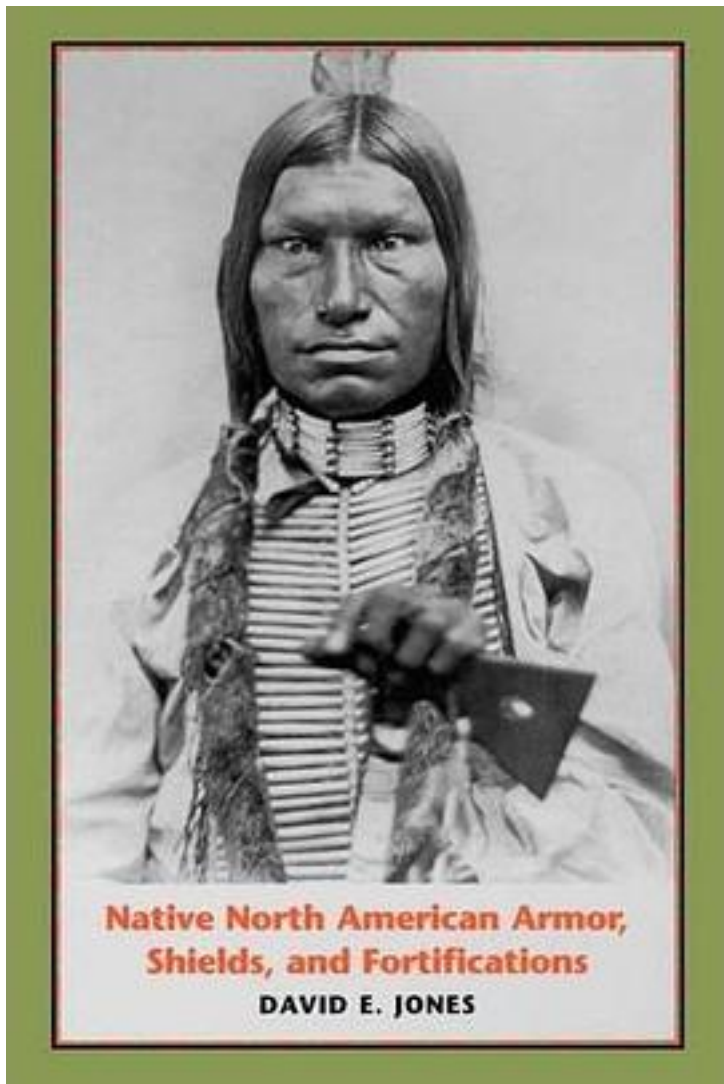


Native North American Armor, Shields, and Fortifications



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From the Chickasaw fighting the Choctaw in the Southeast to the Sioux battling the Cheyenne on the Great Plains, warfare was endemic among the North American Indians when Europeans first arrived on this continent. An impressive array of offensive weaponry and battle tactics gave rise to an equally impressive range of defensive technology. Native Americans constructed very effective armour and shields using wood, bone, and leather. Their fortifications ranged from simple refuges to walled and moated stockades to multiple stockades linked in strategic defensive networks. In this book, David E. Jones offers the first systematic comparative study of the defensive armour and fortifications of aboriginal Native Americans. Drawing data from ethno-historical accounts and archaeological evidence, he surveys the use of armour, shields, and fortifications both before European contact and during the historic period by American Indians from the Southeast to the Northwest Coast, from the Northeast Woodlands to the desert Southwest, and from the Sub-Arctic to the Great Plains. Jones also demonstrates the socio-cultural factors that affected warfare and shaped the development of different types of armour and fortifications. Extensive eyewitness descriptions of warfare, armour, and fortifications, as well as photos and sketches of Indian armour from museum collections, add a visual dimension to the text.

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