

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JUN 11 1976
DATE ENTERED 7/11/73

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC George Washington Carver National Monument

AND/OR COMMON
Same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 2 miles west, 1 mile south of
Diamond on County Road K

CITY, TOWN _____ NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Diamond X VICINITY OF 7th
STATE CODE COUNTY CODE
Missouri 29 Newton 145

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
X DISTRICT	X PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE X MUSEUM
BUILDING(S)	PRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL X PARK
STRUCTURE	BOTH	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL PRIVATE RESIDENCE
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	X YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL TRANSPORTATION
		NO	MILITARY OTHER:

4 AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)
U.S. National Park Service, Midwest Region

STREET & NUMBER
1709 Jackson Street
CITY, TOWN STATE
Omaha VICINITY OF Nebraska

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. U.S. National Park Service

STREET & NUMBER
1709 Jackson Street
CITY, TOWN STATE
Omaha Nebraska

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
List of Classified Structures

DATE
1975 X FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS U.S. National Park Service, Midwest Region

CITY, TOWN STATE
Omaha Nebraska

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" 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

The George Washington Carver National Monument encompasses 210 acres of the original 240-acre Moses Carver farm. A rather level site, the farm is bisected from east to west by a small spring-fed stream known as the Carver Branch.

The land was originally settled by Moses Carver in 1838. He built a log cabin near a spring on the branch. At some later date he built a second cabin southeast of the first cabin, which in turn was used as the slave cabin.

Records indicate that there were only 100 acres of improved land on the farm. The major crops were maize, wheat, oats, Irish potatoes, hay, flax, and rye, much of which would have been fed to his livestock during the winter, and the rest sold or used by the Carver family and work hands.

The other 140 acres were woodland and prairies filled with wild fruits, grasses, and game. Wild nuts and fruits were abundant: strawberries, sarvis berries, dew berries, raspberries, blackberries, huckleberries, fox grapes, pawpaws, persimmons, hickory nuts, walnuts, chinquapins, hazelnuts, and wild grapes grew in the fields and woods. There was plenty of wild grass for cattle to graze on; large flocks of quail, prairie chickens, geese, wild turkeys, and ducks nested in the area; and herds of deer grazed in the woodlands.

Walnut trees were native to the area, and also were planted for fence rows and lumber. Also present were native hickory and hazelnut trees, and elms which surrounded Carver's farmhouse.

Moses Carver had also planted an extensive orchard which had at least 520 trees by 1880. None of this remains.

Cattle, horses, sheep, and pigs were raised on the Carver farm; Moses Carver was known for raising fine race horses.

Since very few historic structures have remained, large importance has been placed on recreating, and preserving, the historic setting. Thus, a portion of the park land is leased for farming, and along the Carver Branch much of the original vegetation has been encouraged to return so that it appear much as it did in the 1860s. The predominant land-use pattern in the Diamond area is still farming and stockraising, and the Winter family, neighbors of Moses Carver, still owns the farm across the road, so present activities around the park enhance the historical atmosphere.

None of the structures which stood on the Moses Carver farm during George Washington Carver's boyhood, except the family cemetery, still remain on the site. Nevertheless, the park has built a 3/4-mile-long "Boy Carver Nature Trail" which links a few historic sites, structures, and objects

(See Continuation Sheet, Page 1)

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Biography
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The George Washington Carver National Monument derives its significance primarily from its association with George Washington Carver's boyhood. The Park was both the nation's first memorial to the achievements of a black man, and the first such honor to an individual other than a president. It preserves, with a high degree of integrity, a place most influential in shaping the personality of a man who played an important role in the social and agricultural history of 20th century America.

The monument was established to preserve the birthplace and commemorate the rise from slavery of Carver, whose life demonstrates the opportunities afforded in the United States to men of ability and energy, regardless of their origins, and whose accomplishments are today a living part of America's heritage.

The interpretive efforts of the Park aim at recreating and preserving the natural and agricultural environment of Carver's boyhood. To these ends, the native flora, and some fauna, that he studied and nurtured as a boy, have been allowed to return to the area. Likewise, the historical agricultural appearance of the area has been enhanced by allowing cultivation of parts of the Park land. Thus, the monument captures the atmosphere in which Carver began his earliest scientific observations.

The Amendola statue of "The Boy Carver" situated near the Carver Branch and where Carver did the work on plants that gained him local renown as the "plant doctor," depicts him seated in his wild garden with a plant in his hand and looking skyward.

The natural environment, the self-sufficient life style of the early farmer, and moral guidance from the Carvers were all strong factors during George's formative years, and in later life he spoke most favorably of his early experiences on this farm. From this humble beginning, George Washington Carver rose to become an inspirational educator and spiritual leader of his people. His contributions to scientific agriculture and his pioneering efforts in an extension service for rural farmers brought him nation-wide recognition. Shortly before his death he established the George Washington Carver Foundation for Scientific Research at Tuskegee Institute and donated his life savings to perpetuate this work. He is buried on the campus of Tuskegee Institute where he devoted more than 40 of the last years of his life in service to mankind.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Carroll, William E., and Merle E. Muher, "The Scientific Contributions of George Washington Carver," Report for the National Park Service, 1962, 60 pp.
 Fuller, Robert P., and Merrill J. Mattes, "The Early Life of George Washington Carver, Part I and II," Report for the National Park (See Continuation Sheet, Page 4)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 210

UTM REFERENCES

F <u>A</u> 1.5	379000	4094650	A <u>B</u> 1.5	379810	4094620
ZONE EASTING	NORTHING	ZONE EASTING	NORTHING	ZONE EASTING	NORTHING
B <u>C</u> 1.5	379760	4093420	C <u>D</u> 1.5	379360	4093420
ZONE EASTING	NORTHING	ZONE EASTING	NORTHING	ZONE EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

~~D~~ E 15 379 370 409 3720 ~~E~~ F 15 378 980 409 3740

(See Continuation Sheet, Page 5)

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Richard T. Ortega Architectural Historian (Engineer) April 6, 1976

ORGANIZATION

U.S. National Park Service, Midwest Region

DATE

(402)221-3423

STREET & NUMBER

1709 Jackson Street

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Omaha

STATE

Nebraska

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES ___ NO ___ NONE ___

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is National ___ State ___ Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

[Signature]
 TITLE Deputy Assistant Secretary

DATE JUN 4 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 9/29/76

Acting DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST: [Signature]
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 9/27/76

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together and exposes the visitor to the historic natural scene of Carver's boyhood. Individual sites and structures are described below.

