

Introduction to Archaeology

Fall 2024
Lecture 18 (11/7)



Week 10

Studying People

- **Tuesday**
 - *Archaeology as History*: Ch 4
 - Race & Bio Anthropology
 - **Thursday:**
 - Weekly Exercise 7
 - Reclaiming the Ancestors
 - **Trowelblazer Profile Final Project**
-

Ethics & Legal Frameworks

NAGPRA Basics & Major Updates

- **Basics:** [National NAGPRA website](#) & [YouTube Channel](#)

- 1990: The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) required federal agencies and museums to (1) identify their Native American human remains and other objects, (2) try to culturally affiliate them with a present day Indian tribe or Native Hawaiian organization, and (3) repatriate them under the terms in the act (1990)
- [What is NAGPRA?](#) Carrying our Ancestors Home (2019, 10 minutes)

- **Updates**

- 2010: provided a process for museums and institutions to return Native American human remains that could not be culturally affiliated to tribes with aboriginal land ties.
- 2024: “New Rule” ([Indian Country Today](#) & * [DOI Press Release](#), 12/2023)

Welcome to the New Era of Restitution & Repatriation ([links](#))



BY THE EDITORS OF ARTNEWS February 19, 2024 9:00am



In front, protestors against budget cuts at Mexico's National Institute of Anthropology and History. In the background, the National Anthropology Museum in Mexico City.

Follow along here for the latest stories in *The New Era of Restitution and Repatriation*:

- **Restitution, Repatriation Efforts See Halting Progress Across Europe and the US, amid Shifts in Public Opinion**, by Devorah Lauter
- **Looting, Plundering, and More: 20 Cultural Treasures That Have Faced Claims of Theft**, by Alex Greenberger
- **The 'Art Crime Professor' on the Rise in Private Sector Action on Repatriation, and the Line Between Activism and Academia**, by Karen K. Ho
- **Online Activists Are Driving the Fight to Get Stolen Artifacts Repatriated to Nepal**, by Sakshi Agrawal
- **Opinion: University Museums May Be the Best Repository for Private Antiquities Collections Lacking Provenance**, by Elizabeth Marlowe
- **How the Met and Other Major US Museums Are Approaching Provenance Research** by Francesca Aton
- **Nigeria's New Museum of West African Art Calls Into Question the Future of Encyclopedic Museums**, by Chidinma Iwu
- **Mexico's Splashy 'My Heritage Is Not for Sale' Campaign Hides a More Troubling Reality for Conservationists**, by Juan Garcia
- **What the New Federal Regulations for Native American Ancestors and Sacred Objects Mean for Museums**, by Karen K. Ho

How are Institutions doing???

- ProPublica: [The Repatriation Project](#) (institutional info)
 - Smith College?
 - [UMass Amherst](#)
- Carrying our Ancestors Home ([link](#))

The **University of California, Berkeley** still has the remains of at least **4,900 Native Americans** that it has not made available for return.

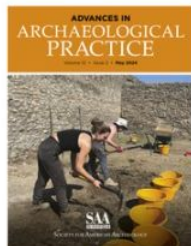


Harvard University still has the remains of at least **5,600 Native Americans**.

The **American Museum of Natural History** still has the remains of at least **1,800 Native Americans**.



The **Department of the Interior** still has the remains of at least **3,600 Native Americans**.



**Advances in
Archaeological
Practice**

Article contents

- Abstract
- THE START MODEL
- CONCLUSION
- Funding
- Data Availability Statement
- Competing Interests
- Footnotes
- References

Lessons from NAGPRA

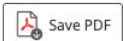
Preparing Institutions for an African American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act

Published online by Cambridge University Press: 24 January 2024

Jenna Domeischel  and Angela Neller 

Show author details 

Article Figures Metrics



Abstract

For nearly a decade, there has been recognition of the need for an African American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (AAGPRA) or similar legislation. Experiences from implementing the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) have shed light on challenges that prevent practitioners from achieving the informed, respectful, and expeditious return of remains. Given the likelihood of federal legislation addressing the repatriation of persons of African descent and acknowledging the hurdles that practitioners may face if and when it is passed, we offer a practical model, START, to reorient our understanding of success to recognizing that incremental progress is still forward movement. The model is organized into five stages and is presented with context from NAGPRA, along with suggested steps that practitioners can take at each stage to help build on their success. The START model is a straightforward and practical checklist approach that helps practitioners recognize the victories achieved in small steps that could be hidden or prevented by misguided but well-intentioned attempts at perfection. It is directly applicable to preparation for repatriation but has utility for any curation or collections management context.

Reclaiming the Ancestors: Indigenous & Black Perspectives on Repatriation, Human Rights & Justice

The image shows a video player interface. At the top, the browser tab reads "ReclaimingTheAncestors.pdf (page 1 of 12)". The main content is the title page of a report. The title "Reclaiming the Ancestors" is prominently displayed in a large, black, sans-serif font. Below it, the subtitle "Indigenous and Black Perspectives on Repatriation, Human Rights & Justice" is written in a smaller, black, sans-serif font. To the right of the text is a large, abstract graphic composed of overlapping geometric shapes: a large red circle with a grey center, a yellow square, and black and white triangles. At the bottom of the page, there is a row of logos for the following organizations: iac (Indigenous Archaeology Collective), Society of Black Archaeologists, The Peabody, CIAMS, and Sapiens.com. In the top right corner of the video player, there is a small inset video of a woman with glasses and a red top, identified as Sonya Atalay. The video player controls at the bottom show a play button, a progress bar at 00:00, and a volume icon.

ReclaimingTheAncestors.pdf (page 1 of 12)

Reclaiming the Ancestors

Indigenous and Black Perspectives on Repatriation, Human Rights & Justice

iac INDIGENOUS ARCHAEOLOGY COLLECTIVE

SOCIETY OF BLACK ARCHAEOLOGISTS

THE PEABODY

CIAMS

SAPIENS.com

Sonya Atalay

00:00 2:05:27

Reclaiming the Ancestors: Speakers & Moderator

- **Michael Blakey**, Ph.D., NEH Professor of Anthropology and American Studies, College of William and Mary
- **Dorothy Lippert** (Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma), Ph.D., Tribal Liaison, National Museum of Natural History
- **Shannon Martin** (Gun Lake Pottawatomi/Ojibwe), Director, Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture and Lifeways
- **Rachel Watkins**, Ph.D., Visiting Associate Professor of Anthropology, UPenn
- **Sonya Atalay** (Anishinabe-Ojibwe), Ph.D., Associate Professor of Anthropology, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Weekly Exercise 7

- What is one or two topics discussed in the webinar that you found to be most compelling and why?
- Pick one of the speakers from the webinar and answer the following: Who are they and what is their training/background? What perspective did they contribute?
- If you could ask one of the speakers a question, who would it be and what would you ask them?
- Do you have a good sense of the main goals of NAGPRA from the webinar?
- Thoughts on the topic? Future of bioarchaeology?

Trowelblazer Assignment

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