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INDEX CARDS

Collections

Art--Sac and Fox

Sac and Fox Indians

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HISTORICAL COLLECTION FORM
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

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Field worker's name Lenna M. Rushing

This report made on (date) May 24, 1937. 1937

1. Name of person owning collection Wallace B. McClellan

Address Rt. 2, Stroud, Oklahoma

2. Name (if any) of collection Buffalo-hide bag

3. This collection contains the following types of material _____

4. Amount of material 1

5. Material deals with -

6. Approximate period (dates) material is for 1775-1937

7. Locations of the collection (where it is kept) At his home

8. Condition of storage place Excellent

Condition of collection Excellent

9. What does the owner intend to do with this collection Keep it

Would he be willing to part with it? Perhaps

10. Any other information about the collection, including its history _____

On following pages

11. Does this owner know other people who have or might have collections.

Give names & addresses No. He knows of no other bag in the tribe.

NOTE: In the event that any of the above questions cannot be answered fully in the space allowed, attach blank sheets firmly, and give all available information. Referring to question by number.

FIELD WORKER LENNA M. RUSHING
Indian-Pioneer History Project S-149
May 24, 1937.

INTERVIEW WITH PAINTER Ma-cos-eta.
Other name Kwa-Kwe-Kwa.
Prague, Oklahoma
Born 1881.
Indian tribe-Sac and Fox

Mrs. Ma-cos-e-ta was a guest in our home today. She asked my husband, Wallace McClellan, if he still had the buffalo-hide bag that had belonged to his mother, now deceased. He replied that he did. She then related the following:

"You must keep it, for it is very old- at least a hundred-fifty years old. It used to belong to my great-grand father, and he gave it to your mother's mother. This makes it the fifth generation that it has been passed down. I know of no other bag in the tribe, and I feel certain that there are very, very few left. No one knows today how to make it stand up in such perfect shape. We know something of the procedure, but there are some things about the process which have been forgotten.

"When the hunter killed his buffalo, he skinned it, and staked the hide out. It was staked out in this manner. Brush poles one and a half to two feet long were sharpened at one end. A hole was cut in the hide and the pole hammered down.

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The stakes were placed about one foot apart all around the hide, the hide being stretched out tightly.

"It was allowed to dry for awhile, the meat and fat still clinging being scraped off every day. When it had properly dried, the hair was cleaned off. This was done with a bone knife.

"Let me tell you about the bone knife before I continue with the cleaning process. It was a sort of blue color resembling liver-stone. It was extremely sharp, and could not be chipped. I do not know how it was made.

"The hair was half-shaved, half-rubbed off. The knife was rotated in a circular motion, setting up a friction and both rubbing and cutting. A little ball of hair was soon rubbed up and discarded, and a new spot rubbed.

"After the hide was thoroughly cleaned and dried, it was ready to make the bag. First the hide was squared off, and the shape cut out with a knife. It was then painted with Indian paints in any fashion desired, and allowed to dry. The holes for the thongs were punched

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in next. It was allowed to soak in water for a day and a night. Then the hide was shaped in the form of a bag, and fastened with buffalo-hide thongs. After it had dried it was ready for use."

HISTORICAL COLLECTION FORM
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This report made on (date) May 24 1937

1. Name of person owning collection Wallace B. McClellan

Address R# 2, Stroud, Oklahoma

2. Name (if any) of collection #

3. This collection contains the following types of material: _____

Buffalo-hide bag

4. Amount of material 1

5. Material deals with #

6. Approximate period (dates) material is for 1875-1937

7. Locations of the collection (where it is kept) At his home

8. Condition of storage place Excellent

Condition of collection Excellent

9. What does the owner intend to do with this collection Keep it

Would he be willing to part with it? Perhaps

10. Any other information about the collection, including its history _____

on following pages

11. Does this owner know other people who have or might have collections. _____

Give names & addresses no. He knows of no other bag in the tribe

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Number of sheets attached 7