

Sacred Site #1

TRUELIGHT BAPTIST CHURCH



The bell of this church rang out about 11p.m. on July 1, 1917, as both a warning and a call to arms. Trouble was brewing.



Sacred Site #1 of 24
Find other Sacred Site locations
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Remembering the 1917 East St. Louis Race Riot

Sacred Site #2

1700 BOND AVENUE



Dr. Leroy Bundy lived here. He was a community leader in 1917. He stood trial and was found guilty of causing the riot. He was sentenced to life in prison. He was later exonerated by the Illinois Supreme Court.



Sacred Site #2 of 24
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Remembering the 1917 East St. Louis Race Riot

Sacred Site #3

11TH ST. AND M^CCASLAND AVE.



White rioters targeted homes for violence here. Houses were burned and shots were fired at fleeing victims.



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Remembering the 1917 East St. Louis Race Riot

Sacred Site #4

10TH ST. AND BOND AVE.



On July 1, 1917, African American neighbors, tense from earlier “drive-by” shootings, fired shots at a car, unknowingly killing two policemen. A pogrom followed.



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Remembering the 1917 East St. Louis Race Riot

Sacred Site #5

10TH ST. AND TRENDLEY AVE.



White rioters attempted to push their violence past 10th Street, but snipers were ready and fired shots. Rioters retreated, but there was still much damage.



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Remembering the 1917 East St. Louis Race Riot

Sacred Site #6

10TH ST. AND PIGGOTT AVE.



Hundreds crossed the Municipal Free Bridge over to St. Louis to escape the violence. White rioters attempted to block the entrance, killing some.



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Remembering the 1917 East St. Louis Race Riot

Sacred Site #7

700 EAST BROADWAY



**The Broadway
“Opera House”
was an empty
theater on this
site. It was
rumored that
many African
Americans
were burned**

**to death inside. No remains were
identified in the ashes.**



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Remembering the 1917 East St. Louis Race Riot

Sacred Site #8

S. 8TH ST. AND E. BROADWAY



Otto Nelson lived here, the only African American detective on the police force. His home was destroyed and he fled to St. Louis.



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Remembering the 1917 East St. Louis Race Riot

Sacred Site #9

S. 8TH ST. AND WALNUT AVE.



Mary Edwards lived near here. She did not think the violence would come as far as 8th St., but it did. She was able to hide and flee to safety.



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Remembering the 1917 East St. Louis Race Riot

Sacred Site #10

S. 8TH ST. AND BRADY AVE.



While rioters burned homes, armed men stood along the railroad tracks near here and gunned-down African Americans fleeing their burning homes.



Sacred Site #10 of 24
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Remembering the 1917 East St. Louis Race Riot

Sacred Site #11

S. 6TH ST. AND RAILROAD AVE.



Over 100 African Americans barricaded in two homes here. They provided armed resistance to the white attackers. Soldiers brokered a cease fire and escorted them to St. Louis.



Sacred Site #11 of 24
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Remembering the 1917 East St. Louis Race Riot

Sacred Site #12

S. 5TH ST. AND RAILROAD AVE.



The most severe property damage happened here. Houses and rail cars on the adjacent tracks were destroyed by the rioters. Very little remained standing in this area.



Sacred Site #12 of 24
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Remembering the 1917 East St. Louis Race Riot

Sacred Site #13

S. 4TH ST. AND RAILROAD AVE.



Here stood the residence of Scott and Iva Clark. Rioters burned their home, and a mob attacked them. A soldier did not protect them. Mr. Clark died.



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Sacred Site #14

S. 4TH ST. AND E. BROADWAY



This intersection is where the height of brutal violence occurred. Many people died here, and their remains were left for hours.

