UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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: Daniel Morgan Monument
AND/OR COMMON: Same

2 LOCATION
Street & Number: Pedestrian island at the intersection of Main and Church Streets
City, Town: Spartanburg
State: South Carolina

3 CLASSIFICATION
Category: Object
Ownership: Public
Status: Accessible
Present Use: Other

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY
Name: City of Spartanburg, Spartanburg City Hall
Street & Number: 145 W. Broad Street
City, Town: Spartanburg
State: South Carolina

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
Courthouse, Registry of Deeds, Etc.: Spartanburg County Courthouse
Street & Number: 180 Magnolia Street
City, Town: Spartanburg
State: South Carolina

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
Title: Inventory of Historic Places in South Carolina
Date: 1980 (update)
Depository for Survey Records: South Carolina Department of Archives and History
City, Town: Columbia
State: South Carolina
Erected in 1881 to commemorate the Revolutionary Battle of Cowpens and its hero, General Daniel Morgan, and standing thirty feet overall, the Daniel Morgan Monument is located in Morgan Square in downtown Spartanburg, South Carolina, on a pedestrian island at the intersection of Main and Church Streets. The heroic bronze statue which tops the monument was modeled by John Quincy Adams Ward. The statue stands on a column on an octagonal base which was designed by Charleston architect Edward B. White.

The Daniel Morgan statue was cast at the foundry of Burea Brothers and Heaton of Philadelphia. The work took three months. It is nine feet high, and weighs about 2,000 pounds. The original color was a fine golden bronze which was darkened with acid, at the artist's direction, to a rich brown. Weathering has oxidized the metal to the familiar green patina of outdoor bronze statuary.

Modeled by John Quincy Adams Ward of New York, the statue was nine months in preparation. The face and dress are modeled after a portrait of Daniel Morgan by James Herring based on a sketch by Col. Trumbull and engraved by Prudhomme. The costume is a rifleman's fringed skirt, leggings and mocassins. The hat is a high cap of fur with a pompon of pine leaves on the left side. The cap is modeled after an original Revolutionary War cap loaned to Ward by a gentleman of Charleston, S.C. The ruffled shirt front, cravat, and manner of wearing the hair are all in the mode of Daniel Morgan's time. A sword sheath and belt and a sash tied at the left hip indicate the wearer's rank. A powder-horn slung to the right side indicates Morgan's preference for the rifle even though he is not carrying one. A drawn sword, the point slightly depressed, is in the right hand. The left arm is positioned in front of and across the chest; the fingers of the left hand are still slightly flexed from having grasped the scabbard. The weight of the body is supported on the right leg and foot; the left leg is a little behind and slightly bent, the heel raised from the ground. It is the stance of a body in a nearly completed forward step. The head is turned slightly to the left. The action of the statue is forward, the mood one of alertness. Ward wrote in a private letter, "I represented him with a drawn sword, advancing with his troops, his attention for a moment attracted by some movement of the enemy on the left." Morgan's character is portrayed as a "man of action--intrepid, aggressive, alert...at the same time, by certain movements of the head and left arm...a sympathetic quality...."

The statue stands atop a twenty-one foot Doric column of granite on an octagonal base designed by Charleston architect Edward B. White. The base is composed of three octagonal elements: (1) the base proper surmounted by a smaller diametered (2) sub-base upon which rests the (3) die-block tapering upward to an architrave. The shaft is a truncated column of the Doric order, but with a lighter and freer treatment of the cap. The whole is terminated by a four foot square abacus. Four bronze panels embedded in the die-block and two bronze plaques in the base proper contain patriotic inscriptions. The sub-base is engraved with identifying names.

The statue has been turned around on the base causing a disorientation of inscription to statue, although the design relationship remains intact.

Surroundings: The Daniel Morgan Monument is located in central, downtown Spartanburg, S.C., at the east end of Morgan Square. It stands on a triangular pedestrian island at the intersection of Church and Main Streets. The square is a grassed rectangular area covering two undivided city blocks bordered by the business district on all sides.
The Daniel Morgan Monument, erected in 1881 to commemorate the Revolutionary Battle of Cowpens and its hero, General Daniel Morgan, is located in Morgan Square in downtown Spartanburg, South Carolina, on a pedestrian island at the intersection of Main and Church Streets. The heroic bronze statue which tops the monument was modeled by John Quincy Adams Ward. The statue stands on a columnar granite shaft on an octagonal base designed by Charleston architect Edward B. White. The Daniel Morgan statue is significant as a work of art by a major American sculptor. The supporting pedestal is also significant as one of the last designs by eminent Charleston architect Edward B. White.

