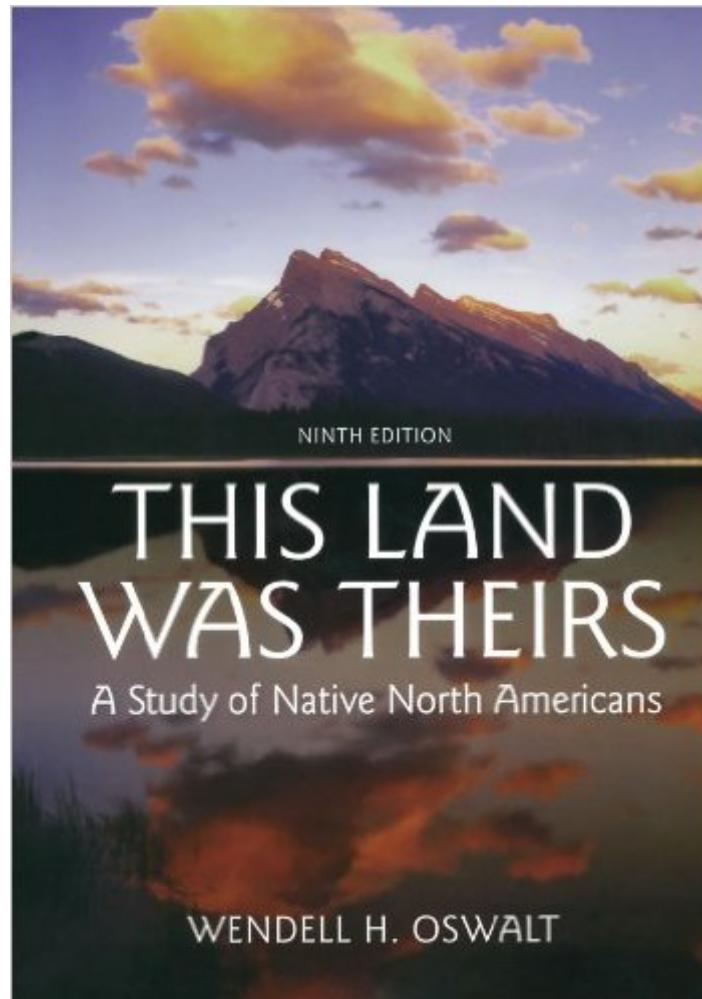


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# This Land Was Theirs: A Study Of Native North Americans



## Synopsis

This Land Was Theirs: A Study of Native North Americans, Ninth Edition, examines the traditional and contemporary lifeways of twelve North American Indian tribes. Ranging from the Netsilik hunters who straddle the Arctic Circle to the Natchez farmers of the lower Mississippi River area, the tribes represent each culture area and various levels of socioeconomic complexity among Native Americans. After introductory chapters devoted to pan-tribal issues, each chapter focuses on a specific group and culture area, providing students with a detailed portrait of the geographical and cultural adaptations of that region. As he has done for previous editions, author Wendell H. Oswalt has visited virtually all of the extant groups discussed in the text in order to ensure an accurate record of the present-day situation. Features of the Ninth Edition

- \*Each chapter on an extant tribal group now includes a table with a timeline summarizing the group's ethnohistory\*
- \*Includes an expanded section on the original peopling of the Americas\*
- \*Emphasizes the major issues and tribal governments in North America face today\*
- \*Addresses the increasingly important diamond mining industry in Canada and the Subarctic\*
- \*Includes more than 150 illustrations and chapter-opening native poems or songs\*
- \*Offers expanded coverage of the Navajo, the transcontinental railroad's impact on Indian life, and contemporary issues encountered on reservations

Provides pedagogical aids including maps of each region discussed, a glossary, a pronunciation guide, and two appendices: a guide to artifacts and a list of additional resources for further study

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I had to use this book for an anthropology course in college and I didn't even think about selling it back. This is much more of an anthropology book - a study of Native American Culture - than it is a history. Don't get me wrong, there is plenty of history in here, ranging from the earliest encounters with Europeans to present day political and archaeological studies; but it's primarily concerned with the cultures of the indigenous peoples of North America. When I say North America I mean from Northern Mexico to the Arctic Circle. Don't buy this book if you're looking for information on the Mayans or Mexica (Aztec). The author breaks the book down into sections based off of loose cultural/geographic divisions, ie Southeast, Subarctic, Northwest Coast, etc. Within those sections you will find information on tribal structure, family structure (were they patrilineal, matrilineal, etc?) and lots of other information. There's a chapter devoted specifically to white/Indian contact, and another general chapter for general information outside of the specific peoples. This helps to bring the whole book together. Highly recommended.

Anyone with an interest in Native Americans (American Indians, First Nations) should begin by reading Oswalt and Neely. *This Land Was Theirs* is both informative and inspirational.

This book is detailed and was a great textbook. I'm glad it was required reading in my anthropology class. The chapters explained the different ways of life for different tribes and made sure to include all aspects of their lives, from birth to death.

. This was a required book for an anthropology class I took in college. It is a fairly easy read and contains information about several groups of native Americans ranging from the east to west coast. This is an informative book that contains information pertaining to specific groups and their social & economic, as well as political design. It also contains information regarding their lifestyles including religious practices and origin accounts. Had it not been a required text, I would not have chosen to read it.

If you have an interest in Native Americans and want to learn more, start here. This is the best of the eight or so editions of *This Land Was Theirs*.

I like that each chapter has a representative people for the culture area in focus, but maybe a listing of the others and the language family spoken by each. Also, the chapter about the plateau uses a

language isolate which maybe wasn't the best choice as a "representative" group but other than that the book is just fine

Easy to read and interesting, I was reading chapters ahead of where we were in class and continued reading past the required pages. It really sucks you in and holds your attention. Loved it!

I had to use this book for a anthropology class I took at CSUEB. I liked how each nation was divided into their own chapter and had clear subheadings to find information quickly.

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