

Dear Committee Members-

Reasons why the state should not convey the property to the Shawnee tribe of Miami Oklahoma.

1. The Shawnee tribe was not the first nor only tribe here. The Kansa (now Kaw) were here long beforehand.
2. The reason the Shawnee got involved was due to Chief Fish in the 1820's. Having converted to Christianity, the chief invited the Methodist to start a school for the children.
3. Children from twenty-two different tribes were educated at the school. All tribes need representation at the Mission, not one. Efforts for inclusion of all tribes has been underway.
4. The Mission is staffed by volunteers continuing to provide field trip tours for school children today. In addition to the historical role of the school there is a civic lesson. The site served briefly as the second capital of Kansas.
5. Last, looking to the future, conveying the property will have a negative effect on surrounding property values.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Martha Lally". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "M".

Martha Lally
4910 Glendale
Westwood Hills, Kansas 66205