

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 Sonoma 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: January 28, 2025.

**Melanie O'Brien,**

*Manager, National NAGPRA Program.*

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**BILLING CODE 4312-52-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

[NPS-WASO-NAGPRA-NPS0039563;  
PPWOCRADN0-PCU00RP14.R50000]

### Notice of Inventory Completion: Merced College, Merced, CA

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), Merced College 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 April 16, 2025.

**ADDRESSES:** Jeff Buechler, Social Sciences—Stop 35, Merced College, 3600 M Street, Merced, CA 95348, telephone (209) 384-6246, email [jeffrey.buechler@mccd.edu](mailto:jeffrey.buechler@mccd.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 Merced College, and additional information on the determinations in this notice, including the results of consultation, can be found in the inventory or related records. The National Park Service is not responsible for the determinations in this notice.

### Abstract of Information Available

Beginning as early as 1972 and continuing through at least 1978 (if not

into the 1980's), Professor Charles Ostrander and students of Merced College conducted sporadic surface surveys and excavations at TUO-910, during which a large number of comingled and fragmentary human remains and comingled funerary items were removed from heavily disturbed contexts and brought to Merced College. A minimum of 115 individuals are represented, including at least two adult males, one adult female, nine adults of indeterminate sex, one late teen, and one juvenile, the latter and several others with evidence of burning or cremation. The site is mistakenly referred to as TUO-209 in College records. Of the 39 associated funerary objects listed in the records, 35 are present and accounted for in Merced College's collections, and four are currently missing or unidentifiable. The 39 associated funerary objects are one lot of end-notched stones; one lot of thin steatite ring fragments; one lot of narrow, oblong, tapered, weathered stones; one lot of polished bone awl fragments; one lot of shell beads; one lot of steatite beads; one lot of stone beads; one lot of black metasedimentary, chert, obsidian, and other stone bifacial tools; one lot of obsidian blades; one lot of charcoal; one lot of stone cobbles; one lot of chert and other stone cores; one lot of quartz crystals; one lot of chipped stone eccentric forms on black metasedimentary, chert, and other stone; one lot of faunal bone; one lot of fire-cracked rock; one lot of large obsidian and other stone flakes; one lot of steatite fragments; one lot of stone manos and mano fragments; one half of a broken stone mortar bowl; one lot of grinding stone implement fragments; one lot of quartz and other stone hammerstones; one lot of historic material (metal nails, metal token, brick paver, clay pottery sherds); one lot of black metasedimentary, chert, obsidian, quartz, and other stone lithic debitage; one lot of unmodified shells; one lot of oblong stone objects; one lot of worked steatite slabs; one lot of ochre; one lot of quartz and other stone pebbles; one lot of steatite perforated disks; one lot of perforated natural stones; one lot of chert, obsidian, quartz, and other stone projectile points; one lot of rocks; one lot of sandstone sphere fragments; and one lot of black metasedimentary, chert, quartz, obsidian, and other stone unifacial tools. The four missing or unidentifiable associated funerary object are one large bone awl, one lot of shell beads, one stone burin, and one lot of stone projectile points.

### Cultural Affiliation

Based on the information available and the results of consultation, cultural affiliation is clearly identified by the information available about the human remains and associated funerary objects described in this notice.

### Determinations

Merced College has determined that:

- The human remains described in this notice represent the physical remains of 115 individuals of Native American ancestry.
- The 39 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 reasonable connection between the human remains and associated funerary objects described in this notice and the Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-wuk Indians of California; Chicken Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians of California; and the Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians of the Tuolumne Rancheria of California.

### 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 a culturally affiliated Indian Tribe or Native Hawaiian organization.

Repatriation of the human remains and associated funerary objects in this notice to a requestor may occur on or after April 16, 2025. If competing requests for repatriation are received, Merced College 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. Merced College is responsible for sending a copy of this notice to the Indian Tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations identified in this notice.

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

Dated: February 19, 2025.

**Melanie O'Brien,**

Manager, National NAGPRA Program.

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

[NPS-WASO-NAGPRA-NPS0039422;  
PPWOCRADN0-PCU00RP14.R50000]

### Notice of Inventory Completion: Museum of Us, San Diego, CA

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), the Museum of Us 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 April 16, 2025.

**ADDRESSES:** Carmen Mosley, NAGPRA Repatriation Manager, Museum of Us, 1350 El Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA 92101, telephone (619) 239-2001 Ext. 42, email [cmosley@museumofus.org](mailto:cmosley@museumofus.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 Us, and additional information on the determinations in this notice, including the results of consultation, can be found in the inventory or related records. The National Park Service is not responsible for the determinations in this notice.

### Abstract of Information Available

Based on the information available, human remains representing, at least, two individuals have been reasonably identified. The 3,081 associated funerary objects are from seven sites.

