

T-390-2 (Second of Three Interviews)

VONNIE DOWNING, CHEROKEE

INTERVIEWED BY: FAYE DELPH

INTERVIEW DATE: MARCH 10, 1969

TRANSCRIBED BY: LISA GARDENHIRE

PROOFREAD BY: NONA KERR

GENERAL SUBJECT: WITCHCRAFT; INDIAN MEDICINE; LIFE HISTORY MATERIALS

TOPICS DISCUSSED:

BRIEF INTRODUCTION

STRONG FEELINGS AGAINST WHITE PEOPLE

PLANS TO FINISH HIGH SCHOOL AND TAKE NURSES TRAINING

IDEAS CONCERNING LIFE AND MARRIAGE

MEANING OF CONJURE

INDIAN DOCTORS - MEDICINE USED IN CIGARETTES

EXPERIENCE - INDIAN BOY HAS FIXED HER WITH MEDICINE

CLANS - INDIAN DOCTORS NEED THIS INFORMATION

INDIAN DOCTORS WILL TAKE PAY BUT REFUSE TO STIPULATE  
A CHARGE

INDIAN DOCTORING IS DIFFERENT FROM FORTUNE TELLING

MORE ABOUT CONJURING

REASONS FOR BURNING CEDAR

AFTER DEATH THE HOUSE IS CLEARED OF ALL POSSESSIONS  
HER OWN UNDERSTANDING OF WELFARE AND HOSPITALIZATION

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT:

Vonnie Downing is 20 years of age. She is the granddaughter of Maggie Downing. She is half Indian and half white, but identifies with the Indians. She speaks both Cherokee and English fluently.

Note: The other interviews on this tape are: Maggie Downing, Cherokee  
Abe Ned, Chickasaw