

Drive, He Said: American Writers and their Cars

In American culture, cars are symbols of status, sex appeal, liberation, danger, and more. If the Ford Mustang suggests youth, freedom, and rebellion, a station wagon or minivan may call to mind more traditional family adventures—there may be as many associations as there are highways crisscrossing the nation. American writers have played no small part in creating our culture's ongoing fascination with automobiles, driving, and the road.

Photographs, drivers' licenses and learning permits, related ephemera from Eugene O'Neill Papers (including photograph of Carlotta O'Neill); Richard Wright Papers; Alfred Stieglitz and Georgia O'Keeffe Archive; Olga Rudge Papers (photograph of Ezra Pound); Mable Dodge Luhan Papers; Thornton Wilder Papers; Langston Hughes Papers; Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas Papers; James Weldon and Grace Nail Johnson Papers; Dorothy Porter Wesley Papers; Edith Wharton Papers; Katherine S. Dreier Papers / Société Anonyme Archive; *Eighteen Photographs, 1905-1938* portfolio, James Van Der Zee

Objects

Eugene O'Neill—French License

YCAL MSS 123 Box: 108, Folder: 1827

DL: <https://brbl-dl.library.yale.edu/vufind/Record/4742665>

O'Neill photo in car

YCAL MSS 123 Box: 108, Folder: 1841

DL: <https://brbl-dl.library.yale.edu/vufind/Record/4742666>

Alternative: <https://brbl-dl.library.yale.edu/vufind/Record/3524977>

Carlotta O'Neill with car

YCAL MSS 123.111.1983

Richard Wright

JWJ MSS 3 Box: 113, Folder: 1814

GROUP:

--small orange visitor to Great Britain license

--learners permit

--May 7 receipt for lessons

--trifold French license

--rent a car

O'Keeffe and Stieglitz

YCAL MSS 85 Box 133 Folder 2558

DL: <https://brbl-dl.library.yale.edu/vufind/Record/3520137>

Ezra Pound in car – Olga Rudge Papers

YCAL MSS 54 Box 148 Folder 3482

DL: <https://brbl-dl.library.yale.edu/vufind/Record/3580908>

Mable Dodge Luhan

YCAL MSS 196 Box 64 Folder 1745

DL: <https://brbl-dl.library.yale.edu/vufind/Record/3591009>

Thotnton Wilder photo by Jill Kremintz

YCAL MSS 108 Box 152 Folder: 3663

DL: <https://brbl-dl.library.yale.edu/vufind/Record/3544841>

Harold Jackman and Hughes and others

JWJ MSS 76 Box 6 folder 75

Gertrude Stein

YCAL MSS 77 Box 19 Folder 318

<https://brbl-dl.library.yale.edu/vufind/Record/3523429>

G. Stein French Drivers License

76 Box 140 folder 3295

James Weldon Johnson Drivers license and insurance card

JWJ MSS 49 Box: 91, Folder: 736

Dorothy Porter Wesley Nigerian drivers license

JWJ MSS 93 Box: 290, Folder: 2659-2660

Wharton

YCAL 42 Box 51 Folder1538

DL: <https://brbl-dl.library.yale.edu/vufind/Record/4010681>

Katherine Dreier

Automobile Club of America. Membership card, 1929

Part of Collection — Box: 68, Folder: 1763

Call Number: YCAL MSS 101 Series IV

Van Der Zee – couple in furs with car

JWJ MSS 44