

Howard: They didn't have nothing to show the history of the Apaches. Only in the mind--what people remember that's old--handed down by word of mouth. That's the only way that their history has went down the line, as far as people are concerned.

(Were there any people that were better instructed in their own history than other or what were--knew more stories about the old days than others?)

Howard: Yeah, several of them, yeah. There's some people that's pretty good at remembering things, discussing it to the next person. Other people like me, they didn't know anything. One thing about me is I get my Kiowa-Apache and my Mescalero Apache stories mixed up. I had a step-mother who was a Mescalero Apache. And I heard more stories from her than I did from my dad.

(Do you remember any of the stories?)

Howard: No, not in detail. They usually went out and sit in the yard and spread out a canvas and tell stories, my daddy and I. Mother said to get out there and set there for I don't know--way up into the night--just the two. There was some fair stories, you know, the Kiowa-Apache stories and then the Mescalero stories. They'd tell these stories to each other and compare them. Of course I stayed there for just a bit and when I got sleepy I went to bed. So I didn't get most of that.

(Would this be in the summertime?)

Howard: Mostly in the summertime--

(Do you remember any of the stories that your father used to tell?)

Howard: No, none of them. As I said, I wasn't interested in anything like that. While I was around them I did hear them here and there but I wouldn't pay no attention to it.

MESCALERO APACHES - USE OF AGAVE FOR FOOD

(Do you remember what kind of stories they were--what the subject was?)

Howard: Well, as I remember, they talked about everything. Every phase of