

VLR 4/8/06  
NRHP 8/31/06

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

**1. Name of Property**

historic/name: Elliott Grays Marker, Jefferson Davis Highway

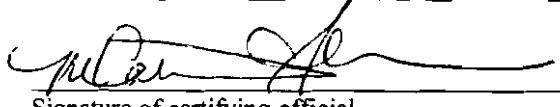
other/names/site/number/ VDHR #127-6150-0002

**2. Location**

street&number Intersection of Harwood Street, Ingram Avenue and Jefferson Davis Highway not for publication  
city or town Richmond vicinity \_\_\_\_\_  
state Virginia code VA county Independent City code 760 Zip 23228

**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. (  See continuation Sheet for additional comments.)



7/18/06  
Date

Signature of certifying official  
Virginia Department of Historic Resources  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. (  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

**4. National Park Service Certification**

I hereby certify that this property is:  
 entered in the National Register  
 See continuation sheet.  
 determined eligible for the National Register  
 See continuation sheet.  
 determined not eligible for the National Register  
 removed from the National Register  
 other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Keeper \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_

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**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property** (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

**Category of Property** (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

**UDC Commemorative Markers along the Jefferson Davis Highway in Virginia**

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Recreation & Culture Sub: Monument/Marker

**Current Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Recreation & Culture Sub: Monument/Marker

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification** (Enter categories from instructions)

n/a

**Materials** (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation n/a  
 roof n/a  
 walls n/a  
 other Granite

**Narrative Description** (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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### 8. Statement of Significance

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**Applicable National Register Criteria** (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations** (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

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**Areas of Significance** (Enter categories from instructions) Transportation; Social History

**Period of Significance** 1929-1947

**Significant Dates** 1929

**Significant Person** (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) n/a

**Cultural Affiliation** \_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder** n/a

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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### 9. Major Bibliographical References

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#### Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

#### Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

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**Primary Location of Additional Data**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Virginia Department of Historic Resources

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreeage of Property less than one acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone	Easting	Northing
18	283719	4153508

See continuation sheet.

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

Name/Title: Ruth D. Snead  
 Organization: Elliott Grays Chapter UDC #1877 date 2/20/06  
 street & number: 1318 Devers Road telephone 804- 285-3690  
 city or town Richmond state VA Code 23226

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps** A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.  
 A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs** Representative black and white photographs of the property.

**Additional items** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Elliott Grays #1877 UDC  
 street & number 1318 Devers Road telephone 804- 285-3690  
 city or town Richmond state VA zip code 23226

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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**Summary Description:**

The Elliott Grays Jefferson Davis Highway Marker is located in South Richmond at the intersection of Harwood Street, Ingram Avenue and Jefferson Davis Highway (US 1) on the East side of the highway. The marker is located in a small triangular traffic island between Harwood Street, Ingram Avenue, and Jefferson Davis Highway opposite the Model Tobacco Company. The marker is one of sixteen erected in Virginia along Jefferson Davis Highway between 1927 and 1946. The Jefferson Davis Highway was a national wide memorial project of the United Daughters of the Confederacy beginning in 1913 and continuing until 1947 when the highway's terminal marker was placed in Arlington, Virginia.

Detailed Description:

The Elliott Grays Jefferson Davis Highway marker is an inscribed gray granite slab with smooth sides and rough-cut edges. The granite slab is 47" tall, 25" wide, 12" thick and on an 8" concrete base. A Southern Cross of Honor is carved above the inscription. This is the only marker of the sixteen along the Jefferson Davis Highway in Virginia that displays the Southern Cross of Honor.

The inscription reads:

Jefferson Davis  
Highway  
This tree marks the  
site of Battery 17 of  
the inner defenses of  
Richmond, 1862-65, and  
is planted in soil taken  
from battlefields  
A memorial to  
Confederate Soldiers  
by the Elliott Grays  
Chapter U.D.C. 1929

The tree mentioned in the inscription died many years ago.

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## 8. Statement of Significance

The Elliott Grays Jefferson Davis Highway Marker is one of sixteen Virginia Markers erected along Jefferson Davis Highway between 1927 and 1947 as a memorial to Jefferson F. Davis, first and only president of the Confederate States of America. All sixteen markers remain standing and despite the minor relocation of several markers to increase highway safety or traffic flow, all retain their historic relationship to U.S. Route 1, which for the most part constitutes the route of Jefferson Davis Highway through Virginia. The Markers were paid for, erected and maintained by the United Daughters of the Confederacy through local UDC Chapters, Virginia Division of the UDC and the General Organization of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. This activity was replicated in the other former Confederate States and was a part of a cross-country route mapped as the Jefferson Davis Highway and promoted by the United Daughters of the Confederacy through educational brochures and travel publications. The establishment of the Jefferson Davis Highway, the erection of the markers honoring the Confederate President Jefferson Davis, and the publications of maps and educational brochures about the locations through which cross-country route passed is considered by the United Daughters of the Confederacy to be one of its greatest undertakings.

