

ABSTRACT

G-IIB-254

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. ---(209) 1767 (mound), 1902 (monument)  
Strawn (formerly Oakton), Maryland/Pennsylvania  
Public/private

Milestone No. ---(209) and the large mound of earth and stones on Winding Ridge mark a point 187.159 miles west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of Mason and Dixon's 230.228-mile West Line, the English provincial boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. The monument is a very plain dressed marble post with a low pyramidal top, quarried and carved in Cockeysville, Maryland. It is in excellent condition, unaltered, firmly in place; measures 10 inches square by about 15 inches high above the mound; 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 this site was originally surveyed and marked with a cairn), and 1902 on the west side (when this new monument was added to the center of the remains of the cairn during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary). The mound, <sup>also in excellent condition, is</sup> unusually broad, measuring an estimated 20 feet in diameter at the base by about 3 feet high at the center, with large stones/<sup>loosely</sup>heaped over the earth, some possibly in the recent past. On the national and state levels, No. ---(209) and the mound are significant primarily as being among the thematic group series of some 248 markers still visually defining the West Line. Locally, as among the some 42 markers along the present Garrett/Somerset-Fayette county boundary, they are also significant symbolically for their 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

AND/OR COMMON

Mason-Dixon Line: Milestone No. --- (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 209)

**2 LOCATION** (not for publication)

STREET &amp; NUMBER off the southwest side of US 40 (National Pike)

CITY, TOWN

Strawn (formerly Oakton)

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

MD: 6 / PA: 12

STATE

Maryland/Pennsylvania

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
	<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 and mound 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

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 &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-IIB-254 entered 9/4/81

 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE  
Maryland 21401

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT <sup>(monument &amp; mound)</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED <sup>(monument &amp; mound)</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE <sup>(monument &amp; mound)</sup>
<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		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Milestone No. ---(209) and the <sup>large</sup> mound of earth and stones on "The Top of Winding Hill" mark Mason and Dixon's 190 miles and 12 cairns from the "Post Marked West in Mr. Bryan's Field" (187.159 miles west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their West Line). The monument is a very plain dressed marble post with a low pyramidal top, quarried and carved in Cockeysville MD; is in excellent condition, unaltered, firmly set; measures 10 inches square by about 15 inches high above the mound; 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 this site was originally surveyed and marked with a cairn), and 1902 on the west side (when this new monument was added to the center of the remains of the cairn during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary). The mound, also in excellent condition, is a very broad heaping of <sup>large</sup> stones over earth, and measures an estimated 20 feet in diameter by about 3 feet high.

The area here is one of the ridges of <sup>the series of mountains called</sup> Winding Ridge, high (elevation about 2520 feet at the site), stoney, densely forested, quite remote. The site is within Election District 2 of Garrett County, MD, and Addison Township of Somerset County, PA; about 3500 feet due west of the small settlement of Strawn (formerly Oakton), MD/PA, at the Line and about 600 feet south of US 40; at the north edge of the cleared <sup>east-west</sup> swath serving the pipelines and electrical line (about 16 feet north of the poles), just south of the only hemlock tree still standing in this area. It cannot be seen from any road, but quite easily from nearby, all seasons, and seems protected by the neighborhood and inconspicuous site.

The monument, identical to 65 other monuments of 1902 set west of Sideling Hill to visually reestablish the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, is a white, fine-grained marble called saccharoidal dolomite or magnesian limestone; was <sup>originally</sup> cut about 10 inches square by about 4½ feet long, intended for setting about 1½ feet above ground (or mound) with the remaining 3 feet for setting into the ground (or mound) 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 is a chip out of the top southeast corner. The mound, <sup>mostly</sup> of large stones, seems to spread out as though some might have been added at the edges during the construction of the newer pipeline, but this has not been verified.

**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY** (see Thematic Group NR nomination form for additional descriptions of the 1900-03 Resurvey monuments and method of setting these into original Mason and Dixon mounds)



**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: Accident (Maryland-Pennsylvania), USGS 7.5 minute series  
(topographic), 1948 photorev. 1974, scale 1:24000NOTE: monument/mound location not shown on quadrangle; see  
1900-03 Resurvey engineer's map Plate LXIX

UTM reference (approx.): zone 17, easting 64468, northing 439801

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/Maryland Geological Survey

DATE

9/6/81 (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

MASON EDIXON'S WEST LINE: MILESTONE NO. — (209)

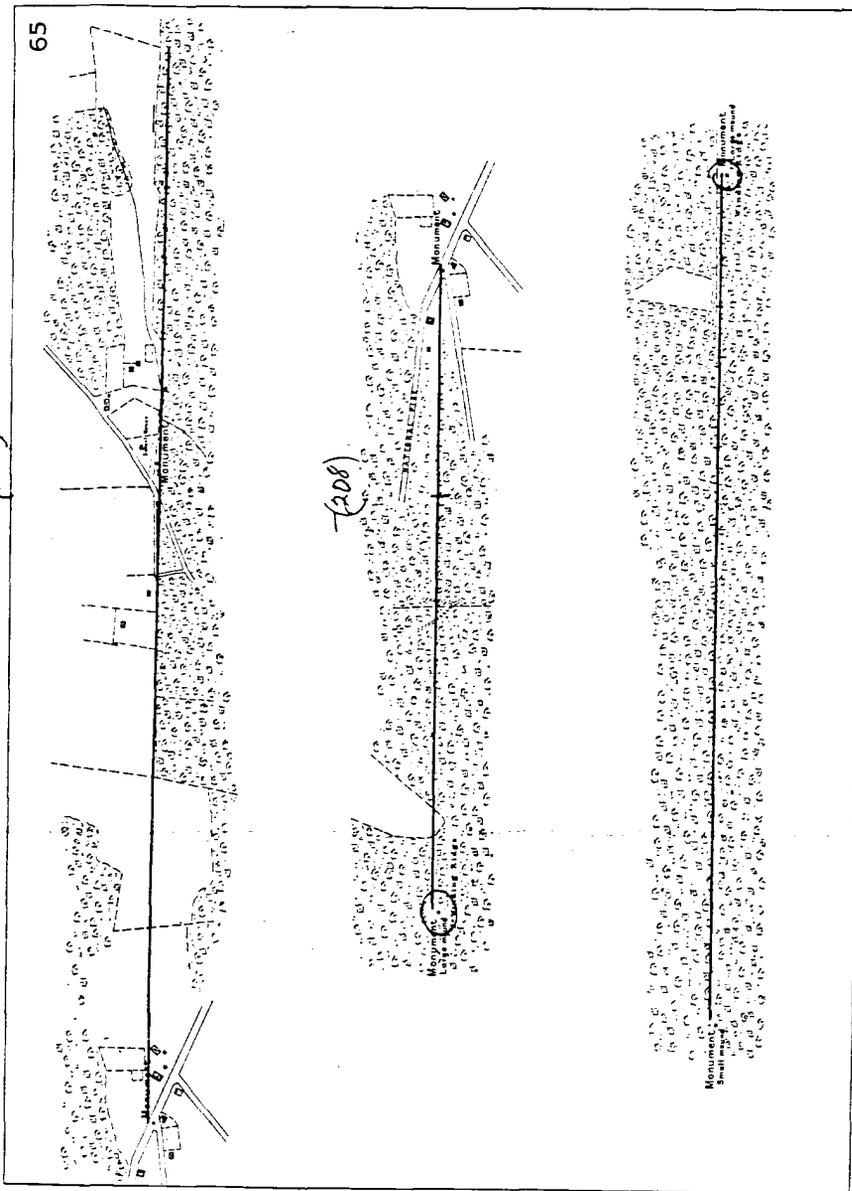
6-11B-254

—(207)

—(209)

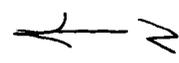
RESURVEY OF MASON-DIXON LINE.

PLATE LXIX.



