Lady Ermintrude Gets Informative Plaque

At a regular Board of Supervisors meeting in Prescott Arizona on June 5, 2019, the Board of Supervisors approved the installation of an informational plaque adjacent to the Yavapai County Superior Courthouse Plaza fountain, Lady Ermintrude. The plaque provides the public with historical information on the journey of the fountain from her original placement on the Plaza, to her removal, re-discovery, restoration, and her recent return.

In December of 2018, the board accepted a donation of $24,974.88 from the Prescott Area Trust on behalf of Nancy and Pat O’Brien to be used solely for the purpose of covering costs associated with the restoration and transportation of the fountain. These funds reimbursed Yavapai County for services already paid to Robinson Iron, the foundry that the Yavapai County Facilities Department contracted with for the restoration.

If you have not had the opportunity to visit downtown Prescott, or the Yavapai County Courthouse Plaza, Yavapai County Board of Supervisor Rowle Simmons would like to encourage everyone to visit the plaza, enjoy the fountain, and read the informative plaque.
Yavapai County

Our Mission: "Yavapai County will serve and protect its citizens through efficient management of all its resources to enhance the lives of those we serve."

Arriving from New York on July 13, 1910, "Lady Ermitrude" graced the Courthouse Plaza for more than 60 years. Over time, the fountain began showing signs of wear and, in 1976, was removed and placed in storage at the Sharlot Hall Museum.

In 2016, as the Centennial of the laying of the cornerstone for the Courthouse was approaching, Yavapai County Supervisor Rowie Simmons and Facilities Director Ken Van Keuren discovered the surviving components and the restoration process began. The County commissioned Robinson Iron, founded in Alabama that had the original patterns, and the missing and broken pieces of the fountain pedestal were restored. The Facilities team repaired the basin and reinstalled "Lady Ermitrude" to elegantly stand on the Plaza just as she did in 1910. A rededication ceremony was held on June 29, 2018.

This restoration was funded by Yavapai County and the generous contributions of Nancy and Pat O'Brien.
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