T-305 John Tickeater, Cherokee

BRIEF INTRODUCTION

(August 5, 1968. Today I'm visiting with John Tickeater, an 75 year old fullblood Cherokee of Dog Creek/Community, Rogers County, Oklahoma. Mr. Tickeater tells some very interesting things, about his life on Yellow Springs Creek and Dog Creek farms. Tells of making fence rails, building log houses, old Indian graves and burials, early settlers around Bushyhead Village, food supplies in the early days, raising of tobacco and so forth.)

EARLY DAY ACTIVITIES,

--'oh they sure would beat that old drum.

(Those Shawnees we're good dancers, and good singers.)

And they were good people --

(And they were good people, yeah. Well, let's see Abraham Brown, Calvin Bick, Carpenter, Franklin all those Shawnees.)

I don't know. Oh, (I lay around here and get to thinking about them old time ways down there. I guess they're all gone now.

(Just about all gone. I haven't been able to find many of them.)

I haven't be en back there in I don't know when in that part of the country. We used to go down there in the buggy. Go down there, go up through Chelsea . and White Oak -- turn there at White Oak, go west in those Shawnee Hills.

(Well, those hills are still there but the people are gone--most of them.) They all died out.

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(Well, there's several young Indians still living.)

Yeah, I guess there are. John and Noah. I guess they're still there someplace. (Where did you golks live when you were up there?)

We lived up there of, about a mile, east of Bushyhead.

(Well over there on Dog Creek there wasn't it?)

Yéah.