

WMD0

BROADCASTING STATION LICENSE RECORD

FM

Date first licensed 12-4-53

Call letters W D O N
Station Location: Wheaton, Maryland

WDON, INCORPORATED (VOL. AL 4-29-70 EFF: 6-1-70)

Name of licensee KEVERETT L. DILLARD tr/as COMMERCIAL RADIO EQUIPMENT COMPANY

Intersection of 495 & Sligo Creek Parkway, Wheaton, Md. (Daytime & CH oper.) MP gr. 11-29-79
x non-CH site (DAYTIME) 500' East of Brookeville Road on Talbot Avenue, Wheaton, Md. (BP 10-25-77)
site for (CH) 2647 University Boulevard, West, Wheaton, Maryland (Re-descript. BZ-3-1-60)
Transmitter location 2647 Kensington-Wheaton Road, Wheaton, Maryland (CP 4-15-53)
(Lic. 12-4-53)

2647 University Blvd., West, Wheaton, Md. (Ltr. 5-13-69)
x 11216 Georgia Avenue, Wheaton, Maryland (BMP & BS 6-14-61)
x Same as transmitter (Re-description BZ-3-1-60)
Main studio location 2647 Kensington-Wheaton Road, Wheaton, Maryland (CP 4-15-53)
(Lic. 12-4-53)

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND LICENSE RECORD

Appl. No.	Date Issued	Freq.	Power	Time Div.	Period From-- To--
BP-8685	4-15-53	1540kc	250w	Day	6-15-53 12-15-53
	CP for new station (COND'L CLAUSE)				
BP-6240 (1)	7-7-53	(MP (BP-8685) change type trans. (COND'L CLAUSE)			9-7 3-7-54
BL-5117 Lic.	12-4-53	1540kc	250w	Day	12-4-53 10-1-54
	cover CP(8685, as mod) for new station (C. CLAUSE)				
BR-2883	9-22-54	Renewal of license			10-1 10-1-57
BR-2883	9-19-57	Renewal of License			10-1 10-1-60
BP-4236 (1)	3-1-60	Authority to determine operating power by direct measurement of antenna power and Antenna-trans. & studio loc. redescrbed.			
BP-6256	11-2-60	1540kc	1kw	Day	1-2 7-2-61
	CP to change frequency to 1540kc to increase power to 1kw and install new transmitter (GATES BC-1F). (Cond'l), (Issued as a new CP).				
BR-2883	11-2-60	1540	250w	Day	11-2 10-1-63
BP-9276 (1)	1-19-61	Mod. of CP(BMP-6256) to change type transmitter (RCA BTA-1R).			
BR-2883 (1)	6-14-61	Mod. license(BR-2883) to change main studio location.			
BP-6256 (2)	6-14-61	Mod. CP(BMP-6256 as mod.) to change main studio location.			
BP-9546 (3)	7-10-61	Mod. CP(BMP-6256 as mod.) for extension completion date to 12-31-61.			
BP-9992 (4)	12-27-61	Mod. CP(BMP-6256) for extension of completion date to March 1, 1962			
BP-15381	3-7-62	1540kc	1kw	Day	5-7 11-7-62
	CP to replace expired CP(BMP-6256 as mod.) which auth. inc. power to 1kw and install new trans. (RCA BTA-1R)				
BL-9223 (1)	7-12-62	Lic. to cover CP (BP-15,381 as mod and reins.) which auth. incr. in power and instl. of a new trans. COND'L			
	10-30-63	COMMISSION DEFERRED ACTION ON RENEWAL PENDING FURTHER CONSIDERATION.			

Form BG 126 # 2
June 1954

BROADCASTING STATION LICENSE RECORD

Date first licensed

Call letters W D O N

Station location

Name of licensee EVERETT L. DILLARD tr/as COMMERCIAL RADIO EQUIPMENT COMPANY

Transmitter location

Main studio location

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND LICENSE RECORD

Appl. No.	Date Issued	Freq.	Power	Time Div.	Period From- To-
BR-2883	3-18-64	1540kc	1 kilo	Day	3-18 10-1-66
BZ-5155 (1)	4-3-64	Authority to determine operating power by direct measurement of antenna power.			
BS-2883 (2)	5-25-65	Mod. of license to delete the statement, "and eight (8) loud-speakers mounted at the 125' level", from the antenna description (Memo).			
BR-2883	9-30-66	1540kc	1kw	Day	10-1 10-1-69
BZ-6739 (1)	2-28-68	Auth. to determine operating power by direct meas. of antenna power.			
BS-2883(2)	3-26-68	Memo chg. description ant. sys.			
Ltr.	5-13-69	Studios: 2647 University Blvd., West, Wheaton, Md.			
BR-2883(S)	9-25-69	Renewal of License			10-1-72
BZ-7252(L)	10-1-69	Direct Meas.			10-1-72
BS-2883 (1)(MEMO)	11-6-69	Mod. lic. (Re-descript. Antenna system)			
BAL-6895	4-29-70	VOL. AL EFF: 6-1-70			
EBSA	6-12-72				
BR-2883(L) BZ-8053	9-27-73	Renewal of License and Direct Measurement			10-1-75
BTC- 7289	6-28-74	VOL. TC EFF:			
BP-20,165	10-25-77	1540khz. 5kw Day (non-CH)			10-25-78
		CP to inc. power. & chg. type trans., chg. non-CH site. CH site not changed.			
BP-20,165(1)	2-24-78	Mod. of CP(BP-20,165) to correct conditions			
BMP781019AJ (2) SET ASIDE	12-7-78	MP(BP-20,165, as mod) for ext. of time to:			5-31-79
BMP-790724AQ MP (BP-20,165) to	11-29-79	1540KHz. 5kW Day (non-CH) 1kw (C.H.)			5-20-80
BZ-781011AE BR-2883(L)	4-9-80	RENEWAL & MODIFICATION (issued together)			10-1-81

BC-126 #3
June 1975

FM

BROADCASTING STATION LICENSE RECORD

Date first licensed

Call letters ...W.D.O.N.....

Station location

Name of licensee See Card #1

Transmitter location

Main studio location

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND LICENSE RECORD

Appl. No.	Date Issued	Freq.	Power	Time Div.	Period From-- To
BMP800402AJ (1)	5-23-80	MP (BP-20,165, as Mod.) for ext. of time to:			11-20-80
BMP790724AQ	11-29-79	SUPERSEDE TO CORRECT THE CONDITIONS.			
BMP-810429AJ (2)	5-27-81	MP (BP-20165, as Mod) for ext. of time to:			6-30-81

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call
Letters New

Name EVERETT L. DILLARD TR/AS COMMERCIAL RADIO EQUIPMENT COMPANY
PO 810 International Bldg., 1319 F. St., N.W., Washington D.C.

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BP-8685	11-12-52	Construction permit for a new standard broad-	GRANTED	4-15-53
Rec'd	11-12-52	cast station to be operated on:	re blanketing & install-	
Filed	12-4-52	Frequency: 540kc 1540kc	ation of suitable filetr	
		Power: 250w	circuitss as may be nec.	
		Hours of Operation: Daytime	in antenna systems of WTE	
		Trans. Location: 2647 Kensington-Wheaton Rd.	WTOP, WGAY, & any other	
		Wheaton, Maryland	pertinent nearby stations	
		Studio Location: 2647 Kensington-Wheaton Rd.	to prevent cross-modulati	
		Wheaton, Maryland	due to existence of	
		Edward F. Lorentz, Engr.	excessive radioation.	
Amend	3-17-53	AMENDED to change frequency from 540kc to		
Rec'd	3-18-53	1540kc.		
Filed	3-18-53			

Gates EC-250GY

250w

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call
Letters **W D O N**

Name **EVERETT L. DILLARD TR/AS COMMERCIAL RADIO EQUIPMENT COMPANY**

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BMP-6240 Rec'd Filed	6-17-53 6-17-53 6-17-53	Modification of construction permit (BP-8685, which auth. a new standard broadcast station) to change type transmitter (Composite).	GRANTED Same cond. as BP-8685 & meas. re trans. operation	7-7-53
BMP- 6256 Rec'd Filed	7-8-53 7-8-53 7-8-53	Modification of construction permit (BP-8685, as mod., which auth. a new standard broadcast station) to change frequency from 1540kc to 540kc. Request waiver of Sec. 3.28(c) of Rules if necessary - filed 2-1-60 Edward F. Lorentz, Engr.	GRANTED Cond'l re: Permittee shall accept any interf.; Permittee shall be responsible for the installation and adjustment.	11-2-60
BL-5117 Rec'd Filed	8-27-53 9-1-53 9-1-53	License to cover construction permit (BP-8685 as mod.) which auth. a new standard broadcast station.	GRANTED re blanketing; installation filter circuits or other equip. as nec. in ant. systems of WTOP, WGAY and any other nearby stations to prevent cross-modulation.	12-4-53

