

Thorne & Hatfield Moors Oral History Project

Interview with: John Isle

Date: 24th November 2006

Interviewer: Lynne Fox

Summary

John Isle's family have been farmers in Crowle for generations. His farm includes a piece of Crowle Moor which he currently manages for wildlife.

Location and description of farm and land / soil

Description of Crowle Moor as a child

1956 fire on Crowle Moors

Shooting on the moor when older

British Moss Litter's fire watch

Ponies transporting peat to Medge Hall, trams

Peat gravers and their wives – sometimes sought casual farm work if couldn't work on the moors

Small independent peat mills

Parcels of moor included in Enclosure Award

Description of his own parcel of moor – management for conservation in partnership with English Nature

Deer population – associated problems

Process of moor regeneration – surprised how quickly this is happening on his own piece