



“Marks of His Profession...”

*-Tattoos in the Fur Trade-
Presented by Isaac Walters*

A note on the word “Tattoo”

The word “Tattoo” doesn’t enter English until the 1770s –Tahitian from Cooke’s Voyages

- Mark’d
- Inkn’d
- Pricked
- Painted
- Dessins
- Gravé
- D’empreinte
- Hiéroglyphe
- Piquage

Why ?

- Medicinal
- Exploits/Accomplishments
- Clan Membership
- Rite of Manhood
- Beautification/Decoration (“Racing Stripes”)

How ?

- *Ink (Charcoal, India Ink, Gunpowder, Earth Pigments, Vermillion)*
- *Piercing Tools (Bone Splinters, Thorns, Sharp Teeth, Needles)*
- *Pricked in / Scratched in*
- *Ink on Needle / Rubbed into Wound*

Original Tattoo Kits

A Menomonee Kit from the Oshkosh Public Museum

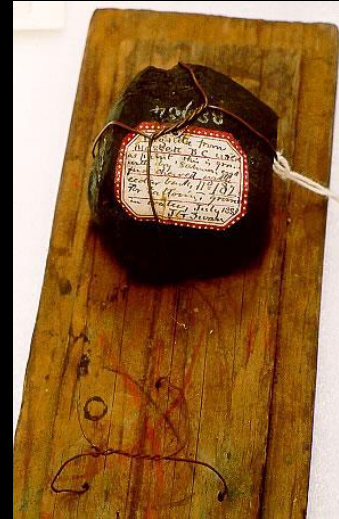


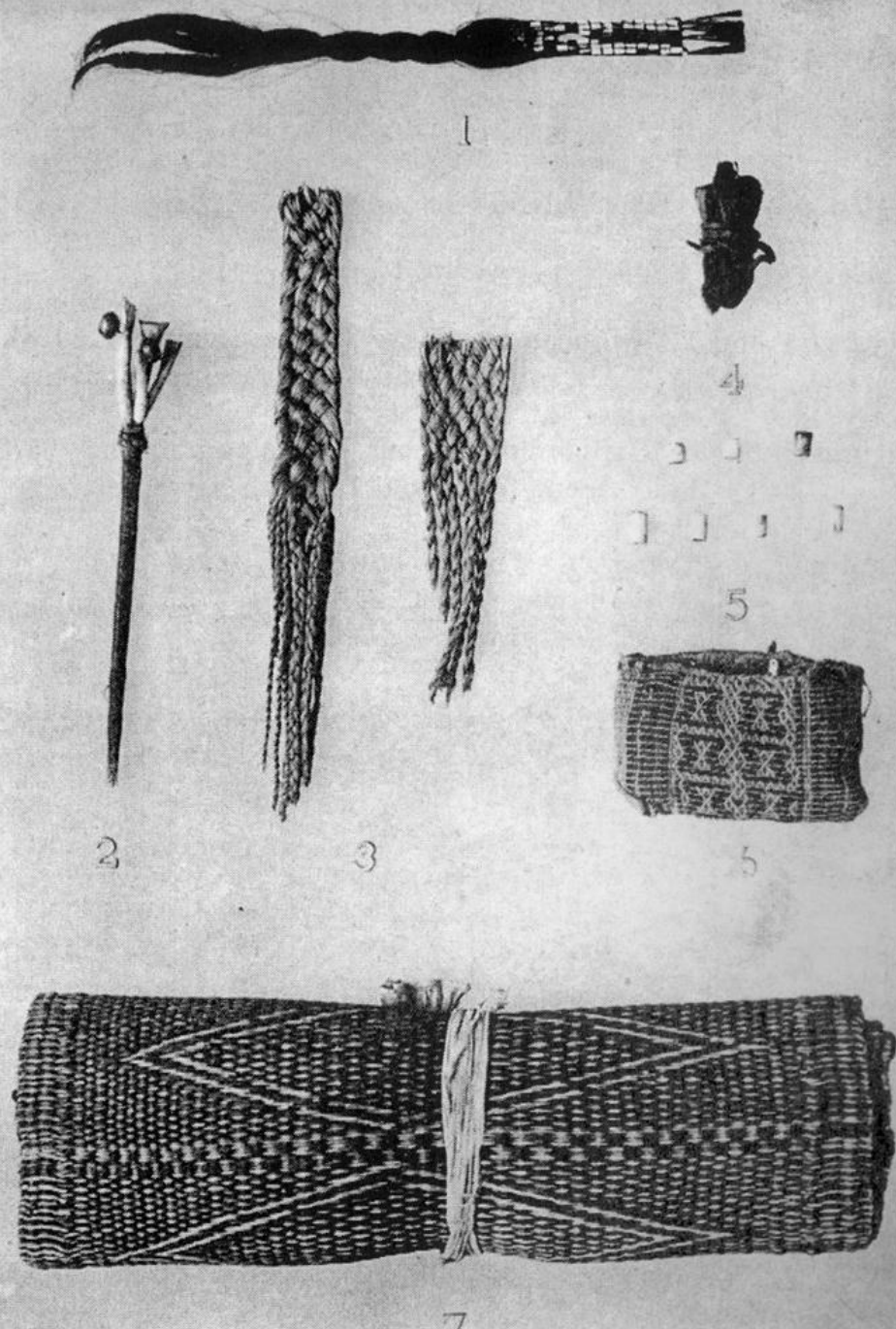
Another Menominee Kit from WI AMNH



Original Kits cont'd.

