



Young Heritage Hunters

My Milton Keynes

Fishermead



Fishermead flats, 1976



A view of Fishermead c1970s

Fishermead was originally half the size it is now, stretching from the Co-operative to the Fishermead Bridge. Unlike now, Fishermead only had two shops, a bakery named Dolly Madison Bakery and the Co-operative. In the early days, much of Fishermead was fields, some of which were parks.

Fishermead was named after an old field with the street names coming from old Cornish fishing villages. The houses are arranged in terraces around a square with boulevards divided by tree-lined parking reservations. Over 1,600 houses were ready to be moved into on the 16th July 1976. All the dwellings have private gardens opening onto the central landscaped squares.

The Trinity Centre was built in 1979 to serve the recreational needs of the residents. Over the years it has held many local events. Many adult Fishermead residents have fond memories of

going to playschool and youth club back in those earlier days and still access the centre to this day.

When Fishermead was being built all the houses had flat roofs. However, because of defects they put pitched roofs on in the 1980s. In 1995 there were accusations that the council houses on Fishermead were unsafe because of many fires in the area. It was said the fire partition walls supposed to last 30 minutes only lasted seven. Also it was alleged that roofs for the houses were too heavy with cracks appearing in the concrete. In 2002 Fishermead was labelled the graffiti, vandalism and anti-social capital of Milton Keynes. Concerned residents said the estate had become an easy touch for drug-using vandals. Everything is being done to clean Fishermead up to make it a safer place to live.



By Maddie