# ROUTE – DIRECTIONS ONLY

Start at Monument Avenue

Turn left onto Arthur Ashe Boulevard

Turn left onto Cary St. – 0.67 mi

Turn right onto Robinson St. – 0.81 mi

Continue left onto Robinson St. – 0.98 mi

Turn slight right onto Lakeview Avenue – 1.17 mi

Turn left onto Westover Rd. – 1.21 mi

Head straight - with Swan Lake on your left to merge onto Amelia St. – 1.32 mi

Turn right onto Hampton St. – 1.71 mi

Turn left onto Colorado Avenue – 1.88 mi

- Colorado Avenue becomes Harrison St. – 2.45 mi

Turn right onto Idlewood Avenue – 2.90 mi

Turn right onto Cherry St. – 3.15 mi

Turn left onto Spring St. – 3.33 mi

Turn right onto Belvidere St. – 3.54 mi

Turn left onto Rowe St. - beside the Virginia War Memorial – 3.67 mi

Turn left onto 1st St. – 3.75 mi

Turn right onto Spring St. – 3.85 mi

Turn right onto 2nd St. – 3.92 mi

Turn left onto Brown's Island Way – 4.07 mi

Turn left onto Tredegar St. – 4.21 mi

Turn right - to cross bridge to Brown's Island – 4.33 mi

Turn left – 4.37 mi

Turn left - to stay on path with canal on your left  – 4.39 mi

Turn left - to cross the bridge off of Brown's Island toward 7th St. – 4.50 mi

Turn left onto Cary St. – 4.85 mi

Turn right onto Foushee St. – 5.28 mi

Turn left onto West Franklin St. – 5.42 mi

Turn right onto Jefferson St. – 5.55 mi

Turn left onto West Grace St. – 5.62 mi

Turn left onto Laurel St. – 5.99 mi

Turn right onto Main St. – 6.24 mi

Turn left onto Linden St. – 6.38 mi

Turn right onto Cary St. – 6.47 mi

Turn right onto Harrison St. – 6.57 mi

Turn left onto Floyd Avenue – 6.77 mi

Turn right onto Vine St. – 7.14 mi

Turn left onto Park Avenue – 7.37 mi

Turn right onto Allen Avenue – 7.47 mi

Turn left onto Monument Avenue – 7.55 mi

Turn right onto Meadow St. – 7.67 mi

Continue left - as Meadow becomes Hermitage – 7.87 mi

Turn left onto West Leigh St. – 8.12 mi

Turn left onto Arthur Ashe Boulevard – 8.70 mi

Turn left onto Monument Avenue – 9.16 mi

End

# ROUTE – WITH NOTES

Start at Monument Avenue

Turn left onto Arthur Ashe Boulevard

Turn left onto Cary St. – 0.67 mi

Turn right onto Robinson St. – 0.81 mi

Continue left onto Robinson St. – 0.98 mi

Turn slight right onto Lakeview Avenue – 1.17 mi

Turn left onto Westover Rd. – 1.21 mi

- Poplar Vale Cemetery on your left – 1.26 mi

Head straight - with Swan Lake on your left to merge onto Amelia St. – 1.32 mi

Turn right onto Hampton St. – 1.71 mi

Turn left onto Colorado Avenue – 1.88 mi

- Mount Calvary Cemetery and Riverview Cemetery on your right – 2.23 mi

- Colorado Avenue becomes Harrison St. – 2.45 mi

Turn right onto Idlewood Avenue – 2.90 mi

- Hollywood Cemetery on your right – 2.95 mi

Turn right onto Cherry St. – 3.15 mi

Turn left onto Spring St. – 3.33 mi

- Samuel Pleasants Parson home on your right – 3.50 mi

Turn right onto Belvidere St. – 3.54 mi

Turn left onto Rowe St. - beside the Virginia War Memorial – 3.67 mi

Turn left onto 1st St. – 3.75 mi

Turn right onto Spring St. – 3.85 mi

Turn right onto 2nd St. – 3.92 mi

Turn left onto Brown's Island Way – 4.07 mi

Turn left onto Tredegar St. – 4.21 mi

- Tredegar Iron Works on your left – 4.28 mi

Turn right - to cross bridge to Brown's Island – 4.33 mi

Turn left – 4.37 mi

Turn left - to stay on path with canal on your left  – 4.39 mi

- Emancipation and Freedom Monument and Headman sculpture ahead – 4.44 mi

Turn left - to cross the bridge off of Brown's Island toward 7th St. – 4.50 mi

Turn left onto Cary St. – 4.85 mi

Turn right onto Foushee St. – 5.28 mi

Turn left onto West Franklin St. – 5.42 mi

Turn right onto Jefferson St. – 5.55 mi

Turn left onto West Grace St. – 5.62 mi

Turn left onto Laurel St. – 5.99 mi

- Monroe Park on your left – 6.08 mi

Turn right onto Main St. – 6.24 mi

- Grace E. Harris Hall ahead on your right – 6.34 mi

Turn left onto Linden St. – 6.38 mi

Turn right onto Cary St. – 6.47 mi

Turn right onto Harrison St. – 6.57 mi

Turn left onto Floyd Avenue – 6.77 mi

- Binford Middle School ahead on your left – 7.11 mi

Turn right onto Vine St. – 7.14 mi

Turn left onto Park Avenue – 7.37 mi

Turn right onto Allen Avenue – 7.47 mi

Turn left onto Monument Avenue – 7.55 mi

Turn right onto Meadow St. – 7.67 mi

Continue left - as Meadow becomes Hermitage – 7.87 mi

Turn left onto West Leigh St. – 8.12 mi

Turn left onto Arthur Ashe Boulevard – 8.70 mi

Turn left onto Monument Avenue – 9.16 mi

End

MapMyRun <https://www.mapmyrun.com/routes/view/5835435676/>

RunGo with narration: <https://routes.rungoapp.com/route/wscnaLPynj>

RunGo directions only: <https://routes.rungoapp.com/route/EvSklBp3GQ>

