

CE-1005
New Munster Stone
Near Elkton
Private

1792

The New Munster Stone was set in place in 1792 to replace the earlier poplar tree which was used in the beginning reference for the New Munster Tract that was granted to Edmund O'Dwyer in 1683. The following excerpt was taken from Maryland's Rent Rolls,

" all that tract of parcell of land called New Munster lyeing in Cecill County on the maine fresh of Elk Rôver and on both sides of the said fresh beginning at a marked poplar on a high bank on the west side of the maine fresh and about a pistole shott to the northward of the mouth of a rivulet called the Shure..." (NS B/201)

The granting of this large tract to a non-resident and other Irishmen appears to have been a strategic move by Lord Calvert to protect unsettled and disputed lands from Penn's settlers moving south.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

CE-1005

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

File 497

1 NAME

HISTORIC

MAGI # 0810055234

New Munster Stone
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

In the woods on the property of Elizabeth Booth
CITY, TOWN CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Elkton * VICINITY OF 1
STATE COUNTY

Maryland Cecil

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" 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 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 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

Elizabeth Booth

Telephone #: 398-1843

STREET & NUMBER

192 Booth Road

CITY, TOWN

Elkton

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
Maryland 21921

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

Liber #: RRC 14/445

Folio #: RRC 25/536

STREET & NUMBER

Cecil County Copurhtouse

CITY, TOWN

Elkton

STATE
Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CE-1005

CONDITION

- EXCELLENT
- GOOD
- FAIR
- DETERIORATED
- RUINS
- UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

- UNALTERED
- ALTERED

CHECK ONE

- ORIGINAL SITE
- MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

CE-1005

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 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 type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | | |

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

PAUL B. Touart

ORGANIZATION

Cecil County Committee

DATE

11/02/81

STREET & NUMBER

Cecil County Courthouse

TELEPHONE

398-0200

CITY OR TOWN

Elkton

STATE

Maryland

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

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

File 497

1 NAME

HISTORIC

New Munster Stone

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

100' ~~ft~~ from the west side of the Big Elk River

CITY, TOWN

Elkton

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Cecil

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> 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 none - Woodlands

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. ~~James~~ Elizabeth E. Booth

Telephone #: 398-1843

STREET & NUMBER

Booth Road

CITY, TOWN

Elkton

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21921

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

~~Book~~ Clerk of the Circuit Court

Liber #: RRC 14
Folio #: 455

STREET & NUMBER

Cecil County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Elkton

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

New Munster Stone Description

The New Munster Stone was set in place in 1792 to replace an earlier poplar tree that was used as the beginning reference for the New Munster Tract that was granted in 1683 to Edmund O'Dwyer. The stone is located on the steep west bank of the Big Elk Creek and two hundred yards north of what is presently called Gramies Run.

The boundary marker consists of two granite slabs set together with a roughly shaped pointed head and worn vertical surfaces. Inscriptions are found on each side; some more legible than others. The north side, which faces the area known as New Munster, has the capital initials N M for "New Munster." Directly below are the capital letters N I for "New Ireland." The east side has the capital letter B for "Beginning." The south side of the marker is not as smooth but the capital letters W S are most distinct at the base of the exposed stone. They stand for Wallace's Scrawl which was a tract to the south of New Munster that was granted in 1737. It was inherited by Matthew Wallace in 1792 and question concerning the exact boundary arose. The once healthy poplar tree had deteriorated and a new marker was needed. A boundary commission was formed and the stone set to establish the new beginning point. The most illegible markings are those of the west side. Faint outlines can be seen of the original survey date of 1683.

The stone has undoubtedly settled through the years and ^{is} not protruding as high as it may have at one time. It seems probable that for more accurate surveys the stone would have been standing higher and therefore closer to a surveyor's transit.

Statement of Significance

The New Munster Stone is the last boundary marker in situ for the extensive 6000 acre New Munster Tract that was granted to Edmond O'Dwyer and other Irishmen in 1683 and laid out by George Talbot, then Surveyor General of Maryland. The following excerpt is found in Maryland Rent Rolls at the Hall of Records.

