

## History and Description of the Remains

In 1941, human remains representing, at minimum, two individuals were removed from the Opel Site (34BR4) in Bryan County, OK. The site was excavated as a Works Progress Administration (WPA) project and the collection was deposited at the Stovall Museum (now SNOMNH). Although SNOMNH originally consulted on the collection and have physical custody of the human remains and associated funerary objects, the collection was recently determined to be under the control of the US Army Corps of Engineers, Tulsa District. The human remains represent one child from Burial 1 and one adult from Burial 2. No known individuals were identified. The 70 associated funerary objects are from two separate burials. The 58 associated funerary objects from Burial 1 are 9 saucers, bowls, and plates; 3 ceramic cups; 5 spoons; 2 shoes; 1 iron cup; 1 lot of iron nail fragments; 1 china bowl; 1 broken glass; 1 small glass bottle; 1 lot of iron pieces; 29 small beads; 2 thimbles; 1 fork; and 1 knife. The 12 associated funerary objects from Burial 2 are 1 bead, 1 worked stone, 1 iron buckle, 2 glass disks, and 7 buttons.

Based on the types of materials found at the Opel Site including the associated funerary objects, it is reasonable to determine that the burials are historic and date to the late 19th century. At the time the burials were excavated in 1941, local residents could not recall a house being at that location and the site had been cultivated for approximately 40 years. The region in which the site is located was designated Chickasaw Territory in 1837, and historic documents and oral histories of the Chickasaw provide additional support that the region was occupied by their tribe during the 19th century. Consultation with representatives of The Chickasaw Nation confirms that the associated funerary objects are the types and quantities of materials that are found with Chickasaw burials from this time period.

## Determinations Made by the US Army Corps of Engineers, Tulsa District

Officials of the US Army Corps of Engineers, Tulsa District, have determined that:

- Pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001(9), the human remains described in this notice represent the physical remains of two individuals of Native American ancestry.
- Pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001(3)(A), the 70 objects described in this notice 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.

- 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 associated funerary objects and The Chickasaw Nation.

## 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 and associated funerary objects should submit a written request with information in support of the request to Michelle C. Horn, Archaeologist, US Army Corps of Engineers, Tulsa District, 1645 S. 101 E. Avenue, Tulsa, OK 74128-0061, telephone (918) 669-7642, by March 7, 2014. After that date, if no additional requestors have come forward, transfer of control of the human remains and associated funerary objects to The Chickasaw Nation may proceed.

The US Army Corps of Engineers, Tulsa District, is responsible for notifying The Chickasaw Nation that this notice has been published.

Dated: January 2, 2014.

**Mariah Soriano,**

*Acting Manager, National NAGPRA Program.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

**[NPS-WASO-NAGPRA-14794;  
PPWOCRADNO-PCU00RP14.R50000]**

### Notice of Inventory Completion: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area, Coulee Dam, WA

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area has completed an inventory of human remains and associated funerary objects, 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 associated funerary objects 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 and associated

funerary objects should submit a written request to Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area. If no additional requestors come forward, transfer of control of the human remains and associated funerary objects 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 and associated funerary objects should submit a written request with information in support of the request to Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area at the address in this notice by March 7, 2014.

**ADDRESSES:** Dan A. Foster, Superintendent, Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area, 1008 Crest Drive, Coulee Dam, WA 99116, telephone (509) 754-7812, email [Dan\\_A\\_Foster@nps.gov](mailto:Dan_A_Foster@nps.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 and associated funerary objects under the control of the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area, Coulee Dam, WA, and in the physical custody of the Museum of Anthropology at Washington State University, Pullman, WA. The human remains and associated funerary objects were removed from Lincoln County, WA.

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 Superintendent, Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area.

## Consultation

A detailed assessment of the human remains was made by Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area professional staff in consultation with representatives of the Spokane Tribe of the Spokane Reservation.

## History and Description of the Remains

In 1967, human remains representing, at minimum, one individual were removed from a heavily disturbed area at site 45LI06 in Lincoln County, WA, by Roderick Sprague of the University of Idaho. The remains were housed at the University of Idaho until 2000, when they were transferred to the Museum of Anthropology at Washington State

University. No known individuals were identified. The 20 associated funerary objects are 1 pestle fragment, 1 flaked stone spall, 3 projectile points, 1 stone flake, 2 projectile point tip fragments, 3 crockery fragments, 2 glass bottle fragments, 6 ceramic fragments, and 1 lot of burned grave marker post fragments.

