ARCHIVAL SOUND RECORDINGS

Title:

Widecombe in the Moor, Devon

Shelfmark:

C908/31

Description:

Ernest talks about his early days on the farm and recalls how people were self-sufficient. Jordan and Leusdon (both just to the south of Widecombe) are nearby hamlets. Ashburton is a town to the southwest and Poundsgate a village to the south.

Lexis:

a-one = one; *stean* = earthenware pitcher or pot used for making and storing butter

Phonology:

H-dropping; rhoticity; <-Vt#> + V → [d]; <f-> → [v] (*flour* [vl9Y@`], *1914* [na:ˈndi:nvO`:di:n], *farm* [vA`:m], *farmer* [vA`:m@`], *for* [v@`], *beforehand* [bIvO`:r/and], *before* [bIvO`:] and *beautiful* [bjY:dIv=L/]); also <s-> → [z] (*sack* [zak], *you see* [jY zi:], *said* [zEd] and *somebody* [zVmb@di]) and voiceless <th-> → [D] (*things* [DINz] and *through* [Dr/Y:])

MOUTH [9Y]; GOAT [o:]; FACE [e: ~ eI]; GOOSE [Y:]; START [A`:]; NORTH [O`:]; NURSE [@`:]; FOOT [Y]; LOT [A]; lettER [@`]

note also *there* [DE@`] and *here* [I@`], *thirteen* [T@`:di:n], *wasn't* [wQd=n], *boy* [bVI], *years* [jI@`z], *after* [a:ft@`], *half* [a:f], *it was* [tw@z ~ twQz] and *it wasn't* [twQd=n], *daughters* [dO:d@`z], *little* [lId=L/], *potatOES* [p@te:d@z], *butter* [bVd@`], *it would* [twYd], *in* [i:n ~ In] and *it is* [tIz]

Grammar:

preposition, in + place-name → *to* (*I was born up there to Jordan*)

zero plural marker on nouns (*two mile*; *two hundred and eighty pound of flour*)

first person plural subject pronoun → *us* (*us used to have to walk it*; *they don't have it in sacks like us used to have to carry*; *us used to have plenty of that in the summer*; *us used to have some wood*; *us didn't have no stoves nor nothing*; *us used to have more snow*); masculine object pronoun → *he* (*I went down there as a boy with he*); → *hine* (*I worked for hine for many years*)

multiple negation (*I wasn't hardly thirteen*; *they don't have nothing*; *we didn't used to burn very much coal or nothing then*; *us didn't have no stoves nor nothing*)

preterite *come* (*after I come home from the 1914 war*; *I worked one half for a little after I come home*; *when I come home from the war*)

use of *thou* (*us used to have some wood dost* (thou) *know*?)

determiner, those → *they* (*in they days*)

zero auxiliary (*now they _ got to get the car through*)

note the use and phonetic quality of the utterance final discourse marker *dost* (thou) *know*? [dVst no:]