

T-654 (Second of two Interviews)
MAGGIE CULVER FRY, CHEROKEE
INTERVIEWED BY: VELMA NEIBERDING
INTERVIEW DATE: MAY 15, 1971
TRANSCRIBED BY: VICKI DAVIS
TRANSCRIPTION CHECKED BY:
MARY HOMER WIKA

GENERAL SUBJECT: LIFE HISTORY MATERIALS; DESCRIPTION OF BOOKS
SHE HAS WRITTEN, SONGS SUNG AND COMPOSED BY HER BROTHER

TOPICS DISCUSSED:

LIFE HISTORY AND WRITING INTEREST
TALKS OF GRANDFATHER
DISCUSSES RECORD

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT:

Maggie Culver Fry born in 1900 at Vian, Oklahoma. Her father George Buckskin Waters came over on the Trail of Tears. Mrs. Fry is a writer of stories of her tribe and poems, one of which has been set to music and recorded. She attended school in Muskogee County.

LIFE HISTORY AND WRITING INTEREST

This is Maggie Culver Fry, giving some historical data on my early life. I was born in Vian, Indian Territory in 1900. And my mother Maggie Waters Culver, was a native of that area. Her father George Buckskin Waters, came over the Trail of Tears as a little boy. And settled in the area there. And my mother never knew of any other place than Vian, and that was where I was born. And grew up, and now I don't know what to say.

(Tell about your writing, Maggie?)

I have been writing since I was a little girl, nothing of any consequence, and in the early days my mother always thought I would be a writer. And was very enthusiastic about some of the poems that I did, when I was twelve years old and younger. And I'm afraid that I've disappointed her to an extent, because she really thought I was going to be something great.

(No, I don't think you did.)

But any way my grandfather, this first book that I wrote, was a book on, I call it the "Witch Deer" from the legend of the Witch Deer, that I believe that it is contain in Moony's Myth of the Cherokee. And before the Cherokee came from Cherokee east in Georgia. I believe it was a Witch Deer called. It was