



Solomon Williams

Skilled for Survival and Success

Enslaved blacksmith Solomon Williams created decorative grave makers for family and friends at Oakland Plantation—artistic expressions forged under oppression. After emancipation, his skills helped him prosper after the war—a great advantage over many unskilled freedmen. Solomon's son is thought to have joined the Union Army in 1864 to continue the fight for freedom.

To learn more, visit: www.nps.gov/cari

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE