



INSIDE THE VAULT

Black Land Ownership and the
American Dream in the Jim Crow Era

with Dr. Alison Rose Jefferson

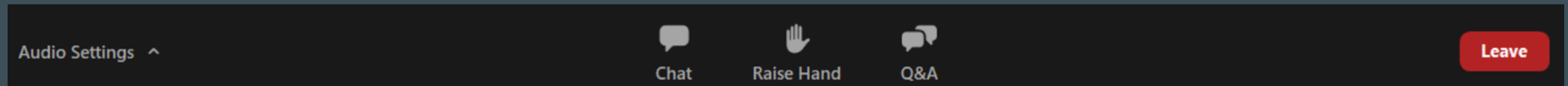
THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 2025



THE
GILDER LEHRMAN
INSTITUTE
of
AMERICAN HISTORY



How to Participate



- If you would like to ask a question, you can use the Q&A feature.
- We will be answering audience questions throughout the session.
- The views expressed here are those of the historian.

For Security and Privacy

- Your microphone is automatically muted.
- Your camera is automatically turned off.



Today's Document



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

For the benefit of the many persons who write us concerning Eureka Villa, Los Angeles County, California, I have prepared this little pamphlet.

I do not claim that every question that would affect the building of a town is answered herein, but I do feel, and I trust that you will also, that the necessary questions have been answered to help you to intelligently decide whether it is to your advantage to buy a lot at Eureka Villa. If I am successful in accomplishing this desired result, although you fail to grasp the greatest opportunity yet offered our group in California, I feel that I have done my duty to my race in helping to put home-owning in Southern California in the reach of all.

May God bless you and may 1926 find our group nearing the goal of economical freedom.

SIDNEY P. DONES.

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- Q. Where is Eureka Villa?
A. Eureka Villa is located in Los Angeles County, California—42 miles from Los Angeles proper, but only 18 miles outside of the city limits of Los Angeles, Cal., a city of over a million people and no doubt the fastest growing city in the world.
- Q. How do you reach Eureka Villa from Los Angeles, Cal.?
A. By Southern Pacific trains and bus lines.
- Q. How many acres of land compose Eureka Villa?
A. About 1,000 acres of land, subdivided into lots ranging in size from 50x100 feet to 50x300 feet.
- Q. How many lots have been sold at Eureka?
A. About 700, at this date, January 14th, 1926.
- Q. How many houses are there at Eureka Villa and what sizes are they?
A. There are 19 houses at Eureka Villa ranging in size from two rooms to twelve rooms.
- Q. What are the prices of lots and what are the terms?
A. Lots range from \$150.00 to \$500.00. The terms on all lots at \$150.00 are \$10.00 cash and \$5.00 per month. On all lots over \$150.00, 5% cash with a minimum payment of \$15.00 cash, and \$10.00 per month.
- Q. What is the Val Verde Unit at Eureka Villa?
A. Val Verde Unit is the most beautiful part of Eureka. Like any town, the Val Verde Unit will always be the most desirable for high class homes. The prices in the Val Verde range from \$295.00 to \$650.00. Terms, 5% cash with a minimum of \$15.00 as the first payment and balance, \$10.00 per month.
- Q. Between whom are contracts made for lots in the Val Verde Unit?
A. The Hellman Bank, one of the largest banks in the city of Los Angeles, appears as Sellers and Trustees.
- Q. How can I get a lot at Eureka Villa?
A. 1. If you want a \$150.00 lot, make

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- your money order or personal check for \$10.00 payable to the National City Bank, and mail to the undersigned and your contracts will be immediately drawn and mailed to you to be signed.
2. If you desire a lot in the beautiful Val Verde Unit at Eureka, with prices ranging from \$295.00 to \$650.00, make your check or money order for a minimum of \$15.00, or for 5% on all lots over \$300.00 to the Hellman Bank, and send same to the undersigned and contracts will be prepared immediately and mailed for your signature.
- Q. What work can we get near Eureka?
A. Eureka is just one and one-half hours' ride from Hollywood, where a large number of our people are employed, and too, there will be a number of people wanted to build Eureka Villa.
- Q. How about business lots?
A. We have a large number of business lots ranging in prices from \$385.00 to \$750.00; the terms, 5% cash and balance \$10.00 per month. I highly recommend the lots to people who may desire to enter business in California, or who wish to sell at a big profit in the near future.
- Q. Have you plenty of water?
A. Yes, we have plenty of as fine water as can be found in California, namely: Sulphur water, Iron water, Artesian water, and Salt water.
- Q. What about Eureka Villa soil?
A. At Eureka Villa you will find as fine a soil as can be found any place in Southern California. It is especially adapted to growing grapes, oranges, lemons, grape-fruit, peaches, melons of all kinds, walnuts, and all kinds of vegetables.
- Q. What possibility is there for industry at Eureka Villa?
A. There is a wonderful opportunity for a great steam laundry and canning factory to be built at Eureka Villa. With an abundance of good, soft water, Eureka Villa is an ideal place for a large laundry. Plans are now

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- being discussed concerning the possibility of building a laundry that will employ more than one hundred people. On account of fruit that is grown near Eureka, there is a great opportunity for a canning factory which also would employ at least a hundred people.
- Q. What about Churches?
A. Eureka Villa, like all progressive movements, has not overlooked the most necessary thing in the successful development of a community—a religious organization. The Eureka Villa Community Church has been organized and its membership consists only of lot owners at Eureka Villa, some of our Los Angeles citizens.
- Q. What amusements are there at Eureka Villa?
A. There is a solid cement, double court; large dancing pavilion, C. and school.
- Q. What about schools?
A. The County of Los Angeles has a school at Eureka Villa. This school will be enlarged from time to time as the population increases.
- Q. How are improvements made at Eureka Villa?
A. Twenty per cent (20%) of the chase price of all lots is set aside for improvement, which is used for grading streets, water development, electric lights, swimming pool, tennis court and club house.
- Q. Who will own these improvements?
A. Every lot owner at Eureka Villa owns an undivided interest in all improvements.
- Q. Under whose supervision is this improvement done?
A. The Eureka Villa Advisory Board.
- Q. What is the Eureka Villa Advisory Board?
A. The Eureka Villa Advisory Board consists of twenty of the leading business and professional men and women of Los Angeles, Cal.
- Q. What are the names of the members of the Eureka Villa Advisory Board?

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- A. Sidney P. Dones, President; J. C. Banks, U. S. Customs Service, Vice-President; Ernestine Davidson, Secretary; J. B. Bass, Editor California Eagle, Treasurer; Rev. Dr. E. R. Driver, Chairman, Public Welfare Committee; F. M. Roberts, Assemblyman; Eldridge Lee, Mrs. Eliza Lawrence, Dr. S. D. Cottrell, Wood Wilson, Ernest Bennette, Felix Waugh, C. H. Jones, Dr. Emily Childress, Rev. V. M. Cole, Chairman, Light and Water Committee; George Cushman, Street Committee; Dr. Wm. B. Humphrey, Chairman, Health and Sanitation Committee; William Shelton, Chairman, Building Committee; and Mrs. Virginia James, member of Building Committee.
- Q. What about oil rights, and do you think there is oil at Eureka?
A. When you buy a lot, all oil rights go to you. There is an oil company now offering to drill for oil if we would grant them a lease. I really and truly believe not only that there is oil at Eureka, but I believe the people who buy lots now, at least some of them, will make a fortune within the next five years from oil. With this belief, I closed a deal recently, for \$1465.00 worth of lots in the Val Verde Unit, and I hope to buy more lots as soon as I am able.
- Q. What Oil Company has offered to buy oil leases at Eureka Villa?
A. The Courtlan Petroleum Company, 704 Petroleum Securities Building, 714 West 10th Street, Los Angeles, California.
- Q. How is Eureka for a health resort?
A. I believe that Eureka is the healthiest spot in California. It is high and dry, no fog whatever, and pure water. For people suffering with Tuberculosis, Asthma, Rheumatism, Stomach troubles, a few months at Eureka will help them and may be the means of prolonging life for many years.
- Q. Is Eureka Villa a necessity?
A. Yes.
- Q. Why?
A. 1. Because the price of close in real

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- estate is so high that hundreds of people will never be able to own a home in Southern California.
2. Because there is absolutely no resort in Southern California where members of our group are welcomed.
3. Because our children are entitled to a place in the great open spaces where they can play and have fun unrestricted by race prejudice and oppression.
4. Because the women of our group should have the same opportunity offered by Country Clubs and resorts owned by the other people to their women.
5. Because land is scarce in Southern California and after Eureka Villa is sold out, we will never have an opportunity to buy lots at the price that you can buy lots at Eureka Villa.
6. Because we must prove to the world that we are capable of developing something of our very own.
7. Because the lots that you buy at Eureka Villa now, no doubt will sell for many times what the present prices are.
8. Because the best investment on earth is Southern California real estate.
- Finally, let me say, members of our group, I stake my reputation for fairness, honesty and loyalty to my race on this statement; that I believe Eureka Villa offers the greatest opportunity to invest a few dollars offered any place in the wide, wide world.
- I hereby certify that all the statements contained in this little pamphlet are true to the best of my knowledge.
- SIDNEY P. DONES, President,
Eureka Villa Improvement Assn.
1720 Central Avenue,
Los Angeles, California.
- Subscribed to before me this 14th day of January, 1926.
- V. M. Cole,
Notary Public.
(SEAL)
In and for the County of Los Angeles,
State of California.

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HERE IS HOW TO BUY A LOT

Eureka Villa Improvement Assn., Inc.,
1720 Central Avenue,
Los Angeles, Cal.

Gentlemen:

I am herewith enclosing money order or personal check for \$....., as a first payment on a lot at Eureka Villa. I have picked a number from the price list enclosed in the pamphlet you sent me. The number of the lot is..... The price is \$.....

Name.....
Wife's Name.....
Address.....

Be sure and state whether married or single and write full name plainly.

Chicago Office:
Carey B. Lewis, Mgr.,
3423 Indiana Avenue,
Chicago, Ill.

"Eureka Villa"

When I've seen the world's great wonders,
When I've known the arctic's cold,
When I've seen the sunny Southland,
When I've panned the Yukon's gold;
Then I'll face the glowing sunset,
On the smoothest trail e'er trod,
And I'll hike for Eureka Villa,
Where all nature breathes of God.

Where the sun is always shining,
Over vale and mountain glen;
Where a love for one another
Lies within the hearts of men,
Every breeze is perfume laden,
Beauty shows in every rod,
Out in sunny Eureka Villa,
Where all nature breathes of God.

Where I've toiled o'er Life's long highway,
And my tired and weary frame,
Cold and lifeless, waits to go back
To the dust from whence it came;
Take me out where golden poppies
Raise their heads above the sod;
Plant me deep in Eureka Villa
Where all nature breathes of God.

—Sidney P. Dones.

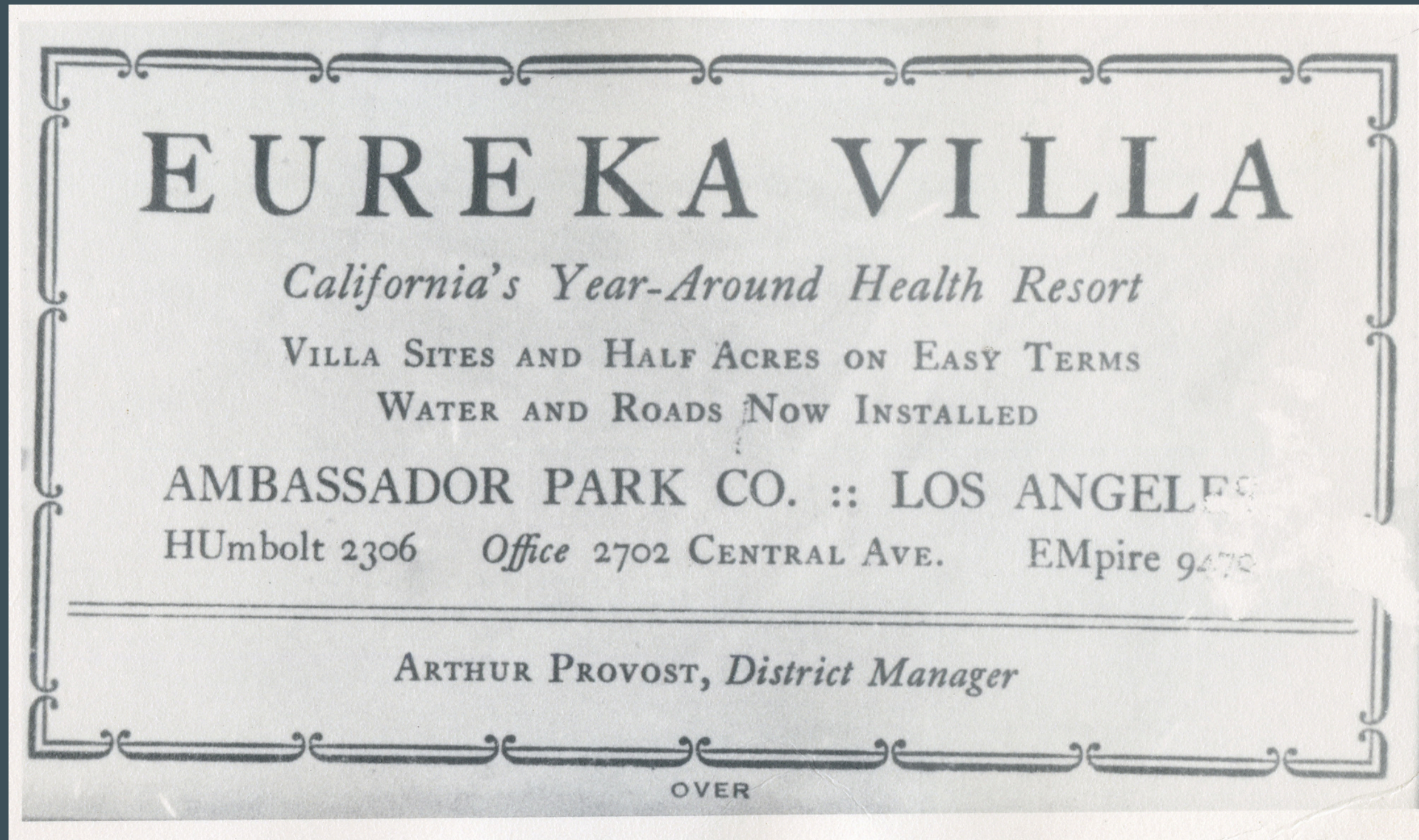
Sidney P. Dones, Eureka Villa, 1926.
(Gilder Lehrman Institute, GLC10156)

Dr. Alison Rose Jefferson



Alison Rose Jefferson (MHC, PhD) is a publicly engaged independent historian and heritage conservation consultant. Dr. Jefferson has completed Public Applied History projects for the California African American Museum in Los Angeles, the Long Beach Airport's 100th-anniversary yearlong celebration, Santa Monica's Belmar History + Art project, and the Angels Walk LA Central Avenue heritage trail, where she drew on her expertise on the African American experience. Her most recent book is *Living the California Dream: African American Leisure Sites during the Jim Crow Era*, which discusses the significant places within the African American experience in geography, California Dream mythology, Southern California outdoor culture, American history and identity, along with contemporary social justice consequences and heritage conservation efforts. Learn more about Dr. Jefferson's work and the media coverage it has received with a visit to her website alisonrosejefferson.com.

Black Land Ownership and the American Dream in the Jim Crow Era



Business card and Eureka Villa ad used by Arthur Provost, an early real estate sales manager for the project, 1928.

(Santa Clarita Historical Society)

African American Leisure & Resort Sites and Southern California Roads Before the Freeway System



Map of African American leisure sites in Southern California, 2018.
(Erin Greb Cartography)

The Eagle Newspaper, December 5, 1908

The California Eagle, later and most remembered name of the publication.

“Beautiful Southern California” was the message in text and imagery on this issue’s cover prompting the state’s perceived opportunities for Black people.

One of the oldest African American-owned newspapers in the West based in Los Angeles, California, *The Eagle* covered news its primarily Black readership wanted to know. The newspaper also provided housing, employment, and other information essential to surviving in a new environment, including articles and advertisements on recreation and relaxation destinations.

The Eagle, December 5, 1908.

(Mayme Clayton Library and Museum Collection)



QUALITY DAIRY PRODUCTS
At Your Grocers

Phone: Main 761
San Diego, U. S. A.

EUREKA VILLA
To the Health and Home Seekers—
Some Actual Facts About
A rapidly growing resort of Los Angeles, 12 miles north of city limits on the coast highway. Beautiful climate of natural water. Picturesque views and well equipped. Attractive cuisine. Climate and health conditions no better in the whole world. We can sell you anything there if you like to see it. We have a magnificent view of the city and harbor. We will have to see to appreciate. We have 20 beds. We can sell at \$25.00 per bed. Please send you a clear card. Write for details.
WOOD WILSON REALTY CO.
120 E. 19th St. Phone 3348
Los Angeles, Calif.
W. H. Wilson, Realty Manager

LA BONITA HOTEL
Rooms & Apartments
Mrs. L. M. Price and Mrs. E. Street
Managers
1811 Belmont Place
Near Pine Blvd.
SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA

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WONDERFUL
HAIR GROWER
Will grow the hair no matter how short and stubborn.
We do Marcelling, Shampooing—
Absolutely stops Dandruff, gives facial treatments.
St. Claire Grower - - 50c
Dandruff Cream - - - 50c
MADAME
Douglass-Stubblefield
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The correct need to health through
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12 for \$20.00 and 25 adjustments for \$75.00
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—To—
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Hermosa Beach Manhattan Beach
Tickets Good Going and Return the Same of Day.
SOLD BY AGENTS ONLY—NOT SOLD BY CONDUCTORS ON TRAINS
Pacific Electric Ry.

LOVE NEST INN
STRIDER AND SONS
LUNCHES - MEALS AT ALL HOURS
DANCING - COLD DRINKS
N. BULLOCK ST.
ELSINORE CALIFORNIA

MONSIEUR PASTOR ASSEMBLY
1122 E. 31st St.
Elder J. Douglas, Pastor
On July 19th was another blessed day in the Lord at the Assembly. The inspiring message came to us again through our beloved Bro. and Elder G. T. Hayward. His speech was thrilling as the Jews at the small table upon the desert's side, as the sunbeams upon the grass. His message was the message to the seven churches. The salvation of Jesus Christ through St. John, Rev. 1:2-3. At the close of the service a young lady applied for baptism. In water we have seen the power of God fall and many were blessed at his service. Sunday School is emphasizing with interest, also the Y. P. Session at 5:30

Black Californians Pursue Their American Dream

(Left): *The California Eagle*, summer 1925.

Note in the advertisements for three different resorts that were popular with African Americans during the Jim Crow era: Lake Elsinore, Love Nest Inn/Strider and Sons; Eureka Villa; and Santa Monica, La Bonita Hotel; and Pacific Electric streetcar rides from Central Avenue to Santa Monica, Venice, Manhattan Beach, and other coastal city excursions.

Central Avenue was the hub of African American life during the Jim Crow era when the Black leisure sites such as Eureka Villa and others were popular.

(Right): Angels Walk Heritage Trail Guidebook cover, 2018.





Property of
Los Angeles County
Dept. of Parks and Recreation

View from the south looking north into canyons where Eureka Villa, also known as Val Verde, was established in 1925, ca. 1935.
(Department of Parks and Recreation, Los Angeles County Collection)

Sidney P. Dones

Founding Promoter of Eureka Villa

MONEY TO LOAN

Do You Need Money?



