

ABSTRACT

G-IB-183

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. ---(185) 1767 (survey); 1902 (monument)

Finzel, Maryland vicinity

Public/private

Milestone No. ---(185), on a ridge west of Big Piney Run, marks a new point a little over 170 miles west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of Mason and Dixon's 230.228-mile West Line. It is a very plain dressed marble post with a low pyramidal top, quarried and carved in Cockeysville, Maryland; is in excellent condition, unaltered, firmly set; measures 10 inches square by about 21 inches high above ground; and is embellished only by the capital letter P on the north side, <sup>facing Pennsylvania</sup> M on the south side facing Maryland, the year 1767 on the east side (when this area was originally surveyed and marked), and 1902 on the west side (when this new monument was added to the Line). On the national and state levels, No. ---(185) is significant primarily as one of the thematic group series of some 248 markers still visually defining the West Line, the provincial boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. Locally, as one of 42 markers along the present Garrett/Somerset-Fayette county boundary, it is also significant symbolically for its identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

## 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

AND/OR COMMON

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. --- (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 185)

**2 LOCATION** (not for publication)

STREET &amp; NUMBER off the south side of T-307

CITY, TOWN

Finzel

 VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

MD: 6 / PA: 12

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

MD: Garrett / PA: Somerset

**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	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<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
	<b>X not applicable</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: <b>state boundary marker</b>

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY** (monument only; see Thematic Group NR nomination form and surrounding property ownership list)

NAME

State of Maryland/Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE, zip code

VICINITY OF

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION** (see Thematic Group NR nomination form and surrounding property ownership list)COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

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

TITLE Garrett County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE G-IB-183 entered 9/4/81

 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE  
Maryland 21401

**7 DESCRIPTION**

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input 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		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> additional site ( 2)

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Milestone No. ---(185) marks a new point on Mason and Dixon's West Line a little over 170 miles west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line. It was a new dressed Cockeysville marble post with a low pyramidal top when added to the Line in 1902 during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary; is in excellent condition, unaltered, firmly in place; measures 10 inches square by about 21 inches high above ground; and is embellished only by the capital letter P on the north side facing Pennsylvania, M on the south side facing Maryland, the year 1767 on the east side (when/<sup>this area was</sup>originally surveyed and marked), and 1902 on the west side.

The area here is a high, small, unnamed ridge (elevation about 2800 feet), cleared and farmed to the north, densely wooded to the south, and very sparsely settled. The site is within Election District 9 of Garrett County, MD, and Greenville Township, PA; about 4850 feet west of the preceding monument, No. ---(184); about 2 1/4 miles southwest of the settlement of Pocahontas, PA; about 2 1/2 miles west-northwest of the small village of Finzel, MD; about 1100 feet west of Piney Creek (Big Pine Run); a little east of the middle of the broad ridge; about 1800 feet south of T-307; about 10 feet south of the new pipeline, about 1 foot north of an old east-west barbed wire fence separating the cornfield (on the north) and a hardwood-hemlock woods (on the south). It cannot be seen from any road, but easily from nearby, and is protected by its proximity to the fencing.

The monument, identical to 65 other monuments of 1902 set west of Sideling Hill to visually reestablish the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, was quarried and carved in Cockeysville, MD, of a white, fine-grained marble called saccharoidal dolomite or magnesian limestone; was originally cut about 10 inches square by about 4 1/2 feet long, intended for setting about 1 1/2 feet above ground with the remaining 3 feet for setting into the ground, thus eliminating the need for a concrete foundation. The letters and numbers are blocky, V-sunk without serifs, and are horizontally aligned as a band around the stone near the top. These, and the top planes and apex are all clear and intact, although there are small chips at the top corners and along the vertical edges.

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form for descriptions of the various kinds of monuments set by the 1900-03 Resurvey as additions and replacements along the West Line)  
 CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**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"/> X-1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> __ART	<input type="checkbox"/> __ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> __MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> __THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X-1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> __COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X-EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> __PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> __TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X-1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> __COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> __INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X-POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X-OTHER (SPECIFY) boundary surveying
		<input type="checkbox"/> __INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1767 (area originally surveyed)  
1902 (monument) ~~and Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon~~  
SURVEYORS

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Milestone No. ---(185) is significant on the national and state levels primarily as one of the thematic group series of some 248 markers still visually defining Mason and Dixon's West Line, the 230.228-mile provincial boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. This part of the Line was <sup>originally</sup> surveyed and marked <sup>in 1767</sup> by cairns and additional wood posts, and the new Cockeysville marble monument added to the Line in 1902 during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. Locally, as one of the 42 markers along the present Garrett/Somerset-Fayette county boundary, No. ---(185) is also significant symbolically for its identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

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

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acreQuadrangle name: Frostburg (Maryland-Pennsylvania), USGS 7.5 minute series  
(topographic), 1949 photorev. 1974, scale 1:24000

UTM reference: zone 17, easting 67189, northing 439868

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION N/A

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

STATE Maryland COUNTY Garrett

STATE Pennsylvania COUNTY Somerset

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

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

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust and Maryland Geological Survey

DATE

10/12/81 (site surveyed)

STREET &amp; 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

G-18-183  
MASON EDIXON WEST LINE (MD-PA) BOUNDARY MARKERS:

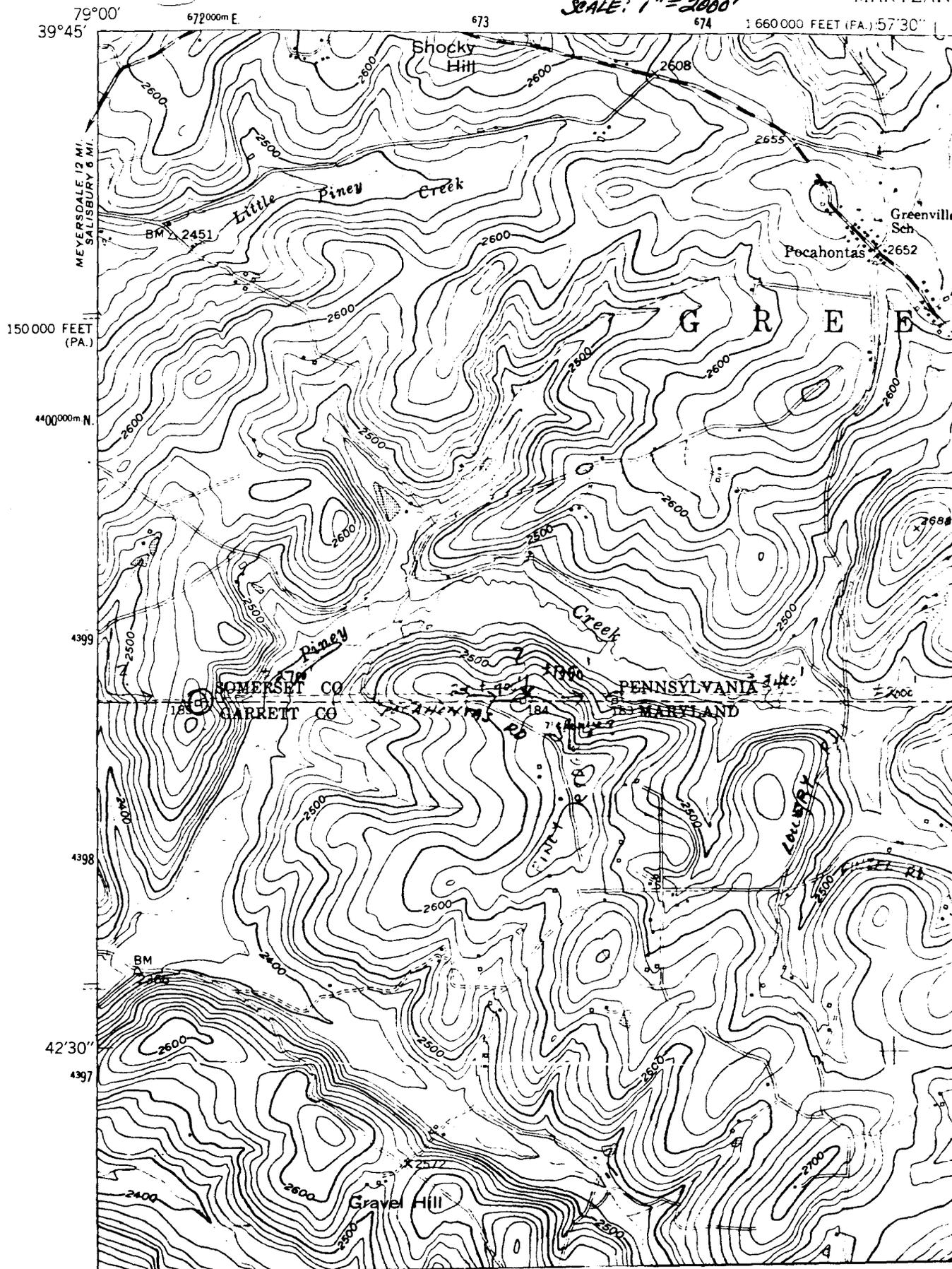
MI. TRAIL, 10. -- (185)

51.83 1 SE  
(MEYERSDALE)



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

FROSTBURG QUADRANGLE  
MARYLAND-PENNSYLVANIA  
USGS 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC) STATE  
1949 PHOTO REV. 1974  
SCALE: 1" = 2000'  
MARYLAND





MPT

6-18-183

MASCA - DIXON WEST LINE MILESTONE - (175)  
STONE MONUMENT ('902)

NE CORNER (1767/P)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 10/2/81 (1981.43.30)

A black and white photograph showing a concrete marker in a field. The marker is a rectangular block with the number "1902" inscribed on its front face. In front of the marker lies a small, dark, rectangular plaque with the number "(185)" on it. The scene is surrounded by dense, overgrown vegetation and a wire fence runs across the foreground.

1902

(185)

HAT

S-IR-1R<sup>+</sup>

MASON (DIXON) WEST LINE MILESTONE - (185)

STONE MONUMENT (1902)

SW CORNER (1902/M)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 10/12/81 (1551-43-28)