

## George Pierson Morehouse to George W. Martin

In this brief letter to George W. Martin of the Kansas State Historical Society, lawyer George Pierson Morehouse of Council Grove, Kansas, describes the location of the Kaw Indian village located near Silver Lake, Kansas. According to Morehouse, Jon Bursaw explained to him that the Kaws "dug a great many holes in building their lodges." Morehouse then speculates that the village must be the same one mentioned by one of the Chouteau brothers, as the village of Kaw leader "Hard Chief" because of its location above the Kaw River.

Creator: Morehouse, George Pierson, b. 1859

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KANSAS STATE  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

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COUNCIL GROVE, KANSAS. Oct. 12th, '05.

Hon. Geo. W. Martin,  
Topeka, Kan.

Dear Sir:

Miss Adams was looking up the location of the Kaw Indian Village west of Topeka in the neighborhood of Silver Lake the other day when I was in the library. I was inquiring since returning here of Mr. Bursaw, who used to live in that vicinity being a Pottawatomie Indian, — He told me he knew right where it was. He says that he was frequently there and that the location is on the high ground across the Kaw River, south of Silver Lake. I should think from his description it is within a mile or two of Valencia on the Rock Island. Mr. Bursaw says they dug a great many holes in building their lodges. It must be plainly visible to-day. They must have been the village of Hard Chief as Chouteau describes his village as being on the high land, for the village of American Chief was in the bottom of the creek. The villages of American Chief and Hard Chief were about a mile apart. It seems that the Fool Chief had his village on the north side of the river a mile above Papans Fairy. It would be a great thing to locate these three villages in that region. The location of their village at Manhattan is well known. Mr. Bursaw says that the village on the high ground was about a mile and a half west of the mouth of Mission Creek, and the village was up on this high ground. Please see that Miss Adams reads this letter.

VM.

Yours truly,

*Geo. P. Morehouse*