

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME BOUNDARY MARKERS ALONG THE MASON-DIXON LINE (THEMATIC GROUP)

HISTORIC (Mason and Dixon's) West Line, 44th Mile Stone

AND/OR COMMON

Mason-Dixon Line: Milestone No. 44 (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 47)

2 LOCATION (not for publication)STREET & NUMBER off west side of Mason-Dixon Drive, between Harris Mill Road (MD)
and T-542 (PA)

CITY, TOWN

Gorsuch Mills

 VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

MD: 2 / PA: 19

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

MD: Baltimore / PA: York

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS N/A	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input 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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: state boundary marker

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY (monument only)

NAME State of Maryland/ Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

(see Thematic Group NR nomination form)

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION N/A

(see surrounding property ownership list)

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (also see Thematic Group NR nomination form)

TITLE Baltimore County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

BA-1563 entered 3/8/79

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Baltimore County Office of Planning, County Courts Building

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE
Maryland

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" 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

Milestone No. 44(47) marks Mason and Dixon's 44th horizontal mile west of the initial stone at the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning point of their West Line. It is one of 10 original milestones still standing along the present Baltimore/York county boundary, and is one of the 111 original milestones still standing along the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. The site was preliminarily surveyed in 1765, and monumented in 1766, where it remains to this day, although reset in 1902 more securely by the 1900-03 Resurvey party.

The area here is rolling and still predominantly farmland interspersed with woods, but with increasing suburban residential development taking place along the north (Pennsylvania) side of the boundary. The site is ^{comparatively protected} located about 1.9 miles northwest of the small crossroads settlement of Gorsuch Mills, MD; about 2 1/4 miles southwest of the town of Stewartstown, PA; about 900' west of the road, in a scraggly east-west barbed wire fencerow between two cultivated but unfenced fields. It cannot be seen from the road, nor easily from nearby, in any season.

The monument, as with all original Mason and Dixon West Line monuments, was an embellished squared oolitic limestone post with a low pyramidal top and rough-cut base, quarried and carved in England. Originally set to stand about 3' above ground, No. 44(47) was reset at the time of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary to stand about 1 1/2' above ground and secured below ground by a concrete collar. It presently stands about 1' above ground, is in place, still firmly set, and in excellent condition. The north side, facing Pennsylvania, measures about 11 1/4" wide by about 12 1/2" ^{high} above ground; the letter P and all embellishments are quite clear and essentially intact. The east side measures about 11 1/4" wide by about 12 3/4" high above ground; most fluting and margins remain. The south side, facing Maryland, measures about 11 1/4" wide by about 10 1/2" high above ground; the letter M and all embellishments are quite clear and essentially intact; The west side measures about 11 1/4" wide by about 10" high above ground; most fluting and margins remain. The top planes and apex are quite clear, with a low rise of about 1"; all top corners and edges are nicked with small chips and the surface somewhat weatherworn.

(For additional descriptions of the original Mason and Dixon monuments and the 1900-03 Resurvey method of resetting these, see the Thematic Group NR nominati form.)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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 type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) boundary surveying
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1766 (reset 1902) ~~BOUNDARY ARCHITECTURE~~ Charles Mason & Jeremiah Dixon SURVEYORS

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (For a statement of significance of the Baltimore/York county marker series, see capsule summary sheet. For a statement of significance of the entire West Line survey and markers, see the Thematic Group NR nomination form.)

Milestone No. 44(47) is significant primarily as one of the 111 original Mason and Dixon milestones still standing along the West Line, commonly known since Civil War times as the Mason-Dixon Line, notable for its historical impact and innovative boundary survey methods. The site was surveyed and preliminarily marked in 1765, and monumented the following year, where it remains to this day, although reset more securely in 1902 during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. Individually, and as one of 10 original milestones marking the present Baltimore/York county boundary, No. 44(47) is also of significance locally as one of a diminishing number of objects and structures with an identifiable relationship to our colonial heritage.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (see Thematic Group NR nomination form, Item 8)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(see National Register thematic group nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATAACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION N/A

UTM:18.36126.439783

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE **Maryland** COUNTY **Baltimore**STATE **Pennsylvania** COUNTY **York****11 FORM PREPARED BY**NAME / TITLE **Alice Martin (volunteer historic sites surveyor)**

ORGANIZATION	DATE
Maryland Historical Trust/Maryland Geological Survey	12/9/79 (site surveyed)
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
14308 Mount Avenue	301/472-2128
CITY OR TOWN	STATE
Phoenix	Maryland 21131

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



MHT

BA-1563

MASON-DIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE 44 (47)
NW CORNER (P/-)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN (1979.12.15A) 12/9/79

1979.12



MHT

MASON & DIXON WEST LINE; MILESTONE 44 (47)
SW CORNER (-/M)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 12/9/79 (1979.12.11A)