



# National Archives *at* Kansas City Newsletter

## Film Screening of *The Green Book: Guide to Freedom*

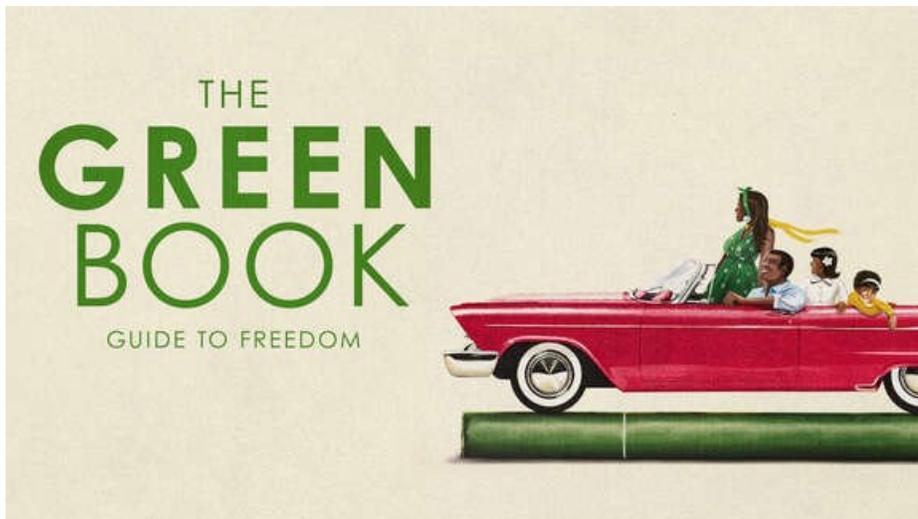
On **Tuesday, November 12 at 6:00 p.m.**, the National Archives, in partnership with the Greater Kansas City Black History Study Group, American Jazz Museum, and Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Center, will host a screening of ***The Green Book: Guide to Freedom***. This program will take place at the Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Center, 3700 Blue Parkway, Kansas City, MO. [Reservations](#) are requested for this **free program**.

In the 1930s, a black postal carrier from Harlem in Manhattan, New York City, 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 the United States well into the 1960s.

Throughout the early 20th century, African Americans who could, purchased vehicles as a means to avoid segregation on public transportation. In addition, post-

World War II America provided an opportunity for the emergence of an African American middle class, which included car ownership. Jim Crow laws, particularly in the America South, created danger and inconvenience for many black travelers as public entities such as restaurants, hotels, motels, and gas station not only refused service, but could also create problems for travelers - including arbitrary arrest. To counter this, Green's book included lists of services and places where weary travelers could stop to rest, eat, and service their car.

Green's first book, published in 1936, was focused heavily on New York, but he quickly expanded it to include the entire United States, Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Bermuda. Publication of the *Green Book* ceased shortly after the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. This 2019 Smithsonian-produced documentary explores some of the segregated nation's safe havens and whites-only "sundown towns" and witness stories of struggle and indignity as well as opportunity and triumph.



## National Archives Facility Reminder



The National Archives at Kansas City is a polling site on Tuesday, November 5, from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Researchers and visitors should plan on additional foot traffic and limited parking.

## November 2019

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### Upcoming Events

Unless noted, all events are held at the National Archives 400 W. Pershing Road Kansas City, MO 64108

- **Nov. 5 - 6:00 A.M.**  
ELECTION DAY: POLLING SITE
- **Nov. 11 - FACILITY CLOSED FOR VETERANS DAY HOLIDAY**
- **Nov. 12 - 6:00 P.M.**  
FILM SCREENING: *THE GREEN BOOK: GUIDE TO FREEDOM\**
- **Nov. 28 - FACILITY CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY**

\*DENOTES ACTIVITY IS OFFSITE.

# National Archives at Kansas City Partners with the National World War I Museum and Memorial for Vietnam Exhibit Programming

On **Friday, November 8**, the National World War I Museum and Memorial will open a new traveling exhibition titled ***The Vietnam War: 1945-1975*** as a part of Veterans Day Weekend activities. The National Archives at Kansas City will be one of several program partners through the duration of the exhibit in Kansas City. A full schedule of Veterans Day Weekend events is [here](#).

