

After 7th June 2020

Impacts of the toppling of the statue of Edward Colston

Summary – Timeline

Bristol

June 7th 2020 - Edward Colston's statue toppled by protestors in Bristol City Centre during Black Lives Matter (BLM) demonstration.

June 8th 2020 - Colston's School in Stapleton, Bristol considers name change. Colston's Girls' School in Montpelier, Bristol removes half-size replica statue of Edward Colston from public display.

June 9th 2020 - After the fall of the statue a collective of black-led organisations in Bristol St Pauls Carnival, Black South West Network (BSWN), Bristol Black Carers, Bristol Somali Resource Centre, Malcolm X Centre and Ujima Radio Station declare "this is just the beginning". Bristol Cathedral to consider future of stained glass window dedicated to Edward Colston.

June 10th 2020 - Bristol's elected Mayor Marvin Rees announces formation of a History Commission "so the city can better understand its story".

June 11th 2020 - Investment firm AEW, which owns the 15-storey high-rise Colston Tower in central Bristol removes lettering. Bristol University announce that they are committing to review and "debate" the names of their buildings named after families with links to the slave trade, as well as their university logo.

June 12th 2020 - Society of Merchant Venturers the main sponsors of the legacy of Edward Colston make a statement that they were wrong to get involved in re-wording of the Edward Colston plaque in 2018, that the removal of the statue was "right for Bristol" and that they support a new name for Colston's Girls' School. Survey of 10,252 people in Bristol shows the majority of people - 61 per cent - said the protesters were right to pull down the statue.

June 15th 2020 - Lettering removed from the soon to be renamed Colston Hall in central Bristol.

June 18th 2020 - Stained glass windows and other dedications to Edward Colston removed from St Mary Redcliffe Church. Stained glass window in Cathedral covered up prior to removal. Colston's Girls' School announce they are considering renaming the school.

June 30th 2020 - Colston Arms Public House in central Bristol renamed.

July 5th 2020 - Petition launched to rename Colston Road in Easton, Bristol.

September 13th 2020 - Colston Society members vote to disband the organisation after 275 years.

September 23rd 2020 - Colston Hall music venue renamed Bristol Beacon.

October 7th 2020 - After consultations Colston's Girls' School announces it will change its name. Petition launched to change the name of Colston Street and Colston Avenue in central Bristol.

October 19th 2020 - Recently opened Dolphin Primary School in Montpelier, Bristol linked with Edward Colston retains name but changes its coat of arms.

October 22nd 2020 - Bristol University Colston Accommodation Hall in central Bristol renamed.

November 1st 2020 - Investment firm AEW announce the Colston Tower will be renamed by the end of the year.

November 6th 2020 - Colston's Girls' School renamed Montpelier High School.

November 18th 2020 - Image of Lt General Sir Thomas Picton removed from Picton Street, Montpelier.

November 26th 2020 - Twenty businesses based at the Colston Tower vote to rename it the Beacon Tower.

December 19th 2020 - Bristol City Councillors support local residents in plans to restore the medieval names of Colston Street and Colston Avenue in central Bristol.

United Kingdom

June 7th 2020 - Brecon, Wales: Slave ship Captain Thomas Phillips plaque in Brecon removed and thrown in the river.

June 9th 2020 - Oxford: Thousands of people protest outside Oriel College demanding the removal of a statue of imperialist Cecil Rhodes. Twenty-six Oxford city councillors back the campaign to remove the statue and call on Oxford University to "decolonise".

June 9th 2020 - London Docklands: Statue of slaveholder Robert Milligan removed from outside the Museum of London, Docklands after London mayor Sadiq Khan said any links to slavery "should be taken down".

June 10th 2020 - Haverfordwest, Wales: Plaque to birthplace of General Sir Thomas Picton removed by the owner of the building.

June 10th 2020 - London: Mayor Sadiq Khan orders review of statues connected with slavery in the capital.

June 11th 2020 - Edinburgh, Scotland: City of Edinburgh proposes to dedicate a controversial Henry Dundas monument to those he enslaved. New signage will explain that Dundas was "instrumental in deferring the abolition of the Atlantic slave trade".

June 14th 2020 - Brecon, Wales: Hundreds of people attend BLM protest in Brecon in support of the removal of the Phillips plaque.

June 17th 2020 - Oxford: Oriel College votes in favour of removing its statue of the Victorian imperialist Cecil Rhodes.

June 24th 2020 - St Asaph, Wales: City Council consider new wording for a plaque on the memorial obelisk to Sir Henry Morton Stanley after a petition of 1,100 people calls for its removal.

June 26th 2020 - Canterbury: Archbishop announces launch of Church of England review of statues with links to the slave trade at major places of worship.

July 6th 2020 - London: Cass Business School changes its name because of its associations with Sir John Cass, a 17th Century merchant and proponent of slavery.

July 7th 2020 - Wales: First Minister Mark Drakeford orders the auditing of statues, streets and building names to see whether they have links to slavery.

July 9th 2020 - Plymouth: City Council plan to rename Sir John Hawkins Square.

July 13th 2020 - London: Beckford Primary school in West Hampstead to drop name of slave owner following campaign.

July 17th 2020 - Edinburgh, Scotland: Edinburgh University considers renaming David Hume Tower due to philosopher links to UK's slave trade.

July 22nd 2020 - National Trust: After criticism that it had been slow to address the legacy of slavery and colonialism, the National Trust accelerates publication of a report commissioned in 2019.

July 24th 2020 - Watford: Watford Borough Council accepts a proposal to look into changing some of its street names as it attempts to reflect on the connotations associated with the town's roads.

August 1st 2020 - London: Protests at the Museum of the Home over its board's decision to keep the statue of Sir Robert Geffrye, who made money from the enforced labour and trade of enslaved African people.

August 6th 2020 - Plymouth: Calls to remove a statue of Sir Francis Drake are met with the Council offering to "add more information on site to put his deeds of almost 500 years ago into context."

August 7th 2020 - Liberal Democrats: propose investigating Britain's imperial record, to establish the extent of human rights abuses and wrongdoing.

August 24th 2020 - London: British Museum moves bust of its slave-owning founder Hans Sloane to the "Enlightenment Gallery" contextualising imperialism and slavery.

September 1st 2020 - London: City of London Corporation launches a public consultation asking whether slave-owners' statues should be removed from the Square Mile.

September 9th 2020 - Denbigh, Wales: Town Council announce public consultation is planned in 2021 over a proposal to remove statue of Sir Henry Morton Stanley.

September 13th 2020 - Edinburgh, Scotland: Edinburgh University renames David Hume Tower over 'racist' views.

September 21st 2020 - National Trust: Publication of the *Interim Report on the Connections between Colonialism and Properties now in the Care of the National Trust, Including Links with Historic Slavery*.

September 28th - Brecon, Wales: Town council vote not to reinstate plaque of slave ship Captain Thomas Phillips at original location but to place in Brecon town museum, Y Gaer to be displayed in context.

September 28th 2020 - Glasgow, Scotland: Glasgow Life, which manages 11 museum sites, has appointed a curator to focus on the city's links to the slave trade.

October 10th 2020 – London: National Maritime Museum reviews “aspects of slavery relating to Royal Navy”.

October 30th 2020 – London: Fourth protest planned at the Museum of the Home over its board's decision to keep the statue of Sir Robert Geffrye.

November 3rd 2020 - Cambridge: Legacy of Slavery Working Party recommends removal of memorial to Tobias Rustat from Jesus College Chapel and the placement of a plaque at the entrance to the College which critically acknowledges Rustat's and the College's links to the slave trade.

November 8th 2020 - Historic Royal Palaces: New curator hired by the organization that manages historic royal properties, including Kensington Palace and Hampton Court Palace, will look into their connections to the slave trade.

November 11th 2020 - Cardiff, Wales: City Council votes to remove the statue of Sir Thomas Picton from Heroes of Wales collection in the Marble Hall.

November 26th 2020 - Wales: Welsh Government publishes the report *The Slave Trade and the British Empire: an audit of commemoration in Wales* directly referencing the fall of the Colston statue and the removal of the Phillips plaque in Brecon as leading to its production.

November 2020 - Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire: Local historians launch investigations into the slave-owning Protheroe and Bathurst families.

International

June 7th-9th 2020 - Belgium: Statue of King Leopold II set on fire in Antwerp and later removed by authorities. Similar statue pulled down in Brussels and others vandalised in Ghent, Ostend and Tervuren. University of Mons removes a bust of the King. A petition calling for the removal of a statue of Leopold II on horseback at the gates of the Royal Palace in Brussels reaches 74,000 signatures on June 12th.

June 10th 2020 - USA: The tearing down of Edward Colston's statue in Bristol referenced by Rev. Al Sharpton at George Floyd's funeral in Houston Texas.

June 13th 2020 - USA: Statue of Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederacy during the Civil War, removed by the authorities from the state capitol in Frankfort, Kentucky.

June 14th 2020 - USA: Protesters in New Orleans tear down a bust of slave owner John McDonogh, take the remains to the Mississippi River and roll it down the banks into the water.

June 16th 2020 - USA: Statue of Christopher Columbus set on fire by protesters in Sacramento. Authorities later remove the statue from California's state capitol.

June 19th 2020 – USA: In Portland, Oregon statues of Thomas Jefferson and George Washington toppled over Juneteenth weekend.

July 5th 2020 - USA: Statue of Christopher Columbus in Baltimore's Inner Harbour is pulled from its pedestal and thrown into the water.

July 15th 2020 - Cape Town, South Africa: Statue of Cecil Rhodes decapitated.

July 25th 2020 - USA: Two statues of Christopher Columbus in Chicago have been removed by city authorities after protesters trying to topple one of the monuments to the Italian explorer clashed with police.

October 2nd 2020 - Netherlands: Referencing the Colston Hall name change Rotterdam's former Witte de With art centre chooses 'decolonial' new name as Kunstinstituut Melly.

October 12th 2020 - USA: In Portland, Oregon protestors pull down statues of Theodore Roosevelt and Abraham Lincoln on the eve of Indigenous Peoples' Day (Columbus Day).

November 17th 2020 - Bridgetown, Barbados: Statue of British Admiral Lord Nelson removed from Bridgetown's principal thoroughfare and moved to Barbados Museum.

Sources

Bristol

Item	Date	Source
COLSTON'S SCHOOL 'TO LOOK AGAIN' AT NAME CHANGE	June 9th 2020	<i>Bristol 24/7</i>

Repercussions from the removal of Edward Colston's statue from the centre of Bristol are being felt across the city. Following the Colston Hall's announcement that they would have a new name by the autumn, a private school both founded and named after the wealthy slave trader has announced that they are considering changing their name. Colston's School in Stapleton was founded by Colston in 1710 and was in operation during his lifetime. Today, fees for pupils attending the upper school are £4,875 per term.

Headmaster Jeremy McCullough said that "there is no doubt that the funds (Colston) used to establish the school will have come, at least in part, from the abhorrent and brutal trade in human lives that caused such misery worldwide". He said: "The name of our school, therefore, does not always sit comfortably with the very inclusive and diverse nature of our school community, and is something that we have reviewed regularly."

"It is not a change that could or should be taken lightly, or indeed made overnight, but it is certainly something that we are looking at again. "The view of the school community has tended towards the desire to educate about what Colston did and to do our very best to ensure that our students understand how they can play an active part in making the world a better place. Indeed, we see that as one of our responsibilities."

Bristol Cathedral to 'urgently' look at future of its Colston Window June 9th 2020 *Bristol Post*

Senior church leaders at Bristol Cathedral have said they 'need to look closely and urgently' at the future of a huge stained glass window dedicated to slave trader Edward Colston. The presence of the window has long been the subject of controversy, with the cathedral previously resisting pressure to remove it over the past few years. But following the toppling of the Edward Colston statue on Sunday and the Black Lives Matter protests that day and previously in Bristol, the cathedral and the Bishop of Bristol have said they will work harder to tackle racism.

A spokesperson for Bristol Cathedral said 'not enough' progress had been made on that issue. "We at Bristol Cathedral have been closely watching events in the USA and UK over the past weeks, and recognise the importance of the issues raised by the Black Lives Matter movement," he said.

Six black-led organisations in Bristol issue statement on the toppling of Colston's statue June 9th 2020 *Bristol Live*

A collective of black-led organisations in Bristol have declared "this is just the beginning" in reference to the Edward Colston statue which was toppled during a Black Lives Matter protest and thrown into the Harbour.

Bristol Uni to review and 'debate' the renaming of buildings connected to the slave trade June 11th 2020 *Bristol Tab*

The University of Bristol has announced in a statement that they are committing to review and “debate” the names of their buildings named after families with links to the slave trade, as well as their university logo. This comes in reaction to the recent Black Lives Matter protests, which saw the Colston statue pulled down and petitions arise for the university to rename some of their buildings. In the statement, the university said: “We are committed to ensuring that our university is an inclusive one, and that the experience of studying and working here is positive and welcoming for everyone, of all ethnic and racial backgrounds.

Bristol has spoken - and most people are glad the Colston statue was pulled down June 12th 2020
Bristol Live

The momentous fall of Edward Colston's statue in Bristol has undoubtedly fuelled fierce debate all around the world. He was captured with rope and heaved to the ground during a Black Lives Matter protest on Sunday, before being rolled to the harbour and submerged in the murky River Avon. Many people have celebrated it as a symbolic victory against racism and a fitting end for the slave trader, but others - including the police and the Home Secretary - say it was an act of criminal damage. Our city has now had its say in a Bristol Live survey, which gained 10,252 responses in less than three days. The majority of people who responded - 61 per cent - said the protesters were right to pull down the statue. Of these, five per cent said throwing it in the water was a step too far, but 56 per cent felt it was the right thing to do. One in five people, however - 20 per cent - said the statue should not have been taken down by any means. Another 19 per cent said the statue should have been removed years ago, but that it was wrong to pull it down.

