

ABSTRACT

F-6-37

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. 88(91)
Blue Ridge Summit, Pennsylvania/Maryland vicinity
Public/private

1767 (reset 1902)

Milestone No. 88(91) is an original milestone of 1767, unaltered though in deteriorated condition, believed to be at its original site where reset/^{in 1902}at the time of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. It marks Mason and Dixon's 88th horizontal mile west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line, longest of the survey lines run and marked during their 1763-68 commission to define the boundary between the English provinces of Maryland and Pennsylvania. As with all original West Line monuments, this milestone was an embellished oolitic limestone post with a low pyramidal top, quarried and carved in England, said to have been originally about 12" square by about 4½' long, and cut to stand about 3' above ground, with the base left rough-cut for setting into the ground. The distinguishing decorative features were the vertical fluting with horizontally-fluted margins on all four sides and the Roman capital letters P on the north side facing Pennsylvania and M on the south side facing Maryland, each V-sunk in/a ^{the center of} plain shallow circle panel near the top. In 1902 this milestone was reset more securely, presumably to stand about 1½' above ground. It now stands about 14" high and measures about 11¼" square; is firmly in place but scarcely recognizable with its dome-shape, so badly chipped and weathered that most ^{of both letters and other} embellishments are gone, as well as all surfaces misshapen. Nevertheless, No. 88(91) is significant on the national and state levels as one of the series of 135 original monuments still defining the West Line, the boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. Locally, as one of 14 original monuments marking the present Frederick/Adams-Franklin county boundary (2 crownstones; 12 milestones), it is also significant as one of a diminishing number of objects and structures with a visually identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Magi No.

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, 88th Mile Stone

AND/OR COMMON

Mason-Dixon Line: Milestone No. 88 (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 91)

2 LOCATION (not for publication)

STREET & NUMBER off south side of Jacobs Church Road (T-301)

CITY, TOWN

Blue Ridge Summit VICINITY OF **X**

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

MD: 6 / PA: 19

STATE

Pennsylvania

COUNTY

MD: Frederick / PA: Adams

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	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	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<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 Maryland/Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

 VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION (see Thematic Group NR nomination form and 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

Frederick County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

F-6-37 entered 6/23/81

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

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 checked="" 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 1767 (reset 1902) ~~BUCKLES/KNOX/DIXON~~ Charles Mason & Jeremiah Dixon
SURVEYORS

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Milestone No. 88(91) is significant on the national and state levels primarily as one of a series of 135 original Mason and Dixon monuments still defining their 230.228-mile West Line, the boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. The site was preliminarily surveyed in 1765 and monumented two years later, where it remains, although reset more securely in 1902 during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. Locally, as one of 14 original monuments marking the present Frederick/Adams-Franklin county boundary (2 crownstones; 12 milestones), No. 88(91) is also significant as one of a diminishing number of objects and structures with a visually identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATAACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

Quadrangle name: Blue Ridge Summit (Maryland-Pennsylvania), USGS 7.5 minute series (topographic), scale 1:24000

UTM reference: zone 18, easting 290??, northing 4399?? (survey point needs to be reestablished)

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION N/A

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

STATE Maryland COUNTY Frederick

STATE Pennsylvania COUNTY Adams

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Alice Martin (volunteer, Mason and Dixon's West Line boundary marker surveyor)

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust & Maryland Geological Survey

DATE

3/15/81 (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



F-6-37

MAIN DIXON WEST LINE MILESTONE PR
SE CORNER (57-1)

POST 202 (MOUNTAIN) E 57-1 (57-1-14)



F-6-37

40-ONE DASHED LINE: MILESTONE 85 (91)
UNLINED (92)

90-ONE DASHED LINE: MILESTONE 85 (91)
UNLINED (92)