the Native American human remains were found on land owned by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. No known individuals were identified. No associated funerary objects are present.

The bones were examined by physical anthropologist David Barondess of Michigan State University, but the condition of the bones did not allow for a definitive identification of ethnicity. However, the burial practices, great age of the bones suggested by their condition, and lack of either coffin hardware or historic-era clothing all suggest a pre-contact period date and Native American identity for these individuals. It is possible, but not certain, that the burials may be related to the nearby Scott Point site (20MK22), which was occupied at various times over the past 2,000 years by a number of Woodland period cultural groups.

Officials of the Office of the State Archaeologist have determined that, pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001(2), a relationship of shared group identity cannot be reasonably traced between the Native American human remains and any present-day Indian tribe. The Office of the State Archaeologist had been in informal consultation with the Scott Point Tribe of American Aboriginals, a non-federally recognized Indian group, concerning the human remains from 20MK450. Members of this group are enrolled with the federally-recognized Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, working closely with the Scott Point Tribe of American Aboriginals on this matter, entered into consultation with the Office of the State Archaeologist. On March 31, 2010, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians formally requested disposition of the human remains. Letters supporting disposition to the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians were received from the Bad River Reservation, Wisconsin; Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians, Minnesota; Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan; and the Peoria Tribe of Illinois. The Delaware Nation, Oklahoma; Fond du Lac Band of the Minnesota Chippewa Indians, Minnesota; Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan; and the Peoria Tribe of Illinois were received citing any other concerns.

Therefore, officials of the Office of the State Archaeologist have offered the disposition of the human remains from site 20MK450 to the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Michigan, as an aboriginal land tribe.

Officials of the Office of the State Archaeologist have determined that, pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001(9), the human remains described above represent the physical remains of three individuals of Native American ancestry. Lastly, officials of the Office of the State Archaeologist have determined that, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.11(c)(1), the disposition of the Native American human remains is to the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Michigan.

Representatives of any Indian tribe that believes itself to be culturally affiliated with the human remains or any other Indian tribe that believes it satisfies the criteria in 43 CFR 10.11(c)(1) should contact Barbara Mead, Office of the State Archaeologist, P.O. Box 30740, 702 West Kalamazoo St., Lansing, MI 48909–8240, telephone (517) 373–6416, before October 25, 2010. Disposition of the human remains to the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Michigan may proceed after that date if no additional requesters come forward.

The Office of the State Archaeologist is responsible for notifying the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma; Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Bad River Reservation, Wisconsin; Bay Mills Indian Community, Michigan; Bois Forte Band (Nett Lake) of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, Minnesota; Chippewa-Cree Indians of the Rocky Boy’s Reservation, Montana; Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Oklahoma; Delaware Nation, Oklahoma; Fond du Lac Band of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, Minnesota; Forest County Potawatomi Community, Wisconsin; Grand Portage Band of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, Minnesota; Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, Michigan; Hannahville Indian Community, Michigan; Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, Michigan; Kickapoo Tribe of Indians of the Kickapoo Reservation in Kansas; Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma; Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas; Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, Wisconsin; Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of the Lac du Flambeau Reservation of Wisconsin; Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, Michigan; Leech Lake Band of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, Minnesota; Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Michigan; Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians; Match-e-be-nash-she-wish Band of Pottawatomie Indians of Michigan; Miami Tribe of Oklahoma; Mille Lacs Band of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, Minnesota; Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi, Michigan; Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma; Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma; Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, Michigan and Indiana; Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation, Kansas; Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation, California and Arizona; Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin; Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians, Minnesota; Saginaw Chippewa Tribe of Michigan; Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Michigan; Shawnee Tribe, Oklahoma; Sokaogon Chippewa Community, Wisconsin; St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin; Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians of North Dakota; White Earth Band of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, Minnesota; Wyandotte Nation, Oklahoma; and the Scott Point Tribe of American Aboriginals, a non-federally recognized Indian group, that this notice has been published.

Dated: September 10, 2010

Sherry Hutt, Manager, National NAGPRA Program.

[FR Doc. 2010–23902 Filed 9–23–10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4312–50–S

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Inventory Completion: Athens County Historical Society and Museum, Athens, OH

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), 25 U.S.C. 3003, of the completion of an inventory of human remains in the possession of the Athens County Historical Society and Museum, Athens, OH. The human remains were removed from Athens County, OH.

This notice is published as part of the National Park Service’s administrative responsibilities under NAGPRA, 25 U.S.C. 3003(d)(3). The determinations in this notice are the sole responsibility of the museum, institution, or Federal agency that has control of the Native American human remains. The National Park Service is not responsible for the determinations in this notice.

A detailed assessment of the human remains was made by Ohio University and the Athens County Historical Society and Museum professional staff in consultation with representatives of
the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma; Delaware Nation, Oklahoma; and Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma.

