

T-601

OTIS RUSSELL, OSAGE

INTERVIEWED BY: LEONARD MAKER

INTERVIEW DATE: MAY 14, 1969

TRANSCRIBED BY: VICKI DAVIS

TRANSCRIPTION CHECKED BY: NONA KERR

GENERAL SUBJECT: OSAGE CLANS AND MEANING; MISCELLANEOUS STORIES AND SUBJECTS; SOME LIFE HISTORY MATERIALS; WEDDING CEREMONIES

TOPICS DISCUSSED:

INFORMATION CONCERNING CLANS - THERE ARE MANY

ORIGINAL OSAGES - SKEPTICAL

MORE ABOUT CLANS - LEADERS

CLAN LAWS - MARRIAGE CEREMONIES

MANY CLANS - DIFFERENT LAWS FOR EACH

ONE OSAGE LEADER OVER ALL CLANS - CHIEF

OSAGES CAME TO OKLAHOMA FROM KANSAS AND MISSOURI

MR. BLACKBIRD SERVED IN UNION ARMY

KIOWAS AND COMANCHES HAD A BATTLE NEAR HOBART

MANY BUFFALO IN DAYS BEFORE SURVEYORS CAME

SEVERAL INDIAN TRIBES CAME TO OKLAHOMA ABOUT THE SAME TIME

CONCERNING LANGUAGE - DANCE CEREMONIES

OSAGE DANCES ARE SACRED

SEVERAL STORIES HANDED DOWN FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION

BURIAL CUSTOMS IN EARLY DAYS

NO DOCTORS IN EARLY DAYS - HOME REMEDIES

MORE ABOUT CLANS - FAMILY TREE - MARRIAGES

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT:

Otis Russell is in his late 80's. He lives in the Enterprise District between Fairfax and Hominy, Oklahoma on his original allotment. His first wife was Angela Peace, a full blood Osage from Fairfax. They had two daughters both of whom are deceased. He is a veteran of World War I and served overseas. He is now married to a Cherokee woman. Mr. Russell is the oldest living full blood Osage. He is very willing to talk about his past history and that of his people, their customs and ceremonies, but is difficult to understand due to his age and also, a slight speech impediment.