John Quincy Adams Ward (June 29, 1830 - May 1, 1910) has been called the Dean of Modern American Sculptors. Trained entirely in this country, Ward felt that American art should embody American ideas. He rejected neo-classicism for realism, which is the constant and dominant characteristic of all his work. The success with which this philosophy of naturalism guided him secured his position as pivotal in the history of American sculpture.

Ward produced at least forty-five accepted works of sculpture during a career spanning some fifty-four years. Recognized as a great artist during his lifetime, he was the first president of the National Sculpture Society from its foundation in 1893 to 1904 and president of the National Academy of Design in 1874.

On May 26, 1880, a joint resolution was approved by a vote of Congress to direct the Secretary of War to "have made a bronze statue (of heroic size and in the uniform of the rifleman of the period) of General Daniel Morgan, the commander of the American forces" at the victory at the Cowpens.

J. Q. A. Ward was nine months in creating the statue. He modeled the costume from a portrait of Morgan, drawn by James Herring from an original sketch by Col. Trumbull and engraved by Prudhomme. A private letter of the artist's reveals that after reading a biography of General Morgan and studying his military career, he felt the statue should portray a "man of action -- intrepid, aggressive, alert --" and to indicate at the same time by certain movements of the left arm and head "a sympathetic quality, even a tenderness, in the nature of the daring General."

The completed nine foot bronze statue was erected in Spartanburg, South Carolina's public square (renamed Morgan Square) on May 11, 1881, in honor of the centennial of the victory won at the Cowpens on January 17, 1781.

continued
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES


GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 0.00172

UTM NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

ZONE [A] [1, 7] [4] [1, 4] [8, 9, 5] [3, 8] [6] [7, 6, 5, 0] [B] [D] [EASTING] [NORTHING]

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: The boundary of the Daniel Morgan Monument nomination is shown as the red line on the accompanying City of Spartanburg map entitled "State Coordinate Points for Morgan Square" and drawn at a scale of 20 feet to the inch. The nominated property includes all significant objects.

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

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE
Rebecca Starr, Historic Preservation Division

ORGANIZATION
South Carolina Department of Archives and History

STREET & NUMBER
Post Office Box 11,669, Capitol Station

CITY OR TOWN
Columbia

DATE
May 30, 1980

TELEPHONE
803-758-5816

STATE
South Carolina

COUNTY
29211

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL X

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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

DATE 7/21/80

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE 9/22/80

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE 9/20/80

ATTEST:

KEEPS OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
Critical evaluation of Ward's works has given the Daniel Morgan statue increasing attention. Early art critics such as Russell Sturgis grouped this with Ward's other minor works, none showing individual importance but all displaying a special characteristic of "a noble simplicity, avoiding on the one hand the domestic, or pious, or patriotic sentimentality which disfigures so very much of modern sculpture." According to Sturgis, not only did Ward avoid stiffness of figure but he showed a "gift of fitting the clothes to the person where clothes are absolutely necessary to the design."

Lewis I. Sharpe's detailed 1972 study of the historical and contemporary influences on Ward's work placed the Morgan statue as a product of Ward's mature years in which nineteenth century French Beaux Arts sculpture was a major influence.

Charles Parks, president of the National Sculpture Society in 1976 termed the action of the statue "beautifully expressed" with "grace and excitement." He found the treatment of head and clothing in "perfect taste for the scale and position of the work mounted as it is on top of a column."

Edward Brickell White (1806-1882), who designed the column on which the Daniel Morgan statue stands, was a South Carolina born architect, perhaps best known for his designs of Trinity Cathedral in Columbia and the Huguenot Church in Charleston. A point of interest is that he also designed the eagle-topped shaft (1856) at the Cowpens battlefield, the William Washington (another leader at the Cowpens) monument unveiled at Magnolia Cemetery in Charleston in 1858, and the granite pedestal of the bust of William Gilmore Simms located in Charleston (1879), the only other work of J. Q. A. Ward in South Carolina. As E. B. White died in New York in 1882, the 1881 Daniel Morgan pedestal design is significant as perhaps his last work.

The Daniel Morgan Monument was moved about 100 yards across Morgan Square to its east end in 1960. The base was replaced in its original orientation to east and west, but the statue was turned around 180 degrees so the front of the statue now stands over the west face of the pedestal, which is inscribed to William Washington. The base is vertically symmetrical, so no alteration of design relationship between statue and pedestal has taken place, although the correlation of inscription to statue is undeniably distorted.
Miller, Mrs. Robert A. Spartanburg, S.C. Interview, 1 May 1980.