*The Vietnam War: 1945-1975*, a traveling exhibition from the New York Historical Society, examines how the divisive war challenged democracy, citizenship, patriotism and the foundations of American life as well as the connections between the conflict and its confounding cousin, World War I. The



exhibition takes visitors on a journey spanning the duration of U.S. involvement in Indochina, using compelling storytelling, powerful photography and artifacts that tell the deeply personal stories of the men and women who were affected by the war. *The Vietnam War: 1945-1975* explores themes through fascinating objects, including a troopship berthing unit, vibrant anti-war posters, artwork by Vietnam vets, a Viet Cong bicycle, the Pentagon Papers, and historical film footage. More than 300 artifacts, photographs, artworks, documents, films, and interactive digital media help to convey the story.

An introductory gallery precedes the exhibition, which features documents and historical research from the collection of the Museum and Memorial, helping to illustrate connections between the Great War and the Vietnam War. At the Paris peace talks in 1919, a young man named Nguyễn Sinh Cung requested audiences with world leaders in an attempt to secure independence from France for what eventually became Vietnam. Denied these repeated attempts, he later forged alliances with Communist-leaning leaders and renamed himself Ho Chi Minh.

A bespectacled artillery captain from Missouri, Harry S. Truman said his later decisions were based on his World War I experiences, including providing economic and military aid to France in support of its efforts in Indochina. Brigadier General Douglas MacArthur, a young tank captain named Dwight Eisenhower, Assistant Secretary of the Navy Franklin D. Roosevelt, Colonel George C. Marshall and many others deeply involved in World War I had connections to the war in Southeast Asia a few decades later. *The Vietnam War: 1945-1975* will be available for viewing through Memorial Day (May 25, 2020).

**Save the Dates:** Several dates have been reserved for joint programs between the National Archives and the National World War I Museum in conjunction with *The Vietnam War: 1945-1975* exhibit. Please note the following as additional details will be forthcoming in future newsletters. All events will take place at the National World War I Museum and Memorial.

**Saturday, January 25, 2020** - Educators workshop

**Wednesday, February 26, 2020** - Evening lecture with Dr. Beth Bailey of University of Kansas

**Thursday, March 19, 2020** - Evening lecture with Dr. Greg Daddis of Chapman University

**Saturday, March 27, 2020** - Vietnam Veterans Day of activities

**Thursday, April 9, 2020** - Evening lecture with Dr. Heather Streets-Salter of Northeastern University

# Hidden Treasures from the Stack

## Look Deep Into My Eyes

The history of medicine is full of contentious theories and practices. Perhaps a practice that was once acceptable is no longer so, or maybe a certain theory has few believers outside of a small band of passionate proponents. “Iridology,” or “ocular diagnosis,” might be one such theory.

Not to be confused with ocular diagnosis as practiced by modern ophthalmologists for diagnosing eye diseases, iridology is largely considered alternative medicine. Its promoters posit that certain characteristics of the eye can serve as indicators of a person’s overall health. In this theory, sections of the iris are mapped and examined for a variety of different physical ailments, such as epilepsy and paralysis, but also psychological or sociological issues like “morbid fears” or “sexual perversity.”

One key proponent of iridology was the Swedish priest and physician, Nils Liljequist. In 1861, he published *Quinine And Iodine Change The Colour Of The Iris; I Formerly Had Blue Eyes, They Are Now A Greenish Colour With Reddish Spots*. This rather descriptive title hinted at the central argument of his book: Medicines could have unintended effects on the iris, and irregularities detected in the iris could be symptoms of issues elsewhere in the body. Though its roots pre-date Liljequist, the popularity of ocular diagnosis saw a resurgence due in part to his work and a journey to the United States in the 1910s (1). At least one reference to this visit appears in the records of the National Archives.