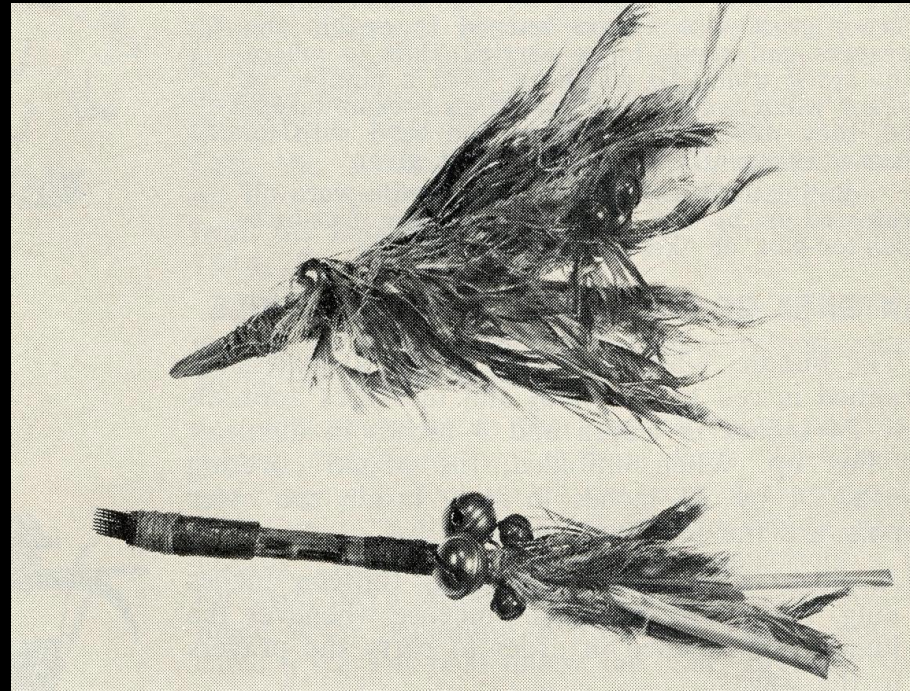
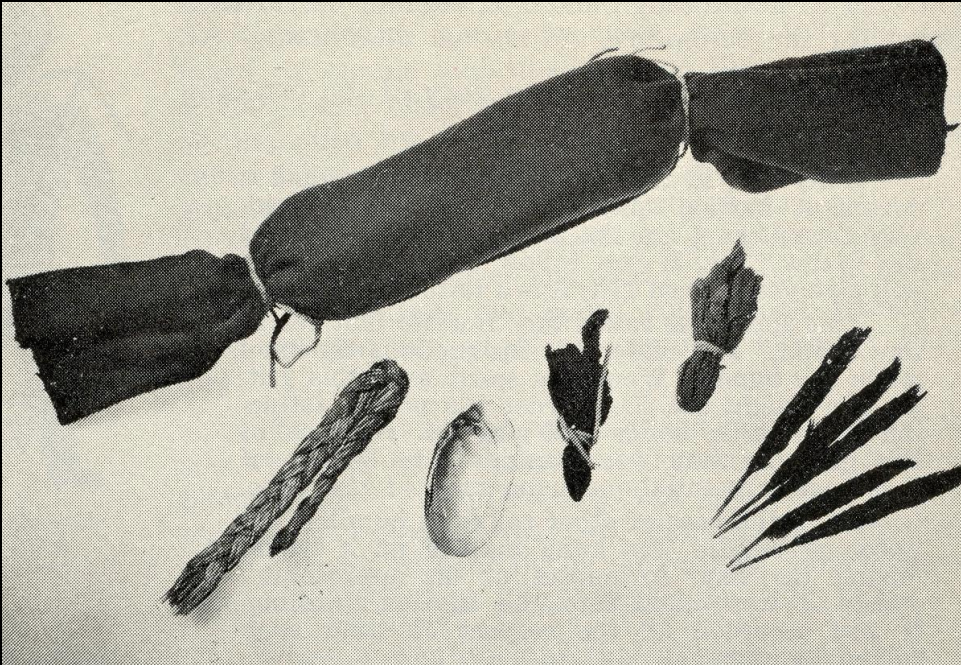
A Haida kit from the Smithsonian Institute





*Original Kits
cont'd.
Ioway Tattoo
Bundle*

Cree Tattoo Bundle



Ojibwe Tools Collected by Densmore





*Osage Tattoo
Bundle*

Common Designs

- *Geometric*
- *Zoomorphic (Animals)*
- *Floral*
- *Moon / Sun*
- *Religious Symbols*
- *Text (Initials, Sayings, Dates, Etc.)*

What Did they Look Like?

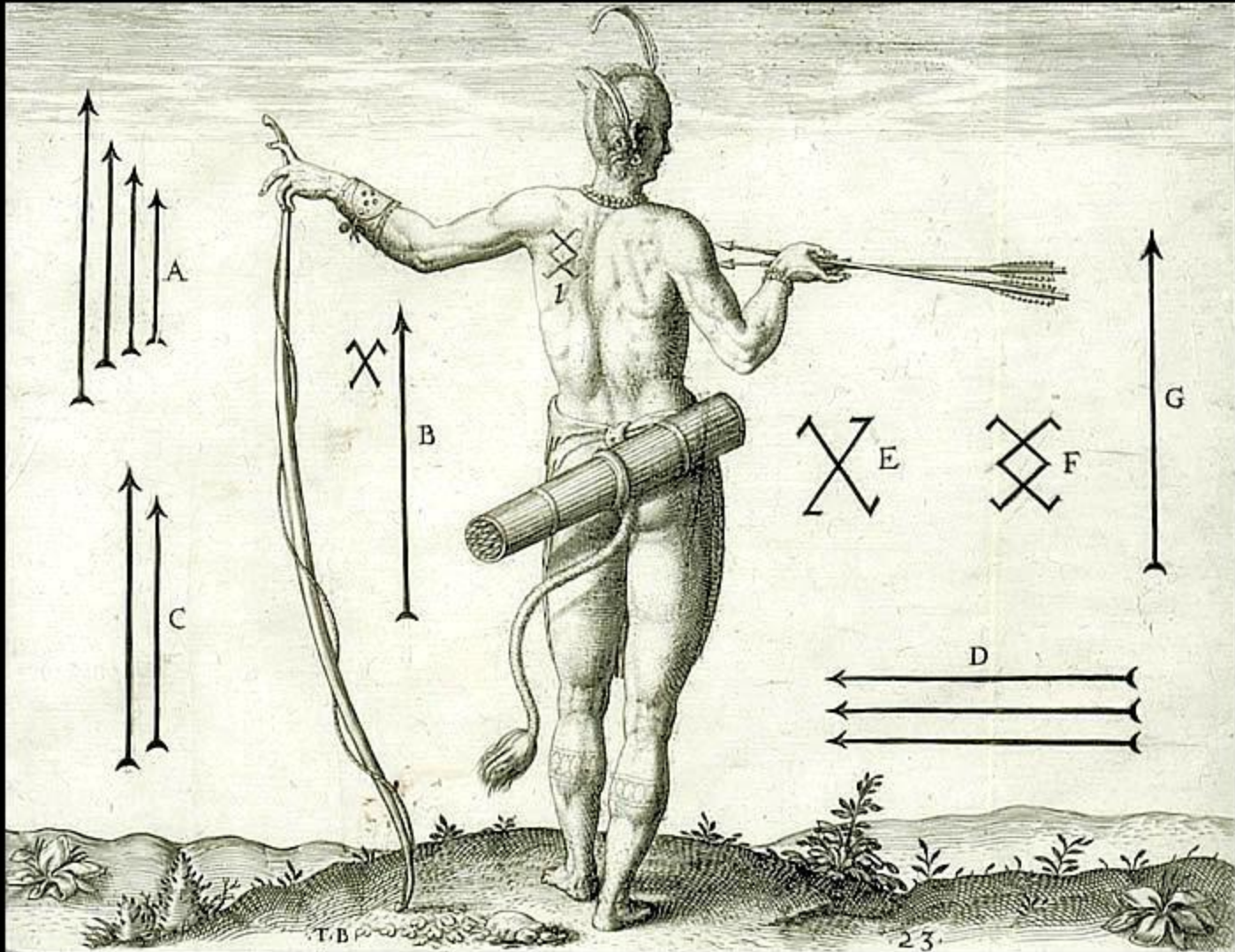
*Period Images of Native Americans With
Tattoos*

