

National Humane Alliance Fountain



www.shawneeok.org

www.news-star.com/stories/080902/spe_13.shtml

"The fountain was donated to Shawnee in 1907 by the National Humane Alliance of Philadelphia, which later became the Humane Society. The alliance presented similar fountains to all 50 states. Shawnee received the fountain for Oklahoma. The fountain was built with three tiers. The top fountain provided water to thirsty passersby, which trickled down to a trough for watering horses. The lowest level provided water for dogs and small animals. The fountain was constructed of bronze and marble at a cost of \$1,500. The fountain was originally placed on Bell Street between Main and Ninth streets."

"The imposing structure is made of granite and weights five tons. The large bowl is six foot across and the fountain is over six feet tall. At the base, there are are four small water bowls for dogs, cats and other animals. The pillar above the bowl had spigots resembling lions heads on three sides and and a plaque on the fourth."

"This fountain was donated by the National Humane Alliance in order that "man, horses and dogs may drink for all time to come".

It is believed that one fountain was donated to each state sometime between 1906 and 1911. The original fountains had ornate spigots on the sides. Identical fountains have been found in Denver, Colorado; Paducah, Kentucky; Shawnee, Oklahoma; Carson City, Nevada; Abbeville, South Carolina; Austin, Minnesota; Charlotte, North Carolina; Austin, Vermont; Albuquerque, New Mexico; Clinton, Missouri; Rapid City, South Dakota; and Ottumwa, Iowa.

A 1972 newspaper story noted that a Humane Alliance fountain once stood in downtown San Francisco, however, it "disappeared many years ago"....."