News - Digital Library of Georgia

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Digital Library of Georgia

Digitized Newspapers from Atlanta University Center Colleges Now Available on the Georgia Historic Newspapers Archive Website.

The Digital Library of Georgia (DLG) is pleased to announce that, in conjunction with the Atlanta University Center (AUC) Robert W. Woodruff Library, several student newspapers from Spelman College, Clark Atlanta University, and Morris Brown College are now available for viewing at the Georgia Historic Newspapers web site at https://gahistoricnewspapers.galileo.usg.edu. These resources are part of the “Our Story”: Digitizing Publications and Photographs of the Historically Black Atlanta University Center Institutions project, administered by the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR)’s Digitizing Hidden Special Collections and Archives awards program, which is supported by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

When studying historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs), patrons will find these newspapers beneficial for interdisciplinary examinations of African American achievement, African American leadership, and student life. These publications are significant, in that they were a means of self-expression for African American students to convey their opinions of college life and society within a forum that validated their thoughts and opinions. Digitization of these publications could significantly increase the scholarship written about the AUC, enable patrons to enhance the historical record, and contribute to a more comprehensive narrative through the representation of the under-documented.

Christine Wiseman, head, Digital Services Department at Atlanta University Center Robert W. Woodruff Library stated:

Through the “Our Story” project, the AUC Woodruff Library has significantly expanded the breadth and depth of resources available about the history of the world’s largest consortium of HBCUs. Without support from CLIR and project partners, an initiative of this scale would not be possible. Making these student newspapers available online for students, scholars, and the general public should contribute to the narrative and research on the history of African American higher education and its impact on society.

The publications include:

*Spelman Spotlight*  
https://gahistoricnewspapers.galileo.usg.edu/lc/cn/sn81304549/

*New Spelman Spotlight*  
https://gahistoricnewspapers.galileo.usg.edu/lc/cn/sn81304580/

*Spotlight*  
https://gahistoricnewspapers.galileo.usg.edu/lc/cn/sn81306945/

*BluePrint*  
https://gahistoricnewspapers.galileo.usg.edu/lc/cn/sn81308021/

The *Spelman Spotlight* began as *Spelman Reflections* on February 1, 1956. In November of 1957, the masthead became *Spelman*
Spotlight, but the design and editorial focus of the newspaper remained the same. The paper focused on matters concerning Spelman College and the Atlanta University Center. Within the pages of the Spotlight, one could find news related to faculty, student government, and campus life. The Spotlight briefly became the Spelman Bulletin for the November 1958 and March 1959 issues before returning to its previous title. In November of 1959, The Spotlight underwent a redesign. As the Spotlight settled into its new format, the topics it covered expanded beyond the range of Spelman College and included news related to the American Civil Rights Movement. In 2013, the Spotlight became the Blueprint. The Blueprint continues today as a student-run publication at Spelman College.

Campus Mirror
https://gahistoricnewspapers.galileo.usg.edu/lc.cn/sn38019897/

The Campus Mirror was first published in October 1924 as a monthly publication managed and edited by the students of Spelman College. The paper featured editorials, campus news, events, speeches, local advertisements featuring African American-owned businesses, and photographs of classes and organizations that document African American female leadership, and the experiences of African American women pursuing higher education from the 1920s to the 1950s.

In addition to its news coverage, literary works by students and advice for interviews or studying could be found in the Mirror’s pages. A special commencement issue was published at the end of each academic year. These issues included photographs and covered the graduating and incoming classes, making the publication an important genealogical resource. The newspaper’s final issue circulated in May 1950 after 26 years of covering campus life.

Clark Atlanta University Panther
https://gahistoricnewspapers.galileo.usg.edu/lc.cn/sn39724533/

The Panther was a monthly newspaper published by Clark College students during the academic year. In 1972, the student government chose Frank W. Johnson Jr. as editor-in-chief. Under Johnson’s leadership, the paper began to feature political and social issues beyond the confines of Clark College. In an April 1973 issue, Johnson announced that the Panther would expand coverage to include grassroots efforts in areas such as welfare, prison reform, black politics, police brutality, liberation movements in Africa, and other topics of the day. Also found in those 1970s issues are calls for student submissions, guest editorials, and statements from school administration.

