

VLR-12/2/69 NRHP-2/26/70

Form 10-300  
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Virginia	
COUNTY: Richmond (in cit.)	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Monument Avenue Preservation Zone

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Monument Avenue

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
See continuation sheet

CITY OR TOWN:  
Richmond

STATE Virginia	CODE 45	COUNTY: (in cit.)	CODE 760
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**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Memorial
<input type="checkbox"/> Comments			

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Various ownership - public and private

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond	STATE: Virginia	CODE 45
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**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:  
City Hall

STREET AND NUMBER:  
10th and Broad Streets

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond	STATE: Virginia	CODE 45
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**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Report #127-174

DATE OF SURVEY: 1969     Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Room 111c, Ninth Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond	STATE: Virginia	CODE 45
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Virginia
COUNTY: Richmond (in cit.)
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE
FOR NPS USE ONLY

**DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Monument Avenue is a broad, residential boulevard which extends for some five miles from inner Richmond westward into Henrico County. However, what is generally considered to be the "historic," or the most characteristic, section of the street begins at the termination of West Franklin Street at Stuart Circle and extends westward for some fourteen blocks to Roseneath Road. It is within this section that all of the monuments are located. Furthermore, this section is distinguished by a uniform planting of rows of trees along the sides and in the median, and by the distinctive asphalt paving blocks in the traffic lanes, although the paving blocks in the section from the Boulevard to Roseneath Road have been covered over by sheet asphalt.

The first or easternmost monument, the equestrian statue of J. E. B. Stuart, is located at the beginning of the avenue in Stuart Circle. One long block to the west is the Lee statue, located in a broad traffic circle known as Lee Circle. Four more blocks to the west stands the monumental Davis memorial, distinguished by its tall central column and Doric colonnade. The equestrian statue of Stonewall Jackson is located at the important intersection of the Boulevard and Monument Avenue, three blocks west of the Davis Monument. Three blocks west of the Jackson statue is the unusual memorial to Matthew Fontaine Maury, featuring a large bronze globe and a seated figure of Maury.

The one hundred thirty-foot wide boulevard throughout this section is lined with architecturally varied but harmonious structures, representing almost the entire range of early-twentieth century residential architectural styles. The most prominent structures include several Georgian townhouses by William Lawrence Bottomley and Duncan Lee, and the huge Jacobethan Revival townhouse of the Branch family, designed by John Russell Pope. The street's most characteristic structures are the Georgian Revival and Second Renaissance Revival townhouses and terrace rows. Also featured are several fine late Gothic Revival churches.

Monument Avenue is unified by the unusually high quality of design, workmanship, and materials of all its parts - from the houses, churches, and monuments to the curbs and street furniture. The street is unusual, too, for being one of the few grand residential boulevards in America to survive virtually unaltered, having almost no architecturally or scenically discordant intrusions.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |  |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |  |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Political                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy       | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                   | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sculpture      | _____  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian       | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                   | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                             |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |  |  |  |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The earliest proposal for creating a broad avenue in Richmond to honor Confederate heroes appears on an 1888 plat which shows the division of the Allen estate, located west of the present intersection of Franklin Street and Lombardy Street. On this plat was drawn a proposed continuation of Franklin Street through a point in William Allen's meadow, which had been selected a year earlier to be the site for a monument to General Robert E. Lee, to what is now Allison Street. This continuation of Franklin Street was shown on the plat much as it now exists, a divided boulevard with generally the present lot division and a traffic circle surrounding the site of the Lee Monument. The plat, which actually identified the new boulevard as Monument Avenue, was signed and sealed by Fitzhugh Lee, son of the General and President of the Lee Monument Association.

The unveiling in 1890 of Jean Antoine Mercie's great equestrian statue of Lee revealed the first major element on this unique memorial street, but from the period immediately following the war, it had been the intention of Richmond citizens to erect the statues of the three Virginians who defended the city (two of whom were killed in the defense) to make of Monument Avenue a permanent memorial that would serve as a link with the past. An addition to this plan was made in 1904 when the United Daughters of the Confederacy selected a site several blocks west of the Lee statue for a memorial to President Jefferson Davis. The site of the Davis Monument was chosen because it was the former location of the Star Fort (shown clearly on many old maps), the innermost and major protection of the city from the west during the four years of the siege. The existence of these defenses is commemorated by a cannon located just east of the Davis Monument.

