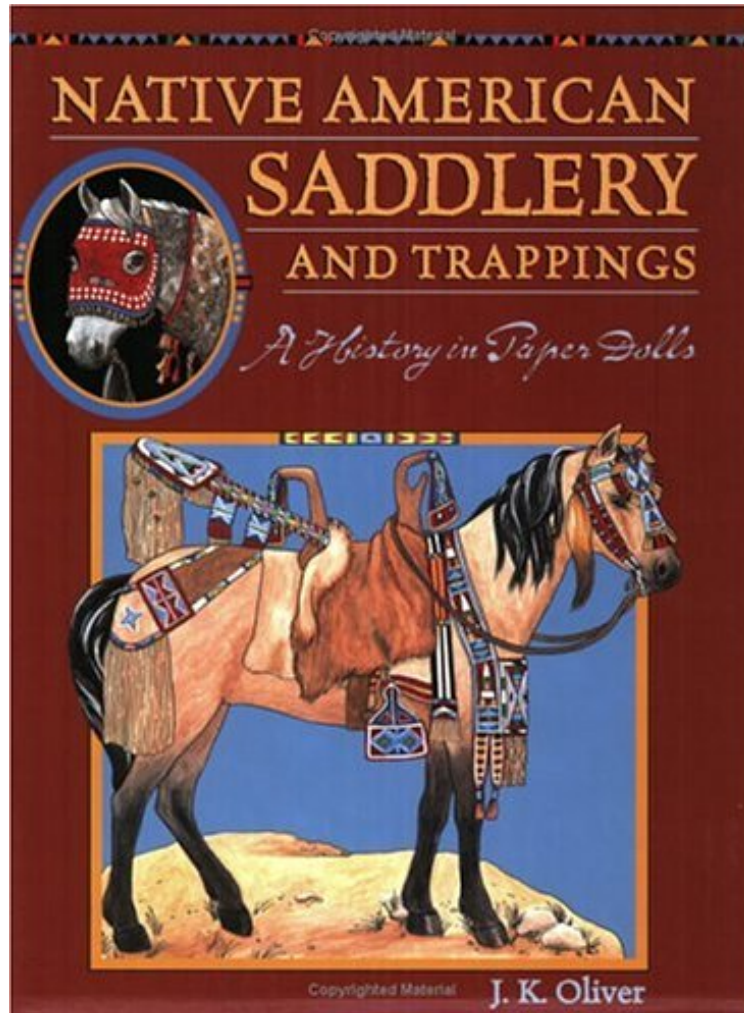


# Native American Saddlery and Trappings: A History in Paper Dolls

J. K. Oliver

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**J. K. Oliver : Native American Saddlery and Trappings: A History in Paper Dolls** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Native American Saddlery and Trappings: A History in Paper Dolls:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. An excellent work presented in a bizarre format By Sherman A. Thompson For some time I have been trying to get enough information to construct a replica indian style saddle, or contract with a professional saddle maker to make one for me for display purposes. Original indian saddles are extremely rare in any condition. Relic worm-eaten and rotted junkers start at over \$1,000, and relatively complete saddles in display condition, with stirrups and beaded trappings have been auctioned for as high as \$30,000. Internet searching will eventually turn up photographs of several, but most examples can be seen only in widely separated

museums. I have found no academic books or even technical reports on these saddles, although some are bound to exist somewhere. Most internet articles are brief, sometimes quoting each other, and often presenting erroneous information. For example many, if not most, references state that only indian women used these saddles, which is untrue. Both Frederick Remington and Charles Russell lived and worked among indians of the 1800s and were sticklers for accuracy. Both depicted male indians in combat riding indian style saddles. Another brief article did state that both men and women used indian style saddles, the main difference being that womens' saddles were broadest at the back, while mens' saddles were broadest at the front. This book has only two or three short paragraphs and two illustrations of how these saddles were constructed, but they are critical paragraphs if you can't find this information anywhere else. Good internet photographs of auction items are interesting, but say nothing about how they were put together. I have spoken mostly about saddle construction but have said nothing about the dazzling color trappings that typically went with indian saddles. They are illustrated vividly in this book (along with paper doll fold tabs). For instance, did you know that during one period indians sometimes made hoof booties for their horses? I didn't know this until I saw several illustrations in this book. J. K. Oliver has obviously done her research. Thirteen museum sources are listed in an opening page. No less than 39 reference sources are cited in the back of the back. Although ostensibly consisting of 30 large pages, this is essentially an 18 page technical article; ten pages of useful and detailed text and ink sketches and eight pages of wonderful color illustrations in, of all things, whimsical paper doll format! The only really irritating aspect of this is that to read the explanations of each trapping or saddle one must search on the other side of the page (overleaf) and locate the information, frequently printed flouncewise (diagonally) so that it appears on the backside of the appropriate paper doll cut-out. ... talk about screwball cumbersome! With its faults, this short but detailed "book" is by far the best single source for information on indian saddles I have found, and I am thoroughly pleased with it. It will eventually find a place among my other important factual texts on plains indians. ... but PAPER DOLLS? ... Why on earth would any serious researcher present such critical and hard to find information as paper doll cut-outs? It's like linking roller skates to sardines. ... makes no sense at all, at least not to me. But I'm happy with the book and the hard-to-find information in it. Like the other reviewers, I would never consider cutting it up. If you are interested in information on indian saddles, their historical development, and the colorful accessories and horse trappings that go with them, don't pass this book up. It will save you thousands of miles of travel from museum to museum. This book was published by Texas Tech University Press, 2002. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Too lovely to cut up! By R. M. Watkins This book has beautiful illustrations and great information! I wish that there were pictures of the horses tacked up, because the drawings are too lovely to cut out. If you do cut them out, you will cut through some of the information on the trappings. I guess children would not let that deter them but, as an adult who appreciates the beauty of the book as it is, my mother cannot bring herself to do that! It is fun to compare the saddles and trappings to those depicted on the Native American Painted Pony collector's series. It provides an understanding of the function of various items the artists used to decorate them, and helps to illustrate the reverence Native Americans had and still have for the horse. For further information on that relationship, a good book to read is [ASIN:1889540226 Horse, Follow Closely: Native American Horsemanship] by GaWaNi Pony Boy. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. GREAT Reference Material By Veronica Geddie I make costumes for model horses and purchased this as a reference book. Although I wish it had been thicker, it was awesome in detail without alot of words. Made in a paper doll type style, with punch out horses and the Indian tack that fits them, its is more geared toward children, but adults will love it as well. Very nice highly detailed and in full color.

Illustrating the diversity and beauty of Native American horse tack and gear, Jaye Oliver traces their evolution from the mid-nineteenth century to the early twentieth century. Drawing upon objects from North American museum and historical society collections, Oliver's lush, full-color paintings sample equine finery of the various tribes of the North American Southwest, Plateau, and Great Plains. Including a historical narrative and illustrated glossary, as well as curatorial descriptions of each object portrayed, this work is as instructive as it is breathtaking. Including pictorial instructions for assembling the tack and gear, this work is for students, collectors, and aficionados of all ages, offering an unprecedented survey of the following collections: Buffalo Bill Historical Center, Cody, Wyoming; Denver Art Museum; Glenbow Museum, Alberta, Canada; Haffenreffer Museum of Anthropology, Brown University; Museum of Indian Arts and Culture, Museum of New Mexico; Montana Historical Society; Minnesota Historical Society; State Historical Society of North Dakota; Nez Percé National Historical Park, National Park Service; National Museum of the American Indian, Smithsonian Institution; National Museum of Natural History/Department of Anthropology, Smithsonian Institution; Portland Art Museum, Oregon; School of American Research, Santa Fe.