



## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

[N6437; NPS-WASO-NAGPRA-NPS0040847; PPWOCRADN0-PCU00RP14.R50000]

### Notice of Inventory Completion: Kansas State Historical Society, Topeka, KS

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), the Kansas State Historical Society (KSHS) 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 [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE **FEDERAL REGISTER**].

**ADDRESSES:** Send written requests for repatriation of the human remains and associated funerary objects in this notice to Dr. Nicole Klarmann, Kansas State Historical Society, 6425 SW 6th Avenue, Topeka, KS 66615-1099, email [kshs.nagpra@ks.gov](mailto:kshs.nagpra@ks.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 KSHS, 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 remains representing, at least, five individuals have been identified from Geary County, KS (UBS 1999-20, UBS 2010-07, UBS 2021-01, UBS 2023-07). No associated funerary objects are present. These remains were all removed from riverbeds, either from the Republican, Smoky Hill, or Kansas River, with no other provenience information available.

One associated funerary object includes a chert biface from the Timber Creek site (14CY32) in Clay County, KS (UBS 2023-20). This object was initially in the main collections of KSHS, however, it was moved to NAGPRA collections after learning that the site was two stone burial mounds. The University of Tennessee, Knoxville has the associated human remains from this site.

To our knowledge, no hazardous substances were used to treat any of the human remains or associated funerary objects.

### **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 KSHS has determined that:

- The human remains described in this notice represent the physical remains of five individuals of Native American ancestry.
- The one object described in this notice is 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 Kaw Nation, Oklahoma; Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma; and the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes (Wichita, Keechi, Waco, & Tawakonie), Oklahoma.

### **Requests for Repatriation**

Written requests for repatriation of the human remains and associated funerary objects in this notice must be sent to the authorized representative identified in this notice under ADDRESSES. Requests for repatriation may be submitted by:

1. Any one or more of the Indian Tribes or Native Hawaiian organizations identified in this notice.

2. 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 an Indian Tribe or Native Hawaiian organization with cultural affiliation.

Repatriation of the human remains and associated funerary objects described 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 KSHS must determine the most appropriate requestor prior to repatriation. Requests for joint repatriation of the human remains and associated funerary objects are considered a single request and not competing requests. The KSHS is responsible for sending a copy of this notice to the Indian Tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations identified in this notice and any other consulting parties.

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

Dated: August 6, 2025

**Melanie O'Brien,**

*Manager, National NAGPRA Program.*

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