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JOSEPH WHEELER, WICHITA
INTERVIEWED BY: WILLIAM BITTLE
INTERVIEW DATE: JUNE 24, 1970
TRANSCRIBED BY: WILLIAM BITTLE

GENERAL SUBJECT: BRIEF LIFE HISTORY DATA; RAIN CEREMONY; OLD OLD; CONTEMPORARY ECONOMIC AND LAND PROBLEMS; ALLOTMENTS; WICHITAS IN KANSAS

TOPICS DISCUSSED:

RAIN CEREMONY
CONTEMPORARY AND ECONOMIC AND LAND PROBLEMS
WICHITAS IN KANSAS

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT:

Joseph Wheeler was born in [illegible]. He and his wife Ethel, live on Ethel's allotment, some five miles west [illegible] and one and one half miles north of State Highway [illegible]. Both are relatively traditional in their outlook, and both are active participants in Wichita affairs. Ethel's brother, Louis Saloka, is currently chairman of the Wichita Tribal Council. The house in which they live was built in the early twenties and is a typical rural Indian home, in poor repair, but neatly furnished and well-kept. Although there are several out-buildings close to the house, none but the latrine are in use. Ethel maintains a small garden about an acre, south of the house in which she grows corn, tomatoes, squashes, beans and Indian pumpkin. Joseph Wheeler has had a cataract for many years, and as a result has lost the eye, by amputation and is confined to a wheelchair. He is quite deaf, again the result of diabetes, and has some difficulty in seeing. Both are extremely affable and responsive, and both are interested in talking with interviewers. They are not at all secretive about Wichita culture and affairs, and have strong opinions about many aspects which [illegible].