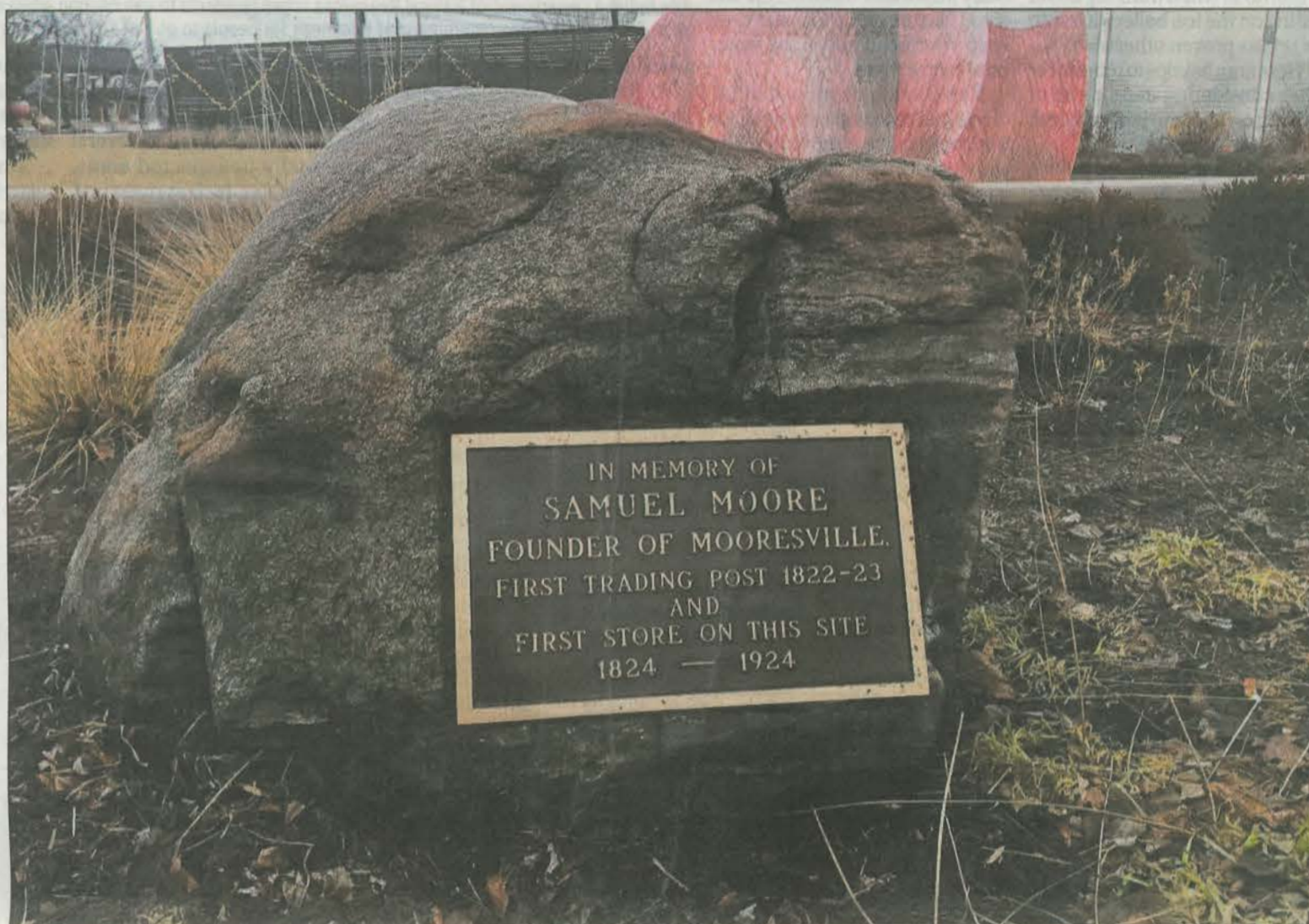


FOUNDER STONE RETURNS

After being moved for construction, then placed elsewhere, memorial honoring town's founder returns to main intersection



The Samuel Moore Founder Stone sits at the intersection of Indiana and Main streets in downtown Mooresville. The stone had originally been at the location for several years before being moved due to construction of Bicentennial Park. (Lance Gideon / Mooresville-Decatur Times)

Staff Report

MOORESVILLE — Anyone who has recently traveled through downtown Mooresville may have noticed something different at Bicentennial Park in recent days.

The Samuel Moore Founder Stone, on which a plaque commemorates Moore as the town's founder, has been returned to its original location at the intersection of Indiana and Main streets.

The plaque also notes that the site is the location for the first trading post that operated from 1822 to 1823 in what is now Mooresville, and the town's first store, which started operations in 1824 — the year the town was established.

The stone had been at its current location for many years, but was temporarily moved during the construction of Bicentennial Park.

During a Mooresville Town Council meeting in September 2017, former Mooresville Town Council member Virginia Perry gave a presentation on the stone.

Perry noted that the stone and plaque had been dedicated in 1924 by Moore's granddaughter Ida Fogelman.

Then, in January 2018, the stone was returned to the downtown area and located near the back of the park, close to the Citizen's Bank parking lot.



The stone and plaque honoring town founder Samuel Moore once sat at the intersection of Indiana and Main streets. It was moved for construction on Bicentennial Park and its possible relocation became a topic of conversation at a Mooresville Town Council meeting in September 2017. (File photo)

In April 2019, during a candidate forum hosted by the Community Taxpayers Association, the location of the Founder Stone was brought up.

Most of the candidates for town council said they believed the stone was fine at its location near the back of the park.

Mooresville Town Councilman-elect Shane Williams, though, said he wanted the stone moved to the location where it now sits.

Last week, employees from the Mooresville Street Department moved the stone from the back of Bicentennial Park to the Indiana and Main streets intersection.



Before being moved to its current site, the Samuel Moore Founder Stone was placed at the back of Bicentennial Park near Citizen's Bank. (File Photo)