



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## National Park Service

[NPS-WASO-NAGPRA-NPS0036900; PPWOCRADN0-PCU00RP14.R50000]

### Notice of Intent to Repatriate Cultural Items: Gilcrease Museum, Tulsa, OK

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), the Gilcrease Museum 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 Bartow County, GA.

**DATES:** Repatriation of the cultural items in this notice may occur on or after [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE **FEDERAL REGISTER**].

**ADDRESSES:** Laura Bryant, Gilcrease Museum, 800 S. Tucker Drive, Tulsa, OK 74104, telephone (918) 596-2747, email [laura-bryant@utulsa.edu](mailto:laura-bryant@utulsa.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 Gilcrease Museum. 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 Gilcrease Museum.

### Description

Three cultural items were removed from Bartow County, GA. In the early-to-mid-20th century, Louis Larson removed pottery sherds from the Etowah site, and in 1959, Thomas Gilcrease acquired them. In September of 1954, Frank Sodday removed pottery sherds and lithic flakes from the Etowah site, and in 1982, the Thomas Gilcrease Association purchased Sodday's collection and donated it to Gilcrease Museum. The three unassociated funerary objects are two lots consisting of pottery sherds and one lot consisting of lithic flakes.

## **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, kinship, linguistics, oral tradition, other relevant information, and expert opinion.

## **Determinations**

Pursuant to NAGPRA and its implementing regulations, and after consultation with the appropriate Indian Tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations, the Gilcrease Museum has determined that:

- The three 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 Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

## **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 [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE **FEDERAL REGISTER**]. If competing requests for repatriation are received, the Gilcrease 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 Gilcrease

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 10.8, 10.10, and 10.14.

Dated: November 1, 2023.

**Melanie O'Brien,**

*Manager, National NAGPRA Program.*

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