2002

Key dates in the Sit-In Movement and Civil Rights Museum

North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University

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KEY DATES IN THE SIT-IN MOVEMENT
AND CIVIL RIGHTS MUSEUM

1879  The “Great Five-Cent Store” is founded in Lancaster, Pa.

1929  132 S. Elm St. Building is constructed. The Architect, Charles Hartmann, also designed the Jefferson Standard Building.

1939  Woolworth takes over most of the building. Before that, Woolworth was located at 218 S. Elm St.

1960  Woolworth’s annual sales top $1 billion. The Greensboro store ranks 64th in retail sales out of more than 2,000 Woolworth stores and is the No. 1 Woolworth store in the region in restaurant sales.

Feb. 1, 1960  Franklin McCain, David Richmond, Joseph McNeil, and Ezell Blair, (Jibreel Khazan) sit down at the whites only lunch counter and refuse to leave.

April, 1960  Within two months, the sit-in spreads to 54 cities in nine states.

July 25, 1960  Woolworth agrees to integrate its Greensboro store. Woolworth lost $200,000 in business during the sit-ins.

Feb. 1, 1980  The four former students return to the lunch counter for the 20th anniversary of the sit-ins.

1982  The Woolworth building is added to The National Register of Historic Places.

1983  Woolworth announces it will redesign 1,200 stores across the country. It will preserve Greensboro full service counter.

1988  The building is sold to Neuse, Inc., a subsidiary of First Citizens Bank.

1990  Greensboro hosts a 30th year anniversary celebration.

October, 1993  Woolworth’s Lunch Counter stops selling food.
Jan. 22, 1994 The Elm Street Woolworth’s closes.

1994 Sit-in Movement, Inc. is founded by Skip Alston and Earl Jones.

1994 Sit-in Movement, Inc. purchases the building for $700,000 from First Citizens Bank.

1995 Sit-in Movement, Inc. asks the federal government to officially declare the site a National Historic Landmark, a distinction not yet granted.

November, 1995 An international fund-raising campaign kicks off.

1998 The Museum expected to be completed and open to the public.

February 2001 The Museum’s mortgage is paid off.

June 26, 2001 N.C. A&T announces a partnership with Sit-in Movement, Inc.

February 1, 2002 Larger than life monument of the A&T Four was unveiled to mark the 42nd anniversary.