The records of the Cheyenne River Indian Agency are part of Record Group 75, Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The Cheyenne River general correspondence series contain letters, memorandums, and telegrams on all manner of subjects for this South Dakota reservation. Topics addressed can include the purchase of supplies, livestock, and land, as well as more sensitive issues, such as appeals from Indians of the reservation requesting permission to visit relatives or participate in ceremonial celebrations. The agent in charge at each Indian agency had the authority as recognized by the Federal Government to approve or deny requests to participate in certain activities. Appeals also came from sources outside of the reservation. One such example is illustrated in correspondence with the Groveland Health Resort in Redfield, South Dakota.

The Groveland Health Resort contacted the Cheyenne River Agency in January 1912 to ask a favor of Thomas J. King, Jr., the agency superintendent. The resort touted an “intelligent co-operation with nature” and aligned itself with the theories of ocular diagnosis and electro-homeopathy. Staff at the resort were awaiting the visit in May or June of that year of Liljequist, the purported “originator” of ocular diagnosis, and expected to host demonstrations of this theory. To that end, the resort was requesting “two or three men and women (full-bloods)” from the reservation in order to “[have] some Indians for examination.” The request was not necessarily unusual for the time period. There is documented history of medical experimentation on vulnerable groups of people who lacked the agency to control what was done to them.

King responded warmly to the Groveland Health Resort’s request, saying, “It would give me much pleasure to co-operate with your institution.” He inquired as to the actual details of the demonstration. Resort staff replied that “all that would be expected of the Indians, would be to sit quietly in a chair, and permit us to examine their eyes with the use of a magnifying glass.” The exchange ended with King saying he “[saw] no reason why some of the Indians should not accommodate.”

What option the Indians of the reservation had in choosing whether to participate is unclear, also whether the demonstrations ever took place. Representatives from the resort assured the superintendent that they would contact him again around June first to arrange a visit. However, the series of letters sent and received contain no additional follow-up correspondence between February and August of that year.

The National Archives at Kansas City houses records relating to Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota. To access more Bureau of Indian Affairs records, visit the [National Archives Catalog](#).

### **Additional Source:**

Behncke, F.H. *Pioneer Teachers. Elmhurst, Illinois. 1921.*

(Images continued on pages 4-6.)



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GROVELAND HEALTH RESORT

OCULAR DIAGNOSIS

ELECTRO-HOMEOPATHY

OUR SPECIALTY: ALL ACUTE DISEASES  
AND INCURABLE CHRONIC AFFLICTIONS

DIET, EXERCISE, SUN AND AIR-BATHS  
HYDROTHERAPY, ETC., PRESCRIBED AS INDICATED

INTELLIGENT CO-OPERATION WITH NATURE

REDFIELD, S. D. Jan. 22, 1912.

Agent, Cheyenne Indian Reservation,  
Gettysburg, S. D.

Dear Sir:-

In May or June of this year, we expect to have Dr. Liljequist, the originator of Ocular Diagnosis, spend some time with us, and during his stay here, expect to have demonstrations of this science on as many subjects as possible.

Inasmuch as we are especially desirous of having some indians for examination, are writing to inquire whether or not you would consider the matter of having two or three men and women <sup>full bloods</sup> of your neighborhood, come to Redfield at our expense, at that time.

Hoping to hear from you soon, we are

Very truly yours,

GROVELAND HEALTH RESORT.

-ENC-

-C-

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE

Cheyenne River Agency, S. D.,

January 31, 1912.

Groveland Health Resort,  
Redfield, S. D.

Gentlemen:

Your letter dated January 22, 1912 has been received. It would give me much pleasure to co-operate with your institution to the extent of having some of the Indians visit Redfield as you request. However, before mentioning the subject to any of the Indians I have to request that you kindly advise me as to the exact nature of the demonstration and particularly as to the part which the Indians would be expected to take or the examination they would undergo as subjects of the demonstration.

Very respectfully,

TJK:H

Superintendent.

"Drop that Burden"

Left and below: Correspondence between the Groveland Health Resort and the Cheyenne River Indian Agency from January and February of 1912. RG 75, Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Cheyenne River Agency, Correspondence Sent and Received, 1870-1940, NAID 86581697.

