

Determinations Made by the North Carolina Office of State Archaeology

Officials of the North Carolina Office of State Archaeology have determined that:

- Pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001(3)(D), the one cultural item described above has ongoing historical, traditional, or cultural importance central to the Native American group or culture itself, rather than property owned by an individual.

- Pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001(2), there is a relationship of shared group identity that can be reasonably traced between the object of cultural patrimony and the Cherokee Nation; Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians; and the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma (hereafter referred to as “The Tribes”).

Additional Requestors and Disposition

Lineal descendants or representatives of any Indian Tribe or Native Hawaiian organization not identified in this notice that wish to claim this cultural item should submit a written request with information in support of the claim to Emily McDowell, North Carolina Office of State Archaeology, 215 West Lane Street, Raleigh, NC 27616, telephone (919) 715-5599, email emily.mcdowell@ncdcr.gov, by January 9, 2023. After that date, if no additional claimants have come forward, transfer of control of the object of cultural patrimony to The Tribes may proceed.

The North Carolina Office of State Archaeology is responsible for notifying The Tribes that this notice has been published.

Dated: November 30, 2022.

Melanie O'Brien,

Manager, National NAGPRA Program.

[FR Doc. 2022-26801 Filed 12-8-22; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4312-52-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

[NPS-WASO-NAGPRA-NPS0034980;
PPWOCRADNO-PCU00RP14.R50000]

Notice of Inventory Completion: North Carolina Office of State Archaeology, Raleigh, NC

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The North Carolina Office of State Archaeology has completed an inventory of human remains, in consultation with the appropriate Indian Tribes or Native Hawaiian organizations and has determined that

there is a cultural affiliation between the human remains and present-day Indian Tribes or Native Hawaiian organizations. Lineal descendants or representatives of any Indian Tribe or Native Hawaiian organization not identified in this notice that wish to request transfer of control of these human remains should submit a written request to the North Carolina Office of State Archaeology. If no additional requestors come forward, transfer of control of the human remains to the lineal descendants, Indian Tribes, or Native Hawaiian organizations stated in this notice may proceed.

DATES: Lineal descendants or representatives of any Indian Tribe or Native Hawaiian organization not identified in this notice that wish to request transfer of control of these human remains should submit a written request with information in support of the request to the North Carolina Office of State Archaeology at the address in this notice by January 9, 2023.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Emily McDowell, Office of State Archaeology, 215 West Lane Street, Raleigh, NC 27616, telephone (919) 715-5599, email emily.mcdowell@ncdcr.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is here given in accordance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), 25 U.S.C. 3003, of the completion of an inventory of human remains under the control of the North Carolina Office of State Archaeology, Raleigh, NC. The human remains were removed from the Iotla site (31MA77) in Macon County, NC.

This notice is published as part of the National Park Service's administrative responsibilities under NAGPRA, 25 U.S.C. 3003(d)(3). The determinations in this notice are the sole responsibility of the museum, institution, or Federal agency that has control of the Native American human remains. The National Park Service is not responsible for the determinations in this notice.

Consultation

A detailed assessment of the human remains was made by the North Carolina Office of State Archaeology professional staff in consultation with representatives of the Cherokee Nation; Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians; and the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma (hereafter referred to as “The Tribes”).

History and Description of the Remains

In 2009, human remains representing, at minimum, five individuals were removed from 31MA77, the Iotla site, in

Macon County, NC. These human remains were removed during excavations conducted by TRC Environmental Corporation on behalf of the Macon County Airport Authority pursuant to 54 U.S.C. 306108 (also known as Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act), prior to a runway expansion project.

In February of 2009, TRC Environmental Corporation conducted archeological data recovery excavations for the airport runway expansion and improvements project. During those excavations, 97 probable human burials were identified and avoided. Five human cremations (Features 6010, 8286, 8971, 10860 [probable], and 11213) believed by TRC to be non-burial, burnt faunal features were removed during these excavations. In 2012, during analysis of the faunal assemblage, the analyst identified these burned features as human cremations, at which point TRC contacted the State Archaeologist and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for guidance. The State Archaeologist, in turn, notified the Executive Director of the Commission of Indian Affairs of the discovery. Not until January of 2020 were the human remains received by the North Carolina Office of State Archaeology pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 70 Article 3, the Unmarked Human Burial and Human Skeletal Remains Protection Act. Upon receiving the human remains, staff from the North Carolina Office of State Archaeology Research Center, began collecting information on the human remains and consulting on them. No known individuals were identified. No associated funerary objects are present.

