

INFORMANT: MYRTLE LINCOLN, ARAPAHO

INTERVIEWED BY: JULIA A. JORDAN

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INTERVIEW DATE: JUNE 18, 1969

GENERAL SUBJECT: LIFE HISTORY WITH ADDITIONAL MATERIAL ON FARMING, INDIAN WEDDINGS, AND ARAPAHO DANCES

PARTICULAR TOPICS DISCUSSED:

MYRTLE'S CHILDHOOD AND MARRIAGE

HOW MYRTLE AND HER HUSBAND LIVED

LIFE IN OLD DAYS

JOKING RELATIONSHIPS

INDIANS HAVE MANY RELATIONS

SENDING HER CHILDREN TO SCHOOL

WORKING AT FARM LABOR

ARAPAHOS FARMING AND MYRTLE'S FARMING EXPERIENCE

CATTLE OBTAINED THROUGH STOCK REDUCTION PROGRAM

MYRTLE'S GARDEN

NAMING CUSTOMS AND HAIR CUTTING CEREMONY

INTERMARRIAGE WITH CHEYENNES

ARAPAHO LANGUAGE AND DIRTY WORDS

ARAPAHO MARRIAGE CUSTOMS

EXCHANGE OF GIFTS AT INDIAN WEDDINGS

INDIAN WEDDINGS

MARRIAGE TO MORE THAN ONE WOMAN AND GOVERNMENT ABOLITION OF PLURAL MARRIAGES

MYRTLE DISLIKED BY HER SISTER-IN-LAW

GIRL WHO DIDN'T LIKE HUSBAND SELECTED FOR HER

MYRTLE'S COUSINS GOOD TO HER HUSBAND

ARAPAHO SUN DANCE: LAST SUN DANCES IN OKLAHOMA

GOURD DANCE

STAR HAWK AND TOMAHAWK LODGES

OLD TIME WOMEN'S SOCIETY

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT:

Myrtle Lincoln was born at Cantonment in 1888. Her father was Bad Man, an Indian policeman, and her mother was Red Feather. Myrtle was an orphan by the age of 13. A grandmother helped raise her, and later an aunt took her, but she stayed at Cantonment boarding school much of the time. Myrtle's marriage to Howard Howling Buffalo or Howard Lincoln was arranged by her uncle, Coal Fire. Myrtle and Howard had seven children, two of whom--daughters--are living today. One son was killed in World War II, and two other sons were killed in local accidents. Myrtle and her husband supported themselves by farming on tribal land and doing farm labor for neighboring white farmers. They moved to a place near Cantonment in 1936, and Myrtle has lived at this place ever since. Myrtle has also worked as a cleaning woman in Canton. She now lives on a very small Social Security allotment and a small income from a land lease. She is well-known to Indians and whites in the Canton area and her status as a Gold Star mother has earned her a great deal of respect. She appears to be in very good health, for her age, and is active and quick and alert.

Note: This interview took place in shade of trees outside Myrtle's one-room house west of Canton. Her daughter, Imogene Mosqueda, is present and participates in the interview.