

ABSTRACT

G-IIA-267

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. ---(222) 1767 (mound site), 1886 (monument)
Markleysburg, Pennsylvania vicinity
Public/private

Set in 1886 at the site of an original Mason and Dixon mound of 1767, this large granite monument served as the northwest corner of Maryland from 1886 to 1910 when the present corner was established. It was the easternmost of points marked by C. H. Sinclair during his 1883-85 Resurvey of the West Virginia-Pennsylvania boundary, and was the northernmost point of the Deakins line run nearly a century before between Maryland and Virginia. Originally 16 inches square, dressed $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet and rough cut $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet with an underground "cube" of 16x16x16 inches, ^{in fair condition,} it remains unaltered, though now an irregular shape from extensive chipping, measures essentially 16 inches square by about 4 feet above ground, and is embellished only by the following inscriptions partially legible: on the north side facing Pennsylvania, PA/1885/55 $\frac{2}{10}$ /MD; on the east side, MD|PA; on the south side (now facing Maryland), W VA|MD; and on the west side PA|W VA.

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

BOUNDARY MARKERS ALONG THE MASON-DIXON LINE (THEMATIC GROUP)

1. Name (indicate preferred name) *

historic (Mason and Dixon's) West Line

* and/or common Mason-Dixon Line; Milestone No. --- (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 222)

2. Location

street & number east side of Thomas Road, Thomas Ridge not for publicationcity, town Markleysburg vicinity of congressional district MD: 6 / PA: 22

state Pennsylvania county MD: Garrett / PA: Fayette

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	Public Acquisition	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 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 (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

(monument and mound site only; see Thematic Group NR nomination form and surrounding property ownership list)
 name State of Maryland / Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

street & number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

(see Thematic Group NR nomination form and surrounding property ownership list)
 courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. liber

street & number folio

city, town state

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

(also see Thematic Group NR nomination form)

title Garrett County Historic Sites Inventory

date G-IIA-267 entered 9/4/81 federal state county local

repository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
_____ excellent	_____ deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site (monument & mound site)
_____ good	_____ ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	_____ moved
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair (monument)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unexposed	_____ (mound)	_____ date of move
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gone (mound)		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Milestone No. --- (222) ^{was} erected in 1886 by the Commissioners for the 1883-85. ^{It was} believed set in an original Mason and Dixon mound of 1767 ^{and} marks a point on the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary about 1,051 feet east of the present northwest corner of Maryland. The monument ^{is} one of 30 Sinclair ^{had the Commissioners set} between Brown's Hill (Mason and Dixon ^{western} terminus) and what he considered to be the northwest corner of Maryland (No. 222) ^{at the north end of the Deakins Line}, during his resurvey and marking of this boundary. It is in fair condition, unaltered though misshapen from considerable chipping, firmly in place; measures about 16 inches square by about 44 inches high above ground, with an additional some 3 inches of the top (now dome-shaped from chipping). It is embellished only by the following inscriptions, cut rather primitively: ^{four lines centered} on the north side facing Pennsylvania, PA/1885/55 2/10/ MD; a single line centered on the east side, MD|PA; a single line on the south side now facing Maryland, [W]VA|MD; and a single line on the west side, [PA|W. VA]. There is no longer any evidence of the mound, presumably graded away over time (possibly during construction of the adjacent pipeline?)

The area here is the heavily wooded ^{high} ridge that appears to connect Thomas Ridge ^{to the south} with Division Ridge to the north (elevation at the site about 2320 feet). The site is within Election District 2 of Garrett County, MD, and Henry Clay Township of Fayette County, PA; about 1 1/2 miles southwest of the village of Markleysburg, PA; about 1 1/4 miles northwest of the scattered settlement of Asher Glade, MD; at a point about 12 feet east of Thomas Road at the southeast corner of an intersection of the road by the east-west ^{Columbia} gas pipeline (No. 138-8) and about 17 feet south of the pipeline, at the edge of a deciduous woods, a few feet northwest of a huge tree. It can be seen easily from the road, all seasons; and though protected from road maintenance and traffic by being about 4 feet above road grade level, it has obviously been vulnerable to chipping (and target shooting, according to local residents).