Data recovery at 31MA77, the Iotla site, provided archeological evidence of a long occupation extending from the Early Archaic period to the Late Qualla phase Historic Cherokee. Based on archeological information, these cremations are associated with the Middle Woodland, Connestee phase village. It is well known that the Cherokee occupied this area long before European contact, and the Late Qualla phase Historic Cherokee component of the site supports this affiliation.

Determinations Made by the Office of State Archaeology

Officials of the North Carolina Office of State Archaeology has determined that:

- Pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001(9), the human remains described in this notice represent the physical remains of five individuals of Native American ancestry.

• Pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001(2), there is a relationship of shared group identity that can be reasonably traced between the Native American human remains and The Tribes.

Additional Requestors and Disposition

Lineal descendants or representatives of any Indian Tribe or Native Hawaiian organization not identified in this notice that wish to request transfer of control of these human remains should submit a written request with information in support of the request to Emily McDowell, North Carolina Office of State Archaeology, 215 West Lane Street, Raleigh, NC 27616, telephone (919) 715-5599, email emily.mcdowell@ncdcr.gov, by January 9, 2023. After that date, if no additional requestors have come forward, transfer of control of the human remains to The Tribes may proceed.

The North Carolina Office of State Archaeology is responsible for notifying The Tribes that this notice has been published.

Dated: November 30, 2022.

Melanie O'Brien,

Manager, National NAGPRA Program.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

[NPS-WASO-NAGPRA-NPS0034975;
PPWOCRADNO-PCU00RP14.R50000]

Notice of Intent To Repatriate Cultural Items: Robert S. Peabody Institute of Archaeology, Andover, MA

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), the Robert S. Peabody Institute of Archaeology 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. The cultural items were removed from Jackson and Yazoo Counties, MS.

DATES: Repatriation of the cultural items in this notice may occur on or after January 9, 2023.

ADDRESSES: Ryan J. Wheeler, Robert S. Peabody Institute of Archaeology, Phillips Academy, 180 Main Street, Andover, MA 01810, telephone (978) 749-4490, email rwheeler@andover.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 Robert S. Peabody Institute of Archaeology. The National Park Service is not responsible for the determinations in this notice. Additional information on the determinations in this notice, including the results of consultation, can be found in the summary or related records held by the Robert S. Peabody Institute of Archaeology.

Description

The cultural items were removed from Jackson and Yazoo Counties, MS. The two unassociated funerary objects are one pottery sherd and one cast of a stone pipe. The pottery sherd (catalog no. 41801) was removed by Clarence B. Moore in 1905 from the Mounds near Graveline Bayou in Jackson County, MS (22Ja503) and was transferred to the Robert S. Peabody Institute of Archaeology at some point thereafter. The cast of the stone pipe (catalog no. 20795) was obtained from J. Amiet around 1901, and represents a funerary object from Yazoo County MS.

Cultural Affiliation

The cultural items in this notice are connected to one or more identifiable earlier groups, tribes, peoples, or cultures. There is a relationship of shared group identity between the identifiable earlier groups, tribes, peoples, or cultures and one or more Indian Tribes or Native Hawaiian organizations. The following types of information were used to reasonably trace the relationship: anthropological, archeological, geographical, historical, and expert opinion.

Determinations

Pursuant to NAGPRA and its implementing regulations, and after consultation with the appropriate Indian Tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations, the Robert S. Peabody Institute of Archaeology has determined that:

- The two cultural items described above are reasonably believed to have been placed with or near individual human remains at the time of death or later as part of the death rite or ceremony and are believed, by a preponderance of the evidence, to have been removed from a specific burial site of a Native American individual.
- There is a relationship of shared group identity that can be reasonably traced between the cultural items and The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma.

Requests for Repatriation

Additional, written requests for repatriation of the cultural items in this notice must be sent to the Responsible Official identified in **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 January 9, 2023. If competing requests for repatriation are received, the Robert S. Peabody Institute of Archaeology 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 Robert S. Peabody Institute of Archaeology 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 10.8, 10.10, and 10.14.

Dated: November 30, 2022.

Melanie O'Brien,

Manager, National NAGPRA Program.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

[NPS-WASO-NAGPRA-NPS0034986;
PPWOCRADNO-PCU00RP14.R50000]

Notice of Inventory Completion Amendment: Robert S. Peabody Institute of Archaeology, Andover, MA

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice; amendment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), the Robert S. Peabody Institute of Archaeology (RSPI) has amended a Notice of Inventory Completion published in the **Federal Register** on October 31, 2007. This notice amends the minimum number of individuals, number of associated funerary objects, and cultural affiliation of human remains and associated funerary objects removed from Bolivar County, MS.