

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY-NOMINATION FORM

FOR HCRS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

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

Cadahosic

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st

STATE

Virginia

VICINITY OF

CODE

51

COUNTY

Gloucester

CODE

073

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

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

STATE

VICINITY OF

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

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

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, which 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)

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 type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> 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.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"Robert Russa Moton," Dictionary of American Biography, Supplement Two. (New York: Charles Scribners and Sons, 1954).

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	B	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	D	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

(seen continuation sheet)

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

Cecil McKithan, Historian

5/23/81

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Department of the Interior, Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service, NR

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

440 G Street NW, Pension Building

343-6401

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Washington

D.C. 20243

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register, and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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date entered

Continuation sheet Significance

Item number 8

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In 1885, 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

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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Continuation sheet

Boundary

Item number 10

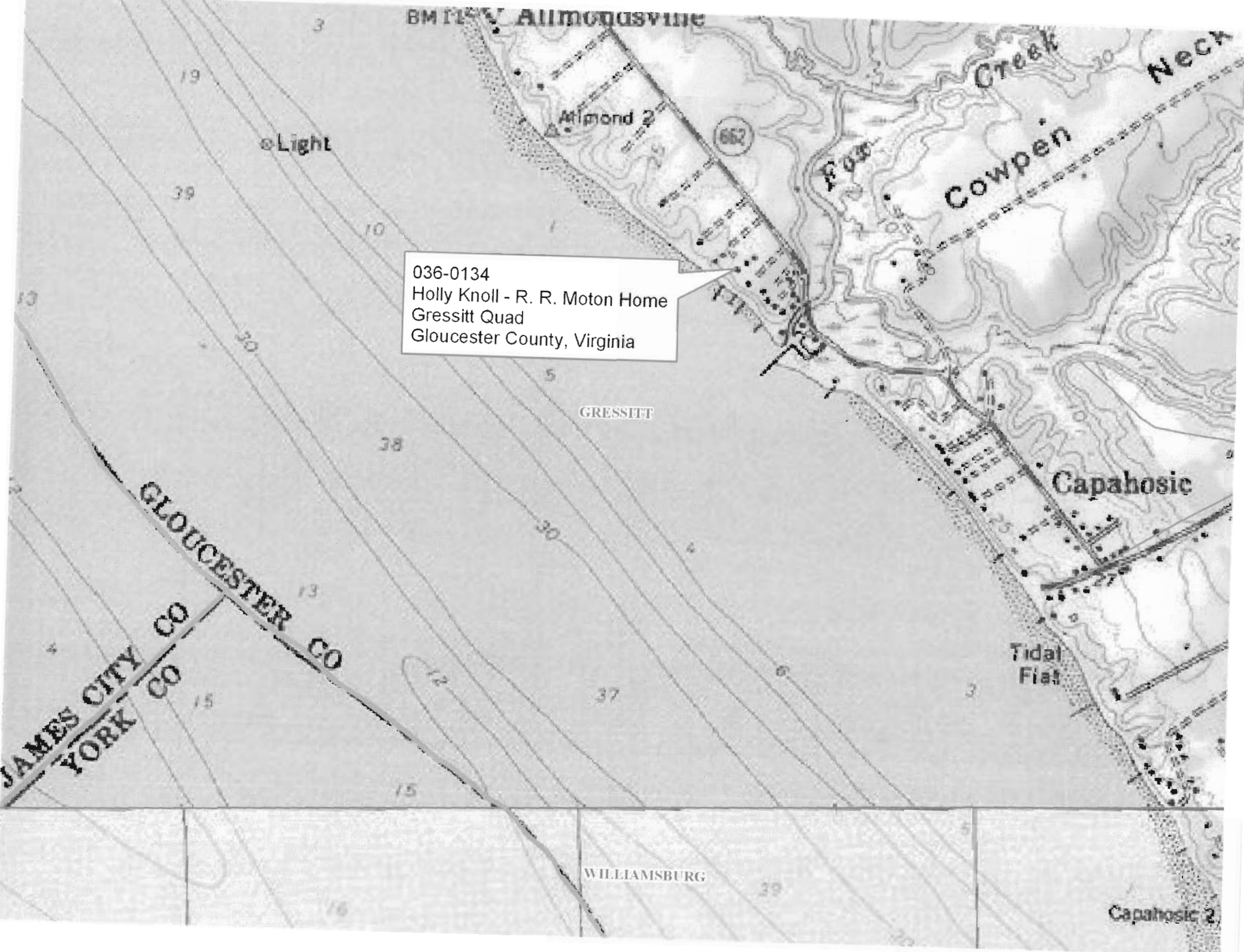
Page 1

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.



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