The monument, ^{although} of the same kind of granite utilized for many of the ¹⁸⁸³⁻⁸ monuments set along the West Virginia-Pennsylvania boundary, is considerably larger than their typical 12 inches square by about 16 inches high above ground. According to Sinclair's Report to the Boundary Commission, January 15th 1886: the monument was "16 inches square--dressed 3 1/2 feet and rough cut 3 1/2 feet. The underground cube is 16x16x16 inches" and was "19.45 miles distant and 333.53 feet north of the tangent." (p. 427) ^{thin-line} The letters and numbers are simple inscriptions, shallowly cut and by now, difficult to read (those no longer legible are indicated in the first paragraph). The surfaces are all nicked and chipped, and large chunks have been broken off the vertical edges since 1900-03. The long vertical lines on the east, south and west sides, ^{Sinclair's determination of} indicate the convergent boundaries of the three states, and the rough-cut base is partially exposed.

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form for coverage of the Sinclair Resurvey and summary descriptions of the variety of monuments set along the West Virginia-Pennsylvania portion of the Mason-Dixon Line)

Note: for an excellent review of the Maryland-West Virginia boundary, see Charles Morrison, The Western Boundary of Maryland (Parsons, WV, McClain Printing Co., 1976). For original black and white photoprints and negatives of the Sinclair Stone taken by W. C. Hodgkins, 1900, see the National Archives (Washington, D.C.; Still Picture Branch, RG-23-G, Box 91, GJ-1068-1 & 4).

8. Significance

Survey No. G-IIA-267

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 type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) boundary surveying
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1767 (mound site) ~~1883-85~~ **ARCHITECT SURVEYORS:** Charles Mason and
 1886 (monument) ~~1883-85~~ Jeremiah Dixon

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
 and/or
 Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G
 Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Milestone No. ---(222) and the mound site are significant on the national and state levels primarily as being among the thematic group series of some 248 markers still visually defining Mason and Dixon's West Line, the 230.228-mile English provincial boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. This site was originally surveyed and marked in 1767 by a cairn, and the large granite monument set in the center of the remains of the cairn in 1886 following the 1883-85 Resurvey and marking of the West Virginia-Pennsylvania boundary by C. H. Sinclair, who ^{apparently} believed this point also marked the northern end of the Deakins (Maryland-West Virginia) ^{presumably} line, thus ^{forming} the northwest corner of Maryland --a presumption not accepted by Maryland. Locally, as among the some 42 markers along the present Garrett/Somerset-Fayette county boundary, No. ---(222) and the mound site are also significant symbolically for their identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War ^{correct} heritage of these counties, as well as the ^{provincial-then-state} prolonged/controversy as to the ^{correct} Maryland-Virginia-then-West Virginia boundary, not agreed to by Maryland until 1912.

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. G-IIA-267

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Friendsville (MD-PA-WV), USGS 7.5 minute series (topographic), 1947 photorev. 1974 Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	1,7	6,3,0	4,3,9,7
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C			
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D			
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E			
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F			
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G			
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H			
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Verbal boundary description and justification N/A

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	Maryland	code	county	Garrett	code
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state	Pennsylvania	code	county	Fayette	code
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11. Form Prepared By

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

organization	<u>Maryland Historical Trust and Maryland Geological Survey</u>	date	<u>10/24/80 & 9/5/81</u> (site surveyed)
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street & number	<u>14308 Mount Avenue</u>	telephone	<u>(301) 472-2128</u>
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city or town	<u>Phoenix</u>	state	<u>Maryland 21131</u>
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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
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438



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GJ 1068-1. GRANITE MONUMENT PLACED BY THE STATES OF PENNSYLVANIA AND WEST VIRGINIA IN 1885 TO MARK THE CORNER COMMON TO THEM AND THE STATE OF MARYLAND. THE STATE OF MARYLAND HAD NO PART IN LOCATING THE MONUMENT. W. C. HODGKINS, C&GS., CHIEF OF PARTY. 1900. NO SLIDE.

te 1900
...thor *W.C.*
Negative? *Yes*
Lantern Slide?

Note: black-and-white photoprint and negative on file at the National Archives, Audiovisual Archives Division, Still Picture Branch, Washington, DC. 20408 (US Coast and Geodetic Survey Record Group 23-G, Box 91, GJ-1068-1). Part of this view was utilized by the 1900-03 Resurvey in Maryland Geological Survey Vol. VII, Plate III, Fig. 1 (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1908).

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p.64

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MASON DIXON'S WEST LINE: MILESTONE NO. — (222)

Name or Number	<i>Location, Description, Etc.</i>
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Sinclair Stone	<p>within a hundred feet of the mound referred to above. Michler, in his work, sometimes referred to the Deakins line as "the old line." Whether in this case "old line" referred to the Mason and Dixon line or the Deakins line has not been ascertained. Another Mason and Dixon mound, approximately one mile west of the former, shown on the Michler map, is merely labelled "Mound."</p>
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The Sinclair stone is described in the commissioners' journal, under date of August 11, 1911, as "... standing in what is believed to be an old Mason & Dixon Mound. The Stone is marked 1885-P.-Md-W.Va--and 55 2/10 (miles)."

Sinclair Stone	<p>On the Mason and Dixon line 1,051 feet east of Monument No. 34, at the southeast corner of the intersection of Thomas Road and the pipeline right-of-way. A rough hewn granite monument set in an old Mason and Dixon mound in 1885 as a part of the work by C. H. Sinclair in the resurvey of the western extension of the Mason and Dixon line. Listed as Monument No. 222 in the Maryland Geological Survey Report, "Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania Boundary" (1908), and shown on maps of the U.S. Geological Survey by the same number.</p>
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The stone bears inscriptions to indicate that it was believed to mark the corner common to Pennsylvania, Maryland, and West Virginia, and the numerals 55 2/10, meaning that it was 55.2 miles from the southwest corner of Pennsylvania. (See photo, page 63.)

Although the western boundary of Maryland was still in dispute, Sinclair established the monument, probably in the belief that it was at the northern end of the Deakins line. Michler's map shows an "Old Line Mound" approximately 4,100 feet east of the Fairfax meridian, which would place it

*From the Commissioners' Report in 225 U.S. 1. See Bibliography. Other positions for Monument No. 34 are as follows: U.S. Geological Survey Bulletin 1212, p. 137, 39°42'15.68" North Latitude, 79°28'37.53" West Longitude. The latitude figure is evidently in error, 39°43'15.68" being the likely number. The Mason and Dixon line, on which Monument No. 34 was erected, was intended by its surveyors to be along the parallel of latitude, 39°43'17.6". Subsequent observations at various places along that boundary have produced figures ranging from 39°43'13" to 39°43'19".



SINCLAIR STONE

On Thomas Road southwest of Markleysburg, Pennsylvania

Erected in 1885 by C. H. Sinclair in resurveying the western extension of the Mason and Dixon line. Although the western boundary of Maryland was still in dispute, Sinclair established the stone in an old Mason and Dixon mound which he believed marked the northern end of the Deakins line.

Other inscriptions and vertical lines, not visible in the picture, indicate the precise boundaries of the states Pennsylvania, Maryland, and West Virginia.

Although the Sinclair stone supposedly marked the northwest corner of Maryland, it was never accepted, nor did it play any direct part in the dispute between Maryland and West Virginia.

CHARLES MORRISON, THE WESTERN BOUNDARY OF MARYLAND.
 PARKERSBURG, WV: McClain Printing Co., 1910.

MASEN & DIXON'S WEST LINE; MILESTONE NO. — (222)



PHOTO: DR. H. L. TRUSSELL 9/5/48

MHS Trussell coll. PP2.50.2

MASEN & DIXON'S WEST LINE; MILESTONE NO. 222
SQUARE STONE (1975)



PHOTO: ————— 9/5/48

MISS ELSIE MARSDEN + DR. TRUSSELL
MHS Trussell coll. PP2.50.1

G-IIA-267

RE: MASON & DIXON'S WEST LINE; MILESTONE NO. — (222)

(2) BEW 5x7 GLOSSY PRINTS WERE TURNED IN
TO PETER KURTZE WITH THE NR MATERIALS

Alice Martin

MASON & DIXON WEST LINE BOUNDARY MARKERS: MILESTONE NO. --- (222) G-IIA-267 (222)

