LOHP ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

TRANSCRIPTION OF INTERVIEW WITH MRS. JOSIE GILBERT

DATE: TUESDAY 24/01/2012

VENUE: MRS GILBERTS HOUSE: Gables Farm Bungalow, High Common, NORTH

LOPHAM, DISS, IP22 2HP. Tel: 01953 681320

BORN: 23/01/1928 in Easton, NORWICH

Moved to North Lopham when married in 1954 (aged 26) Maiden name was Carver

2 brothers-remained in Norwich (later mentioned one was killed in 2ndWW)

FATHER: Green Keeper for a Golf Course

SCHOOL: in Norwich. Left at age 14 during war.

HUSBAND: Farmer in North Lopham. Met at a dance-(he was over 10 years older than her.)

FARMING: Continued to farm. Mainly Arable. Few chickens and pigs and a 'house cow' for milk and butter

Farm house had no electricity-oil lamps and generator. Cooked on Rayburn. Now oil fired (approx 20 years ago)

Remembers used to cut and stoke wheat and pitch bundles of straw.

Grew sugarbeet, wheat and barley (winter barley)

Used small lorries,1 man to hedge and ditch. She used to drive the tractor .Harvest time there would be someone come with combine harvester

WILDLIFE: Remembers lots of Rabbits and Crows. Thinks there were more Sparrows and Thrushes then.

She had no experiences or memories of River Ouse or the Fens or Flooding.