

MURFREESBORO, Ark. — A Benton, Arkansas, woman found a diamond last week at the Crater of Diamonds State Park weighing 6.39 carats and about the size of a pumpkin seed.

The diamond is the 12th-largest found since 1972, according to the park's website.

Dr. Mindy Pomtree was at the park in June and found her diamond near Beatty's Hill when she spotted a glittering pebble on top of the ground. She put the stone in a zippered pocket and continued searching, not knowing what it was.

When she returned home, Pomtree took the stone to a jeweler who confirmed that she had indeed found a genuine diamond. Park Superintendent Caleb Howell arranged for her to return to the park to have it weighed and registered. Howell confirmed that it is one of the biggest diamond finds during his tenure at the park.

Many visitors choose to name the diamonds they find at the Crater of Diamonds. Pomtree chose to name her gem Serendipity, noting that she was lucky to have found it.

"Crater of Diamonds State Park is such a unique experience for our visitors," Arkansas State Parks Director Grady Spann said. "Guests have made lifetime memories hunting for diamonds. If they're fortunate to find a diamond, it really makes the visit unforgettable and one that they will share for many years."