

This Harry Black. And a fellow by the name of Mike Brown from Wyoming. I made him a present of that trip, you might say. He was a friend of mine and his wife got a way with my wife and we're always stuck together. And I says, "My friend, you been coming here before we were married. I give you money and I give you a gourd and drumsticks and all this, but this time I'm gonna give you a bigger present." He looked at me a long while. His wife was sitting there with my wife. After a while he said, "Yeah," he said. "I'd sure be thankful." I says, "In April I'm going take you down to Texas. There's no other northern Cheyenne or Arapaho that's ever been down there to see that peyote country and see that peyote grow and grub it himself and pray down there. So you'll be the first one. That's your present." "Oh!" he said, "I'll never forget that." I did take him o a there. And he did drive (?) a while and found the first peyote and I told him to come here. So he and Harry Black came and we sat down there and we prayed and they offered smoke-- we always smoke, you know -- our prayer, and then we grub that peyote out. I think he's got that peyote yet. And right after that same, day, I found a petrified peyote--double growth. Beauty--just rock! The form was there and the root was there, and I heard once since then--I don't know how true it is--I never ask my friend about it--he said they went to Waltzio (?) Nebraska, those Winnebagoes and Omahas over there, they use peyote, you know, long time. And I heard they showed that peyote and those boys coaxed them to leave that peyote at the Indian hospital there. Just for a kind of sacred sacrament purposes. I heard he left that peyote--that petrified peyote. I never asked him about it. But that was petrified. I found that. Just a perfect shape. And the root itself was froze or something like that, or heat or something like that caused it to petrify. But the stem was there, and the root and the top was just as green. Of course the color was a little green, but not -- it's sort of -- well, it turned to rock, you know. But it's perfect.

(What did you do with it?)

I gave it to this northern Arapaho. That's the one they said the Winnebagoes borrowed that from to leave in that Winnebago Hospital, Walter Hill, Nebraska. I don't know how true--he might have it yet, or else he might have left it with those Indians.

(Did you use it in any ceremony or anything?)