Plenty of money for **2nd and 1st Mortgage Loans**. Loans made on contracts of purchase of Real Estate Property.

Money to Loan to Build Houses at Eureka Villa. Building Loans and short time loans made. Loans to make back payments.


ALL BUSINESS
Strictly Confidential

Honest and Courteous treatment for everybne.

LOTS AT EUREKA VILLA
1720 Central Avenue **Humbolt 7825**
Res., after 5:30 P. M., 1344 E. 40th St., HU. 8657-J

Eureka Villa advertisement in *The California Eagle*, May 29, 1925.

Panel of a land sales brochure used in Chicago, Illinois, 1925.
(Gilder Lehrman Institute, GLC10156)



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

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May God bless you and may 1926 find our group nearing the goal of economical freedom.

SIDNEY P. DONES.

Eureka Villa Home Builders

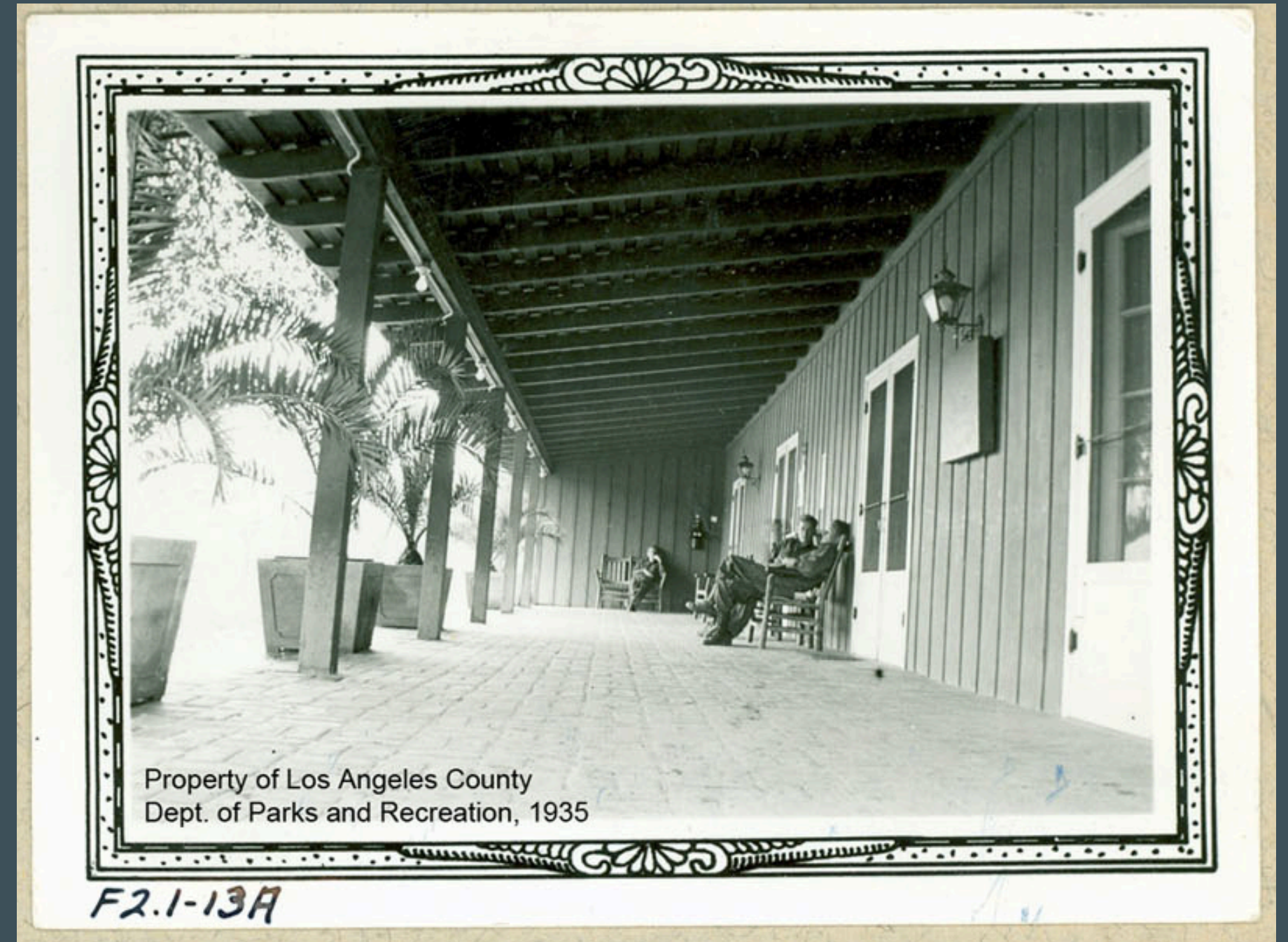
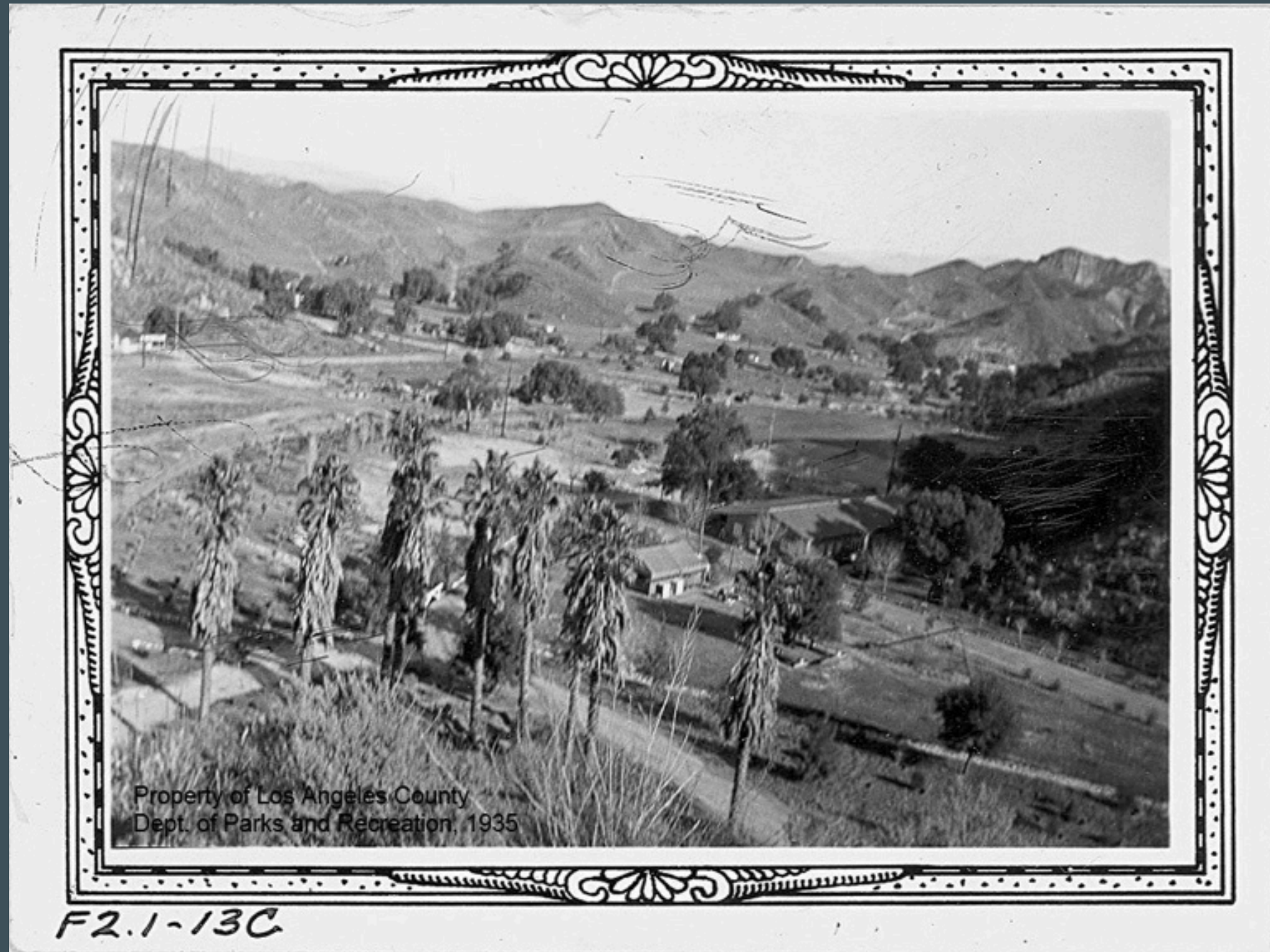


