

T-266

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JESS ROWLIDGE, ARAPAHO

TRANSCRIBED BY: JULIA A. JORDAN

INTERVIEWED BY: JULIA A. JORDAN

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GENERAL SUBJECT:

EXPERIENCES AT HASKELL INDIAN SCHOOL
LIFE HISTORY MATERIALS RELATING TO COURTSHIP AND MARRIAGE

PARTICULAR TOPICS DISCUSSED:

EXPERIENCES AT HASKELL INSTITUTE

REASON FOR GOING TO SCHOOL: TO GET AWAY FROM GIRLS

CLOTHES AT HASKELL

SUMMER VACATIONS: HOW SPENT

TROUBLES WITH GIRLS

GIRL FRIENDS

MARRIAGE: WHAT JESS WANTED IN A WIFE AND HOW HE GOT HIS FIRST WIFE

MARRIAGE: HOW JESS MET AND MARRIED HIS SECOND WIFE

ARAPAHO CUSTOMS SURROUNDING MARRIAGE: OBTAINING A WIFE THROUGH HER UNCLES AND BROTHERS

OTHER GIRL FRIENDS

WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN A WIFE

JESS'S FATHER'S ADVICE ABOUT GIRLS

PERSONAL APPEARANCE: JESS'S FATHER'S ADVICE ON
GIFT EXCHANGE AMONG RELATIVES

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT:

Jess Rowlidge is between 82 and 84 years old and is a well-known and respected leader among the Arapahoes. He is fairly well educated and articulate, and has travelled extensively on tribal business, having visited Washington, D.C. a number of times. He has been active in tribal politics for many years and has helped the Arapahoes in pressing their claims cases against the government. Nevertheless, Jess is well-versed in the traditional culture of his tribe and anxious for at least some parts of it to be preserved. He is one of the two surviving members of the StarHawk Society, one of the old age-grade warrior societies. And has often expressed hope that this organization would be revived in modern times. He is a peyotist, as well as a member of the Baptist Church, and feels that the peyote ceremony has given him some of his greatest personal fulfillment as well as inspiration. Jess is no stranger to the role of teacher-informant in communicating knowledge about Arapaho culture. He has known and worked with such people as A.L. Kroeber, James Mooney, Morris Smith, Sister Inez Hilger, and Fred Eggan. Rowlidge was born in 1884.

(This tape is a continuation of the interview begun on T-265 and is completed on T-267.)