Tuzigoot National Monument
NAGPRA Report

Anne Iverson
Curatorial/Museum Specialist
Western Archeological and Conservation Center
September 30, 2008

INTRODUCTION:

The Tuzigoot National Monument (TUZI) NAGPRA Inventory was originally completed in 1995. Since that time, it has been discovered that there are also human remains and objects at Arizona State Museum (ASM) from some of the same projects. In light of this new information, TUZI decided to conduct new research to determine relationships between the two collections.

The overlap between the collections at the two institutions is from two projects: Caywood and Spicer's excavations at Tuzigoot Pueblo and Hatalacva in 1933-34.

According to an agreement between the United Verde Copper Company and the Archeological Committee of the Yavapai County Chamber of Commerce from 1933 anything recovered from the original excavation at Tuzigoot Pueblo (then referred to as Vesoar Ruin) was to be split up:

> …all artifacts taken from the ruin while in the process of excavation shall be apportioned between the United Verde Copper Company, the Smoki Museum at Prescott, Arizona and the Arizona State Museum at Tucson, Arizona. First choice of such artifacts shall go to the United Verde Copper Company and representative collections shall go, first to the Smoki Museum and second to the Arizona State Museum. All skeletal material and charcoal or wood specimens shall go to the Smoki Museum and the Arizona State Museum for scientific research. (Attachment to letter from Sparks to Kuzell, 1933)

It appears that the artifacts that went to the United Verde Copper Company ended up in the collection of Tuzigoot National Monument. According to the agreement, "The artifacts chosen by the United Verde Copper Company shall be repaired and cataloged at the expense of the United Verde Copper Company and shall be considered public property and shall be displayed for public view at Clarkdale, Arizona at all times." The collection was on display in the Tuzigoot Museum when the property was given to the U.S. Government in 1939 and Tuzigoot National Monument was formed.

While there is evidence that many objects went to the Smoki Museum, an analysis of that information was not within the scope of this project. However, information

uncovered related to objects that are possibly at the Smoki Museum is included in the matrix.

There is a lack of documentation about the Hatalacva excavation. No field notes nor report could be found.

It is important to note that many of the human remains from the 1933-34 excavation of Tuzigoot were reburied. Louis Caywood confirmed that they reburied remains at Tuzigoot Pueblo after the original excavation (see note from Caywood to Keith Anderson, 11 April 1991). Of the 429 individuals listed in the original Tuzigoot report, the current locations of 50 have been determined (4 in the TUZI collection and 46 in ASM collection).

METHODS:

The main sources of information for this project were archival and museum records. TUZI archives related to the early excavations are held at WACC as well as notes from the 1995 NAGPRA Inventory research. Museum records included catalog cards, databases, and other files. Reports and other publications provided general site and project information but generally contained only congregate data.

A spreadsheet was created to organize and analyze the information from the various sources. The rows represent burials and funerary objects and the columns represent different sources. Putting all the information into one large spreadsheet aided in creating a picture of what happened to the material that was excavated. It also helped elucidate associations between the collections from the two institutions.

For the excavation at Tuzigoot Pueblo, burial information was entered from the original typed notes found in the TUZI archives at WACC. A row was created in the spreadsheet for the burial information and one row each for the objects listed in each burial. The TUZI archives were searched for any other relevant information and entered where appropriate.

The method for the Hatalacva project spreadsheet was slightly different, because there was no original documentation to start from. Therefore, the spreadsheet was created beginning with the catalog records from TUZI and ASM with Hatalacva burial proveniences. Records could not be matched back to the original burial descriptions, but could be associated with each other based on proveniences.

A set of old catalog cards at WACC appear to be the catalog from the Tuzigoot Museum, before TUZI became a National Monument. A tabbed card reads “Old CWA catalogue.” These cards were searched for any burial provenience. Oftentimes, the provenience is written with only a roman numeral for the group and then a number. While sometimes the number refers to a room, sometimes it is referring to a burial. In

addition to clear burial proveniences, any number that was too high to be a room in the group listed was researched. In many cases, it was discovered that the provenience was a burial through comparisons of descriptions with the original field notes.

The old catalog cards are sorted by the old catalog number and most also have a new TUZI catalog number written in the lower right corner. The new TUZI catalog number for any card with a burial provenience was looked up in the TUZI database and any additional information entered into the matrix. If the old catalog card did not list a new TUZI catalog number, the old number was searched for in the Other Numbers field of the TUZI database. Any old catalog number listed in the field notes and archives was also researched in the old cards and the TUZI database. When TUZI or ASM catalog records were identified as burial-related, the old catalog cards were referenced whenever possible.

A tagfile was created of all records in the TUZI database with any entry in the NAGPRA field. Any records that were not already in the matrix were entered and old catalog cards referenced when an old catalog number was listed. This process revealed 15 TUZI database records for which an old catalog number exists but was not listed.

All records in the TUZI database with status of "deaccessioned" or "lost" were browsed for possible burial proveniences. These records do not have any designation in the NAGPRA field because the material is not in the TUZI collection. This information helped to create a more complete picture of the disposition of the excavated material. Two of the records identified through this method were not added to the matrix:

TUZI 2127 is noted as burial in the provenience, however, it is part of the MOCA collection and was transferred back in 1981.

TUZI 350 has a burial provenience, however was decataloged (to TUZI 858) because it was a duplicate catalog number.

John McClelland, Lab Manager, Osteology at ASM, provided a spreadsheet of data about the human remains at ASM, entitled "Tuzigoot_completeness." Some records clearly matched with the field notes, however, many had a "?" after the provenience or other ambiguities. For those where the proveniences were unclear or the description on the ASM spreadsheet did seem to match the field notes, a table of questions for further clarification was sent to ASM. James Watson, Assistant Curator of Bioarchaeology, replied with answers that were incorporated into the matrix and helped to connect ASM records with the field notes.

