

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**National Park Service**

**Notice of Inventory Completion for Human Remains and Associated Funerary Objects in the Control of Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, Gustavus, AK**

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, Interior

**ACTION:** Notice

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Notice is hereby given under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, 25 U.S.C. 3003(d), of the completion of inventory of human remains and associated funerary objects in the control of Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, Gustavus, AK. The human remains and associated funerary objects are curated at Washington State University, Pullman, WA.

A detailed inventory and assessment of these human remains and associated funerary objects has been made by the National Park Service curatorial and anthropological staff in consultation with representatives of Hoonah Indian Association.

The cremated human bones and associated funerary objects were recovered in 1964 from a collapsed log grave house on the western shore of Excursion Inlet, AK, by Dr. Robert E. Ackerman. The cremated

human remains and funerary objects were originally in bent wood boxes which were deteriorated when documented by Dr. Ackerman.

The human remains represent a minimum of three adults of unknown sex, stature, and age. No known individuals were identifiable. Associated funerary objects include two copper tube fragments, two white glass shirt buttons, several clay pipestem fragments, an eroded piece of metal with bits of woven fabric, four pieces of shaped wood (remains of the bent wood box or boxes that originally contained the remains), a bone socket containing a wooden plug, and several decayed bits of cordage.

Testimony of Tlingit elders recorded in Goldschmidt and Haas, "*Possessory Rights of the Natives of Southeastern Alaska*," (1946), and testimony taken during recent consultation with Hoonah Tlingit elders identifies Excursion Inlet as within the traditional territory of the Hoonah Tlingit. Dr. Ackerman suggests that the practice of cremation among the Hoonah Tlingit became very rare after 1890. On that basis these human remains are believed to have been interred sometime prior to that time.

Based on the above mentioned information, officials of the National Park Service has determined that, pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001 (2), there is a relationship of shared group identity which can be reasonably traced between these Native American human remains and associated funerary objects and the Hoonah Indian Association. All of the objects are reasonably believed to have been placed with or near individual Native American human remains either at the time of death or later as part of a death rite or ceremony.

This notice has been sent to officials of the Hoonah Indian Association. Representatives of any other Indian tribe that believes itself to be culturally affiliated with these human remains and associated funerary objects should contact Superintendent Jim Brady, Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, P.O. Box 140, Gustavus, AK 99826-0140, telephone (907) 697-2230 before September 8, 1995. Repatriation of the

human remains and associated funerary objects to the Hoonah Indian Association may begin after that date if no additional claimants come forward.

Dated: August 3, 1995

Veletta Canouts

Acting, Departmental Consulting Archeologist, and

Acting Chief, Archeological Assistance Division

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