

Informant: Myrtle Unap, Osage

Interviewed by: Katherine Maker 12-10-68

Transcribed by: Cynthia Bivens

BRIEF INTRODUCTION

(I am Katherine Maker, full-blood Osage Indian. I am a field worker for the American Indian Institute of the University of Oklahoma. We are in the home of Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Unap of Hominy, Oklahoma. We are interviewing Mrs. Unap about her childhood, how she lived as she grew up. And she will tell of her life as a child of an Osage Indian home. Here is Mrs. Unap.)

EARLY CHILDHOOD ON THE FARM - ADMIRER HER FATHER AND MOTHER

I want to take this opportunity to relate the story of my early childhood. We lived on an eighty acre farm, northwest of Hominy, Oklahoma. And I was the second daughter, the fourth child of the family of Mr. & Mrs. Robert Morrell, both deceased. I'd like to elaborate a little, first, of my father. I thought he was a most remarkable man. And he was a full-blood Osage Indian who wore his hair in braids as in the olden times. And although he was a full-blood Indian, he believed in progress and modern times. And during our upbringing, he taught us many things, and I called it a wonderful life. A full wonderful life. My father was a most industrious man. Although he had adequate income to provide for his family, he believed in teaching his children the values of life. And we learned many things from him. During our early upbringing, he raised cattle, he raised grain, and we always had a big garden, and we all worked these things. He taught us to actually get out and work in the fields and in the garden to provide food for the family in abundance. We used to--he had--he raised cattle. And I can remember when he used to take his cattle to market. He and his hired hands would drive the cattle to the railroads, and he and his foreman and helpers would load the cattle into the rail cars and he would take them to Kansas City. And it must have been an odd sight, in Kansas City, although we never went with him. But as I remember