Old label files at WACC were searched for any burial references. These files contain any field labels or other non-archival labels that were removed from the artifacts before storage. Six labels with burial references were found and researched. Two had additional information not encountered elsewhere which led to possible changes of NAGPRA status for 15 records.

The white set of TUZI catalog cards was used frequently for reference. Sometimes, these cards had notations that had not been entered into the TUZI database including provenience or disposition information.

Elaine Guthrie's notes from the 1995 NAGPRA Inventory (in the TUZI archives at WACC) were used for reference and comparison. There were three TUZI records that were marked as Unassociated Funerary Objects (UFOs) in the TUZI database that do not have burial proveniences and they were not found in Guthrie's lists of UFOs. Evidence suggests that they are not NAGPRA-related.

Many objects from the TUZI collection in storage at WACC are marked with the current TUZI catalog number, old number, and provenience. They were referred to for clarification of old numbers and provenience.

A table of ASM collections records from Tuzigoot and Hatalacva was provided by Mike Jacobs, Archaeological Collections Curator at ASM. The data includes 22 records from Tuzigoot and 6 from Hatalacva. Most of the Tuzigoot records had a question mark in the provenience, but could be clarified by comparing information from the Other No. field and description with information from other sources in the matrix.

Alan Ferg, Archivist at ASM, pulled all Tuzigoot-related material from the ASM archives. They contained a set of original typed field notes almost identical to those in the WACC archives with few differences, handwritten or typed, which were noted in the matrix (ASM archives column). There is also a bound field notebook with handwritten notes about the original excavation. After random sample comparisons, it appeared that the handwritten notes are the same as the typed notes. Information about Group VI was found in a set of 3x5 index cards and a field notebook. No Group VI information was found in the typed notes.

ISSUES:

The documentation lacks standardization when referring to the Groups in the 1933-34 excavation of Tuzigoot. According to the Caywood and Spicer report, there are six groups:

> Group I was taken to include the burial ground in the refuse slope which extended below the whole length of the east side of the pueblo, in addition to the series of rooms situated just below the crest of the ridge on the east slope.
>
> Group II includes the burial area in the refuse on the west slope and five rooms built below the crest of the ridge on the west slope.
>
> Group III includes all of the rooms situated on the highest part, or crest, of the ridge.
>
> Group IV is made up of the isolated group of rooms to the north of the main part of the pueblo.

> Group V includes all the 34 rooms covering the south sloped of the ridge.
>
> Group VI includes the isolated group of ten rooms at the base of the east slope immediately below Group IV. (*Tuzigoot*, 15-16)

Many records do not have the group number listed. The descriptions of groups from the report were used to translate provenience descriptions to group numbers.

There is no mention in the Tuzigoot report of Group I-S. In a table found among the field notes in the archives at ASM, there is a listing of groups that includes "I South." Keith Anderson, in Tuzigoot Burials states: "One group of burials is labeled 'I-S' (Group I-South?) with no specific provenience given; presumably they are from the east slope (p4)." In most of the catalog records, a provenience of east slope corresponded with Group I. However, sometimes, east slope was actually meaning Group I-S. There were also times when proveniences of Group V seem to match up with burials in Group I-S. After comparing descriptions and other information, some changes to Group I-S were clear, while others may require more documentation.

There is one TUZI catalog record (TUZI 862) with a provenience of Group VII. No information about Group VII could be found.

A spreadsheet of 65 questions for TUZI staff was created (see "questions for TUZI staff" spreadsheet). These records have evidence suggesting a particular provenience, but there is not necessarily a direct correlation.

CONCLUSIONS:

After a thorough examination of all the information in the matrix, it appears that 35 catalog records of objects in the TUZI collection should have their designation changed to Associated Funerary Objects (AFOs) associated with human remains at ASM.

A total of 67 TUZI records need changes to their NAGPRA determination (see "changes to NAGPRA status" spreadsheet). Some of these changes need first to be verified by staff at TUZI, as indicated in the "questions for TUZI staff" spreadsheet.

Changes include:

UFO to AFO: 32
UFO to NOT NAGPRA: 4
none to AFO: 3
none to UFO: 26
AFO to UFO: 1
AFO to *none*: 1

Evidence also points to changes of NAGPRA determination of 10 ASM records from no designation to UFO.

FUTURE RECOMMENDATIONS:

Because there are associations between the collections at ASM and TUZI, a joint repatriation is recommended. As neither may relinquish ownership, a joint repatriation would provide the opportunity for the individuals and objects to be reunited at burial.

Research should be compiled and shared with ASM regarding their records and recommended corrections to proveniences.

One object in the TUZI collection is on loan from Casa Grande Ruins National Monument (CAGR) and will be transferred back during the CESU Accession Upgrade Project, to be completed by May 2009. According to documentation in the WACC Curator's TUZI NAGPRA files, TUZI 1152 has a former number of CAGR 136 which corresponds with old field number 237 from Carl A. Moosberg. The provenience for Moosberg number 237 is: "BURIAL GROUND K, 2.2 miles northwest of Sacaton, AZ."

Due to the extensive nature of the research required for this project, a final list of human remains and funerary objects was not possible with the amount of money for this project. Additional funding was secured to write a research report explaining the final list of objects for the Tuzigoot NAGPRA Inventory with thorough explanations of the excavations and reference materials.

OTHER PROJECT TASKS:

Throughout the project, I communicated numerous times with Sue Fischer, Exhibits Specialist, who is planning the new TUZI exhibit. I kept her updated on any objects that may have a change in status from non-NAGPRA to NAGPRA-related.