

Descriptions of Indian artifacts
an Oral History

Charles Battin, Interviewee
Of Ohio, Illinois

Interview Date: July 27, 1975

Oral History Tape Number: TC OH 37 BAT

Tape Number: 37

Number of Transcribed Pages: 2

Subject(s) Covered: Indians

Starved Rock Library System History Collection

Digitized under an Illinois Historical Records Preservation Grant
Awarded in 2013 to the Peru Public Library
1409 11th Street, Peru, Illinois 61354

Q: Hello. This is Norma Kreiger speaking. I am now in the home of Mr. Charles Battin of Ohio. Hello Mr. Battin

A: Hello

Q: I see that you have collected over a lifetime a marvelous collection of Indian artifacts. We will talk about that a little bit. First of all, Mr. Battin, could you tell me how old you are?

A: Eighty-eight.

Q: Eighty-eight years old. And how long have you lived here in this home here?

A: We've been here--well this is seventh year--in town.

Q: ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ And you moved here from

A: Well from the where is north of town, but before that we were living just across the county line where Jerry Connors(sp?) are now

Q: Where Jerry Connors live. I see. Mr. Battin, how old were you when you first took an interest in Indian lore?

A: I was either 16 or 17, I was--started in when I was plowing in a field and turned over an arrowhead, and saw it and got off and that sort of thing just began.

Q: That's where it all started. Is that the one--the very first one on one of these boards?

A: I imagine it is but I don't know which one it is because I found a lot of them right in that same field, it could be any of several. Its on these boards

Q: You don't know which one it is. Well I have never at any time in my life seen such a marvelous collection and I see those over there--we haven't even a beginning of it ~~xxx~~ right here. Where are you most apt to find arrowheads?

A: Well, now I have that note in there ~~xxx~~ in the notations about where you likely to find them in this country because around here, north of Ohio is wooded area with potholed scattered around in the fields and that's where you'll find them there. Then later on, when we down north of Walnut that it is in the old Winnebago swap area and there were a couple of ~~xxxxxxx~~ temporary campsites there. And we also picked them up here and there where they'd shot things.

Q: Now you're speaking very well--very knowledgeably about the location of these campsites of the Winnebagos and the other Indian campsites. Did you study up on this and read up on this?

A: Oh, I've read up on this ever since I was 17 or 18 years old articles here and there, wherever I could find some.

Q: I think that's wonderful. Now the composition--you have a note here on composition. That is you mean of the various arrowheads are made out of different types of stone?

A: Oh yes. There's--they run all the way from well I don't know what. Now this isn't an arrowhead here but it's a kind of a granitoid material. Generally speaking, in this country, they're either flint or shale and most of the better ones are flint. But uh, they can be flint or shale;

I hereby release all right, title, or interest in and to all or any part of my tape-recorded memoirs to _____, subject to the following stipulations:

PLACE Battini Home

DATE July 24, 1975

Charles F. Battini
(INTERVIEWEE)

(for _____)

For and in consideration of the participation by _____
in any programs involving the dissemination of tape recorded memoirs and
oral history material for publication, copyright, and other uses, I hereby
release all right, title, or interest in and to all of my tape-recorded
memoirs to _____ and declare that they may be used with-
out any restriction whatsoever and may be copyrighted and published by the
said _____, which may also assign said copyright and publication
rights to serious research scholars.

In addition to the rights and authority given to you under the pre-
ceding paragraph, I hereby authorize you to edit, publish, sell and/or
license the use of my Oral History memoir in any other manner which the
_____ considers to be desirable and I waive any claim to any pay-
ments which may be received as a consequence thereof by the _____.

PLACE Batten Home

DATE July 24, 1975

Charles F. Batten

(Interviewee)

(for _____)

MRS. MARY T. HOWE, DIRECTOR
HITT AND SWANSON STREETS
OTTAWA, ILLINOIS 61350
TELEPHONES: (815) 434-7602
434-7537

STARVED ROCK LIBRARY SYSTEM

January 12, 1976

Mr. Charles Battin
Ohio, Illinois 61349

Dear Mr. Battin,

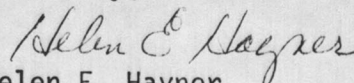
We wish to thank you for the Oral History tape interview which you made with Norma Krieger describing your vast collection of Indian artifacts.

This taped interview has been processed and is now a part of the Starved Rock Library System collection. Your tape along with 44 others is available through your local library. We have not as of yet made a transcript of your tape but it will be done at a later date. We feel at this time listening to the tape itself instead of reading a verbatim transcript is more in keeping with our program.

We encourage you to make use of the Oral History collection of the Starved Rock Library System as it affords an exciting way in which to learn of our past and our present from those persons like yourself who have taken part in the making of a history of our people. Your personal contribution has made this collection possible.

If you have any questions or comments on the Oral History Project we would be most happy to hear from you.

Sincerely,



Helen E. Hayner
Coordinator - Oral History Project

HH

Member Libraries: Depue Public Library, Earl Township Public Library - Earlville, Ladd Public Library, Lostant Community Library, Marselles Public Library, Graves Public Library - Mendota, Ohio Township Library, Reddick's Library - Ottawa, Peru Public Library, Matson Public Library - Princeton, Putnam County Library - Granville - Hennepin - McNabb - Magnolia - Putnam - Standard, Sandwich Township Library, Seneca Public Library, Somonauk Public Library, Spring Valley Public Library, Tiskilwa Township Library, Utica Public Library, Walnut Township Memorial Library, Bond Public Library - Wenona, Raymond A. Sapp Memorial Library - Wyandot
LaSalle Public Library, Oglesby Public Library,
PawPaw Public Library, Streator Public Library, Toluca City Library