

## GREY EYES REMEMBERS THE LONG WALK

The people were going to be herded to Ft. Sumner, and the people were cornered. They were herded into tight places where they couldn't get out anymore—run away anymore. And all the stories lead to Toh-lizhini (black water). And at the top of Toh-lizhini there were tents pitched and wagons that were standing by, and in the canyon people were meeting—or gathered. And from somewhere around A-hi-di-dini (place where the flows come together or join) there was a man named Ma-ee (coyote), and the land is even named after that, Ma-ee-bi-keh-ya (land belonging to the coyote). Maybe he belonged to the Ma-eedesh-geezh-ni clan. And he picked up something from over there, I don't know what it was, but he tied something white to a piece of wood, and came on out—or moved out, and he came out waving that wood, I guess—to—came out through Tseh-bi-na-az-eli (flow around the rock). And this other person wondered who it was, and he found out that it was this one guy, the one that was named Ma-ee.

And he made peace and—with the army, I guess. And having made peace, the people moved into the camps, and from there they were started herding—herded to Ft. Sumner. First they were placed at Ft. Defiance. And then they moved on and placed at Fort Wingate. And then they were moved on to Nakai-na-bi-deh-teen (tracks of Mexicans), and then on to Dzil-nah-yisi-bi-geezh (between the turning mountain), and then on to Fort Sumner, and it's told they spent four years over there. And through the people's negotiations, they were returned to their lands. And the people were crying for the Canyons. . . . I don't know how many people were killed. And the food killed some of them—they didn't know how to prepare it. And many died from sicknesses, and others from large sores (infections), and many died from fever.

Grey Eyes, interview with Sally Pierce Hansen, June 28, 1965, interview no. 966, Doris Duke American Indian Oral History Project, American West Center, University of Utah, t.s., 21–23.