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Bruce Bartlett, Marsha Pfluger
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#2619162 in Books 2008-12-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.40 x .65 x 12.071, 1.97 #File Name: 097618346394 pages | File size: 61.Mb

Bruce Bartlett, Marsha Pfluger : The Spurs of James J. Wheat, Pioneer Collector (Texas and the West/Collectibles) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Spurs of James J. Wheat, Pioneer Collector (Texas and the West/Collectibles):

6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. historic Western spurs, Americana collection By Henry Berry The first thing the reader should do is skim through the book looking at the color photographs to get a changed orientation to this topic of spurs and shed conventional preconceptions. For by the full-page sharp color photographs with pairs of spurs aesthetically placed, one grasps immediately that they should not be considered only as utilitarian objects like tools or equipment for horseback riding such as reins or a bit. Many of the spurs have fine details of metalwork obviously done by skilled and imaginative craftsmen. The craftsmanship was done on the wider parts of the spurs which would go around the back of a boot near its heel and on the two narrow metal pieces from this to which the pronged spinning wheels would be attached. Tooled leather is also found for parts of some spurs. The wheels for the spurs don't change much except for number of prongs and small differences in length. One is reminded of the basic utilitarian purpose of the spurs by their placement on stones, fence posts, pieces of wood, and other outdoor objects of their working environment with trees, cactus, and sky in the background. The noted Wheat Collection is practically entirely Texas spurs. The Golden Era of the Texas Style spur is roughly 1910 to 1940 "with the high-water mark being the late 1920s." Before 1900, this Style had not evolved as a distinctive style. Most of today's advanced collectors concentrate in one of the three main styles of spur to have developed from about 1900--the Texas, California, and Plains styles. During the 1870s, these grew out of the Mexican or Military styles. The Wheat Collection is presented alphabetically according to the individual craftsman of the spurs; and in a couple of cases, a prison where spurs were made by inmates. The photographs and Bartlett's informative and colorful text bring alive the romance of the Old West in this unique illustrated book in the broader, perennially appealing subjects of Americana and Western lore.

With pockets full of cash and the help of trusted scouts, oilman James J. Wheat of Loving County, Texas, amassed one of the most impressive collections of horse spurs in the state. Drawing from the 920 spur pairs and singles and more than 100 bits Wheat donated to the Ranching Heritage Association in 1985, expert appraiser Bruce Bartlett has compiled a volume as rich in history as it is in full-color images. Spur aficionados, collectors, and Western historians alike will appreciate his detailed distinctions among particular makers, discussions of the Texas Style and other regional styles, as well as valuable information on the emerging collectors scene. With its lavish, oversized photographs and fine-grained descriptions, *The Spurs of James J. Wheat* presents a treat for the eye and a close look at a fascinating aspect of Western utilitarian art.