

Then and Now 1951 & 2011

Celebrating the 60th Anniversary of The Festival of Britain

1951

Agriculture

2011



Working the fields

'I'd have to walk eight miles to the farm to fetch a pair of cart horses for harvest. The horses worked in the field because you could shout at a horse and it would move on its own. Someone had to sit on a tractor!' (Richard Fountain*)

Photo courtesy Alan Herring Collection - Living Archive



Farming families

'I was the eldest child of eight. The nurse came to our house for the births. I'd have a day off school and keep the water boiling ready for her. She come on a bike from Stony Stratford.' (Bet Jones*)

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Traditional fencing and hedging c 1950

'Traditionally, you'd lay your hedges in rotation. You didn't have the modern flail mowers, you did it manually. That's why men were needed on the farm.' (Richard Fountaine*)



Photo courtesy Alan Herring Collection - Living Archive

*All featured in 'Calverton Manor Farm - A Century of Memories' available from www.livingarchive.org.uk.



Modern farming



The site of CMK which was previously farmland



The new rural landscape in the city:

Livestock feature less in Milton Keynes now, but the city's flora and fauna are far more abundant: naturalists recorded 34 species of butterfly compared with 16 in surrounding countryside.

Sheep in Campbell Park:

A flock of around 120 sheep graze the park, deterring weeds and encouraging wild flowers to flourish. (See www.theparktrust.com)