

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

FOR HCRS USE ONLY
 RECEIVED
 DATE ENTERED

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
 INVENTORY-NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
 TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Holly Knoll-R. R. Moton Home

AND/OR COMMON

same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Capahosic

___ VICINITY OF

___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st

STATE

Virginia

CODE

51

COUNTY

Gloucester

CODE

073

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

Dr. Frederick Patterson, Chairman of the Board of Governors

NAME

Robert R. Moton Memorial Institute, Inc.

STREET & NUMBER

2000 11th Street NW

CITY, TOWN

Washington, D.C. 20001

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
 REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Gloucester County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Gloucester

STATE

Virginia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
 SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Constructed in 1935, Holly Knoll - The Robert R. Moton House is a two and one half story Georgian Revival building. The house is composed of a six bay main block, two single bay flanking wings, and a gable roof with five dormer windows in the front. A two story portico with a second story balcony runs the length of the main block. The portico is surmounted by a balustrade. There are two chimneys at the ends of the main block. The fenestration on the front facade is four over four. The rear facade is flat with seven bays and four dormer windows. The interior retains the original central hall plan. A large living room, dining room, two sitting rooms, and kitchen are located on the first floor. The second floor consists of bedrooms and three baths. The third floor has been remodeled into small bedrooms under the roof. The house, that is well maintained, contains several pieces of original Moton furniture. The house functions as a conference center with sleeping, eating, and recreation facilities.

No significant changes have been made in Holly Knoll since its construction in 1935. The house retains a high degree of integrity of form, material, physical features, and fabric. The setting and surroundings, however, have been significantly altered through the construction of support buildings for the conference center, among them, an administration and support building, a dormitory, a tennis court, and a swimming pool. A log cabin that was built on the property by Moton is supposed to be a replica of the cabin in which he was born. The latter buildings are modern intrusions and are not included in the National Historic Landmark nomination. (National Historic Landmarks Program Criterion 4-a, c, d)

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	__ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> __EDUCATION	__MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> __SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
__1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> __POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES, 1935-1940

BUILDER/ARCHITECT unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Summary

Holly Knoll was the retirement home of Robert R. Moton, successor of Booker T. Washington at Hampton Institute and at Tuskegee Institute. Moton was one of the founders of the National Urban League, developed Tuskegee Institute from a vocational and agricultural school to a fully accredited collegiate and professional institution, served as advisor to five United States presidents from Woodrow Wilson to Franklin D. Roosevelt, and sponsored the early Tuskegee communicable disease studies and programs which contributed to the enactment of the Communicable Disease Act of 1938 and the establishment of National Communicable disease centers.

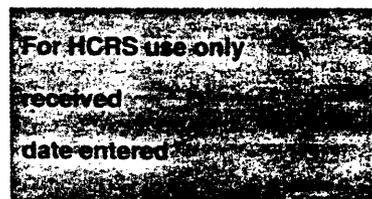
Holly Knoll is associated with the black educator and humanitarian Robert R. Moton. Although the house is associated with Moton, he only lived there for the last five years of his life. No other house associated with him is known to be extant. It is questionable, whether the house illustrates or reflects Moton's contributions to black education and to his promotion of the social, economic, and political well being of black Americans.

History

Robert Russa Moton was born August 26, 1867 in Amelia County, Virginia to Booker and Emily Brown Moton. He was the only child of this union, although he had two younger half brothers. Young Moton spent his early years on the plantation of Samuel Vaughan of Prince Edward County, Virginia, where his father "led the hands" and his mother was cook. His early lessons in reading were taught by his mother surreptitiously, because she was not sure of her employer's attitude. When her efforts were discovered, Vaughan not only approved but made more systematic arrangements for Moton's instruction by the youngest daughter of the Vaughan family. When a free school for Blacks was opened in the community, Robert was able to enter the third grade. He went to school only intermittently, however, stopping to do whatever work came to hand, including a two year interval in a lumber camp.

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Continuation sheet Significance

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In 1865, at the age of eighteen, Moton entered Hampton Institute. Graduating in 1890, he became the commandant in charge of military discipline at the school, a position he held for twenty-five years. Over the years Moton's administrative responsibilities grew a good deal broader than his formal position might suggest. He took part in money raising trips to the North, and served as Hampton's principal representative in the educational and interracial conferences, commissions, and organizations fostered by the Institute.

In 1915, after the death of Booker T. Washington, Moton was chosen to succeed him as principal of Tuskegee Institute. During his administration Moton kept Tuskegee as a point of interracial contact and greatly increased its endowment and physical plant. During the 1920s he added what was called the "college department", though not without opposition from many white and black friends of the school who viewed this as a departure from Booker T. Washington's educational philosophy.

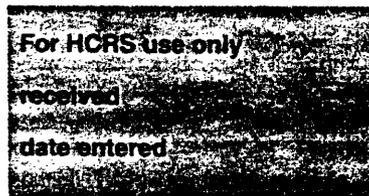
During World War I Moton successfully threw the weight of Tuskegee's influence behind the proposal to establish a camp for the training of black officers. He also appeared before Secretary of War Newton T. Baker to urge the establishment of a Black combat division and suggested that Emmett Scott, a Black, be appointed an assistant to the Secretary of War. Both recommendations were adopted. Moton was later sent to France by President Woodrow Wilson to inspect Black troops and to report on their morale and various charges made against them. He was able in his report to refute a number of damaging rumors. After the war, he succeeded in having black professional and service personnel assigned to the staff of a federal hospital for black veterans established near Tuskegee.

Moton received honorary degrees from Oberlin and Williams colleges and Howard, Virginia Union, Wilberforce, Lincoln, and Harvard Universities. He was the recipient of the Harmon Award in Race Relations in 1930 and the Spingarn Medal in 1932. He was also the author of three books: What the Negro Thinks, Racial Goodwill, and Finding a Way Out.

After a tenure of twenty years as head of Tuskegee Institute, Moton retired due to declining health in 1935. He settled in Capahosic, Virginia and lived there until his death in 1940.

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Continuation sheet

Boundary

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Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at a point at the Administration-Support Building parallel with the western edge of the parking lot, proceed in a straight line to the shore line of the York River, thence along the shoreline of the York River to a point parallel with the southwestern corner of the Log House, thence in a straight line to the western curb line of the parking lot, thence along the western edge of the parking lot to the Administration-Support Buildings, the point of beginning. (see sketch map)

Boundary Justification

The boundary has been drawn to include only Holly Knoll - the R. R. Moton House and its immediate setting. The other structures on the property are part of the Robert R. Moton Conference Center. With the exception of the log house, that is a questionable reproduction, they were built after R. R. Moton's death.

BM 1557 ALMONDSVILLE

Creek

Neck

Almond 2

652

Cowpen

Light

036-0134
 Holly Knoll - R. R. Moton Home
 Gressitt Quad
 Gloucester County, Virginia

GRESSITT

Capahosic

Tidal Flat

GLOUCESTER CO
 JAMES CITY CO
 YORK CO

WILLIAMSBURG

Capahosic 2