### Criteria Statement:

The Elliott Grays Jefferson Davis Highway Marker is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under the Multiple Property Documentation Form, *United Daughters of the Confederacy Commemorative Markers along the Jefferson Davis Highway in Virginia*. The markers included in the MPD meet criterion A in the areas of Transportation and Social History because they are associated with the period of “named highways” in U.S. history from 1913 through 1925 and because they represent a significant achievement for a women’s organization. The MPD and the markers included within it have statewide significance in the area of transportation and social history.

### Criteria Consideration:

As a commemorative marker, the Elliott Grays Marker meets Criteria Consideration F. The marker is primarily commemorative, yet it possesses symbolic value and its own historical significance as part of this early attempt to mark a cross-country highway as a memorial to the first and only President of the Confederate States of America.

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Detailed Background:

Mrs. Alexander B. White, President General of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, conceived the idea for the Jefferson Davis Highway in 1913, following the establishment of the Lincoln Highway earlier that year. From 1913 until about 1925, it was common for private organizations to identify a route, give it a name and promote its use and improvement. The Jefferson Davis Highway extends coast to coast from Arlington, Virginia to San Diego, Ca., and a distance of 3,417 miles. The highway then continues north up the Pacific coast to the Canadian border.

The Virginia Section of the highways extends from the Potomac River Bridge at Arlington, through Fredericksburg, Richmond, and Petersburg to the North Carolina boundary, a distance of 235 miles. Virginia's General Assembly designated U.S. Route 1 as the Jefferson Davis Memorial Highway in March of 1922.

The Elliott Grays Jefferson Davis Highway Marker is one of sixteen in Virginia. It retains its integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. The Elliott Grays Jefferson Davis Highway Marker is in its original location along U.S. Route 1, Jefferson Davis Highway. Although the surroundings of the marker have changed since 1929 it retains its historic association with the highway. (The tree, mentioned in the marker's inscription, that was planted in soil from Civil War battlefields died many years ago.)

The design of the marker has not changed in the years since its erection and there has not been any loss of its original fabric or features so that its integrity of materials is also intact. The workmanship of the marker has not been altered in the years since 1929. The marker's integrity of feeling is intact; it retains a simple dignity and the feeling of an earlier age of travel when markers placed by the side of the road were more easily seen and appreciated by the traveling public. Finally, the marker retains its integrity of association, conveying its origins as a historical memorial.

As a commemorative property the Elliott Grays Jefferson Davis Highway Marker is associated with the period 1913 when the UDC first proposed the idea for a Jefferson Davis Highway through 1947 when the highway's terminal marker in Arlington, Virginia was erected.

The Elliott Grays Chapter United Daughters of the Confederacy # 1877 took its name from Company I, 6<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry, The Elliott Grays, a civil war militia unit organized in

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Chesterfield County. The unit was mustered into service on May 9, 1861 at Manchester with 96 men mostly from Chesterfield County, Virginia. They were the first volunteer military unit to enlist from Old Manchester and were initially known as the Rocky Ridge Rifles. Manchester was originally named Rocky Ridge. The Rocky Ridge Rifles drilled in 1857 in the large rear room of Mr. Butler's store, which was on the northwest corner of 9th and Hull streets, now a part of South Richmond.

Reorganizing in March of 1861 the company renamed itself Elliott Grays on April 6, 1861 in honor of the officer who mustered the Elliott Grays into service, Wyatt Mosely Elliott (1823-1897). Elliott, a native of Campbell County, Virginia, was an 1839 graduate of Virginia Military Institute and editor of the *Richmond Whig* newspaper. When the Civil War began, Elliott was commissioned 1st Lieutenant in the Confederate States Army and given command of the 15th Virginia Battalion, Mahone's Brigade, A.P. Hill's Corps. Wyatt Mosley Elliott is buried at Variety Shade, a family cemetery in Buckingham County, Virginia. The Elliott Grays drilled in the ballroom of the Manchester home of Mrs. Jane Wyatt Donley, grandmother of Private George Coleman Anderson, of the Elliott Grays. The Old Farmers Tavern at 1116 Hull Street had been purchased in 1855 by Mrs. Donley and converted to a residence.

The Chapter dedicated the Elliott Grays Jefferson Davis Highway Marker and memorial tree on Saturday, April 5, 1930 at 4 o'clock. Dr. H.E. Eckenrode, Virginia State Historian gave a number of historical highlights. Attorney General John R. Saunders, eulogized the work of Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederacy. Councilman R. F. Ledbetter, was the Master of Ceremonies. Rev. Thomas Semmes, and Mrs. Charles Williams Schaadt, President of the Elliott Grays Chapter U.D.C. #1877, made memorial addresses.

