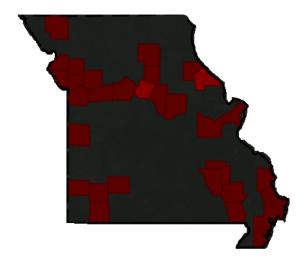
# 60 racial terror lynchings reported in Missouri 1877-1950







National Memorial for Peace and Justice Montgomery, Alabama

### **Community Coalition Members**

**Black Archives Committee Bartlett Center** City of St. Joseph **Ecumenical Eco-Justice** Kiwanis St. Joseph MidCity Excellence Com. Learning Center Missouri Western State University Missouri Western State University NAACP **Our Revolution** Persisterhood **NAACP Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance** St. Joseph Museums, Inc. St. Joseph Public Library **YMCA YWCA Zion Church** 



# Lloyd Warner Community Remembrance Project



Black Archives Museum Reflections of the Past Lighting the Way to the Future

#### WHO WAS LLOYD WARNER?



Lloyd Warner was born to parents Frank
Warner and Lucille
Potts in December
1914. He had a twin
brother that did not
survive infancy along
with older siblings; one
brother, Logan Hale,
and two sisters, Joyce
and Mildred Warner.
Their 71-year-old
grandfather, Robert
Harvey, also lived with
the family according to

a 1910 census record. Mr. Harvey was a civil war veteran serving in both Kentucky and Southern Missouri. He passed away in 1912 and is buried in Ashland Cemetery.



The Warner siblings are pictured here at their school in Elwood, Kansas. After spending

some of his teenage years in Boonville, Missouri. Lloyd Warner returned to St. Joseph in 1933.

Lloyd Warner, an eighteen-year-old Black teenager, was lynched on the 28th of November 1933 in St. Joseph, Missouri by a white mob of nearly 5,000 participants. He was being held at the St. Joseph Jail in relation to an assault case that was reported on November 26th. Before proper identification or investigation could happen for this case, individuals started gathering at 6:00 pm outside the jail. It was a crowd of over 1,000 in just one hour.

The mob continued to grow and make demands for Lloyd Warner to be released to them. Certain mob representatives were even given a tour of the jail while Mr. Warner was hidden away in hopes the mob would disperse. But the white mob continued their attempts to gain access inside the jail even after the National Guard was called in for support. At 10:30 pm the sheriff and his staff turned Lloyd Warner over to the mob despite their legal duty to protect him. He was beaten, lynched, and burned in the area at 5th and Jules Streets, across from the Courthouse.

There was a grand jury called to investigate the lynching. Several people were arrested, but no charges were ever officially filed against anyone involved. No one was ultimately held accountable for his lynching. The owners of the Black funeral home in St. Joseph were summoned to take Warner's body from the lynching site. Lloyd's mother Lucille requested I.F. Ramsey, undertaker of the funeral home, to bury her son as soon as authorities released the body. She did not view his body. Mr. Ramsey and his assistant said a short prayer and buried Lloyd Warner in the segregated section of the city Cemetery, renamed Sunbridge Cemetery in 1959. This plot is currently unmarked.

Racial terror lynchings emerged as the most public and notorious form of racial terrorism in the United States following the Civil War, claiming the lives of at least 6000 documented African American victims lynched between 1865 and 1950. White mobs in both Southern and non-Southern states used lynching to perpetuate fear and intimidation in Black communities, uphold white supremacy, and reinforce racial subordination

This coalition was formed to discuss a racial terror lynching that happened in our own community in 1933. The St. Joseph community in the 1930s was one of segregation and racial tensions.

### **About this Project**

Our goal is to educate and increase awareness, foster candid discussion, accurately reflect on, and document the history of racial injustice and terror in St. Joseph and Buchanan County, Missouri. It is our hope through these efforts that we move our community to a better understanding of its past and work towards a brighter future for all of its citizens.

The coalition is working with the Equal Justice Initiative to plan a soil collection ceremony in November and produce a historic marker as a part of this Community Remembrance Project. The coalition is also raising funds for a headstone in memory of Lloyd Warner.

For more information and to stay up to date on project activities visit: stjosephmuseum.org/black-archives-museum

## **Racial Terror Lynchings**

Racial terror lynchings were not limited to the South, but the Southern states had the most in the nation: over 4,000 between 1877 and 1950.