

Water Gardens in Construction

Pat: Warners End was not quite finished, but there was a lot of Warners End. Chaulden, they'd only, sort of started on. We were not the first but there were still a lot of gaps that were built after we moved in. And Gadebridge wasn't started at all. Cos we used to go for walks, and, it was all fields where Gadebridge is now, you know, cos we used to walk, in the late summer they would be harvesting the crops. The Marlowes. One side of the road, most of the shops on that side of the road, as they... were built, you know, the new shops were nearly all built. The two cinemas were still there, but the shops on the other side of the road were still the old fashioned shops. The railway bridge was still there over the Marlowes. And.... Oh and yes and, where they built the pavilion, when we moved here, there were still the old electricity showrooms and the gas showrooms. But they weren't being used, they were empty then cos the new ones had been built, you know, along the Marlowes. The water gardens had been started on, obviously just laying them out. Cos I can remember where they'd... right at the end opposite where the police station is, or, where the water gardens start, along there, there was a huge... mound ofand actually it's still there now but it's got trees.. or, it was just a pile of soil. And, eventually they grassed it all over. And um, they didn't have trees on it. it was just this lovely mound and the children used to run up and down it and roll, run up and roll down !(Laugh) You know?

Deborah: Yes, I can remember doing that. I don't know how we didn't roll straight into the river but we didn't (both laugh)

Pat: Yes.. they'd started on the water gardens but some of the old sidings was.. the railway sidings were still there then, and I don't really remember a car park, but we didn't have a car, so we wouldn't have wanted to use it anyway (laugh). They were quite.. pretty, I mean it, well, I know things, they were still working on it but it, it was... nice enough to be admired, d'you, d'you understand what I'm s..? It wasn't all rough and ready, and there were no trees along the Waterhouse Street side. There were no trees there it was all lovely grass.