



DELAWARE TRIBE OF INDIANS

220 N.W. VIRGINIA • BARTLESVILLE, OKLAHOMA 74003

TELEPHONE: (918) 336-5272 • FAX: (918) 336-5513

5 April 2004

Loren Taylor
Wyandotte County Historical Society
827 Armstrong Ave.
Kansas City, KS, 66101

Dear Loren Taylor:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Culture Preservation Committee of the Delaware Tribe of Indians. The subject is the gravestone of Chief Neconhecon who was one of our chiefs during the thirty-seven years we resided in Kansas. The grave is located within a new housing development in your area, and for some time the original stone was missing. It has since been located and we would very much like to find a safe place for it.

We consulted with our Elder Committee, and also with tribal member Deborah Nichols-Ledermann who formerly lived in Kansas City, as to what to do with this gravestone. Our decision is to ask the Wyandotte County Historical Society to take charge of it. What follows is an outline of what we would like to do to reach an agreement with the Society, as well as some safeguards to protect the site and stone.

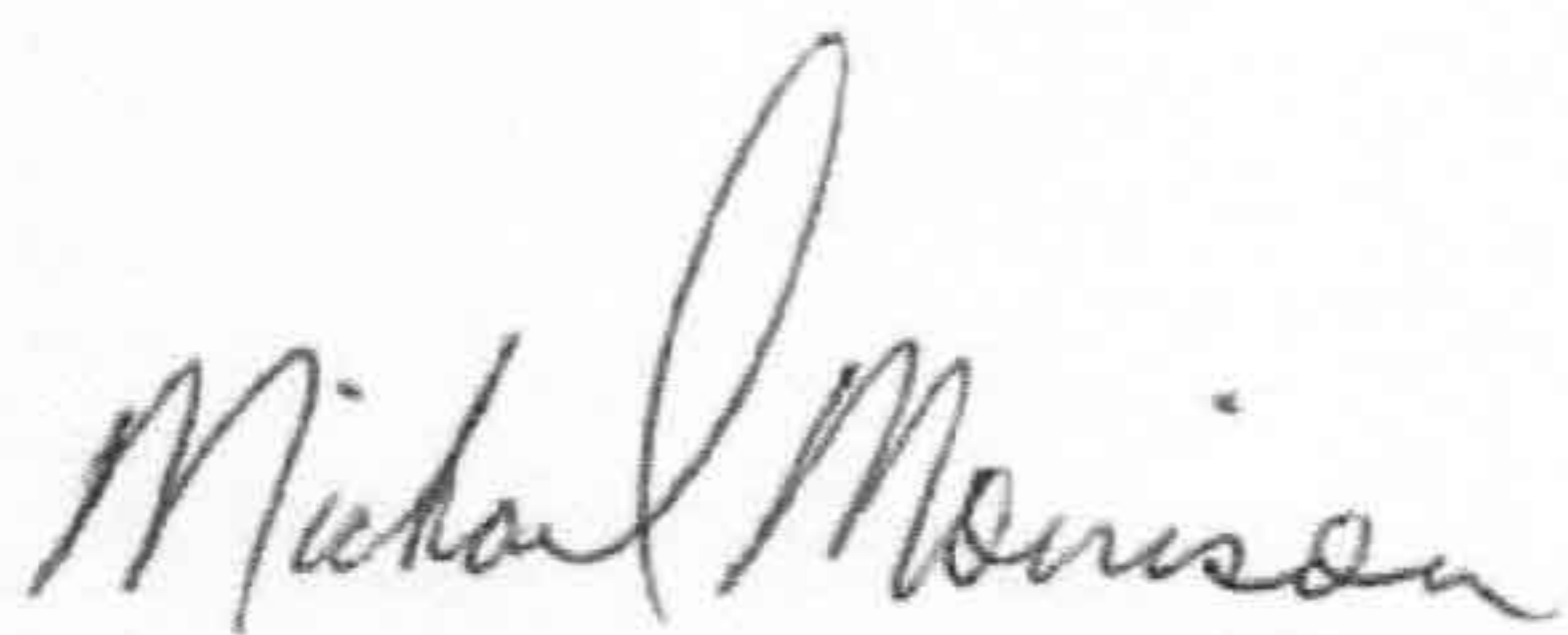
- 1) The Historical Society will take title to the land where the gravesite is located. The developers will establish a fund to pay for the perpetual care of the grave and gravesite. The Historical Society will be responsible for seeing that the maintenance is performed. In the event that the Historical Society in the future can no longer maintain title to the gravesite property, the Delaware tribe must be notified and allowed to propose or provide input to the Society concerning disposition of the property.
- 2) The developer will pay for having a duplicate of the gravestone made and having it installed properly on the grave. The Museum/Historical Society will store the original gravestone on behalf of the Delaware Tribe of Indians of Bartlesville, Oklahoma (to distinguish them from any other Delaware group).

3) The Museum/Historical Society stores the original gravestone on behalf of the tribe. On the request of the Delaware Tribe of Indians, the gravestone can be turned over to the tribe; or in the event the Society is longer able to store the gravestone, the society will contact the tribe to determine disposition of the gravestone.

4) Any proposed display of the original gravestone in the Museum (for example: an exhibit of historical gravestone history in Wyandotte Co. or an educational exhibit to emphasize the importance of preserving Native American graves and gravestones) must be submitted to the tribe for approval first and the Museum must have that approval in writing from an agent of the tribe before the exhibit is allowed.

We hope to have a favorable response from you concerning this matter.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Morrison". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Michael Morrison, Chairman
Culture Preservation Committee

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Michael Morrison, Chairman
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