"all that tract or parcell of land called New Munster lyeing in Cecill County on the maine fresh of Elk River and on both sides of the said fresh beginning at a marked poplar on a high bank on the west side of the maine fresh and about a pistole shott to the northward of the mouth of a rivlet called the Shure..." (NS B/201)

The granting of this large tract of land to a non-resident and other Irishmen appears to have been a strategic move by Lord Calvert to protect his original grant from encroachments by William Penn. Mentioned in George Talbot's survey were, "tenures granted to the 'takers up' of the land should be at their election, 'leasees for one and thirty years' or firm grants to them and their heirs forever."² Other non-residents owned the property after Edmond O'Dwyer and it was not until 1714 that Thomas Stevenson of Bucks County, Pa. sold approximately 1150 acres to a company of men including Matthew Wallace, yeoman, James Alexander, farmer, Arthur Alexander, farmer, and David Alexander, tanner.³ This transfer of land in 1714 was exactly thirty-one years after the original grant in 1683. The conveyance mentions that Matthew Wallace and co. had, "for some years last past improved and possessed said tract and divided same among themselves..."⁴ It seems very probable that this company of men

Statement of Significance continued

2

were the original Scotch-Irish settlers that occupied and protected the New Munster tract and then offered the property after the original thirty-one year lease expired.

These facts substantiate the premise that the New Munster Tract was a significant Scotch-Irish settlement in the 17th century and according to Henry Jones Ford's work, The Scotch Irish in America, "the earliest definitely recorded."⁵ The Scotch-Irish had proved to be sturdy and reliable settlers in other Maryland buffer zones, and thus the logical people to occupy contested territory between Maryland and Pennsylvania.

The early lot ownership has been partially defined on a modern U.S.G.S. map by Lon W. Lincoln, a researcher from Georgia in 1959. He acquired deeds dating back to 1718 and assembled names with their specific lot boundaries. (SEE MAP)

As mentioned in the description the present stone did not play in the early boundary surveys but was set in place in 1792 when the original poplar tree had ¹²⁸deteriorated. A boundary commission was formed to reestablish the boundary of the New Munster Tract and to define its relation to Matthew Wallace's recently inherited Wallace's Scrawl directly south.

"William Kilgore aged about 55 years deposeth and saith that the place now shewn to the commissioners is the place where stood a poplar tree which tree being now gone at which place a stone is set marked N M on north side W S on south side..." (JB 1/399-403)⁶

The stone has naturally remained as a fixed point for subsequent surveys of nearby property. Twelve acres was sold

Statement of Significance

3

to Jacob Markey by Jethro and Elizabeth McCullough in 1852 (HHM 1/9) and reference to the stone appears in the boundary description,

"... beginning for the same at a large stone set in the ground on the west bank of Big Elk Creek being the beginning of a large tract of land called "New Munster..."

The stone is presently located in the midst of a 40 to 50 year old hardwood forest and owned by Elizabeth E. Booth.
(RRC 14/445)

Footnotes for Significance

1
Maryland Hall of Records, George Talbot survey (Liber
NS B/201)

2
Carl McKenrick, Maryland Historical Magazine June 1940
p. 152.

3
McKenrick, p. 152.

4
McKenrick, p. 153.

5
Henry Jones Ford, Scotch Irish in America Princeton
1915 p. 181.

6
Cecil County Land Records
JB 1/399-403 March 7, 1792
Boundary commission 1759 Volume 2/79-80
Boundary commission 1791 JB 1/278-282

Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at the northwest corner of the junction of Gramiés Run and the Big Elk Creek and running directly north along the west bank of said creek for about 210' to a point along said creek and thence directly west for about 110' to the edge of the woods and from there south 210' to a point along run and along said run for approximately 110' to the place of beginning and forming a half acre rectangle.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

ENCLOSED

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .537 ACRES

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

ENCLOSED

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

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Paul B. Touart Historic Sites Surveyor

