

determining the burials were Native American and not a case for law enforcement, the individuals were transferred to Robert W. Neuman, Curator of Anthropology at Louisiana State University. In November 1978, Sharon Goad brought the individuals to UTK on Neuman's behalf and gave them to Charles Faulkner for William Bass to examine. Once Bass completed his assessment and sent a report to Neuman (January 1979), the individuals were retained by the UTK Forensic Anthropology Center (FAC) as case 1978/78AA. They remained in the FAC until they were transferred to the UTK Office of Repatriation. No associated funerary objects are present. While some of the human remains have been "repaired" using glue, no known hazardous substances were used to treat any of the remains.

Wilkinson County, MS is part of lands ceded to the United States by the Choctaw in the Treaty of Fort Adams in 1801.

#### Cultural Affiliation

Based on the information available and the results of consultation, cultural affiliation is reasonably identified by the geographical location or acquisition history of the human remains described in this notice.

#### Determinations

UTK has determined that:

- The human remains described in this notice represent the physical remains of six individuals of Native American ancestry.
- There is a reasonable connection between the human remains and associated funerary objects described in this notice and The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma.

#### Requests for Repatriation

Written requests for repatriation of the human remains in this notice must be sent to the authorized representative identified in this notice under **ADDRESSES**. Requests for repatriation may be submitted by:

1. Any one or more of the Indian Tribes or Native Hawaiian organizations identified in this notice.
2. Any lineal descendant, Indian Tribe, or Native Hawaiian organization not identified in this notice who shows, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the requestor is a lineal descendant or a culturally affiliated Indian Tribe or Native Hawaiian organization.

Repatriation of the human remains in this notice to a requestor may occur on or after June 24, 2024. If competing requests for repatriation are received, UTK must determine the most

appropriate requestor prior to repatriation. Requests for joint repatriation of the human remains are considered a single request and not competing requests. UTK is responsible for sending a copy of this notice to the Indian Tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations identified in this notice.

**Authority:** Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, 25 U.S.C. 3003, and the implementing regulations, 43 CFR 10.10.

Dated: May 15, 2024.

**Melanie O'Brien,**

*Manager, National NAGPRA Program.*

[FR Doc. 2024-11448 Filed 5-23-24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4312-52-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

**[NPS-WASO-NAGPRA-NPS0037976;  
PPWOCRADN0-PCU00RP14.R50000]**

#### Notice of Inventory Completion: Peabody Museum of Natural History, Yale University, New Haven, CT

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), the Peabody Museum of Natural History, Yale University (hereafter the Yale Peabody Museum) has completed an inventory of human remains and associated funerary objects and has determined that there is a cultural affiliation between the human remains and associated funerary objects and Indian Tribes or Native Hawaiian organizations in this notice.

**DATES:** Repatriation of the human remains and associated funerary objects in this notice may occur on or after June 24, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** Professor David Skelly, Director, Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History, P.O. Box 208118, New Haven, CT 06520-8118, telephone (203) 432-3752, email [david.skelly@yale.edu](mailto:david.skelly@yale.edu).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice is published as part of the National Park Service's administrative responsibilities under NAGPRA. The determinations in this notice are the sole responsibility of the Yale Peabody Museum, and additional information on the determinations in this notice, including the results of consultation, can be found in the inventory or related records. The National Park Service is not responsible for the determinations in this notice.

#### Abstract of Information Available

Human remains representing, at least, four individuals have been reasonably identified. The two associated funerary objects are one lot of shells, shell beads, glass beads, stone bifaces, and one lot of shells, shell beads, red ochre. Prior to 1876, George Bird Grinnell removed the collections from Mescalitan Island, a mound on Santa Cruz Island, and an unknown location within Santa Barbara County. Grinnell donated the collection to the Yale Peabody Museum in 1876.

Human remains representing, at least, two individuals have been reasonably identified. The associated funerary objects are one lot of faunal remains. Circa 1864-1872, Benjamin Silliman, Jr., removed the human remains from the area between the cities of Santa Barbara and Ventura, donating them to the Yale Peabody Museum in 1877. The one associated object is one lot of faunal remains.

Human remains representing, at least four individuals have been reasonably identified. The 15 associated funerary objects are three perforated stones, nine stones, one blue bead, and two lots of shell beads. The Reverend Stephen Bowers removed the human remains and cultural items from three proveniences within Santa Barbara County, which are Mescalitan Island, the region of Santa Barbara, and the Sisquoc River area, in 1875 and then sold the collection to Elias Root Beadle circa 1876. The collection was donated to the Yale Peabody Museum in 1916 by Herbert H. Beadle.

#### Cultural Affiliation

Based on the information available and the results of consultation, cultural affiliation is clearly identified by the information available about the human remains and associated funerary objects described in this notice.

#### Determinations

The Yale Peabody Museum has determined that:

- The human remains described in this notice represent the physical remains of 10 individuals of Native American ancestry.
- The 18 objects described in this notice are reasonably believed to have been placed intentionally with or near individual human remains at the time of death or later as part of the death rite or ceremony.
- There is a reasonable connection between the human remains and associated funerary objects described in this notice and the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Mission Indians of the Santa Ynez Reservation, California.