Bristol churches remove windows dedicated to C17th slave trader June 18th 2020 *Independent*

‘These dedications have prevented many people from finding peace in these beautiful building’ diocese says Windows celebrating the 17th century merchant and slave trader Edward Colston are being removed from two churches in Bristol.

Panes at St Mary Redcliffe have already been taken out while others at the city’s cathedral — including the large Colston Window — have been covered up ahead of being withdrawn from the building. It comes less than a fortnight after a statue of the one-time Conservative MP, who died in 1721, was pulled from its plinth in the city by anti-racist protestors.

Canon Michael Johnson, acting dean of Bristol Cathedral, said the removal was “the right response”.

And he confirmed officials would also remove other dedications to Colston, who was once celebrated as a philanthropist, as part of action that had been under consideration for several years.

The toppling of statues is easy. What replaces them is more complex “We haven’t responded to the issue of racism well over the years,” he said. “We need to see what is realistic for us to acknowledge the evils of slavery but which treads the line between removing those and doesn’t rewrite history.

“It’s easy for us to look back and say ‘if only we’d have known’.

In a further statement, the Diocese of Bristol added: “The dedications to Colston, in two significant places of worship, has prevented many people from finding peace in these beautiful buildings.

“Most of these dedications have now gone and the rest will follow. “The removal or covering of window panes is also a symbolic moment. “It doesn’t change history and it doesn’t change the fact that black people in Bristol, Britain and the world still face discrimination, injustice and racism.”

It did not say why the action was only happening now despite Colston’s legacy — his company forcibly displaced 80,000 people — having long been well known.

The churches are not the only buildings that will be changed in the current reassessment of the slave trader’s legacy. Bristol’s main concert venue, Colston Hall, will have its name changed later this year — a transformation that follows years of calls for such action — while Colston Tower, one of the city’s tallest high-rise blocks, has had the letters of its name removed.

Both Colston’s Girls’ School and the separate Colston’s School, meanwhile, have said they are also considering a name change.

Colston Arms Name Change

June 30th 2020

Bristol 24/7

Following the fall of Colston’s statue and the consequent renaming of businesses in Bristol associated with the slave trader, the Colston Arms has been temporarily given a new name. It comes after the Colston Hall announced that it will have a new moniker by autumn 2020, and also the removal of Colston’s name from several other signs across the city. The St Michael’s Hill pub has now hung a banner above its doorway renaming itself as Ye Olde Pubby McDrunkface.

Colston Society

September 13th 2020

Bristol Post

Bristol’s original Colston Society to disband after 275 years

Colston Hall

September 23rd 2020

The Guardian

Bristol's Colston Hall renamed after decades of protests. Music venue drops association with slave trader and will be known as Bristol Beacon. A new name has been announced for the Bristol venue Colston Hall following decades of protests and boycotts over its association with the slave trade. Colston Hall, which was named after the 17th-century slave trader Edward Colston, will from now on be known as Bristol Beacon following a public consultation. Bristol featured in headlines around the world in June after a statue of Colston was toppled by Black Lives Matter protesters and thrown into the harbour. However, the process of renaming the hall began three years before, in April 2017, following protests by civil rights campaigners, music lovers and artists, including the Bristol band Massive Attack, who refused to perform in the venue.

Dolphin Primary School

October 19th 2020

Bristol Post

The Dolphin School name, linked with Edward Colston, has decided to keep its name but will change its logo - "The children have enjoyed exploring two sides of a story so deeply connected to Bristol"

“We are Bristol” History Commission – letter from Mayor Marvin Rees to citizen 30th June 2020

“The council has received lots of ideas for what could go on the remaining plinth, including another statue of a notable Bristol person or revolving art projects. Any decision about how the plinth should be used will be decided democratically, through citywide consultation. Bristol’s true history will be

researched by a new commission so the city can better understand its story. The commission will include historians and city place-makers and be charged with researching and sharing Bristol's rich and varied communities and stories. The only way we can work together on our future is by learning the truth of our beginnings, embracing the facts, and sharing those stories with others. Our story includes the impacts that wars, protests, slavery and freedom have had on our citizens. Crucial to our heritage has been the harbour and the docks, manufacturing and industry, research and innovation, transport, slum clearances, housing, modern gentrification and faith. It is my sincere hope that greater accuracy about our city's history will help us understand each other, our differences, our contradictions and our complexities."

...rename Colston Road in Easton due to association with slave trader 5th July 2020 *Bristol Post*

The petition states Easton "encapsulates the diversity of our city and is a celebration of many cultures and religions" A Bristol mosque leader and former councillor has launched a petition to change the name of Colston Road because of its association with slave trader Edward Colston .

Abdul Malik, who is the chair of Easton Jamia Mosque, and served as a Liberal Democrat councillor for four years, said he started the petition after learning that the music venue Colston Hall would be renamed. Mr Malik, who is a Colston Road resident, said it was important that this particular road be renamed because it is in Easton, which he said "encapsulates the diversity of our city and is a celebration of many cultures and religions".

SMVs 'not fit' to run Bristol schools says former headteacher 13th July 2020 *Bristol Post*

Merchants blocked me from talking about name change - CGS principal [went on to say] Mr Whitehead said he fully understood why the statue of Edward Colston had been toppled in Bristol, and supported those who had done it, while not condoning violent action. "I would like to express my support for the removal of the statue of Edward Colston as a part of the BLM protest in Bristol," he said.

"This action was entirely justified by the deep discomfort and offence the statue has caused over generations to many Bristolians.

"Its removal takes away a key symbol of the forces that have prevented Bristol becoming a great and progressive city. I do not condone violent action; however, in this case ethical people were left with little choice than to use direct action," he added.

Since the statue was toppled the Society of Merchant Venturers, and Colston's Girls' School, have issued a number of statements as they came under the spotlight to a degree that has been unprecedented in Bristol's history. The day after the statue was toppled, Colston's Girls' School announced it had removed the smaller replica statue of Edward Colston - a scaled-down copy of the one toppled in The Centre - from public display. This was the statue Mr Whitehead had covered over with a sheet in 2017.

Colston's vacated plinth on the Centre July 16th 2020 *BBC News*

Colston's statue was briefly replaced by sculptor Marc Quinn's *A Surge of Power (Jen Reid) 2020*, a statue depicting the protester Jen Reid who had been photographed with her fist raised on the

plinth. The sculpture was erected on Wednesday but removed by Bristol City Council just over 24 hours later. Mayor Marvin Rees said it was up to the people of Bristol to decide what would replace Colston's statue.

Various sources state that other statues to appear in the vicinity were a obese white man in a wheelie bin with "spoiler alert, St George was Turkish", a statue of Jimmy Saville and one of Darth Vader, all were removed within hours.

Colston Girls School ditch Colston name

October 7th 2020 *Bristol Post*

Girls' School takes decision after consultation with staff, students, parents and public ...After assessing the results of the consultation, the Board of Trustees of the Venturers Trust, the academy umbrella run by the Society of Merchant Venturers, decided the name should be changed....In 2017, the school leadership wanted to have a consultation on the future of the name, but it didn't happen. Headteacher at the time John Whitehead told the Post earlier this summer, that the SMVs and the Venturers Trust had stopped the idea in its tracks – against the wishes of the school's leadership.

