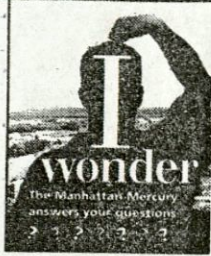


# That's King's profile on local street sign

Ned Seaton  
Staff Writer

*Q: I just noticed that there's some kind of head or something on a sign above Poyntz at its intersection with 17th Street. What is it?*

*A: It's Martin Luther King, Jr.'s head.*



The city just put up that sign, which is a designator for "Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Drive." The city earlier

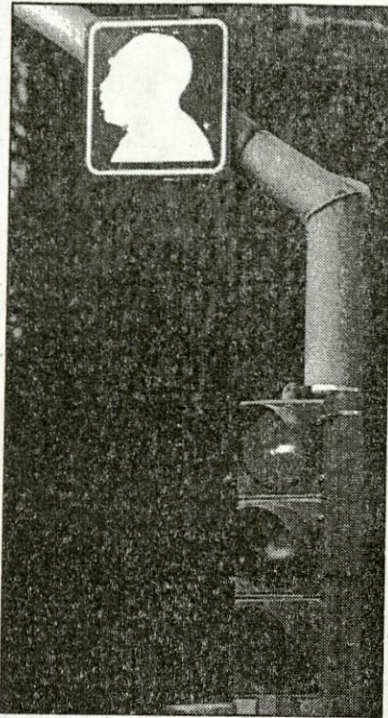
this year agreed to name 17th Street for the slain civil right leader.

There's a sign with that all spelled out at Fort Riley Boulevard and 17th. There will also be one at 17th and Anderson, according to city public works director Jeff Hancock. But the traffic light mast-arms where they hang such signs wasn't big enough to put a sign with that language on it at Poyntz and 17th, so the city opted just to put the silhouette of King there.

That silhouette came from artist Richard Bergen of Salina, who is creating a statue of King that is to be erected on the K-State campus, Hancock said. The city got the silhouette directly from Bergen at no cost, he said.

Hancock said there are plans in the works to have some kind of public ceremony around the time of the King holiday next month.

You can submit a question to this column by e-mail to [questions@themercury.com](mailto:questions@themercury.com), or by regular mail to Questions, P.O. Box 787, Manhattan, KS 66505.



Staff photo by David Mayes

Silhouette of Martin Luther King Jr. adorns sign at 17th and Poyntz.

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W. King, Martin Luther, Jr.