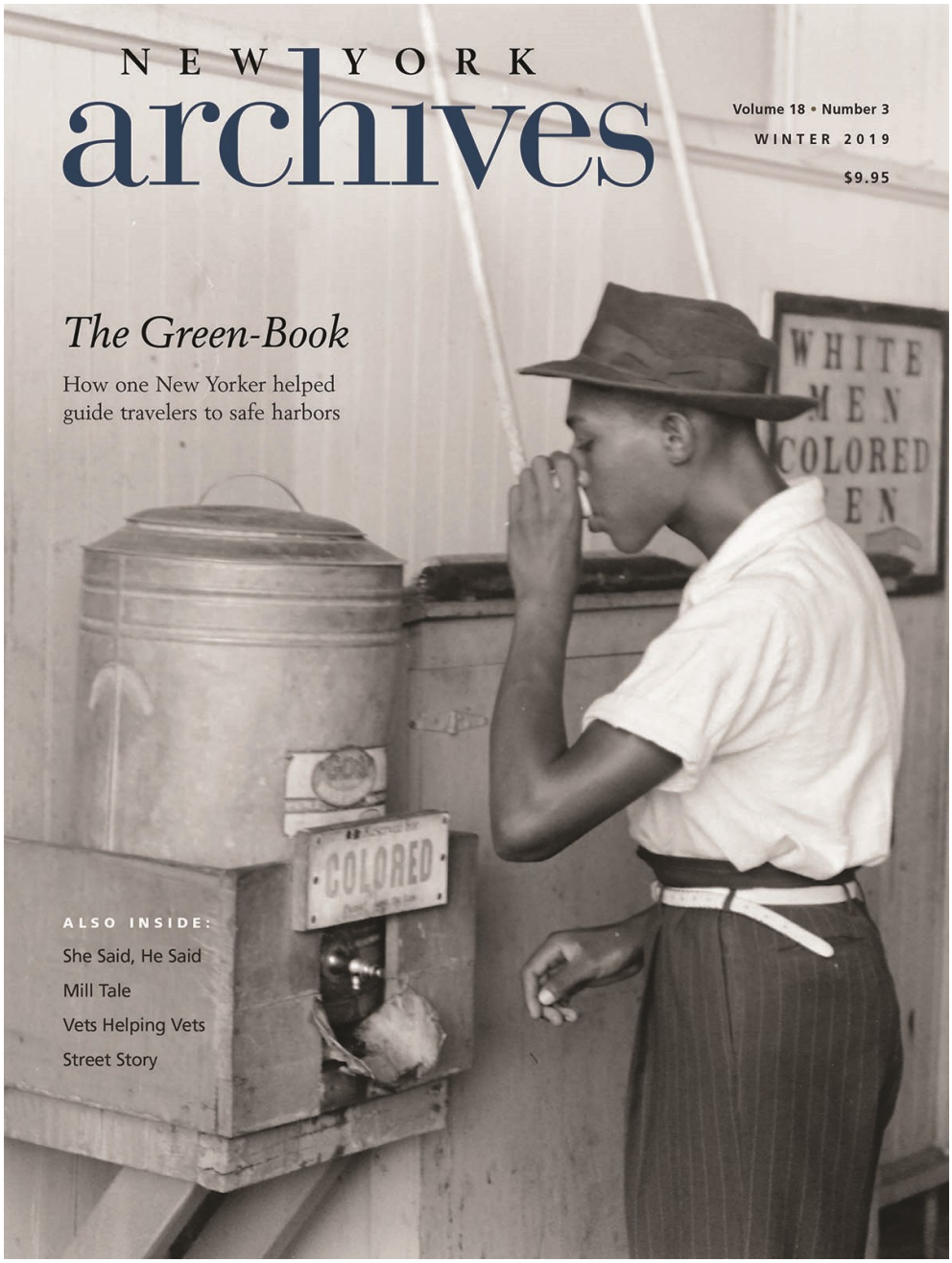


NEW YORK archives

Educator Guide

Winter 2019

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Advocating for Freedom

In his article for this issue of *New York Archives* Magazine, David Layne explores how *The Negro Motorist Green -Book* "helped African Americans achieve greater freedom on the road pursuing leisure activities or economic opportunities" during the era of Jim Crow. The restrictions put in place during this time period made travel extremely dangerous for African Americans. Victor Hugo Green and George Smith made travel safer and more appealing until legalized discrimination ended with the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Compelling Question

How did individuals create opportunities for African Americans during an era of legalized discrimination?