John White – 1580s



Theodore De Bry

The sundry Marks of the Chief Men of Virginia



Louis Nicolas



- *Left: An Amikwa Ojibwe Man*

- *Right: A Nadouessioux. Man*

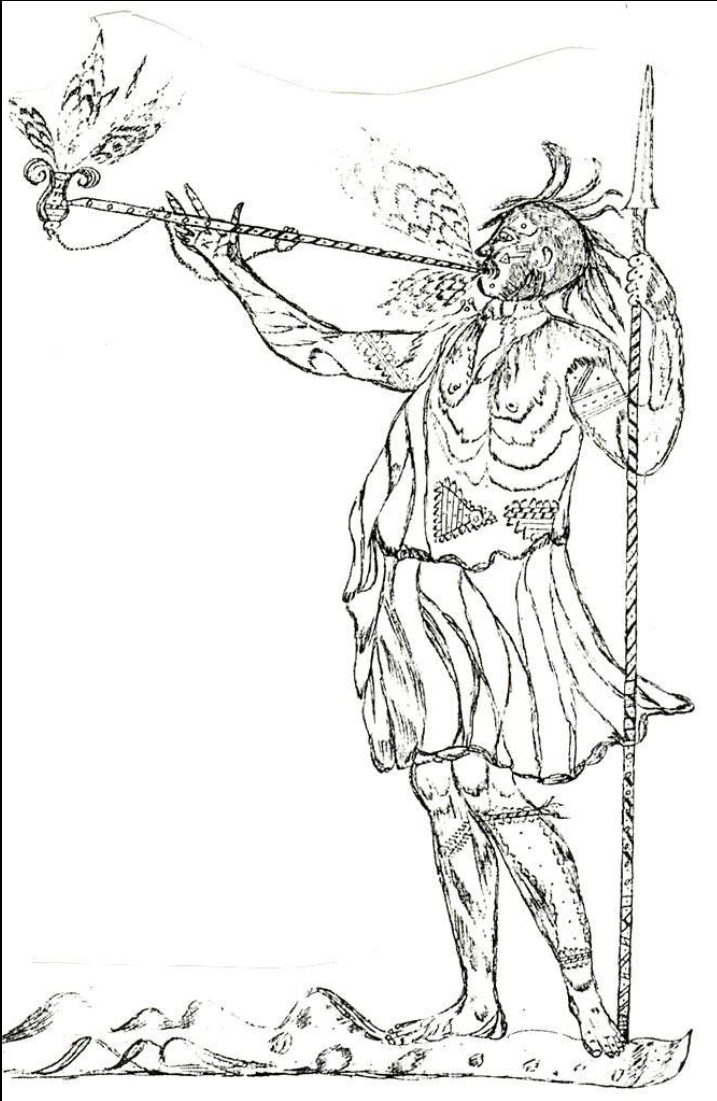


Louis Nicolas cont'd.



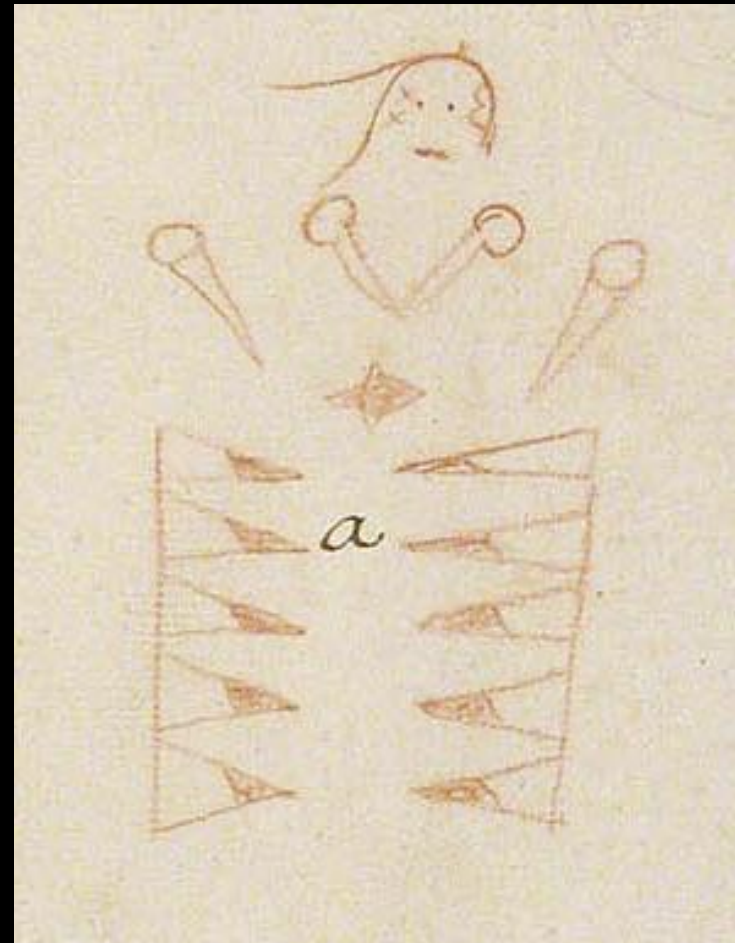
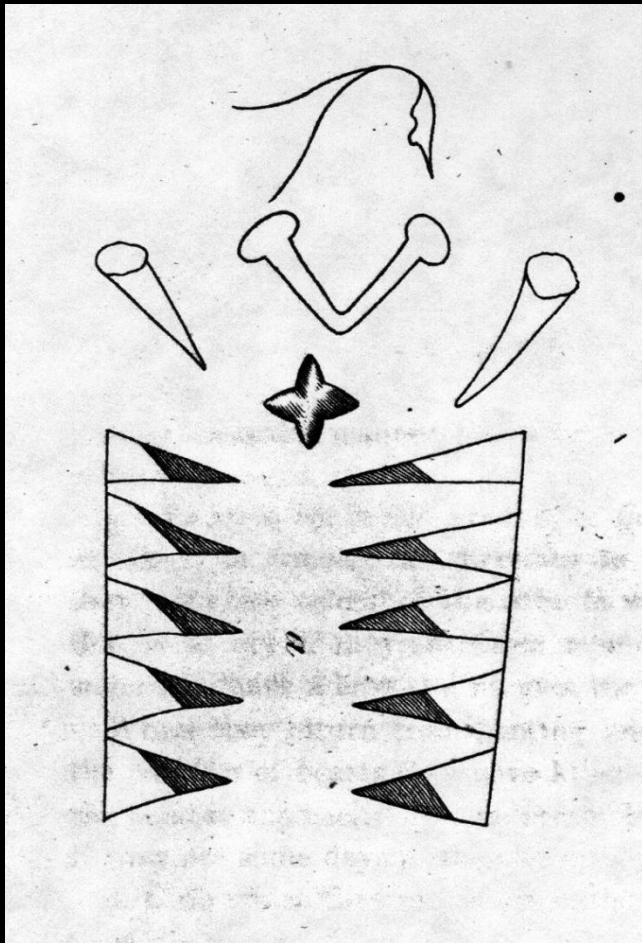
Three Separate Images of Iroquois Men

Louis Nicolas cont'd.



