

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910795983803321
Autore	Buchanan Meghan E. <1981->
Titolo	Life in a Mississippian warscape : Common Field, Cahokia, and the effects of warfare // Meghan E. Buchanan
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Tuscaloosa, Alabama : , : The University of Ala-bama Press, , [2022] ©2022
ISBN	0-8173-9420-6
Edizione	[First edition.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (193 pages)
Collana	Archaeology of the American South: new directions and perspectives
Disciplina	977.8692
Soggetti	Mississippian culture - Missouri Indians of North America - Wars - Missouri Indigenous people - Wars - Missouri Indigenous people of North America - Wars - Missouri Indians of North America - Missouri - Common Field Site - Antiquities Warfare, Prehistoric - Missouri - Common Field Site Common Field Site (Mo.) Sainte Genevieve County (Mo.) Antiquities
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (pages [143]-173) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction: The Fog of War -- Making War -- Mississippian Warscapes: Approaches to and Histories of Mississippian Warfare -- The Common Field Site: Context and Regional Culture History -- Common Field, Common Lives?: Results of Analysis -- Life, Death, and Destruction in a Mississippian Warscape -- Big Histories, Small Practices.
Sommario/riassunto	"Meghan Buchanan, following anthropologist Carolyn Nordstrom, posits that, to understand the big histories of warfare, political fragmentation, and resilience in the past, archaeologists must also analyze and interpret the microscale actions of the past: the daily activities of people before, during, and after historical events. Within warscapes, battles take place in peoples' front yards, family members die, and the impacts of violence in near and distant places are experienced on a daily basis. "Life in a Mississippian Warscape" explores the microscale

of daily lives of people living at the Common Field site during the period of Cahokia's abandonment and the spread of violence and warfare throughout the Southeast. Common Field was a large, palisaded Mississippian mound center founded circa 1250 and burned in a catastrophic event shortly before Cahokia's abandonment. Linking together ethnographic, historic, and archaeological sources, Buchanan proposes a multiscale approach to an archaeology of daily life in wartime. She draws on analysis of museum collections as well as the results from her field excavations. She discusses the evidence that the people of Common Field engaged in novel and hybrid practices during this period of escalating warfare. At the microscale, they erected a substantial palisade with specially prepared deposits, adopted new ceramic tempering techniques, produced large numbers of serving vessels decorated with warfare-related imagery, and adapted their food practices. The overall picture that emerges from the daily practices at Common Field is of a people who engaged in risk-averse practices that minimized their exposure to outside of the palisade and attempted to seek intercession from the supernatural realm through public ceremonies involving warfare-related iconography. Chapter 1 introduces the concept of warscapes, highlighting ethnographic and historic accounts of cultural creativity and social experiences during wartime around the world, especially in Native American societies. Buchanan links the materiality of daily life, technological production, creativity, and hybridity during periods of war and shows where the impacts of warfare on daily practices may be visible archaeologically. Chapter 2 explores the theoretical orientations and archaeological approaches to warfare in the southeastern United States and the evidence for violence and warfare in the precontact past. Chapter 3 introduces the Common Field site and outlines some of the research that has been conducted at the site and other Mississippian Period sites in the region. Buchanan proposes a culture history for region, highlighting important sites, material practices, and historical trends. Chapter 4 presents the results of analyses conducted on ceramics and fauna related to daily practices and explores how lives inside the palisade walls were impacted by external threats of violence. The analyses show that the people living at Common Field were engaged in risk-averse practices that mitigated exposure outside of palisade walls. In chapter 5, the results of the research conducted at Common Field are interpreted within the warscape lens. Particular focus considers the effects of regional warfare on the ceramic practices, foodways, and spatial organization of the people. Chapter 6 tacks between the small-scale effects of warfare, as seen at Common Field, and the larger-scale, historical impacts of Mississippian Period violence. Drawing on the idea of "big histories," Buchanan argues that the small details of peoples' lives have ramifications for larger regional and historical phenomena such as the abandonment and migration out of the Cahokia area and the cascade effects of violence elsewhere in the Southeast"--
