

(When you used to go out and get these soapweed flowers, would you just pick the flowers off the stem?)

Yeah. Just take the leaves (flowers). That stem is standing there, but just what bloom on top of that. Some kind of a round thing. They used to just take it off and put it in a pan. And till they think they got enough.

(Are there many of those that grow around here?)

Yeah, they grow around here.

(Could they ever use those leaves for anything?)

MAKING BASKETS

Oh, we used to--them leaves--them sharp ones--they used to make baskets. Weave baskets out of them.

(Very big baskets?)

Oh, some round and some kind of round shape--

(Did you ever make any yourself?)

I tried it, but I give up! Just put them like that--like you would weave a basket. They used to make them.

(Did the Arapahoes ever make baskets of any kind besides those?)

Oh, yeah, they did. They had something like that basket. They used to get them from the Agency. They used to make baskets. And they get pay for it. All over someone make designs on them, like put a bird on it or some Indian design. They used to make them. Kate Osage still makes them.

(What did they look like?)

Oh, you've seen these baskets in town? They just look like that, you know. They had willow sticks. They used to bend them and put that thing on there.

(This thing they put around the willow sticks--is that what they used to get from the store?)