

Title:

Sutton, Sussex

Shelfmark:

C908/32

Description:

Mr Francis talks about his working life and compares modern farming practices with those of his younger days. Several of the interviewer's questions were edited out of the original recording. Timberley farm is just to the east of Sutton.

Lexis:

crack-up = collapse, crash; *rick* = haystack; *fag-hook* = sickle for cutting corn; *shock* = to place sheaves of corn upright and supporting each other in order to permit drying and ripening of grain before carrying; *about* = around

Phonology:

H-dropping; rhoticity

MOUTH [EU]; PRICE [AI]; START [Aː > aː]; NORTH [Oː]; NURSE [@ː]; TRAP [{}]; LOT [A]; BATH [aː]; LETTER [@ː]

note also *pretty near* [p@ːdi nI@ː] and *pretty* [pr/Idi], *off* [Oːf], *go* [g@U > guː], *little* [lId=L/], *father* [faːD@ː], *Saturday* [sad@ːdi], *it was* [tw@z], *by* [bI] and *very soon* [v@ːr/ sUn]

Grammar:

determiner, those → *they* (*put they collars on, boy!*; *there was more hard work they days*)

adjective as adverb (*pretty near seven o'clock*; *it must be pretty near lunchtime*)

first person plural *was* (*if we was far away from home*)

first person singular have + negative particle → *ain't* (*I ain't got nothing interesting*)

zero plural marker on noun (*ever so many year*; *about eight year, I think*)

preterite *give* (*I stuck the garden some little while till they give me the sack*)

preterite *come* (*things come to a crack-up and we finished that; he had four horses to see to and clean before he come out the stables at seven*)

multiple negation (*I never built none*)

zero for + general time phrase (*that rick would stand _ three weeks*)

gender assigned to it (*that rick would stand three weeks before he (= rick) was thatched*)

neuter object pronoun → *hine* (*then they'd thatch hine in*)

zero indefinite article (*shock them up, so much _ acre*)

out + zero of (*before he come out _ the stables at seven*)

