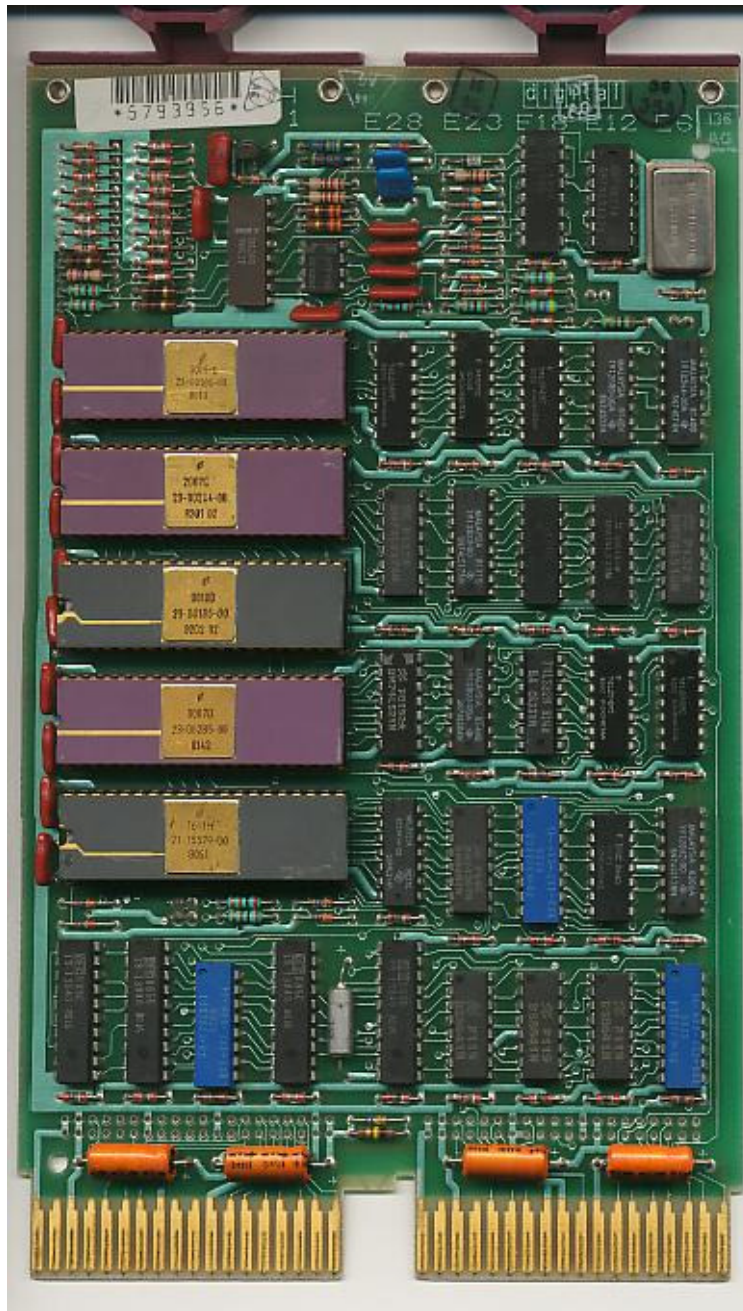


PDP 11/03-L / RX02 FLOPPY DISK SYSTEM



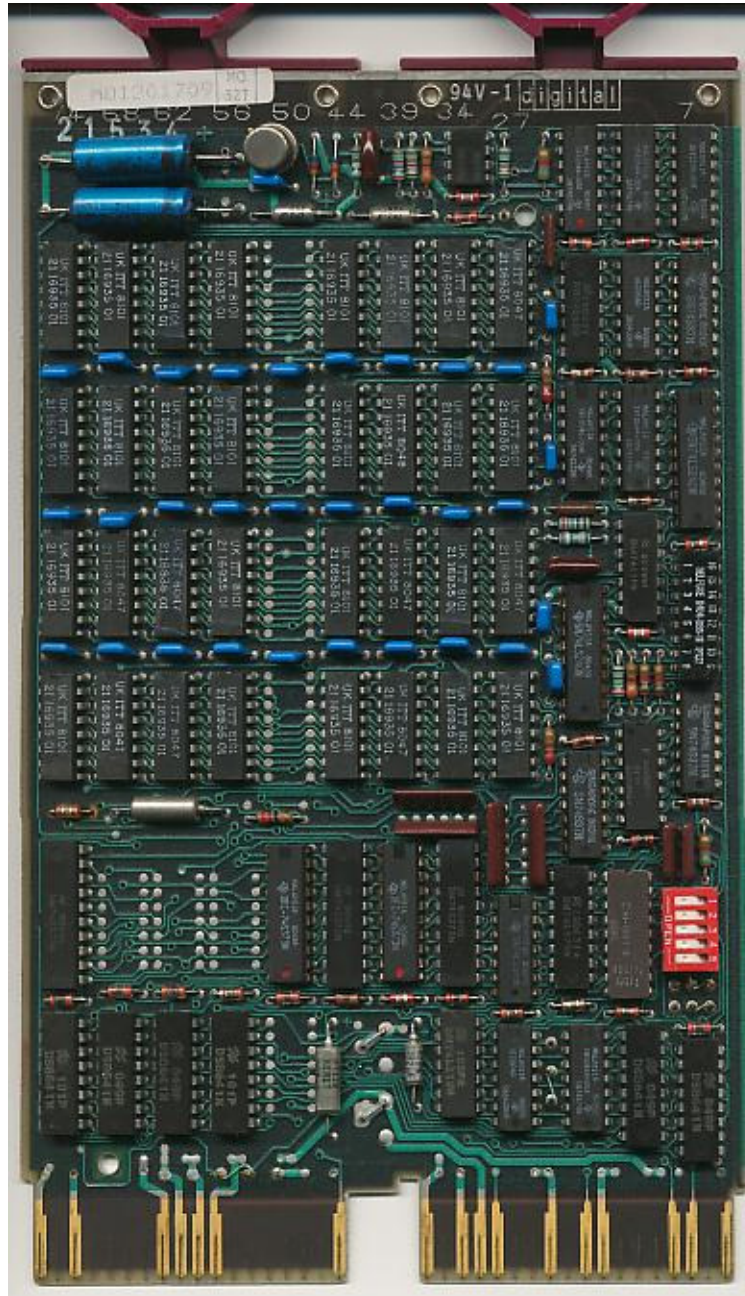
Here is an overview of the complete system rack, complete with assorted junk sitting on top of the cabinet. My air compressor makes a cameo appearance, somewhat appropriate since shop air is vital in removing dust from the many small nooks and crannies in the cabinet. Sandblasting and painting are both other jobs where the air-compressor will prove valuable in restoration of this system.

M7270 LSI-11/2 CPU KD11-HA:



This is the “brains” of my system, the LSI-11/2 Central Processing Unit. Sources are often quoted calling this the “slowest pdp-11 ever.” That may be true, but it was still one of the fastest microcomputers available in the late 1970’s and early 1980’s.

