

2011
Lemon Project
Spring Symposium
*From Slavery Toward Reconciliation:
African Americans & The College*



W&M Admits Negro, Graduate of VSC

According to a story in the **Richmond News Leader**, a Negro instructor in the Norfolk public schools has been accepted for graduate work in the physical education on the Williamsburg campus of the College of William and Mary.





CHARTERED 1693

THE COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
P.O. BOX 8795
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757/221-1693, Fax: 757/221-1259

March 19, 2011

Greetings and welcome to the first Lemon Project Spring Symposium. I'm delighted you have chosen to spend your Saturday with us.

In 2009, with the support of the Student and Faculty Assemblies, the College's Board of Visitors resolved to create "The Lemon Project: A Journey of Reconciliation." The BOV defined Lemon "as a long-term research project under the sponsorship of the Office of the Provost, involving College faculty, staff, and students as well as members of the Greater Williamsburg community, to better understand, chronicle, and preserve the history of blacks at the College and in the community and to promote a deeper understanding of the indebtedness of the College to the work and support of its diverse neighbors." I am happy to report that this Project has been staffed and funded, and its important work has begun.

Lemon leaders consist of two co-chairs, a consultant, and a coordinator. This group is working with steering and advisory committees made up of faculty, staff, and community members. The result has been a committee structure that is widely representative.

In February, five people from the College traveled to Emory University to participate in the first conference on "Slavery and the University: Histories and Legacies." This international event brought together people from institutions all over the world that, like William & Mary, are grappling with their past in order to build a future embracing all people. Today's symposium is another sign that progress is being made. You will have the opportunity to hear from students, faculty, staff, and community members about their research, their personal experiences, and their hopes for the Lemon Project.

While work has begun, there remains much to do, and we want you to join us. Bring your ideas and your enthusiasm. There is no end to what we can accomplish if we work together.

Cordially,

W. Taylor Reveley, III
President



COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY

The Lemon Project: A Journey of Reconciliation

WHEREAS, the College of William and Mary acknowledges that it owned and exploited slave labor from its founding to the Civil War; and

WHEREAS, the College acknowledges that it engaged in the discrimination and exclusion that characterized educational institutions during the era of Jim Crow and disfranchisement and that it failed to challenge these hurtful policies; and

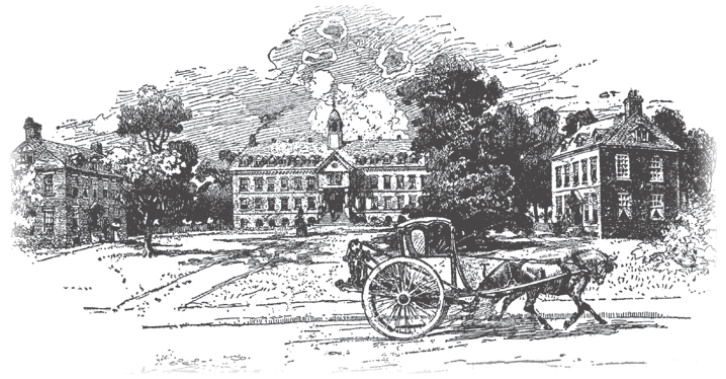
WHEREAS, the legacy of that era has encumbered the College's relationships with the Williamsburg and Peninsular African American community, many of whom are descendants of antebellum slaves and many more of whom have worked for or attended the College since that time; and

WHEREAS, as a preeminent institution of higher learning we are dedicated to understanding the truth of our past and the impact that past may have had on us and on the community; and

WHEREAS, only of late have we learned of an African American named Lemon who was owned by the College during the late 18th and early 19th century, served it well, and, remarkably, carved out a life of his own in Williamsburg.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Visitors of the College of William and Mary heartily supports the creation of the Lemon Project: A Journey of Reconciliation that will be a long-term research project under the sponsorship of the Office of the Provost, involving College faculty, staff, and students as well as members of the Greater Williamsburg community, to better understand, chronicle, and preserve the history of blacks at the College and in the community and to promote a deeper understanding of the indebtedness of the College to the work and support of its diverse neighbors.

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SCHEDULE

8:30am – 9:00am	Registration & Continental Breakfast
9:00am – 9:15am	Opening Remarks Jody L. Allen Lemon Project Coordinator and Adjunct Visiting Assistant Professor
	Introduction of the President Berhanu Abegaz, Professor and Director of Africana Studies
	Welcome Taylor Reveley, President College of William and Mary
9:15am – 10:30am	Morning Plenary The Historical View: How did we get here? Moderator: Kimberley Phillips, Frances L. and Edwin L. Cummings Associate Professor of History and American Studies Edith Heard, Williamsburg Community Member Amy Schindler, University Archivist and Acting Director of Special Collections Research Center Andrew Ojeda, William and Mary Student, Junior
10:40am – 11:40am	Student Panels

~ One | Room 117

- Emancipating Repressed Memory** in Baltimore (Jerome Carter, William and Mary, Junior)
- DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL:** Employing Euphemism and Distraction at Mount Vernon (J.P. Mohler, William and Mary, Junior)
- The Big House and a Forgotten Road:** Portraying Slavery at Sully Plantation (Connolly Colbert, William and Mary, Junior)

~ Two | Room 119

- “Walking into an heirloom”?:** Seeing Slavery at Shirley and Great Hopes Plantations (Anthony Myers, William and Mary, Junior)
- Too much information?:** Representing Slavery at Shirley Plantation (Christina Benjamin, William and Mary, Junior)



11:40am – 11:50am

Break

11:50am- 12:30pm

All About DOVE
 (Desegregation of Virginia Education)
 Bea Hardy, Interim Dean, Swem Library

12:30pm – 1:20pm

Lunch

1:30pm – 3:30pm

Afternoon Plenary
 Moving Forward: Where do we go from here?



