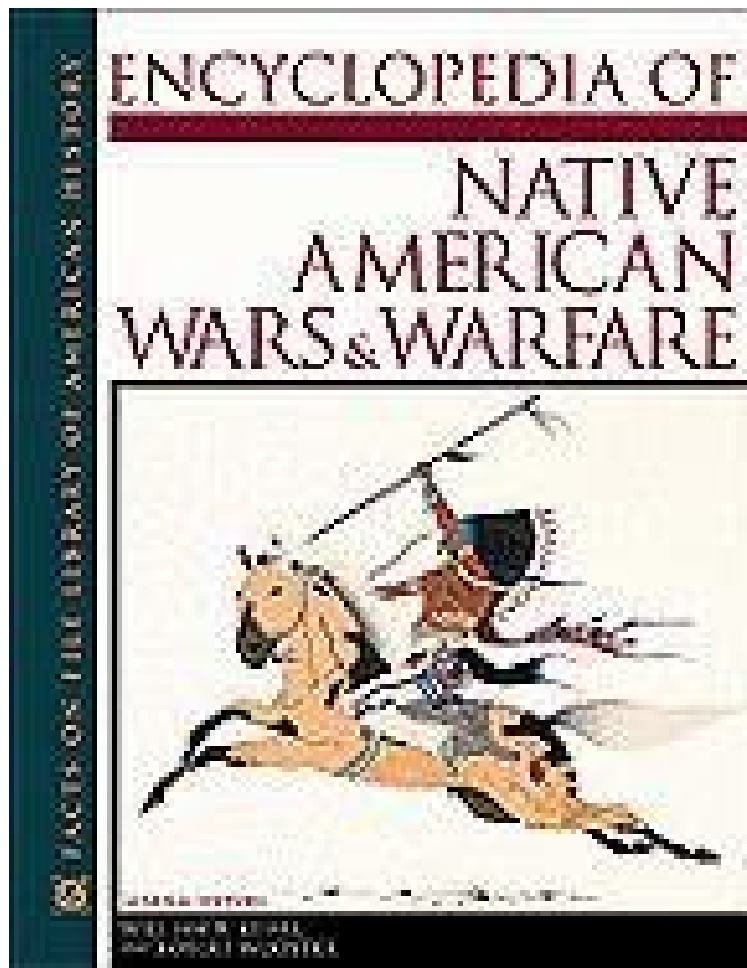


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## Encyclopedia of Native American Wars and Warfare (Facts on File Library of American History)

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**From Brand: Facts on File : Encyclopedia of Native American Wars and Warfare (Facts on File Library of American History)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Encyclopedia of Native American Wars and Warfare (Facts on File Library of American History):

This A-Z work focuses on the conflicts that arose after the arrival of Christopher Columbus in the New World in 1492. From then until the late 1800s, the number of armed conflicts among Native American groups and between Indians and their non-Indian opponents reached significant proportions.

From School Library Journal Grade 7 Up A well-balanced and long-overdue research tool. More than 600 well-written articles detail warfare among the hundreds of Native North American cultures, primarily within current U.S. borders, and the various non-Indian immigrants during the 16th to 20th centuries. In addition to conflicts and treaties, articles can be found on individuals, ceremonies, rituals, tribes, and sites. The introduction and five essays are as valuable as the entries, especially in establishing the objective tone. Likewise, the appendixes contain valuable supplemental information, including a listing of tribes organized by culture area and a chronology of conflicts and treaties from 1599 to 1890. Except for a handful of typos, the only weakness is that the entries for tribes seem somewhat inconsistent with the overall purpose. For example, Cherokee effectively details the tribe's seminal conflicts and treaties, but it also includes some information on social and religious life that is so vague as to be potentially misleading. On the other hand, the Choctaw and Creek entries are considerably shorter and more tightly focused, but omit mention of most of the treaties involving these two major southeastern nations, including some that have their own entries. Fortunately, the well-constructed index provides access to them under the tribe's name. Barring this minor flaw, *Wars and Warfare* will certainly fill a need in most libraries. Informative black-and-white reproductions, archival photos, and maps illustrate the volume. Sean George, Memphis-Shelby County Public Library Information Center, Memphis, TN

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From Booklist More than 600 entries provide access to information about the persons, tribes, treaties, battles, places, weaponry, and concepts related to armed conflicts between Native Americans and those of European descent, for the years between 1599 and 1890 and primarily the geographic locations now within the borders of the U.S. The sharply focused, extensively cross-indexed entries, accompanied by 78 black-and-white illustrations and 36 maps, are intended to introduce the topic to students in grade nine and up. Preceding the entries are five essays, written by the editors: "American Indians Prior to 1492," "Warfare Terminology," "Armies of Empire: Colonial, State, Federal and Imperial Forces in the Indian Wars," "Wars and Warfare," and "Wars and Warfare, Another View." Appendixes include a list of tribes of North America organized by culture area (region), a chronology, and a selected bibliography. The index indicates main entries, entries with photographs or maps, and chronology entries. The *Encyclopedia of Native American Wars Warfare* complements other recent reference books by Facts On File related to Native American culture and history, including the *Biographical Dictionary of American Indian History to 1900* (2001) and the *Chronology of American Indian History* (2001). There are few direct competitors to this title, and the limited overlap with the *Encyclopedia of American Indian Wars, 1492-1890* (ABC-CLIO, 1997) encourages complementary use rather than replacement. The entries each encyclopedia has on common topics often show significant differences with respect to context, reporting, and level of detail, even though both encyclopedias generally agree on the basic facts. Given its attention to context and breadth of entries, the *Encyclopedia of Native American Wars Warfare* may make a better beginning point for novice researchers and is recommended for public, high-school, and academic libraries. Joseph Thomas

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About the Author Robert Wooster is Regents Professor of history at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. He is author or editor of ten books on the army, the West, and the Civil War, most recently *Frontier Crossroads: Fort Davis and the West*.