

T-341

INFORMANT: KATHERINE MAKER, OSAGE
INTERVIEWED BY: LEONARD MAKER
INTERVIEW DATE: NOVEMBER 20, 1968
TRANSCRIBED BY: FLORA QUINATA
PROOFREAD BY NONA KERR

SIDE B

COMING OF JOHN WILSON TO THE OSAGES AND HIS IMPORTANCE TO THEM.

This is a story as related to me by my Aunt Mary Russell. She was telling me the story about the time John Wilson came to this Osage country. The reason why she remembers the date was the way she told me was the story of her mother's father, her grandfather. He was very ill at that time with, I suppose, was pneumonia, when he heard of this John Wilson being here making fireplaces for the Osages. Mrs. Russell was continuing to tell me about John Wilson who was also called Moonhead. And she was trying to tell me about the year he came to our part of the country, erecting fireplaces among our Osage people. And she remembered, her grandmother told her that her grandfather was a sick man and he wanted this Moonhead to come over and pray for him and administer this peyote to him and pray for him because he was such a sick man. So, her mother and her grandmother took Mrs. Russell, she was a very small baby on a board, as they tell her about this. They took it and they went over to where Moonhead was staying at that time. And when they arrived at his house, they went in. And he was such a great man, and they were so awed in his presence that they immediately took Mrs. Russell, she was a very tiny baby on a board. They placed her on his lap. He spoke to her. He blessed her. And said that she would grow up to be a grown woman, an older woman. And he done, what we call, blessed her with all the great things in life, hoped that she would grow up that way, and she did. She is living today. And she