Learning Objectives

Students will be able to:

- create meaningful and persuasive understandings of the past by fusing disparate and relevant evidence from primary and secondary sources and drawing connections to the present

Additional resources

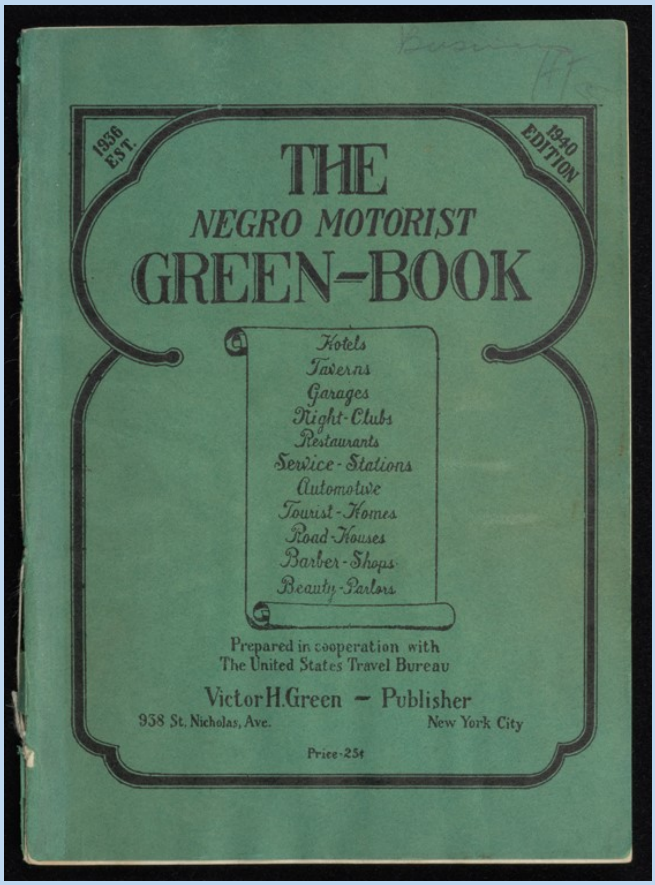
Ruth and the Green Book by Calvin Ramsey https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/books/ruth-and-the-green-book-by-calvin-alexander-ramsey/

New York Public Library's Digital Collection https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/collections/the-green-book#/?tab=about

Selection

Safe Travels

By David Layne



Courtesy: *New York Public Library*

This resource includes supporting questions to guide students in the reading of the article and analysis questions for understanding the primary sources. *All educational materials are aligned to the New York State Social Studies Framework. The learning objectives are taken directly from the Social Studies Practices and the content fits within the framework.*

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SAFE TRAVELS

BY DAVID LAYNE

The *Negro Motorist Green-Book* kept travelers out of harm's way.

In 1936, Donhaven's in Pleasantville, New York, offered "dining, dancing, and rendezvous" and Gene's Auto Repairs on West 155th Street in New York City promised, "We can fix em." Ace Auto Supply, located about thirty-five blocks north of Gene's, in a bit of one-upmanship, bragged that "We Can Fix 'em Right." Then there was Heckscher State Park on Long Island, "where camping could be had for 50 cents a day or two dollars a week." These locales were featured in the *Negro Motorist Green-Book*, a 16-page booklet focused on tourist information and services in the New York City area for African Americans.

It was a time when African Americans worried about the availability of food, lodging, and other services when traveling. In the South, Jim Crow laws divided society into "Whites Only" and "Colored" in nearly every aspect of people's lives. New York City was experiencing the effects of the previous year's Harlem Race Riot, a protest sparked partially by racial injustice and the disproportionate adverse economic impacts

NEW YORK archives WINTER 2019

Setting the Stage

Show this video from pbslearningmedia.org and discuss the Robinsons' experience with discrimination.
https://ny.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/jackierobinson-clip-honeymoon/ken-burns-jackie-robinson-clip-honeymoon/

