



SOCIETY FOR AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY

September 26, 1995

Dr. Francis P. McManamon
Departmental Consulting Archaeologist
National Park Service
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, D.C. 20013

Re: Society for American Comments on Draft Recommendations by the NAGPRA Review Committee Regarding the Disposition of Culturally Unidentifiable Remains

Dear Dr. McManamon:

The attached document titled "Comments on Draft Recommendations by the NAGPRA Review Committee Regarding the Disposition of Culturally Unidentifiable Remains" is respectfully submitted by the Society for American Archaeology to the NAGPRA Review Committee in response to the Department Consulting Archaeologist's solicitation for comment. The Society for American Archaeology has made a concerted effort to solicit commentary from our membership on the draft document, and we believe our summary comments accurately reflect the sentiments of our constituency.

The SAA appreciates the amount of careful work that went into the construction of the draft recommendations. While we still feel that these recommendations are premature, and that at the least they should be deferred until 1) we have adequate information from our collective experience with the repatriation of affiliated remains, 2) affected institutions have met statutory deadlines, and 3) that we have regulations adopted and in place, the SAA Task Force on Repatriation looks forward to working cooperatively and productively with the NAGPRA Review Committee on this issue. We hope you find the attached commentary useful in your discussions and revisions of the draft document.

Once again, we thank you for the opportunity to comment, and we will be happy to provide additional commentary or documentation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. A. Lovis". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "W" and a long, horizontal tail stroke.

William A. Lovis, Ph.D.
Chair, Repatriation Task Force

cc: SAA Repatriation Task Force
W. Lipe President
R. Johnson, Executive Director