

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, 47th Mile Stone

AND/OR COMMON

Mason-Dixon Line: Milestone No. 47 (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 50)

2 LOCATION (not for publication)

STREET & NUMBER at north edge of Orwig Road, between Heathcote Road, MD and Keller Road, MD/T-427, PA

CITY, TOWN

Maryland Line VICINITY OFCONGRESSIONAL 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	<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 checked="" 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)

Liber #:

Folio #:

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

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-1566 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Milestone No. 47(50) marks Mason and Dixon's 47th horizontal mile west of the initial stone at the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning point of their West Line. It is one of 12 monuments now marking the Baltimore/York county boundary; was originally set in 1766 and remains at its original site, though reset more securely in 1902 during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary.

The area here has remained rural, mostly farms, until recently subdivided for residential development. The site is about 1 1/4 miles southeast of the town of New Freedom, PA; about 1 1/2 miles northwest of the town of Maryland Line, MD; within easy reach of I-83 to the east. It is at the north edge of Orwig Road, a narrow blacktop country road suddenly busy with increasing traffic, and though somewhat protected by a metal hazard post within about 1' to the east, is in a highly vulnerable spot, greatly endangered by vehicular traffic, road maintenance machinery and souvenir chippers.

The monument, presumably originally set to stand about 3' above ground, was reset to stand about 1 1/2' and was surrounded by a concrete collar below ground. It remains in place, firmly set, though ^{about 1' above ground and} only in fair condition, having been chipped over all surfaces, especially on the south side and top corners and edges. It measures about 11 1/4" wide by about 13" high above ground on the north side facing Pennsylvania; the letter P is clear, but little else of the embellishments remains. The east side measures 12 1/4" wide by about 11 1/2" high above ground; most fluting but no margins remain. The south side facing Maryland (and Orwig Road) measures about 11 1/4" wide by about 11" high above ground; the letter M is clear but chipped, as is the whole face. The west side measures about 12 1/4" wide by about 12 1/2" high above ground; some fluting but no margins remain. The top planes and patches of fluting remain, but badly chipped and weathered.

(for additional descriptions of the original Mason and Dixon monuments and 1900-03 Resurvey method of resetting, see the Thematic Group NR nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
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)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		boundary surveying

SPECIFIC DATES **1766 (reset 1902)** ~~AND OTHER ARCHITECT~~ **Charles Mason & Jeremiah Dixon**
~~SURVEYORS~~

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (for statement of significance and history of the entire survey, see the Thematic Group National Register nomination form, Item 8)

Milestone No. 47(50) 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 in 1902 during 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. 47(50) is also of local significance 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)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See National Register thematic group nomination form

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION N/A

UTM: 18.35638.439792

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

Mason-Dixon project:
Alice Martin (volunteer historic sites surveyor)

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Geological Survey/Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

1/19/80 (site surveyed)

STREET & NUMBER

14308 Mount Avenue

TELEPHONE

301/472-2128

CITY OR TOWN

Phoenix

STATE

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



47

MHT

BA-1566

MASON & DIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE 47 (50)
NE CORNER (-10)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 1/19/80 (1980-2, 5)



MHT

BA-1566

MASON & DIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE 47 (50)
SW CORNER (-1M)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 1/19/80 (1980.2. 3)