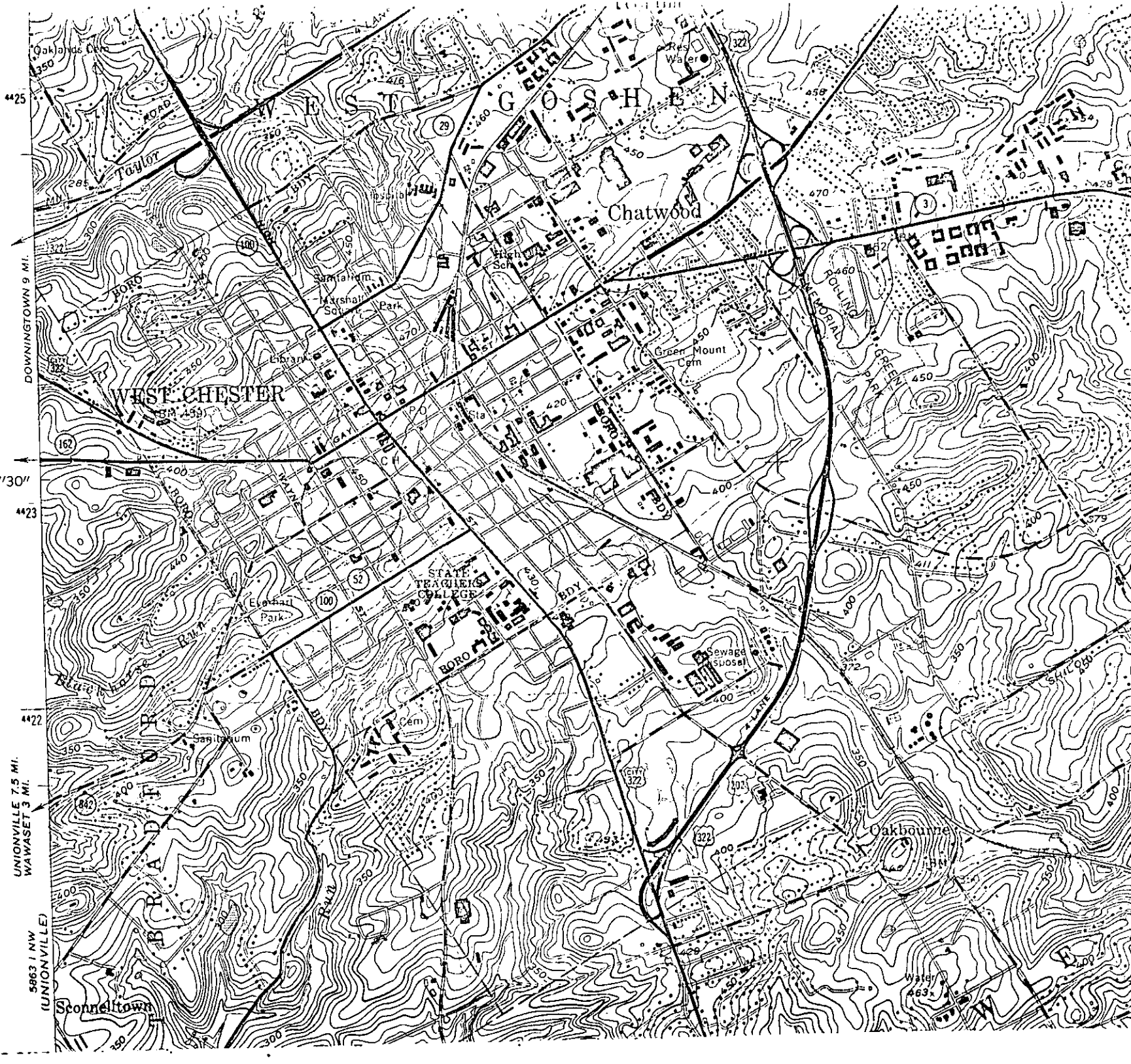


MARSHALLTON 3 MI.
COPEVILLE 1.7 MI.

57°30'

UNIONVILLE 7.5 MI.
WAWASET 3 MI.

5863 / NW
(UNIONVILLE)



42°25'

DOWNTOWN 9 MI.