ELIZABETH E. BOOTH - HISTORY

ORGANIZATION

Cecil County Committee

DATE

8/27/79

STREET & NUMBER

Cecil County Courthouse

TELEPHONE

398-7568

CITY OR TOWN

Elkton

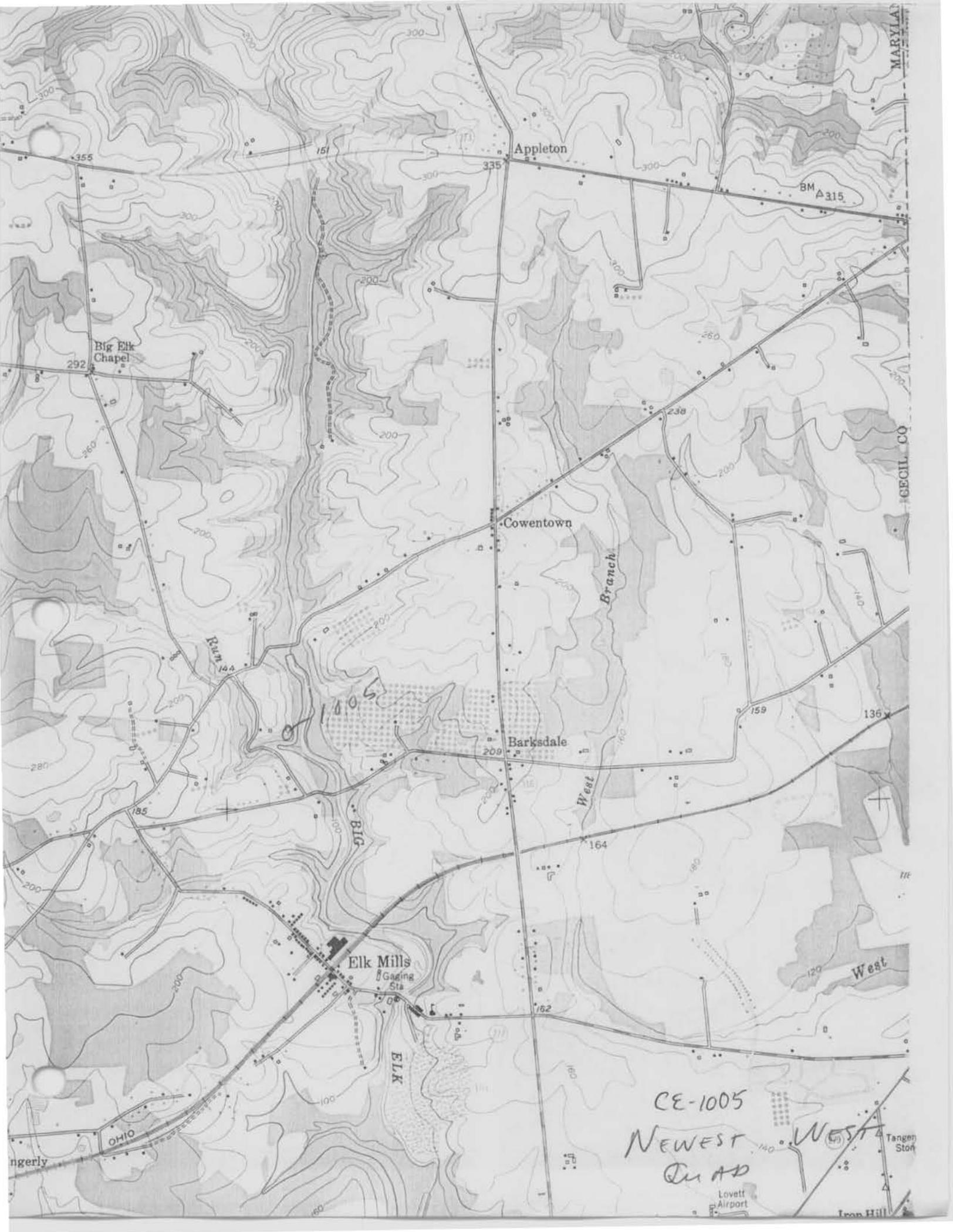
STATE

Maryland 21921

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MARYLAND

Appleton

BM A 315

Big Elk Chapel

Cowentown

Branch

Run

Barksdale

Elk Mills

Gaging Sta

ELK

CE-1005

NEWEST

QUAD

WEST

Lovett Airport

Tangen Station

Iron Hill

OHIO

ngerly



2.

1. New Munster stone

4. Aug. 1979

5. Booth.

6. E side

Numerals 1683

8/27/79

FAINT OUTLINE OF "8" AND "3"
ON RIGHT HALF OF STONE
ABOUT MIDWAY AND EVEN
FAINTER "1" AND "6" ON
LEFT HALF ABOUT MIDWAY

Elizabeth E. Booth



5.