An Illinois War Captain

Iroquois Pictographs -1666



War Club -1675



Donald Ellis Gallery

Seneca Comb -1687-1710



Jan Verelst -1710



Sa Ga Yeath Qua Pieth Tow (Brant)



Ho Nee Yeath Taw No Row (John of
Ganajahhore)

More of the Kings



*Details of the Facial Tattoos on Three of the
Four Kings*

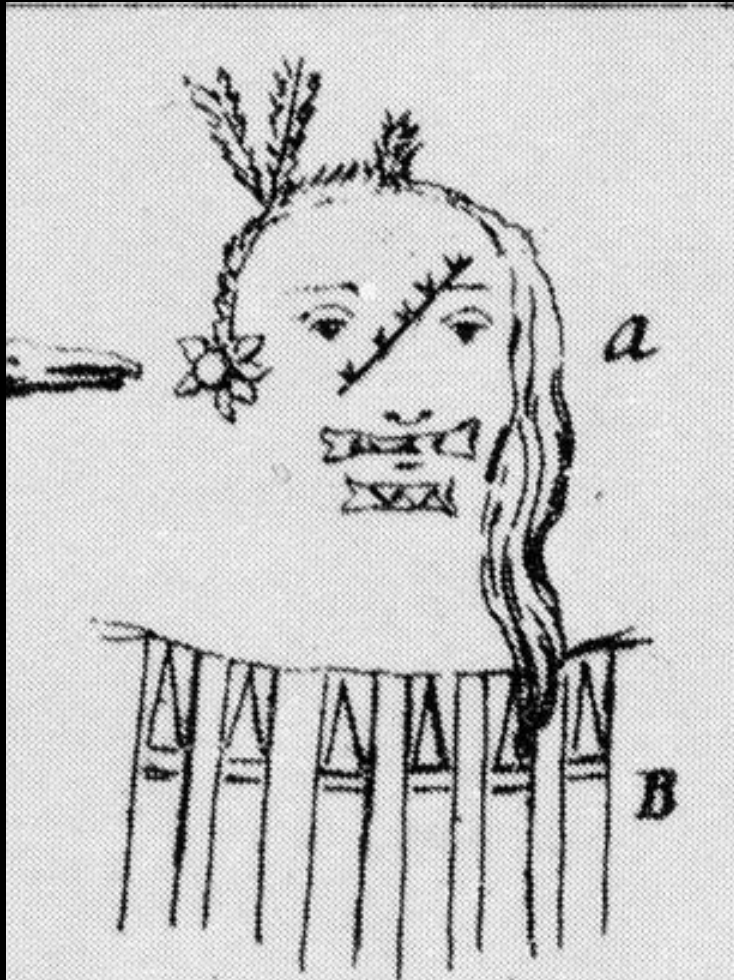


Nipissing Man ca.1715

Creek Man -1720



Joseph-Francois Lafitau 1724



Philip George Friedrich von Reckmid

1730s"



"The King and Queen of Yuchi"

King Hendrick

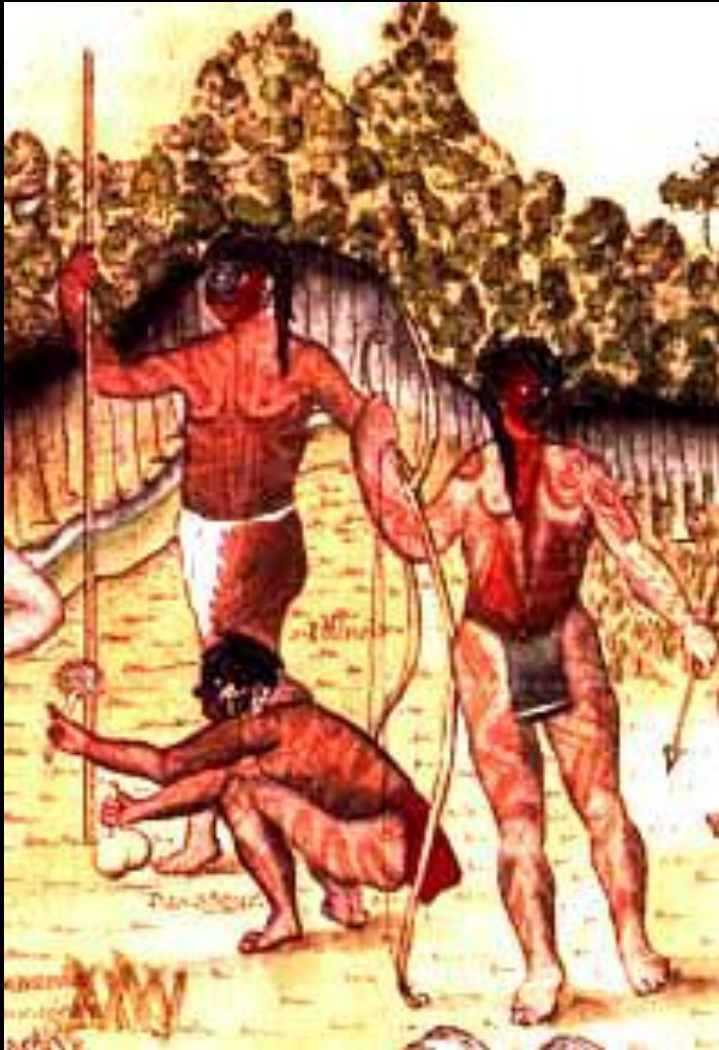


Gustavus Hesselius -1735

Lapowinsa, a Lenape Chief



Alexandre De Batz



*A detail of a
painting by De
Batz showing
some Illinois
visiting “La
Louisianne” in
1735*

*Mesquaki
(Fox) Warrior*



Three Cherokees Came Over the Head of the River Savanna to London 1762



Close Up of Outasite (Man-killer)



Austenaco, Great Warrior, Commander in Chief of the Cherokee Nation



*William Verelst -
1734*

*A detail from a
portrait of the Creek
Chief, Tomochichi*





Benjamin West

*A detail from West's
famous painting,
"The Death of
Wolfe"*

La 7^e opération.



Le dedans des Bras

Indiquer
Manteau
tôpé Pigeon

La 8^e opération



Le poignet

La 9^e opération



sur les Bras.

La 10^e opération.



L'os de la Jambe.

nonvent

Sept de cette figure



sur chaque Jambe.

Les quatre

La 1^e opération.



La Poitrine

La 2^e opération

Chaque côté



opération.

Du Ventre

La 3^e opération



La côté de la Cuissé

La 3^e opération.



