

T-673

BERTHA PROVOST, WICHITA

INTERVIEWED BY: WILLIAM E. BITTLE

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DATE OF INTERVIEW: 7-14-68

GENERAL SUBJECT: WICHITA CULTIVATED AND WILD PLANT FOODS;
WICHITA GAMES

PARTICULAR TOPICS DISCUSSED:

FOOD DISHES MADE FROM CORN

BEANS, HARVESTING AND USE OF IN FOOD DISHES

PUMPKIN: HARVESTING AND STORAGE OF; PREPARATION FOR
DRYING, ETC.

MEAT EATEN

MORE ON PUMPKIN

SWEET POTATOES: VARIETY USED, PLANTING, STORING AND
PREPARATION OF

WILD PLANT FOODS USED: PLUMS, MESQUITE BEANS, HACK-
BERRIES, WALNUTS, ETC.

SALT

KNOWLEDGE OF MEDICINES LOST

WOMEN'S STICK GAME

WOMAN'S BALL GAME AND MEN'S BALL GAME (SHINNY)

WICHITA HAND GAME

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT:

Bertha Provost is in her early sixties. She knows a great deal about traditional Wichita horticulture and food preparation. She is fairly well educated and has lived in the western Oklahoma area near Anadarko most of her life. She is active in the Baptist Mission among the Wichitas.

NOTE: The linguistic rendition of certain Wichita terms are approximate in this manuscript, but the pronunciations are plain and can be heard clearly on the tape.

(General discussion about road conditions, and the section roads that lead to Thomas Bentley's trailer.)

FOOD DISHES MADE FROM CORN

(We were talking last time about the foods that you could make out of corn.)

Yea, I was thinking about those. There's another dish, one or two more. That hominy, I was talking about. Now, we can use the same hominy, make about maybe two pints of it, and you can put that in a kettle, and let it boil, boil, boil...until the hominy is made, you see. They open up, like popcorn. Well, after that is done, we use this corn meal, I told you we always