OU RG76.03.003t

Clermont, Florida

Oct. 30 – 1956

Ottawa University

Ottawa, Kansas

Dept. of Historical Records—

I enclose a unique document, - deed to the cemetery lot therein described. My sister Mary, age one year, was buried there in 1879 - before I was born.

The cemetery- first known as “The Indian Cemetery”, later as “Mission Cemetery – is, as I’m sure you know, about 4 miles east of Ottawa on Wilson St.

Many indians were buried there, including the founder of the College- John Tecumseh Jones, an intelligent man who realized the value of education.

Because of its great historic importance, I understand that the college acquired title to it 25 or 30 years ago, in order to give it perpetual care.

If this is the case, as I hope it is, you should have this deed- which no doubt is the only such paper in existence. I, being the only legal heir, am glad to present it to the College if proper care can be given it.

I grew up in that neighborhood, it holds great sentimental interest for me, and since

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for many years I have had no opportunity to visit this spot, I shall greatly appreciate recognition of this letter and document, with whatever information you can give.

Most sincerely,

Maude Merriman Collette

242 E. Highland Ave.

P.S. My father’s signature – George B. Merriman – appears on the deed.

M.M.C.