

Owens Statue Rejected

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OAKVILLE, Ala., Sept. 9— A monument to the late Olympic star Jesse Owens has been barred from the courthouse lawn in Lawrence County, where Owens was born. Instead, it will be placed in a vacant lot here, the town of his birth, according to State Representative Roger Dutton, who has vowed to build a park around the statue.

"I'm going to put the monument out at Oakville on the place that the citizens have cleared," Mr. Dutton said. "Over a period of the next few years, I'm going to use discretionary money to build a park around the monument." The Lawrence County Commission voted by 3 to 0 Tuesday, with one abstention, to deny Mr. Dutton's request that the monument be placed on the lawn at the courthouse in Moulton. The commissioners contended that the lawn was already too crowded with monuments, but other northwestern Alabama residents have accused them of racial prejudice. All the commissioners are white, as is Mr. Dutton.