T-2-3

Indian Institute
University of Oklahoma

T-2-3 (Kickapoo)
MATTIE MURDOCK, KICKAPOO
TRANSCRIPT OF TAPE MADE 6-8-
INTERVIEWED BY: J. JORDAN
TRANSCRIBED BY: J. JORDAN

GENERAL SUBJECT: KICKAPOO HOUSES, SUMMER HOUSE AND WINTER HOUSE.

(PARTIAL TRANSCRIPT OF TAPE MADE MARCH 1, 1967)

(Tell me your name.)

Mattie Murdock.

(How old are you?)

Sixty-nine.

(Have you lived here a long time?)

I don't know how many years I lived here--it must be around 30 years.

(Tell me about the summer house and the winter house.)

O.K. Well, I build these summer houses and I have to cut the poles, you know. All those poles I have to cut and build that summer house, and I have to put top on. And in the fall time I have to go and cut cat-tails. Have to go in the water. Sometimes it's cold and some places it's deep. That's where there's good cat-tails, though--where its' deep. So we bring them home and have to start working on them. After that we have to tie 'em together, sew them with a long needle. So, have to turn 'em around, sew 'em on both sides. It's a job. After we finish, then we build our winter house. Put the poles up and put the top on it. And it's work--we have to work and put 'em on, put the cat-tails on it. And we have an open fire in there and we cook in there. We used to cook in there but we don't any more since we live in these kind of houses. We used to sleep there and cook there and we still like to eat the bread what's cooked in a dutch oven. You know what dutch oven is. That's what we always cook our bread in. And we hang a pot over the fire and boil something--soup or something. So we live there all winter long. It's pretty near time to move back in them things. Have to move back in there (summer house) pretty soon. Have to tear that (winter house) down and put the top on that other one and stay there all