# Richmond Remembrances

From tombstones, monuments, and historic markers to street names and more, people find ways to memorialize the dead, including loved ones as well as influential leaders. We’ll pass by – and run over – a few of those this week.

Street names in Richmond pay homage to some historic figures. Early on, street names started with numbers for north-to-south streets and letters for streets running east to west. When Richmond became the state capital in 1780, city leaders created new names for the east-west streets based on the alphabet:

* A Street became “Arch Street” (the only thing that remains of the street is at the entrance to the NewMarket Corporation Building, in front of Gambles Hill Park, at the end of 3rd and 4th streets).
* B Street became “Byrd Street” for the city’s founding father.
* C Street became Canal Street.
* D Street became Dover Plank Road, which was later renamed Cary Street for [Colonel Archibald Cary](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Archibald_Cary), a Virginian who served in the House of Burgesses (the legislative body of the colony) from 1756-1776.
* E Street became Elm Street, which eventually was called Main Street because it was the main thoroughfare.
* F Street became Franklin Street, for Benjamin Franklin.
* G Street became Grace Street because it was home to lots of churches.
* H Street was first called Haxall after the Haxall Mills, but since it was the broadest street in the city, people had called it Broad Street, which eventually became its official name.

## Cary Street

Cary Street was named after Col. Archibald Cary (1721-1787),a Virginia planter, soldier, politician, and landowner.

## Robinson Street

Richmond banker Anthony Robinson Jr. built a summerhouse in the late 1820s beside what’s now the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. Robinson expanded the house in 1856 to a Italianate mansion and it became a year-round residence for the Robinson family.

## Poplar Vale Cemetery

The stone wall behind the Round House encloses the privately owned Sheilds-Robinson Family Cemetery. The Sheilds and Robinson families owned the Poplar Vale estate beside the original Byrd Park. (The Sheilds name was later changed the spelling to “Shields.”) By 1917, the original Byrd Park had expanded to include the Poplar Vale estate.

## Mt. Calvary Cemetery

Mt. Calvary Cemetery was founded as a non-profit cemetery circa 1880 by the Catholic Diocese of Richmond to supplement grave spaces in the other Catholic cemetery of the time (Holy Cross). <https://www.richmondcemeteries.org/mount-calvary/>

## Riverview Cemetery

Riverview Cemetery was established by the city of Richmond in 1887. It was laid out in a curvilinear design, with six roundabouts amid winding avenues. Various civic and religious groups created clusters of sites within the cemetery, including American legionnaires, the Greek orthodox community, and Armenian immigrants. The cemetery remained closed to African American burials until 1968. <https://www.richmondcemeteries.org/riverview/>

## Hollywood Cemetery

This “garden cemetery” was established in 1847 in a park-like landscape style that was popular in the 19th century. It spans 135 acres of valleys, hills, and trees (it’s even a registered arboretum!). Well-known gravesites include those of presidents James Monroe and John Tyler, six Virginia governors, two Supreme Court justices, prominent authors, suffragists, and Confederate leaders and soldiers. The 90-foot granite pyramid, completed in 1869, is a monument to 18,000 Confederate enlisted men buried nearby. <https://www.hollywoodcemetery.org>

## Samuel Pleasants Parsons House

Completed in 1819, 601 Spring Street was the home of Samuel Pleasants Parsons (1783-1842). Parsons, a Quaker, was an early reform-minded superintendent (1816-1822, 1824-1832) of the Virginia State Penitentiary, formerly located across Belvidere Street. The Parsons family was part of a network of important Richmond Quaker families that were collectively involved in a series of abolition and prison reform activities. Parsons later served as a superintendent for the James River and Kanawha Company and was a founder of the Mechanicsville Turnpike. <https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=25948>

## Virginia War Memorial

The memorial honors Virginians who served to defend the United States from World War II through contemporary worldwide conflicts. The memorial includes walls of those killed in service as well as museum exhibits and special events honoring those who have served in the U.S. military. <https://vawarmemorial.org>

