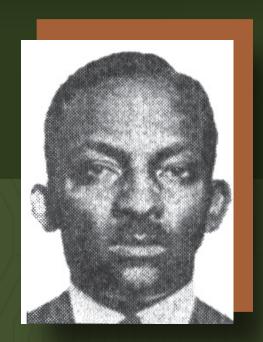
THE ELEVEN DEFENDERS

Angry white mobs had surrounded and threatened Black homeowners in at least four other instances in Detroit in 1925. Knowing the risks of moving into a mostly white neighborhood, Dr. Ossian Sweet recruited family, friends, and acquaintances to help him and his wife, Gladys, defend their house.

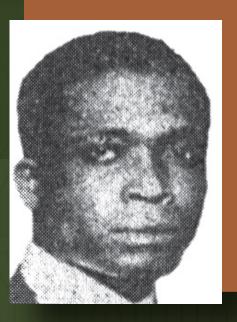
These are the people who were defending the Sweet home and were arrested on the night of September 9, 1925.



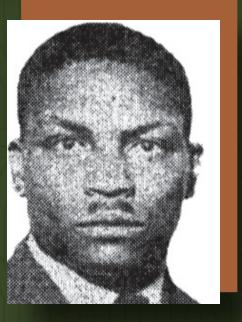
Dr. Ossian Sweet (1895-1960)
Medical doctor, husband, father, homeowner



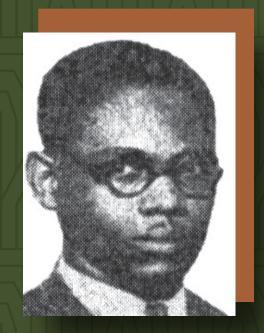
Gladys Sweet (1901-1928) Wife, mother, and homeowner



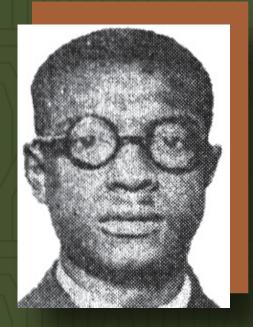
Otis Sweet (1900-1969) Dentist, Ossian and Henry's brother, starting a dental practice in Detroit



Henry Sweet (1907-1940) Wilberforce University student, Ossian and Otis's brother



John Latting
Wilberforce University
student, Henry's roommate



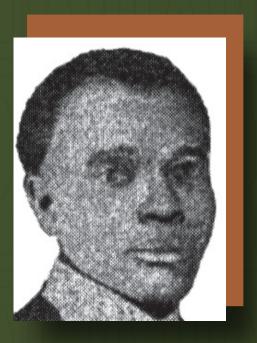
Joe Mack
The Sweet's
hired chauffeur



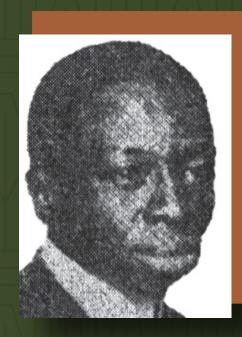
William Davis
Howard University alum,
WWI veteran, Federal
narcotics officer



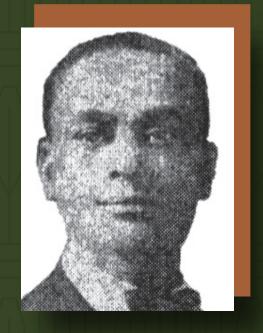
Norris Murray A hired handyman



Hewitt Watson
Insurance agent,
Ossian's business
associate



Charles Washington
Howard University alum,
insurance agent,
Ossian's patient



Leonard MorseInsurance agent