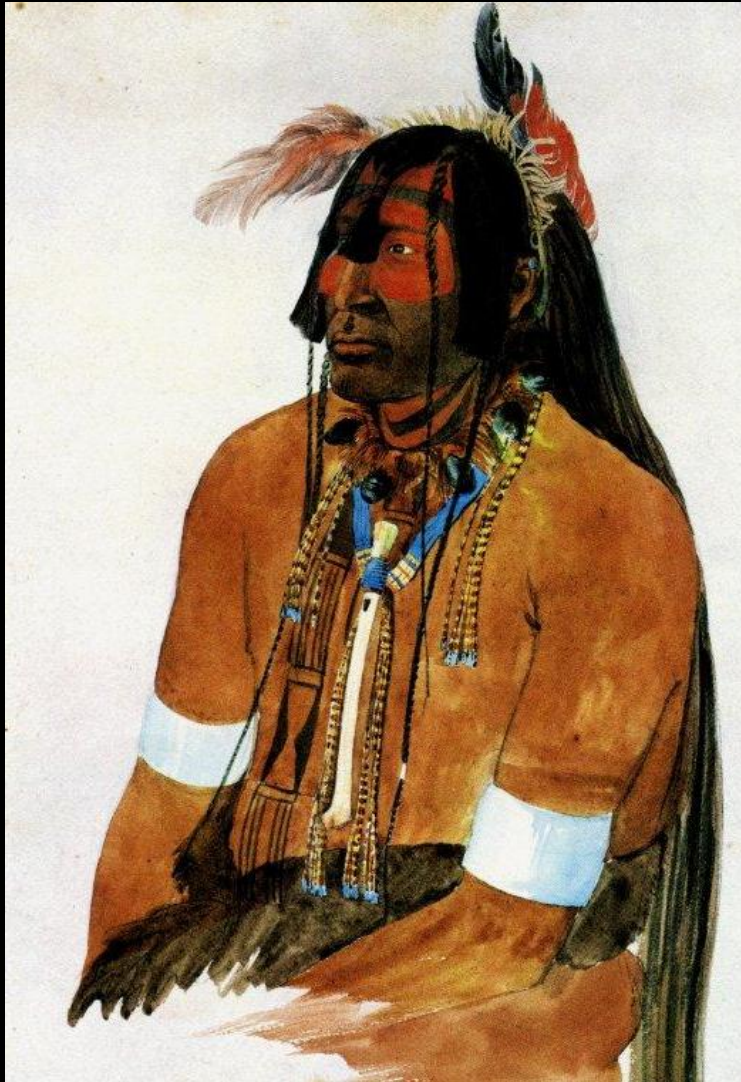
Les cuisses

From John
Long (?) –
1790s

Bodmer -Cree



Bodmer - Hidatsa



Friederich Kurz -1850s

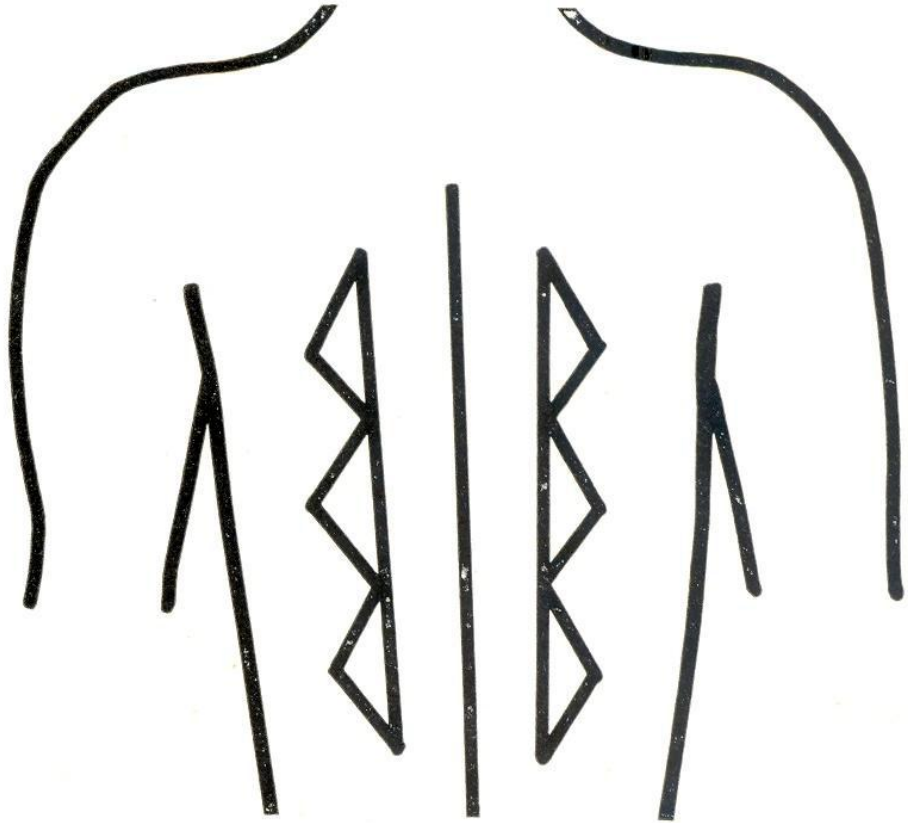


Ojibwe Effigy

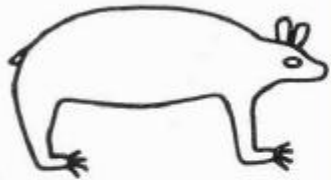


Cree

This tattooed body design, used by a man named Everlasting Star, was drawn by Mrs. William Whitehat of the Sakimay Reserve. Everlasting Star died about 1940.



