

May 30, 1894 – CHESTER TIMES

DISPUTED TITLE – The Ownership of Norwood Park In Question – Taken To Court – The Case Will Be Settled by Judge Clayton – The Facts in the Case

The question of the rightful ownership of the tract of land known as Norwood Park, Norwood, will now be settled by the Court.

As stated in the TIMES some time ago this tract of land was dedicated to the village of Norwood by John Cochran of Chester, as a park, to be known as Norwood Park. Mr. Cochran's estate at Norwood was subsequently sold at Sheriff Sale and was purchased by George Broomall, Esq., of Media, and it is stated by some that Norwood Park was included in the purchase. At any rate William Calhoun, of Norwood, claims to have purchased the park from Mr. Broomall and to have the title secured by the Delaware County Title, Trust and Safe Deposit Company. Recently he sold a lot situated on the park tract, to the trustees of the Norwood P.E. Church, whereon they proposed to erect a church edifice.

Their title to the Park was strenuously denied and objected to by the Borough Council, and the two bodies have been watching each other for some time, ready to litigate the case.

The trustees of the church, however, awarded the contract to Frederick Myers, of Norwood, and yesterday morning he broke ground for the erection of the Church.

No sooner was this done, that John Austin, chairman of the Highway Committee, went to Mr. Myers and requested him to cease operations. The latter refused to do so, and told Mr. Austin of his contract with the trustees to build the church.

Mr. Austin was prepared for the emergency, however, and having consulted E.P. Bliss, Esq., the borough solicitor, he instructed Constable Batty to arrest Mr. Myers.

This was done and the case was heard before 'Squire Pike, at Prospect, about 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

THE CHARGE – The charge against Mr. Myers was that he did, "On the 29th of May, 1894, commit and maintain a public nuisance by digging up and obstructing a portion of the highway within the said borough, known as 'Norwood Park', for the purpose of erecting a building thereon."

In his evidence, Mr. Myers said that he thought he was doing right and that the chairman of the Highway Committee had no right to stop him, as he had entered into a contract with the trustees of the said church to erect their building.

'Squire Pike' said the only possible way for the matter to be settled was by the Court, and he therefore held Mr. Myers in his own recognizances in the sum of \$200 to appear at the term of the Court.

The best of feeling prevailed during the hearing, and it was thought that this course was the best and quickest way to settle the difficulty as both Mr. Calhoun and the Borough Council think they have a clear title to the possession of Norwood Park.