



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

[N6535; NPS-WASO-NAGPRA-NPS0041125; PPWOCRADN0-PCU00RP14.R50000]

Notice of Intended Repatriation: Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), Michigan State University 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: Send additional, written requests for repatriation of the cultural items in this notice to Judith Stoddart, Michigan State University, 287 Delta Court, East Lansing, MI 48824, email stoddart@msu.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 Michigan State University, 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 13 cultural items have been requested for repatriation. The 13 unassociated funerary objects are one lot of animal bone from the Sebewaing site, eight silver crosses from Lake Lansing Mound, one lot of ceramic sherds from 20SA118, one lot (accession 1001) of animal bone, one pipe stem, and one silver brooch from 20IN39.

All unassociated funerary objects were removed from Huron, Ingham, and Saginaw Counties, Michigan. All were donated to Michigan State University in the 1950s or at an

unknown time. No known hazardous substances have been used to treat the objects.

Determinations

Michigan State University has determined that:

- The 13 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 Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan.

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, Michigan State University 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. Michigan State University 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: September 11, 2025.

Melanie O'Brien,

Manager, National NAGPRA Program.

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