By 1906 that portion of the avenue from Lombardy Street to Allison Street was identified in the city directories as Monument Avenue, and on August 17, 1906, the City Council adopted a resolution to widen to 130 feet the remaining portion of Franklin Street from Allison Street west to the Boulevard and to rename that section Monument Avenue. Richmond sculptor Edward Virginus Valentine's impressive memorial to Jefferson Davis was unveiled in 1907 as was Fred Moynihan's equestrian statue of General J.E.B. Stuart located at the beginning of the avenue. Frederick Sievers' statue of Stonewall Jackson was unveiled in 1919, and the memorial to Matthew Fontaine Maury, also by Sievers, was unveiled in 1929.

Almost as soon as Monument Avenue's traffic lanes began to be paved with their distinctive asphalt paving blocks, the avenue came to be one of

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Moore, John H., "The Jefferson Davis Monument," Virginia Cavalcade, Vol. X, No. 4 (Spring, 1961).  
 Sanford, James K., comp. & ed., A Century of Commerce, 1867-1967. Richmond: Richmond Chamber of Commerce, 1967.  
 Troubetzkoy, Ulrich, "The Lee Monument," Virginia Cavalcade, Vol. XI, No. 4 (Spring, 1962).

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	37° 34' 00"	77° 28' 50"				
NE	37° 34' 00"	77° 27' 20"				
SE	37° 33' 00"	77° 27' 20"				
SW	37° 33' 00"	77° 28' 50"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 190 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
 Staff, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, James W. Moody, Jr., Director

ORGANIZATION: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE: November 24, 1969

STREET AND NUMBER:  
 Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond

STATE: Virginia

CODE: 45

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name Edw. P. Alexander by JPM

Dr. Edward P. Alexander, Chairman  
 Title Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

Date December 2, 1969

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Virginia	
COUNTY Richmond (in cit.)	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>			
COMMON: Monument Avenue Preservation Zone			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Monument Avenue			
<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER: See continuation sheet.			
CITY OR TOWN: Richmond			
STATE: Virginia	CODE 45	COUNTY: (in cit.)	CODE 760
<b>3. MAP REFERENCE</b>			
SOURCE: U.S.G.S. 7 1/2', quadrangle Richmond, Virginia			
SCALE: 1:24000			
DATE: 1964			
<b>4. REQUIREMENTS</b>			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Virginia	
COUNTY Richmond (in cit.)	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

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COMMON: Monument Avenue Preservation Zone			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Monument Avenue			
<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER: See continuation sheet.			
CITY OR TOWN: Richmond			
STATE: Virginia	CODE 45	COUNTY: (in cit.)	CODE 760
<b>3. PHOTO REFERENCE</b>			
PHOTO CREDIT: Virginia State Library			
DATE OF PHOTO: 1940			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Virginia State Library Richmond, Virginia			
<b>4. IDENTIFICATION</b>			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. Aerial View of Monument Avenue looking west from Stuart Circle.			

