

Bust of Booker T. Washington Is Unveiled at N. Y. U.



Herald Tribune—Warman

Gloria Davidson Washington, granddaughter of Booker T. Washington, unveiling the bronze bust of the slave-born Negro educator at New York University yesterday. The bust is the work of Richmond Barthe, who is shown at the left. It will be placed in N. Y. U.'s Hall of Fame today

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Bust of Booker T. Washington Unveiled at N. Y. U. Ceremony

A bronze bust of Booker T. Washington, the slave-born Negro educator who rose to international eminence and who died in 1915, was unveiled yesterday at New York University. Today, the bust will be placed in the Hall of Fame for Great Americans on the university campus in the Bronx.

The low chant of Negro spirituals marked a solemn procession which wound through the colonnade of the Hall of Fame into the Gould Memorial Library to honor Mr. Washington—the first member of his race to be thus honored. Gloria Davidson Washington, the educator's eighteen-year-old granddaughter, drew aside the veil, which was then presented to his daughter, Mrs. Portia Washington Pittman.

President Truman sent a message which summed up in a few words the spirit of the ceremony. In a letter to Dr. James Rowland Angell, director of the Hall of Fame, which was read to the gathering, the President said:

"It gives me great pleasure to send greetings to all who assemble at the unveiling of the bust of Booker T. Washington in the Hall of Fame, New York University. He was a great American.

"The unveiling of this bust marks the rise of a man from bondage to the Hall of Fame. That rise is in the great American tradition of advancement, by industry, patience and perseverance.

"Booker T. Washington has a living monument in Tuskegee Institute. Now he is numbered among the immortal Americans in the Hall of Fame. In the years to come, he will be an inspiration to every American who forges ahead, despite the obstacles his birth or origin may place in his way.

"It is a privilege to join in this tribute. We are proud to have an America that counts this man among its heroes."

Seven descendants of Mr. Washington, ranging in age from his fifty-year-old daughter, Mrs. Pittman, of Tuskegee, to his three-year-old great-granddaughter,

Nettie Washington Douglas, of 415 Convent Avenue, the Bronx, occupied seats of honor at the exercises. They will gather at the Hall of Fame at 1 p. m. today to see the bust installed in its niche.

Other speakers were Dr. Harold O. Voorhis, vice-chancellor of the university; Dr. Ralph P. Bridgman, president of Hampton Institute in Virginia, where Mr. Washington was a student and teacher; Dr. Frederick D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, and Dr. Angell. The Tuskegee choir sang hymns and spirituals, with Dorothy Maynor as soloist.

Booker T. Washington was born to slavery in Virginia in 1858. At Hampton Institute, where he worked as a janitor to pay his tuition, he was chosen in 1881 to organize Tuskegee. There he emphasized the importance of industrial and agricultural training. He held honorary degrees from Dartmouth and Harvard. In 1900 he founded the National Negro Business League.

Mr. Washington was elected to the Hall of Fame last year in the tenth quinquennial election. Three other men were chosen at the same time—Thomas Paine, Walter Reed and Sidney Lanier—but the dates have not yet been set for honoring these three.

New York Herald-Tribune