

## **The Green Book: Traveling During the Jim Crow Era**

### **Kansas College and Career Ready Standards for HGSS: Economics**

- Standard 1: Choices have consequences
- Standard 2: Individuals have rights and responsibilities.
- Standard 3: Societies are shaped by beliefs, ideas, and diversity.
- Standard 4: Societies experience continuity and change over time.

The Green Book was "the bible of black travel" during the era of Jim Crow laws, when open and often legally prescribed discrimination against African Americans and other non-whites was widespread. Victor Green wrote this guide to identify services and places relatively friendly to African-Americans so they could find lodgings, businesses, and gas stations that would serve them along the road. Students will explore primary sources to discover the difficulties of trying to travel within the limitations of the Jim Crow laws.

### **The classroom teacher needs to provide for each student:**

- Kansas road map
- The Green Book pages from 1949 and 1962
- Recording page
- Pencils
- Highlighters, thin markers, or colored pencils
- Background information page on the Jim Crow Era

# Program Connection Information

***Please use an external microphone (conference style) rather than the integrated one in the computer for the audio for your class and locate it centrally in the room. It can be difficult for the Greenbush teacher to hear the students using the computer microphone and therefore it reduces the interactive nature of the lesson. It is fine to use the computer webcam for your video source.***

All classes will take place using Zoom desktop video. If your building is already set up to use a desktop video application with a computer, simply open a browser and enter <https://zoom.us/j/3662120241> in the URL space. You may need to download Zoom launcher software (free download) if you don't already have it. This needs to be done in advance of the lesson.

If using a Polycom video conferencing unit (or any legacy type video conferencing unit) to connect to a ZOOM conference, make sure the unit is in "encrypted mode" then dial the following IP on the internet: 162.255.37.11 or 162.255.36.11 and once connected, they will ask for a MEETING ID: enter 3662120241 (for Sharon at Science Center).

It's always a good idea to touch base with your district technology facilitator prior to your program to make sure all systems/equipment are in place and operational and that there aren't any firewalls in place that might prevent you from connecting to Zoom.

Once you connect, you will enter a Zoom waiting room. Your Greenbush teacher will admit you into the final meeting room.

If you have questions, please call Sharon Bertolio at Greenbush, 620-724-6281, or email at [sharon.bertolio@greenbush.org](mailto:sharon.bertolio@greenbush.org) (best method of contact).



— Toll Roads   
 US Highways   
 Interstate Highways   
 0    100 KM    100 Miles    © geology.com

## DES MOINES

## HOTELS

Y. W. C. A.—512-9th St.  
Watkins—833 Keo Way  
Parker-Roach—762½ 9th St.  
La Marguerite—1425 Center Street

## RESTAURANTS

Sampson—1246 E. 17th St.  
Cunningham's—1602 E. University  
Ida Bell's—783 11th St.  
Corinne's—1450 Walker Street  
Bryson's—1115 Center Street  
Gertrude's—1308 Keo Way  
Peck's—1180 - 13th Street  
Community—1202 Center Street  
Ida Bell's—783 Eleventh  
Buzz Inn—1000 Center Street  
Erma & Carrie's—1008 Center Street  
William's—1200 East 16th St.  
Welcome Inn—1545 Walker St.

## BEAUTY PARLORS

Vo-Pon—1656 Walker St.  
Berline—1206 Center St.  
Polly's—1544 Walker St.  
Evalon—762 W. 9th St.  
Bernice's—911 W. 16th St.  
Murlians—933 16th St.  
Miniature—1143 Enis  
Louie's—1204 Center Street  
Ruth's—1049 4th Street

## TAVERNS

Herb's—1002 Center St.

## SERVICE STATIONS

Eagle—2246 Hubble Blvd.  
Mumford's—4th & Euclid Avenue

## GARAGES

4th Street—417 4th St.

## AUTOMOTIVE

Andy's—E. University & Hubble

## TAILORS

National—808 - 12th Street  
Clean Craft—1300 - 6th Avenue

## DRUG STORES

Adams—E. 5th & Locust St.

## DUBUQUE

## TOURIST HOMES

Mrs. P. Martin—712 University Ave.  
Mrs. Edwin Weaver—795 Roberts Ave.

## OTTUMWA

## TOURIST HOMES

Mrs. J. Rose—802 N. Fellows  
William Bailey—526 Center Ave.  
J. H. Hewitt—512 Grant  
Harry Owens—814 W. Pershing

## SIOUX CITY

## RESTAURANTS

Prince Henry—704 W. 7th St.

## BEAUTY PARLORS

Pannie Mae's—520½ W. 7th St.

## WATERLOO

## TOURIST HOMES

Mrs. B. F. Tredwell—928 Beach St.  
Mrs. Spencer—220 Sumner St.  
Mrs. E. Lee—745 Vinton St.

