

fine art phase of painting. And since I was already through high school, and a year of vocational work, there was no allowances for post graduate studies. So that ended it there, so I came here to Bacone, mostly to play football, cause Haskell, following Carlise, had the big name college teams that they played, and Bacone did have a terrific athletic program at that time. But I did come here initially to play football and I did find that Acee Blue Eagle, one of our well know painters, was in my position then, and he started me on my Indian painting. And I look back in retrospect, he did show me and taught me some very important things. Initially I think I had the background, having spent most of my early childhood with my grandparents, who spoke or would not use the English but they spoke only in Cheyenne, And I found this coming back as the background for our native Indian paintings, legends, stories, customs. And my native capacity for art, I think they gave me directions. This is how it's done, what to do, gave me--

(This is Acee Blue Eagle?)

Acee, yes. So I do respect Acee and where he stands in our art picture, he gave me my beginning here, and perhaps my second year I thought that I had a poor academic background for college level work. But most of my work was in the realm of background for college vocational training but we were able to make up here academically, and my last year perhaps I got a little serious about, since I found art. They were figuring I could continue at a university such as OU. But I did go on with interested people who wanted to help me, and I hit the University of Oklahoma about the time that Dr. Jacobson was the chairman of the art school, perhaps at a sympathetic year and a real concern for the American Indians art was perhaps instrumental in my succeeding in the field of art.

(In that day Dick when you were at Haskell, and other places, you had, even though, did they recognize this innate talent? If they did was there anybody that had the interest to try to develop it?)

Well, first I would say no, Boyce because not as now, they, I don't think that was in the program as far as training the American Indian. I think very little allowance was granted as mechanical dexterity, so everything was steered so far as I could see toward that direction. For vocational training. And those that did, they're