Guided Reading Questions

1. Why was *The Negro Motorist Green-Book* created?

   _____

2. What did *The Green-Book* do for African Americans?

   _____

3. What were African Americans able to avoid when they used *The Green-Book*?

   _____

4. What was included in *The Green-Book*?

   _____

5. How was the guide arranged?

   _____

6. Where was *The Green-Book* most valuable?

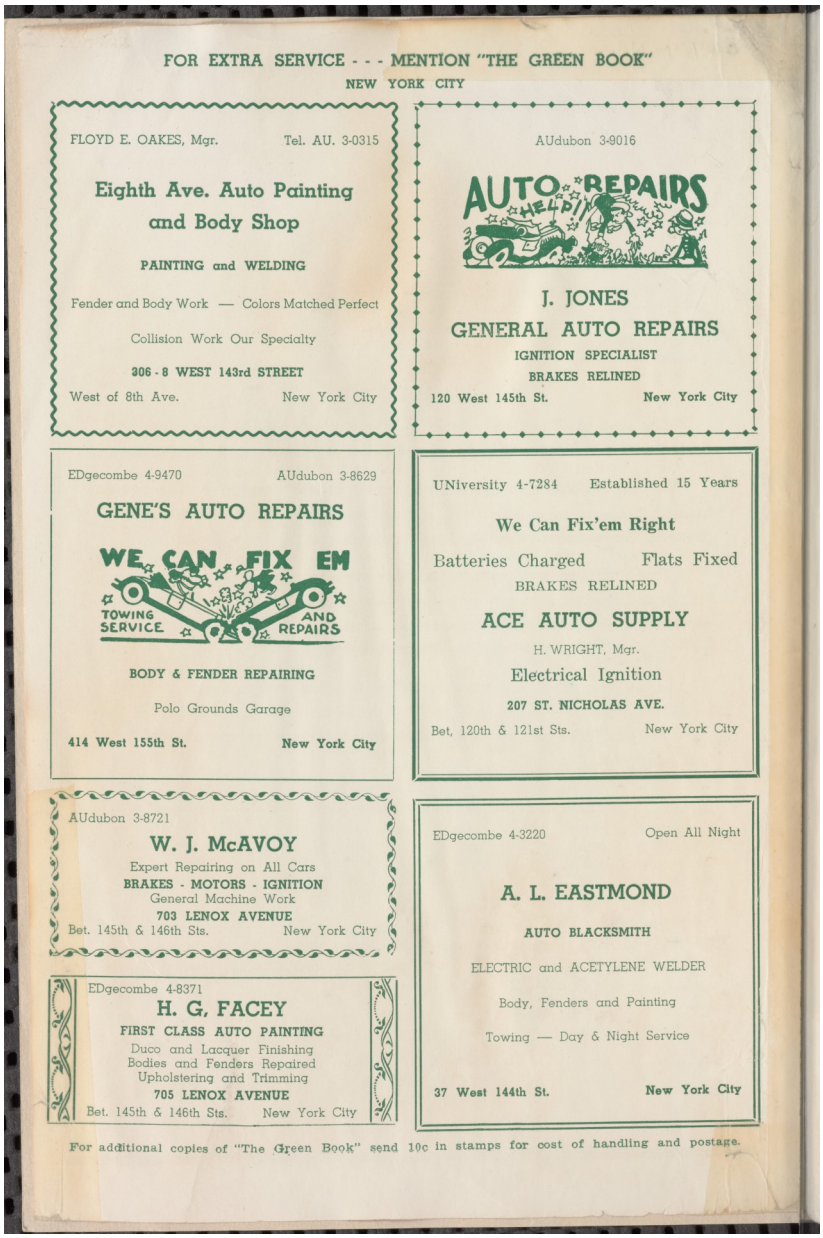
   _____

7. How were the business listings developed?

   _____

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Document Analysis



FOR EXTRA SERVICE - - - MENTION "THE GREEN BOOK"
NEW YORK CITY

FLOYD E. OAKES, Mgr. Tel. AU. 3-0315
Eighth Ave. Auto Painting and Body Shop
PAINTING and WELDING
Fender and Body Work — Colors Matched Perfect
Collision Work Our Specialty
306 - 8 WEST 143rd STREET
West of 8th Ave. New York City

AUdubon 3-9016
AUTO REPAIRS
HELP!!
J. JONES
GENERAL AUTO REPAIRS
IGNITION SPECIALIST
BRAKES RELINED
120 West 145th St. New York City

EDgecombe 4-9470 AUdubon 3-8629
GENE'S AUTO REPAIRS
WE CAN FIX EM
TOWING SERVICE AND REPAIRS
BODY & FENDER REPAIRING
Polo Grounds Garage
414 West 155th St. New York City

UNiversity 4-7284 Established 15 Years
We Can Fix'em Right
Batteries Charged Flats Fixed
BRAKES RELINED
ACE AUTO SUPPLY
H. WRIGHT, Mgr.
Electrical Ignition
207 ST. NICHOLAS AVE.
Bet. 120th & 121st Sts. New York City

AUdubon 3-8721
W. J. McAVOY
Expert Repairing on All Cars
BRAKES - MOTORS - IGNITION
General Machine Work
703 LENOX AVENUE
Bet. 145th & 146th Sts. New York City

EDgecombe 4-3220 Open All Night
A. L. EASTMOND
AUTO BLACKSMITH
ELECTRIC and ACETYLENE WELDER
Body, Fenders and Painting
Towing — Day & Night Service
37 West 144th St. New York City

EDgecombe 4-8371
H. G. FACEY
FIRST CLASS AUTO PAINTING
Duco and Lacquer Finishing
Bodies and Fenders Repaired
Upholstering and Trimming
705 LENOX AVENUE
Bet. 145th & 146th Sts. New York City

For additional copies of "The Green Book" send 10c in stamps for cost of handling and postage.

Courtesy: *New York Public Library*

Analysis Questions

1. What do all of these advertisements have in common?

   _____

2. Why would it be important to list these services in this book?

   _____

3. Why might these businesses want to advertise in this book?

   _____

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