

things--hide scrapers--deer and elk and antelope, bear.

(Was it customary for a woman to keep her awls down here in these holes?)

Yeah, oh, yeah. Some of them. Just the metal part (of the awl). Some women keep them in there.

(Why would they do that?)

Sometimes they have to mend some little torn patches in the hide when they're working them, and they have an awl.

AWLS

(This would be a metal awl?)

Yeah, metal awl. Steel.

(What about bone?)

They don't use bone, hardly. Don't use bones.

(What did they make their metal awls out of?)

Well, sometimes they--the Plains Indian knew how to temper iron to steel, you know. They heat that put cold water on it and temper it. Make good steel out of it. And then of course they file points for the awls, and put handles on them.

(Where did they get their iron?)

Sometimes they got it off pieces of guns, or just some part of--maybe some army metal, wherever there's metal--soldiers' material. They get those from those places. And they used to get some of this iron that they made awls out of from parasols and umbrellas, you know--the frame.

(Have you ever heard of Arapahoes putting nails in their (scrapers)--like this?)

No, I've never heard of it.

(Do you have any idea why these might be in here?)

No, I don't have any idea. I wouldn't know why.