Cree Tattoos



Grizzly Bear
Plains Cree



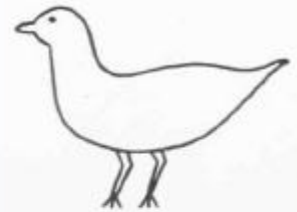
Thunderbird
Plains Cree



Thunderbird
Plains Cree



Thunderbird
Woods Cree
& Ojibwa



Baby Thunderbird
Cree



Skeleton Man
Woods Cree
& Ojibwa



Horse Tracks
Plains Cree



Otter
Cree & Ojibwa



Old Man Stone
Plains Cree

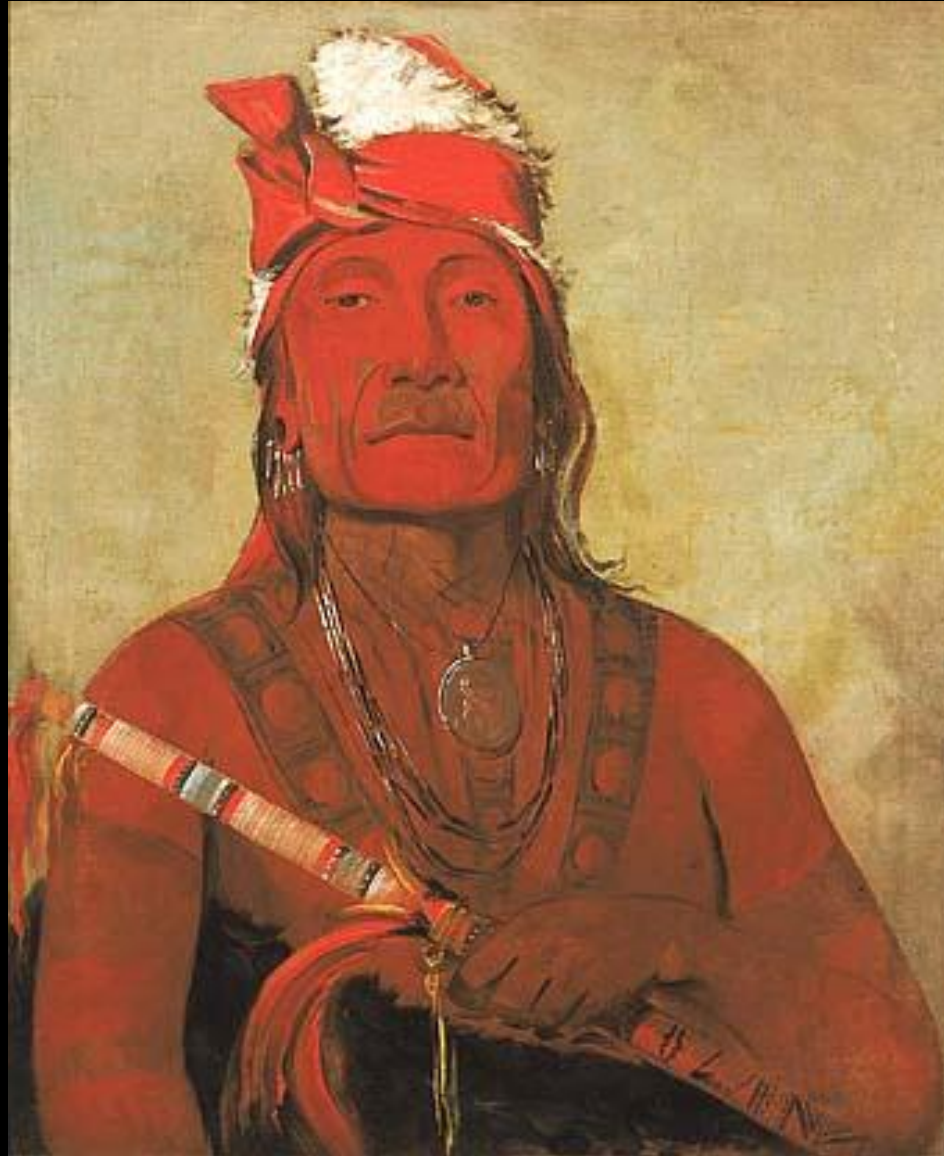


Buffalo Spirit
Plains Cree



Rattlesnake
Plains Cree

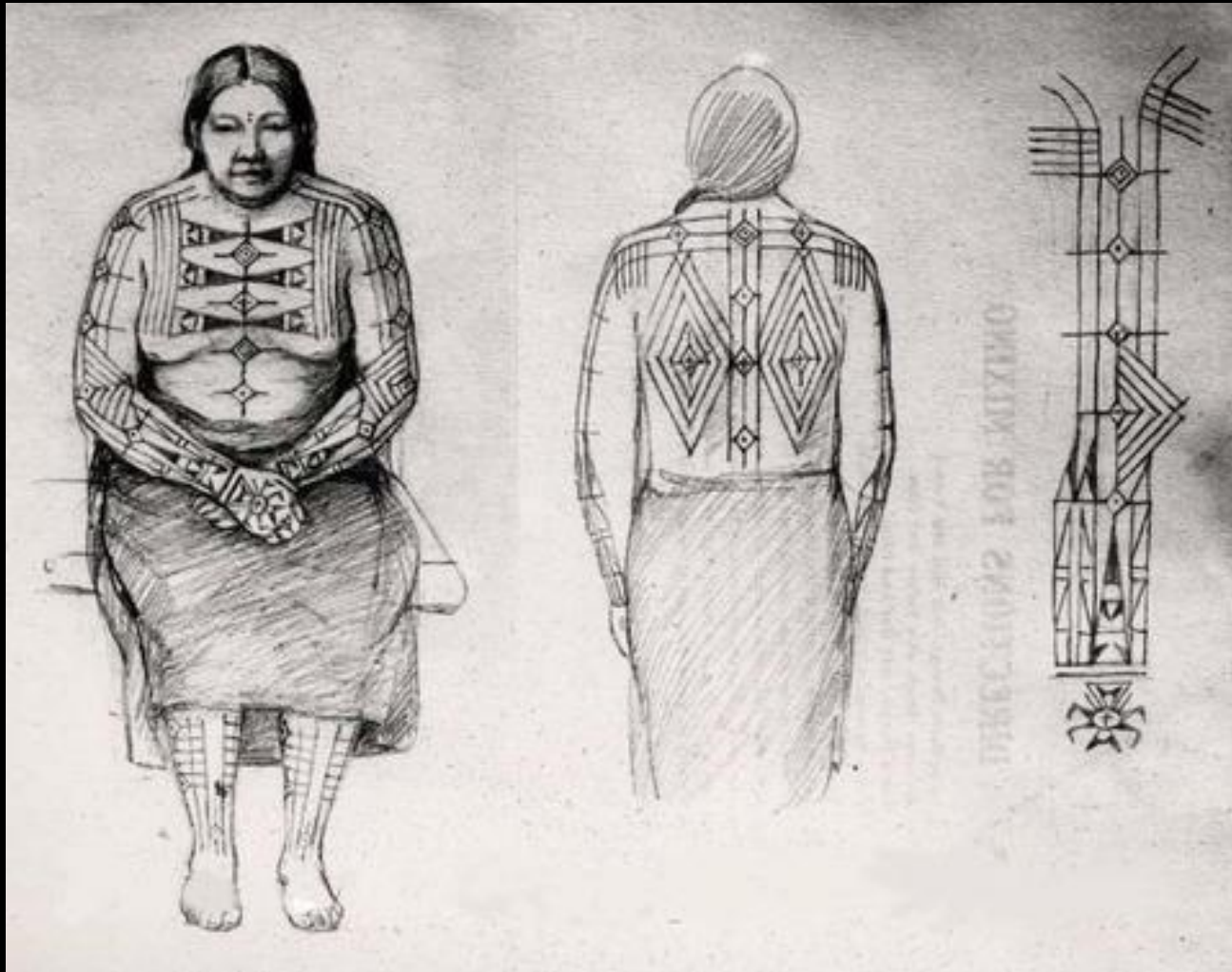
Catlin - Nakota



Catlin -Ponca



Osage Woman



Osage Man – 20thcent.



Osage Man – 20thcent.



