

(Did your grandmother ever tell you that story?)

No.

(Did your mother ever tell you some other stories?)

Oh, they tell us lot of stories, but I don't know them. I was too small yet to know anything like that.

(Did your father ever tell you any stories?)

No. Men don't tell no stories, no. Just the women.

KEEPING TRACK OF YEARS BY MAKING MARKS ON ELKHORN SCRAPERS

(You know a long time ago--before any of the Arapahoes went to school--was there any way they used to keep track of the years?)

Oh, they used to just put marks on their scrapers--what they used to use--them deerhorns. They used to be curved like this, and they this was bone, you know. They used to mark them down--the years. They didn't know the date or anything like that--months--but they just marked down every year. That's how they used to know.

(If they were marking down every year, what kind of marks would they make?)

Just straight marks.

(What did they use to make the mark with?)

A knife. Carve it like this.

(Make sort of a slash mark with it?)

Yeah.

(Would these marks mean anything?)

No. They just--when they count the years, you know. They just count them if they see them marks.

(When would they start making the marks--like if you had a new scraper--who would make the marks--?)

Just the woman. Any woman.

(Was there any particular time she would make those marks?)

Oh, they just go by the years, I guess.

(Would each mark mean one year?)

Yeah.

(Did they ever remember things that happened in each one of those years?)

Yes, they used to tell about it.