



Diversity and Inclusion Commission Agenda

Monday, January 10, 2022 5:30 PM

The Diversity & Inclusion Committee will be meeting in person as well as via telephone or video conference. Members of the public interested in this meeting are encouraged to join the meeting via the following -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81121299227?pwd=NTJjK1RsdkU2UEJxVitoWGFLek9aQT09> or call (312) 626-6799 , Webinar ID: 811 2129 9227, Passcode: 799964 - rather than appear at City Hall (note: occupancy will be limited).

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Welcome and Introductions**
- 3. Action Items**
 - A. Approve the minutes for the December 13, 2021, meeting
- 4. Non-Action Items**
 - A. Parkville Demographic Presentation
 - B. Historical Marker Discussion
- 5. Unfinished Business (postponed from prior meetings)**
- 6. Other Business**
 - A. February Meeting Date
- 7. Adjourn**



Diversity and Inclusion Commission Agenda

AMENDED

December 13, 2021

5:00 p.m.

City Hall Board Room

1. Call to Order

1. Committee Members
 - a. Brian Whitley - Board Liaison
 - b. Rhonda Wimer
 - c. Rondale Dunn
 - d. Amy Barr - Via Zoom
 - e. Dr. Vincent (Vince) Carlisle (5:40 arrival)
 - f. Mahnaz Sabbir (5:40 arrival)
2. Others in Attendance
 - a. Joe Parente - City Administrator / Staff Liaison
 - b. Jeffery Rhodes – Notetaker
 - c. Hannayd Ruiz – MARC, Workshop Facilitator

2. Welcome and Introductions

3. Action Items

- A. Appointment of a Chair
 1. Alderman Whitley outlined the roles and responsibilities of the chairperson, and asked for volunteers.
 2. Rondale Dunn was recommended for appointment
 3. Rhonda moved, Amy seconded
 4. Unanimous vote to appoint (3-0) - Vince and Mahnaz were not in attendance for the vote

4. Non-Action Items

- A. Facilitated Planning Workshop – A discussion about the roles and responsibilities of the Commission; and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
 - a. Facilitated Planning Workshop
 - i. Ordinance - included in the packet - was passed this summer to formalize DE&I principles into City business. The Parkville Diversity & Inclusion Commission was created to handle the five charges laid out in the ordinance
 1. Listed in packet - Section 154.040
 2. Alderman Whitley outlined the details in the ordinance
 3. Meeting set for second Monday of each month @ 5:30

Presentation by Hannayd Ruiz

Roles & Responsibilities

Posted Date & Time: 12/8/21; 1:54 p.m. By: MM
Revised Posted Date & Time: 12/9/21; 4:58 p.m. By: MM

Sunshine Law Summary

Ideas for what the Commission should consider

- i. Monument signs in the City - on statues and otherwise
 1. This was the big charge from the mayor - make decisions about what to do with these markers and how to represent our history
 - 2.
- ii. Community education and awareness
 1. Survey - look for benchmarks and outcomes to we can track details over time
 2. Demographic information
 3. Economic Development Council can provide that info
 4. How can we recruit more diverse members of our community to reflect our community
 - a. Police are included in this consideration
 - b. How do we mirror the community? Race, ethnicity, gender - few female officers
 - c. Aside note - we're discussing the idea of representative bureaucracy - where the civil servants/public officials reflex the makeup of the people they serve
 5. Where can find data to explore these issues?
 - a. Census Data / American Community Survey (ACS)
 - b. Park University
 - c. MARC's data and research
 - d. Other regional or local data sources
 6. One issue to consider - HOUSING
 - a. Barriers to entry to each subsection to the market
 - b. Where is the multi-family zoning in the City? What are the issues? Concerns?
 - i. Creekside, apartments along Bell Rd.
 - ii. Future development?
 - c. Invite Stephen Lachky to discuss master plan and how housing is addressed there
 7. How do we educate our community?
 - a. Partner with the school district to address the issues there
 - b. What does language diversity look like in our community?
 - c. Do we work to organize an ethnic celebration in the community?
 - i. Some sort of community event? Work with MSPA and/or have the City step up and direct some activities and/or ideas
 - ii. Food festival that feature different cuisine
 - d. Sister / Partner City - <http://parkvillemo.gov/city-news/parkville-missouri-welcomes-jesus-maria-jalisco>
 - i. Started in 2008.
 8. Business ENV
 - a. What does it cost to start a business?
 - b. What does a commercial space cost - is the price to high?
 9. How does this Commission fit into the strategic plan of the City?