In 1988, human remains representing a minimum of one individual were removed from the Coe Family Farm on Armitage Road, in Athens County, OH. On January 4, 2010, the human skull was found in a hatbox in the collections storage. According to a former museum curator, the human remains were removed by an Ohio University professor who considered himself an amateur archeologist. No known individual was identified. No associated funerary objects are present.

According to Dr. Nancy Tatarek, a forensic anthropologist from Ohio University, the wear and coloration of the skull indicated that it was at least 300+ years old. Dr. Tatarek used the shape of the nose cavity to identify cultural background. On a reasonable basis, the human remains may be Native American, and possibly female. Furthermore, there were no white settlements in the Athens County area 300 years ago.

Based on Indian land claims maps, the museum has determined the human remains have a shared group relationship with the Shawnee, which are represented by the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, and Shawnee Tribe, Oklahoma. Based on consultation, the museum has reasonably determined the human remains also have a shared group relationship with the Delaware, which are represented by the Delaware Nation, Oklahoma, and Delaware Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

Officials of the Athens County Historical Society and Museum have determined that, pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001(9), the human remains described above represent the physical remains of one individual of Native American ancestry. Officials of the Athens County Historical Society and Museum also have determined that, pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001(2), there is a relationship of shared group identity that can be reasonably traced between the Native American human remains and the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma; Delaware Nation, Oklahoma; Delaware Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma; Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma; and Shawnee Tribe, Oklahoma.

Representatives of any other Indian tribe that believes itself to be culturally affiliated with the human remains should contact Heather Reed, Curator/Education Director, Athens County Historical Society and Museum, 65 N. Court St., Athens, OH 45701, telephone (740) 592–2280, before October 25, 2010. Repatriation of the human remains to the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma; Delaware Nation, Oklahoma; Delaware Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma; Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma; and Shawnee Tribe, Oklahoma, may proceed after that date if no additional claimants come forward.

Athens County Historical Society and Museum is responsible for notifying the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma; Delaware Nation, Oklahoma; Delaware Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma; Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma; and the Shawnee Tribe, Oklahoma, that this notice has been published.

Sherry Hutt,
Manager, National NAGPRA Program.
[FR Doc. 2010–23904 Filed 9–23–10; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4312–50–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Inventory Completion: Northwest Museum of Arts & Culture, Spokane, WA

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

Notice is here given in accordance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), 25 U.S.C. 3003, of the completion of an inventory of human remains and associated funerary objects in the possession of the Northwest Museum of Arts & Culture, aka Eastern Washington State Historical Society, Spokane, WA. The human remains and associated funerary objects were removed from Lincoln, Ferry and Stevens Counties, WA.

This notice is published as part of the National Park Service’s administrative responsibilities under NAGPRA, 25 U.S.C. 3003(d)(2). The determinations in this notice are the sole responsibility of the museum, institution, or Federal agency that has possession of the Native American human remains and associated funerary objects. The National Park Service is not responsible for the determinations in this notice.

A detailed assessment of the human remains was made by the Northwest Museum of Arts & Culture professional staff in consultation with representatives of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Indian Reservation, Washington. During the period July 1939 to September 1940, human remains and associated funerary objects were removed from seven different sites in Lincoln, Ferry and Stevens Counties, WA, encompassing a vast, 150-mile area. The human remains and associated funerary objects described below were excavated by Donald Collier, Alfred E. Hudson and Arlo Ford due to the construction of the Grand Coulee Dam and its reservoir (Lake Roosevelt), whose waters would soon cover the area. This undertaking was known as “The Columbian Basin Archaeological Survey” or the “Collier, Hudson, and Ford Project.” It was a multi-institutional venture involving the Eastern Washington State Historical Society (now Northwest Museum of Arts & Culture), University of Washington, and the State College of Washington (now Washington State University). It was also a multi-agency venture involving the Bureau of Reclamation, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Civilian Conservation Corps, and the Works Project Administration (including the National Youth Administration). In 1940, the Eastern Washington State Historical Society became the repository for the collection, as mandated by the Bureau of Reclamation. Portions of the land from which the human remains and associated funerary objects derive were non-Federal lands, and other portions were Federal lands at the time of removal. Moreover, the Federal lands fell under the management authority of several different agencies.

Consequently, there has been a question of control over the collection. After several years of research, the Northwest Museum of Arts & Culture is assuming responsibility under NAGPRA with regard to publishing this Notice and repatriating the human remains and associated funerary objects to the culturally affiliated tribe.

From 1940 until 1951, the Northwest Museum of Arts & Culture was the repository for the recovered materials. On February 24, 1951, the museum agreed to loan the human remains to the Washington State Museum of the University of Washington for scientific study. According to letters substantiating the agreement, all the human remains borrowed by the University of Washington were returned to the museum on May 29, 1951, and were repatriated to the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Indian Reservation, Washington, in 1979.