—(206)

—(208)



SCALE: 1" = 1000'

—(207)

—(209)

—(210)

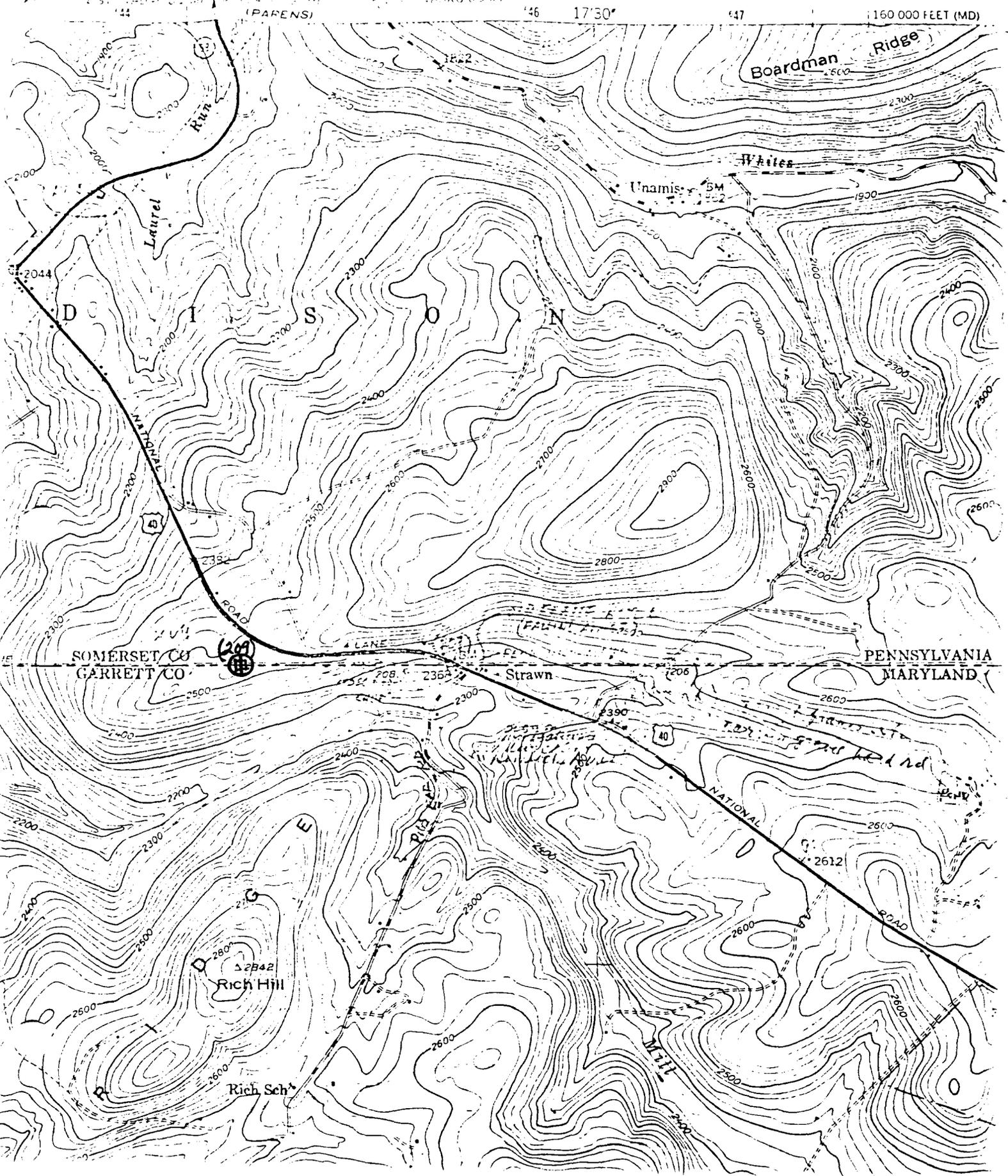
ACCIDENT QUADRANGLE  
MARYLAND-PENNSYLVANIA

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

TOPOGRAPHIC AND GEOLOGIC SURVEY

1948 PHOTO REV. 1974 SCALE: 1" = 2000'





MHY

S-IB-254

MASON'S DIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE — (200)  
STONE MONUMENT (1302) IN LARGE MOUND OF EARTH: STORES  
NE CORNER (1967/M)

PHOTO BY GEORGE MARSH 9/2/01 (192' 22" 332')



ALASKA EDINON WEST LINE M. ESTAKE - (209)  
STONE MONUMENT (400) IN LARGE MOUNTAIN OF EACH ESTAKE  
SW CORNER (1902/19)

PHOTO: ALICE MARSH 9/6/18 (1981.29.30A)