- a. Directly part of the quality life and quality services charge for the city staff
 - b. This initiative was started after the George Floyd murder and raised by the Mayor and aldermen
 - i. We should try to align ourselves with the strategic plan
 - ii. Our goal is to remind the board and community how DEI fits into the city's strategic plan
 - 1. It has to start at the top, be shared by all leadership
 - 2. It was unanimous by the board and the first new commission for more than 15 years.
- 10. Connect with Marcus Flores at the Parkville Living Center
 - a. Ask the candidates questions about DEI
- 11. Podcast? - Dropping Jewels with Morgan Fleming
- 12. Does Parkville HR have any goals for diversity recruitment?
 - a. Make sure the goals for diversity and inclusion - retention and recruitment - are defined and articulated
 - b. It's been tough
 - c. Competitive environment

5. Other Business

- 1. Next meeting January 10, 2022 @ 5:30
 - a. Parkville email addresses for this commission?

6. Adjourn

- 1. Meeting ended at 7:15pm

	2010	2019
Population Total Population	5,311	6,724
Density (per Sq. Mile) Population Density	359.2	454.7
Land Area (Sq. Miles) Area Total:	15.41	15.41
Area (Land)	14.79 96.0%	14.79 96.0%
Area (Water)	0.62 4.1%	0.62 4.1%
Sex Total Population	5,311	6,724
Male	2,775 52.3%	3,421 50.9%
Female	2,536 47.8%	3,303 49.1%
Age Total Population	5,311	6,724
Under 5 Years	312 5.9%	409 6.1%
5 to 9 Years	486 9.2%	436 6.5%
10 to 14 Years	413 7.8%	514 7.6%
15 to 17 Years	267 5.0%	300 4.5%
18 to 24 Years	682 12.8%	775 11.5%
25 to 34 years	286 5.4%	461 6.9%
35 to 44 Years	857 16.1%	735 10.9%
45 to 54 Years	954 18.0%	1,258 18.7%
55 to 64 Years	594 11.2%	1,004 14.9%
65 to 74 Years	305 5.7%	544 8.1%
75 to 84 Years	155 2.9%	248 3.7%
85 Years and Over	0 0%	40 0.6%

Race				
Total Population	5,311		6,724	
White Alone	4,852	91.4%	6,104	90.8%
Black or African American Alone	112	2.1%	251	3.7%
American Indian and Alaska Native Alone	54	1.0%	14	0.2%
Asian Alone	233	4.4%	190	2.8%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Alone	0	0%	7	0.1%
Some Other Race Alone	14	0.3%	50	0.7%
Two or More Races	46	0.9%	108	1.6%
Average Household Size				
Average Household Size	2.7		2.7	
Highest Educational Attainment for Population 25 Years and Over				
Population 25 Years and Over:	3,151		4,290	
Less than High School	147	4.7%	89	2.1%
High School Graduate or More	3,004	95.3%	4,201	97.9%
Some College or More	2,693	85.5%	3,690	86.0%
Bachelor's Degree or More	1,961	62.2%	2,932	68.3%
Master's Degree or More	956	30.3%	1,273	29.7%
Professional School Degree or More	256	8.1%	410	9.6%
Doctorate Degree	33	1.1%	185	4.3%
School Dropout Rate for Population 16 to 19 Years				
Civilian Population 16 to 19 Years:	430		348	
Not High School Graduate, Not Enrolled (Dropped Out)	17	4.0%	16	4.6%
High School Graduate, or Enrolled (In School)	413	96.1%	332	95.4%
Population in Labor Force 16 Years and Over				
Civilian Population in Labor Force 16 Years and Over:	2,896		3,641	
Employed	2,713	93.7%	3,475	95.4%
Unemployed	183	6.3%	166	4.6%

Household Income (In 2021 Inflation Adjusted Dollars)				
Households	1,898		2,454	
Less than \$10,000	46	2.4%	36	1.5%
\$10,000 to \$14,999	15	0.8%	1	0.0%
\$15,000 to \$19,999	14	0.7%	57	2.3%
\$20,000 to \$24,999	30	1.6%	88	3.6%
\$25,000 to \$29,999	64	3.4%	55	2.2%
\$30,000 to \$34,999	55	2.9%	32	1.3%
\$35,000 to \$39,999	76	4.0%	178	7.3%
\$40,000 to \$44,999	74	3.9%	42	1.7%
\$45,000 to \$49,999	63	3.3%	37	1.5%
\$50,000 to \$59,999	127	6.7%	150	6.1%
\$60,000 to \$74,999	124	6.5%	53	2.2%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	162	8.5%	132	5.4%
\$100,000 to \$124,999	132	7.0%	227	9.3%
\$125,000 to \$149,999	104	5.5%	263	10.7%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	225	11.9%	323	13.2%
\$200,000 or More	586	30.9%	780	31.8%
Median Household Income (In 2021 Inflation Adjusted Dollars)				
Median Household Income (In 2021 Inflation Adjusted Dollars)	\$118,586		\$138,092	
Households with Self-Employment Income				
Households:	1,898		2,454	
With Self-Employment Income	415	21.9%	352	14.3%
No Self-Employment Income	1,483	78.1%	2,102	85.7%
Median Year Structure Built				
Median Year Structure Built	1991		1995	
House Value for All Owner-Occupied Housing Units				
Owner-Occupied Housing Units:	1,455		2,026	
Less than \$20,000	0	0%	0	0.0%
\$20,000 to \$49,999	12	0.8%	0	0.0%
\$50,000 to \$99,999	52	3.6%	20	1.0%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	104	7.2%	68	3.4%
\$150,000 to \$299,999	311	21.4%	481	23.7%
\$300,000 to \$499,999	423	29.1%	903	44.6%
\$500,000 to \$749,999	331	22.8%	392	19.4%
\$750,000 to \$999,999	138	9.5%	81	4.0%
\$1,000,000 or More	84	5.8%	81	4.0%

Median House Value for All Owner-Occupied Housing Units		
Median Value (In 2021 Inflation Adjusted Dollars)	\$413,918	\$416,738
Means of Transportation to Work for Workers 16 Years and Over		
Workers 16 Years and Over:	2,681	3,488
Car, Truck, or Van	2,296 85.6%	3,203 91.8%
Drove Alone	2,031 75.8%	3,104 89.0%
Carpooled	265 9.9%	99 2.8%
Public Transportation (Includes Taxicab)	52 1.9%	21 0.6%
Motorcycle	0 0%	0 0.0%
Bicycle	0 0%	0 0.0%
Walked	42 1.6%	26 0.8%
Other Means	47 1.8%	17 0.5%
Worked At Home	244 9.1%	221 6.3%
Travel Time to Work for Workers 16 Years and Over		
Workers 16 Years and Over:	2,681	3,488
Did Not Work At Home:	2,437 90.9%	3,267 93.7%
Less than 10 Minutes	310 11.6%	340 9.8%
10 to 19 Minutes	803 30.0%	907 26.0%
20 to 29 Minutes	705 26.3%	885 25.4%
30 to 39 Minutes	371 13.8%	653 18.7%
40 to 59 Minutes	161 6.0%	438 12.6%
60 to 89 Minutes	21 0.8%	26 0.8%
90 or More Minutes	66 2.5%	18 0.5%
Worked At Home	244 9.1%	221 6.3%
Average Commute to Work (In Min)		
Average Commute to Work (In Min)	19	24
Health Insurance		
Total:		6,696
No Health Insurance Coverage		354 5.3%
With Health Insurance Coverage	No Data	6,342 94.7%
Public Health Insurance		1,040 15.5%
Private Health Insurance		5,964 89.1%

Sources: ACS 2010 (5-Year Estimates), ACS 2019 (5-Year Estimates)

**CITY OF PARKVILLE
Policy Report**

Date: January 4, 2022

Prepared By:

Joe Parente, City Administrator

Reviewed By:

Jeffery Rhodes, Asst. to City Administrator

ISSUE:

Historical Marker Discussion

BACKGROUND:

In June 2020, the City of Parkville removed two historical markers from public spaces. The markers depicted Parkville history during its early times.

The aftermath of the George Floyd protests across the nation, and the extent of civil disorder that occurred in certain cities, had increased the awareness and sensitivity in Parkville to issues related to racial inequity. In Parkville, the Parkville Unity March brought hundreds of individuals together whose mission was to peacefully bring awareness to the ongoing systemic racism in society.

Prior to the Unity March, City staff were directed to remove the two historical markers. Each marker included certain historical references that some may deem offensive. It was decided to store the markers until such time as the city could assess whether it wished to continue to display them in public spaces, or to return the markers to the historical organizations that originally had them erected.

The Board of Aldermen had a couple of discussions regarding the process for reviewing the question. A Board liaison was appointed and opened up a dialogue in the community not only concerning this issue, but the broader issue of equity and inclusion in the community. As the Board of Aldermen pursued the establishment of the Diversity and Inclusion Commission, it directed that this issue be brought to the Commission for a recommendation both about what to do with the two historical markers, as well as any related issue concerning how we portray the community's history and our sensitivity of how we tell it.

BUDGET IMPACT:

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Make a recommendation to the Board of Aldermen on the future of the two historical markers.
2. Recommend a policy statement concerning the portrayal of history in public spaces.
3. Take no action, or direct city staff to provide additional information.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Diversity and Inclusion Commission initiate a discussion concerning this issue and develop a recommendation for the Board of Aldermen.

POLICY:

There is no policy concerning this issue.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

Since this is a discussion item and no formal recommendation or policy has been developed, there is no motion necessary at this time.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Triangle Park Sign
2. Spirt Fountain Park Sign full
3. Spirit Fountain Park Sign page 1
4. Spirit Fountain Park Sign page 2
5. Spirit Fountain Park Sign page 3

PARKVILLE

Founded by George S. Park - 1838
First known as English Landing, river
port on frontier, steamboat landing;
slave, tobacco, and hemp market.

HOME OF PARK COLLEGE

Founded 1875
John A. McAfee and George S. Park
pioneered in new pattern
in education.

"Fides et Labor"

Attack on the Paw Paw Fort

Northwest Missouri Timberbox

Conflict and uncertainty were widespread in northwest Missouri in the summer of 1864. Federal forces struggled in a heavy-handed manner to control areas much too large for their capabilities. Raiders from Kansas, including Red Legs (Union sympathizers who earned notoriety as marauders) and jehowahs (people notorious for marauding) continued to ravage and pillage the local population. Confederate activity began



to significantly increase in large guerrilla bands and guerrillas such as Lieutenant Colonel John C. Callahan "Cane" Thornton aggressively rounded the countryside including towns from Federal control and adding new recruits to their ranks. In part this increase in activity was a direct reaction to the brutal conduct of Federal forces and placement from Kansas who had pillaged the area.

