

oklahoma native american history

Oklahoma Native American History: A Journey Through Time and Culture

oklahoma native american history is incredibly rich, complex, and deeply intertwined with the broader story of the United States. This land, often called "The Native Land," has been home to numerous Indigenous tribes for thousands of years. Understanding the history of Native Americans in Oklahoma offers a window into their resilience, culture, and the significant influence they continue to have on the state today.

The Origins: Indigenous Peoples Before European Contact

Long before Oklahoma became a state, the region was inhabited by Native American tribes for millennia. Archaeological evidence points to ancient settlements and sophisticated cultures that thrived in the area. Tribes such as the Caddo, Wichita, and Osage were among the earliest known inhabitants, each with their distinct languages, customs, and social structures.

These early Native American groups were skilled hunters, farmers, and traders. The fertile soil of Oklahoma allowed them to cultivate crops like corn, beans, and squash, which were staples in their diet. Their societies were deeply spiritual, often centered around nature and the cycles of the earth.

The Impact of European Arrival

The arrival of Europeans in the 16th and 17th centuries dramatically altered the Native American way of life. Spanish explorers, followed by French traders and later American settlers, introduced new goods, diseases, and conflicts. While some tribes engaged in trade and formed alliances, others faced displacement and violence.

The introduction of horses revolutionized many tribes' lifestyles, particularly those in the Great Plains, including parts of Oklahoma. The horse allowed for greater mobility, hunting efficiency, and changes in warfare tactics.

Forced Relocation: The Trail of Tears and Oklahoma's Role

One of the most defining chapters in Oklahoma Native American history is the tragic story of the Trail of Tears. During the 1830s, under the Indian Removal Act signed by President Andrew Jackson, several Native American tribes were forcibly relocated from their ancestral homelands in the southeastern United States to designated Indian Territory, much of which is now modern-day Oklahoma.

The Five Civilized Tribes

The Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw, Creek (Muscogee), and Seminole nations, often called the Five Civilized Tribes due to their adoption of certain European-American customs, bore the brunt of this forced migration. Thousands perished during the journey due to disease, starvation, and harsh conditions.

Once in Oklahoma, these tribes worked to rebuild their communities. They established schools, governments, and even newspapers in their own languages. The Cherokee Nation, for example, created a written constitution and a sophisticated legal system. This resilience showcased their determination to preserve their culture despite overwhelming adversity.

Other Tribes in Indian Territory

Besides the Five Civilized Tribes, Oklahoma also became home to other Native groups relocated from different parts of the country. The Kiowa, Comanche, Apache, and Osage, among others, inhabited the region. The U.S. government's policy of Indian Territory essentially concentrated many diverse tribes into one area, a move that created both opportunities and tensions among different groups.

Oklahoma Native American History During Statehood and Beyond

When Oklahoma became a state in 1907, Native Americans faced new challenges. The federal government passed laws aimed at assimilating Native people and breaking up communal lands through the Dawes Act and the Curtis Act. These policies led to significant loss of tribal lands and erosion of traditional ways of life.

The Allotment Era and Land Loss

The allotment system divided tribal lands into individual parcels for Native American families, with "surplus" lands sold to non-Native settlers. This led to a massive reduction in Native-held land, undermining tribal sovereignty and economic stability.

Despite these hardships, Native Americans in Oklahoma continued to advocate for their rights. The Indian Reorganization Act of 1934 helped restore some tribal governments and lands, allowing for cultural revitalization.

Cultural Preservation and Revival

Today, Oklahoma is home to the second-largest Native American population in the United States. Tribal nations have worked tirelessly to preserve their languages, traditions, and histories. Cultural centers, museums, and annual events such as powwows celebrate Native heritage and educate both Native and non-Native communities.

The Influence of Native American Culture in Modern Oklahoma

Native American culture is woven into the fabric of Oklahoma's identity. From place names and art to cuisine and festivals, Indigenous influence is everywhere. Many tribes operate their own businesses, schools, and health services, contributing significantly to the state's economy and diversity.

Language and Education

Preserving Native languages has become a priority for many Oklahoma tribes. Language immersion schools and programs aim to pass down these crucial aspects of culture to younger generations. Education initiatives also focus on teaching accurate Native American history, countering stereotypes and misinformation.

Economic and Political Impact

Tribal governments in Oklahoma exercise a high degree of sovereignty, managing resources, law enforcement, and economic ventures, including casinos and tourism. These enterprises have helped fund social services and cultural projects, strengthening tribal communities.

Visiting and Learning About Oklahoma Native American History

For those interested in exploring Oklahoma Native American history firsthand, there are numerous sites and museums that provide deep insights into this rich heritage.

- **The Cherokee Heritage Center** in Tahlequah offers exhibits on Cherokee culture and history, including the Trail of Tears.
- **The Chickasaw Cultural Center** showcases the Chickasaw Nation's traditions and contributions.
- **The National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum** in Oklahoma City includes exhibits on Native American history and their role in the West.
- **Annual powwows and cultural festivals** provide vibrant opportunities to experience Native music, dance, and crafts.

Engaging with these resources encourages a deeper appreciation for the resilience and enduring spirit of Oklahoma's Native American peoples.

Exploring Oklahoma's Native American history reveals a story of survival, adaptation, and pride. From ancient times through forced removals and modern revitalization efforts, Native Americans have shaped the state in profound

ways. Their legacy is not just a chapter in history but a living, breathing part of Oklahoma's present and future.

Frequently Asked Questions

What tribes are considered the original Native American inhabitants of Oklahoma?

The original Native American inhabitants of Oklahoma include tribes such as the Caddo, Wichita, Osage, and Quapaw, who lived in the region long before European contact.

How did the Indian Removal Act of 1830 impact Native Americans in Oklahoma?

The Indian Removal Act of 1830 led to the forced relocation of many Native American tribes from their ancestral homelands in the southeastern United States to Indian Territory, present-day Oklahoma, resulting in the Trail of Tears and significant suffering.

What is the significance of the Trail of Tears in Oklahoma Native American history?

The Trail of Tears refers to the forced relocation of several tribes, including the Cherokee, Choctaw, Creek, Chickasaw, and Seminole, to Oklahoma, where thousands died from disease, exposure, and starvation during the journey.

How many federally recognized tribes are currently located in Oklahoma?

Oklahoma is home to 39 federally recognized Native American tribes, the largest number of any state in the U.S., reflecting its history as Indian Territory.

What role did Oklahoma play in the development of Native American sovereignty?

Oklahoma played a crucial role in Native American sovereignty as tribes established governments, courts, and legal systems within Indian Territory, and later fought for recognition and rights within the state and federal systems.

What are some important Native American cultural sites in Oklahoma?

Important Native American cultural sites in Oklahoma include the Spiro Mounds, an ancient Caddoan Mississippian site, and the Cherokee Heritage Center, which preserves the history and culture of the Cherokee Nation.

How has Native American history influenced modern Oklahoma culture?

Native American history has deeply influenced Oklahoma's culture through its art, music, festivals, language preservation, and political landscape, with many Native American communities actively maintaining traditions and contributing to the state's identity.

Additional Resources

Oklahoma Native American History: A Complex Tapestry of Culture, Displacement, and Resilience

oklahoma native american history is a rich and multifaceted narrative that stretches back thousands of years, long before Oklahoma became part of the United States. This history encompasses the diverse tribes that inhabited the region, the forced relocations during the 19th century, and the ongoing cultural and political significance of Native American nations within the state. Understanding Oklahoma's Native American history requires a nuanced exploration of the intersection between indigenous peoples and federal policies, as well as the profound impact these events have had on tribal sovereignty, identity, and heritage.

Historical Context of Native American Presence in Oklahoma

Long before European settlers arrived, the land now known as Oklahoma was home to numerous indigenous peoples. Archaeological evidence reveals that Native American groups such as the Caddo, Wichita, and Osage lived in this region, developing complex societies with distinct languages, customs, and economies. These indigenous groups thrived in the diverse ecosystems of the plains, forests, and river valleys that characterize Oklahoma's geography.

The 19th century marked a significant turning point with the Indian Removal Act of 1830, a federal policy that forced many eastern tribes to relocate westward. Oklahoma became the designated Indian Territory, a forced resettlement zone for tribes expelled from their ancestral homelands. This period reshaped the demographic and cultural landscape of the region, as the "Five Civilized Tribes"—the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Creek (Muscogee), and Seminole—were among the primary groups moved into Oklahoma. Each tribe brought its unique traditions and governance structures, contributing to the state's diverse Native American population.

The Indian Removal Act and the Trail of Tears

The Indian Removal Act catalyzed one of the most tragic episodes in Native American history: the Trail of Tears. This series of forced migrations led to the deaths of thousands due to disease, starvation, and exhaustion. The Cherokee Nation's forced march from Georgia to Oklahoma is perhaps the most well-documented instance, but other tribes endured similar hardships.

The relocation not only caused immense human suffering but also disrupted

established cultural and social systems. Despite this, the tribes that resettled in Oklahoma sought to rebuild their communities, establish schools, and maintain their languages and traditions. This resilience is a key theme in the story of Oklahoma Native American history.

Tribal Sovereignty and Cultural Preservation in Oklahoma

Oklahoma today is unique in having the largest Native American population of any U.S. state, with 39 federally recognized tribes. This diversity underlines the ongoing importance of tribal sovereignty and cultural preservation in the region. The relationship between Native nations and state and federal governments has been complex, shaped by legislation, court rulings, and activism.

Legal Milestones and Sovereignty

The 20th and 21st centuries have seen critical legal battles over tribal sovereignty in Oklahoma. Landmark cases such as *McGirt v. Oklahoma* (2020) reaffirmed that much of eastern Oklahoma remains Native American land under federal jurisdiction. This ruling has profound implications for criminal justice, governance, and the recognition of tribal authority.

Moreover, the establishment of tribal courts, schools, and cultural centers reflects efforts to strengthen self-determination. Tribes in Oklahoma manage a range of enterprises, from casinos to museums, which serve both economic and cultural purposes.

Cultural Revitalization Efforts

Cultural preservation in Oklahoma involves language revitalization programs, traditional arts, and intertribal gatherings like powwows. Many tribes have made significant strides in reversing the effects of assimilation policies from the past, including boarding schools that sought to erase indigenous identities.

Oklahoma's museums and heritage sites serve as educational hubs for both Native and non-Native populations, fostering greater awareness of the state's indigenous history. Institutions such as the Cherokee Heritage Center and the Five Civilized Tribes Museum play pivotal roles in this mission.

Challenges and Contemporary Issues

Despite progress, Native American communities in Oklahoma face ongoing challenges linked to historical trauma, economic disparities, and political complexities. Access to healthcare, education, and economic opportunities remains uneven, underscoring the need for targeted policies and support.

Economic Development and Resource Management

Tribal governments in Oklahoma have pursued economic development strategies that balance growth with cultural integrity. Casinos and tourism have generated revenue, but debates persist about sustainable development and resource management, especially concerning land rights and environmental conservation.

Education and Representation

Efforts to incorporate Native American history and perspectives into Oklahoma's educational curricula are vital for fostering understanding and respect. Representation in state government and media also continues to evolve, reflecting a broader recognition of Native voices.

Legacy and Influence on Oklahoma's Identity

The imprint of Native American history on Oklahoma's identity is indelible. Place names, cultural festivals, and artistic expressions all testify to the enduring influence of indigenous peoples. The state's legal and political landscape is shaped by the presence of sovereign tribal nations, creating a dynamic interplay between tradition and modern governance.

Understanding Oklahoma Native American history is essential not only for recognizing past injustices but also for appreciating the resilience and contributions of Native communities. This ongoing story highlights the complexity of American history and the vital role of indigenous peoples in shaping the nation's present and future.

Oklahoma Native American History

oklahoma native american history: Oklahoma Native Americans Carole Marsh, 2011-03-01 One of the most popular misconceptions about American Indians is that they are all the same-one homogenous group of people who look alike, speak the same language, and share the same customs and history. Nothing could be further from the truth! This book gives kids an A-Z look at the Native Americans that shaped their state's history. From tribe to tribe, there are large differences in clothing, housing, life-styles, and cultural practices. Help kids explore Native American history by starting with the Native Americans that might have been in their very own backyard! Some of the activities include crossword puzzles, fill in the blanks, and decipher the code.

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oklahoma native american history: The Complete Idiot's Guide to Native American History Walter Fleming, 2003-04-01 This book is a comprehensive overview of the history and culture of the peoples who are now known as the First Americans. Author Walter C. Fleming covers the many different tribes that stretched from the Atlantic to the Pacific, including compelling biographies of their greatest leaders. He examines the beliefs, customs, legends and the myriad contributions Native Americans have given to modern society, and details the often tragic history of their conquest by European invaders, their treatment—both historical and recent—under the US government, and the harsh reality of life on today's reservations.

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oklahoma native american history: Seven Myths of Native American History Paul Jentz, 2018-03-02 *Seven Myths of Native American History* will provide undergraduates and general readers with a very useful introduction to Native America past and present. Jentz identifies the origins and remarkable staying power of these myths at the same time he exposes and dismantles them. —Colin G. Calloway, Dartmouth College

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Todd Leahy, Nathan Wilson, 2016-07-29 Native Americans in the United States, similar to other indigenous people, created political, economic, and social movements to meet and adjust to major changes that impacted their cultures. For centuries, Native Americans dealt with the onslaught of non-Indian land claims, the appropriation of their homelands, and the destruction of their ways of life. Through various movements, Native Americans accepted, rejected, or accommodated themselves to the nontraditional worldviews of the colonizers and their policies. The Historical Dictionary of Native American Movements is designed to provide a useful reference for students and scholars to consult on topics dealing with key movements, organizations, leadership strategies, and the major issues these groups confronted. This second edition of Historical Dictionary of Native American Movements contains a chronology, an introduction, appendixes, and an extensive bibliography. The dictionary section has over 200 cross-referenced entries on important personalities, language, religion, politics, and the environment.

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oklahoma native american history: Native American History for Kids Karen Bush Gibson,

2010-07 As the first Americans, hundreds of indigenous bands and nations already lived in North America when European explorers first set out to conquer an inhabited land. This book captures the early history of these complex societies and their 500-year struggle to survive against all odds from war, displacement, broken treaties, and boarding schools. Not only a history of tribal nations, Native American History for Kids also includes profiles of famous Native Americans and their many contributions, from early leaders to superstar athlete Jim Thorpe, dancer Maria Tallchief, astronaut John Herrington, author Sherman Alexie, actor Wes Studi, and more. Readers will also learn about Indian culture through hands-on activities, such as planting a Three Sisters garden (corn, squash, and beans), making beef jerky in a low-temperature oven, weaving a basket out of folded newspaper strips, deciphering a World War II Navajo Code Talker message, and playing Ball-and-Triangle, a game popular with Penobscot children. And before they are finished, readers will be inspired to know that the history of the Native American people is the history of all Americans.

oklahoma native american history: *Indians of Oklahoma* Donald Ricky, 1999-01-01

There is a great deal of information on the native peoples of the United States, which exists largely in national publications. Since much of Native American history occurred before statehood, there is a need for information on Native Americans of the region to fully understand the history and culture of the native peoples that occupied Oklahoma and the surrounding areas. *Indians of Oklahoma* fills this void that exists in many library collections. Articles on tribes and nations indigenous to, or associated with, the state and region are included in this work. Biographies, daily life and general subject articles of Native Americans are included in this unique set. Many recorded Indian Treaties with the government of the United States from as early as the 1700s are also included in this work.

oklahoma native american history: The Native American Almanac: A Portrait of Native

America Today Arlene B. Hirschfelder, Martha Kreipe de Montañó, 2008-04-21 ...an excellent overview of past and present Native American life. —Library Journal Best research tool. —Lingua Franca Wide-ranging, authoritative, and timely, here is an illuminating portrait of America's Native peoples, combining information about their history and traditions with insight into the topics that most affect their lives today. From the upheaval of first contacts to the policies of removal to contemporary issues of self-determination, this useful sourcebook provides information on all aspects of Native American life. The Native American Almanac outlines topics of particular interest, such as the history of Native-white relations, the location and status of Native American tribes, religious traditions and ceremonies, language and literature, and contemporary performers and artists, and includes dozens of useful reference features such as: Maps of tribal areas, historical conflicts, and present-day reservations A detailed chronology of significant events Names and addresses of hundreds of organizations concerned with Native American affairs A listing of Native American landmarks, museums, and cultural centers from coast to coast More than 100 black-and-white photographs and drawings Visit us online at <http://www.mgr.com>

oklahoma native american history: *Oklahoma's Atticus* Hunter Howe Cates, 2019 An Oklahoma Bestseller Tulsa, Oklahoma, 1953: an impoverished Cherokee named Buster Youngwolfe confesses to brutally raping and murdering his eleven-year-old female relative. When Youngwolfe recants his confession, saying he was forced to confess by the authorities, his city condemns him, except for one man--public defender and Creek Indian Elliott Howe. Recognizing in Youngwolfe the life that could have been his if not for a few lucky breaks, Howe risks his career to defend Youngwolfe against the powerful county attorney's office. Forgotten today, the sensational story of the murder, investigation, and trial made headlines nationwide. *Oklahoma's Atticus* is a tale of two cities--oil-rich downtown Tulsa and the dirt-poor slums of north Tulsa; of two newspapers--each taking different sides in the trial; and of two men both born poor Native Americans, but whose lives took drastically different paths. Hunter Howe Cates explores his grandfather's story, both a true-crime murder mystery and a legal thriller. *Oklahoma's Atticus* is full of colorful characters, from the seventy-two-year-old mystic who correctly predicted where the body was buried, to the Kansas City police sergeant who founded one of America's most advanced forensics labs and pioneered the use of lie detector evidence, to the ambitious assistant county attorney who would rise to become the future governor of Oklahoma. At the same time, it is a story that explores issues that still divide our nation: police brutality and corruption; the effects of poverty, inequality, and racism in criminal justice; the power of the media to drive and shape public opinion; and the primacy of the presumption of innocence. *Oklahoma's Atticus* is an inspiring true underdog story of unity, courage, and justice that invites readers to confront their own preconceived notions of guilt and innocence.

oklahoma native american history: *A State-by-State History of Race and Racism in the United States* Patricia Reid-Merritt, 2018-12-07 Providing chronologies of important events, historical narratives from the first settlement to the present, and biographies of major figures, this work offers readers an unseen look at the history of racism from the perspective of individual states. From the initial impact of European settlement on indigenous populations to the racial divides caused by immigration and police shootings in the 21st century, each American state has imposed some form of racial restriction on its residents. The United States proclaims a belief in freedom and justice for all, but members of various minority racial groups have often faced a different reality, as seen in such examples as the forcible dispossession of indigenous peoples during the Trail of Tears, Jim Crow laws' crushing discrimination of blacks, and the manifest unfairness of the Chinese Exclusion Act. Including the District of Columbia, the 51 entries in these two volumes cover the state-specific histories of all of the major minority and immigrant groups in the United States, including African Americans, Hispanics, Asian Americans, and Native Americans. Every state has had a unique experience in attempting to build a community comprising multiple racial groups, and the chronologies, narratives, and biographies that compose the entries in this collection explore the consequences of racism from states' perspectives, revealing distinct new insights into their respective racial histories.

oklahoma native american history: *History's Memory* Ellen Fitzpatrick, 2004-10-25 This reinterpretation of a century of American historical writing challenges the notion that the politics of the recent past alone explains the politics of history. Fitzpatrick offers a wise historical perspective on today's heated debates, and reclaims the long line of historians who tilled the rich and diverse soil of our past.

oklahoma native american history: *The Sac and Fox* Charles River Editors, 2019-08-02
*Includes pictures *Includes a bibliography Few people need to be reminded in the 21st century of the cost of European imperialism and colonization on indigenous and native cultures around the world. The increasingly controversial view of Columbus Day, still represented on the United States commemorative calendar, attests quite clearly to an ambiguous modern view of early European encounters with Native Americans. Slavery, disease, land and resource appropriation and the rapid disintegration of indigenous societies are all characteristics of European global expansion. There are those societies, particularly in Asia and Africa, that proved resilient enough to weather the European imperialism, but others, most notably those of Australia and North America, certainly did not. The

development of North America as a series of British colonies prior to the end of the 18th century went ahead without any definitive policy in regards to the Native Americans who were impacted, displaced and not infrequently overwhelmed by the process. The vast majority of Native American people continued to live in a state of grace long after the formation of the colonies and did not begin to feel the impact until the expansion west. Likewise, there could never be a coordinated, pan-tribal unity to confront this gathering invasion, since the indigenous population of the land was heterogeneous, speaking some 300 separate languages, and thousands of regional dialects, and very often they were at war with one another. Some saw an advantage in collaboration with the forces of colonization, and some not. The fate of the former was usually some form of unequal assimilation, and of the latter, removal or extermination, and often both. Natives in the east, vastly superior in numbers and resistant to the importation of pernicious disease, proved better able to surmount the colonial experience and emerge as an independent nation. No such good fortune attended the colonial experience of Native America. While the introduction of various epidemics of smallpox, measles, diphtheria and many other diseases, and numerous lingering and communicable diseases such as tuberculosis and syphilis, steadily eroded populations, the far greater political and social trauma took place as a consequence of an ongoing, and unending hunger for land. The end of the American Revolution and the 1776 Declaration of Independence introduced no particular change in the circumstances of the indigenous tribes, and no alteration of attitudes across a broad front. As the great territorial acquisitions from France and Mexico were joined to the United States, the attitude of white Americans began to shift in the direction of Manifest Destiny, and the God-given right of the nation to expand to occupy every corner of the continent. To facilitate this, there was a general interest on the part of the federal government to open these new territories for white settlement. The idea, then, was to push the Indians west of the Mississippi River, where space was infinite, and the problem could be deferred for another generation. Whenever and wherever negotiations to achieve this failed, the US Army would usually appear. The Indian Removal Act was passed by Congress in 1830, under the administration of President Andrew Jackson, which authorized these forced removals. Perhaps the most memorable and iconic episode of this period was the Trail of Tears, a 20-year exodus of the Cherokee, Muskogee, Seminole, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Ponca, and Ho-Chunk-Winnebago nations across the Mississippi into new territories designated as Indian lands. More than 4,000 men, women and children perished during this tragic episode. The only possible success that the entire policy could claim was that it sent the Indians in as an advance guard to lands that would later be made available to white homesteaders. To the native tribes, it was the beginning of a long nightmare.

oklahoma native american history: Understanding and Teaching Native American History Kristofer Ray, Brady DeSanti, 2022-08-30 Understanding and Teaching Native American History is a timely and urgently needed remedy to a long-standing gap in history instruction. This book highlights the ongoing integral role of Native peoples via broad coverage in a variety of topics including the historical, political, and cultural. Nearly a decade in the conception and making, this is a groundbreaking source for both beginning and veteran instructors.

oklahoma native american history: Native American Women Gretchen M. Bataille, Laurie Lisa, 2003-12-16 This A-Z reference contains 275 biographical entries on Native American women, past and present, from many different walks of life. Written by more than 70 contributors, most of whom are leading American Indian historians, the entries examine the complex and diverse roles of Native American women in contemporary and traditional cultures. This new edition contains 32 new entries and updated end-of-article bibliographies. Appendices list entries by area of woman's specialization, state of birth, and tribe; also includes photos and a comprehensive index.

oklahoma native american history: Red Book Alice Eichholz, 2004 ... provides updated county and town listings within the same overall state-by-state organization ... information on records and holdings for every county in the United States, as well as excellent maps from renowned mapmaker William Dollarhide ... The availability of census records such as federal, state, and territorial census reports is covered in detail ... Vital records are also discussed, including when and

where they were kept and how--Publisher description.

oklahoma native american history: Indian Tribes of Oklahoma Carter Blue Clark, 2020-09-03 Oklahoma is home to nearly forty American Indian tribes and includes the largest Native population of any state. As a result, many Americans think of the state as "Indian Country." In 2009, Blue Clark, an enrolled member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, produced an invaluable reference for information on the state's Native peoples. Now, building on the success of the first edition, this revised guide offers an up-to-date survey of the diverse nations that make up Oklahoma's Indian Country. Since publication of the first edition more than a decade ago, much has changed across Indian Country—and more is known about its history and culture. Drawing from both scholarly literature and Native oral sources, Clark incorporates the most recent archaeological and anthropological research to provide insights into each individual tribe dating back to prehistoric times. Today, the thirty-nine federally recognized tribes of Oklahoma continue to make advances in the areas of tribal governance, commerce, and all forms of arts and literature. This new edition encompasses the expansive range of tribal actions and interests in the state, including the rise of Native nation casino operations and nongaming industries, and the establishment of new museums and cultural attractions. In keeping with the user-friendly format of the original edition, this book provides readers with the unique story of each tribe, presented in alphabetical order, from the Alabama-Quassartes to the Yuchis. Each entry contains a complete statistical and narrative summary of the tribe, covering everything from origin tales to contemporary ceremonies and tribal businesses. The entries also include tribal websites, suggested readings, and photographs depicting visitor sites, events, and prominent tribal personages.

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