

TRANSCRIPTION OF ENGLISH PARTS OF THE TAPE

I am in the home of Mr. Ben Porter. His home is 292 West Broadway, Muskogee. He is a Creek Indian and he is 67 years old. Before he came to Muskogee, he said that he used to live near Okemah in a community called Okfuskee. It was about 15 miles from Okemah, Oklahoma. And he said that there were about fifty families living in that community, mostly Indians. There were a few white people living around them too. Before I started interviewing him, he had already started talking about how they used to live and what they used to do. So I didn't bother to stop him right in the middle of his story. In the first part, where I was supposed to ask him about his name and so forth. I left a space here so that I could put this in. And so he was already talking about how they used to go fishing, and how they used to run them off, and then how the game warden used to come down and the Indians couldn't--like they used to long time ago, because they said they were killing the fishes that was in the water. And so in some of these things that he told, I will interpret on written paper. And then there's some times when he spoke in English, I just go ahead and put it down anyway. And now if you listen in this recording, you will hear some of those things that he spoke in English, it's mostly in Creek. He lives by himself because he lost his wife about over a year ago. This first part where he talked about catching those fish out of the river. He was telling how they used to get hungry going after the fish and where in the part where they were laughing, he was saying that this man Isaac Deer that was with them, said he wished he had some spare ribs and they were fussing at him because they were hungry it just made them that much more hungry. And so, the next thing he talked about was Me Ko Ha Nia. That means, medicine, medicine root what the Indians used to use long time ago. He said his daddy used to have a little book with a song where they sing it, to this medicine and use it. And then they used to use a little stick to