View: “Their Eyes Were Watching Jim Crow”
 Documentary by Arianne Daniels

Moderator: Robert Engs, Visiting Distinguished Professor

Robert Vinson, Associate Professor, History
 Arianne Daniels, William and Mary Student, Freshman
 Barbara Watson, Williamsburg Community Member

3:30pm – 4:00pm

Closing Remarks
 Tying it all together
 Dr. John Whitley, Human and Civil Rights Activist
 and Co-Chair, Democratic Committee of Williamsburg
 Terry Meyers, Chancellor Professor of English



STEERING COMMITTEE:

- Kimberly L. Phillips, Co-Chair, History and American Studies
- Robert T. Vinson, Co-Chair, History
- Berhanu Abegaz, Africana Studies and Economics
- Jody L. Allen, History

- Robert F. Eng, History
- W. Fanchon Glover, Assistant to the President, ex officio
- Cindy Hahamovitch, History
- Terry L. Meyers, English
- Hermine D. Pinson, English

ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

- Joanne M. Braxton, English
- Melvin P. Ely, History
- William T. Geary, Mason School of Business
- Leah F. Glenn, Theater, Speech, & Dance
- Monica D. Griffin, Office of Community Engagement and Scholarship
- Grey Gundaker, American Studies and Anthropology
- Anne Charity-Hudley, English
- Heather Huyck, History
- Arthur L. Knight, III, English
- Charles F. McGovern, American Studies and History

- Jacquelyn Y. McLendon, English
- Neil L. Norman, Anthropology
- Amy C. Schindler, Special Collections Research Center, Swem Library
- Joel D. Schwartz, Roy R. Charles Center
- Carol Sheriff, History
- James P. Whittenburg, History and National Institute of American History and Democracy
- Amanda R. Cottingham, Undergraduate student
- Christina S. Draper, Graduate student
- Oscar Blayton, Community member
- Anthony Conyers, Community member

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Africana Studies

Center for Student Diversity

Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

Office of Community Engagement

Office of Creative Services

Office of the President

Office of the Provost

Lyon Gardiner Tyler Department of History

Swem Library Special Collections

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Valerie Perkins, Bruton Heights School

Amy Schindler, Swem Special Collections

Kate Slevin, Office of the Provost

Randall Taylor, Photographer

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List of slaves owned by the College of William and Mary. Special Collections Research Center, Earl Gregg Swem Library, B3590A4.

Farrar Family Scrapbook. Special Collections Research Center, Earl Gregg Swem Library, B6443A3.

"W&M Admits Negro, Graduate of VSC." Flat Hat 1 May 1951.

The library of the College of William and Mary in the Wren Building, ca. 1902. Includes Henry Billups, librarian Emily Pryor Christian, and students. University Archives Photograph Collection, Special Collections Research Center, Earl Gregg Swem Library, A0029aw.

"A. Fishing Canoes of Mina," 1732. Special Collections Research Center, Earl Gregg Swem Library, B426OM3.

"Hunting Runaway Slaves." Image in *The Child's Anti-Slavery Book*. New York: Carlton and Porter, 1859. Special Collections Research Center, Earl Gregg Swem Library, B3581.

Henry Billups ringing the bell in the Wren Building. University Archives Photograph Collection, Special Collections Research Center, Earl Gregg Swem Library.



The College of
WILLIAM & MARY

Office of the Provost

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March 19, 2010

Greetings. I hope that you have enjoyed the symposium. I am sorry that I was not able to be with you today, but I know from the planned program that you have had the opportunity to hear from students, faculty, staff and community members about the Lemon Project, current research, and available archival resources. You also had a chance to meet and interact with other participants and I expect that you are teeming with ideas about the Project.

The task that we have taken on will not be easily accomplished, but it can be done with your help. Please share your ideas with us. There may already be a committee or project that would benefit from your knowledge, experiences, skills or vision. Or, yours might be a concept that we have not thought of yet. If this is the case, Lemon staff will work with you to identify like-minded individuals to join you on a new project.

We want to hear from you. We are committed to making the Lemon Project a community project, and your feedback will help us achieve that goal. There is important work to be done and I hope that you will join us on this Journey of Reconciliation.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Michael R. Halleran
Provost

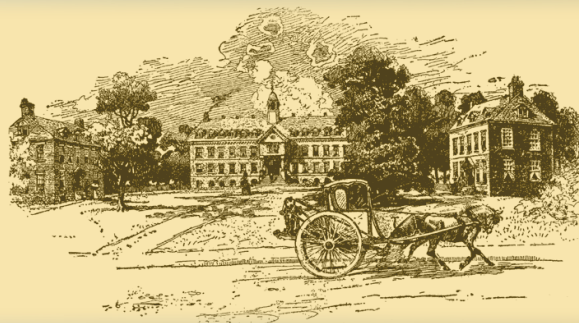
Negroes hired out

*Lemon
James
Letty
Charlott
H. onkey*



*M. Bellini's th
Molly
Maso
and Lucy*

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