



Henderson, North Carolina

The Great Depression fueled America's love affair with domestic travel. The amount of time and dollars required to travel overseas on luxurious excursions were out of reach for most of the 75 percent of the country that was still gainfully employed. The availability of motorized vehicles and inexpensive fuel made domestic travel to America's national parks affordable. In some cases, auto camps were home away from home for overnight stays, as well as extended visits while new work places were being sought. This period inspired the See America First movement punctuated by more sophisticated gasoline station design to welcome the traveler. In some rural areas, young women found work as filling station attendants.