42°30'

42°22'

Scanneltown

Chatwood

WEST CHESTER

STATE
TEACHERS
COLLEGE

Oakbourne

Water
463

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For HCRS use only

received

date entered

1. Name

historic *THE BUTLER HOUSE*

and/or common

2. Location

street & number *228 West Miner Street* _____ not for publication

city, town *West Chester* _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district _____

state *Pennsylvania* code _____ county *Chester* code *029*

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name *Harold and Doris Sands*

street & number *228 West Miner Street*

city, town *West Chester* _____ vicinity of _____ state *Pennsylvania 19380*

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. *Chester County Courthouse*

street & number *High and Market Streets*

city, town *West Chester* _____ state *Pennsylvania*

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title *Borough of West Chester Survey in progress* has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date *1979 to Present* _____ federal _____ state _____ county local

depository for survey records

city, town _____ state _____

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The main portion of the house is three stories in height and is essentially Federal in style of architecture. There are two very heavy and thick front doors. The entryway has an inner vestibule with frosted glass panes opening to a large central highway with a mahogany stairway extending three flights in height. Off the hallway to the left (Eastern section) is the large formal parlor of the house, with a Victorian fireplace. In back of the parlor is a large room which served the Butler family as the dining room. This is now the main portion of an efficiency apartment, with a small kitchen and bath off the primary room. There are bay windows on the left hand side of the room.

Off the central hallway to the right (Western section) is a living room with marble fireplace. To the rear of the living room is a bath; behind the bath is a large room with was used as a billiard room by the Butler family. In back of the billiard room is a bypass hall with shelves. Through the bypass is a large kitchen and a small storage shed used at one time as the laundry. To the right of the kitchen is a large porch area with doors leading from the billiard room, the kitchen and the side entrance.

The second floor contains three apartments. The first apartment encompasses the entire front of the home facing Miner Street and contains a kitchen, bath, living room and bedroom. Toward the back of the house (Western portion), there is a small efficiency which contains two rooms - a living room with bay windows and a slate fireplace and another room with kitchen and bath. (At one time this efficiency served as the Congressman's study; the bay windows lead to the top of the side porch.) The third apartment on the second floor is located in the Eastern section and contains a bedroom, living room, kitchen and bath. There is a side entrance that contains a hallway and serves as a back entrance for the two second floor apartments located in the Eastern and Western sections of the rear.

There is a large storage room located between the second and third floors. The third floor runs the entire front width of the house facing Miner Street. This floor contains one large living room, a small kitchen with bath behind it, and two bedrooms.

There is a distinctive plaster ceiling molding in the parlor, the first floor East efficiency room, the billiard room, the living room, and the Congressman's study. Ornamental plaster ceiling medallions are located in the parlor and the living room, with a smaller medallion in the hall. The parlor contains a Victorian fireplace; there is a marble fireplace in the living room, and a slate fireplace in the study. Mirrors matching all of these fireplaces are in the possession of the owners, but not in place above the fireplaces.

Most of the rooms are twelve feet in height and there is intricate wood framing around each window. The windows themselves are more than one half foot in depth. The original random width flooring is present throughout most of the house. There are also interesting bathroom fixtures.

Finally, there is a large yard on either side of the house with a small garage in the rear facing the alley. The cellar contains distinctive structural arches, a wine cellar and a root cellar.

Discussions with two members of the Butler family who grew up in the house indicate that the building is essentially the same as they recall during their childhood, with no extensive alterations. The side porch was added by the Congressman sometime in the early 1900's. All the original shutters for the front and sides of the house are stored in the basement. They have to be scraped and repainted but they can be restored.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1840's

Builder/Architect Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Butler House is significant architecturally because it is one of the few fine examples of Federal style architecture in the area. It contains many distinctive architectural details including elaborate plaster ceiling molding in several rooms and beautiful plaster ceiling medallions in two main rooms. There is a finely carved Victorian fireplace mantle, and we have in our possession the original Victorian styled mirror. There are two unique brass crystal sconces and two brass chandeliers.

The Butler House is significant historically because it was the home of one of the most influential Pennsylvania Congressmen to serve in the House of Representatives. He was influential because of his length of service - 32 years - and because of his position as chairman of the Naval Affairs Committee. Many important guests were entertained in the house.

The Butler House is also significant from a military point of view because of the accomplishments of Congressman Butler in Congress with regard to the expansion and updating of the American Navy and also because Thomas Butler's son, Smedley Darlington Butler, grew up in the house and went on to become the highest ranking officer in the Marine Corps and the recipient of two Congressional medals, as well as other significant achievements.