M8044 MSV11-DB 32K X 16 BIT MOS MEMORY



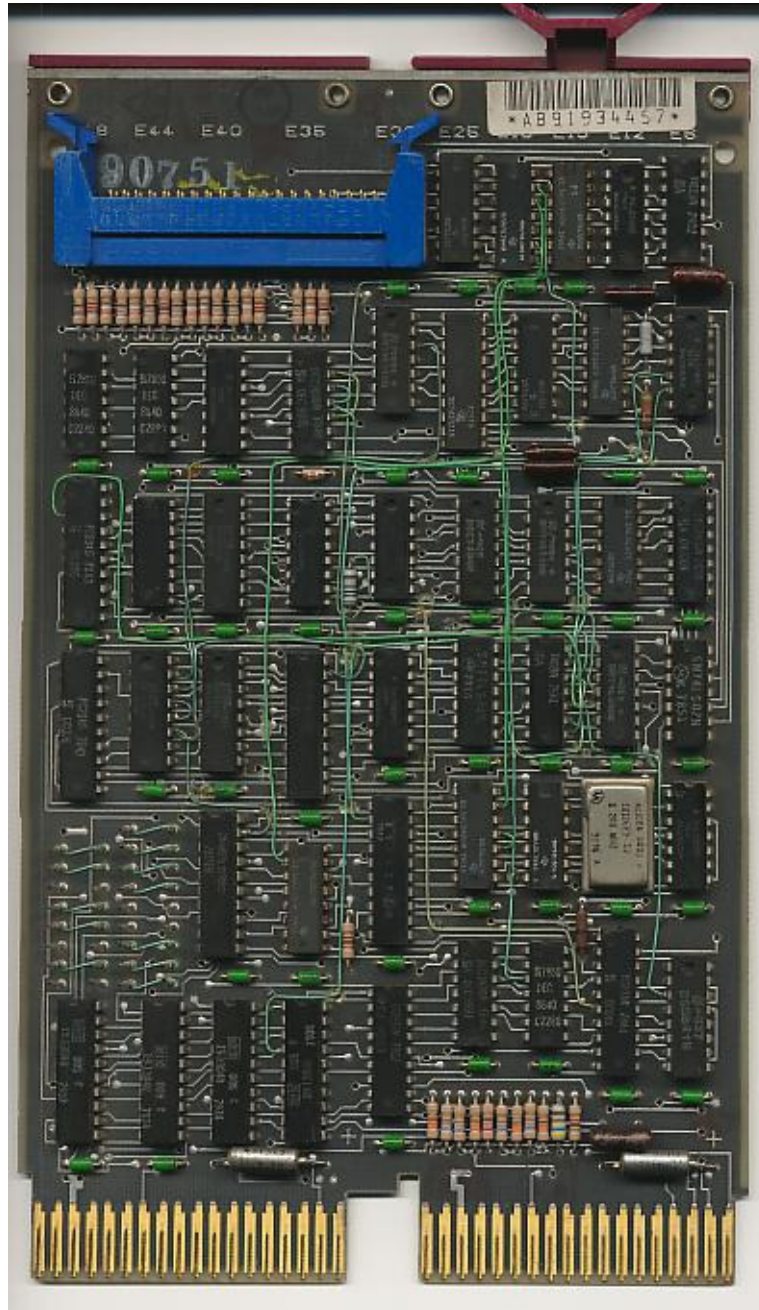
Nope, there's no core memory in this baby. Instead we have 32k words (that's 64k bytes) of MOS memory that fits on a single circuit board. Much smaller and lighter than core would have been, this was an important consideration for the embedded market.

M8043 DLV11-J FOUR-LINE ASYNCHRONOUS SERIAL INTERFACE



This card connected my pdp-11 to the outside world. Four relatively fast serial ports allowed the user to hookup a console terminal, a printer, modem, and even a mass storage device.

M8029 RXV21 RX02 FLOPPY DISK INTERFACE



The RX02 was an eight-inch floppy disk drive that stored 512k per disk (256k words.) The dual RX02 gave you a whopping 1 megabyte of online storage. I usually kept my system disk in DY0 and my data in DY1. The limited amount of online storage meant that I had a collection of system disks with “just enough” of the operating system to leave room for my programs.

RT-11 VERSION 5.3 INSTALLATION MEDIA (RX02 8" FLOPPY DISK)



This 8" floppy disk holds the first half-megabyte or so of the RT-11 operating system. All-told, the installation package includes six floppies with a total potential storage of around three megabytes. An actual installation on this system has to fit on a single 8" floppy disk (with at least 56k of swap-space), so the maximum installed size was somewhere around 450k bytes.

Not included in this set of media were the programming environments. BASIC-11, FORTRAN-IV, and MACRO assembler each came with its own installation media. The printed documentation filled nine 3" three-ring binders and made a nice photographic back-drop when displayed in a bookshelf.

Lear-Siegler ADM-5 CRT Terminal



What's the use of having a classic computer without having a few classic peripherals? This ADM-5 is hooked up as the system console. The screen image is a bit blurred, but you can see that the boot ROMs are working. The system is reporting 28k words of memory and it's asking for the device to boot from.

PDP 11/03-L Front Panel



The somewhat minimal front panel shows a “RUN” light and a “PWR OK” light. That’s all you get for “blinkerlights” with a pdp-11/03. There are actually another four status lights mounted on the BDV11, but you have to open up the back panel to see those.