

Scott's Grave



Scott's Grave

Willson Alexander Scott (1818-1859) arrived in Iowa in 1843. He was one of the first pioneers to view the site of Des Moines, and became a prominent businessman. Mr. Scott once told friends: "When I die, I want to be buried here, where I stand..." Years later, Mr. Scott's wish was fulfilled, on a bluff overlooking Des Moines. Mr. Scott's gravesite is the only burial plot on the State Capitol grounds. When the capital city moved from Iowa City to Des Moines in 1857, Mr. Scott donated 10 acres on the current site. Mr. Scott and other Des Moines businessmen had the brick Capitol built and donated it to the State. Mr. Scott was buried at the current location in 1859. In 1925, the present marker was installed.