

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0098272 DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED MAY 09 1975  
DATE ENTERED MAY 16 1975

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Crowan Cottage  
AND/OR COMMON

Crowan Cottage

**LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

1401 Woodstock Avenue

\_\_NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Anniston

\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

III

STATE

Alabama

CODE

01

COUNTY

Calhoun

CODE

015

**CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: <u>Unoccupied</u>

**OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Anniston City Board of Education

STREET & NUMBER

1425 Woodstock Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Anniston

\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

Alabama

**LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Probate Office, Calhoun County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Eleventh and Court Streets

CITY, TOWN

Anniston,

STATE

Alabama

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

\_\_FEDERAL \_\_STATE \_\_COUNTY \_\_LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The architectural style of Crowan Cottage is derived from the innovative work of Henry Hobson Richardson. The stretching of the roof planes to form the porches, and the lifting of roof planes to form dormers are Richardsonian features as is the sculptured treatment of the shingled second story which has been modulated to create flared surfaces and bow windows.

The foundation wall is separated from the lower story proper by long beveled limestone blocks. The lower story is of rusticated stone framed with smooth red brick at the corners and around windows and doors. Limestone lintels over doors and windows are scored to resemble stone. Windows are varied and include two bow windows and several dormers. There are three porches created by stretching the roof planes, one which forms the main entrance on the western elevation.

The structure consists of two gabled rectangular sections running north-south. The eastern section is offset 20 feet to the north and a east-west wing, measuring 28' x 14' adjoins the north-eastern corner of this section.

Few alterations have been made to the house. An addition on the south east end is given identical external treatment, but lacks the interior plaster walls of the earlier portion of the structure. The flooring of the front porch has been covered with red and white hexagonal tiles and the porch floor extended across the entire front of the building and around the north side.

Interior detailing includes finely carved pine mantels, a handsome pine stairway, and narrow oak flooring in the front portions of the house. Louvered shutters and intricate brass hinges and hardware were all custom designed.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1886

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The architectural style, detail and craftsmanship of the Crowan Cottage along with its associations with the early history of Anniston, make it one of the city's most substantial landmarks.

The cottage, along with the nearby Noble-Roberts Cottage, is a mature expression of the architecture of H. H. Richardson, and the two houses are the only known examples of this style in the state. Family traditions have held that the houses were designed by Stanford White and as the house indicates a thorough knowledge of Richardson's work, he may well have supplied the plans.

Anniston, which was incorporated in 1881, was a totally planned industrial community created by Samuel Noble who brought skilled artisans and architects from throughout the world to build and embellish the city. The cottage was built around 1886 for his parents, James and Jennifer Noble at a cost of \$6,307.14.

The elder Noble was born in England and eventually moved to Georgia where he engaged in the iron making business with his sons. The house continued to be occupied by his widow and children after his death in 1888 and later became the property of a grandson, Surgeon General Robert E. Noble. Noble served with General William Crawford Gorgas and Noble Army Hospital was named for him. At his death, the house was willed to Auburn University, and later was acquired by the Anniston City Board of Education, which plans to remove or destory the cottage in the near future.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Anniston Daily Hot Blast. June 5, 1895

Armes, Ethel. Story of Coal and Iron in Alabama. Birmingham: Chamber of Commerce, 1910.

"Anniston, the Model City of the South." Bureau of Information of the City of Anniston. October 1, 1887.

(continued)

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .97 acres

UTM OK  
CIS

UTM REFERENCES

A 16 | 609400 | 3725140  
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

D | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

W. Warner Floyd, Executive Director

ORGANIZATION

Alabama Historical Commission

DATE

May 5, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

725 Monroe Street

TELEPHONE

832-6621

CITY OR TOWN

Montgomery

STATE

Alabama

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

*Will B. Toward, Jr.*

TITLE

SHPO Alabama

DATE

May 5, 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*Russell E. Dickenson*  
Deputy Director

DATE

5-16-75

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

MAY 14 1975

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED **MAY 09 1975**

DATE ENTERED **MAY 16 1975**

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

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Parker, George O. "The Noble-Roberts-Morris Cottage at 900 Leighton Avenue."  
Unpublished manuscript. October, 1974.