



## LUCY SEYMOUR



Mrs. Lucy Seymour

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*“My health began improving and I remained here for two years, from here to Olathe Kans., from there to Paola Normal School, from there to Minneapolis Kans. where I remained in school about seven years finishing the high school, and in addition some Latin and Greek.”*

— George Washington Carver

George Washington Carver met Ben and Lucy Seymour in Olathe, Kansas, when he was a teenager. He had just left Fort Scott after seeing a terrible crime against an African American man. Olathe was near Kansas City. The Seymours took the orphaned teenager into their home and were much like parents to him. They had a laundry business and George helped with their business.

Ben and Lucy helped George attend the Old Rock School in Olathe. Sometimes, he played marbles with friends, but usually he was more interested in exploring nature. While living in Olathe, George began teaching Sunday school.

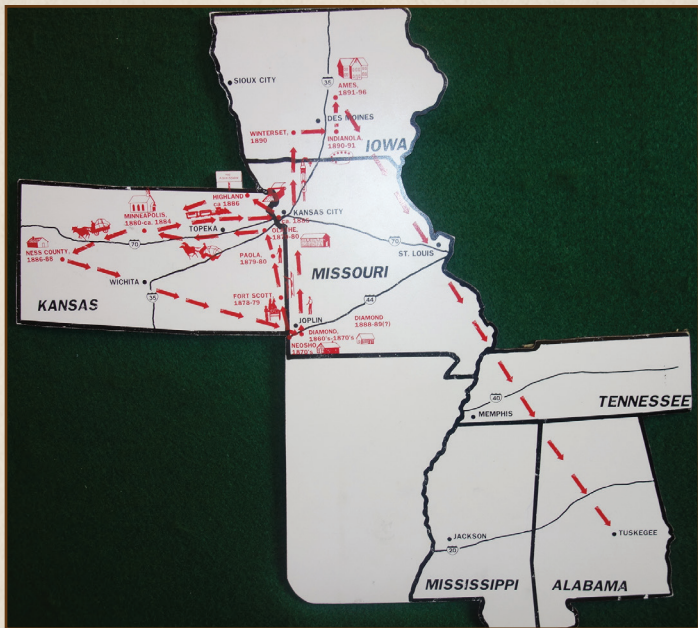
When the Seymours moved to Minneapolis, Kansas, George moved to the town of Paola. He stayed there for a short time and attended school. Then he followed the Seymours to Minneapolis, Kansas, about 200 miles away. There, he attended high school with white students and boarded with the Seymours. He studied Latin and Greek, along with other classes. He also played accordion for school programs. He liked school.

Lucy was a nurse for a Dr. McHenry in Minneapolis. George worked odd jobs for Dr. McHenry, who lent books to George.

The Seymours took George to church and his membership was listed in 1883. Lucy was very religious and was respected in the



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Map of George Washington Carver's Education Quest

community. She was like a mother to George, much like Mariah Watkins had been when he attended school in Neosho, Missouri.

To help pay for school and his lodging, George opened a laundry business and worked odd jobs. After high school, he said goodbye to the Seymours and moved to Kansas City.

### GLOSSARY

**Normal School** - Formerly, the name for a school that taught people to become teachers

### TIME LINE • GAINING AN EDUCATION: 1876 – 1896