## KANSAS

## ATCHISON

## TOURIST HOMES

Mrs. Geneva Miles—924 N. 9th St.

## NIGHT CLUBS

Mrs. M. McDonald—10th & Spruce

## DRUG STORES

Henderson—7th & Division St.

## BETHEL

## COUNTRY CLUB

Penrod—R. F. D. 1

## BOGUE

## TOURIST HOMES

Tourist Court—Junction Rt. U. S. 24

## COFFEYVILLE

## TOURIST HOMES

Tourist Home—618 E. 5th St.

## CONCORDIA

## TOURIST HOMES

Mrs. B. Johnson—102 E. 2nd St.  
Mrs. Glen McVey—328 East St.

## EMPORIA

## TOURIST HOMES

Elliott's—816 Congress St.

## EDWARDSVILLE

## TOURIST HOMES

Road House—Anderson's Highway 32 & Bitts Creek

## FORT SCOTT

## HOTELS

Hall's—223½ E. Wall St.

## TOURIST HOMES

Peter Thomason—114 S. Ransom St.

## HIAWATHA

## TOURIST HOMES

Mrs. Mary Sanders—1014 Shawnee

## HUTCHINSON

## TOURIST HOMES

Mrs. C. Lewis—400 W. Sherman

## JUNCTION CITY

## HOTELS

Bridgforth—311 E. 11th St.

## TOURIST HOMES

Mrs. B. Jones—229 E. 14th St.

## LARNED

## TOURIST HOMES

Mrs. C. M. Madison—828 W. 12th St.  
Mrs. Mose Madison—518 W. 10th St.  
Mrs. John Caro—E. 16th St. & Johnson Av.

## RESTAURANTS

Carnie's Bar-B-Q—218 E. 4th St.

## BEAUTY PARLORS

C. Jones—1423 Carroll St.

## LAURENCE

## HOTELS

Snowden's—1933 Tennessee St.

## LEAVENWORTH

## TOURIST HOMES

Mrs. J. Hamilton—720 N. 3rd St.  
Mrs. W. Shelton—216 Poplar St.

## KANSAS CITY

## BARBER SHOPS

Dabby's—10th and Oakland

## BEAUTY PARLORS

Sander's—1813 N. 5th St.

## RESTAURANTS

Keystone Club—4th & Freeman  
Duck Inn—5th & State Street  
Virgil's Place—1622 Gray Road

## ROAD HOUSES

De Moss—44th and Sorta Road, Rt. 3

## NIGHT CLUBS

Flamingo—1916 N. 5th St.

Congo—1932 - 5th St.

## GARAGES

Economy—1935 N. 5th St.

Arthur's—2414 N. 5th St.

## DRUG STORES

Whitney's—5th & Virginia

Cundiff—5th & Quindari

## MANHATTAN

## TOURIST HOMES

Mrs. E. Dawson—1010 Yuma St.  
Mrs. H. Jackson—830 Yuma St.

## OTTAWA

## TOURIST HOMES

Mrs. R. W. White—821 Cypress

## PARSONS

## TOURIST HOMES

Mrs. F. Williams—2216 Grand Ave.  
Womaack's—405 W. 43rd Terrace (Kemo)

## TOPEKA

## HOTELS

Dunbar—400 Quincy St.

## TOURIST HOMES

Mrs. E. Slaughter—1407 Monroe

## RESTAURANTS

Horseshoe Grill—114 Kansas  
Jenkins—112 East 4th St.  
Blue Heaven—301 E. 1st St.  
Joe Andy's—1000 Washington St.

## BARBER SHOPS

Lytle's—107 E. 4th St.  
Power's—402 Quincy Street

## BEAUTY PARLORS

Newton's—1316 Van Buren St.  
Avalla's—1800 Van Buren St.

## TAVERNS

Mack's—400 Quincy St.  
Power's Cafe—116 E. 4th St.

## SERVICE STATIONS

Powers—401 Quincy St.

## GARAGES

Hatton's—726 E. 10th St.

## WICHITA

## HOTELS

Oklahoma House—517½ N. Main

## RESTAURANTS

Oklahoma Cafe—517 N. Main St.

## KENTUCKY

## BOWLING GREEN

## HOTELS

Southern Queen—State St.; Hwy 31-W.

## ELIZABETHTOWN

## TOURIST HOMES

A. Johnson—Valley Creek Road  
Mrs. B. Tyler—Mile St.  
M. E. Wintersmith—S. Dixie Ave.

## HAZARD

## TOURIST HOMES

Mrs. J. Rizer—436 E. Main St.  
Mrs. Jessie Richardson—

## HOPKINSVILLE

## TOURIST HOMES

L. McNary—111 Liberty  
J. C. Hopkins—128 Liberty St.

## LANCASTER

## TOURIST HOMES

Born's—But. St.  
Ford's—But. St.

## RESTAURANTS

Plum's—But. St.

## BARBER SHOPS

Hyatt's—But. St.

## BEAUTY PARLORS

Hilltop—But. St.

## GARAGES

Warren & Francis—N. Campbell St.

**DAVENPORT**

Davenport Hotel

**DES MOINES**

Community Restaurant .....1202 Center Street  
 Erma & Carrie's Restaurant .....1008 Center Street  
 Maple Grove Motel .....6500 Hickman Rd.  
 Peck's Restaurant .....1180 13th Street  
 Y.W.C.A. ....512 9th Street  
 Sampson Restaurant .....1246 East 17th Street

**DUBUQUE**

Canfield Hotel

**IOWA CITY**

Oak Grove Motel .....Hwy. 6  
 Skyway Motel .....Hwy. 218, South

**NEWTON**

Hillcrest Motel .....3120 1st Ave., E., Hwy. 6

**OTTUMWA**

Park Hotel .....Box 375  
 William Bailey Tourist Home .....526 Center Avenue

**SIOUX CITY**

Floyd Park Motel .....2236 Williams Avenue  
 Prince Henry Restaurant .....818 Hamilton Street  
 West Hotel

**WATERLOO**

Hotel Ellis  
 Mrs. B. F. Tredwell Tourist Home .....928 Beach Street  
 Mrs. E. Lee Tourist Home .....745 Vinton Street  
 Mrs. Spencer Tourist Home .....220 Summer Street  
 Swing Inn Motel .....821 Washington

**KANSAS**

Hotels — Motels — Tourist Homes — Restaurants

**ABILENE**

Diamond Court Motel .....1403 N.W. 3rd Street  
 Sunflower Hotel .....Box 237

**ATCHISON**

Mrs. M. McDonald Tourist Home .....1001 South 7th Street

**CONCORDIA**

Mrs. B. Johnson Tourist Home .....102 East 2nd Street

**DODGE CITY**

Shangri-La Motel

**EMPORIA**

Elliott's Tourist Home .....816 Congress Street

**EDWARDSVILLE**

Road House Tourist Home .....Anderson's Hwy., 32 & Bitts Creek

**FORT SCOTT**

Hall's Hotel .....223½ East Wall Street  
 Harrison's Court Motel .....1916 E. Wall  
 Todds Motel .....Rt. 69

**GARDEN CITY**

Trail Inn Court Motel .....Hwy. 50

**HIAWATHA**

Mrs. Mary Sanders Tourist Home .....1014 Shawnee

**HUTCHINSON**

Beauty Rest Motel .....2927 East 4th Street  
 Mrs. C. Lewis Tourist Home .....400 West Sherman

**JUNCTION CITY**

Bridgforth Hotel .....311 East 11th Street

**KANSAS CITY**

Crown Court Motel .....4120 State Street  
 Hale's Court .....4110 State Street  
 Y.W.C.A. ....844 Quindaro Blvd.

**LARNED**

Carrie's Bar-B-Q Restaurant .....218 East 4th Street  
 Mrs. C. M. Madison Tourist Home .....828 West 12th Street  
 Mrs. John Caro Tourist Home .....218 East 4th Street  
 Mrs. Mose Madison Tourist Home .....518 West 10th Street

1962

**LAWRENCE**

Snowden's Hotel .....1933 Tennessee Street

**LEAVENWORTH**

Leavenworth Motel .....2100 So. 4th Street

**MANHATTAN**

George's Motel .....826 Yuma Street

Mrs. E. Dawson Tourist Home .....1010 Yuma Street

**SALINA**

Canary Motor Court .....510 No. Broadway

**STOCKTON**

L. D. Fuller

**TOPEKA**

Ace Motel .....Junction Hwys. 75-24-40

Ace Motor Court .....2117 Central

Capitol Hotel .....105 East 5th Street

F. W. Woolworth Co. Cafeteria .....627 Kansas Avenue

Mrs. E. Slaughter Tourist Home .....1407 Monroe

Palma House Hotel .....313 Quincy Street

Pennant Cafeteria .....915 Kansas Avenue

Purple Cow Coffee Shop .....Box 118

Senate Cafeteria .....822 Kansas Avenue

**WICHITA**

Acacia Hotel .....117 S. Topeka

Allis Hotel .....Broadway & William Sts.

Lassen Hotel .....E. 1st & Market Streets

Osage Motel .....3358 S. Broadway

## The Green Book – 1949 edition, Kansas entries

Circle on the map all communities listed in The Green Book.

Hotels/lodging/tourist homes.

# of towns \_\_\_\_\_

# of entries \_\_\_\_\_

Restaurants.

# of towns \_\_\_\_\_

# of entries \_\_\_\_\_

Other services (garages, drug stores, hair salons/barber shops, etc.)