By 9th June 2020, someone had draped Colston Girls School ½ size statue of Colston in black cloth.

Colston Street and Avenue, named during the height of the 'Cult of Colston' in the late 19th Century; petition started to change names and revert them back to their original.

Colston Street accommodation renamed as part of University's Black Lives Matter pledge October 22nd 2020 *Epigram*

The accommodation hall has been renamed 'No. 33' as part of the University's response to the Black Lives Matter movement. The renaming of the halls is the first official change as part of the University's initiative to review the names of buildings linked to the city's historical connections to the slave trade. The name change was revealed by Deputy Vice-Chancellor Judith Squires in a blog post titled 'Celebrating Black History Month', which describes the efforts being made to 'promote Black history and help bring about positive change.'

The post revealed that further research is also underway, led by Professor Olivette Otele, 'to inform our review of the names of other University buildings.' This research is being conducted as part of the Anti-Racism Steering Group, created this summer, which 'aims to address the effects of Britain's colonial past on our institution.' The toppling of the Edward Colston statue in Bristol's city centre during a Black Lives Matter protest in June sparked further debate around the memorialisation of the 17th century slave trader across the city. Following the demonstrations, the University pledged its determination to become an 'anti-racist organisation' in a letter addressed to students from the Pro Vice-Chancellor Professor Hugh Brady and the Pro Vice-Chancellor for student experience, Sarah Purdy.

Colston Tower (1)

November 1st 2020 *Bristol Live*

The Colston Tower is expected to have a new name by the end of the year. Investment firm AEW, which owns the 15-storey high-rise on Colston Street, removed the letters of its name from the top of the building on June 11. The move came four days after a nearby statue of 17th century slave trader Edward Colston was toppled during a Black Lives Matter demonstration.

Colston's Girls' School in Bristol chooses new name November 6th 2020 *BBC News*

A school named after the 17th Century slave trader Edward Colston has announced its new name. Colston's Girls' School in Bristol will now be known as Montpelier High School, after a vote by staff and students. Last month the school decided to rebrand following anti-racism protests, during which a statue of Colston was thrown into Bristol's harbour. The school's principal said it would "allow the school to forge a new identity".

General Thomas Picton sign has now disappeared from Picton Street in Bristol November 18th *Bristol Live*

A picture of a slave torturer and former member of the British Army has been taken down from the Bristol street named after him. Following the toppling of the Colston statue in June, the sign of Lt General Sir Thomas Picton, who gave his name to Picton Street, was covered over. Previously, the sign hung above the General Picton pub where it once stood in the Montpelier area of Bristol, before it closed down many years ago. Since then, the sign has been completely removed and what happened to it is currently unknown. Those living in the flats below had said that they asked their landlord to remove it and before they knew it, the image had come down.

Colston Tower (2)

November 26th 2020 *Bristol 24/7*

Twenty businesses based at the tower voted to rename the distinctive building, with Beacon Tower being chosen from a shortlist of four which also included Unity Tower, Vantage Point and Century Tower. Despite now sharing its name with the concert hall, Bristol24/7 understands that Bristol Beacon bosses were not told about the tower's new name before it was revealed.

Two of Bristol's Colston streets to have medieval names restored December 19th 2020 *Bristol Post*

Two of Bristol's historic city centre streets that were renamed as part of the 'cult of Colston' could have their original names restored, a council chief has confirmed. The roads that are currently called Colston Street and Colston Avenue, date back centuries, but had their original names changed by city leaders in Victorian times, to honour Edward Colston, who had died 140 years earlier.

For hundreds of years before that, Colston Street was called Steep Street, and Colston Avenue was called St Augustine's Back or Bank. Now, residents living on Colston Street have lobbied their local councillor, writing letters and submitting a petition, asking for the original Steep Street name to be restored, and also asking for Colston Avenue's original name to be restored. Cllr Kye Dudd, who is on the city council's cabinet as head of transport and energy, said he supported that idea, and would help make it happen.

United Kingdom

<u>Item</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>
<p>Brecon, Wales</p> <p>Slave ship Captain Thomas Phillips plaque in Brecon Rosemary removed from Captain's Walk and thrown in the river. Rosemary Caldicott (BRHG) and local residents have been campaigning for several years for its removal.</p>	June 9 th 2020	BRHG email
<p>London Docklands</p> <p>A statue of slaveholder Robert Milligan was earlier removed from outside the Museum of London, Docklands after mayor Sadiq Khan said any links to slavery "should be taken down".</p>	June 9 th 2020	BBC News
<p>Oriel College, Oxford</p> <p>"Thousands of people have gathered outside an Oxford college to demand the removal of a statue of imperialist Cecil Rhodes. A group of councillors earlier backed the campaign to remove it and called on Oxford University to "decolonise". Twenty-six Oxford city councillors signed a letter saying the figure at Oriel College was "incompatible" with the city's "commitment to anti-racism". Oriel College said it "abhors racism and discrimination in all its forms". Campaigners said Rhodes, a 19th Century businessman and politician in southern Africa, represented white supremacy and is steeped in colonialism and racism."</p>	June 9 th 2020	BBC News
<p>Edinburgh, Scotland</p> <p>The City of Edinburgh is proposing to dedicate a controversial 1827 Henry Dundas monument to those enslaved because of his actions. New signage will explain that Dundas was "instrumental in deferring the abolition of the Atlantic slave trade". The statue on a tall column in Edinburgh's St Andrew Square was funded by voluntary subscription.</p>	June 11 th 2020	BBC News
<p>Oxford college backs removal of Cecil Rhodes statue</p> <p>Oxford University's Oriel College has voted in favour of removing its statue of the Victorian imperialist Cecil Rhodes and will set up an independent inquiry into the key issues around it following a student-led campaign that began four years ago.</p> <p>The governing body of Oriel College meeting follows protests by the Rhodes Must Fall campaign outside the college over the past two weeks. The campaign, which started in 2015 but dwindled after students graduated, was reignited by the recent Black Lives Matter demonstrations across the UK, which included the dramatic toppling of a statue of the slave trader Edward Colston in Bristol.</p>	June 17 th 2020	The Guardian
<p>St Asaph's HM Stanley obelisk 'historical context' will be added to it say councillors</p> <p><i>Rhyl, Prestatyn and Abergele Journal</i></p> <p>CITY councillors have voted unanimously to keep an HM Stanley tribute, but vowed to add some "historical context" to the monument.</p>	June 24 th 2020	

St Asaph city councillors heard a representation from Elen Lewis who had organised a petition of almost 1,100 people who wanted the piece removed.

However councillors were unmoved by her pleas, although they agreed a working party, including Miss Lewis, should look into adding more historical context to the installation's plaque.

Wrapping up the item, chair of the meeting Cllr Peter Scott said: "The council has decided to keep the artwork dedicated to HM Stanley. But it understands it needs to better reflect today's climate and Tim Jeal's autobiography and documents received over the last few months.