Right and below:  
Correspondence  
between the Groveland  
Health Resort and the  
Cheyenne River Indian  
Agency from January and  
February of 1912. RG 75,  
Records of the Bureau of  
Indian Affairs, Cheyenne  
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UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE  
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HYDROTHERAPY, ETC., PRESCRIBED AS INDICATED

REDFIELD, S. D. Feb. 13, 1912.

Cheyenne River Agency, Supt.,  
Gettysburg, S. D.

Dear Sir:-

Replying to your courteous letter of the 31st ult., will say that  
our method of examination is by looking into the eyes of the subject, and  
all that would be expected of the Indians, would be to sit quietly in a  
chair, and permit us to examine their eyes with the use of a magnifying  
glass.

We thank you for your consent to our plans, and will write you again  
on this subject, when the time is ripe for definite action, which will be  
about June first.

Very truly yours,  
GROVELAND HEALTH RESORT.

-C-

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE

Cheyenne River Agency, S. D.,  
Feb. 24, 1912.

Groveland Health Resort,  
Redfield, S. D.

Gentlemen:

Your letter dated Feb. 13, 1912 has been received.

I see no reason why some of the Indians should  
not accommodate you and if you will write to me shortly  
before you will need them I shall endeavor to have a few  
attend your clinic at Redfield.

Respectfully,

TJK.H

Superintendent.

True Pace."

## Free Professional Development Opportunities for Educators

### ***Native Communities and the Vote: Teaching about American Indian Voting Rights through Documents***

**Wednesday, November 6 at 7:00 p.m. - Eastern Standard Time**

Join us and learn how to incorporate primary sources related to American Indian voting rights into your lesson plans. We will share activities and resources from the National Archives and explore how to include discussions of evolving rights over time as relating to Native Communities and the right to participate in Federal elections. [Registration](#) is required.

### ***Teaching the Bill of Rights***

**Thursday, December 12 at 7:00 p.m. - Eastern Standard Time**

Get ready for Bill of Rights Day (December 15) by exploring resources from the National Archives for teaching the Bill of Rights in your classroom. Discover primary sources that show the Bill of Rights in action on DocsTeach.org, check out lesson plans and the Congress Creates the Bill of Rights app from the Center for Legislative Archives, and learn about our free distance learning programs on the Bill of Rights. This webinar is suitable for all educators. [Registration](#) is required.



Above: Administering Oath of Office to new Tribal Council, 1959. RG 75, Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Red Lake Agency, Photographs, 1910-1965. NAID 285701

## Are you connected to the National Archives at Kansas City?



We encourage our patrons to use electronic mail and social media to connect with us. Our Facebook address is [www.facebook.com/nationalarchiveskansascity](http://www.facebook.com/nationalarchiveskansascity). In addition, you can find us on Instagram [@kansascity.archives](https://www.instagram.com/kansascity.archives) or tweet us via Twitter [@KCArchives](https://twitter.com/KCArchives) or [#KCArchives](https://twitter.com/KCArchives).



All information about upcoming events and programs is emailed to patrons through our electronic mailing list. If we do not have your address on file, please send an email with your preferred address to [kansascity.educate@nara.gov](mailto:kansascity.educate@nara.gov) or call 816-268-8000.



By providing your address, you grant the National Archives at Kansas City permission to send you information about special events, and programs. Per the Privacy Act of 1974, we will not share your personal information with third parties.



NATIONAL  
ARCHIVES

KANSAS CITY

**GENERAL INFORMATION:** The National Archives is open Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Closed on weekends and Federal holidays. Hours are subject to change due to special programs and weather.

The National Archives is located at 400 West Pershing Road, Kansas City, Missouri, 64108. The National Archives at Kansas City is home to historical records dating from the 1820s to the 1990s created or received by Federal agencies in Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota. For more information, call 816-268-8000, email [kansascity.educate@nara.gov](mailto:kansascity.educate@nara.gov) or visit [www.archives.gov/kansas-city](http://www.archives.gov/kansas-city). Tweet us [@KCArchives](https://twitter.com/KCArchives) or [#KCArchives](https://twitter.com/KCArchives). Find and follow us on Instagram at: [kansascity.archives](https://www.instagram.com/kansascity.archives). Find us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/nationalarchiveskansascity](http://www.facebook.com/nationalarchiveskansascity).