

T-266

JESS ROWLDGE, ARAPAHO
TRANSCRIBED BY: JULIA A. JORDAN
INTERVIEWED BY: JULIA A. JORDAN
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*Indian Institute
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GENERAL SUBJECT:

EXPERIENCES AT HASKELL INDIAN SCHOOL
LIFE HISTORY MATERIALS RELATING TO COURTSHIP AND MARRIAGE

PARTICULAR TOPICS DISCUSSED:

EXPERIENCES AT HASKELL INSTITUTE
REASON FOR GOING TO SCHOOL: TO GET AWAY FROM GIRLS
CLOTHES AT HASKELL
SUMMER VACATIONS: HOW SPENT
TROUBLES WITH GIRLS
GIRL FRIENDS
MARRIAGE: WHAT JESS WANTED IN A WIFE AND HOW HE GOT HIS FIRST WIFE
MARRIAGE: HOW JESS MET AND MARRIED HIS SECOND WIFE
ARAPAHO CUSTOMS SURROUNDING MARRIAGE: OBTAINING A WIFE THROUGH HER UNCLAS AND BROTHERS
OTHER GIRL FRIENDS
WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN A WIFE
JESS'S FATHER'S ADVICE ABOUT GIRLS
PERSONAL APPEARANCE: JESS'S FATHER'S ADVICE ON
GIFT EXCHANGE AMONG RELATIVES

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT:

Jess Rowldge is between 82 and 84 years old and is a well-known and respected leader among the Arapahoes. He is fairly well educated and articulate, and has travelled extensively on tribal business, having visited Washington, D.C. a number of times. He has been active in tribal politics for many years and has helped the Arapahoes in pressing their claims cases against the government. Nevertheless, Jess is well-versed in the traditional culture of his tribe and anxious for at least some parts of it to be preserved. He is one of the two surviving members of the StarHawk Society, one of the old age-grade warrior societies. And has often expressed hope that this organization would be revived in modern times. He is a peyotist, as well as a member of the Baptist Church, and feels that the peyote ceremony has given him some of his greatest personal fulfillment as well as inspiration. Jess is no stranger to the role of teacher-informant in communicating knowledge about Arapaho culture. He has known and worked with such people as A.L. Kroeber, James Mooney, Morris Smith, Sister Inez Hilger, and Fred Eggan. Rowldge was born in 1884.

(This tape is a continuation of the interview begun on T-265 and is completed on T-267.)