Dr. Emily Childress Portwig and her husband James Rufus Portwig (above, ca. 1930–1940) and their Eureka Villa home (right, ca. 1924–1930). A pharmacist and civic activist, Dr. Portwig was one of the first lot purchasers at Eureka Villa and an early member of the Eureka Villa Advisory Board.

(Miriam Matthews Collection /University of California,
Los Angeles Library Special Collections)



Views of Eureka Villa After It Was Renamed Val Verde in 1928



Val Verde Park, view from the hills toward the Clubhouse (left)
and the Clubhouse porch (right), February 25, 1935.

(Dept. of Parks and Recreation, Los Angeles County Collection)

Views of Eureka Villa After it was Renamed Val Verde in 1928



Easter Sunrise Hill cross, view from Val Verde Park, August 16, 1942.
(HSSC-Puck Collection/The Huntington Library Collection)

Black Angelenos Enjoying Themselves at Val Verde



Dorothy McLaughlin Becker (center) and Lorraine Tennette Harris (right) with family and friends at Val Verde, CA, ca. 1945.
(Los Angeles Public Library Online Collection)

Swimming Pool Groundbreaking Ceremony, Val Verde Park

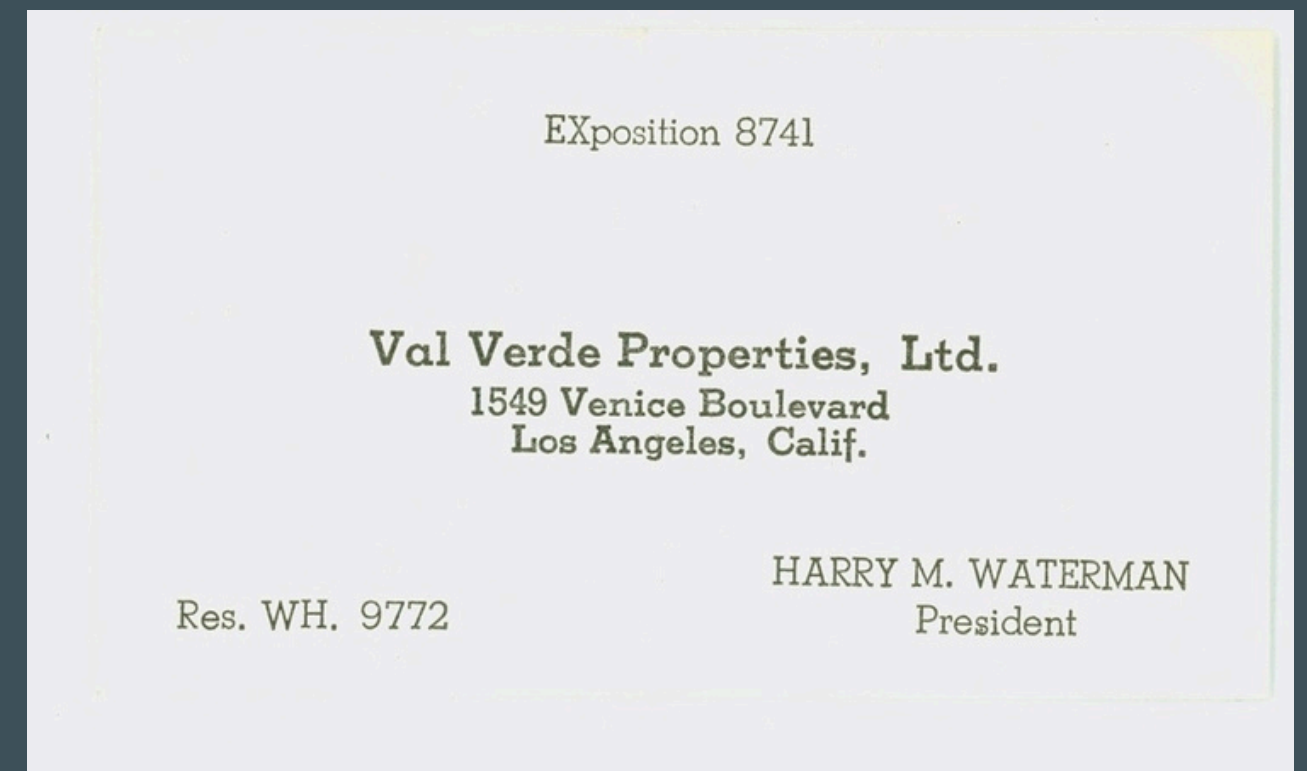


Swimming pool groundbreaking ceremony, Val Verde Park. Left to right: Fred Roberts (Los Angeles New Age publisher), Gordon McDonough (Supervisor, L.A. County), and Harry M. Waterman (Val Verde property owner and promoter), April 16, 1939. (Roberts Family Collection/Oakland Library)

