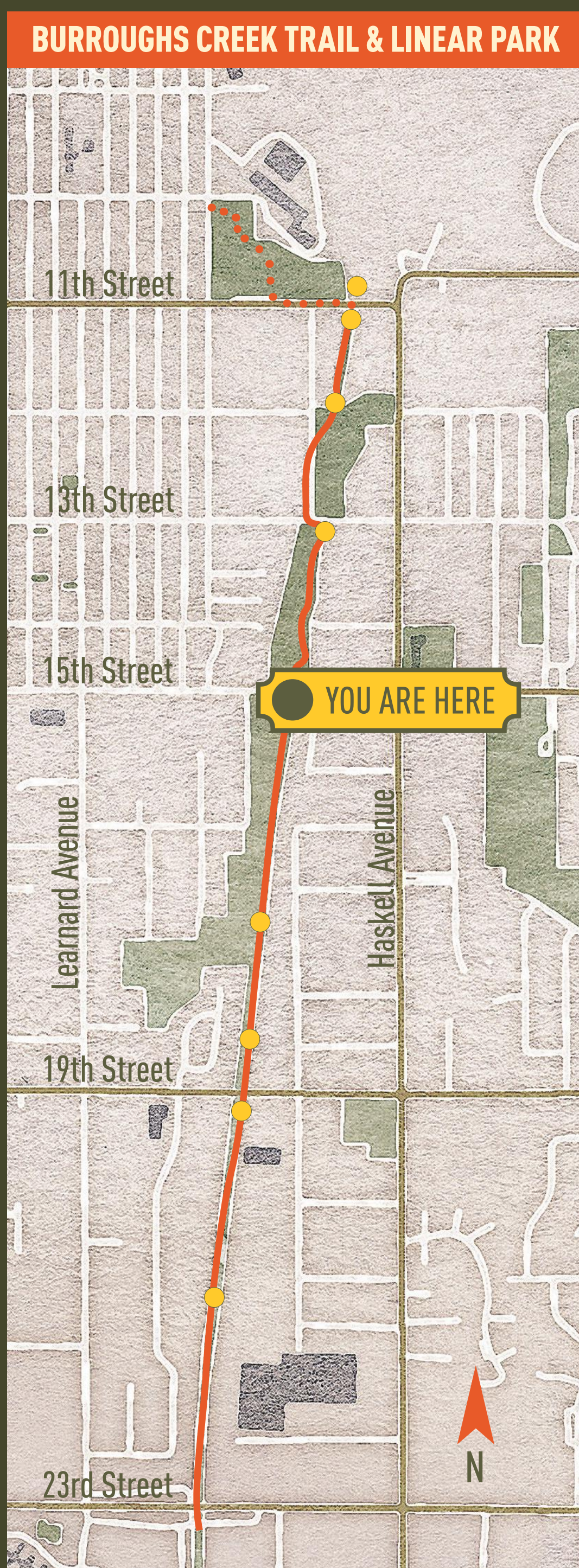


EAST SIDE STORIES



Some notable 19th-century neighbors whose names live on near the Burroughs Creek Trail

Well-watered by springs and a creek, the prairie land south and east of the original Lawrence town site has long been a magnet for human habitation beginning with the indigenous peoples of earlier centuries.

Following the opening of Kansas Territory to Euro-American settlers in 1854, new arrivals acquired land, established farms, and built homes.

Some engaged in civic life, others played a part in incorporating the area now traversed by the Burroughs Creek Trail and Linear Park into Lawrence city limits.

Many of these 19th century neighbors were notable in their day. Now, their stories are largely forgotten. In many cases, only their names remain. But therein hang several tales...

Just to the east of the Burroughs Creek Trail's 15th Street access point is the

Hanscom-Tappan development of 33 homes built in 2005. This subdivision and its streets – Hanscom Road, Oliver's Court, and Anna Tappan Way – belatedly honor the names of Oliver A. Hanscom and his wife Anna Tappan Hanscom, a couple who first put down roots in Lawrence in 1854.

Bullene Avenue, which runs just to the east of the Burroughs Creek Trail between Ward Avenue and E. 19th Street, recalls the family of Lathrop and Susan Bullene, who came to town in 1857. They remained here for the rest of their long lives, eventually celebrating 65 years of marriage, a period during which Lathrop Bullene built a thriving mercantile business in both Lawrence and Kansas City.

Learnard Avenue, which roughly parallels the Burroughs Creek Trail on the west from E. 15th Street to E. 23rd Street, commemorates Oscar Eugene Learnard and his wife Mary Sophia

Eldridge Learnard. He was a leading local lawyer and newspaper editor. She was the daughter of Shalor Eldridge, an avid free-state supporter and owner of the hotels twice destroyed by pro-slavery raiders during the territorial period and the Civil War.

George Barker, elected mayor of Lawrence in 1887 and again in 1907, is the namesake not only for the neighborhood located between 15th and 23rd streets and stretching from the Burroughs Creek Trail in the east to Massachusetts Street in the west, but also one of its primary thoroughfares.

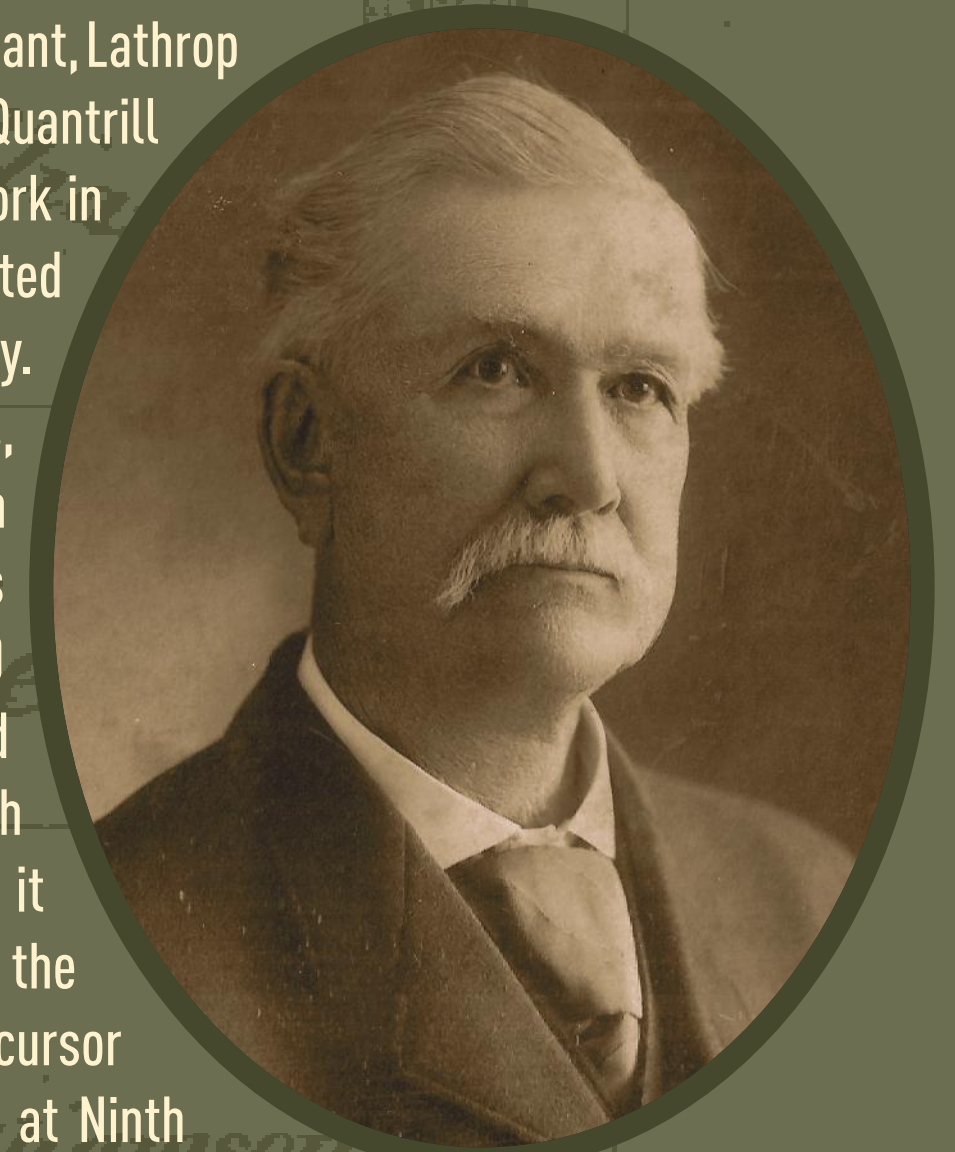
Burroughs Creek Trail slices through Parnell Park for about three-tenths of a mile immediately south of 15th Street. It recalls Andrew Jackson Parnell, a prosperous farmer and one of Lawrence's longest surviving Civil War veterans, who once lived in a house near present-day Maryland and 15th streets with his wife Elvira.



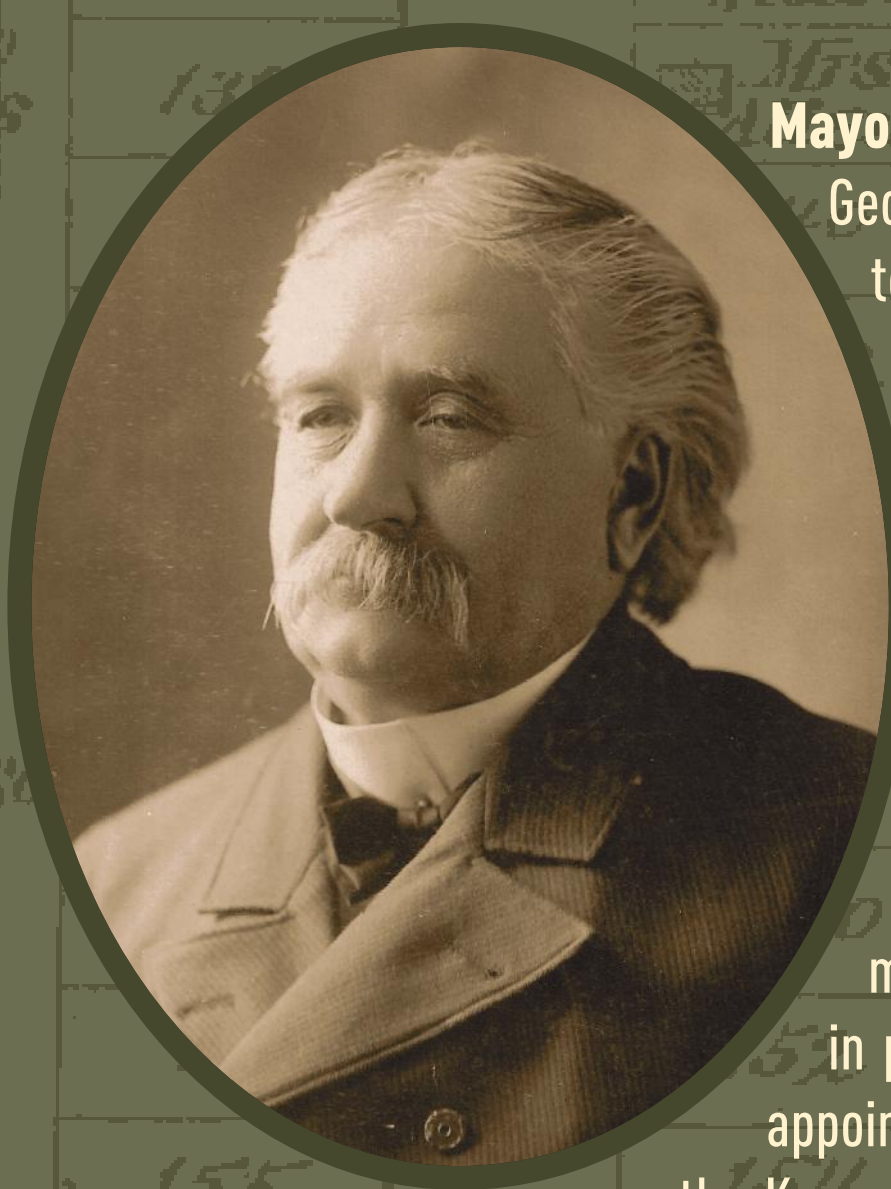
Early Arrivals. Oliver A. Hanscom (right) and Anna Tappan (left) arrived separately in Lawrence in 1854 and were married in 1857. Oliver A. Hanscom, a member of the second party of the New England Emigrant Aid Company, claimed 160 acres of land next to the southeastern side of the original Lawrence town site, an area today that includes the Burroughs Creek Trail and Linear Park. A seed merchant and real estate agent, Hanscom was a member of the Town Association, helped lay out the settlement and select the name of Lawrence in honor of A. A. Lawrence, treasurer of the New England Emigrant Aid Company. The Hanscoms participated in the trials and growth of the town, and survived the 1863 Quantrill Raid. O. A. Hanscom gradually sold parts of his original acreage. One of the Hanscom homes, 1503 Haskell Ave. (left), built circa 1900, was spared from demolition and moved to 1313 Haskell Ave.



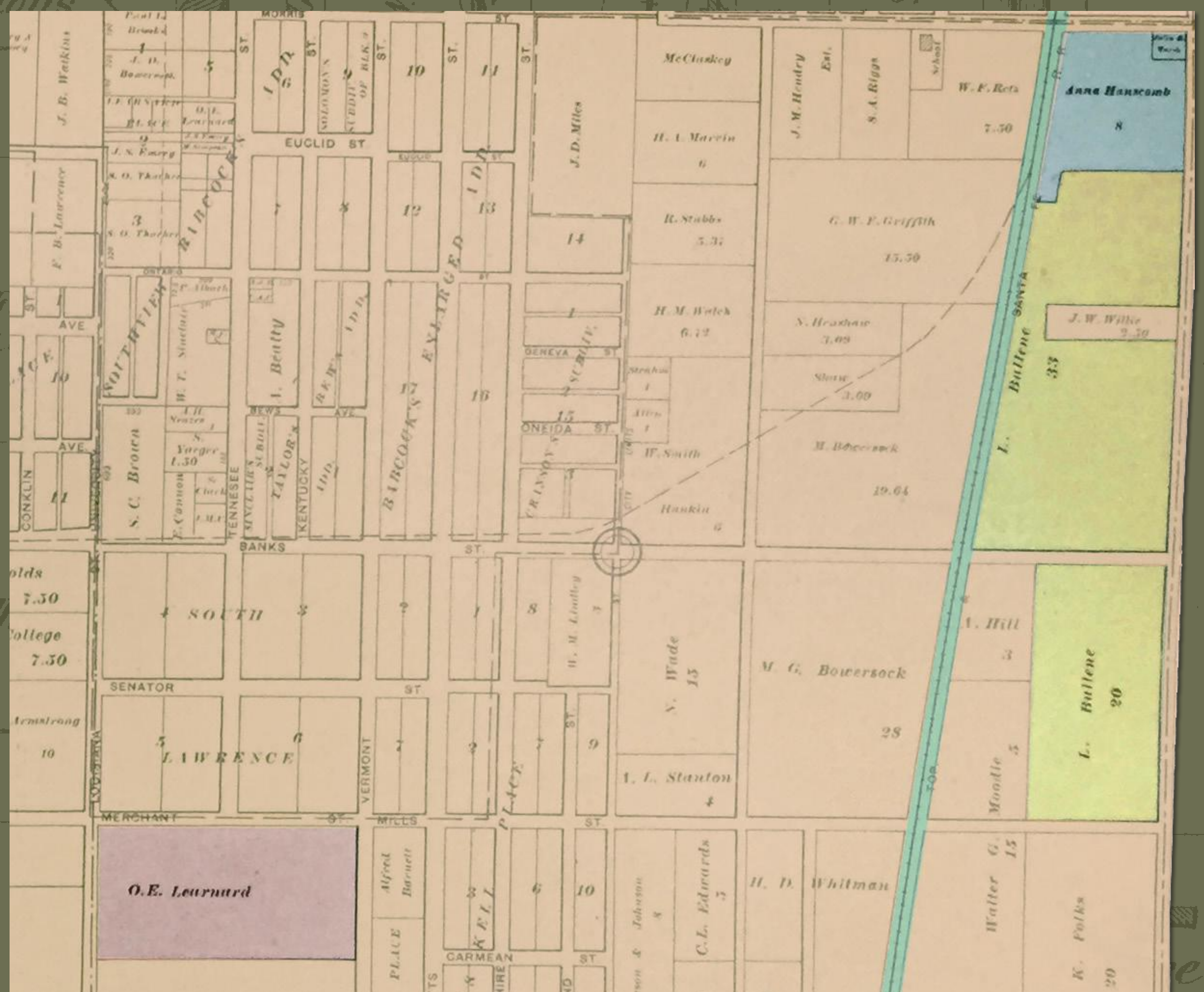
Merchant Prince. A successful Lawrence merchant, Lathrop Bullene (right) avoided the calamity of the Quantrill Raid because he was on a buying trip to New York in August 1863. His store (top right), originally located at 741 Massachusetts Street, was not so lucky. The raiders burned the building and its contents, for a total loss estimated to be \$20,000. Susan Bullene also had an encounter with the raiders when they stopped at the Bullene home in the 700 block of New Hampshire Street. She was forced to provide food for the men on horseback, though the raiders asked the family members to taste it first to guarantee there was no poison. Following the raid, Lathrop Bullene rebuilt his store, the precursor to the current-day Weaver's Department Store at Ninth and Massachusetts streets. He was also a partner in a major Kansas City emporium that eventually became known as Emery, Bird and Thayer. By the 1880s the Bullene family (bottom left) lived in a handsome Italianate style home (top left) at 1905 Haskell Avenue, since demolished.



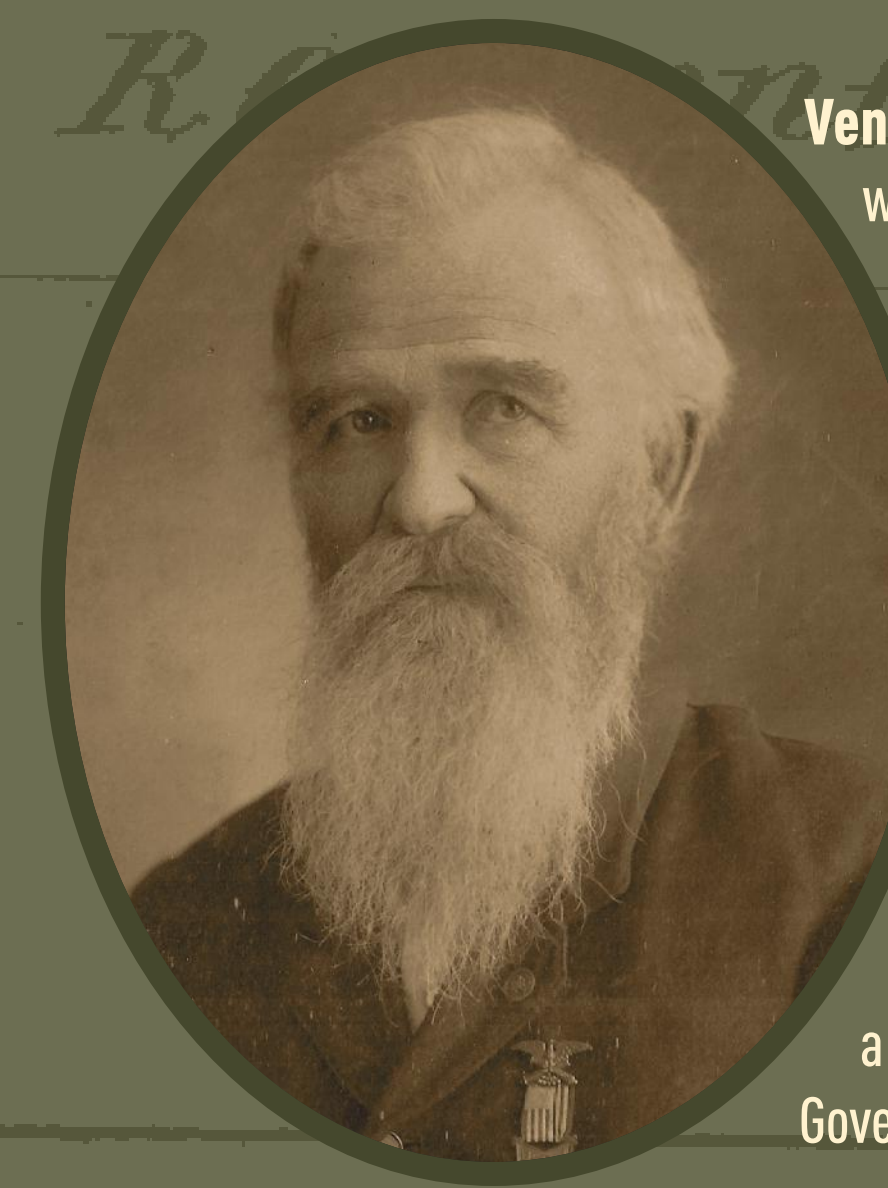
Lawyer, In-Law, Editor. Oscar Learnard, a native of Vermont and a graduate of the Albany Law School in New York, was drawn to the anti-slavery struggle in Kansas Territory. He traveled on horseback from Iowa to Kansas in the winter of 1855-1856. A member of the first free-state territorial legislature, Learnard helped organize the Republican Party in Kansas and co-founded Burlington, Kansas. Elected a district judge, Learnard resigned to accept an appointment as a Lt. Colonel in the First Kansas Volunteer Infantry during the Civil War. In 1862, Learnard married Mary Sophia Eldridge, daughter of Shalor Eldridge, at the Eldridge House hotel in Lawrence. After the Civil War, Learnard served as tax commissioner and special attorney for the Kansas City, Fort Scott, and Memphis Railroad. Learned sold 280 acres of land to the local group seeking to bring to Lawrence the school that became Haskell Indian Nations University. Learnard served for one year as the fourth superintendent of Haskell and lived many years near the institution at 23rd and Learnard streets. In 1884, he purchased the *Lawrence Daily Journal* and later acquired the *Lawrence Daily Tribune*. He merged the two papers and served as editor of the combined operation until 1905.



Mayor, Legislator, Attorney, Postmaster. George Barker never lived on the east side of town. In 1909, however, during his second term as mayor of Lawrence, the gravel road that led to what was then known as Haskell Institute was renamed in his honor. As the area developed, it took on the Barker name as well. The neighborhood nomenclature is the remnant legacy of an influential lawyer who once ranked "among the finest legal minds of Kansas" and spent some 40 years in public service in a variety of elected and appointed positions ranging from Speaker of the Kansas House of Representatives to Lawrence postmaster. During a term as county attorney for Douglas County in the 1880s, he was credited with the first successful enforcement of the prohibition laws in Kansas that made the manufacture and sale of alcoholic beverages illegal.



Location, Location, Location. This page from the 1909 Douglas County Plat Book shows the property holdings of such East Side residents as O.E. Learnard (pink), Lathrop and Susan Bullene (yellow), and Anna Tappan Hanscom (blue). The route occupied by the Santa Fe Railway tracks (green) is now the Burroughs Creek Trail.



Venerable Veteran. Andrew Jackson Parnell enlisted with the 15th Kansas Infantry shortly after the outbreak of the Civil War. His military service included battles in southwestern Missouri, northwestern Arkansas, and Oklahoma. After the war, he farmed in Atchison County, Jefferson County, and Douglas County before settling in Lawrence in 1891, where he was active in local civic affairs. In 1931, Parnell was one of four surviving members of the Lawrence post of the Grand Army of the Republic – a fraternal organization of Union veterans – to attend a commemorative banquet that featured Kansas Governor Harry Woodring. Parnell died a few months later.