



**ALABAMA
MUSEUM**
of Natural History

Office of
the Director

received
3-1-93

February 26, 1993

Ms. Wilma Mankiller, Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 948
Tahlequah, Oklahoma 74465

cc: George
Beaman

Dear Ms. Mankiller,

Although the implementing regulations related to the Native American Graves and Repatriation Act of 1990 are not yet finalized (now in the 4th draft), this Museum has begun planning to inventory its collections to identify relevant human remains and associated funerary objects. The Act calls for consultation "with tribal governments and Native Hawaiian organization officials and traditional religious leaders.." during the inventory process.

You are being contacted as the leader of a federally identified group whose history impinges--or may impinge--on the present State of Alabama. Although we are not presently aware of any human remains or funerary objects identified with your group in our collections, you are invited to designate an appropriate representative to assist us in complying fully with the letter and spirit of NAGPRA. The manner in which this consultation is to take place will be uncertain until the implementing regulations are approved. In the meanwhile, the Museum's archaeological staff will do as much preliminary work as circumstances permit.

If you wish to be involved in this process, please let me know whom you wish to represent your group. We shall establish and maintain contact with this individual regarding the work of this consulting effort.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas E. Jones, Ph.D.
Director and Professor
of Geology

DEJ/mam
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