

## G.W. Carver High School historical marker unveiled

A new state historical marker now marks the place where thousands of black youngsters went to school in the days when Baytown schools still were segregated by race.

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It's just a vacant lot now, but the corner of Lee Drive and Carver Street was once the site of George Washington Carver High School.

Carver High School was built in the late forties and opened in the spring of 1948 for not only Baytown's black students, but for students from surrounding communities. Carver High School remained an all-black high school through 1967

As the schools were integrated, former Carver students went to Robert E. Lee or Ross S. Sterling high schools instead

"It is vital that as we move forward, we do not forget our past... Not only will this Texas Historical Marker provide awareness in the Baytown community of the fascinating history of this outstanding former all black high school, his state marker will make sure that the Baytown George Washington Carver High School history will never be lost," said J. Warren Singleton, marker ceremony organizer.

The Carver marker is the first state historical maker erected in the City of Baytown representing African American heritage.

Among the many speakers at the multi-faceted ceremony was Baytown Mayor Stephen DonCarlos.

"George Washington Carver High School helped make us the great city we are today," he said

Goose Creek CISD superintendent Dr. Toby York also spoke

"Today is really a celebration of the folks who walked the halls, played in the playgrounds, and who made their names on athletic fields and in academic endeavors, and who ultimately made their stamp on our world after graduating from Carver," said Dr. York.

"Every Carver alumni here today is a survivor. You survived the good times and the bad. This historical marker will survive as a testament to what Carver stood forknowledge, wisdom, and character."



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The Texas Historical Commission recognized Goose Creek CISD's George Washington Carver High School as a significant part of Texas history by awarding it a Texas Historical Marker. The designation honors the former all-black high school (in operation from 1948-1967) as an important and educational part of local history. The marker was officially unveiled on April 30. Photo Gallery

The Texas Historical Commission marker recognizes Goose Creek CISD's George Washington Carver High School as a significant part of Texas history. The designation honors the former all- black high school as an important and educational part of local history.

Performers at the ceremonies included the combined jazz bands, marching bands, and swing choirs of Robert E. Lee, Ross S. Sterling and Goose Creek Memorial High Schools, Ross S. Sterling High School R.O.T.C., groups from G. W. Carver Elementary School, St. Joseph Catholic School, Harlem Elementary School, the Buffalo Soldiers, Gospel Spiritual Light Choir, Mt. Calvary Baptist Church Choir, and Spirit of Carver Chorale Choir.

After integration of Goose Creek CISD schools in 1967, Carver became an elementary school known as George Washington Carver Elementary the first year; the school then became Carver-Jones Elementary with the closure of Anson Jones Elementary

In 1988, the name was changed back to George W. Carver Elementary. This original school was closed after seeping hydrocarbons bubbled to the surface from an earthen fuel-oil reservoir filled by Humble Oil, which later became Exxon.

A new Carver Elementary School, located on the former Horace Mann Junior School site, was built in 2002.





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