

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

MAGI:

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, 12th Mile Stone

AND/OR COMMON  
Mason-Dixon Line: Milestone No. 12 (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 13)

**2 LOCATION** (not for publication)

STREET & NUMBER south side of Line Road

CITY, TOWN

Sylmar

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

MD: 1 / PA: 5

STATE

Pennsylvania

COUNTY

MD: Cecil / PA: Chester

**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 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; see Thematic Group NR nomination form)

NAME State of Pennsylvania/Commonwealth of Pennsylvania 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 Cecil County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE CE-1019 entered 3/80

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN Annapolis

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED (partially)		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Milestone No. 12(13) marks Mason and Dixon's 12th horizontal mile west of the initial stone at the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning point of their West Line. It is an original milestone of 1766 at an original site preliminarily surveyed in 1765, and is one of 17 original milestones still standing along the present Cecil/Chester and Lancaster county boundary.

The area here is still predominantly rural, rolling farmland interspersed with deciduous woodlands, sparsely settled. The site is located within Election District VI of Cecil County/West Nottingham Township of Chester County; about ½ mile due east of Sylmar, PA/MD, a small scattered settlement. It is about 1200' west of Wilson Road, MD/T-312; PA, <sup>on the north edge of a woods;</sup> /on the south side of Line Road (PA T-301) in the road berm about 2' above grade level, partially unexposed from road maintenance grading. It is obscure but can be seen from the road, all seasons, until it vanishes through neglect.

The monument, reset <sup>to about 1½' high</sup> in 1902 during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, now stands only about 4" above ground, partially unexposed, and unmarked in any official way amongst the road debris thrown up, particularly during recent regrading. At best, the visible portion is <sup>in</sup> comparatively fair condition: the letters P and M on the north and south sides are still discernible, but all fluting and margins are gone; all edges and corners have been chipped over time, particularly the top southwest corner; the top planes, <sup>fluting</sup> and apex are gone and in their place a rounded chipped top with a large depression in the center. All surfaces are very weatherworn.

(see Thematic Group NR nomination form for a description of the original Mason and Dixon monuments and the 1900-03 Resurvey method of resetting them)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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) boundary surveying
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1766 (reset 1902)

~~ENGINEER/ARCHITECT~~ Charles Mason & Jeremiah Dixon  
SURVEYORS

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

There are 24 original crownstones and 111 milestones of 1766-67 still standing along Mason and Dixon's West Line, set at mile intervals through mile No. 132(136), and including 12 added in 1902 beyond that point (3 crownstones, 9 milestones) at irregular intervals. Milestone No. 12(13) is primarily significant as one of this original series, which represents a boundary of national and state importance, not only for its symbolism at the time of the Civil War but for its settlement of provincial boundary disputes and innovative survey methods a century earlier. Individually, and as one of 17 original milestones within the present Cecil/Chester and Lancaster county boundary, it is also significant locally as one of the diminishing number of objects and structures visually identifiable with our colonial and Civil War heritage, until it disappears from neglect.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (see Thematic Group NR nomination form)

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CE-1019

(see Thematic Group NR 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: 18.41276.439714

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

STATE Maryland

COUNTY Cecil

STATE Pennsylvania

COUNTY Chester

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Alice Martin (volunteer, Mason-Dixon Line boundary marker surveyor)

ORGANIZATION Maryland Historical Trust/Maryland Geological Survey

DATE 4/7/80 (site surveyed by Jean Ewing)

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.

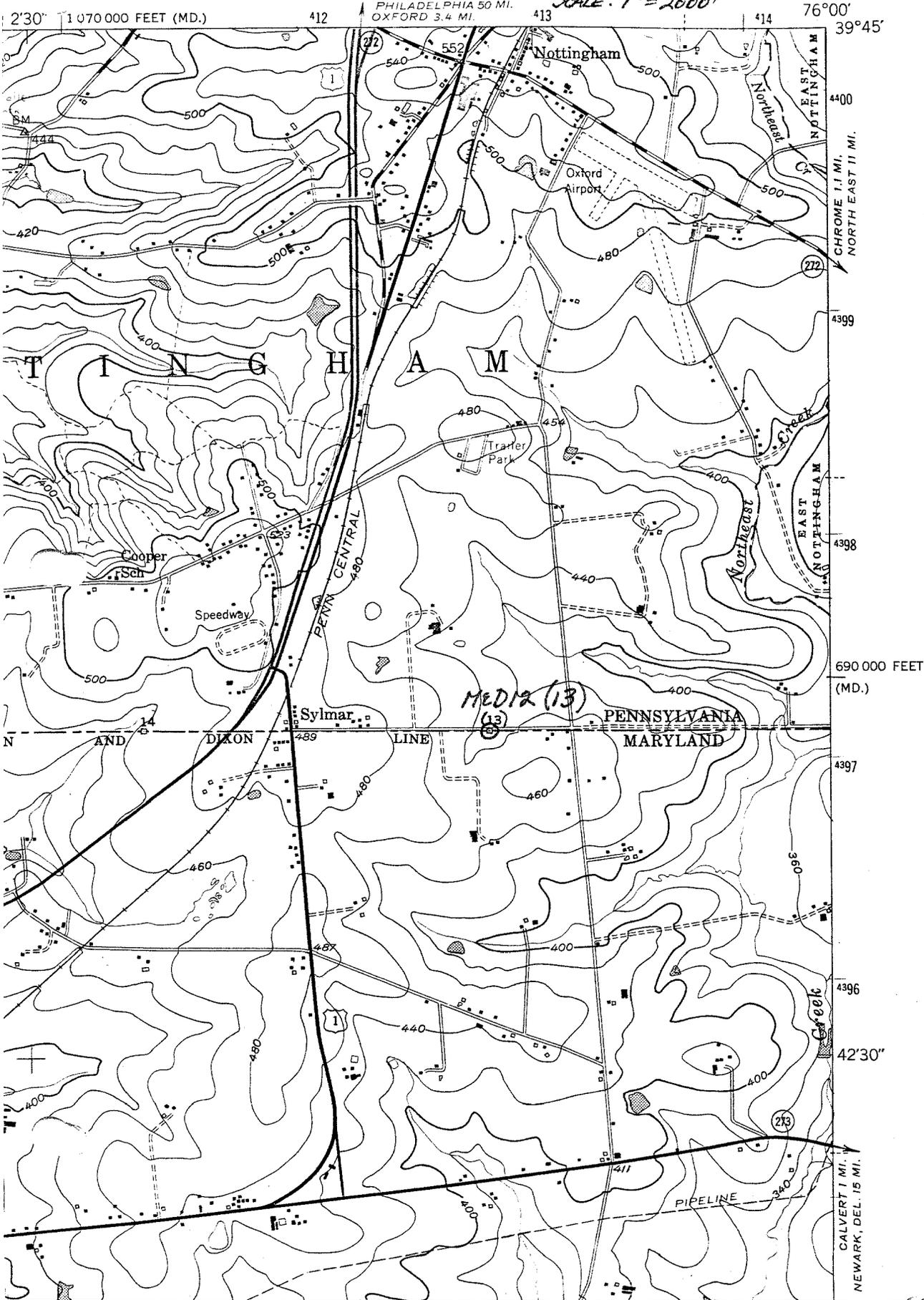
RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

CE-1019

# MASON & DIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE 12 (13)

RISING SUN QUADRANGLE  
MARYLAND-PENNSYLVANIA  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)  
1953 PHOTO REVISED 1970  
SCALE: 1" = 2000'

5863 IV SW  
(OXFORD)





M-D 12

CE-1019

Mason & Dixon west line <sup>1111E</sup> stone 12 (13)

NE corner

showing recent chip

JEAN  
Ewing photo 6/80 (Neg 11)



M-D 12

Mason = Dixon west line; <sup>MILE</sup> stone 12 (13)

SW corner

Stone submerged in bank of road

JEAN Fearing photo 6/80 (Neg 8)