

November 17, 2021

Inventory Protocols for AB275 Collections

Adapted from Dr. Lorna C. Pierce's Protocols for Skeletal Analysis

1. These are the remains of other human beings who were once cherished members of a family and community. The remains are to be handled with care and respect. They will be seen and handled only by San Jose State University NAGPRA personnel (Dr. Sunseri, and Ms. Ragland), and consulting Tribe's Monitors (listed below).
2. No eating, drinking, spitting, swearing, inebriation, or otherwise inappropriate decorum or dress will be permitted throughout the inventory process.
3. [REDACTED]
4. No photographs or video of the ancestors or their belongings will be allowed.
5. The remains will not be washed, yet the bone surfaces may still be fragile so care must be taken to preserve the cortex of the bone during handling for inventory.
6. All handling will be kept to a minimum.
7. Gloves and face masks will be worn at all times. Should gloves rip or tear they are to be replaced immediately.
8. An inventory of the osseous elements will be made. No analysis will be conducted whatsoever.
9. If there are artifacts or belongings they will be counted and recorded in the inventory and then quickly replaced according to their provenience. No analyses will be conducted whatsoever.
10. A weekly report of our efforts will be recorded and shared with Tribal consultants.

The following Tribes have requested supervision of the inventory process for Alameda County Sites:

Muwekma Ohlone Tribe of the San Francisco Bay Area (Charlene Nijmeh, Chairperson)

Northern Valley Yokuts Tribe (Katherine Perez, Chairperson)

The Ohlone Indian Tribe (Andrew Galvan, Director)

The Confederated Villages of Lisjan (Corrina Gould, Chairperson)

PROTOCOLS FOR SKELETAL ANALYSIS

1. These are the remains of other human beings who were once cherished members of a family and community. The remains are to be handled with care and respect. They will be seen and handled only by members of the scientific team unless special permission has been procured from Julie Wizorek, Andrew Galvan and Dr. Pierce. Only photographs for documentation, scientific, and teaching purposes will be allowed. Security is to be maintained at all times.
2. The remains will be carefully washed in water using soft brushes and dental picks to remove dirt and caliche. The bone surfaces may be fragile so care must be taken to preserve the cortex of the bone.
3. Only one individual will be cleaned at a time so that there will be no possibility of mingling the remains.
4. The bones are to be air dried slowly. Then they will be placed in anatomical position on a table until completely dry. Only one individual will be placed on each table.
5. Each table will be labeled with the burial number.
6. If there are grave goods they will be labeled and kept with the remains.
7. An inventory of the osseous elements will be made.
8. Each individual will be aged and sexed.
9. Each individual will be examined for pathological lesions and anomalies.
10. The teeth will be charted and graded for dental attrition. Dental anomalies and abscesses will be assessed.
11. All articular surfaces will be examined and scored for degenerative joint disease.
12. The crania and long bones will be measured using standard calipers.
13. Stature will be estimated.
14. Standard radiographs of all elements will be made.
15. Small sections of bone may be removed for microscopic and chemical analysis.
16. A complete report will be provided to the necessary individuals and organizations.

Lorna C. Pierce, Ph.D.