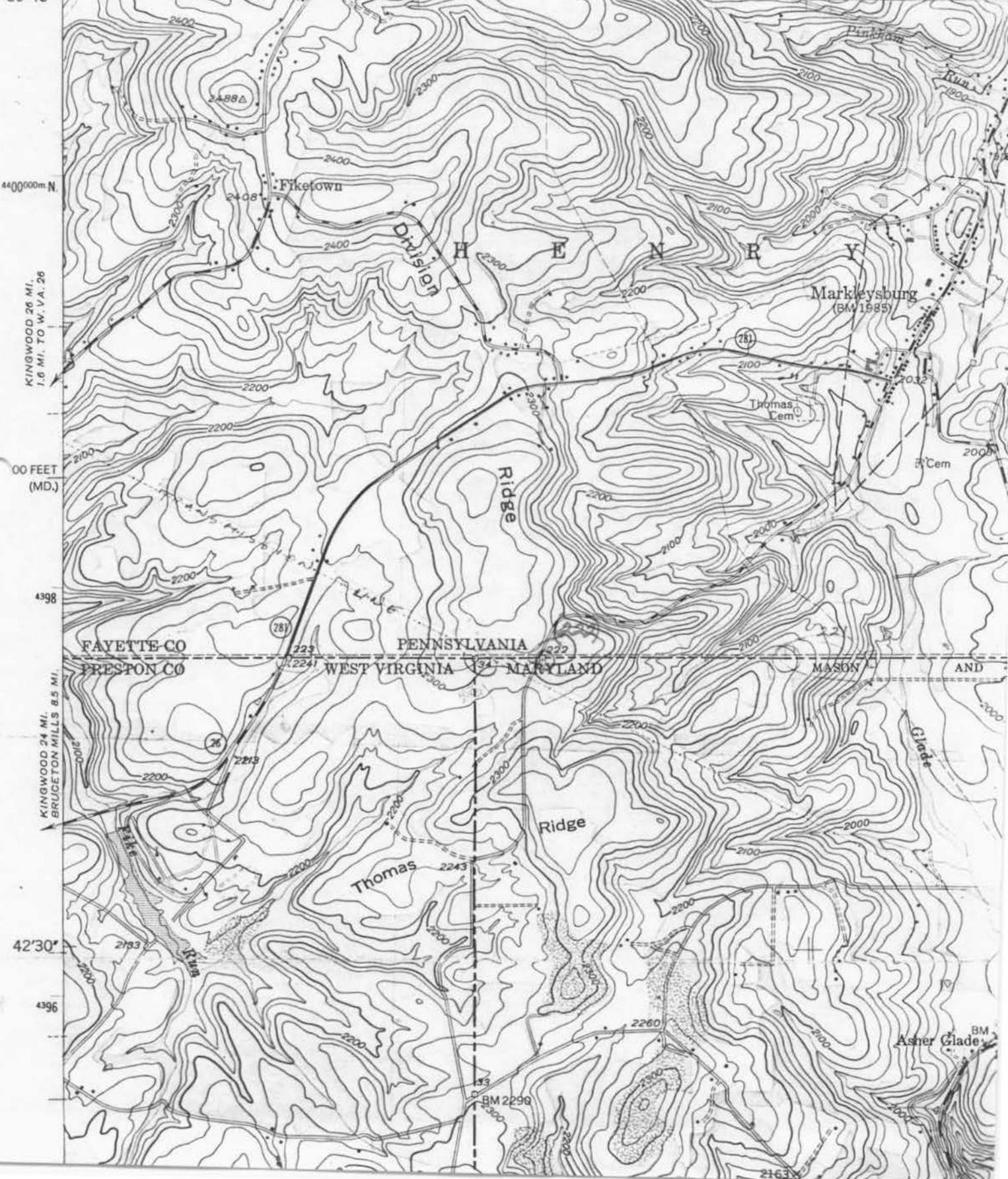


UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

FRIENDSVILLE QUADRANGLE
MARYLAND-PENNSYLVANIA-WEST VIRGINIA
USGS 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
1947 PHOTO REV. 1974
SCALE: 1" = 2000'
STATE OF MARYLAND
MARYLAND GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

5003 / SE
1E.C.E.5

79°30' 39°45' 629 100000 FEET (MD.) 1.5 MI. TO U.S. 40 631900m E. 27'30' SOMERSET 32 0.5 MI. TO U.S. 40



KINGWOOD 26 MI.
1.6 MI. TO W. V. A. 26

00 FEET
(MD.)

KINGWOOD 24 MI.
BRUCETON MILLS 8.5 MI.

42°30'

4396

BM 2296

BM
Asher Glade