

Finch & C^o



A NORTHERN PLAINS , CROW , NATIVE AMERICAN BEADED BUCKSKIN KNIFE SHEATH

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CIRCA 1870'S

SIZE : 28 CMLONG , 10 CMWIDE – 11 INS LONG , 4 INS WIDE

LITERATURE

IN THE 1830'S THE ETHNIC CLEANSING OF THE SOUTH-EASTERN AND MID-WESTERN STATES BY THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT CREATED A MELTING POT OF DIVERSE NATIVE AMERICAN ART TRADITIONS ALONG THE MISSOURI RIVER AND IN PRESENT DAY OKLAHOMA. UNRELENTING GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO DESTROY THE NATIVE CULTURES MET WITH A STUBBORN RESISTANCE . RESULTING FROM INTENSIFIED INTERTRIBAL CONTACTS A NEW STYLE OF BEADWORK EMERGED . SHARED BY LOCAL AND IMMIGRANT TRIBES ALIKE THIS 'PRAIRIE STYLE' , WHICH IS CHARACTERIZED BY STYLISED FLORAL AND ABSTRACT FORMS , REFLECTED THE NATIVE WILLINGNESS TO SACRIFICE TRIBAL DISTINCTIONS IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN AN 'INDIAN' IDENTITY .