

UMATILLA VISIT TO BATTELLE FACILITY

On 3 April 1997, the undersigned met tribal members from the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) at Battelle's Sigma V building in Richland, Washington. Those present from the CTUIR were:

Donald Sampson, Chairman-Board of Trustees
Armand Minthorn, Member-Board of Trustees
Carl Sampson, Chairman-Cultural Resources Committee

Also in attendance were Kevin Clark, Department of Energy, and Ms. Murrel Dawson, Battelle. The purpose of the tribal visit was to hold a religious ceremony for the human remains found at Columbia Park last summer (i.e. "The Ancient One" and the other 5 individuals).

The CTUIR party arrived at the Sigma V building around 1:15 PM and all 6 of us were in the curation room where the remains are being held by 1:20 PM. Ms. Dawson opened the shelving (sliding shelves). While Mr. Clark, Ms. Dawson and I stayed at the front of the room, the three CTUIR members went to the back of the room where the remains are kept for 3-5 minutes (burning sage over the remains). After the individuals returned to the front of the room, the remainder of the ceremony was held in our presence. The ceremony was completed and everyone left the room by 1:55 PM. To my knowledge, the 2 boxes holding the human remains were not opened during the CTUIR visit.

John P. Feier
4/3/97

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