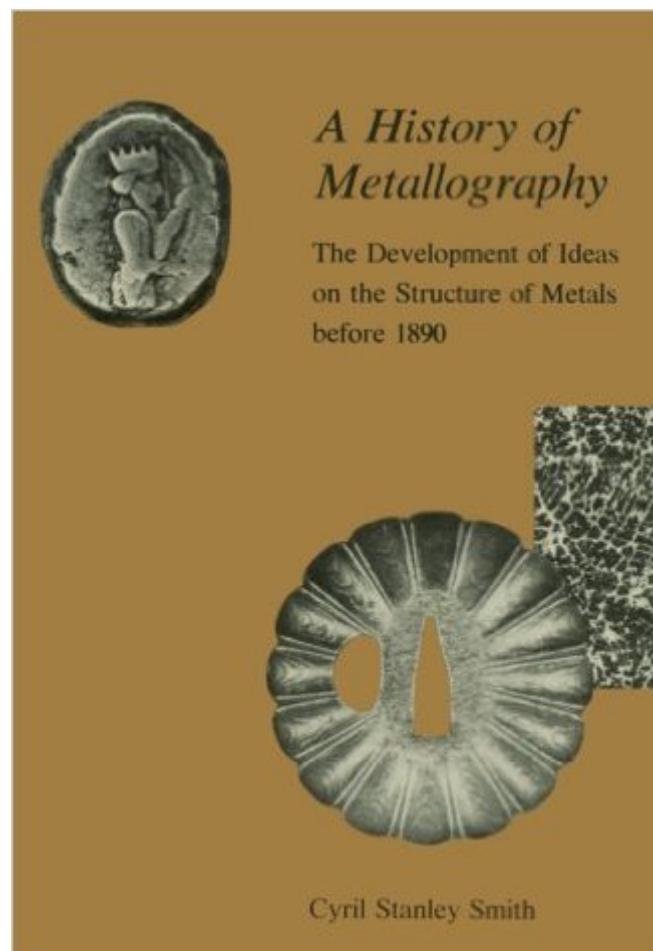


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# A History Of Metallography: The Development Of Ideas On The Structure Of Metals Before 1890



## Synopsis

Cyril Smith's study of the structure of metals and alloys and the properties that result from their processing remains, after more than two decades, a foundational work on the history of metallography. It starts from the intuitive knowledge of metals achieved by such early artists and craftsmen as Biringuccio, Descartes, Råcaumur, Bråcant, Osmond, Sorby, Brinell, Tschernoff, Howe, Percy and others, and then describes the evolution of the modern scientific understanding of materials. Throughout, the author emphasizes the interplay of contributions from practical engineering, from experimental and theoretical science, and from the workings of the aesthetic imagination. Cyril Stanley Smith is Professor Emeritus in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering at MIT, and author of *A Search for Structure: Selected Essays on Science, Art, and History* (MIT Press paperback). The original hardcover edition of *A History of Metallography* won the Pfizer Prize of the History of Science Society.

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## Customer Reviews

A very good source of information on damascus steel, Wootz steel, Japanese sword construction and mokume. If you are a sword or knife collector or blade smith, this book is a must. There is also another book by him that would be an excellent reference. Cyril's orginal information and background data for this book is in the MIT library! Just in case you need to look up one of his footnotes.

For the first time I have the opportunity to see details of the Reamur work and further information about the history of failure analysis before 1890.

A well written book on old steel.

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