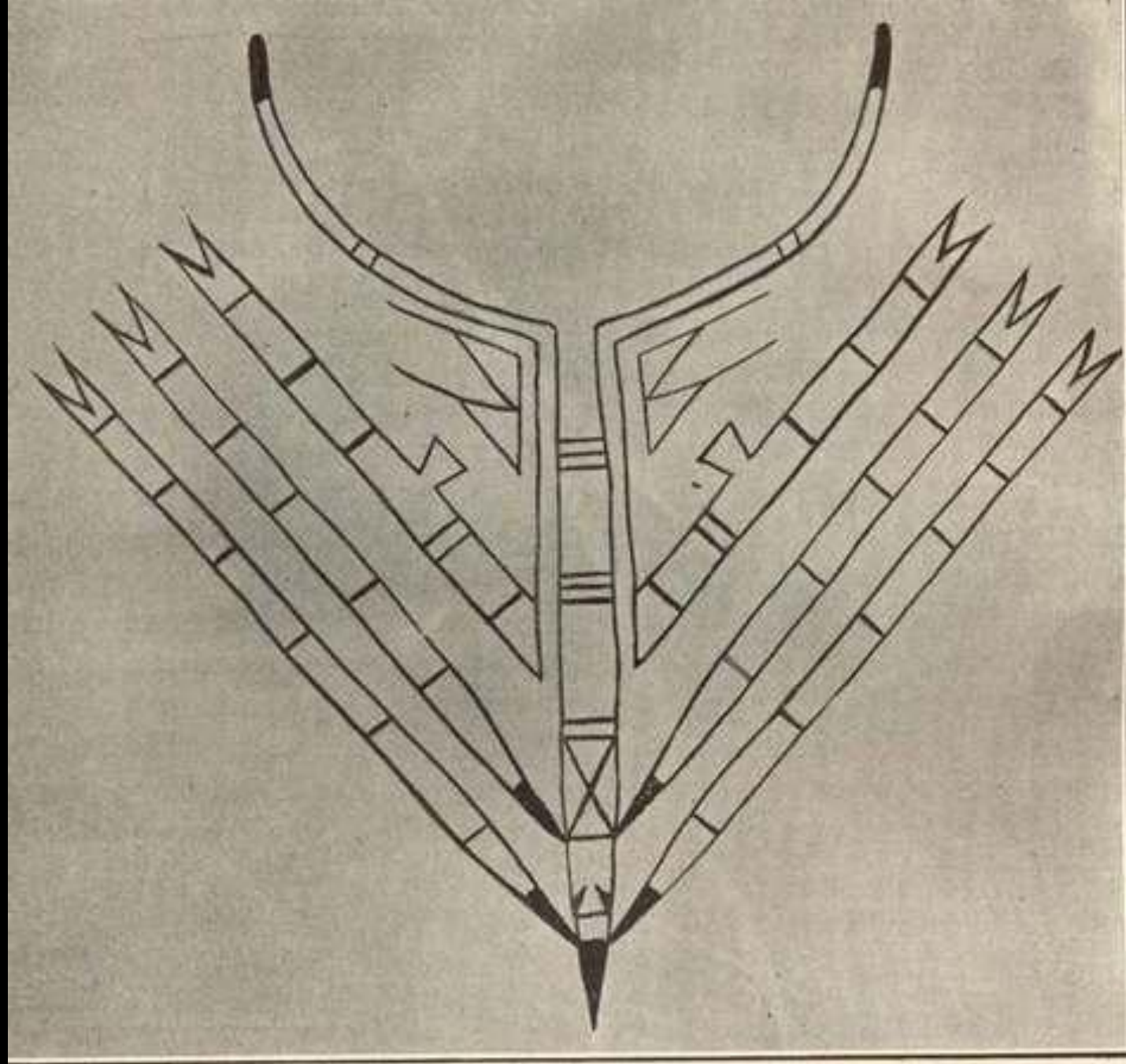
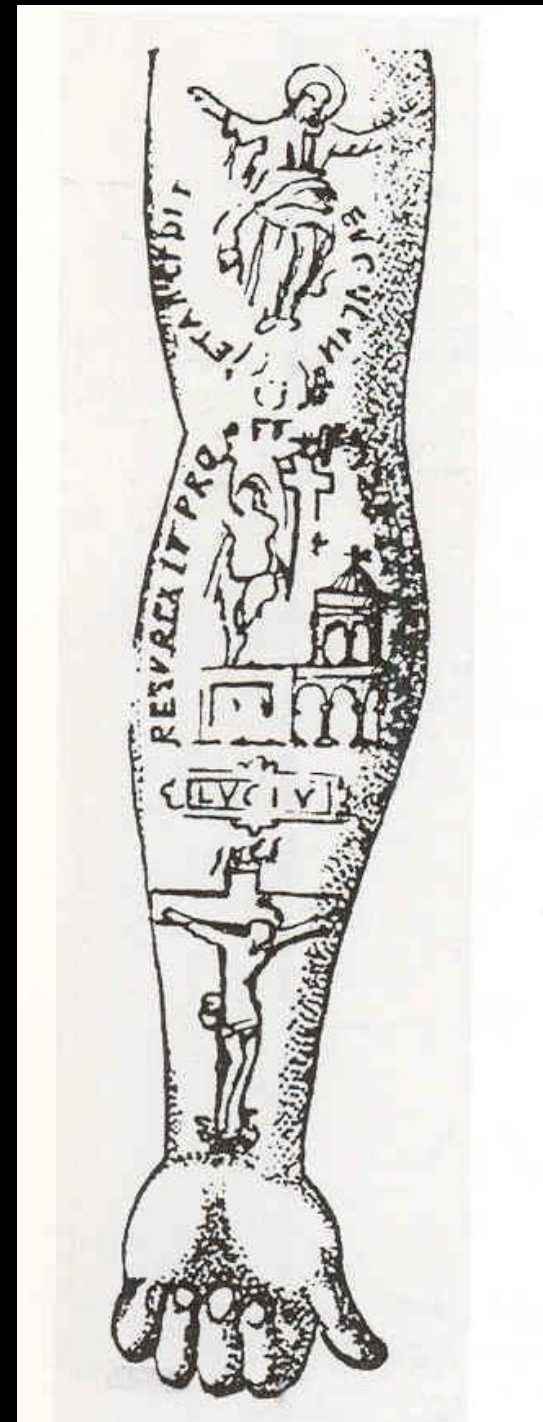
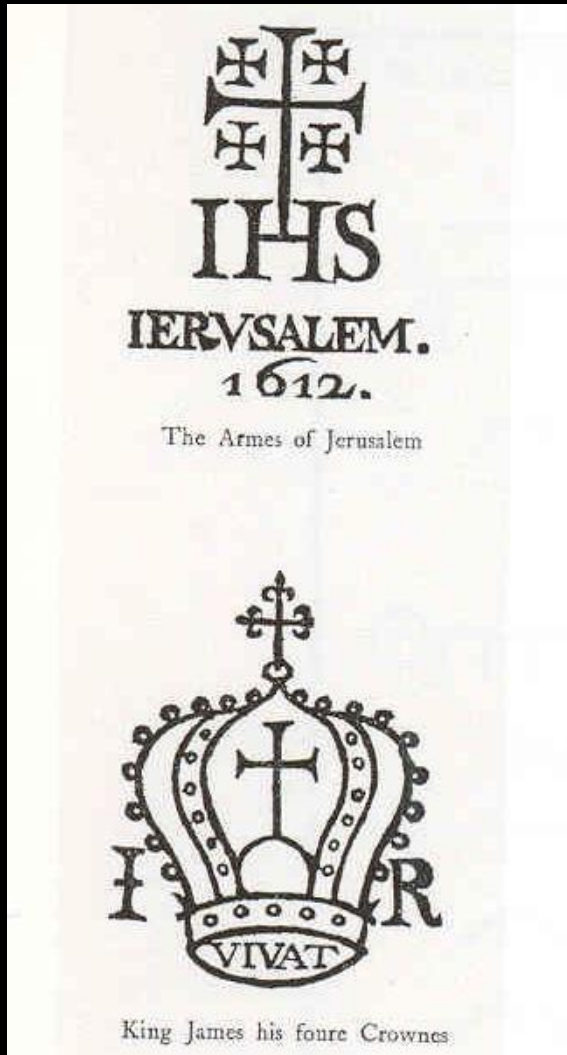


FIG. 48. Tattooed design, "mark of honor" (Osage).