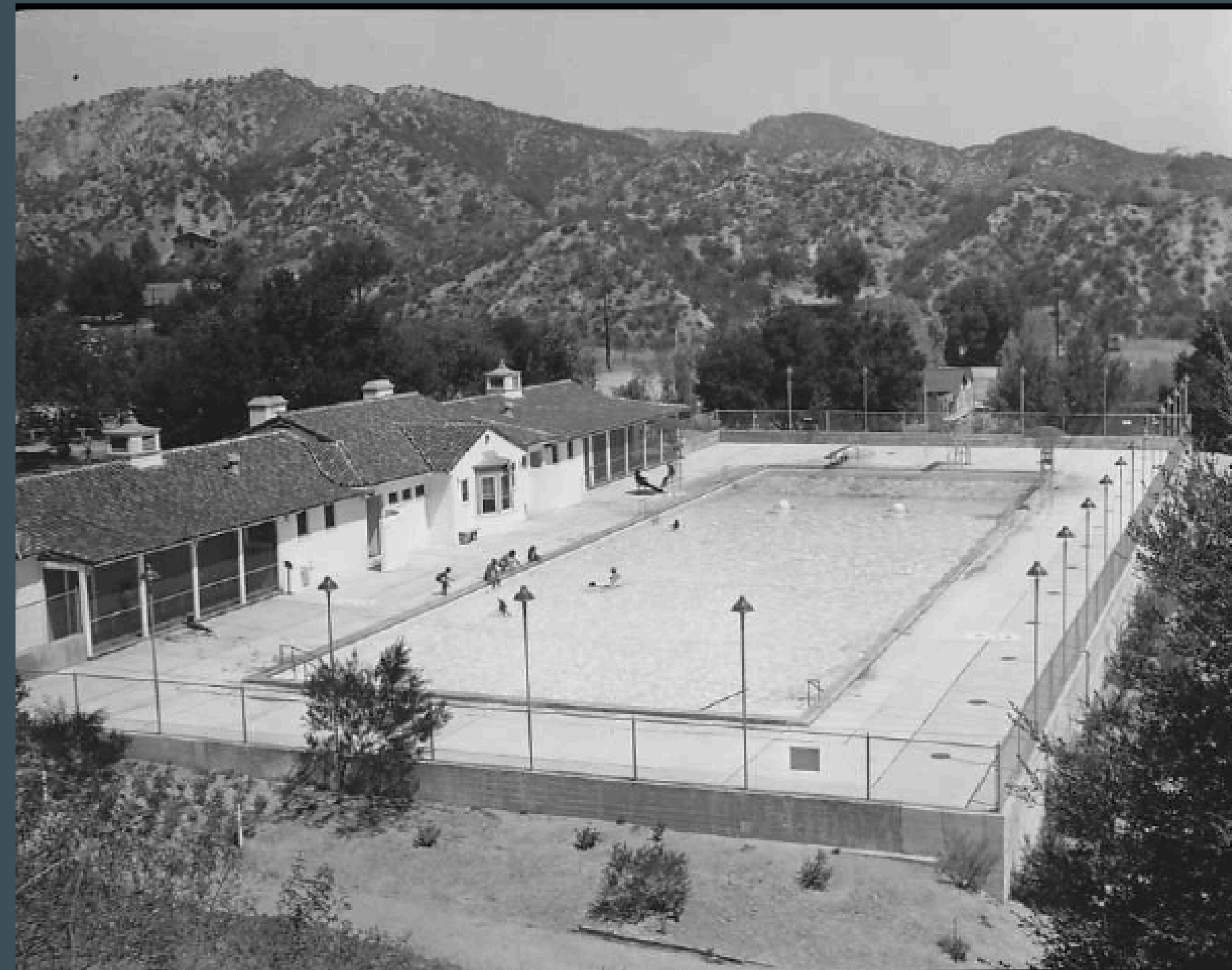


Items (right) included in the cornerstone time capsule at the dedication and groundbreaking of the bathhouse and swimming pool, Val Verde Park.

(Department of Parks & Recreation, Los Angeles County Collection)



Val Verde Park Bathhouse & Plunge



Bathhouse front view, post-1940.

(Department of Parks and Recreation, LA County Collection)

Swimming Pool, August 16, 1942.

(HSSC-Puck Collection/The Huntington Library Collection)

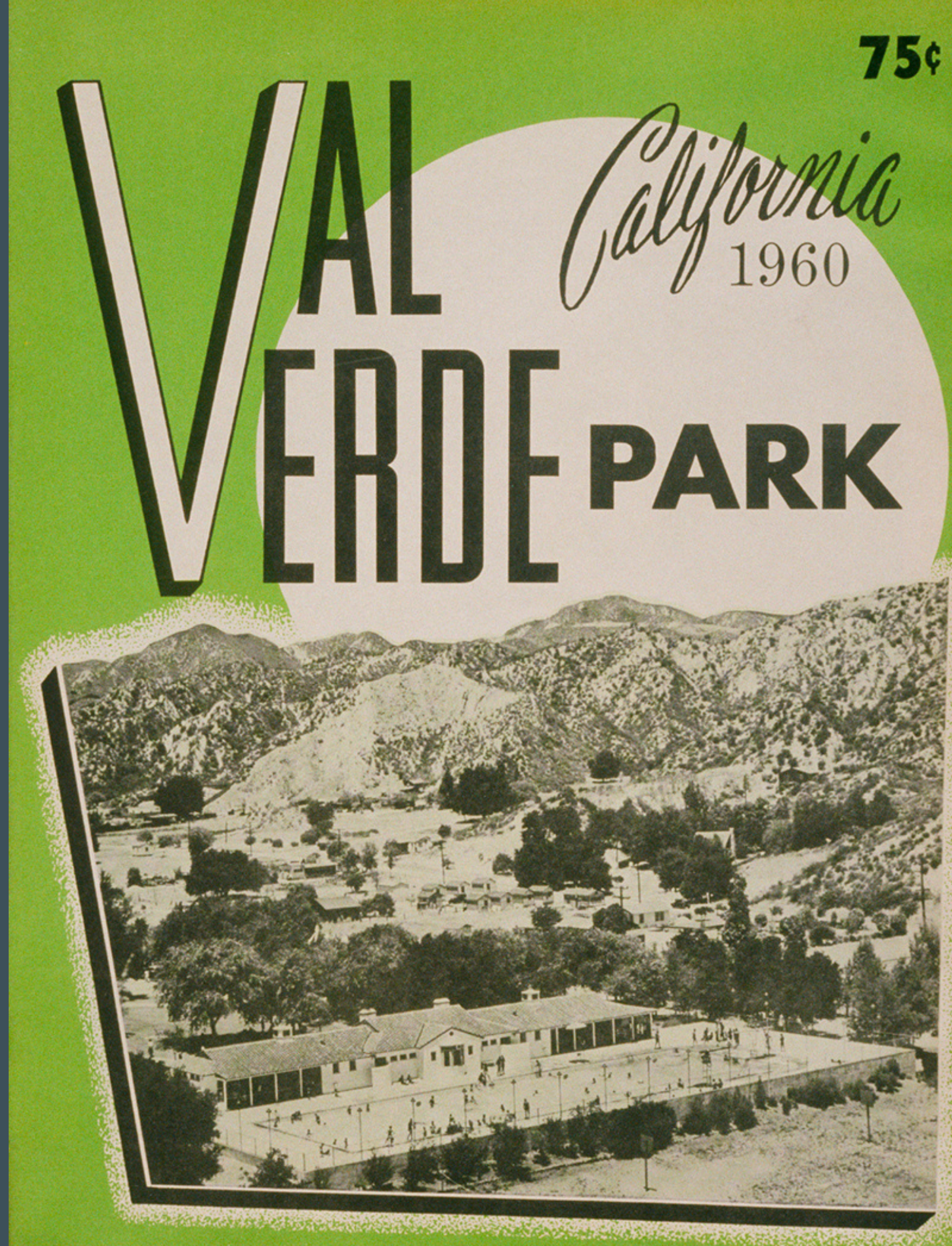
Constructing Memories of Good Times at Val Verde

