



No schoolhouse has been opened for us that has not been filled.

Booker T. Washington

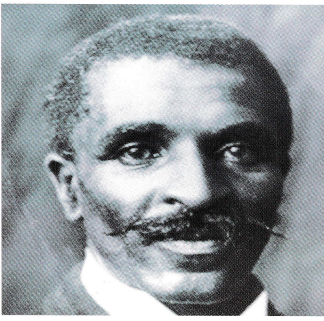


Tuskegee Institute Normal and Industrial Institute 1920's ca

Since the beginning of America's existence, education has always been considered one of the keys to social, political and economical acceptance for African Americans. Tuskegee Normal School was established by the state of Alabama, influenced by a former slave and a former slave owner to educate newly freed people and their children. The Normal School, later Institute, became a beacon of hope for African Americans to reach their goal of acceptance. The school officially opened on July 4, 1881 in the African American Methodist Episcopal Zion Church under the auspices of religion. This date was chosen to commemorate the independence of a Nation and the freedom of a forgotten people. Booker T. Washington became the first principal of a newly formed school at the age of twenty-six. He later hired individuals like George W. Carver and Robert Taylor to help lead the institute to its world-renowned status.

The main features of the park are the "Oaks" (home of Booker T. Washington) and the George Washington Carver Museum. A major portion of the campus was designated a National Historic Landmark (Historic Campus District) in 1965. The bricks used were made by the students with the students also responsible for the construction of the buildings.

The park is open year round from 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. daily. The park is closed Thanksgiving Day, Christmas and New Year's Day.



George Washington Carver and Booker T. Washington are two individuals associated with the legacy of Tuskegee Institute.

The George Washington Carver Museum: Exhibits, interpretive programs, a book sales area and two introductory films on George Washington Carver and Booker T. Washington are available for groups of 10 and under without prior reservations. The films are approximately 30 minutes in length and shown upon request.

The "Oaks," Home of Booker T. Washington: Ranger-guided programs are conducted according to daily schedule. The schedule is available at the Carver Museum. Tours of the home begin at the Museum.

Historic Campus: The campus has been designated a National Historic District. The tour includes buildings constructed by Tuskegee Institute students and designed by Robert R. Taylor, the first African American graduate of Massachusetts Institute of Technology. A map of the District is available at the Carver Museum.

Directions: Tuskegee Institute NHS is located on the campus of Tuskegee University, approximately 40 miles east of Montgomery, Alabama, 40 miles west of Columbus, Georgia and 133 miles west of Atlanta via I-85.

From **Montgomery, Alabama**, follow Interstate 85 North to exit 32 (Franklin-Tuskegee exit). Turn right onto Pleasant Springs Road, travel 3 miles and turn left onto Franklin Road. Travel 3 miles and turn left onto West Montgomery Road. Travel straight ahead and National Park Service signs direct you to parking next to the "Oaks" (Booker T. Washington's family home) on the right.

From **Atlanta, Georgia**, follow Interstate 85 South to exit 38 (Tuskegee-Notasulga exit), turn left onto Highway 81 and travel 3 miles into the city of Tuskegee. Turn right at first traffic light onto West Montgomery Road. Travel straight for 1 mile and parking is available next to the "Oaks" (Booker T. Washington's home) on the left.

After parking, cross West Montgomery Road and turn left, continue down sidewalk turning left at Frederick Douglass Gate/Lane and walk straight until you see the George Washington Carver Museum.

Tuskegee Institute NHS is administered by the National Park Service.

For more information, contact the park at the following address:

Tuskegee Institute NHS
1212 West Montgomery Road
Tuskegee, Alabama 36088
Telephone: 334-727-3200
Email: tuinadministration@nps.gov