SEE AMENDMENT ON CARD #3
SEE CARD #4 re petition

#3

FORM A-170
FORMERLY FCC FORM 94

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call
Letters W D O NName EVERETT L. DILLARD tr/as COMMERCIAL RADIO EQUIPMENT COMPANY

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BR-2883 Rec'd Filed	8-24-54 8-31-54 8-31-54	Renewal of License	GRANTED	9-22-54
BHP-6256 (CONTINUED FROM CARD #2)				
AMENDED Rec'd Filed	9-9-54 9-9-54 9-14-54	AMENDED to delete request of change frequency; and amended to request increase in power to 1kw and to install new transmitter (GATES BC-1F).	GRANTED	11-2-60
BR-2883 Rec'd Filed	8-6-57 8-9-57 8-9-57	Renewal of license.	GRANTED	9-19-57
BZ-4236 Rec'd Filed	1-7-60 1-7-60 1-7-60	Authority to determine operating power by direct measurement of antenna power. Comm. Radio Equip. Co., Engrs.	GRANTED	3-1-60
BR-2883 Rec'd&Filed	9-16-60 9-19-60	Renewal of license	GRANTED	11-2-60

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

AUG. 1955

Call

Letters

W D O N

Name **EVERETT L. DILLARD tr/as COMMERCIAL RADIO EQUIPMENT COMPANY**
WHEATON, MARYLAND

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BMP-6256 Continued)				
PETITION FOR RECONSIDERATION AND/OR CLARIFICATION filed 11-15-60 by Marks for Dover Broadcasting Co., P-13831 - 2-15-61 - GRANTED IN PART AND DENIED IN PART - LETTER				
OPPOSITION TO PETITION FOR RECONSIDERATION AND/OR CLARIFICATION filed 11-23-60 by Wayland for WDON				
BMP-9276	1-9-61	Modification of C. P. (BMP-6256, which auth.	GRANTED	1-19-61
R & F	1-10-61	to increase power & install new trans.) to <u>chg. type trans.</u> (RCA BTA-1R)		
BMP-9546	6-7-61	Modification of CP (BMP-6256 as mod. which auth.	GRANTED	7-10-61
Rec'd & Filed	6-7-61	installation new type transmitter and incr. <u>power</u>) for extension completion date from 7-2-61 to 12-31-61.		
BMP-9992	12-5-61	Mod of CP (BMP-6256 as mod which auth incr	GRANTED	12-27-61 to 3-1-62
R&F	12-5-61	power and install new type trans) for extension of completion date from 12-31-61 to 3-31-62.		

FORM BC-121
AUG. 1955

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call
Letters W.D.O.N.

Name EVERETT L. DILLARD tr/as COMMERCIAL RADIO EQUIPMENT COMPANY
WHEATON, MARYLAND

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BP-15,381 R.&F.	3-5-62 3-5-62	Construction permit to replace expired CP (BMP-6256 as mod.) which auth. increase power from 250w to 1kw and install new trans. (PCA BTA-1R).	GRANTED	3-7-62
BL-9223 R. & F.	3-7-62 3-8-62	Lic to cover CP (BP-15,381 as mod and reinstated) which auth incr in power and installation of a new transmitter.	GRANTED	7-12-62 COND'L
BR 2883 Rec'd Filed	7-15-63 7-19-63 7-19-63	Renewal of licence	GRANTED	3-13-64
BR-5155 R. & F.	12-31-63 12-31-63	Authority to determine operating power by direct measurement of antenna power.	GRANTED	4-3-64
BR-2883 R & F	6-17-66 6-20-66	Renewal of License	GRANTED	9-30-66

FORM BC-121 #6
AUG. 1955

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

1540kc

WDON, INCORPORATED

Call
Letters W D O N

Name **X** EVERETT L. DILLARD tr/as COMMERCIAL RADIO EQUIPMENT COMPANY
Wheaton, Maryland

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BZ-6739 R & F DM-1/15/68	1/5/68 1/8/68	Auth. to determine operating power by direct meas. of ant. power.	GRANTED	2-28-68
FEB 21 1968				
BR-2883 R & F \$524750 \$75.00 P.N. filed PRESS JUL 8 1969	6-23-69 6-24-69 6-24-69 6-24-69	Renewal of license Atty-Fisher, Wayland, Duvall & Southmayd	GRANTED	9-25-69
BZ-7252 R & F DM AUG 2 1969	7/25/69 7/29/69 8/5/69	Direct Meas.	GRANTED	10-1-69
BAL-6895 R & F FEB PD: \$79 (Form 316)	4-9-70 4-10-70 #592096 REFUND \$45	Voluntary assignment of license to WDON, INCORPORATED overpayment Atty - Fisher, Wayland etc	GRANTED EFF:	4-29-70 6-1-70

APR 23 1970

Form BC-121
September 1969

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call
Letters **W D O N**

WDON, Incorporated
x EVERETT L. DILLARD, tr/as COMMERCIAL RADIO EQUIPMENT COMPANY
Name
Wheaton, Maryland

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
	9-30-70	Annual license fee paid \$80.00 #633382		
BZ-8053	9-10-71	Direct Measurement	GRANTED	9-27-73
R & F	9-14-71		issued with renewal	
DM	9-17-71			
PRESS	MAY 20 1972			
BR-2883	6-22-72	Renewal of License	GRANTED	9-19-73
R & F	6-28-72		issued with BZ-8053	
P.N.	6-28-72	Atty.: Charles V. Wayland		
PRESS		AMENDED 8-28-72 re: programming		
		AMENDED 11-22-72 re: employment policy		
		AMENDED 3-16-73 re: statement on employment program		
BTC-7289	10-31-73	Voluntary transfer of control of lic corp from		
R & F	11-2-73	Everett L. Dillard, (individually) and Sandra	GRANTED	6-28-74
FEE PD: \$1000 #248626		Dillard Faunce, as Custodian for Donald Everett	GRANT FEE: \$8500.00	
CODE 047		Dillard, Jr., et al (total 5 minor children) to	EFF:	
PUB. NOTICE	NOV 9 1973	Horizon Communications Corporation (SEE OVER)	Pd. 048	8-15-74
		Atty - Fisher, Wayland etc	W334544	

BTC-7289 - AMENDED 4-15-74 - bank ltr of explanation

Agreement re bank loan filed 5-6-74

AMENDED 6-13-74 (transferee) - financial data; pledge
agreement chged;

Form BC-121
September 1969

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call
Letters W D O NName WDON, INCORPORATED
WHEATON, MARYLAND

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BR-2883 R & F PN Recd. PRESS	5-29-75 6-2-75 " JUL 9 1975	RENEWAL OF LICENSE M.R. Leader, Atty. AMENDED 10-14-76 re: programming FOR CH (Over)	GRANTED Cond't re: EEO	4-9-80
BP-20,165 Rec'd Filed \$200-502513 AC-001 \$200-509145 AC-001 PN REC'd	11-26-75 11-26-75 11-26-76 12-12-75 JUL 29 1976 12-29-75	construction permit to inc. daytime/power to 5kw, ^{during} retain 1kw/critical hours and change type transmitter: Gates MW-5 Atty: Vernon L. Wilkinson Eng. Robert L. Purcell (OVER)	GRANTED	10-25-77
BZ-9122 R & F DM PRESS Amend	7-31-76 8-1-74 9-19-74 MAY 14 1976 4-30-76	Direct Measurement New 302 FCC Form	DISMISSED AS MOOT See BZ781011AE	5-4-79

BP-20,165

PETITION TO DISMISS OR DENY filed 8-6-76 by Ernest Jeness for WTOP & WCTR.

OPPOSITION TO REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME filed 10-6-76 by Paul J. Berman on behalf of WCTR

REPLY TO OPPOSITION FOR EXT. OF TIME filed 10-13-76 by Vernon L. Wilkinson on behalf of WDON.

RESPONSE BY WDON TO PETITION TO DENY filed 12-15-76 by Vernon L. Wilkinson on behalf OF WDON, Inc.