Archbishop of Canterbury: Church statues to be reviewed 'very carefully' June 26th 2020 *BBC News*

The Church of England is to "very carefully" review statues at major places of worship to see "if they all should be there", the Archbishop of Canterbury has said. The Most Reverend Justin Welby said monuments at Canterbury Cathedral and Westminster Abbey would be included. "Some will have to come down, some names will have to change," he told BBC Radio 4's Today. The acts of those memorialised could be forgiven "only if there's justice," he said. Forgiveness can only be granted "if we change the way we behave now and say this was then and we learn from that and change how we are going to be in the future," he said. Across the UK, statues are being reviewed for links to the slave trade in response to Black Lives Matter protests that followed the death in US police custody of African-American George Floyd. Archbishop Welby said it was not his decision whether to remove statues at Canterbury Cathedral. "We are going to be looking very carefully and putting them in context and seeing if they all should be there," he said. Asked if society focused too heavily on repentance over forgiveness, he said: "Yes, I think we do...repentance and justice must go together". "We have seen in some of the other crises we have been facing over the last few months, not just Covid, but also Black Lives Matter and the economic downturn, that there is great injustice and we need a collective turning away from that, which is what repentance means, but we also need to learn to forgive."

Cass: Famous business school in name-change over slavery July 6th 2020 *BBC News*

The prestigious Cass Business School, in London, is changing its name because of its associations with Sir John Cass, a 17th Century merchant and proponent of slavery. The school, part of City, University of London, was named after the figure in 2002, after a donation from the foundation that bears his name. The foundation will also change its name as it is "no longer appropriate". Both organisations acknowledged the hurt caused by the association. Sir John Cass's Foundation was set up as an educational charity in 1748. It funds work across London, concentrating especially on projects for young people. On the Foundation's website Sir John Cass is described as "a merchant and politician, whose wealth posthumously was used to create the Foundation to deliver educational benefits to disadvantaged children".

All the names of buildings and statues to be audited in Wales after Colston statue toppled July 7th 2020 *Bristol Live*

It has been confirmed that all streets, statues and building names in Wales will be checked to see whether they have links to slavery. It comes as Edward Colston's statue was toppled here in Bristol on Sunday, June 7 and has sparked a debate about the future of other statues with links to slavery in other areas. Wales Online reports that First Minister Mark Drakeford has now ordered the auditing

of statues, streets and building names. The investigation, which will cover the whole of Wales will be spearheaded by Gaynor Legall, a powerful advocate for ethnic minority women across Wales. According to the Welsh Government, Cardiff-born Legall, will lead the task and finish group selected for their expert knowledge of the slave trade, British Empire and history of black communities in Wales.

Why Plymouth square was named after slave trader Sir John Hawkins in the '80s July 9th 2020
Plymouth Live

Since the explosion of protest and counter-protest following the killing of George Floyd and the super-charged return of the Black Lives Matter movement, many eyes have focused on some of England's darker past - and parts. Last month, the country watched as Bristolians tore down a statue of slave trader Edward Colston and hurled the bronze Grade II listed structure into the harbour to resounding cheers. This in turn saw supposedly patriotic counter-protesters form lines around other statues claiming they were protecting them from the Black Lives Matter supporters. This occasionally resulted in confrontations by the supposed statue protectors and police ending in shocking violence in the nation's capital. Plymouth became quickly drawn into the furore when it was pointed out the city had produced what was, effectively, the nation's first slave trader and had honoured him by naming a square after him.

Sir John Hawkins Square is nestled between Plymouth Magistrates' Court, The Mission restaurant, The Swan public house, Kitty O'Hanlon's pub and the dBs Music Plymouth. It is but a few yards from the Elizabethan House and it's probably best known to many people in the city as a place you cut through to get from Notte Street to Royal Parade.

Beckford Primary school to drop name of slave owner following campaign supported by former pupil Dame Emma Thompson July 13th 2020
Evening Standard

A London primary school will drop the name of an 18th century slave owner following pressure from hundreds of parents and former pupils in the wake of Black Lives Matter protests. Beckford Primary School in West Hampstead is currently named after William Beckford, a politician and former Lord Mayor of London who owned an estate in Jamaica with more than 3,000 slaves. Last month, as statues of slave-owners were torn down in cities around the world, parents and alumni — including actress Dame Emma Thompson — called for the north London primary to be renamed. Now the school and Camden Council have together decided the name-change will go ahead, following a consultation with parents and pupils. In a statement, the council said the decision was made as part of a borough-wide initiative to review names that "may have associations with individuals whose actions have contributed to or directly benefited from oppression".

Cream teas and home truths: the National Trust at 125 July 23rd 2020
Financial Times

As it celebrates its anniversary and starts to reopen, the charity is confronting its links with slavery and colonialism.

The town torn over a decision to rename streets as Watford legend Luther Blissett opposes change July 24th 2020
Herts Live

Following the father-of-five's death the Black Lives Matter movement gained traction and has prompted uncomfortable conversations to take place about how society can learn for the better. It has led to calls for the removal of statues that appear to glorify links to the slave trade, as well as the renaming of buildings and streets to better mirror a modern, more inclusive society. Watford Borough Council has recently accepted a proposal to look into changing some of its street names as it attempts to reflect on the connotations associated with the town's roads. The council agreed to look at renaming Rhodes Way, Clive Way, Colonial Way and Imperial Way in order to 'reflect forward thinking'. The streets that have been earmarked are in North Watford and are part of the industrial estates in and around Knutsford.

'Geffrye must fall': Stand Up To Racism protest calls on museum to remove statue August 3rd 2020
Hackney Citizen

Chants of 'Take it down' and 'Geffrye must fall' rang out at the gates of the Museum of the Home (MoH) on Saturday, as the backlash continued over its board's decision to keep the statue of Sir Robert Geffrye, who made money from the enforced labour and trade of enslaved African people.

Leading Hackney councillors made their own anger felt at the protest, after Mayor of Hackney Philip Glanville voiced his own "disappointment" in the museum for keeping Geffrye in place, despite a consultation in which the majority of respondents were in favour of taking the statue down.

The demonstration, organised by Hackney Stand Up To Racism & Fascism, saw a banner with the phrase 'We Are All Migrants' draped across the museum's gates, as campaigners pointed to the recent dropping of the name of slave trader Sir John Cass from multiple buildings and organisations.

Cleaning Sir Francis Drake statue is like 'polishing a trophy' August 6th 2020
Plymouth Live

Residents have welcomed a clean-up of the controversial statue of Sir Francis Drake in Tavistock – but one woman has compared it to "polishing a trophy". Protesters have called for the monument to be pulled down because of the Elizabethan seafarer's role in the slave trade. The statue of Edward Colston, a slave trader, MP and philanthropist, was torn down in Bristol as Black Lives Matters demonstrations swept the country. Rival petitions have been set up to save and remove the Sir Francis Drake statue in Tavistock and its brother on Plymouth Hoe. But owners Tavistock Town Council and Plymouth City Council have already pledged to keep the monuments – but add more information on site to put his deeds of almost 500 years ago into context.