Archeological data indicate that site 45LI06 was a major village, fishing location, and burial site, which was occupied from approximately 5000–600 B.P. The site is part of a complex along the Spokane River that includes named Spokane Indian villages, camps, procurement sites, and burial sites. Ethnohistorical data indicate that this area of the river was occupied by a group that researchers termed the Middle Spokane (sq̓asi'ni), named after an early contact village located upstream of site 45LI06. The Middle Spokane was one of three major groups that make up the Spokane Tribe of the Spokane Reservation. Oral tradition also documents that this area of the Spokane River was occupied by the ancestors of the Spokane Tribe of the Spokane Reservation.

#### **Determinations Made by Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area**

Officials of Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area have determined that:

- Pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001(9), the human remains described in this notice represent the physical remains of one individual of Native American ancestry.
- Pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001(3)(A), the 20 objects described in this notice 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.
- 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 associated funerary objects and the Spokane Tribe of the Spokane Reservation.

#### **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 and associated funerary objects should submit a written request with information in support of the request to Dan A. Foster, Superintendent, Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area, 1008 Crest Drive, Coulee Dam, WA 99116, telephone (509) 754-7812, email [Dan\\_A\\_Foster@nps.gov](mailto:Dan_A_Foster@nps.gov), by March 7, 2014. After that date, if no additional requestors have come forward, transfer

of control of the human remains and associated funerary objects to the Spokane Tribe of the Spokane Reservation may proceed.

Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area is responsible for notifying the Spokane Tribe of the Spokane Reservation that this notice has been published.

Dated: January 9, 2014.

**Melanie O'Brien,**

*Acting Manager, National NAGPRA Program.*

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## **DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

### **National Park Service**

**[NPS-WASO-NAGPRA-14820;  
PPWOCRADN0-PCU00RP14.R50000]**

#### **Notice of Intent To Repatriate a Cultural Item: Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA**

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, in consultation with the appropriate Indian tribes or Native Hawaiian organizations, has determined that the cultural item listed in this notice meets the definition of a sacred object and an object of cultural patrimony. 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 to the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. If no additional claimants come forward, transfer of control of the cultural item 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 claim this cultural item should submit a written request with information in support of the claim to the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts at the address in this notice by March 7, 2014.

**ADDRESSES:** Kelly Burrow, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, 200 N. Boulevard, Richmond, VA 23220, telephone (804) 204-2669, email [kelly.burrow@vmfa.museum](mailto:kelly.burrow@vmfa.museum).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice is here given in accordance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), 25 U.S.C. 3005, of the intent to repatriate a cultural item under the control of the

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA, that meets the definition of an object of cultural patrimony and a sacred object under 25 U.S.C. 3001.

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 cultural items. The National Park Service is not responsible for the determinations in this notice.

#### **History and Description of the Cultural Item**

The *Kéet Gooshi* (Killerwhale Dorsal Fin) also called the "Bear Song Leader's Staff" is an object composed of a long handle and a carved and painted pierced blade, which according to *Teikweidi* Clan of Angoon, is a representation of the Brown Bear crest, embodying the *Xoots* (Bear). The blade is ornamented with eight tufts of cow's tail and is connected to the handle with cotton cord covered with swan's down and feathers.

The Bear Song Leader's Staff was originally in the collection of Axel Rasmussen, a superintendent of schools in Skagway, AK. In 1948, the Portland Art Museum purchased his collection. Records from the Portland Art Museum read as follows: "Purchase, Indian Collection Subscription Fund. To be known as the Axel Rasmussen Collection. Vendor, Earl Stendahl." In 1955, the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts purchased part of the Rasmussen Collection from the Portland Art Museum, which included this Bear Song Leader's Staff (PAM accession # 48.3.460; VMFA accession # 55.31.1).

Representatives of the Central Council of the Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes, specifically the *Teikweidi* clan, have identified that this staff depicts a representation of the *Xoots* crest and is owned by the *Teikweidi* clan. This crest is an object of cultural patrimony, as it is communally owned, and has ongoing historical, traditional, and cultural importance central to the Tlingit society and culture. This object is also a sacred object as it is vital to the ongoing cultural and religious practices that are unique to the Tlingit. Based on this information and consultation with the Central Council of the Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes, the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts reasonably believes the Bear Song Leader's Staff is culturally affiliated with the Tlingit.