Bathing Beauty Contestants pausing for a photograph at the 22nd Anniversary Golden State Mutual Life Insurance Company Picnic, Val Verde Park, July 18, 1947.
(Golden State Mutual Records/University of California, Los Angeles Library Special Collections)



Val Verde Park
magazine

Val Verde Park magazine, a short-lived
publication about community activities, 1960.
(Alison Rose Jefferson Collection)



Val Verde Parade, 1960



The Miss Val Verde Bathing Beauty and the Mr. Muscle Man competitions with a festival parade featuring simple floats were the biggest events of the summer for over thirty years from the 1940s to 1979.
(Los Angeles County Collection)



Yesterday...Today at Val Verde Park



Val Verde County Park Clubhouse, built in 1929, as it looked in 2004.
(Photograph by Alison Rose Jefferson)

Questions?



View from the hills overlooking Val Verde Park and community, 1961.
(Los Angeles County Collection)

Coming Soon!

AP AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES GUIDE

Modeled after our AP US History Study Guide and set to initially launch in **April 2025** (just in time for the May 8 exam), this guide will feature documents from the Gilder Lehrman Collection and other archives from around the world, secondary resources such as essays and videos geared to high school students, and practice questions so students can prepare for the exam. The guide will be available as a **free resource** to all students and teachers, without any need for a login or site subscription.

Scholarly Advisors

- *Henry Louis Gates, Jr. (Harvard University)*
- *Annette Gordon-Reed (Harvard University),*
- *John K. Thornton (Boston University)*
- *Ana Lucia Araujo (Howard University)*
- *Brenda E. Stevenson (UCLA and Oxford University)*
- *Hasan Kwame Jeffries (Ohio State University)*

Fill out an interest form:

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Now Available

COLD WAR TRAVELING EXHIBITION

This new exhibition examines some of the major events of the Cold War between 1945 and 1991. Although there were few direct battles, the US and the USSR engaged in political maneuvering, built up arms, provided economic aid to rival factions, and supported proxy wars in other nations, dividing the world into American or Soviet spheres of influence. This exhibition consists of seven freestanding retractable panels, each 33" x 81", requiring 21 running feet for display. For more information, please visit:

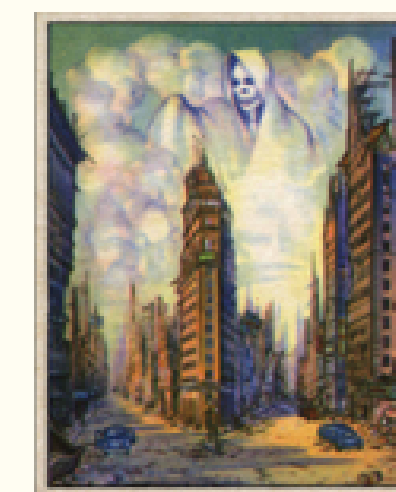
www.gilderlehrman.org/programs-and-events/traveling-exhibitions/cold-war

THE COLD WAR AT HOME

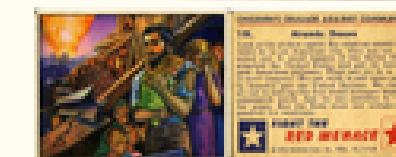
The Cold War dramatically shaped the domestic life and politics of each nation. In the US, fear of communism led to restrictions in education, politics, and the arts and influenced the US Civil Rights Movement. Fear of nuclear annihilation led to the creation of bomb shelters and shattered the nation's sense of security. In the Soviet Union, political repression and imprisonment continued.

5.1 Propaganda

Cold War leaders used propaganda to teach their citizens to fear the other side. For example, *Fight the Red Menace: Children's Crusade Against Communism* trading cards were designed to teach American children about the threat of communist atomic bombs. "Ghost City" and "Ghost City" depict the devastation that a nuclear attack could cause. Released, a Soviet youth program since the days of the revolution, played an important role in teaching the values of communism to multiple generations.



CHILDREN'S CRUSADE AGAINST COMMUNISM
23. Ghost City
The picture is an artist's idea of what an atom bomb could do to a great American city. The Reds like us to think of this. They think it will make us afraid. But actually, we are growing stronger by realizing that this could happen to us. We are working to make America stronger day by day, week by week. We must continue to work for peace through the United Nations and in every possible way. But an America fully prepared to defend itself is not likely to be attacked. The Reds understand this language.
FIGHT THE RED MENACE
© 1951 Bowman Gum, Inc., Phila., Pa., U.S.A.



FIGHT THE RED MENACE
© 1951 Bowman Gum, Inc., Phila., Pa., U.S.A.

5.2 "Duck and Cover"

The Cold War Trading cards spawned the creation of the Civil Defense Agency. After the Soviet Union achieved nuclear technology, American cities leaders prepared for the worst, which means instructing their citizens how to react to a nuclear strike. One of their most popular characters was Bert the Turtle. Bert was responsible for teaching children to "Duck and Cover." Most experts, however, agreed there was little anyone could do in case of an all-out nuclear war to ensure their survival.



