

NATIVE AMERICAN GRAVES PROTECTION AND REPATRIATION ACT

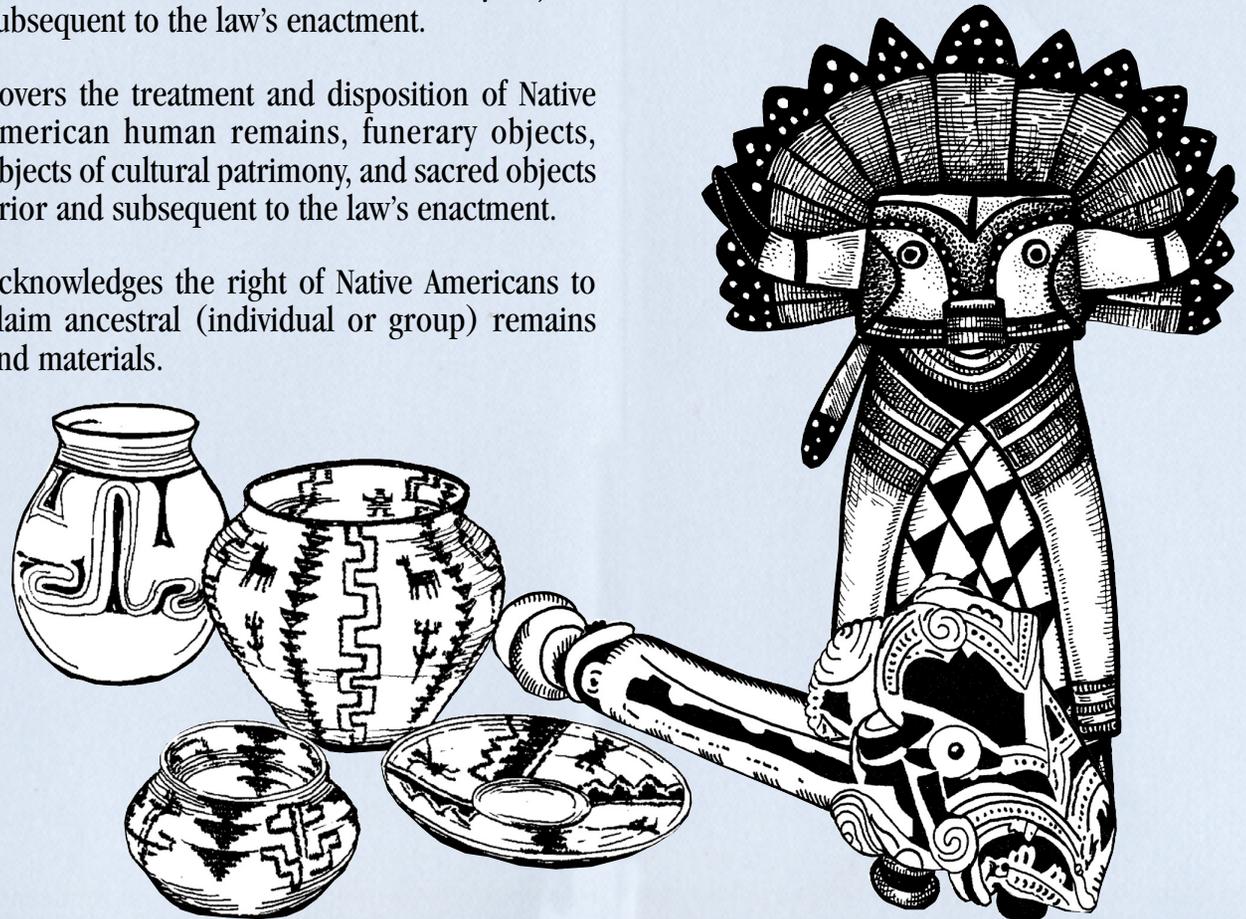
Over the past one hundred years, and particularly within the past fifty years, federal agencies have recovered millions of prehistoric and historic artifacts from federal lands that are now housed at universities, museums, contractor, and federal agency offices throughout the United States.

What is NAGPRA and what does it involve?

- In 1990 Congress passed the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA).
- NAGPRA builds on the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), as amended, and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA), as amended.
- Seeks to help create a more comprehensive dialogue between Native Americans and federal agencies and institutions that hold or control NAGPRA materials or receive federal funding.
- Designed to address the treatment and repatriation of Native American, Native Alaskan, and Native Hawaiian skeletal remains, funerary objects, sacred items, and items of cultural patrimony.

- Applies to all federal agencies and museums that receive federal funds.
- Enacts a new criminal law to curb trafficking of Native American human resources and specific cultural items.
- Provides procedures for handling intentional excavations and inadvertent discoveries of Native American human remains and funerary objects subsequent to the law's enactment.
- Covers the treatment and disposition of Native American human remains, funerary objects, objects of cultural patrimony, and sacred objects prior and subsequent to the law's enactment.
- Acknowledges the right of Native Americans to claim ancestral (individual or group) remains and materials.

- Written Summaries and Inventories are to be provided by federal agencies and federally funded museums to all relevant Native American groups. The summaries and inventories should inform these groups of any Native American human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony believed to be associated with the specific tribe(s) contacted.



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers St. Louis District, Program and Services

St. Louis District is currently coordinating a nationwide NAGPRA compliance effort for the Army Corps of Engineers as part of its mission.

Other services that can be performed include:

- NAGPRA Program review
- Archaeological state site file research
- Archaeological and NAGPRA collections location research
- Associated project documentation research (field notes, site reports, maps, catalogues, etc.) review
- Human skeletal remains recovery assistance
- Cultural affiliation research
- Inadvertent discoveries and intentional excavation assistance
- Skeletal remains and objects inventory assistance
- NAGPRA report preparation that includes information on NAGPRA collections inventories and/or summaries
- Native American consultation assistance

St. Louis District Past and Present NAGPRA Customers

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Army (Nationwide)
Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Navy, Engineering Field Activity-West
U.S. Navy, Atlantic Division
Cape Canaveral Air Force Station
Camp Lejeune, Marine Corps Base

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**US Army Corps
of Engineers**

Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA)



**Mandatory Center of Expertise for
the Curation and Management of
Archaeological Collections**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,
St. Louis District