

ExxonMobil

Harlem postman
Victor H. Green
conceives The
Green Book to help
guide African
American travelers.

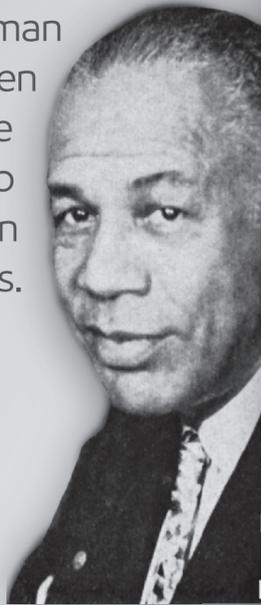


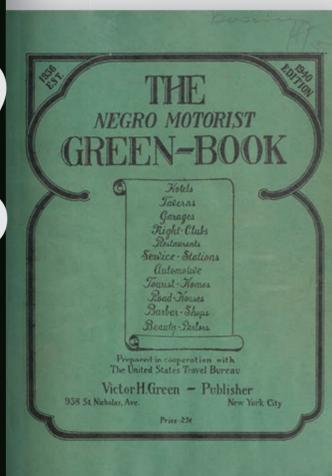
Photo Credit: The New York Age
Victor Hugo Green (1892-1960) circa 1956-1958

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HISTORY OF THE GREEN BOOK

Did you know that ExxonMobil's heritage Esso service stations played a key role in promoting and distributing The Green Book across the U.S.? Take a journey through its history to learn how it helped African Americans travel in the segregated United States of the mid-20th century.

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Scan of cover (New York Public Library copy)

The first Green Book is printed, covering establishments in the New York metropolitan area.

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15,000 copies are printed, listing hotels, restaurants and service stations that welcomed African Americans.

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Photo Credit: Getty Images
Jordan and Owens Esso Service Station, with man pumping gas into Hudson car and woman exiting shop, Aliquippa, Aliquippa, Pennsylvania, 1949.

Esso becomes the only major retail distributor of the Green Book, available at stations nationwide.



Photo Credit: Smithsonian
An African American family with their new Oldsmobile. Washington, D.C., April 1955

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20,000 books are printed at the height of circulation.

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ExxonMobil

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ExxonMobil sponsors the Smithsonian exhibit about the book's legacy, beginning in 2020.

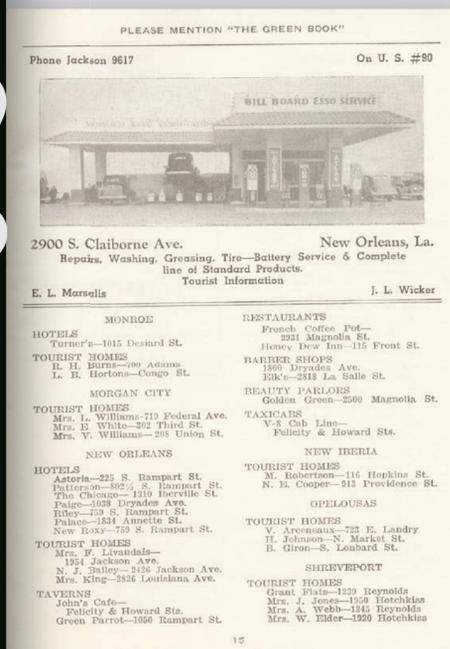


Photo Credit: Smithsonian

The final edition is published, selling for \$1.00.