



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## National Park Service

[NPS-WASO-NAGPRA-NPS0039952; PPWOCRADN0-PCU00RP14.R50000]

### Notice of Intended Repatriation: 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.

**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, 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 eight cultural items have been requested for repatriation. The eight unassociated funerary objects are two lots of stone beads, four lots of shell beads, one lot of glass beads, and one tar mat headrest. These items were removed from near Buena Vista Lake in Kern County, California likely around the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. Seven of the items were likely removed by Dr. Norman Westermann, who donated his collection to Gilcrease Museum in 1986. One of the items was collected by Frank Soday, whose collection was purchased in 1982 by the Thomas Gilcrease Museum Association and then donated to the Museum.

#### **Determinations**

The Gilcrease Museum has determined that:

- The eight unassociated funerary objects 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 Tejon Indian Tribe.

### **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 [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 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: April 8, 2025

**Melanie O'Brien,**

*Manager, National NAGPRA Program.*

[FR Doc. 2025-06642 Filed: 4/17/2025 8:45 am; Publication Date: 4/18/2025]