UK must confront 'long shadow of British Empire' with probe into imperial record August 7th 2020
Mirror

The UK must set up a commission to investigate atrocities committed during the "long shadow of the British Empire", MPs have said. In the wake of global protests at the death of George Floyd, the Liberal Democrats have proposed investigating Britain's imperial record, to establish the extent of human rights abuses and wrongdoing. The plan includes an overhaul of the school curriculum to broaden teaching of black history and the creation of citizen's assemblies to debate memorials to the UK's imperial legacy. The idea could reignite the furore which erupted in the UK after the death of Mr Floyd - which saw the statue of slave trader Edward Colston toppled and cast into Bristol's harbour. The Black Lives Matter protests, sparked by Mr Floyd's death at the hands of a white police

officer, prompted fresh recriminations about the UK's colonial past, including monuments to people linked with the slave trade.

City of London Corporation asks public whether slave-owners' statues should be removed from Square Mile September 1st 2020 *Independent*

The City of London Corporation is asking the public for their views on whether statues of slave-owners should be removed from the Square Mile. In the latest sign of Britain grappling with its past in response to the Black Lives Matter movement, the 800-year-old body that governs London's financial district launched a three-month consultation on Tuesday asking for people's views on statues, street names and other landmarks which celebrate former slave owners. The Corporation wants people to put forward suggestions on what to do with the landmarks, including whether to remove them, "re-interpret them" or leave them as they stand. A number of Britain's most well-known financial institutions, including Barclays, HSBC, insurance market Lloyds of London, and the Bank of England have made statements in recent weeks about wealth that they and their founders historically generated from the forced labour of African slaves.

Edinburgh University renames David Hume Tower over 'racist' views September 13th 2020 *BBC News*

Edinburgh University has renamed its David Hume Tower over the philosopher's "comments on matters of race". The building, which will be used as a student study space this academic year, will now be known as 40 George Square. An online petition claiming David Hume "wrote racist epithets" and calling for the building to be renamed has been signed more than 1,700 times. The university said Hume's comments on race, "though not uncommon at the time, rightly cause distress today."

Denbigh Town Council provide update on town's HM Stanley statue consultation process September 15th 2020 *The Free Press*

DENBIGH Town Council have provided an update on the consultation process regarding the statue of a controversial figure in the town.

Town councillors had felt the need to discuss the future of the bronze cast of Sir Henry Morton Stanley, who was born in the town, after Black Lives Matters demonstrations across the world forced a re-evaluation of all so-called colonial figures.

In June, councillors voted by a margin of one to reprieve the statue of controversial explorer, situated outside Denbigh Library.

At a special Denbigh Town Council meeting held on September 9, a working group was created with five town councillors, enabling discussions to take place as to the actions required to hold a public consultation on the future of the statue. The working group will feedback to the town council at regular intervals.

Glasgow, Scotland

September 28th 2020 *BBC News*

Glasgow Life, which manages 11 museum sites, has appointed a curator to focus on the city's links to the slave trade. In his role as curator, legacies of slavery and empire, Miles Greenwood will work with colleagues to create new displays demonstrating how enslaved labour is "woven into the city's

physical environment and material culture". Glasgow Life said that the significance of the city's links with slavery had been obscured in the 19th century and that as a result there are few objects directly relating to slavery in Glasgow's museums.

Lord Nelson's 'heroic status' to be reviewed by National Maritime Museum October 10th 2020
Telegraph

Museum will capitalise on 'momentum built up by Black Lives Matter' to address 'aspects of slavery relating to Royal Navy'.

Anti-racism group to hold fourth protest against Hoxton museum's statue of slave trader Robert Geffrye October 30th 2020 *Hackney Gazette*

A fourth protest demanding the removal of a slave trader's statue is set to take place outside a Hackney museum tonight. Hackney Stand Up to Racism (HSUTR) will be holding another #GeffryeMustFall protest outside the Museum of the Home on Kingsland Road, formerly the Geffrye Museum, at 6pm. The group is asking for a statue of slave trader Robert Geffrye, which sits above the door of the chapel among a row of alms houses funded using wealth accumulated from his involvement in the East India Company and the Royal African Company, to be removed in recognition of his history. It comes after a statue of slave trader Edward Colston was thrown into Bristol Harbour during a Black Lives Matter protest in June. Despite most respondents to a consultation called for the Geffrye statue to be removed, in July the Museum of the Home announced it would stay put.

Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire

November 2020

BRHG

Investigations are being made in Newnham into Edward Prothro Senior, former Bristol MP and slave owner. This follows similar work on the Bathurst family.

Jesus College, Cambridge Legacy of Slavery Working Party recommendations 3rd November 2020

Jesus College has proposed to the Church of England authorities that Tobias Rustat's memorial should be removed from the Chapel. I am writing today to let you know about decisions taken by College Council following recommendations from our Legacy of Slavery Working Party regarding Tobias Rustat. It is important to me that every member of our community is aware of the decisions we have taken and understands the evidence that supports them.

The context and our aims: - Rustat's father was a Jesuan and Tobias Rustat became one of our College's largest benefactors before the twentieth century, helping to shape the College as we know it today. Rustat's personal wealth came from his career as a courtier in the mid-17th Century, and he added to his wealth when he became an investor in a series of slave-trading companies, most notably the Royal African Company. In his recent book, historian William Pettigrew states that the Royal African Company: "shipped more enslaved African women, men and children to the Americas than any other single institution during the entire period of the transatlantic slave trade." Investors were fully aware of its activities and intended to profit from this brutal and sustained trade. Rustat was also a benefactor of the University Library and a small stone statue of him stands at Old Schools, the original site of the Library. We are part of the Collegiate University and our decisions are in line with the outcomes of their similar review of Rustat. We will not erase Rustat from our history.

The College Council has considered where he is explicitly celebrated versus where he is mentioned in a factual manner. As a first step, Council will commission a plaque, which critically acknowledges Rustat's – and hence the College's – links to the slave trade. It will be placed at the entrance to the College.

Rustat's veneration within College: - Rustat's large marble memorial dominates the wall to your right as you enter Chapel, opposite the altar. The work of Grinling Gibbons' atelier, Rustat commissioned the monument and celebratory inscription during his lifetime when he was already a major College donor.

Following a request in Rustat's will, he was buried in Chapel and the monument installed, most probably in its current location. It was later moved at least twice, arriving back in its current location in 1922. Council decided that the memorial represents a celebration of Rustat, which is incompatible with the Chapel as an inclusive community and a place of collective wellbeing, and proposed that it should be removed. Our current intention is to relocate the memorial to an educational exhibition space.

As a Grade I listed building, this change falls under Faculty Jurisdiction Rules operated by the Church of England. In June, the Archbishop of Canterbury announced that the Church was "very carefully" reviewing statues at major places of worship to see "if they all should be there". The Dean of Chapel and I have had several constructive discussions with representatives from the Diocese of Ely about the LSWP's recommendations, and the outcomes of these conversations were considered by Council. The Church is very supportive of our considerations and will make a decision about our proposal to remove the memorial over the next few months.

Coming into his own: Prince William, the pandemic and a higher profile November 8th 2020 CBC News

A new curator being hired by the organization that manages historic royal properties, including Kensington Palace and Hampton Court Palace, will look into their connections to the slave trade. Historic Royal Palaces did not respond to a request for comment, but a spokesperson told the Guardian newspaper: "We cannot ignore the fact that for hundreds of years colonialism and empire, enslavement and exploitation were part of our national story. "As seats of power, the palaces in our care are connected to that history. We expect the research will address this in more depth." Lucy Worsley, head curator of Historic Royal Palaces, told the Times newspaper that any properties used by the Stuarts are "going to have an element of money derived from slavery."

Removal of the Sir Thomas Picton statue at City Hall, 11th Nov 2020 Cardiff - City Hall

"This Council believes: The behaviour of Picton as Governor of Trinidad was abhorrent, even in his own era, and not deserving of a place in the Heroes of Wales collection. That heightened awareness about the history of slavery must include a reassessment of the regard in which we hold Picton, and many others who were actors and beneficiaries of slavery.

That in hindsight it was an error to have included Picton as an option in the 1916 public vote, and an error that he had not been removed sooner. That a democratic decision, by the representatives of the people of Cardiff, to remove the statue will send a message to Black people in Cardiff and across the world that the city recognises the role people like Picton played in slavery, and that we must seek to address the systemic racism that still exists due to slavery and Empire.

This Council resolves: To remove the statue of Sir Thomas Picton from the Marble Hall, and to consider placing it elsewhere with a clear explanation of his actions. To welcome the introduction of a Task Force by the Leader to address the inequalities BAME people face and to include representation from Cardiff's Black communities. To implement the Task Force recommendations. That Black lives matter, and that none of us are equal until all of us are equal.'

Welsh Government publish report

December 16th 2020 *Bristolian*/BRHG

Wales has finished their slave trade research! Started after Bristol's Commission and published!

<https://gov.wales/slave-trade-and-british-empire-audit-commemoration-wales>

It looks like a very thorough piece of work considering the short period of time they have had to do it. In the report it is interesting that they link the falling of Colston with....

British Museum, London

19th/20th December 2020 *FT Weekend*

"Picture of a disrupted, disruptive year" – In August the British Museum removed the bust of its slave-owning founder Hans Sloane to a cabinet in its so-called "Enlightenment Gallery", contextualising imperialism and slavery. Director Hartwig Fischer said, "We have pushed him off his pedestal where nobody looked at him, and placed him in the limelight" – where the museum scrutinises itself and its past.

International

Item	Date	Source
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Tearing down of Bristol's Edward Colston statue referenced at George Floyd's funeral June 10th 2020 *ITV News*

The tearing down of Edward Colston's statue in Bristol has been referenced at George Floyd's funeral - the man whose death has sparked global protests against racial prejudice and police brutality. At his funeral in Houston, Texas, hundreds of mourners heard The Reverend Al Sharpton refer to the actions in Bristol. The slave trader's memorial was pulled down by protesters during a Black Lives Matter march on Sunday 7 June before being thrown into the water. After footage of the historic moment was shared online, Reverend Sharpton addressed it during Mr Floyd's funeral alongside calls for racial equality.

King Leopold's Statues, Belgium

June 12th 2020

BBC News

Inside the palatial walls of Belgium's Africa Museum stand statues of Leopold II - each one a monument to the king whose rule killed as many as 10 million Africans. Standing close by, one visitor said, "I didn't know anything about Leopold II until I heard about the statues defaced down town". The museum is largely protected by heritage law but, in the streets outside, monuments to a monarch who seized a huge swathe of Central Africa in 1885 have no such security.

Last week a statue of Leopold II in the city of Antwerp was set on fire, before authorities took it down. Statues have been daubed with red paint in Ghent and Ostend and pulled down in Brussels.

Leopold II's rule in what is now Democratic Republic of Congo was so bloody it was eventually condemned by other European colonialists in 1908 - but it has taken far longer to come under

scrutiny at home. On Monday the University of Mons removed a bust of the late king, following the circulation of a student-led petition saying it represented the "rape, mutilation and genocide of millions of Congolese". "When I walk in a city that in every corner glorifies racism and colonialism, it tells me that me and my history are not valid," she explains from the capital.

For activists the holygrail is the giant statue of Leopold II on horseback at the gates of the Royal Palace in Brussels. A petition calling on the city for its removal has reached 74,000 signatures. "I will dance if it comes down. I never imagined this happening in my lifetime," Ms Kayembe adds. It would be "really significant for Congolese people, especially those whose families perished," she explains. She does not believe it will not be quick or easy. There are at least 13 statues to Leopold II in Belgium, according to one crowd-sourced map, and numerous parks, squares and street names.

USA – Nearly 200 various Confederate statues and memorials, plus those of Conquistadors and Columbus have been removed, here is just a sample:

Confederate president Jefferson Davis removed from Kentucky capitol June 13th 2020 *Independent*

Governor says move means people will no longer have to see a symbol that 'stands for the enslavement of their ancestors'

A statue of Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederacy whose secession from the United States sparked the Civil War, has been removed from the state capitol in Frankfort, Kentucky. The 15ft marble likeness was taken down on Saturday following a vote the night before by the panel that oversees statues at the capitol, the *Lexington Herald Leader* reported. The proposal to remove it was passed by 11 votes to one.

The statue will now be moved to the Jefferson Davis Historic Site in Todd County, where he was born. Its removal is the latest in a series of moves to bring down symbols of slavery and oppression both in America and across the world in the wake of protests following the killing of George Floyd by police officers in Minneapolis.

New Orleans rip down statue of slave owner, throw in Mississippi river June 14th 2020 *Independent*

'People who are supposed to be heroes are not heroes. They're traitors, and they should be gone'

Protesters in New Orleans tore down a bust of a slave owner and then took the remains to the Mississippi River and rolled it down the banks into the water. The removal of the monument is the latest in a nationwide effort to remove statues and tributes to those involved in the slave trade or to the Confederacy, as widespread protests against police brutality towards African Americans continue following the death of George Floyd.

New Orleans Police have arrested two people and are looking for a third in connection with the destruction of the bust of John McDonogh, which stood in Duncan Plaza across the street from City Hall. Once down, the bust was dragged into the streets before being loaded onto two trucks and taken to the river. The pedestal on which the bust stood remains with the word "racist" written under McDonogh's name.

Columbus statue to be removed from California state house

June 17th 2020 *Independent*

Announcement comes after statue of explorer set on fire by protesters overnight. A statue of Christopher Columbus will be removed from California's state capitol, amid a growing campaign to take down monuments of the Italian explorer.

The statue, which also features Queen Isabella of Castile, who sponsored Columbus' voyage in 1492, currently stands in the rotunda of the capitol in Sacramento and is titled "Columbus' Last Appeal to Queen Isabella." It has stood there since 1883, when it was gifted to the state. However, in a joint statement the legislative leadership in California claimed that the statue is now "completely out of place."