The 359 associated funerary objects removed from Hollister Mound (CV-5; CA-SAC-21) in Sacramento County, CA include one lot of carbonized textile and basketry material, one lot of carbonized pine nut seeds, one lot of carbonized vegetal material, one lot of screened burial material, three red ochre lumps, five charmstone fragments, one grooved

stone, one stone fragment, one stone discoidal, three baked clay objects, one incised bird bone tube, 338 *Haliotis* ornament pieces, one pottery sherd, and one lot of mixed beads.

Human remains representing, at least, one individual, and 916 associated funerary objects removed from Johnson Mound (CV-8; CA-SAC-6) in Sacramento County, CA include 280 baked clay objects, 113 projectile points, 25 chipped stone implements, five slate ornaments, two miniature stone dishes, two charmstones, two stone ear plugs, six steatite pipes and fragments, one small mortar, one stone discoidal, one grinding slab, three red ochre lumps, three miscellaneous stones, one lot of carbonized basketry and cordage, 12 strings of *Olivella* beads, 27 loose mixed shell beads, four strings of stone beads, six loose glass trade beads, three loose stone beads, one small lot of mixed loose beads, 334 *Haliotis* ornaments pieces, one perforated clam shell blank, three bipointed bone implements, seven incised bird bone fragments, 34 fish bone gorges, 12 faunal bone fragments, four miscellaneous stones, 19 faunal bone awls and awl fragments, one antler implement, one lot of cremation material, one lot of carbonized textile material, and one lot of carbonized seeds.

The 69 associated funerary objects removed from Calhoun Mound (CV-9; CA-SAC-113) in Sacramento County, CA include three strings of clam shell beads, 29 *Haliotis* ornaments, three bone implements, three incised bird bone tubes, 15 projectile points, two obsidian Stockton Curves, three stone discoidals, two mineral specimens, eight baked clay objects, and one lot of loose carbonized seeds.

The 28 associated funerary objects removed from Eichenberger Mound (CV-19; CA-SAC-122) in Sacramento County, CA include 24 *Haliotis* ornaments, three steatite pipes, and one hatband decorated with *Olivella* shell beads.

The 102 associated funerary objects removed from Woodward/Drescher Mound (CV-20; CA-SAC-109) in Sacramento County, CA include 81 *Haliotis* ornaments, one perforated bone implement, one bone disc bead, five bird bone beads, one lot miscellaneous burial material, three smooth pebbles, two strings of clam shell disc beads, one mixed lot of faunal bone and shell beads, two baked clay objects, two quartz crystals, one bone awl, one bone tube, and one stone discoidal fragment.

The three associated funerary objects removed from Booth Mound (CV-25; CA-SAC-126) in Sacramento County,

CA include three strings of *Olivella* beads.

Human remains representing, at least, one individual, and 1,604 associated funerary objects removed from CV-31, Central Valley, CA include 211 projectile points, seven obsidian knives, one lot of obsidian chips and flakes, 213 chipped stones, 225 *Haliotis* ornaments, six lots of miscellaneous mixed material, 39 baked clay objects, one clay pipe liner, 10 steatite pipe fragments, 182 strings of glass beads, 25 faunal bone beads, four faunal bone whistles, nine strings of *Olivella* beads, four strings of stone beads, 12 loose stone beads, nine strings of clam shell beads, one *Haliotis* disc bead, one red ochre piece, 500 loose *Olivella* beads, 66 obsidian bangles, three burial accumulations, one cremation accumulation, three bone awls, two flat bone implements, one small lot of work faunal bone, 46 containers of glass beads, three mammalian vertebrae, two jars of historic beads, five bird bone tubes, one lot of carbonized acorns, one grinding slab, two lots of mixed material beads, one lot of mixed shell ornaments, one lot of carbonized vegetal material, one lot of mixed stones, three lots of carbonized cordage and textile material, one lot of carded *Haliotis* ornaments, and one lot of carded shell money.

Between 1930 and 1936, the ancestral remains and 3,081 associated funerary objects were removed by Henry Gibbs, a private collector and looter. In 1937, Paul A. Walker purchased Gibbs' Central Valley, California archeological collection. Walker was an amateur archeologist and collector who worked by himself and with other amateur archeologists, and in collaboration with the University of California and Sacramento Junior College. Over the course of his life, Walker amassed an extensive archeological collection from California's Central Valley and smaller collections from Northern and Southern California, and outside of California. In 1968, Walker's private archeological collection was acquired by the San Diego Museum of Man (now Museum of Us) through a purchase/donation transaction with Walker's widow, Bessie B. Walker.

### Cultural Affiliation

Based on the information available and the results of consultation, cultural affiliation is clearly identified by the information available about the human remains and associated funerary objects described in this notice.

### Determinations

The Museum of Us has determined that: