

Save The Barclay Grounds



“The grounds of the former Barclay Estate on the northern edge of West Chester are truly a jewel. ...a verdant oasis in the midst of fine old borough homes, and its tiny but significant arboretum of black oaks, flowering dogwoods, Japanese maples, and other species makes it a special place, and for many who know of it a treasure certainly to be preserved.”*



(*Daily Local News editorial, September 19, 2013)



Joshua Hartshorne

“The property is ... a representative example of a nineteenth century country estate executed in the Italianate architectural style.” (National Register of Historic Places)



“NORTH HILL.”
RESIDENCE OF JOSHUA HARTSHORNE,
WEST CHESTER.

“The buildings are set amid park-like grounds that include many specimen trees, some of which date from the original development of the lot in the 1860s.”*



“The property contains one of the most diverse collections of historic specimen trees of any property in West Chester.”*

***National Register of Historic Places**

The Barclay Grounds are a gateway to the Borough of West Chester





Robert G. Kay

In 1935 the property was donated to the Barclay Home (a Quaker home for the elderly) by two local businessmen, Mr. R. G. Kay and Mr. E. H. Jacob



“When the work under completion is finished you will find these grounds a great addition to the value and attractiveness of the town, for it will be much like a public park.”

Robert G. Kay (quoted in the Daily Local News in 1935)

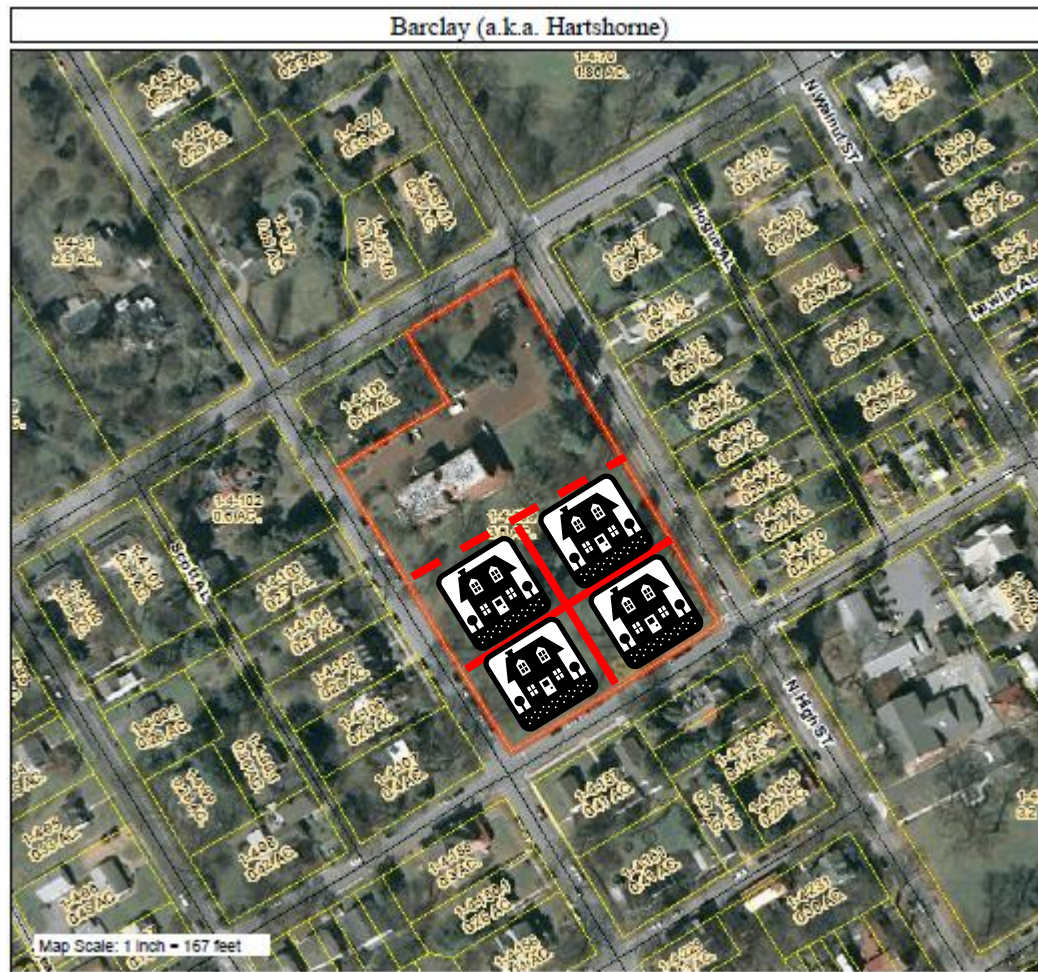
The Barclay grounds have been open to the public for 80 years



“When my grand-daughter came to visit me she asked to play in the park. When I said ‘Oh, you want to go on the swings?’ she said ‘No Grandma, I want to go to the tree park’.”

Local resident, addressing the West Chester Council Worksession on 9/16/13

The development plan is to build 4 houses on the Barclay grounds



- In 1997 the property was divided into two lots to enable a higher value bank loan to be obtained against the property
- The southern lot has now been divided into 4 lots and is being sold for four houses to be built on

With 288 new condo units and 87 new townhouses being built in the Borough we need to preserve our open space

- 1). 288 condo units and 87 townhouses are currently being developed within the Borough
- 2). This will result in an increase of ~1,100 residents
- 3). 18,500 residents currently live in the Borough of West Chester
- 4). So the population of the Borough is about to increase by ~6%

Chestnut Street: 60 Condo Units



Photo by Wendy Toner

Market Street: 88 Condo Units



Union Station = 87 houses



First Block: 20 Condo Units



Gay Street: 120 Condo Units



What will happen if we don't succeed in Saving the Barclay Grounds?

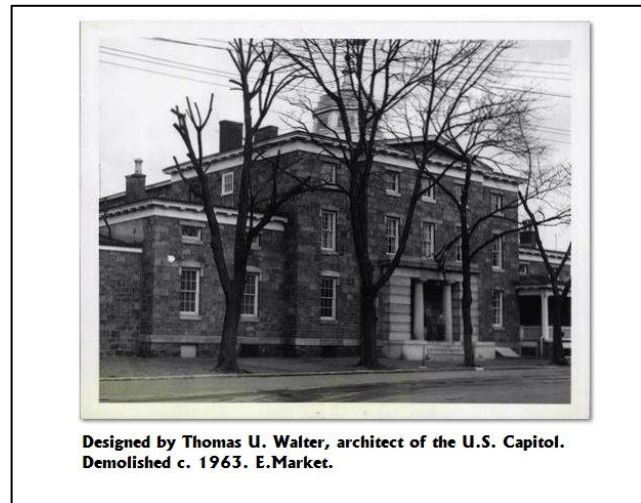
Orthodox Friends Meeting House, N. Church Street



West Chester Train Station, East Market Street



High St. School, South High Street



Thomas U. Walter House, E. Market Street

Will we have one more site for regrets when we walk through the Borough?

**We have benefitted from the legacy passed on by others.
What will our legacy be for future generations?**



OR