## Tredegar Iron Works

The largest ironworks plant in the South during the mid-19th century was a big reason Richmond became the capital of the Confederacy. It made iron plates for the ironclad warship, CSS Virginia; 1,100 artillery pieces for use during the war (about half of the Confederate’s total domestic production) and railroad steam locomotives. Now, it houses National Park Service a visitor center for the Richmond National Battlefield Park. The site also is home to the American Civil War Center at Historic Tredegar, which showcases history of the Civil War as seen from everyone involved, including soldiers, those left on the home front, and African Americans. Behind the museum is a bronze statue of Abraham Lincoln and his son 12-year-old son, Tad, representing the president’s visit to Richmond on April 4, 1865. Behind the figures is a phrase from Lincoln’s Second Inaugural Address, delivered one month before: “To bind up the nation's wounds.” Created by American sculptor David Frech.

## Emancipation and Freedom Monument

****This powerful monument was unveiled on Brown’s Island in September 2021. The two primary figures are of a man, facing north, scars across his back, as his shackles are removed, and a woman facing south, holding a child and the Emancipation Proclamation. The monument also includes names and likenesses of 10 notable Black Virginians: five who fought for equal rights and five who resisted slavery.

## Headman

The 9½-foot-tall bronze sculpture by Richmond artist Paul DiPasquale commemorates the contributions of black bateaumen who navigated the rivers and canals of Virginia during the 18th and 19th centuries, contributing to the development of commerce in the city of Richmond. There have been two headman statues created to commemorate these men. The first, made of fiberglass, was installed in 1988. A year after its dedication, the statue was cut off at the feet and stolen. The second was dedicated in 1992 and enclosed by a fence for protection. The original statue was found a few months later in a quarry in Hanover County, riddled with more than 400 bullet holes. That statue is currently on view in an outdoor garden at Richmond’s Black History Museum and Cultural Center in Richmond. <https://www.bateaurva.com/history-the-headman>

## Foushee Street

William Foushee Sr. (1749-1824) was an American medical doctor, politician, and socialite. He served as a surgeon in the American Revolution, then entered into local Virginia politics. He served as the first mayor of Richmond then became a political, social, and commercial leader in Richmond.

## Franklin Street

Once named F Street, the street was renamed for Benjamin Franklin, 18th-century writer, scientist, inventor, statesman, diplomat, and intellectual. Considered one of the founding fathers of the United States, he was a drafter and signer of the Declaration of Independence and the new nation’s first Postmaster General.

## Monroe Park

The city purchased the property for its first municipal park in 1851 and named it for President James Monroe. In 1876 civil engineer Wilfred Cutshaw designed the radial network of walkways that converge at a central point, linking the five sides and corners. The site has been used as fairgrounds, a Civil War encampment, and early baseball field. <https://monroepark.com/about/history/>

## Grace E. Harris Hall at VCU

Grace Victoria Edmonson Harris (1933-2018) graduated from Hampton Institute in 1952 and earned multiple masters’ degrees and a doctorate in sociology. Throughout her life, she worked in many roles to support education for all, including at VCU, where she became the first African American and first woman provost and vice president for academic affairs. VCU dedicated Grace E. Harris Hall in her honor in 2007. <https://gehli.vcu.edu/the-institute/grace-e-harris/>

## Binford Middle School

The James H. Binford Junior High School opened its doors to students in the fall of 1915. Binford was the fifth junior high to be opened in the United States, reflecting the growing nationwide interest in the junior high movement. The new junior high school was named for James H. Binford, the first superintendent of Richmond Public Schools from 1870-1876. It was reorganized as a middle school from 1970 to 1975.

## Monument Avenue

This grand avenue was established for dual purposes: as the start of a fashionable (and lucrative) neighborhood and to celebrate the Confederacy and its ideas. The first statue, of Robert E. Lee, was erected in 1890, guided by Gov. Fitzhugh Lee (the general’s nephew) and Conservative Democrats. The dedication coincided with a Confederate veterans’ reunion that drew 50 former generals and 15,000 uniformed veterans. Approximately 100,000 people attended.

Other statues followed: monuments to General “Jeb” Stuart and Confederate President Jefferson Davis were unveiled in 1907, General Stonewall Jackson in 1919, and Confederate Navy chief Matthew Fontaine Maury in 1929.

Between 1900 and 1925, fashionable homes, churches, and apartment buildings rose in the segregated neighborhood. The district has had its challenges in maintaining its historic aesthetics, but protections in the latter half of the 20th century helped in maintaining architectural integrity.

In 1996, the Arthur Ashe Jr. statue was erected, honoring an internationally known Black tennis star from Richmond.

In 2020, the killing of George Floyd in Minnesota sparked protests nationwide against racial inequities, especially police brutality against Blacks. In Richmond, those protests centered on the Confederate monuments. Eventually, all Confederate monuments were removed from the avenue. The intersection that once encircled the Lee Monument has been renamed the Marcus-David Peters Circle for a man killed by police during a mental health crisis.