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Western Historical Quarterly, Volume 29, Issue 4, 1 November 1998, Pages 485–513,
<https://doi.org/10.2307/970405>

Published: 01 November 1998

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Abstract

Contrary to the traditional view that the Southern Plains were merely a hinterland for the elaborate Mandan, Hidatsa, and Ankara trade centers, this article argues that the Western Comanches operated a major trade center on the Upper Arkansas River Basin from the 1740s to around 1830.

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Online ISSN 1939-8603

Print ISSN 0043-3810

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