The marker was unveiled by Mrs. Imogene Simmons, 1st Vice President Elliott Grays Chapter U.D.C. #1877, daughter of John A. Cersley, Elliott Grays soldier, and Mrs. Gretchen Schaadt Coverstone, daughter of Daisy Anderson Schaadt, President of Elliott Grays Chapter UDC #1877 and granddaughter of George Coleman Anderson, Elliott Grays unit. The tree planted near the marker marked the site of the defenses of Richmond and was planted in soil taken from battlefields and other historic spots from many states.

Following the memorial service and while musicians offered a number of Southern airs, the state flags were presented by members of The United Daughters of the Confederacy as follows:

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Alabama: Mrs. B. A. Blenner, Jefferson Davis Highway, Virginia Division Chairman;  
Arizona: Mrs. Eugenia Johnson; California: Mrs. Charles Seldon; Georgia: Mrs. Emma Fitzgerald;  
Indiana: Mrs. A. P. Chisholm; Kentucky: Mrs. Laura Simmons; Louisiana: Mrs. J.A. Crooks;  
Maryland: Mrs. Violet Woods; Massachusetts: Mrs. J. E. Schirmer; Minnesota: Miss Etta Adams;  
Mississippi: Mrs. Charles Gibbs; Missouri: Mrs. Boisseau Percy; North Carolina: Miss Pearl Evans;  
Ohio: Miss Virginia Jackson; Pennsylvania: Mrs. A. J. Hurt; South Carolina: Mrs. Edward Naff;  
Tennessee: Mrs. Alice Thayer; Texas: Miss Rosalie Peebles; West Virginia: Mrs. S.C. Rowe;  
Virginia: Mrs. Russell Rogers. Mrs. Loulie Thompson presented the American flag.

Guests of honor were Richmond Mayor J. Fulmer Bright and Dr. Douglas S. Freeman, son of General W. B. Freeman, and editor of the *Richmond News Leader* from 1915 to 1949, and noted Civil War author and 1935 Pulitzer Prize winner for his four-volume biography of Robert E. Lee. He also wrote Lee's Lieutenants, a three-volume work between 1942 and 1944 and a six-volume biography of George Washington. Also in attendance were General W. B. Freeman, honorary Commander, U.C.V.; General W. McKay Evans, Commander, Virginia Division U.C.V.; Mrs. A.B. Blenner, State U.D.C. Chairman Jefferson Davis Highway; Mrs. Charles Bolling, President Virginia Division U.D.C; Colonel David I. Pulliam, Commander, Virginia Division Sons of Confederate Veterans; Captain Bradley Boisseau, son of Captain Louis Francis Boisseau, first Captain of Elliott Grays; Miss Margaret Robers, Great- Granddaughter of Alexander Baxter, fifer of the Elliott Grays; C. W. Mosby, son of Charles E. Mosby, drummer boy of the Elliott Grays; Lee O. Miller, Commander of Lee Camp, S.C.V; Montague Holland, Commander, Stonewall Camp U.C.V.; Captain Henry Dickerson, First Virginia Regiment; Major Mills Neal, Light Infantry Blues; Major Roland B. Liggon, Howitzers; Charles Robertson, Commander, American Legion Post #137; Mrs. Loulie Thompson, President, Daughters First Virginia Regiment; Mrs. George L. Christian Jr., President, Light Infantry Blues Auxiliary; Miss Katie Myers, President, Richmond Howitzers Auxiliary; and Mrs. C.C. Fry, President, American Legion Auxiliary to Post #137.

The Elliott Grays Chapter # 1877 of the United Daughters of the Confederacy continues to maintain the marker.

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**Major Bibliographical References**

The History of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, Vol. 1 and 11. Reprinted under the authority granted in Convention assembled at Orlando, Fl, 1993

Jefferson Davis Highway Marker 1998, Vol. 11 Jan Hobbs, General Chairman Jefferson Davis Highway Committee

Report of Virginia Director Jefferson Davis Highway, Mrs. B.A. Banner, Virginia Division Minutes of the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, Oct 1-4, 1935

The United Daughters of the Confederacy Magazine, July 1947 and September 1994

Virginia Division United Daughters of the Confederacy Markers. October 2001

Weingroff, Richard F., Jefferson Davis Memorial Highway, Information Liaison Specialist in the Federal Highway Administration Office of the Associate Administrator for Program Development

Richmond News Leader - Honor Memory of Jefferson Davis, 2 April 1930, column 1

Elliott Grays Chapter United Daughters of the Confederacy #1877- Membership Applications

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The Elliott Grays Jefferson Davis Highway Marker is located in South Richmond at the intersection of Harwood Street, Ingram Avenue and Jefferson Davis Highway (US 1) on the East side of the highway. The marker is located in a small triangular traffic island between Harwood Street, Ingram Avenue, and Jefferson Davis Highway opposite the Model Tobacco Company. It is marked by the UTM point: 18,283719E, 4153508N.

**Boundary Justification**

The property being nominated includes only the marker itself.

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(8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

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