

Historical Summary:

Shortly after Noble's death in August 1888, plans were under way with Mayor Richard P. Huger heading the "Samuel Noble Monument Association." Over the next several years \$5,400 was raised to commission the monument.

By 1890 the committee had selected a design submitted by Durham and Company of Charlotte, North Carolina. They wanted something both beautiful and enduring, but rejected bronze because of its expense and chose instead the North Carolina granite and white marble. The statue itself was sculpted in Italy and was considered by Noble's contemporaries to be a very good likeness.

The people of Anniston held dedication services in June, 1895. The procession consisted of an estimated 5,000 citizens, including carriages with the monument committee, mayor and city council, newspaper representatives, military companies, the fire department and bicyclists. They formed at Tenth and Noble Streets and wound their way on Noble, Thirteenth, Wilmer Avenue to Eleventh Street, then to the monument site on Quintard. Elizabeth Daves Roberts, the eldest granddaughter of Samuel Noble, pulled the cord to release the drapery covering the statue, and the unveiling was followed by speeches, poems, and music.

The monument remains in good condition today despite some vandalism attempts. It is maintained by the city of Anniston.

Craven, Wayne: Sculpture In America. Thomas Y. Crowell Company, 1968.

200 Years of American Sculpture. Whitney Museum of American Art, David R. Godine, Publisher, New York, 1976.

Rough Sketch Map
#20 Samuel Noble Monument and
#3 Grace Episcopal Church
Anniston, Alabama

