

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

Dated: January 9, 2026.

Melanie O'Brien,

Manager, National NAGPRA Program.

[FR Doc. 2026-00666 Filed 1-14-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4312-52-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

[N6856; NPS-WASO-NAGPRA-NPS0041834; PPWOCRADNO-PCU00RP14.R50000]

Notice of Intended Repatriation: Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Division of Archaeology, Nashville, TN

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Division of Archaeology (TDEC-DOA) 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 February 17, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Send additional, written requests for repatriation of the cultural items in this notice to Phillip R. Hodge, Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Division of Archaeology (TDEC-DOA), 1216 Foster Avenue, Cole Building #3, Nashville, TN 37243, email Phil.Hodge@tn.gov.

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 TDEC-DOA, 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 one lot of cultural items from Arkansas have been requested for repatriation.

Unknown Site, Arkansas

A total of one lot of cultural items consisting of Mississippian period ceramic vessels, includes jars, bowls, and plates. These artifacts were donated to the Division of Archaeology in 1979. No information is available regarding the circumstances surrounding their original collection. There is no known exposure to hazardous substances or treatments.

Determinations

The TDEC-DOA has determined that:

- The one lot of cultural items 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 cultural items described in this notice and the Quapaw Nation.

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 February 17, 2026. If competing requests for repatriation are received, the TDEC-DOA 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 TDEC-DOA 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.

Dated: January 9, 2026.

Melanie O'Brien,

Manager, National NAGPRA Program.

[FR Doc. 2026-00664 Filed 1-14-26; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

[N6850; NPS-WASO-NAGPRA-NPS0041828; PPWOCRADNO-PCU00RP14.R50000]

Notice of Intended Repatriation: Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), the Brooklyn Museum intends to repatriate certain cultural items that meet the definition of unassociated funerary objects, sacred objects, and/or objects of cultural patrimony 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 February 17, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Send additional, written requests for repatriation of the cultural items in this notice to Dare Turner, Brooklyn Museum, 200 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, NY 11238-6052, email dare.turner@brooklynmuseum.org.

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 Brooklyn Museum 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 two cultural items have been requested for repatriation. The two sacred objects/objects of cultural patrimony are masks.

In 1946, the Brooklyn Museum purchased one mask from the New York-based Plume Trading and Sales Company. In Museum records, the mask is documented as Seneca.

In 1972, the Brooklyn Museum purchased one mask from the Heye Foundation. The mask was acquired on the Cattaraugus Reservation, New York, by Alanson Skinner for the Heye Foundation.

There is no specific record of hazardous substances used in the treatment of either cultural item. However, the Brooklyn Museum has historically used pesticides containing arsenic and heavy metals on other collections and in collection spaces.

Determinations

The Brooklyn Museum has determined that:

- The two sacred objects/objects of cultural patrimony described in this notice are, according to the Native American traditional knowledge of an Indian Tribe or Native Hawaiian organization, specific ceremonial objects needed by a traditional Native American religious leader for present-day adherents to practice traditional Native American religion, and have ongoing historical, traditional, or cultural importance central to the Native American group, including any constituent sub-group (such as a band, clan, lineage, ceremonial society, or other subdivision).
- There is a connection between the cultural items described in this notice and the Seneca Nation of Indians.

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 February 17, 2026. If competing requests for repatriation are received, the Brooklyn Museum 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 Brooklyn Museum 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.)

Dated: January 9, 2026.

Melanie O'Brien,

Manager, National NAGPRA Program.

[FR Doc. 2026-00658 Filed 1-14-26; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

[N6864; NPS-WASO-NAGPRA-NPS0041842; PPWOCRADNO-PCU00RP14.R50000]

Notice of Inventory Completion: Museum of the Cherokee People, Cherokee, NC

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), the Museum of the Cherokee People (MotCP) 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 February 17, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Send written requests for repatriation of the human remains and associated funerary objects in this notice to Evan Mathis, Museum of the Cherokee People, P.O. Box 1599, 589 Tsali Blvd., Cherokee, NC 28719, email evan.mathis@motcp.org.

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 Museum of the Cherokee People, and additional information on the determinations in this notice, including the results of consultation, can be found in its inventory or related records. The National Park Service is not responsible for the determinations in this notice.

Abstract of Information Available

Human ancestral remains representing, at least, one individual has been identified from an unknown archaeological site referred to as "Cherokee Lake." A total of 115 associated funerary objects are present with this individual, including 83 pot sherds, two rocks, six lithic flakes, six

charcoal flakes, five pieces of shatter material, a complete calcaneus, a partial metapodial, six pieces of burned animal bone, and five pieces of burned turtle shell. The unknown archaeological site is situated in an undisclosed "Cherokee Lake." The undisclosed "Cherokee Lake" is most likely one of two locations. One "Cherokee Lake" is an artificial lake near Murphy, Cherokee County, North Carolina (an artificially dammed tributary of the Hiwassee River). The other "Cherokee Lake," also referred to as "Cherokee Reservoir," is an artificial lake in Jefferson County, Grainger County, Hamblen County, and Hawkins County in Tennessee (artificially dammed Holston River and its tributaries). After completing the consultation process with federally recognized Tribal Nations, this unknown site is culturally affiliated with the Cherokee Nation, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians. This individual was removed from the unknown "Cherokee Lake" site in the mid-1960s by the unnamed father of Charles H. Powell of Bristol, Tennessee. Charles H. Powell transferred this individual to the Museum of the Cherokee People on January 4th, 1997, where they have been housed since. To our knowledge, no hazardous substances were used to treat any of the human ancestral remains.

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 and associated funerary objects described in this notice.

Determinations

The Museum of the Cherokee People has determined that:

- The human remains described in this notice represent the physical remains of one individual of Native American ancestry.
- The 115 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 connection between the human remains and associated funerary objects described in this notice and the Cherokee Nation; Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians; The Muscogee (Creek) Nation; and the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians of Oklahoma.