1. Crew Munster stone

4. Aug. 1979

5. Booth

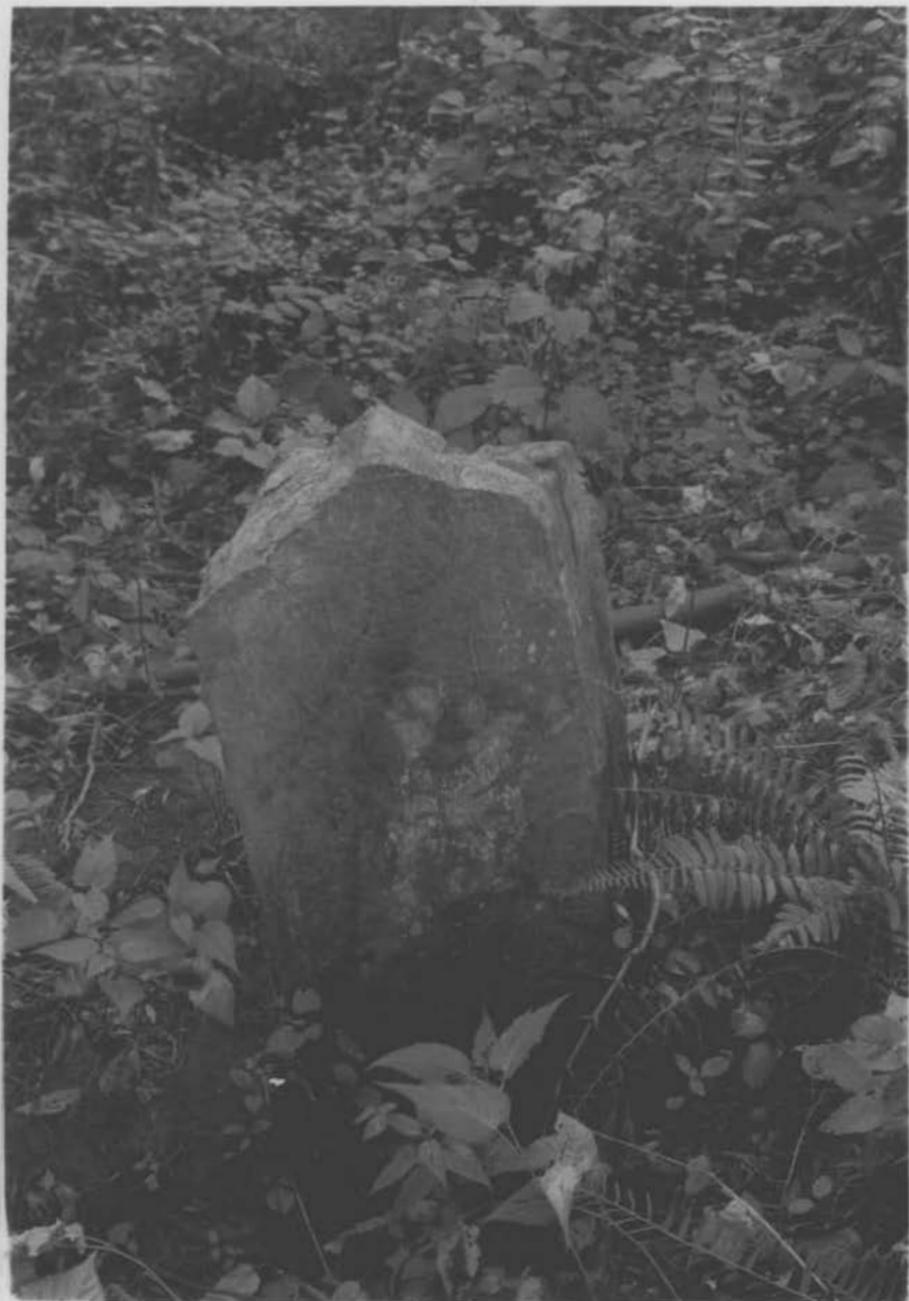
6. S side

letters WS = Wallace's Scrawl

8/27/79

ON THE BOTTOM OF STONE

Elizabeth E. Booth



3.

I New Munster stone

4. Aug. 1979

5. Booth

6. N side

letters N M = New Munster

N I = New Ireland

8/27/79

N M ALONG TOP

N I midway

Elizabeth E. Booth



1. New Munster Stone
2. Elkton, Md.
3. Elizabeth Booth
4. Mar. 1978
5. Booth - 192 Booth Rd.
Elkton, Md.
6. E side
7. # 1

8/27/79

Elizabeth E. Booth



4.