Wolverine Observer
https://gahistoricnewspapers.galileo.usg.edu/lc.cn/sn54110460/

The Wolverine Observer was a student-run publication serving Morris Brown College and its community under the direction of Professor V. C. Clinch. By the 1960s, the Observer was a member of the Intercollegiate Press (later the Associated Collegiate Press) and was largely run by the students themselves. The Observer sought to report news of interest to the Morris Brown College community and featured student editorials throughout its pages.

Holly A. Smith, college archivist, Women's Research & Resource Center at Spelman College said:

The Campus Mirror is an amazing publication that many researchers outside of the Spelman community might not be aware of. It provides a rich and enlightening view of campus activities and news from the students’ perspective prior to the yearbook or the Spelman Spotlight, the long-running student
Making the Mirror accessible via the Digital Library of Georgia will increase awareness and use of this unique publication, and shed further light on the history of the college, the students, and the overall campus community.

The Georgia Historic Newspapers Archive web site provides access to these newspapers, enabling full-text searching and browsing by date and title. The site is compatible with all current browsers and the newspaper page images can be viewed without the use of plug-ins or additional software downloads. The archive is free and open for public use.

About the Atlanta University Center (AUC) Robert W. Woodruff Library

The Atlanta University Center (AUC) Robert W. Woodruff Library serves as the center of the academic village for Clark Atlanta University, the Interdenominational Theological Center, Morehouse College, and Spelman College, providing the highest level of information resources and services in support of teaching and learning, scholarship, and cultural preservation of the Atlanta University Center.

About Spelman College

Spelman College, a historically Black college and a global leader in the education of women of African descent, is dedicated to academic excellence in the liberal arts and sciences and the intellectual, creative, ethical, and leadership development of its students. Spelman empowers the whole person to engage the many cultures of the world and inspires a commitment to positive social change.

Carroll County, Georgia Genealogical Resources Now Freely Available Online

The Digital Library of Georgia (DLG) is pleased to announce the availability of volumes 1 and 2 of Carroll County Georgia Cemeteries at https://dlg.usg.edu/collection/uwg_ccgc and 53 issues of the Carroll County Genealogical Quarterly published from 1980 to 1994 at https://dlg.usg.edu/collection/uwg_ccgq. These resources belong to the University of West Georgia Special Collections and have been made available online thanks in part to the DLG’s Competitive Digitization grant program, a funding opportunity intended to broaden DLG partner participation for statewide historic digitization projects.

Carroll County Georgia Cemeteries is a guide to cemeteries in the western (volume 1) and eastern (volume 2) parts of the county published by the Carroll County Genealogical Society. Together they provide transcriptions of names as they appear on tombstones within the 292 cemeteries located in Carroll County. The digitization of these volumes makes family names keyword searchable, which greatly aids researchers’ ability to perform genealogical research in their own homes and other settings.
The *Carroll County Genealogical Quarterly* (1980–present) is another publication of the Carroll County Genealogical Society that compiles, collects, and creates genealogical information for Carroll County, Georgia. The University of West Georgia’s Ingram Library’s Special Collections has a complete set of these newsletters in which members have written articles on their research into various aspects of the county’s history, which includes information on the land lottery of 1827, Carroll County’s old militia districts, early post offices and postmasters, early settlers and marriages, rural churches and cemeteries, family histories and genealogies, wills and family records transcribed from bibles, census records, ownership of enslaved people of African descent, military history, tax digests, and more. The *Carroll County Genealogical Quarterly* is an invaluable resource that can be used in learning, teaching, and research of Carroll County history by students, genealogists, local historians, and descendants of Carroll County who live outside of the area.

Keith Bohannan, a professor in the department of history at the University of West Georgia noted:

> The books and periodicals being digitized were only published in small numbers and are not easily available to the public outside of the county library or Georgia State Archives. The resources being digitized will be very helpful to people both inside and outside of the community doing genealogical or historical research.

**About the University of West Georgia Special Collections**

University of West Georgia Special Collections serves as the repository for rare materials in the Irvine Sullivan Ingram Library, housing manuscripts, books, films, photographs, sound recordings, and other formats in a number of specialized areas. Special Collections also holds the University Archives. Through these collections, the department supports the research, teaching, and service mission of the university and its constituents. Visit University of West Georgia Special Collections at [https://www.westga.edu/library/special-collections/index.php](https://www.westga.edu/library/special-collections/index.php)

**About the Carroll County Genealogical Society**

The mission of the Carroll County Genealogical Society is to promote genealogical research among members of the society and the Carroll County Georgia community. Visit the Carroll County Genealogical Society at [http://www.ccgsga.org/](http://www.ccgsga.org/)