# of towns \_\_\_\_\_

# of entries \_\_\_\_\_

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## The Green Book – 1962 edition, Kansas entries

Circle on the map all communities listed in The Green Book.

Hotels/lodging/tourist homes.

# of towns \_\_\_\_\_

# of entries \_\_\_\_\_

Restaurants.

# of towns \_\_\_\_\_

# of entries \_\_\_\_\_

Other services (garages, drug stores, hair salons/barber shops, etc.)

# of towns \_\_\_\_\_

# of entries \_\_\_\_\_

### ***Jim Crow and Segregation***

Racial segregation dates back to colonial times, and its effects can still be observed throughout the United States. After the Civil War (1865) most African Americans continued to live at little more than a subsistence level, however, a minority of African Americans gained a measure of prosperity. They could plan leisure travel for the first time. Affluent African Americans arranged large group excursions for as many as 2,000 people at a time, for instance, traveling by rail from New Orleans to resorts along the coast of the Gulf of Mexico. In the pre-Jim Crow era this necessarily meant mingling with whites in hotels, transportation, and leisure facilities. They were aided in this by the Civil Rights Act of 1875, which had made it illegal to discriminate against African Americans in public accommodations and public transportation.

By 1877, white Democrats controlled every state government in the South. The Civil Rights Act was declared unconstitutional by the United States Supreme Court in 1883, resulting in states and cities passing numerous segregation laws. White governments in the South required even interstate railroads to enforce their segregation laws, despite national legislation requiring equal treatment of passengers. In 1896, the US Supreme Court ruled in *Plessy v. Ferguson* that "separate but equal" accommodations were constitutional. In practice, however, facilities for African Americans were far from equal, and soon laws were passed that restricted African American travel, housing, schools, use of private and public facilities, amusement parks and other recreational areas.



### ***Travel during the Jim Crow Era***

During the Jim Crow era, when open and legally prescribed discrimination against African Americans was widespread, travel could be difficult, dangerous or even fatal. Because public transportation was segregated many African Americans took to driving. As the writer George Schuyler put it in 1930, "All Negroes who can do so purchase an automobile as soon as possible in order to be free of discomfort, discrimination, segregation, and insult." In addition, African Americans employed as athletes, entertainers, and salesmen also traveled frequently for work purposes. While traveling stopping for basic necessities such as food, gas, water, restrooms or an overnight hotel stay, could bring danger to African American travelers. They did not know which businesses would refuse to serve them or repair their vehicles. In addition, some communities purposely excluded people of other races. Known as "sundown" towns, these communities used discriminatory laws, intimidation, and violence to keep African Americans from stopping in their towns. The term came from signs posted stating that people of color had to leave the town by sundown.

### ***The Green Book***

In 1936 Victor H. Green published *The Negro Motorist Green Book*. It was an annual guidebook for African American travelers, commonly referred to as the *Green Book*. The purpose behind its publication was to assist African American travelers in finding businesses that welcomed them. From a New York-focused first edition published in 1936, Green expanded the work to cover much of North America, including most of the United States and parts of Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Bermuda. The *Green Book*, which ran until 1966, was used "to give the Negro traveler information that will keep him from running into difficulties, embarrassments and to make his trip more enjoyable." The *Green Book* became "the bible of black travel during Jim Crow" enabling African American travelers to find lodgings, businesses, and gas stations that would serve them along the road. Shortly after the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which outlawed the types of racial discrimination, the *Green Book's* publication ceased and it fell into obscurity.

# **Additional Lesson Resources**

## Smithsonian Channel documentary “The Green Book: Guide to Freedom”

In the 1930s, a black postal carrier from Harlem named Victor Green published a book that was part travel guide and part survival guide. It was called The Negro Motorist Green Book, and it helped African-Americans navigate safe passage across America well into the 1960s. Explore some of the segregated nation's safe havens and notorious "sundown towns" and witness stories of struggle and indignity as well as opportunity and triumph.

<https://www.smithsonianchannel.com/details/show/the-green-book-guide-to-freedom/show>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OT9HsNszYCI&list=PL7x3SptEZHyvpTQ0b9oeFjAuKZgtdlerj>

## New York Public Library “Navigating the Green Book”

The Green Book was a travel guide published between 1936 and 1966 that listed hotels, restaurants, bars, gas stations, etc. where black travelers would be welcome. NYPL Labs is in the process of extracting the data from the Green Books themselves and welcomes you to explore its contents in new ways.

<http://publicdomain.nypl.org/greenbook-map/>

## Researching “Sundown Towns”

### Does My Town Have a Racist Past?

How students can convert the shameful history of sundown towns in America into a rich opportunity for setting the record straight.

<https://www.tolerance.org/magazine/spring-2008/does-my-town-have-a-racist-past>