

Fountain moved and dried out

# Horses must find another place to quench their thirst

By PAULA DONNER

Sun Staff Writer

"You can lead a horse to water ... " but since they've moved the trough, can you make him drink?"

They moved the horses' water fountain today. It had been in the middle of 10th Street at Broadway since 1907. Now it's in the island in 10th Street, a bit further from the intersection.

According to Walter Beasley of Beasley Monument Co., who supervised the move, the granite fountain was moved "because about six inches of the base had been embedded by the pavement and because it kept getting hit by cars."

Gene Katterjohn financed the move because he had noticed how the fountain was being torn up and he wanted to move it to a more protected place.

"I also got real interested in this monument and the inscription on it, which reads, '1907, presented by The National Humane Alliance, Hermon Lee Ensign, Founder,'" Katterjohn said. So Katterjohn contacted Beasley, who wrote to a monument trade paper asking for information on the fountain.

"As a result, I received copies of two pages of an article titled 'The Evolution of the Horse Drinking Fountain,' dated July 1913," Beasley said. The article illustrated a number of designs of similar fountains, including a picture of the exact fountain here in Paducah, he said.

According to the article, Hermon Lee Ensign, organizer of the Human Alliance, willed a large portion of his estate to the

Alliance to erect animal drinking fountains in various cities of the country.

No one knows exactly how Paducah got one of the fountains, but it is believed that the city received it upon request, Beasley said.

Ironically, one of the stipulations to receiving a fountain was that it be placed at a point of heavy traffic. That request probably did not bear in mind the invention of the horseless carriage.

"Ensign left the money for the fountains three years before Henry Ford came out with the automobile. If he had known that, he might not have left so much money," Beasley said.

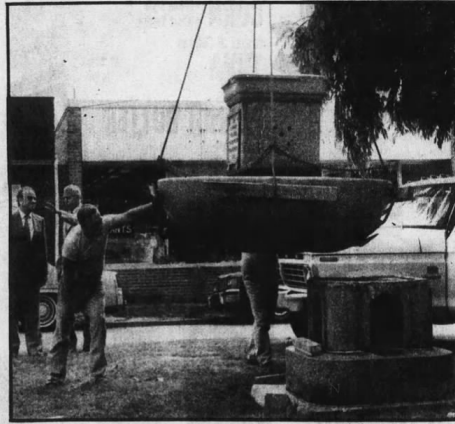
One unusual feature of this six-ton fountain is that, in addition to the higher bowl for the "beast of burden," it contains holes in the base so cats and dogs can drink, the article said.

Now that the fountain has been moved, however,

Beasley said it will not contain water. "It will merely be an inactive, static souvenir now," he said.

The Four Seasons Garden Club, in charge of upkeep at the island where the fountain now rests, hopes to develop the area into a small park, club member Mrs. Suelen Johnson said.

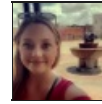
"We'd like to make it into an attractive place where people can come and bring their lunches or just enjoy the beauty," she said.



Gene Katterjohn (second from left) gives a brief history of the marble horse trough at 10th and Broadway to Mayor Bill Murphy as workers reposition the fountain away from the intersection.

(Staff photo by Paula Donner)

## Paducah Fountain



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