

**Black History 1980s - Today**  
**A Detailed Timeline**

1981

Nu Chi chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. is chartered.

1982

“As late as 1982, the AAAC claimed that the College had done little more than talk about the hiring of more minority faculty.” (Hahamovich 134)

Xi Lambda chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. is chartered.

1988

“The student body elects its first African American Homecoming Queen, **Charlene Renee Jackson.**”

1992

“African American alumni organize the Hulon Willis Association of the Society of the Alumni.”

Xi Theta chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. is chartered.

1997

The Black Studies Program is established; which is changed to Africana Studies in 2009.

2007- 2008

State of Virginia Issues Resolution of Regret. “The Student and Faculty Assemblies pass resolutions challenging William & Mary to investigate the institution's past ownership of slaves and practice of Jim Crow discrimination.”

Gamma Alpha Alpha chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. is chartered.

2009

“The Board of Visitors passes a resolution that does not express regret, but does acknowledge past injustices and does create the Lemon Project as ‘a journey of reconciliation.’”

2010

“Alpha Delta Sigma chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. chartered.”



2011  
“The Lemon Project hosts its first Spring Symposium at Bruton Heights School.”

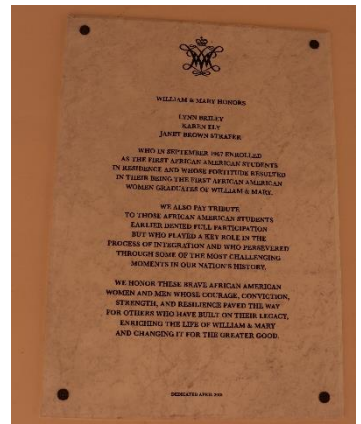
2012  
**Erica Holloman** becomes the first Black woman to graduate with a doctorate in Marine Science from VIMS.

2014  
There is a Black Lives Matter movement in front of Wren centered around saying the name of Michael Brown, who was murdered by a police officer.



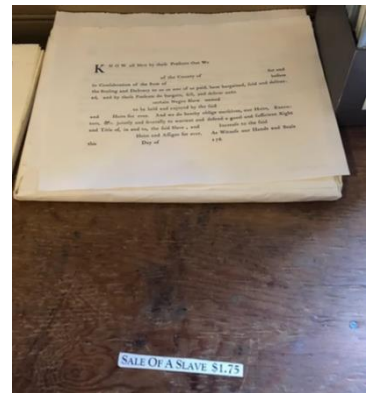
2017  
The school celebrates 50 years of African American education.

2018  
A new version of the Civil War plaque goes up that excludes the Confederate flag symbol and includes members of the Union. The info center of the Wren Building is also redone to focus on slavery and the Civil War.



2019  
In March 2019, a Virginia historical marker was officially put up in front of Brown Hall, a freshman dormitory. Marker W-109 commemorates the spot where the Bray School – an 18th century school for enslaved and free black children – was once located.

A “Sale of a Slave” advertisement is found available for purchase at Colonial Williamsburg’s Prentis Store. It is removed after complaints are made.



2020  
The brutal murder of George Floyd by former police officer Derek Chauvin sparks protests against racism and police brutality. Organizations and students at W&M to support the movement, and W&M has a virtual candlelight ceremony for victims of police brutality. Black Lives Matter.



## Sources:

The Lemon Project (<https://www.wm.edu/sites/lemonproject/>)

The Lemon Project Historical Timeline

(<https://www.wm.edu/sites/lemonproject/researchandresources/historicaltimeline/index.php>)

"Integration at Work: The First Labor History of the College of William and Mary" by Cindy Hahamovitch, Professor, Lyon G. Tyler Department of History

([https://www.wm.edu/sites/lemonproject/\\_documents/wm-labor-history-and-hahamovitch.pdf](https://www.wm.edu/sites/lemonproject/_documents/wm-labor-history-and-hahamovitch.pdf))

"African American Students" from Swem Special Collections Wiki

([https://scdbwiki.swem.wm.edu/wiki/index.php/African\\_American\\_Students](https://scdbwiki.swem.wm.edu/wiki/index.php/African_American_Students))

"African Americans at William & Mary" from Swem Special Collections Wiki

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"How We Talk About Black History" by Marriya Schwarz

(<https://dogstreetjournal.wixsite.com/news/post/how-we-talk-about-black-history>)

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*Thank you so much to the Lemon Project for doing this important research!*