

Tim, Dave and Chris remember the riverside and the mills.

Tim:

In that area where you could walk across the line, and then under the bridge into aeroplane meadow and Station road, that that was a big grass area cos I remember playing there

Dave:

Yep

Tim:

And you, you could actually walk up to the Gade but it was quite deep there. if you look at the map you can actually see there was quite a big channel in that sort of area which, I'm guessing was to do with Albion Mill which I really cannot remember.

Dave:

Albion Mill was under the viaduct.

Tim:

Oh was it? Right, OK.

Dave:

I think I'm correct in saying that.

Tim:

Bury Mill and Albion Mill were, were corn mills. In that area the river Gade was quite wide and quite a steep embankment. But but you could climb down it. But the..actually as you went further back up towards what would be.. Bridge street, my recollection is that as ..you wouldn't see much of the Gade because I think gardens came down

Dave:

came down to it yeh

Tim:

And there was lots of trees in that area, so it was all sort of dark and...

Dave:

There were some very big houses along there

Tim:

Shaded, yes

Interviewer

So when were they knocked down? those houses?

Dave:

When the new town was developed

Tim:

Yeh when the new development started

Dave:

Started yeh

Tim:

And that, that road along the back was, was was initially put in.

Dave:

Waterhouse street

Tim:

yes

Dave:

Because one of the first of the shops there was Quality House.

Tim:

yes

Dave:

The Co-op. which is now Primark, yes.

Chris:

And on the corner of Bridge Street was the Luxor. Luxor Cinema?

Dave:

Not actually on the corner.

Tim:

It was a bit further

Chris:

A bit further down like ...

Tim:

A bit further near the viaduct

Dave:

On the corner was .. the garage. I can't recollect the name but it ended up as Box Moor Motors then Hemel Hempstead Motors and it's now down by the station. And that was on the corner of Bridge Street

Tim:

There were houses all the way along Cotterells towards Bridge Street and then on from the other side of Bridge Street. Going going towards um Bury Mill? and then actually along..as you turned into Bridge Street, there were houses and, and some little grocery shops. And then the Bridge, the the bridge where the bridge is now, it, is in roughly the same

Dave:

The same

Tim:

location. And then it, and then you sort of land up going into the, the town, didn't you?

Dave:

Town yes

Tim:

But obviously the... Waterhouse Street wasn't there at all.

Interviewer

Hmm

Tim:

It just went straight through.

Interviewer 2

So, so what about the line of the Gade from sort of combe street down?

Dave:

No,

Tim:

Once again it, it was hidden because you had all the houses going along Cotterells. So Cotterells went, went all the way along to Bury, (Dave: Mill) to Bury mill. and then Bury, um Bury Hill came down into it (Dave: Yes). The old police station was on the corner there

Dave:

Yes, which is still there as flats

Tim:

That's right So it was all hidden behind the houses.

Dave:

Houses.. so you didn't see it.