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

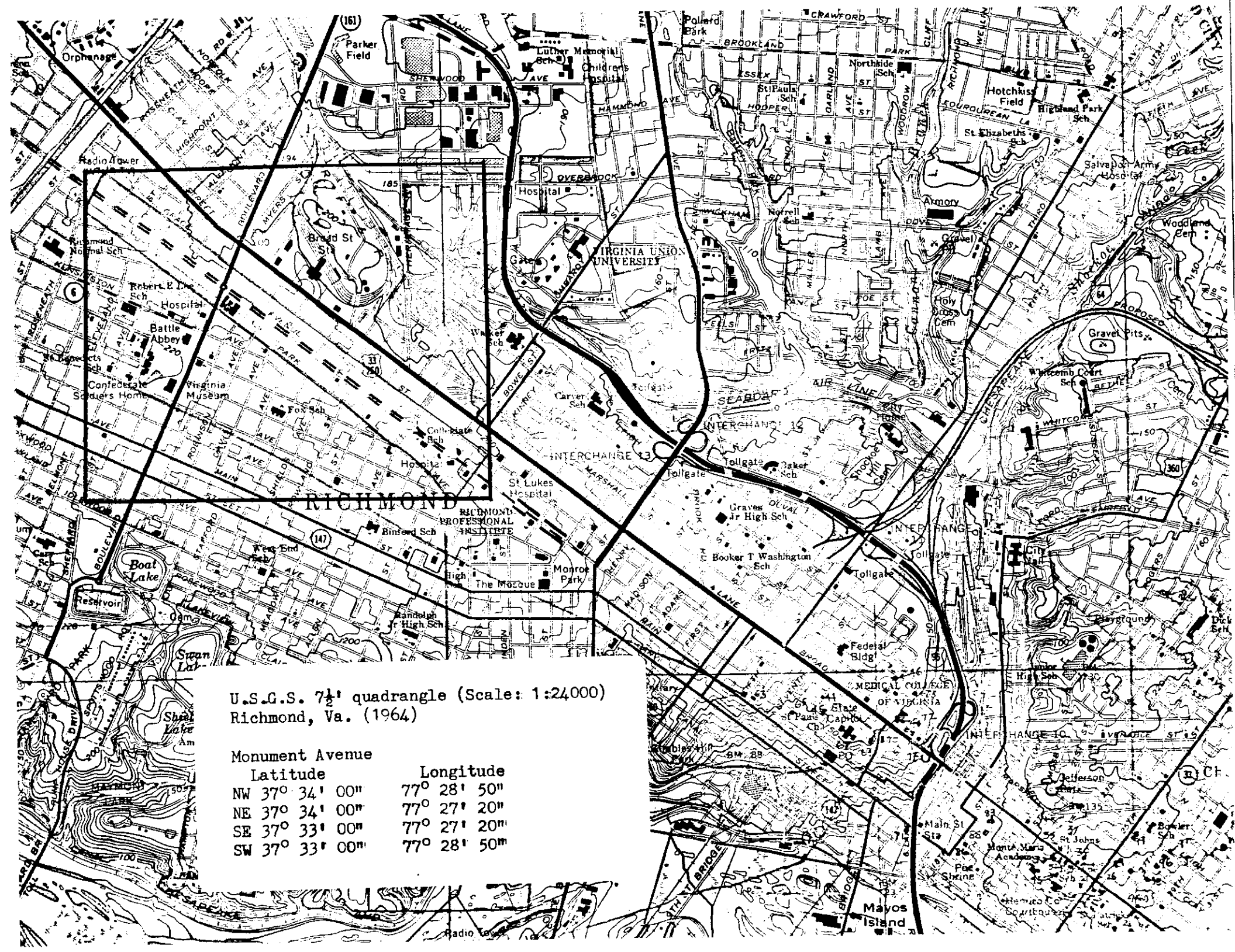
STATE	
Virginia	
COUNTY	
Richmond (in cit.)	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

2. Bounded on the east by a straight line between the center of the block of Grace St., between Ryland St. and Lombardy St., and the intersection of Birch St. and Park Ave.; bounded on the west by a straight line between the intersection of Grace St. and Roseneath Rd. and the intersection of Wythe Ave. and Roseneath Rd.; bounded on the north by Grace St. from the center of the block of Grace St., between Ryland St. and Lombardy St., to the intersection of Grace St. and Roseneath Rd.; bounded on the south by Park Ave., from the intersection of Birch St. and Park Ave., to the intersection of Belmont Ave. and Park Ave., and from thence west in a straight line to the intersection of Roseneath Rd., and Wythe Ave.

8. the most fashionable in Richmond. Over a period of some thirty years, it was built up with a splendid series of architecturally dignified townhouses, churches, and apartment buildings. The work of many prominent architects, including John Russell Pope, William Lawrence Bottomley, and Virginia's Duncan Lee, is represented on Monument Avenue. For many years the avenue was used as Richmond's ceremonial parade route. Included among those who have journeyed in state from the Boulevard to the Governor's Mansion along Monument Avenue are Marshall Foch, Commander Richard Evelyn Byrd, Winston Churchill, General Eisenhower, and Queen Mother Elizabeth.

As one of the most splendid residential boulevards in America, Monument Avenue is considered to be a nationally significant example of city planning. According to the noted architectural historian, William B. O'Neal, Monument Avenue is "a supreme example of the unifying power of space, scale, and trees on the urban scene." But more important than its aesthetic qualities, Monument Avenue, as a unique memorial to the heroes of the Confederacy in its capital, serves a symbolic function for Richmond and the South.



U.S.G.S. 7½' quadrangle (Scale: 1:24,000)  
 Richmond, Va. (1964)

Monument Avenue	
Latitude	Longitude
NW 37° 34' 00"	77° 28' 50"
NE 37° 34' 00"	77° 27' 20"
SE 37° 33' 00"	77° 27' 20"
SW 37° 33' 00"	77° 28' 50"