



**CROW CANYON ARCHAEOLOGICAL CENTER
POLICY ON THE TREATMENT OF HUMAN REMAINS
AND ASSOCIATED FUNERARY ARTIFACTS**

Revised 2/2001

WHEREAS, Crow Canyon Archaeological Center conducts archaeological research, including excavation, where human remains are likely to be encountered periodically;

WHEREAS, Crow Canyon Archaeological Center is committed to involving Native Americans in the research planning and interpretation process and has, therefore, established a Native American Advisory Group;

WHEREAS, Crow Canyon Archaeological Center is committed to consulting with affiliated Native American tribes and respecting their concerns in the treatment of human remains and associated funerary artifacts;

WHEREAS, Crow Canyon Archaeological Center in 1994 hosted consultations in which all interested and potentially affiliated Southwest tribes from Arizona and New Mexico were invited, and the attendees designated the Hopi Tribe to represent them in future consultations with Crow Canyon in issues regarding the reburial of human remains and associated funerary artifacts;

WHEREAS, Crow Canyon Archaeological Center is committed to complying with all federal and state laws, including those that pertain to archaeological research;

WHEREAS, Crow Canyon Archaeological Center staff believes that the study of human remains and associated funerary artifacts provides important information about the past that cannot be learned by any other means;

WHEREAS, Crow Canyon Archaeological Center is committed to the respectful treatment of human remains and associated funerary artifacts;

WHEREAS, the Crow Canyon Board of Trustees, the Native American Advisory Group, and the staff and various Native American consultants have contributed to the development of guidelines for the treatment of human remains and associated funerary artifacts;

NOW THEREFORE, we enact this Policy for the Treatment of Human Remains and Associated Funerary Artifacts for the Crow Canyon Archaeological Center:

I. Avoidance of Human Remains

Crow Canyon Archaeological Center will not adopt research designs or field strategies that seek out human remains as objects of study without prior consultation with the Native American Advisory Group.

II. Field Procedures and Policy

- A. If a burial, a grave, substantial articulated remains, or an in situ concentration of human bone is encountered during excavation, operations in the vicinity of the remains will temporarily cease.
- B. If Crow Canyon researchers encounter a burial, grave, substantial articulated remains, or an in situ concentration of human bone on federal land, the land managing agency will be notified within 48 hours. If the remains are on private or state land, the State Archaeologist will be notified within 48 hours.
- C. After notifying appropriate parties that a burial, a grave, substantial articulated remains, or an in situ concentration of human bone has been encountered, Crow Canyon staff will, as promptly and efficiently as possible, expose, map, photograph, describe, and conduct a nondestructive, in-field analysis of the remains and any associated artifacts. The bone analysis will be conducted by a physical anthropologist, and may include picking up bones and replacing them, cleaning the teeth, photographing special conditions, and selective washing when necessary for analysis.
- D. In the event that a burial, grave, substantial articulated remains or in situ concentration of human remains is encountered that is exceptional and extraordinary in its potential to add significant new information about the past, the bones and associated objects may be collected and transported to the Crow Canyon research laboratory for analysis by a professional physical anthropologist.
- E. Crow Canyon is not a permanent repository for human remains.
- F. After analysis is complete, human remains and burial- or grave-associated artifacts will be treated in a manner specified by the Hopi Tribe, acting on behalf of other potentially affiliated Southwest Native American tribes, and, if applicable, the appropriate state or federal agency.
- G. *Isolated human bone* is defined as fewer than five bones that are disarticulated.
- H. Identifiable isolated human bones found in situ will be point-located and collected, except for complete or substantial portions of crania, which will be left in place.
- I. Identifiable isolated human bones recovered during screening will be point-located as accurately as possible and collected.
- J. Identifiable human bone protruding from a profile face will be left in place if possible, point-located, protected with soil and rocks, and pedestaled when excavation of the unit proceeds. A physical anthropologist will analyze the bone before the unit is backfilled.
- K. The permitting agency will be informed on an annual basis regarding isolated human remains encountered.
- L. After analysis, isolated human bones will be treated according to state and federal regulations and to the recommendations of the Hopi Tribe, consulting on behalf of other potentially affiliated Southwest Native American tribes.

- M. When human bones are reburied, no modern, man-made material will be left in contact with the bones.
- N. Human remains that have been exposed on the modern ground surface by modern disturbance outside a Crow Canyon excavation unit will be reburied near where it was found, while doing as little damage or disruption to the site as possible.
- O. Interested descendant or potentially affiliated Southwest Native American tribes will be informed on an annual basis regarding human remains encountered.

III. Laboratory Procedures and Policy

- A. Human bone will be temporarily curated in a secure location on campus, and nondestructive analysis will be conducted by a professional physical anthropologist. Nondestructive analysis is based on observation, and does not require chemical or physical destruction of the bone.
- B. Human bone will not be washed with water except when necessary to document diagnostic dental or osteological characteristics.
- C. No human remains or associated funerary artifacts will be put on public display.
- D. Access to Crow Canyon's human remains collections and to original records and databases that contain information concerning human remains and associated funerary artifacts will be restricted to members of affiliated tribes and legitimate professional researchers. Requests for access must be submitted in writing and approved by the appropriate permitting agency and Crow Canyon's Research Director.
- E. No destructive analysis of human remains will be conducted without a research proposal that has been reviewed and approved by the permitting agency, where appropriate, and the Crow Canyon Research Director, in consultation with the Native American Advisory Group, and interested, potentially affiliated Southwest Native American tribes.

IV. Reports and Publications Policy

- A. The field context of human remains will be depicted by line drawings rather than by photographs when the context is vital to interpretations presented in the publication.
- B. Information about where human remains and associated funerary artifacts were found will be presented only when necessary to support interpretations presented in the publication.
- C. Line drawings will be used to illustrate specific bone characteristics such as trauma or pathology; however, photographs may be used when line drawings are inadequate for this purpose.
- D. How and where human remains and associated funerary artifacts are stored or re-interred after analysis will not be presented in publications.
- E. Human remains should not be illustrated in nontechnical publications. When illustration is absolutely necessary, human remains will be illustrated in a stylized form.

V. Modification of Policy

Any modification of this policy requires the review and input of the Native American Advisory Group and the approval of the Board of Trustees.

WITNESSETH, that the Board of Directors, on this 24th day of January, 1998, adopt and endorse this Policy on the Treatment of Human Remains and Associated Funerary Artifacts for Crow Canyon Archaeological Center.