Anniston’s downtown district is organized on a grid aligned to cardinal directions (east, west, north, south)—the result of its origin in the late 1800’s as The Woodstock Company, a planned, private community.

The following suggested route is based on ease of navigating and parking:

START
1 Southern Railways Station Attack
144 West 4th St. (Currently Amtrak Station, bottom of map)

2 Trailways Bus Station Attack
901 Noble Street. Mural exhibit at this site.

3 Greyhound Bus Station Protest
1031 Gurnee Ave. Mural exhibit at this site.

4 The Murder of Willie Brewster
34 West 11th St. (Calhoun County Courthouse)

5 Human Relations Council
1128 Gurnee Ave. (Anniston City Hall)

6 Desegregation of the Library
108 E. 10th St. (Currently Public Library of Anniston and Calhoun County)

7 Anniston Memorial Hospital
10th & Christine (Currently Regional Medical Center)

8 West 15th Street Historic District
West 15th Street Mural Park

9 Seventeenth Street Baptist Church
801 West 17th Street

Look for these historic markers at each site. Download a QR code reader on your smartphone to scan the QR code on each marker, and quickly link to the Trail web site.

May 14, 1961
Freedom Riders forcibly segregated.

May 16, 1963
Multi-racial council formed to enhance race relations.

July 15, 1965
Words of hate lead to murder.

Sept. 15-16, 1963
Reverends beaten while desegregating library.

May 14, 1961
Freedom Riders refuse to be segregated for treatment.

January 2, 1961
College student beating prompts peace march.

Christine Ave
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The Human Relations Council
The Human Relations Council, on May 16, 1963, established by resolution the Human Relations Council, consisting of five white men and four black men. The Council’s purpose was to “make recommendations concerning human relations,” and to remedies went to “without outside influence.” United States President John F. Kennedy (1961-1963) praised the council’s formation as one that should serve as a model for other American cities.

Council Members:
Rev. J. Phillips Noble, Chair

Photo courtesy of Public Library of Anniston and Calhoun County

May 16, 1963
Site for mass meetings during Civil Rights Movement.

“A City Within A City” catering to African Americans. National Register of Historic Places

Church prior to renovation. Photo courtesy James Glover

Photo courtesy Public Library of Anniston and Calhoun County

Photo courtesy Smithsonian Institution

Multi-racial council formed to enhance race relations.

Words of hate lead to murder.

Reverends beaten while desegregating library.

Greyhound Bus Station protesters.

May 14, 1961
Arrival of Freedom Riders protested.

Greyhound Bus Station Protest
1031 Gurnee Ave. Mural exhibit at this site.