

FUNERALS AND PROCEDURE IN EARLY DAYS

(You know this funeral they have, you know they put quilt over the casket. You know how that started? Why?)

I don't know how it started but ever Indian you see they'll do that. And now they have them things that they roll it down with it. But them days they took ropes and put a railing on top of that hole. And then put that coffin on there till they was ready to put it down: They took ropes and put it down. Now days them funeral homes got the best of them.

Third voice: Make it easier.

(Did they have funeral homes back in those days? Do you remember?)

No. They didn't have any till, in 19--1910, I believe that's when they started.

(Oh.)

I don't know how it started. But they didn't have any. And when Indian died they didn't embalm them. And when they go to puffing up, you know, if it's in summertime they get a white cloth, put salt on it and put it on their stomach to keep from

(Bloating up.)

Uh-huh. And then they had to make their own coffin.

(How long did they keep the body?)

Sometimes three or four days.

(I guess it would be spoiled by then, wouldn't it?)

No, it didn't. I don't know how they kept it but it didn't.

(Then you know they put little, make little house on top after they died. Could you tell me why they do it--is it on a certain day after they bury the--?)

No. They could put little house on same day after they bury them. But they have, all of us have little house on keep from raining in. See the rain