Christopher Columbus statue toppled and thrown into water in Baltimore July 5th 2020

Independent

The statue of Christopher Columbus in Baltimore's Inner Harbour has been pulled from its pedestal and thrown into the water, according to video posted on social media. One video shows the statue being pulled down after a loop has been draped around its chest. Another shows it being rolled off an embankment and into the water, where it causes a big splash. City police confirmed the Twitter reports. "The Baltimore Police Department is aware of the incident," a spokesman said. The marble statue has rested on a six-sided marble base that includes a description that reads: "Christopher Columbus Discoverer of America October 12 1492"

Cape Town, South Africa

July 15th 2020 *BBC News*

Cecil Rhodes statue in Cape Town has head removed - a statue of British imperialist Cecil Rhodes has been decapitated in Cape Town in South Africa. The bronze bust in a city park had its head removed with an angle grinder on Sunday night or Monday morning, South African National Parks said. It is the latest monument associated with imperialism or slavery to be targeted since African American George Floyd was killed in US police custody.

His death triggered huge anti-racism demonstrations around the world. Rhodes, a white supremacist, led the British colonisation of parts of southern Africa during the 19th Century and made a fortune from mining. Last month, a college at Oxford University said it would take down a statue of Rhodes after years of pressure by campaigners, who argued it was a symbol of imperialism and racism.

Christopher Columbus statues removed in Chicago after protesters clash with police July 27th 2020 *euronews*.

Two statues of Christopher Columbus in Chicago have been removed by city authorities after protesters trying to topple one of the monuments to the Italian explorer clashed with police. Crews used a large crane to remove the statue in downtown Chicago's Grant Park from its pedestal. A small crowd cheered and passing cars honked as the statue came down about 3 am on Friday morning. The second statue was removed at about 5:30 am from Arrigo Park in Chicago's Little Italy neighborhood. In a statement issued after the statues were taken down, the office of Democratic mayor, Lori Lightfoot, said they were being "temporarily removed ... until further notice."

We've published our report into colonialism and historic slavery September 16th 2020 *National Trust*

Today we released our 'Interim Report on the Connections between Colonialism and Properties now in the Care of the National Trust, Including Links with Historic Slavery'. It details the connections between 93 of the historic places in our care and colonialism and historic slavery. The report, commissioned last September, is part of our commitment to ensuring links to colonialism and historic slavery are properly represented, shared and interpreted as part of a broader narrative.

Data in the report includes the historic sources of wealth linked to the global slave trades, goods and products of enslaved labour and the East India Company for significant buildings and estates in our care. It also documents the historic houses linked to the abolition of slavery and campaigns against colonial oppression.

Rotterdam's former Witte de With art centre chooses 'decolonial' new name October 2nd 2020 *The Art Newspaper*

The Rotterdam contemporary art centre known for 30 years as Witte de With, a name referring to a colonial naval officer, has chosen a new “decolonial” identity through an extensive community consultation. The centre will be known as Kunstinstituut Melly (Melly Art Institute) from 27 January 2021.

According to a press statement, the renaming process involved public input from more than 280 participants in Rotterdam, the Netherlands and internationally, although the final decision was made on 30 September by the centre’s director, Sofía Hernández Chong Cuy, and its seven-person supervisory board.

The renaming of Witte de With “responds to the claims raised by the larger decolonial movement”, says Hernández Chong Cuy. She joined the art centre in January 2018 with a mandate for change, after artists and activists argued in an open letter that the institution’s outwardly inclusive and critical programme was compromised by its association with “a history of terror”. Its original namesake, Witte Corneliszoon de With, was a senior officer of both the Dutch West India Company and Dutch East India Company in the 17th century.

The centre says its new name represents an ambition “to become a more welcoming and daring cultural institution into the future”. The official launch on 27 January will be accompanied by “a new programme and policy vision”; further details are due to be announced in the coming months.

The name Melly was recommended by a diverse external advisory committee of 13 members, including Dutch arts leaders and Louise Mitchell, the chief executive of the Bristol Music Trust, who is overseeing the £50m transformation of the UK city’s concert hall. The venue was rebranded last week as the Bristol Beacon after a campaign to change its name from Colston Hall, linked to the 17th-century slave trader Edward Colston. A statue of Colston was toppled by Black Lives Matter protesters in June and will be redisplayed in a city museum.

On the Eve of Indigenous Peoples' Day, Portland Protesters Topple Statues and Break Windows October 12th 2020 *Portland Mercury*

On the evening before Columbus Day—which Portland renamed Indigenous Peoples' Day in 2015—hundreds of people gathered in the pouring rain to stand for indigenous rights. Protesters marched and prayed, while some toppled statues and broke windows throughout downtown. In the days

leading up to the protest, a number of flyers on social media called the event “Indigenous Peoples' Day of Rage.”

Amidst cries of “No good cops! No good presidents!” and warnings from Portland Police Bureau's (PPB) LRAD sound cannon, protesters in masks used chains to pull a bronze statue named Theodore Roosevelt, Rough Rider, which depicts the 26th US president astride a horse, from its podium to the concrete sidewalk of the South Park Blocks. The Roosevelt statue took upwards of twenty minutes to budge, but a nearby bronze statue of Abraham Lincoln fell with ease.

Since the Portland protests began—organized in response to the killing of George Floyd by a Minneapolis police officer—activists have brought down statues of historical figures who they argue should not be lauded or admired. On a historical scale, this action is common for regime changes. In fact, statues are being torn down not just in US states, but around the world—video of 17th-century slave trader Edward Colston's statue in Bristol being rolled into a harbor this past June quickly went viral.

In Portland, statues of Thomas Jefferson and George Washington were toppled over Juneteenth weekend. The ire drawn by the Roosevelt's statue is perhaps easiest to understand due to Roosevelt's continuance of Dawes Act which broke up indigenous lands. The words "Dakota 38" were painted on the podium of the Abraham Lincoln statue, calling attention to Lincoln's suppression of the 1862 Dakota Uprising which saw 38 Dakota hanged on the same day. That event remains the largest mass execution in US history.

Bridgetown, Barbados

November 17th 2020 Reuters

Barbados removes Nelson statue in break with colonial past

BRIDGETOWN (Reuters) - Barbados removed the statue of British Admiral Lord Horatio Nelson from the capital Bridgetown's main square on Monday, two months after announcing plans to replace Britain's Queen Elizabeth as its head of state and move on from its colonial past. The bronze statue was unveiled in 1813 to commemorate Nelson and the British Royal Navy's victory over the French and Spanish in the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805.

After decades of overlooking Bridgetown's principal thoroughfare, the Nelson statue will be housed at the Barbados Museum in the Historic Garrison Area. It joins a number of other statues across the globe, including slave traders in Britain to Confederate generals in the United States, to have been hauled down as the Black Lives Matter campaign gathered momentum. The famous statue of Nelson in Trafalgar Square in London - erected about 30 years after the Barbados one - has also been targeted by activists for removal.