

performed until I was 17 and the boy was 16 years old. If we had married when I was asked first, when my mother was living, he would have been 14 and I would have been 15. At that time, he was the keeper of the drums for the Osage people in the Hominy District and he was honored in many ways-- we were honored in many ways during our marriage. When we attended any functions together, as one would say, the red carpet was rolled out for us because of this merging of the two prominent families at that time.

And that's what they tried achieved, the parents at that time. The marriage of good families that stood up together, that stood for the same things. And I am very proud to have done this for my father and my mother. Today, I realize what it all meant. It is a wonderful life that I have led and I performed my duties as a dutiful daughter and my father commended me for that. And as his--as my father did, and as his father did, and his father and so on, which came down to me as the last one to perform this genuine Osage Tribal wedding ceremony. Of course, at that time, there were many more activities performed, but these are my personal experiences as the bride. The name of the bridegroom at that time was Mr. Alfred Maker, the son of Mr. & Mrs. James Maker. My father and mother was Mr. & Mrs. Robert Morrell.

(This concludes the Osage Indian wedding ceremony as described by Mrs. Myrtle Morrell Unap, for the American Indian Institute, of the University of Oklahoma. I have a few more questions I would like to ask Mrs. Unap about the wedding. Mrs. Unap, when you came downstairs and went to put on your wedding costume, you said there were a room full of ladies--the bridesmaids, which were your relatives. Could you tell me just--was there laughter, was there conversation or, just what was going on when you went to dress for the wedding.)