What Did they Look Like?
Part II

Christian Iconography

Pilgrims to the Holy Land

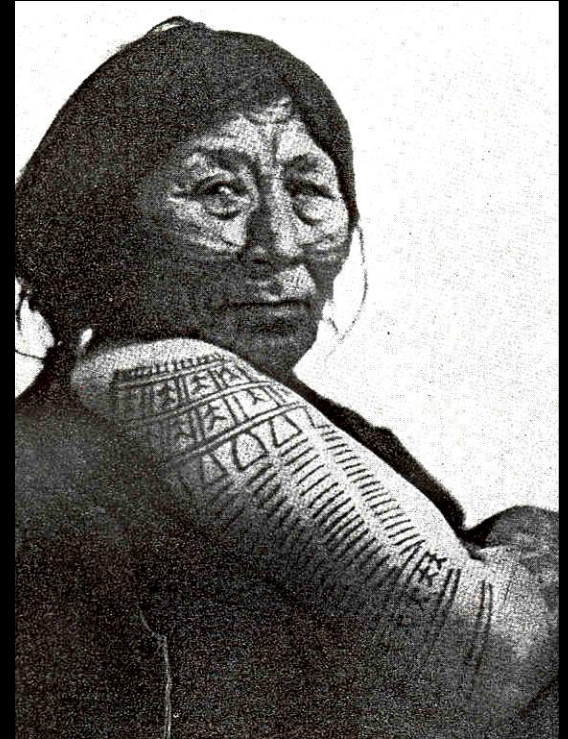
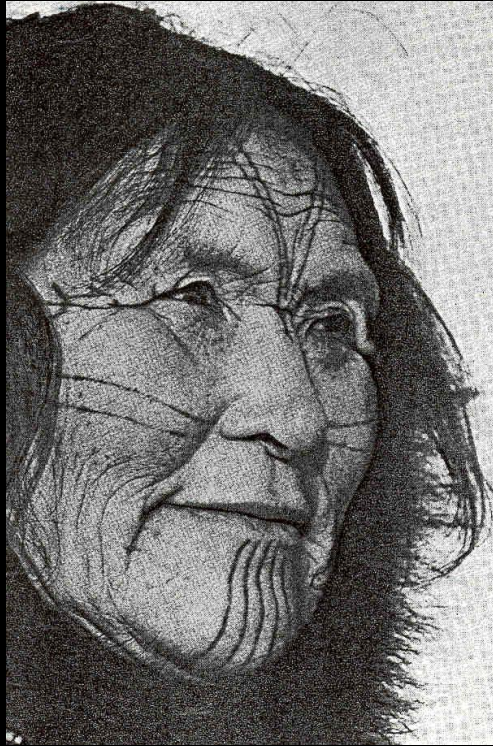


Pilgrims to the Holy Land

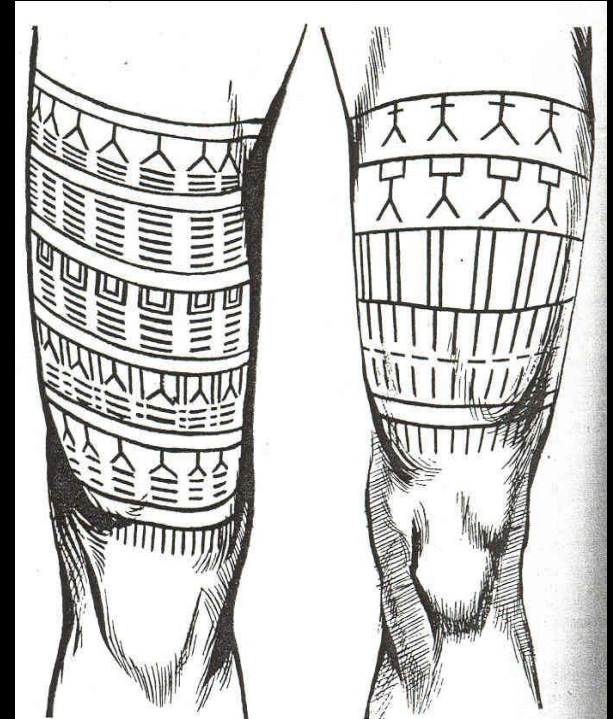
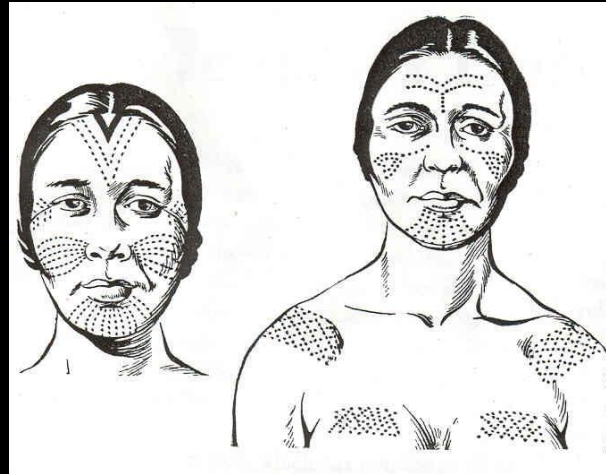
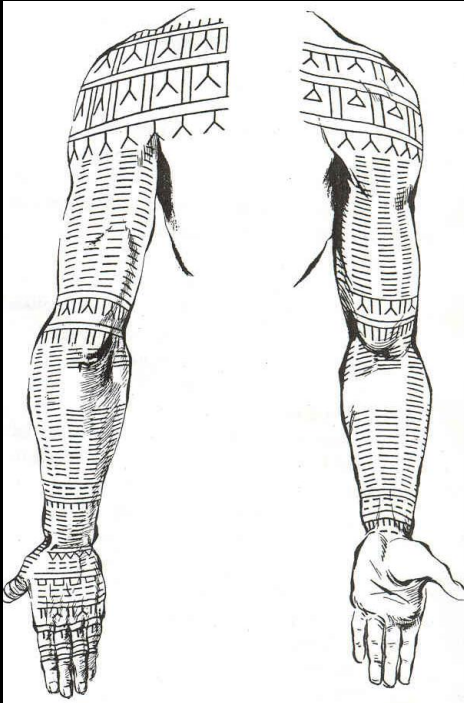
17-19th century woodcut prints from a Coptic tattoo artist in Jerusalem



Inuit Tattoos : An Interesting Twist



Inuit Tattoos – cont'd.



Some Sketches
showing Common
Eskimo Tattoo
Designs