Northwest Missouri personnel the bloody guerrilla war that raged in the area since 1856. The guerrilla war was gone and no quarter was asked at the hands of Missouri guerrillas and Kansas jehowahs fought for control. This already volatile situation escalated to war of General Sterling Price's invasion of Missouri blazed into the area. The stage was set for the struggle for Platte County.



Captain Charles Fletcher Taylor



Learn more at
www.mocivilwar.org

Missouri's CIVIL WAR

Major General Sterling Price's raid into Missouri in 1864 was the Confederacy's last effort to liberate the state from the grip of Federal control. In preparation for Price's raid, officers were sent into numerous counties in the area known as "Little Dixie" to recruit men to swell the ranks of Price's army as he moved through the state. One such recruiter was Lieutenant Colonel John C. Callahan "Cane" Thornton, who was originally from Clay County but was recruiting in Platte County.

In July 1864, Lieutenant Colonel Thornton began his recruiting and "held the land" campaign in Platte County with Parkville as his first objective. The town was occupied by about 60 members of the 82d Enrolled Missouri Militia under the command of a regular Federal officer, Captain Thomas Wilson. Known as "Paw Paw", the militiamen were from Parkville and the surrounding area. They had been conscripted into Federal service for the purpose of protecting their local communities from any outside threat, whether it was from conventional Confederate units or guerrillas, marauding jehowahs, or Red Legs from Kansas intent on preying on the unprotected civilians. The militiamen were referred to as Paw Paws due to their suspected sympathies for Confederate guerrillas who hid among the Paw Paw plants along the Missouri River bottoms. The headquarters for the militia unit was the Missouri Valley Hotel, a large building overlooking the Missouri River. The building, at 180 feet by 80 feet, was the largest in Parkville, with the lower two floors made of stone while the upper two floors were frame.

On the morning of July 7, 1864, Lieutenant Colonel Thornton, accompanied by Captain Charles Fletcher "Flesh" Taylor and 60 of his partisan guerrillas including Frank and Jesse James, entered Parkville to demand its surrender from Federal control. Captain Wilson immediately fled the town while his militia barricaded themselves in the "Paw Paw Fort". A shot was fired from the

land but hit no one. When the guerrillas immediately returned fire militia Lieutenant Martin C. Noland and a woman standing next to him were wounded.

Angered at being fired upon, Captain Taylor's men forced open the locked front door using a large log as a battering ram. They entered the fort and found that the militia had retreated to the second floor. When Taylor threatened to burn down the building the militia force surrendered. Forty-two of the

militiamen immediately joined Lieutenant Colonel Thornton's force. This was not surprising as many of the militiamen actually belonged to Confederate secret societies such as the Knights of the Golden Circle and the Sons of Liberty. They were simply waiting for the first opportunity to defect to the Southern side. With Southern uniforms already close at hand, the conversion from blue to gray went quickly.

Not all of the Paw Paws joined Thornton's force and they were paroled and released unharmed. Now numbering just over 100 men, the Confederates occupied Parkville for the next two days. On July 10th Lieutenant Colonel Thornton and his force departed Parkville and rode toward his next objective - Platte City. Parkville's Confederate occupation had ended.

John C. Callahan Thornton, known as "Cane" to his friends, was born in Missouri in 1825. Prior to the Civil War he practiced law in Leavenworth, Kansas, and later St. Joseph, Missouri. He joined the Confederate army when the war broke out and was a battalion commander at the battle of Wilson's Creek in August 1861. As a result of his gallantry in that battle he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel. He survived the war and moved his family to Santa Monica where he practiced law before going into the mining business. He died in 1887, leaving a wife and eight children.



You are standing on the site of the Missouri Valley Hotel (pictured above) that was used as the headquarters for the 82d Enrolled Missouri Militia on July 7, 1864. Colonel George S. Park, a veteran of the Texas War for Independence and the town's newspaper, built it in 1851. From 1853 to 1855 it also served as the office for Colonel Park's newspaper, The Industrial Luminary. On April 14, 1865, a proximity bomb blew the printing press into the river because of Park's editorial attacks. With the outbreak of the War Between the States the building was confiscated for use as a headquarters by the Federal government for Union forces, both regular and militia, occupying Parkville. That it became known as the Paw Paw Fort.

Source: "Paw Paw Fort" and "Paw Paw Fort" by Arthur W. Gentry, Platte, July 13, 1864, in Susan A. Potts, Missouri Historical Review, Vol. 10, No. 2, January 1907, "Warren Excitement in Parkville, Mo. - The Luminary Press Thornton was the blow - The Editors Drive from the press", The New York Times, April 26, 1865.

Photo and Image Credits: Paw Paw Fort, Platteville, Arkansas, Park University, Parkville, MO; Taylor used with permission from Missouri Society of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri; Clay County Historical and Historical Society.



Northwest Missouri Tinderbox

Conflict and uncertainty were widespread in northwest Missouri in the summer of 1864. Federal forces struggled in a heavy-handed manner to control areas much too large for their capabilities. Raiders from Kansas, including Red Legs (Union scouts with an earned nefarious reputation) and jayhawkers (troopers notorious for marauding) continued to terrorize and pillage the local population. Confederate activity began



to significantly increase as large guerrilla bands and recruiters such as Lieutenant Colonel John C. Calhoun "Coon" Thornton aggressively roamed the countryside reclaiming towns from Federal control and adding new recruits to their ranks. In part this increase in activity was a belated reaction to the brutal conduct of Federal forces and plunderers from Kansas who had infiltrated the area.

Northwest Missouri personified the bloody guerrilla war that raged in the area since 1856. No quarter was given and no quarter was asked as the bands of Missouri guerrillas and Kansas jayhawkers fought for control. This already volatile situation escalated as word of General Sterling Price's invasion of Missouri filtered into the area. The stage was set for the Struggle for Platte County.



Captain Charles Fincher "Flash" Taylor

The
STRUGGLE
for platte county

Learn more at
www.mocivilwar.org

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Major G. Missouri in 18 to liberate the In preparation into numerous "Little Dixie" of Price's army. One such recruit C. Calhoun "Coon" Thornton who was originally from Platte County but was in Platte County.

In July 1864, Colonel Thornton was recruiting and leading a campaign in Platte County as his headquarters. The town was about 60 miles from Enrolled Missouri the command of a Federal officer, Captain Wilson. Known as the militiamen surrounding area into Federal service their local command whether it was units or guerrillas. Red Legs from the unprotected civilian to as Paw Paws for Confederate guerrillas. Paw plants along the headquarters for the Valley Hotel, a large Missouri River. The building, two floors made of frame.

Attack on the Paw Paw Fort

Missouri's CIVIL WAR

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In July 1864, Lieutenant Colonel Thornton began his recruiting and "hold the land" campaign in Platte County with Parkville as his first objective. The town was occupied by about 60 members of the 82d Enrolled Missouri Militia under the command of a regular Federal officer, Captain Thomas Wilson. Known as "Paw Paws", the militiamen were from Parkville and the surrounding area. They had been conscripted into Federal service for the purpose of protecting their local communities from any outside threat, whether it was from conventional Confederate units or guerrillas, marauding jayhawkers, or Red Legs from Kansas intent on preying on the unprotected civilians. The militiamen were referred to as Paw Paws due to their suspected sympathies for Confederate guerrillas who hid among the Paw Paw plants along the Missouri River bottoms. The headquarters for the militia unit was the Missouri Valley Hotel, a large building overlooking the Missouri River. The building, at 100 feet by 80 feet, was the largest in Parkville, with the lower two floors made of stone while the upper two floors were frame.

On the morning of July 7, 1864, Lieutenant Colonel Thornton, accompanied by Captain Charles Fletcher "Fletch" Taylor and 60 of his partisan guerrillas, including Frank and Jesse James, entered Parkville to demand its surrender from Federal control. Captain Wilson immediately fled the town while his militia barricaded themselves in the "Paw Paw Fort". A shot was fired from the hotel but hit no one. When the guerrillas immediately returned fire militia Lieutenant Martin C. Noland and a woman standing next to him were wounded.

