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## **Nicodemus National Historic Site, Kansas, Dedication**

This unit of the National Park Service was officially dedicated on August 1, 1999 in a ceremony attended by approximately 1,000 people. The event was as part of the community's 120th annual homecoming celebration. The park, which was officially established on November 12, 1996, is presently being managed by Fort Lamed National Historic Site.

Nicodemus, Kansas, was settled in 1877 by African Americans who left the South to seek true freedom and self-government on the northwestern Kansas prairie. Despite many hardships, and the failure of the railroad to come through the town, the residents persevered and Nicodemus still survives. It is the only remaining all African-American town west of the Mississippi. The park preserves five historic structures in the town and will interpret the role Nicodemus played in regional and national history.