

Richard Butler & Frederic Auguste Bartholdi

"**Richard Butler**, a hardworking businessman from New York travelled to what was known as West Bloomingdale and bought into an existing rubber factory. In 1879, he became the president of the Rubber Comb and Jewelry Company (later named the Butler Hard Rubber Company).

In 1881, a post office was built and named "Butler" to honor Richard Butler, whose improvements to the Rubber Mill caused the extensive growth of the town. Shortly after, the existing railroad stop has its name changed to the Butler Railroad Station.

The expanding hard rubber factory drew in hundreds of workers, and many of them decided to live and build in this one-time vacation spot. Roads were laid out, homes, stores, a hotel and a public hall were built and land was donated by **Richard Butler** for the Butler Methodist Church, Saint Anthony's Church and to the Board of Education. Legislature took notice of the expansion and separated it from Pequannock by making it a Borough on March 13, 1901."

- "Richard Butler was a good friend of Frederic August Bartholdi, the designer and builder of the Statue of Liberty.
- The Richard Butler Middle School raised enough money to help construct the entire base of the Statue of Liberty.
- Richard Butler was one of the founders of the Metropolitan Museum of Art."(<https://www.butlerborough.com/>)

American Committee of the Statue of Liberty correspondence, 1881-1901

"The American Committee of the Statue of Liberty was an ad hoc organization formed to raise financial support for the siting and erection in New York harbor of **Auguste Bartholdi's** Statue of Liberty Enlightening the World. Bartholdi gave **Richard Butler**, secretary of the Committee, power of attorney in the United States to handle his affairs regarding the statue. Collection consists of letters, chiefly from Bartholdi to Butler, relating to the design, construction, and financing of the statue and its pedestal. Bartholdi's letters up to 1885 are in French, and thereafter mostly in English. Other correspondents include Joseph Pulitzer, editor of the New York World; Levi P. Morton, Governor of New York State, who accepted the statue on behalf of the people of the United States; Senator William H. Evarts, chairman of the Committee Spaulding, treasurer of the Committee."

(<https://archives.nypl.org/controlaccess/914?term=Butler,%20Richard>)