

# Dr. George Washington Carver

## Issue of 1948



This stamp was issued to honor Dr. Carver, a great American scientist. His work with agricultural products, especially the peanut and the sweet potato, gained him world-wide fame. He contributed greatly to the economic advancement of the South. The Dr. Carver stamp was placed on sale for the first time on January 5, 1948, at Tuskegee, Alabama, the home of Tuskegee Institute, where Dr. Carver did much of his research.





GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER  
JANUARY 5, 1948 — TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALABAMA



★ ★ ★ HISTORIC STAMPS OF AMERICA ★ ★ ★

Rodney Lawrence  
Thomas G. Cammer  
Special Collections



# George Washington Carver Stamp

Issue Date: *January 5, 1948*

## The Historic Stamp

The historic 3¢ stamp preserved in this Cover was issued to honor Dr. George Washington Carver, noted American botanist, scientist, and educator. He revolutionized the cotton economy of the South by introducing crop rotation.

Carver's discovery that certain nitrogen-producing plants, such as peanuts and sweet potatoes, could replenish the mineral content of soil led to the large scale production of these crops in the southern states. To ensure a market for this new agricultural produce, Carver developed hundreds of by-products from these crops.

The George Washington Carver stamp, designed by William A. Roach and R. L. Miller Jr., was based on an earlier portrait.

The George Washington Carver stamp, printed by steel engraving, was first placed on sale at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama, where Carver conducted his research.

## The Subject of the Stamp

Even as a child growing up as the son of former slaves on a farm near Diamond Grove, Missouri, George Washington Carver was fascinated with plants. He never lost his interest in growing things, pursuing both an undergraduate and a master's degree in botany at Iowa State College, while he worked doing odd jobs.

It was at the invitation of Booker T. Washington that Carver joined the staff of Tuskegee Institute in 1896. He spent the rest of his life there conducting the agricultural research that made him world famous and earned him many scientific honors.

In 1945 Congress designated January 5th, the anniversary of his death, as George Washington Carver Day. A National Monument to his memory was established in 1951 on the Missouri farm where he was born.