

Well, all I know is they had a place where they stomped, just like this--they had one over here close to Kenwood in them days and they had one here north over close to Strang and then they had another one close to Mark over there a long time ago. Just places like that just here and yonder they go to them places and have a meeting. Have stomp dance all night, probably three or four nights at a time. When I was about third grade, you remember the time that I was telling you about the parents were separated, they send me to Bacone College over there, I been going to college, this orphan's school they had down there. I went to school down there about half year and then Christmas time. I remember the ---they have water heaters. The line bust down and they couldn't fix it. Me and one of them boys, he (Roy Snake) was out here at orphans home and we come back home. And next time why, they sent me to the Wyandotte Indians. --I kept running off. I didn't like the place. Course I was a great big boy then, I didn't care much I guess. I kept running off every two weeks.

(--your experiences Sam, do the Cherokees seem to be preserving their old traditions and their language today? Are they passing it on to their children like they should?)

No. No, see they don't teach their little children how to talk Cherokee anymore, hardly, only what they talk among themselves how to say things.

(Well, I wonder if there's anything that can be done to encourage it.)

Well, we talked about that a lot of times, they go to school and learn how to talk English in their schools and come back and never talk Indian. We can talk and understand one another how to say things, talk to them. They can talk Cherokee at home but they know how to talk it that away.