

Dialect and Oral History: The East Midlands

AUDIO RECORD*

Recording:

Reference LANt025
Dialect Location Swadlincote, Derbyshire
Date of interview 2005

Interviewee:

Gender Female
Date of birth / age 1923
Occupation Factory worker and shop worker

Summary/Transcript:

Extract taken from
4m19s – 6m21s

It subsided abou/ in the sixties (...) well see a long s/ (...) my f/ grandad my mother's father lived at the Mill Barrett Mill and Sir John Turner was to do with Moira Mining Moira Colliery company and he used to go down there fishing and shooting and that sort of thing (...) well my mother lived down there then and she used/ she'd been in gentlemen service and she used to get the lunches you know and that sort of thing from when they'd been fishing or duck shooting cos there was island (...) they used call the island where they did duck shooting and that's across Barrett Mill (...) that is/ you know the road where/ that you go into the National Forest well that is just on the other side well about a couple of fields it was down on the other side

What through subsidence?

It yeah/they drained it yeah yeah but that was what they called the mill that's where they kept all the horses like when the pit ponies we can remember them coming out of the pit they only come out at August for the fortnight or week and they used take them all down to Barrett Mill

Did you go and visit them when they were down there?

No no because we'd moved (...) we moved (...) I don't know when we moved but we moved before I was born because I was born up there so we moved before twenty-three but we/they lived down there about 1912 my mam did and her father like

No I meant did you visit as you were growing up as a kid go and look at the pit ponies when they were sort of on their annual

No cos we used see them go by (...) you see we'd got a pit up here (...) we used see them go by (...) and when they carried like the colliery field as they call it up here top of the garden had got a powder house in where they used to fetch the powder with the horse and cart and take it back to the pit and when they carried that when they mowed it and that you know they were where you used play

Linguistic description:

Phonology

| Feature | Example(s) | Comments |
|------------------|-------------------|------------|
| FOOT/STRUT → [ʊ] | lunches [lʌntʃɪz] | Consistent |

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| | | |
|------------------------------------|--|---|
| | just [dʒʊst] | |
| happy vowel | Colliery -[kɒləɪ] only [ɒnɪ] ponies [pəʊnɪz] | Consistent |
| Monophthongisation : [eɪ] → [ɛ] | take [tɛk] they – [ðɪ] | Consistent for these words |
| [aʊ] → [a] | down [da:n] or [daʊn] | Inconsistent |
| [aɪ] → [ɪ] | my – [mɪ] | Consistent for this word |
| [əʊ] → [ʊ] | go – [gʊ] | Frequent but not consistent |
| Vowel variation: /ɒ/ → [ʊ] | cos – [kʊs] | Consistent for this word |
| PRICE → [aɪ] | Like – [la:ʔ] or [laɪʔ] subsided – [sʌbsaɪdɪd] | Frequent but not consistent |
| Yod-dropping | Colliery - [kɒləɪ] | Occurs once |
| T-glottalisation | Barrett - [bæɹəʔ] | Consistent for this word |
| K-glottalisation | like – [la:ʔ] or [laɪʔ] | Consistent for this word |
| L-vocalisation | mill – [mɪʊ] | Frequent but not consistent |
| H-dropping | horses [ɔ:sɪz] here [ijə] | Consistent |
| Devoicing: /z/ → [s] | because – [bɪkʊs] cos – [kʊs] | Frequent but not consistent; word-finally |
| <-ng> → [n] | fishing – [fɪʃɪn] | Consistent |

| Lexis | Item | Meaning | Comments |
|-------|------|---------------|-------------|
| | Mam | Mum | Occurs once |
| | Like | Used as a tag | Used twice |

Grammar

| Feature | Example(s) | □ Comments |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Zero indefinite article | “Cos there was Ø island” | ‘an’, Occurs once |
| Zero infinitive ‘to’ | “They were where you used Ø play” | Frequent but not consistent |
| Non-standard tense | “They only come out” | ‘came’, occurs once |

Further comments: