Finch & Co



A NATIVE AMERICAN PLAINS SIOUX BEADED KNIFE SHEATH

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BUFFALO HIDE, GLASS TRADE BEADS IN RED, YELLOW AND TWO SHADES OF BLUE
CIRCA 1860-70
SIZE: 26 CM LONG, 10¼ INS LONG

LITERATURE

EARLY PLAINS BEADWORK REFLECTS THE GEOMETRIC PATTERNS FOUND IN TATTOOING, QUILLWORK AND PAINTED RAW HIDE PARFLECHES. THE BOLD SIMPLE BLOCKS AND LINES OF COLOUR BEADED AROUND 1850 WERE VASTLY DIFFERENT FROM THE INTRICATE INTENSELY COLOURED DESIGNS SEEN IN PIECES FROM 1890.
PARALLEL LINES ARE AN OLD PLAINS DESIGN MOTIF WHICH MAY BE A TALLY OF THE BATTLES, COUPS OR WAR TRAILS TRACKED BY THE WEARER.