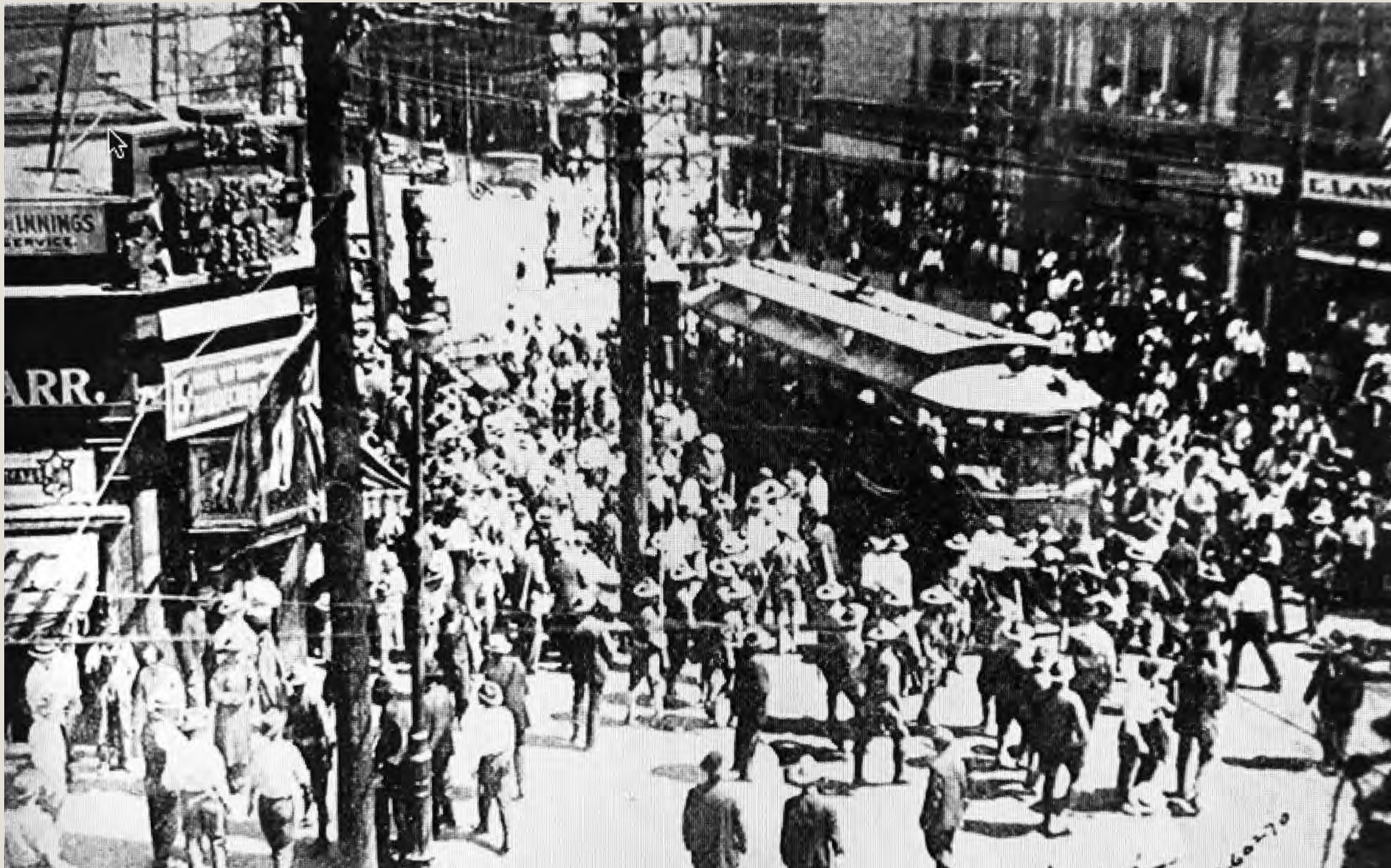


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Remembering the 1917 East St. Louis Race Riot

Sacred Site #15

S. 4TH ST. AND E. BROADWAY



A streetcar was stopped near this spot. White rioters pulled African American passengers off and attacked them while soldiers stood and watched.



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Remembering the 1917 East St. Louis Race Riot

Sacred Site #16

N. 4TH ST. AND DIVISION AVE.



Narsis Gurlie lived near this spot. She stayed in her burning home until it collapsed. Severely burned, she and others fled. She was allowed to escape, but she lost everything.

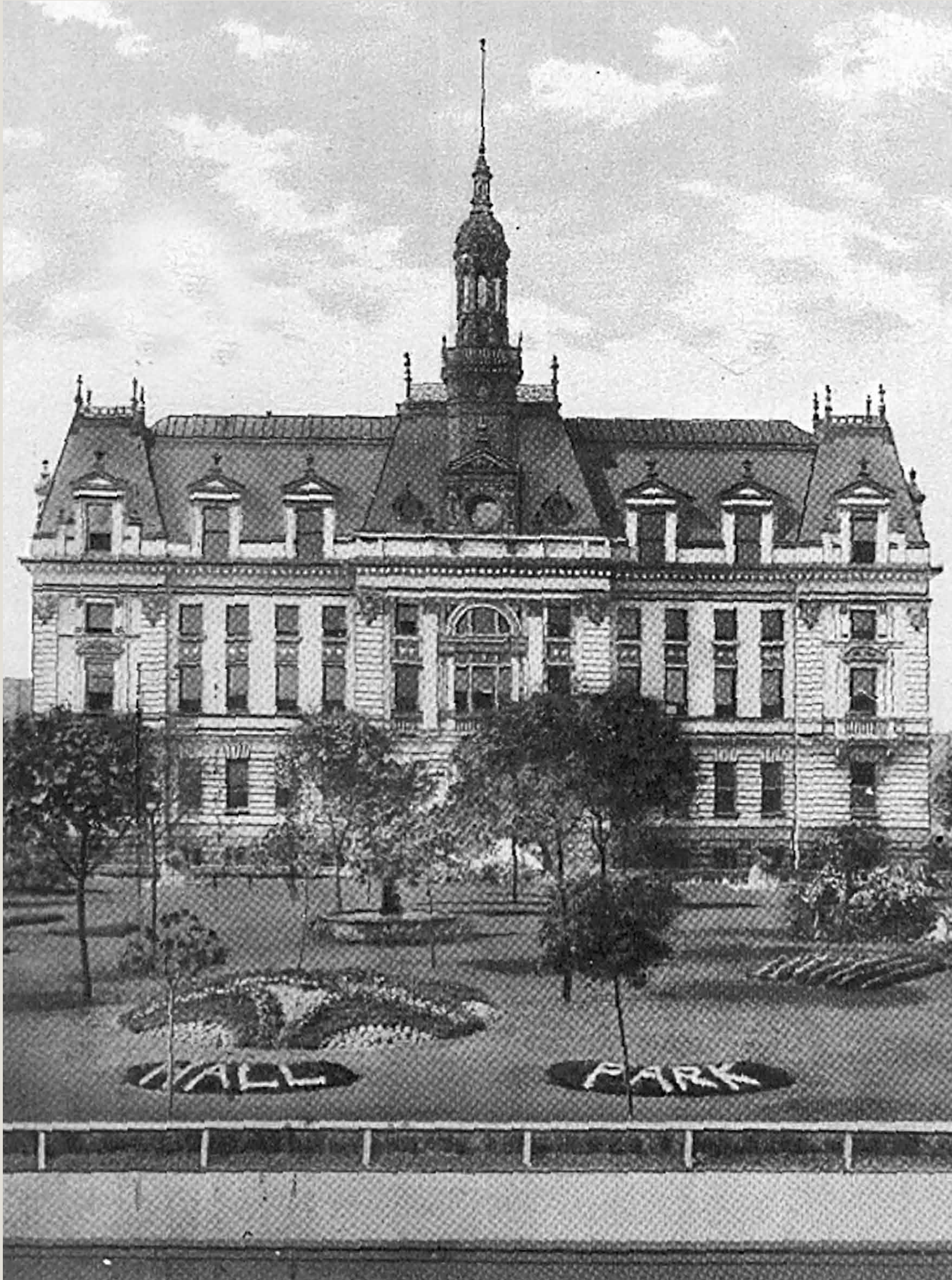


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Remembering the 1917 East St. Louis Race Riot

Sacred Site #17

N. 3RD ST. AND MISSOURI AVE.



Near this site was the City Hall, police department and fire station. On the night of the massacre, more than 1,000 people sought safety in the municipal buildings.



Sacred Site #17 of 24
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Remembering the 1917 East St. Louis Race Riot

Sacred Site #18

COLLINSVILLE AT ST. LOUIS AVENUE



Here is where the white rioters assembled, listened to inflammatory speeches, and marched

in military formation toward East Broadway. The first victim was harmed there.



Sacred Site #18 of 24
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Remembering the 1917 East St. Louis Race Riot

Sacred Site #19

1010 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE



Here stood
the home
of Malvern
Stephens, a
decent man
who fought
corruption.
He was

elected mayor after the riot and
oversaw reparations to victims.



SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
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Remembering the 1917 East St. Louis Race Riot

Sacred Site #20

N. 9TH ST. AND ST. CLAIR AVE.



On May 28, 1917, whites set fires and accosted African Americans around St. Clair Avenue. Authorities dispersed the rioters, but the trouble was not over.



Sacred Site #20 of 24
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Remembering the 1917 East St. Louis Race Riot

Historical Site #21

621 N. 9TH STREET



Marcus Garvey

**Marcus Garvey
blamed the
massacre on
Mayor Fred
Mollman, who
lived at this site.
The mayor was
incompetent and
was indicted for
not doing his duty.**



Sacred Site #21 of 24
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Remembering the 1917 East St. Louis Race Riot

Sacred Site #22

N. 9TH ST. AND GROSS AVE.



Around 11p.m. on July 2, rioters set fire to the neighborhood here in an attempt to spread the violence to the north. Major military reinforcements did not arrive until after midnight.



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Remembering the 1917 East St. Louis Race Riot

Sacred Site #23

N. 13TH ST. AND NECTAR AVE.



A dozen houses were destroyed here. It was two miles from the massacre's core and is the farthest point north that the violence spread.



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Remembering the 1917 East St. Louis Race Riot

Sacred Site #24

N. 18TH ST. AND PARSONS AVE.



Several homes were burned here, but fatalities were few. Many African Americans were alerted to the trouble by this time and fled the neighborhood.



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