BEET DUCKS AND COVERS
© 1951 Bowman Gum, Inc., Phila., Pa., U.S.A.

5.3 Truman Loyalty Program

The fear of communism, otherwise known as the "Red Scare," led the United States to act in ways that were not always consistent with their ideals. President Truman signed Executive Order 9835 in 1947. Generally referred to as the first "loyalty program" in US history, it aimed to root out communist influence in the federal government. Going even further, by the early 1950s because Joseph R. McCarthy of Wisconsin launched a widely publicized campaign to investigate communist influence in American life. Even though the Commission guaranteed freedom of speech and of assembly, many citizens were nonetheless persecuted and denied employment because of any, even alleged, association with communism.



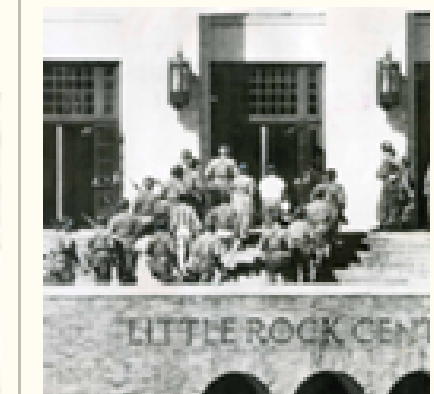
Joseph R. McCarthy, Wisconsin Senator, points to a map of the United States during a speech in 1950. (The Glider Lehrman Institute, GLC09627.01)

5.4 Civil Rights Movement

The Cold War spotlighted inequality in the United States. For many critics at home and abroad, US treatment of its own citizens did not embody the country's founding principles of democracy and individual rights. On the world stage, this made the US look hypocritical. Meanwhile, Soviet diplomats turned to the position of communist the more distribution of international aid and information, to counter state censorship.

"At a time when we face grave situations abroad because of the hatred that communism bears toward a system of government based on human rights, it would be difficult to exaggerate the harm that is being done to the prestige and influence, and indeed to the safety, of our nation and the world. Our enemies are gloating over this incident and using it everywhere to misrepresent our whole nation."
—Eisenhower's Address to the Joint/US Congress on the Situation in Little Rock, September 24, 1957

After an angry mob prevented the students from attending Little Rock Central High School, President Dwight D. Eisenhower sent the 11th Airborne to enforce the students' safety and the school to replace with desegregation of Little Rock.



Resegregation of Little Rock Central High School, September 24, 1957. (The Glider Lehrman Institute, GLC09627.01)

THE COLD WAR BEGINS

In the summer of 1945, US president Harry Truman, Soviet leader Joseph Stalin, and British prime minister Winston Churchill (replaced on July 26 by Clement Attlee) met in Potsdam, Germany, to discuss the end of World War II. The United States and its allies wanted to see Europe rebuilt around the principles of democracy and capitalism. They were also concerned that the Soviets would dominate the parts of Eastern Europe conquered during the war, building a security buffer of satellite states at the expense of freedom. The militarized border between the capitalist-oriented West and the communist-oriented East became known as the "Iron Curtain."

2.1 The Potsdam Conference

The Potsdam Conference was intended to be a triumph of the wartime alliance and a codification of control over defeated Germany and its capital of Berlin. However, growing tensions and disagreements between the Soviet Union and the United States laid the groundwork for the Cold War that soon followed.



Map of Germany, Zones of Occupation, ca.1945. (National Archives, 24525994)

RESULTS OF THE POTSDAM CONFERENCE
• Divide Germany and Berlin into 4 zones

2.4 Berlin Airlift

Berlin, Germany, was initially divided in four zones (British, American, French, and Soviet), though ultimately consolidated into East and West Berlin. West Berlin (controlled by the US and its allies) was surrounded by USSR-controlled East Germany. On June 24, 1948, the Soviet Union blocked access to West Berlin, preventing food and fuel from entering the city. This prompted Western nations to send over 2,000,000 metric tons of supplies via air—in the Berlin Airlift—until the USSR ended the blockade on May 12, 1949.



People watching a Berlin Airlift plane land at Tempelhof Airport in West Berlin, August 15, 1948. (Photo by E. G. Josten via Getty Images)

CHILDREN'S CRUSADE AGAINST COMMUNISM

THE GLOBAL COLD WAR

While the US and USSR never engaged in open warfare during the Cold War, both countries led military conflicts and political interventions around the world to advance their interests. From South America to Asia, Europe, and Africa, the Cold War was covertly "fought" on almost every continent. It also led to new intelligence organizations like the American Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and the Soviet KGB, each of which operated all over the world. In 1954, the CIA interfered in Guatemalan elections to ensure that American interests would prevail. In 1956, the KGB brutally repressed political dissent in Hungary and Poland. Similar interventions by both sides continued through the 1980s.

4.1 Korean War (1950–1953)

On June 25, 1950, Communist forces from North Korea invaded the Republic of South Korea. Having recently suffered a geopolitical loss with China, US and United Nations forces supported South Korea. They sent troops to counter the Soviet-backed North Koreans. Over the course of the three-year conflict, 2,000,000 people died, including nearly 40,000 Americans. The war never formally ended, but an armistice in 1953 divided the Korean Peninsula essentially as it had been before the war began.



"1. Reds Invade South Korea" trading card from the *Fight the Red Menace: The Children's Crusade Against Communism* series, published by the Bowman Gum Company, 1951. (The Glider Lehrman Institute, GLC09627.01)

CHILDREN'S CRUSADE AGAINST COMMUNISM
1. Reds Invade South Korea
The red star of communism and the white star of democracy are in a life-or-death struggle around the world. Much of this has been a cold war of words. But a shooting war broke out in Korea in June of 1950. North Korean communists crossed the boundary of the 38th parallel and attacked South Korea. They were out to destroy the South Korean government, chosen in free elections. The Reds had many tanks. The South Koreans had almost none. As the invasion rolled on, the United Nations decided to step in to restore order.
FIGHT THE RED MENACE
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Upcoming Programs

INSIDE THE VAULT:

April 3 at 7 p.m. ET (4 p.m. PT)

- We will discuss the Battles of Lexington and Concord with independent historian Dr. Brooke Barbier.

May 1 at 7 p.m. ET (4 p.m. PT)

- We will discuss a Ted Kennedy letter on the needs of Vietnam War veterans with Dr. Barbara Perry, Professor of Governance at the University of Virginia.

BOOK BREAKS: March 9 at 2 p.m. ET (11 a.m. PT)

- Dr. Kate Masur will discuss her book *Freedom Was in Sight: A Graphic History of Reconstruction in the Washington, D.C. Region*

