

may begin after that date if no additional claimants come forward.

Dated: February 29, 1996

Francis P. McManamon

*Departmental Consulting Archeologist*

*Chief, Archeological Assistance Division*

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BILLING CODE 4310-70-F

### Notice of Intent to Repatriate Cultural Items in the Possession of the Museum of New Mexico, Santa Fe, NM

AGENCY: National Park Service

ACTION: Notice

Notice is hereby given under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, 25 U.S.C. 3005(a)(2), of the intent to repatriate cultural items in the possession of the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture, Laboratory of Anthropology, Museum of New Mexico, Santa Fe, NM which meet the definition of "sacred object" as defined in Section 2 of the Act.

The ten objects include: one snake effigy; one parrot effigy; two wooden balls; two katsina figures; three fetishes; and prayersticks, fetishes, and talismans comprising one shrine.

Between 1928 and 1972, the Museum of New Mexico accessioned these ten cultural items into its collections.

In 1928, the three wooden cylindrical fetishes were purchased at the Pueblo of Acoma by Mr. George H. Huddy during a Fred Harvey Car tour.

On October 6, 1957, Mr. and Mrs. G. Olmi illegally removed a shrine from Acoma tribal lands, and donated the shrine consisting of prayersticks, wood fetishes, and talismans to the Museum of New Mexico.

In 1958, one red and white cylindrical katsina figure was purchased from Mr. James K. Riley, and the other brown, white, blue, and black cylindrical Mountain katsina figure purchased from Mr. James Byrns.

In 1968, the Museum of New Mexico purchased the green carved foot-tall parrot effigy from Mr. Joe Chavez of San Fidel, NM.

In 1972, the second small unpainted wooden ball was improperly removed from Acoma lands by a Museum of New Mexico archeologist.

The Museum has no information concerning the collection or donation of the snake effigy or one of the wooden balls. The wood snake effigy is undecorated. The small wooden ball is unpainted, with a notation "purchase MCS". Museum records do not indicate the meaning of "purchase MCS".

During consultation with the Museum of New Mexico, representatives of the Pueblo of Acoma identified these objects as necessary for the practice of traditional Acoma religion. Provenance information indicates the objects are Acoma in origin and most likely used by Acoma during the last one hundred years, and as recently as the 1950s.

Based on the above-mentioned information, officials of the Museum of New Mexico have determined that, pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001(3)(C), these cultural items are specific ceremonial objects which are needed by traditional Native American religious leaders for the practice of traditional Native American religions by their present day adherents. Officials of the Museum of New Mexico have also determined that, pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001(2), there is a relationship of shared group identity which can be reasonably traced between these items and the Pueblo of Acoma.

This notice has been sent to representatives of the Pueblo of Acoma. Representatives of any other Indian tribe which believes itself to be culturally affiliated with these objects should contact Dr. Bruce Bernstein, Director, Museum of Indian Arts and Culture/ Museum of New Mexico, P.O. Box 2087, Santa Fe, NM 87504-2087, telephone (505) 827-6344 before April 5, 1996. Repatriation of these objects to the Pueblo of Acoma may begin after that date if no additional claimants come forward.

Dated:

Francis P. McManamon

*Departmental Consulting Archeologist*

*Chief, Archeology and Ethnography Program*

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### Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Meeting.

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 552b of Title 5, United States Code, that a meeting of the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Commission will be held on Thursday, March 21, 1996.

The Commission was established pursuant to Public Law 99-647. The purpose of the Commission is to assist federal, state and local authorities in the development and implementation of an integrated resource management plan for those lands and waters within the Corridor.

The meeting will convene at 7:00 pm at Blackstone Town Hall, 15 St Paul

Street, Blackstone, MA for the following reasons:

1. Presentation by the Town of North Smithfield
2. Other Commission Business

It is anticipated that about twenty people will be able to attend the session in addition to the Commission members.

Interested persons may make oral or written presentations to the Commission or file written statements. Such requests should be made prior to the meeting to: James R. Pepper, Executive Director, Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Commission, One Depot Square, Woonsocket, RI 02895, Tel.: (401) 762-0250.

Further information concerning this meeting may be obtained from James R. Pepper, Executive Director of the Commission at the aforementioned address.

James R. Pepper,

*Executive Director BRVNHCC.*

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### Bureau of Reclamation

#### American River Water Resources Investigation, Central Valley, California

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of public workshops and public hearings on draft planning report/draft environmental impact statement/draft environmental impact report.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the California Environmental Quality Act, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and the Sacramento Metropolitan Water Authority (SMWA) have prepared a draft planning report/draft environmental impact statement/draft environmental impact report (DPR/DEIS/DEIR) for the American River Water Resources Investigation (ARWRI). The DPR/DEIS/DEIR was made available to the public on February 2, 1996. Reclamation and SMWA have scheduled five public workshops to present material on the alternatives and to answer questions. Five public hearings will also be held to receive comments from interested organizations and individuals on the environmental impacts of the project.

**DATES:** The public workshops will be held at the following locations: