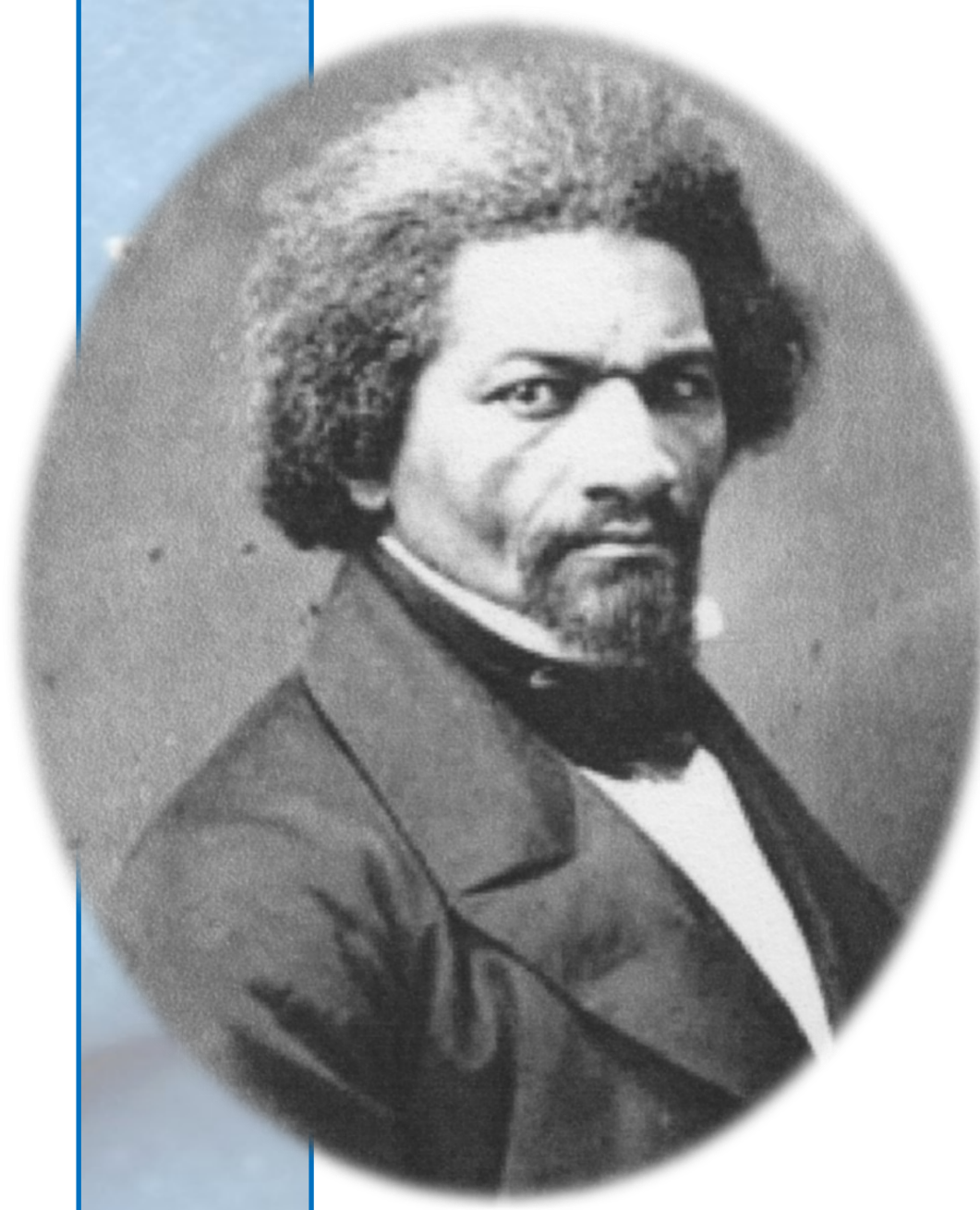


Being a Citizen

A major theme of our success is **CITIZENSHIP**, manifest through each exhibit — from our first traveling one in 2017 about U. S. Colored Troops born in our four-county region through our current exploration of the African American parents, grandparents, and friends who persisted to ensure this high school opened and thrived for minority pupils.

Let’s show you some examples.

1. Right are (a) one of 9 reasons to join the military argued by Frederick Douglass; and (b) an example of taking the **oath of military service** that automatically made black men **CITIZENS**. One example from each of the four counties served by this school is on display for a limited time.
2. **On This School’s Land** outlines the **African American citizen, Noah Price**, who purchased 273 acres, sold 11.15 acres for the purpose of building this school, and was patriarch of a child who taught here and grandchildren who were educated here.
3. Our current traveling exhibit shows **acts of citizenship** by Carver students and teachers in the context of school segregation — even though Carver opened six years before the **Brown v. Board of Education** U. S. Supreme Court hearing and decisions.



FREDERICK DOUGLASS (~1817-1895)
Writer, lecturer, and advocate for black men to enlist on the side of the Union in the Civil War

“You are however, not only a man, but an American citizen, so declared by the highest legal adviser of the Government, and you have hitherto expressed in various ways, not only your willingness but your earnest desire to fulfill any and every obligation which the relation of **citizenship** imposes.”

From “Why Should a Colored Man Enlist?” published April, 1863, **Douglass Monthly**

“And I, **Henry Lock**, do solemnly swear, that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the **United States of America**, and that I will serve them honestly and faithfully against all their enemies or opposers whomsoever; and that I will observe and obey the orders of the President of the United States, and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to the Rules and Articles of War.”

Henry Lock
Vol.

Excerpt: Volunteer Enlistment for the State of Mississippi, Town of Vicksburg, December 5, 1864, for **Henry Lock, born in Madison County, Virginia**

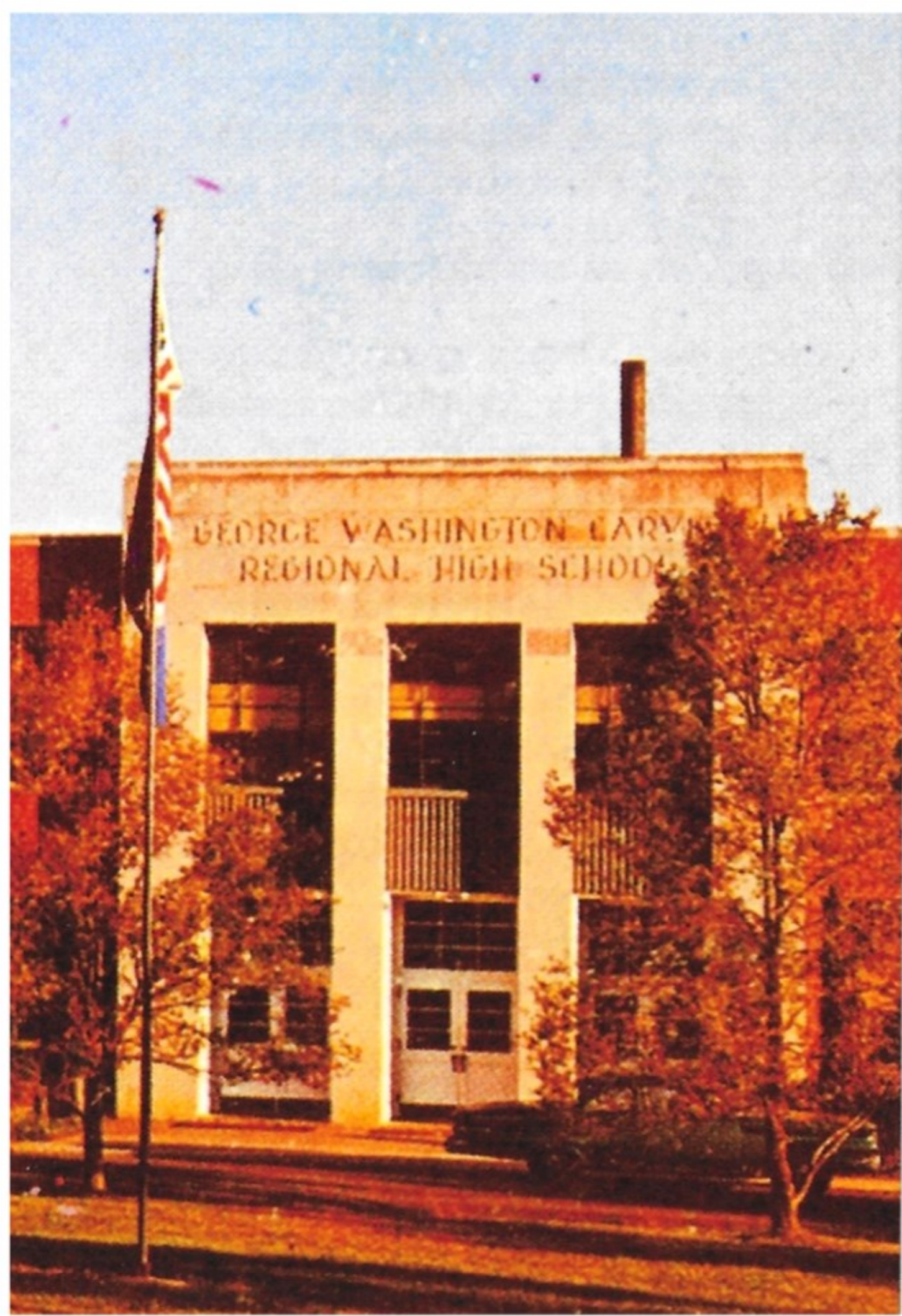
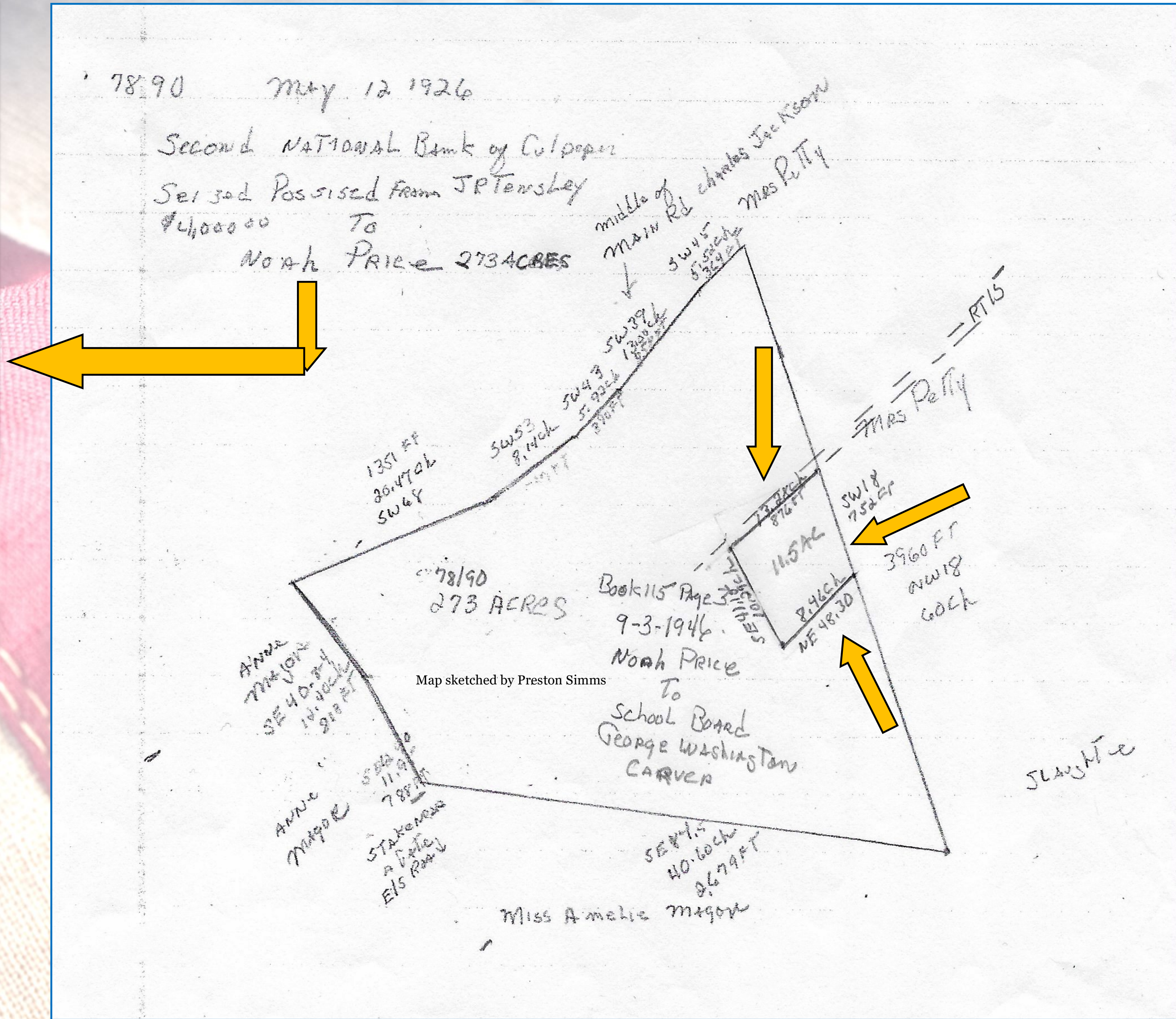
ON THIS SCHOOL’S LAND

- 1.This 11.15 acres, part of 273 purchased by Noah Price in 1926, has been traced (to date) to the last will and testament of Samuel Major recorded May 17, 1852. It was part of vast farmland labored upon by enslaved families.
2. Upon Samuel Major’s death, his human possessions included **18 males valued between \$100 - \$1200 each, and 12 females valued between \$0 - \$700 each.**
3. The 273 acres purchased in 1926 by Mr. Price had been owned by William Major, Jr. and his wife Laura, part of 902 acres partitioned earlier between family members.



Mr. Price is one of “The Persistent” celebrated in Culpeper - one who advocated for the development of George Washington Carver Regional High School.

More information about him and others will be presented during the Carver 75th Jubilee celebrations in September and October, 2023.



Left-right: Front of the original school, opened in 1948, with its name inscribed; Linda Brown of Topeka, Kansas, one of the subjects of the 1954 *Brown v. Board of Education* school desegregation lawsuits; front of the original school after desegregation with the name changed to Piedmont Vocational School

ON EXHIBIT NOW IN THE MUSEUM

This special exhibit by the Carver 4-County Museum celebrates the life of George Washington Carver Regional High School and **acts of citizenship** by students, faculty, administrators, and parents in the context of the 1954 *Brown v. Board of Education* U. S. Supreme Court case and subsequent litigation through 1968. It is generously funded by the **Power of Change** program grant of the Rappahannock Electric Cooperative.

Visit us on the web: www.carver4cm.org