Amended 11-30-76 re: Sec. 301, Sec. 111, 1v-A Sec. VA, chg. TL for non-CH operation to 0.3 mi. E. of Interstate, Conn. & Gay Ave., Wheaton, Md. 39° 05' 06" 77° 08' 04"

Amended 1-31-77 re: Agreement with station WTOP

Amended 1-26-77 re: Station WCTR has no objection to the WDON APPLICATION

Informal Objection Major Environmental impact statement

Amended 9-26-77 re: Engineering, Sec. VA chg. TL to: 500' East of Brookeville Rd. on Talbot Ave., Wheaton, Md. 39° 00' 14" 77° 02' 59"

Amended 9-22-77 re: Affidavit that 1kw CH operation is from present site.

Amended R & F 3-7-77 re: PETITION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL Impact Statement

Amend Rec'd 6-30-77 re: Environmental Statement , Engineering data

(BR-2883) SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION filed 5-31-78 as an amendment to pending renewal application. (Vernon L. Wilkinson, Atty.) JUN 12 1978

PETITION TO DENY AND TO INTERVENE filed 9-1-78 by Office of Human Rights of the District of Columbia

PETITION TO INTERVENE filed 9-1-78 by D.C. Media Task Force

MOTION TO STRIKE PETITION TO INTERVENE filed 9-15-78 by Forbes W. Blair, Counsel on behalf of Seven Locks Broadcasting Company

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

1540khz.

Call W D O N
Letters

Name **WDON, INCORPORATED**
Wheaton, Maryland

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BMP-14 545 R & F PRESS	1-5-78 1-10-78 FEB 23 1978	Modification of construction permit (BP-20165) to change transmitter site of critical hours operation to: 500' East of Brookeville Road on Talbot Avenue, Wheaton, Maryland. 39° 00' 14" 77° 02' 59" Atty: Vernon L. Wilkinson	DISMISSED	12-7-79 (See comtel of same date)
- - - -	3-23-78	PETITION FOR RECONSIDERATION AND REQUEST FOR ALTERNATE RELIEF AND FOR STAY OF CONSTRUCTION DUE TO UNLAWFUL AUTHORIZATION PENDING SUCH REQUISITE FCC RECONSIDERATION TO REMEDY MANIFEST INJUSTICE AND ACTION CONTRARY TO THE PUBLIC INTEREST FILED BY JAMES M. WITZMAN, ESQ.		
	3-23-78	URGENT PETITION FOR STAY OF ERRONEOUS AND UNLAWFUL COMMISSION ACTION GRANTING CONSTRUCTION PERMIT FILED BY JAMES M. WITZMAN, ESQ.		
	4-3-78	OPPOSITION TO WWDC'S UNTIMELY PETITION FOR RECONSIDERATION AND STAY OF CONSTRUCTION FILED BY WDON ATTYS (VERNON L. WILKINSON, ESQ.)		(OVER)

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

4-4-78 SUBSTITUTE PAGE 7 FOR ANY MISSING COPIES. TO OPPOSITION FILED 4-3-78.

4-6-78 REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO REPLY FILED BY WWDC(AM) & FM. ATTYS.

JOHN M. WEITZMAN, ESQ.

4-14-78 PARTIAL OPPOSITION TO REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO REPLY FILED BY WDON Atty
Vernon L. Wilkinson,.

5-1-78 REPLY TO WDON'S "OPPOSITION TO WWDC'S UNTIMELY PETITION FOR RECONSIDERATION AND
STAY OF CONSTRUCTION FILED BY (WWDC and WWDC-FM)

#10

Form BC-121

May 1976

1540KHz.

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call
Letters W D O NName WDON, INCORPORATED
WHEATON, MARYLAND

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BMP781019AJ PRESS	NOV 9 1978	MP (BP-20,165,as Mod.) for Extension of time to: <u>4-25-79</u> (FOR CHNAGES)	GRANTED DISMISSED <u>12-7-79</u>	12-7-78 5-31-79 12-26-78
BZ-781011AB R & F DM PRESS	10-11-78 11-1-78	Direct Measurement Atty. Vernon L. Wilkinson	GRANTED issued with BR-2883	4-9-80
BMP790724AQ PRESS (O)	AUG 29 1979	Mod. of CP (BP-20,165) to chg. TL to: Intersection of 495 & Sligo Creek Parkway, Wheaton, Maryland during Daytime & CH Operation. 39° 00' 50" 77° 01' 46" Atty. Vernon L. Wilkinson (McKenna, Wilkinson & Kittner)	Gr.	11-29-79

BMP-781019AJ-PETITION TO DENY filed 12-6-78 by James Weitzman on behalf of CAPITOL
BROADCASTING COMPANY

12-19-78 WDON'S OPPOSITION TO WWCD'S PETITION TO DENY filed by Vernon Wilkinson on behalf
of WDON, INC.

APPLICATION RECORD-BROADCASTING

1540KHz.

Call Letters: W D O N

Name: WDON, INCORPORATED

Station Location: WHEATON, MARYLAND

File No.	Date	Description	Action and Date
BMP800402AJ ✓ PRESS (0)	MAY 19 1980	MP (BP-20,165, as Mod.) For Extension of Time to: <u>10-1-80</u> (FOR CHANGES) Atty. Vernon L. Wilkinson (McKenna, Wilkinson & Kittner)	GRANTED 5-23-80 TO 11-20-80
BL-810312AB R & F PRESS Amended	3-12-81 MAR 25 1981 4-30-81	lic. to cover (BP-20165 as mod.) for Chgs. Atty: Vernon L. Wilkinson (McKenna, Wilkinson & Kittner) Re: Section II-A para. 8: Overall height in feet above ground without obstruction lighting should be 240 Section II-A Pg. 2 Exhibit E-1 Pg. 4 revised schematic diagram for WDON/WGAY Common antenna diplexer.	P

#12

APPLICATION RECORD-BROADCASTING

Call Letters: W D O N

Name: W DON, INCORPORATED

Station Location: WHEATON, MARYLAND

File No.	Date	Description	Action and Date
BMP-810429AJ PRESS: MAY 26 1981	(0) MAY 26 1981	MP(BP-20,165 as mod.) for extension of time to: (FOR CHGS.) Atty - Vernon L. Wilkinson	GRANTED: 5-27-81 TO: 6-30-81
BR810512UA PRESS JUL 8 1981		RENEWAL OF LICENSE Atty. Vernon L. Wilkinson	I (OVER) 10-28-81 GRANTED
BAL810706HU Form 314 PRESS JUL 10 1981 PN filed 7-7-81		Vol AL to MARYLAND LOTUS CORP. Atty for assignor Vernon Wilkinson Atty for assignee Jerome S. Boros	9-24-81

(BR810512UA) PETITION TO DENY AND TO INTERVENE filed
9-1-81 by National Black Media Coalition, D.C. Media
Task Force & Pluria W. Marshall.

MOTION TO AMEND IN PART AND TO WITHDRAW IN PART filed
9-22-81 by National Black Media Coalition, D.C. Media
Task Force & Pluria W. Marshall.

About the History Cards ...

History Cards were first used by the Department of Commerce to keep track of applications filed by, and changes to, the earliest AM broadcast stations in the early 1920s. The records were subsequently transferred to the Federal Radio Commission in 1927, and after that to the Federal Communications Commission when that agency was created in 1934. These cards gradually grew into a large card file. History Cards remained in use until the creation of the first computerized database in 1980 to track broadcast applications, the Broadcast Application Processing System (BAPS). However, the Commission did not transfer the data from the History Cards to the new system. Instead, it retained the History Cards in their original form – 3" by 5" filing cards – for reference.

In 1999, the Commission moved to a new location (445 12th Street SW), and also at that time created the successor database to BAPS, the Consolidated DataBase System (CDBS). The History Cards were transferred to microfiche by a contractor (only a few sets of microfiche exist), and the original paper cards were destroyed. The History Cards were stored on the microfiche as negative images, like those you see above. Generally, they have been left as negatives as those are often easier to read.

History Cards contain very brief entries and notes about station facilities, applications, and ownership. They are not, and never were intended to be, a comprehensive record of a station's operations. Nevertheless, they can be useful to help determine, for example, when a station first went on the air and its call letters at that time. History Card comments were generally typed onto the cards, and thus some records will show more faintly or with more smudging than others, depending on the quality of typewriter and ribbon then used. Occasional handwritten comments, corrections, and strikeouts may also be found. Cards may be incomplete, missing, or occasionally out of sequence.

The History Cards are presented here as they were copied to microfiche, to preserve this record for public use, and with the hope that they will be of value to future researchers of radio station history.