### Requests for Repatriation

Written requests for repatriation of the human remains and associated funerary objects in this notice must be sent to the authorized representative identified in this notice under **ADDRESSES**. Requests for repatriation may be submitted by:

1. Any one or more of the Indian Tribes or Native Hawaiian organizations identified in this notice.

2. Any lineal descendant, Indian Tribe, or Native Hawaiian organization not identified in this notice who shows, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the requestor is a lineal descendant or a culturally affiliated Indian Tribe or Native Hawaiian organization.

Repatriation of the human remains and associated funerary objects in this notice to a requestor may occur on or after June 24, 2024. If competing requests for repatriation are received, the Yale Peabody Museum must determine the most appropriate requestor prior to repatriation. Requests for joint repatriation of the human remains and associated funerary objects are considered a single request and not competing requests. The Yale Peabody Museum is responsible for sending a copy of this notice to the Indian Tribe identified in this notice.

*Authority:* Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, 25 U.S.C. 3003, and the implementing regulations, 43 CFR 10.10.

Dated: May 15, 2024.

**Melanie O'Brien,**

*Manager, National NAGPRA Program.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

[NPS-WASO-NAGPRA-NPS0037978; PPWOCRADNO-PCU00RP14.R50000]

#### Notice of Intended Repatriation: Western Washington University, Department of Anthropology, Bellingham, WA

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), the Western Washington University (WWU) intends to repatriate certain cultural items that meet the definition of unassociated funerary objects and that have a cultural affiliation with the Indian Tribes or Native Hawaiian organizations in this notice.

**DATES:** Repatriation of the cultural items in this notice may occur on or after June 24, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** Dr. Judith Pine, Western Washington University, Department of Anthropology, Arntzen Hall 340, 516 High Street, Bellingham, WA 98225, telephone (360) 650-4783, email [pinej@www.edu](mailto:pinej@www.edu).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice is published as part of the National Park Service's administrative responsibilities under NAGPRA. The determinations in this notice are the sole responsibility of the WWU, and additional information on the determinations in this notice, including the results of consultation, can be found in the summary or related records. The National Park Service is not responsible for the determinations in this notice.

#### Abstract of Information Available

A total of nine cultural items have been requested for repatriation. The nine unassociated funerary objects are level bags (lots) containing non-human mammal, bird and fish bones from five different units. These are newly identified as unassociated funerary objects because of consultation with the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community in January of 2024. No hazardous chemicals are known to have been used to treat the unassociated funerary objects while in the custody of WWU.

The site 45-SK-35 is located near the Skagit River, on the southwestern end of Pleasant Ridge, on an alluvial flat at the base of a hill. This site is part of the Swikwikwab complex. Western Washington State College conducted a field school excavation, led by Herbert C. Taylor, on July 2, 1960. Additional research identified the 45-SK-35 as a cemetery site and included in the National Register of Historic Places. In 1960, remains representing at minimum three individuals were removed from the Dunlap/Sedro Wooley [Woolley] Site (45-SK-35) during a University of Washington Field School. In 2023, human skeletal remains were found during excavations for a culvert (HR23-00055).

The unassociated funerary objects have been determined to be Native American based on ethnographic, geographic, and archeological evidence. Comparison of the location of site 45-SK-35 with Suttles and Lane's map indicates that it is in an area associated with Nookachamps, Kikiallus, and Swinomish (Suttles and Lane 1990, Handbook of North American Indians, Volume 7, Northwest Coast: Figure 1). Many descendants of these cultural entities are today associated with the

Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, as confirmed through consultation.

#### Determinations

The WWU has determined that:

- The nine unassociated funerary objects described in this notice are reasonably believed to have been placed intentionally with or near human remains, and are connected, either at the time of death or later as part of the death rite or ceremony of a Native American culture according to the Native American traditional knowledge of a lineal descendant, Indian Tribe, or Native Hawaiian organization. The unassociated funerary objects have been identified by a preponderance of the evidence as related to human remains, specific individuals, or families, or removed from a specific burial site or burial area of an individual or individuals with cultural affiliation to an Indian Tribe or Native Hawaiian organization.

- There is a reasonable connection between the human remains and associated funerary objects described in this notice and the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community.

#### Requests for Repatriation

Additional, written requests for repatriation of the cultural items in this notice must be sent to the authorized representative identified in this notice under **ADDRESSES**. Requests for repatriation may be submitted by any lineal descendant, Indian Tribe, or Native Hawaiian organization not identified in this notice who shows, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the requestor is a lineal descendant or a culturally affiliated Indian Tribe or Native Hawaiian organization.

Repatriation of the cultural items in this notice to a requestor may occur on or after June 24, 2024. If competing requests for repatriation are received, the WWU must determine the most appropriate requestor prior to repatriation. Requests for joint repatriation of the cultural items are considered a single request and not competing requests. The WWU is responsible for sending a copy of this notice to the Indian Tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations identified in this notice and to any other consulting parties.

*Authority:* Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, 25 U.S.C. 3004 and the implementing regulations, 43 CFR 10.9.