwalking ploughsoil 1976	MKDC
120	8782 4133	7 sherds	Undiagnostic	Fieldwalking ploughsoil 1976	MKDC
121	8750 3917	5 sherds	1st cent.	Fieldwalking ploughsoil 1976 & 1978	MKDC
130	8385 4018	18 sherds and tile	2nd-3rd cent.	Construction work (topsoil stripping 1978)	MKDC
136	8748 3946	Sherd	2nd cent.	Construction work (topsoil stripping 1978)	MKDC
229	8514 3510	2 sherds	Undiagnostic	Fieldwalking ploughsoil 1977	MKDC
235	8514 3905	Sherd	2nd cent.	Fieldwalking ploughsoil 1973	MKDC
245	8928 3525	8 sherds	Late 2nd-4th cent.	Fieldwalking ploughsoil 1977	MKDC
250	862 411	Field boundary ditch and sherds found in fills of excavated Saxon <i>grubenhaus</i>		Excavation 1979-81	MKDC
251	884 361	3 sherds	2nd-4th cent.	Roadside ditching 1967	BCM 434.67
253	Bletchley	4 sherds	1st-2nd cent.	Grave digging 1959	BCM 453.67
266	8520 3300	Sherds	NIA	Digging of garden 1965	PC
316	903 374	1 tegula	NIA	Construction work (topsoil stripping 1973)	PC
319	8755 3901	Sherd	Late 3rd-4th cent.	Fieldwalking ploughsoil 1976	MKDC
344	850 421	Coin of Licinius I, London mint	308-13	House extension 1980	PC
350	815 390	Sestertius of Faustina I; Commemorative issue	141-60	Metal detector 1981	PC

352	817 383	Bronze bracelet	Late 3rd-4th cent.	House construction 1981	MKDC
356	8374 3759	Sestertius of Antoninus Pius	138-61	Metal detector 1981	PC
358	8273 3910	Coin of Constantine II (337-61) Contemporary forgery c.350	c.350	Metal detector 1981	MKDC
359	8470 4083	9 Roman sherds	2nd cent.	Clearing out hedge ditch 1982	MKDC