

do that, because, ohh, they'll just come to pieces. But oh, it's tedious, too. They take that, and Mrs. Provoze knows how. Then after it's dry, not real dry, till you could handle it, well, they take four rows of that, and they weave it, just weave it, this pumpkin. Then, when they get through with it, you take it outside again, let it dry. You know, let it dry. If it's damp, why worms will come in there. So you have to let it dry good. Oh, you can make many dishes with that.

(I'd like to get some recipes from you for my wife. She likes to do things like that.)

Yea, yea, Mrs. Provoze about the only one that knows how to do that. I don't believe I know how. I have seen my grandmother, but it's so tedious. I don't have patience, not that much patience. But she was from way back, when they didn't have no hoes, you know, they use a bone, you know. She's from way back there. She really believe in stories. You know, we were the people that, when we had a village somewhere, why they dig a big hole. And ah, oh, about this high (four feet) and you go in there. They have room in there, and they put straw in there and they get this hide, buffalo hide and they make bags out of it. They store their dried meat in there and dried corn and dried pumpkins. And maybe they'll go off, and go to Kansas, way back there. Then when they come back it's there. They got something to eat. Dry meat, in these buffalo bags. Oh, they did it the hard way, but the Wichitas never went hungry. Then they make gardens like that and leave it and go off. Then when they come back, they got corn, ready to eat.

(Did the other tribes ever come in and take their gardens?)

No, huh huh. Seem like it was only the Wichitas that came this country. Before any. The Kiowas, I think they come from out that way somewhere, Nebraska, or somewhere. My grandma used to tell me she remember when they brought them in here. They brought them in two wheeled carts. The Kiowas, they brought them in from somewhere else. My grandmother remember, she used to tell me. She said, oh, they have pretty beaded things, buckskins. But the white man just got them and burnt them. They brought them in from somewhere in two wheeled carts.