The best description of the achievements of Thomas Stalker Butler is contained in the Congressional Record of March 14, 1929.

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DATE ENTERED

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

*THE BUTLER HOUSE
CHESTER COUNTY*

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER **9**

PAGE *1 of 1*

- Newspaper Files - Chester County Historical Society
Congressional Biographies p. 683
Genealogical and Personal Memoirs of Chester and Delaware Counties. Vol 1, p. 24, 25, pub.
1904, Lewis Publishing Co., New York.
Who Was Who in America, Vol 1, 1899-1942. p. 177
The Congressional Record, March 14, 1929
National Cyclopaedia of American Biography p. 536 - 537.
Biographical Directory of the American Congress 1774-1971. Washington D.C.: U.S.
Government Printing Office, 1971, p. 683.
Current Biography 1940 New York: The H.W. Wilson Co., p. 143
The Encyclopedia Americana International Edition Volume 5 New York: American
Corporation, p. 63.
Time Volume 36, p. 55, July 1, 1940
Newsweek, Volume 16, p. 47, July 1, 1940
The National Cyclopaedia of American Biography, Volume XXXVIII Ann Arbor, Michigan:
University Microfilms, 1967, pp. 536, 537*
- Archer, Jules. The Plot to Seize the White House. New York: Hawthorn Books, Inc. 1973
Thomas, Lowell. Old Gimlet Eye Adventures of Smedley D. Butler. New York: Farrar
And Rinehart, 1933*

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

*THE BUTLER HOUSE
CHESTER COUNTY*

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

10

PAGE

1 of 1

ALL THAT CERTAIN brick Messuage and Lot of land Situate on the South side of Miner Street between New and Darlington Streets, in the Borough of West Chester, Chester County, Pennsylvania, bounded and described as follows, to wit:

BEGINNING at a post on the South side of Miner Street, a corner of land late of Martin Darlington; thence by said land Southwardly at right angles with Miner Street 145 feet to a public alley; thence along said alley Eastwardly 135 feet to a corner of land late of Cloyd R. Bandwin; thence by said land Northwardly 145 feet to the south side of said Miner Street; thence Westwardly along said Miner Street 135 feet to the place of beginning.

CONTAINING 19575 square feet of land, more or less.

EXCEPTING THEREOUT AND THEREFROM ALL THAT CERTAIN Lot or piece of ground which Samuel C. Hodge, Widower, by Deed dated April 17, 1941, and recorded in Deed Book V 20 Vol. 493, page 187, conveyed unto Cloyd R. Baldwin and Gertrude C. Baldwin, his wife, as follows, to wit:

ALL THAT CERTAIN strip or piece of land situate in the Borough of West Chester aforesaid, bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at a point in the South line of Miner Street at a corner of other land of the grantees; thence southwardly at right angles with Miner Street 145 feet to a public alley thence Westwardly along said Alley 2 feet to a corner of other land of the said Samuel C. Hodge; thence along said land Northwardly 145 feet to the said south line of Miner Street; thence Eastwardly on said Miner Street 2 feet to the place of beginning. Said tract of land being 2 feet in front on said Miner Street and extending Southwardly between parallel strai ght lines at right angles with said Miner Street 145 feet to the said public alley.

CONTAINING 290 square feet of land, more or less.

BEING the same premises which Robson B. Dunwoody, Robert A. Lorgus and Virginia R. Lorgus, Co-Partners trading as Brookmeadow Associates, a Partnership by Indenture bearing the date the 1st day of December, A.D., 1977 and duly recorded the 2nd day of December, A.D., 1977 at West Chester in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for Chester County, Pennsylvania in Deed Book C-52 Page 600 granted and conveyed unto Nathan Shmukler and Joann Shmukler, his wife, in fee.

9. Major Bibliographical References

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Approximately 19285 sq. ft.

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UMT References

A	1 8	4 4 8 9 9 0	4 4 2 2 1 1 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

D			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

E			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

F			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

G			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

H			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal boundary description and justification

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Doris E. Sands

organization _____

date January 22, 1980

street & number 228 West Miner Street

telephone 215-692-4289

city or town West Chester

state Pennsylvania 19380

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Ed Weintraub, Director

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date _____

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date _____

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date _____

Chief of Registration