Angered at being fired upon, Captain Taylor's men forced open the locked front door using a large log as a battering ram. They entered the fort and found that the militia had retreated to the second floor. When Taylor threatened to burn down the building the militia force surrendered. Forty-two of the militiamen immediately joined Lieutenant Colonel Thornton's force. This was not surprising as many of the militiamen actually belonged to Confederate secret societies such as the Knights of the Golden Circle and the Sons of Liberty. They were simply waiting for the first opportunity to defect to the Southern side. With Southern uniforms already close at hand, the conversion from blue to gray went quickly.

Not all of the Paw Paws joined Thornton's force and they were paroled and released unharmed. Now numbering just over 100 men, the Confederates occupied Parkville for the next two days. On July 10th Lieutenant Colonel Thornton and his force departed Parkville and rode toward his next objective - Platte City. Parkville's Confederate occupation had ended.



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Paw Fort

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of July 7, 1864, Lieutenant [unclear] accompanied by Captain [unclear] Taylor and 60 of his [unclear] including Frank and Jesse James, [unclear] demand its surrender from [unclear] main Wilson immediately fled [unclear] militia barricaded themselves [unclear]. A shot was fired from the [unclear] but hit no one. When the [unclear] rillas immediately returned [unclear] militia Lieutenant Martin C. [unclear] and a woman standing [unclear] to him were wounded.

Angered at being fired upon, [unclear] Captain Taylor's men forced [unclear] in the locked front door using [unclear] large log as a battering ram. [unclear] they entered the fort and found [unclear] the militia had retreated [unclear] the second floor. When [unclear] ror threatened to burn down [unclear] building the militia force [unclear] rendered. Forty-two of the [unclear]ely joined Lieutenant Colonel [unclear] is was not surprising as many [unclear] actually belonged to Confederate [unclear] as the Knights of the Golden [unclear] of Liberty. They were simply [unclear] opportunity to defect to the [unclear] h Southern uniforms already [unclear] conversion from blue to gray

w Paws joined Thornton's force [unclear] d and released unharmed. Now [unclear] r 100 men, the Confederates [unclear] for the next two days. On [unclear] nt Colonel Thornton and his [unclear] ville and rode toward his next [unclear] City. Parkville's Confederate [unclear] ded.

John C. Calhoun Thornton, known as "Coon" to his troops, was born in Missouri in 1835. Prior to the Civil War he practiced law in Leavenworth, Kansas, and later St. Joseph, Missouri. He joined the Confederate army when the war broke out and was a battalion commander at the battle of Wilson's Creek in August 1861. As a result of his gallantry in that battle he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel. He survived the war and moved his family to Butte, Montana where he practiced law before going into the mining business. He died in 1887, leaving a wife and eight children.



You are standing on the site of the Missouri Valley Hotel (pictured above) that was used as the headquarters for the 82d Enrolled Missouri Militia on July 7, 1864. Colonel George S. Park, a veteran of the Texas War For Independence and the town's namesake, built it in 1851. From 1853 to 1855 it also served as the office for Colonel Park's newspaper, *The Industrial Luminary*. On April 14, 1855, a proslavery mob threw the printing press into the river because of Park's abolitionist editorials. With the outbreak of the War Between the States the building was confiscated for use as a headquarters by the Federal government for Union forces, both regular and militia, occupying Parkville. Thus it became known as the Paw Paw Fort.

Sources: "Bashi-Bazouks" and Rebels Too: Action at Camden Point, July 13, 1864" by Scott A. Porter, *Missouri Historical Review*, Vol. 101, No. 2, January 2007; "Intense Excitement in Parkville, Mo - The Luminary Press Thrown into the River - The Editors Driven from the town", *The New York Times*, April 26, 1855.

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