1. New Munster stone

4. Aug. 1979

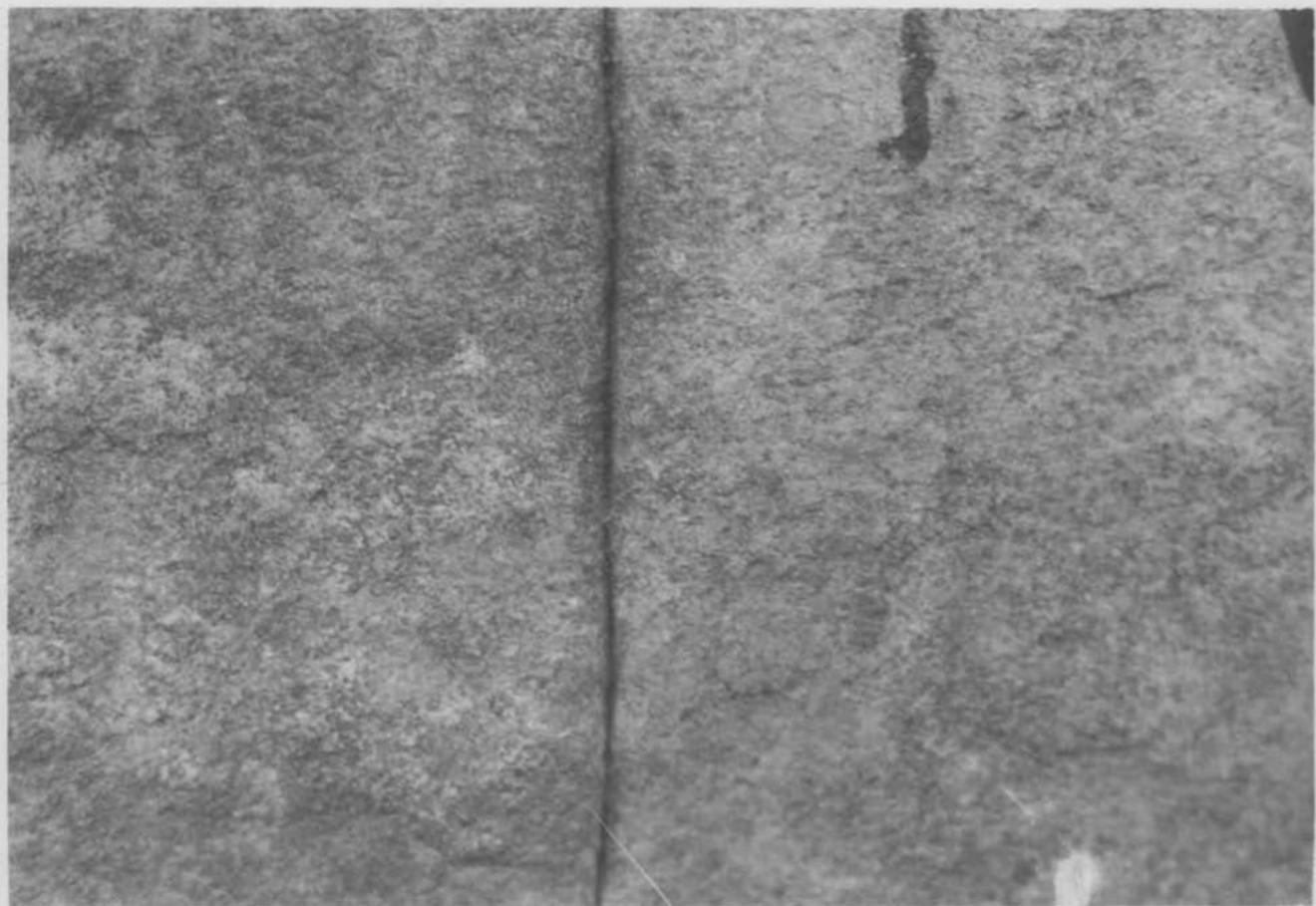
5. Booth

6. W side

letter

B = Beginning MIDWAY DOWN
THE RIGHT HALF FAINT BUT
8/27/79 VISIBLE

Elizabeth C. Woolfe



2a

N.M. Stone

close-up of \mathbb{R} scale

9/3/79

Elizabeth E. Booth