1. MOSES CARVER HOUSE (No. HS 5)

Built in 1881 to replace the two earlier log cabins, the house was originally on, or near, the site of the original cabins, but was moved to its present site, across the Carver Branch, in 1916. Although the house was built long after George Washington Carver left the farm, it is known that he visited the Carvers after its erection, so it remains as the only building in the Park associated with his life.

A 1½ story, L-shaped, wood-frame structure, it has recently been partially restored. Although it is L-shaped in plan, the open porch in the rear and the covered porch in the front make the overall plan of the building a 37'4" x 20'1½" rectangle. It has three rooms; a living room with fireplace, an upstairs bedroom, and a kitchen in the rear. The lean-to roof over the front porch is supported by wooden posts and, except for a change in slope, looks like an extension of the roof over the house. That roof is an intersecting gable roof with wood shingling. The exterior finish is painted clapboard siding with corner boards and the foundations are concrete with stone facing.

2. BUST OF GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER (No. HS 26)

Cast concrete, about 2'9" high on a 2'7½" x 1'9" x 4' brick base, it was executed in 1952 by Audrey Corwin and was presented to the Park at its dedication ceremony by the George Washington Carver Memorial Institute. The bust has been painted a metallic "gold" and coated with a waterproof sealant. It is situated just outside the north door of the Park Visitor Center.

3. DEDICATION PLAQUE (No. HS 27)

The 1'6" x 2' bronze plaque is set into a stone boulder next to the Nature Trail near the Birthplace Cabin Site and it reads:

Within this area by act of Congress of July 14,
1943 is preserved the birthplace of George
Washington Carver who rose from slavery to become
a distinguished scientist and a great force in
creating racial understanding.

(See Continuation Sheet, Page 2)

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Erected 1953
National Park Service
United States Department of the Interior
/Seal in lower right corner of plaque/

4. BIRTHPLACE CABIN SITE (No. HS 28)

On a flat grassy knoll above the spring on the Carver Branch is the site of the cabin in which George Washington Carver was born. The location was confirmed by archeological investigations, is marked by a park sign, and is the second stop along the "Boy Carver Nature Trail."

5. BOY CARVER STATUE (No. HS 30)

Executed by Robert Amendola, the entire work is about 9' high. The bronze statue depicts Carver as a boy and is set atop a 5' high, 8 ton, limestone boulder especially chosen by the artist to be the base. The statue was placed at its present site beside the Carver Branch in 1960, under the artist's supervision.

6. CARVER FAMILY CEMETERY (No. HS 31)

About one-tenth of an acre and roughly rectangular in shape, the cemetery lies in the southwest corner of the park and is surrounded by a four-foot high, four-foot thick, dry-laid stone wall. The cemetery contains the graves of several members of the Carver family, including Moses Carver and his wife Susan, plus the graves of various other Diamond Grove residents. There are about 35 marked and unmarked graves in the cemetery.

7. WILLIAMS CABIN SITE (No. HS 33), GILMORE CABIN SITE (No. HS 34)

These are the sites of the homes of two families related to Moses Carver. The exact locations of the sites are not known and further archeological investigation may be required.

Non-historic structures in the Park include:

1. VISITOR CENTER (Building No. 21)
2. UTILITY BUILDING (Building No. 22)
3. SUPERINTENDENT'S RESIDENCE (Building No. 23)

(See Continuation Sheet, Page 3)

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4. HISTORIAN'S RESIDENCE (Building No. 24)
 5. FOUR UNIT SEASONAL QUARTERS (Building No. 25)
 6. PARKING LOT

All of these were built in 1959 and 1960.

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George Washington Carver National Monument
2 miles west, 1 miles south of Diamond
on County Road K

Diamond, Newton County, Missouri

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The museum objects historically associated with Carver National Monument are an assortment of artifacts recovered by archeological excavations at sites within the Monument grounds. These include the site of the birthplace cabin and the Moser Carver house site.

The artifacts related to the birthplace cabin site are most significant in that they were used to determine the location of the exact cabin site.

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Service, 1957-1958, 103 pp., plus appendices.

Holt, Rackham, George Washington Carver, An American Biography,
New York: Doubleday and Company, Inc., 1950.

Mackintosh, Barry, The Carver Myth, Thesis submitted to the Faculty
of the Graduate School of the University of Maryland, 1974.

Toogood, Anna Coxe, "Historic Resource Study and Administrative
History, George Washington Carver National Monument, Diamond,
Missouri," Report for the National Park Service, 1973, 105 pp.

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Beginning at a point approximately 400 meters south of the intersection of State Highway V and County Road K, the boundary of the George Washington Carver National Monument runs approximately 1,200 meters south along the west side of County Road K; thence west approximately 400 meters; thence north approximately 300 meters; thence west again approximately 390 meters; thence north again approximately 910 meters; thence east approximately 810 meters to the point of beginning. Such parcel of land comprises 210 acres and lies in the E. $\frac{1}{2}$ of Sec. 7 T-26-N, R-31-W.