

[The Stockbridge-Munsee Community](#)

Grant Number: 55-06-GP-85R

Applicant Name: The Stockbridge-Munsee Community of Wisconsin

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After receiving a repatriation grant from the National NAGPRA Program, the Stockbridge-Munsee Community of Wisconsin was delighted to have their Communion Set repatriated after 65 years of being in the custody of The Trustees of Reservations in Massachusetts. The grant assisted the tribe's museum and library with the transporting of the Communion Set. They also used the grant to welcome the return of the set with a ceremony that was held in both Stockbridge, Massachusetts and Bowler, Wisconsin. The ceremony in Stockbridge was attended by Sherry White, the tribe's Repatriation Officer; Andrew Kendall, the President of the Trustees of Reservation; F. Sydney Smithers, the Chairman of the Trustees of the Reservation; and Lorraine Welch, who serves as Chairwoman of the tribe's Historic Preservation Committee.

The Stockbridge-Munsee Community received the four-piece pewter Communion Set from Reverend John Sergeant in the 1730s. The set was placed in the care of the tribe's mission church in the early 1800s, which was located in upstate New York. When the tribe relocated to Wisconsin, the care of the set was transferred to the Wisconsin church by Elder Jamison (Soat) Quinney and later sold in 1930 to the Stockbridge Mission House without the consent of the tribe.

The Stockbridge-Munsee Community has been situated on a reservation in northeastern Wisconsin since 1856. However, the tribe's original homelands are in today's states of New York, Vermont, Connecticut, and Massachusetts. The Communion Set is an object of cultural patrimony because it has an ongoing religious significance to the Stockbridge-Munsee Community that symbolizes the time when Christianity became an integral part of their culture.

See materials from the [Stockbridge-Munsee Community](#) grant project