

## Afro Repositories Research Notes

### **Morgan State University:** Afro Collection, Microfilm

Afro-American, National Edition: April 29, 1895 – December 26, 1987

The masthead for the 1987 Afro reads: “National/Philadelphia/North Carolina Editions, Afro-American, 96<sup>th</sup> Year, No. 20, copyright 1986, Baltimore, MD December 26, 1987, Published Weekly, 50 cents, one year \$26.00”

Research method note: I was unsure how to really approach investigating the microfilm. There are numerous microfilm rolls, so I started by looking at the last reel for the year 1987. The microfilm box reads: Afro-American (National Edition) for every reel of film.

Paper featured a North Carolina-South Carolina Section

Research note: After seeing the NC-SC Section I wondered why SC wasn't included in the official edition title in the masthead. I remembered reading in Farrar that there was a South Carolina edition. So I decided to look further back to see if SC would be included in the mast

Masthead for November 14, 1987 was the first instance on this particular reel (July-Dec. 1987) that read: National/Philadelphia/North Carolina Editions; masthead for November 7, 1987 reads: National/Philadelphia/North Carolina/South Carolina Editions

Research note: It seems then that a South Carolina edition likely existed as Farrar states, at some point the Phi, NC, and SC editions were consolidated into the National Editions, unsure when that happened, would have to dig deeper in the film.

National edition film was every 6 months, January thru June 1967 – July-December 1987

Filmed every year January 5, 1957 – December 28, 1957 – January 1, 1966 thru December 31, 1966

One reel is dated August 4, 1956 – December 29, 1956

Film dates from roughly the end of July/early August cycle every reel until January 1 – August 4, 1951

After January 1, 1951, the cycle varies each reel

Research note: I decided to make a note on the duration of time each reel was filmed. I pulled the 1967 and 1966 reel to see what changed about what made it onto the reel. The masthead for June 24, 1967 read: “The Afro-American, 75<sup>th</sup> Year, No. 49, Baltimore, MD, June 24, 1967, National Edition, 28 pages, 20 cents. The 1966 reel includes the magazine section and was 28 pages long. Additionally we know that some where in between 1967 and 1987 the Philadelphia/ NC/ and South Carolina Editions were consolidated into the National Edition

First reel of microfilm labeled April 29, 1893 – December 28, 1901; mast head reads: “The Afro-American, Published every Saturday by the Afro-American Company, Rev. W.M. Alexander, Editor, James E. Johnson, Gen'l Agent, Saturday April 29, 1893

A survey of the entire reel showed that the dates are scattered all over the place. I went through the entire reel to see where the gaps are, here's what I found:

18950429 to 18950817, (missing) 18950824; 18950831 to 18950907, (missing) up to 18951019; 18951019 to 18951102, (missing) 18951109 to 18951123; 18951130, (missing) 18951207 to 18951214; 18951221, (missing) 18951228 to 18960208; 18960215 to 18960222, (missing) 18960229 to 18960411; 18960418, (missing) 18960425 to 18960502; 18960509 to 18960516, (missing) 18960523; 18960530, (missing) 18960606; 18960613 [scanned twice] to 18960627, (missing) 18960630 to 18970320; 18970327, (missing) 18970404 to 18970410; 18970417, (missing) 18970424 to 18980326; **19050916** [Masthead reads "The Afro-American Ledger", clearly a mistake in scanning date]; **19140103** [another mistake in scanning]; 18980305 [mast reads "The Ledger" vol. 1, no. 1] to 18991230, (missing) 19001206 to 19010803; 19010810 to 19011228

Research note: Time was running long going through the national edition. I decided to write down the holdings for each edition in the Morgan Collection based on the way the exact film box label:

Baltimore Afro-American, 5 Star Edition (Tuesday): February 2, 1935 – December 1987

Baltimore Afro-American, Late City Edition (Blue Streak): September 2, 1933 – April 1988

Afro-American, Newark, NJ Edition: March 15, 1941 – December 31, 1968  
New Jersey Afro-American, N. Jersey Ed. Baltimore: January 1970 – December 1978  
New Jersey Afro-American, Newark, NJ: January 1979 – February 6, 1988

Afro-American, Philadelphia Edition: December 3, 1934 – December 23, 1968;  
January – December 1978; January 2 – February 6, 1988

Afro-American, Richmond, VA: June 1933 – December 1968  
Richmond Afro-American: January 1969 – June 1973  
Richmond Afro-American and Planet: July 1973 – December 1986

Afro-American, Washington: September 3, 1932 – December 30, 1939  
Afro-American Washington, DC, Capital Edition: January 1, 1940 – December 31, 1968  
Washington Afro-American, Capital Edition, Baltimore Blue Star: January 1968 – June 1973  
Washington Afro-American and Tribune Baltimore MD: July 1973 – December 1978

Washington Afro-American and Tribune Washington DC: January 1979 -  
December 1986