

ABSTRACT

HA-1022

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. 29(31)  
Cardiff/Delta, Maryland/Pennsylvania  
Public/private

1766 (reset 1902)

Milestone No. 29(31) marks Mason and Dixon's 29th horizontal mile west of the initial stone at the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning point of their 230.228-mile West Line, the longest of their survey lines run and marked to define the boundary between the English provinces of Maryland and Pennsylvania. The monument, first set in 1766, is an embellished oolitic limestone post with a low pyramidal top, quarried and carved in England. It originally measured about 12" square by about 4½' long, and had been cut to stand about 3' above ground. Repaired and reset in 1902 in its original <sup>(redetermined)</sup> site during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, it now measures about 11½" square by about 10" high, is in only fair condition, with the capital letters P on the north (Pennsylvania) side and M on the south (Maryland) side chipped, most of the other embellishments <sup>and top planes</sup> gone, and a large chunk out of the west side. All surfaces are very weathered, and the stone itself neglected and unprotected. On the federal and state levels, No. 29(31) is primarily significant as one of a series of 135 original Mason and Dixon monuments still standing along their West Line, commonly known since Civil War times as the Mason-Dixon Line, notable for its historical impact and innovative boundary survey methods. Locally, as one of 17 original monuments remaining within the present Harford/York county boundary, it is also significant as one of a diminishing number of objects and structures still visually identifiable with our colonial and Civil War heritage.

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, 29th Mile Stone

AND/OR COMMON

Mason-Dixon Line: Milestone No. 29 (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 31)

**2 LOCATION** (not for publication)

STREET & NUMBER off west side of Main Street (MD 165/PA LR-66070)

CITY, TOWN

Cardiff/Delta

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

MD: 1 / PA: 19

STATE

Maryland/Pennsylvania

COUNTY

MD: Harford / PA: York

**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 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 Maryland/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 Harford County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

HA-1022 entered c. 12/69 (undated)  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 (redetermined)
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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

Milestone No. 29(31) marks Mason and Dixon's 29th mile west of the initial stone at the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning point of their 230.228-mile West Line. It is the original milestone of 1766, <sup>but not altered</sup> repaired/and reset in its redetermined site in 1902, <sup>and</sup> is in fair condition in a much-endangered location.

The area here is the middle of the adjoining towns of Cardiff, Maryland/Delta, Pennsylvania, <sup>settled by the Welsh and</sup> known for their famous slate quarries <sup>worked for</sup> over two centuries, as well as their unique green marble quarry. The site is about 60' west of Main Street (MD 165/PA LR-66070), on the south side of an alley opposite the junction of Church Street, within a trucking freightyard at the rear of Service Feed and Supply Company. It can be easily seen from the main road and alley all seasons. Most of the time it is not protected by any metal posts or identification of any kind, although there are several stakes a few feet away protecting water valves (but not the stone). It is greatly endangered and urgently in need of protection.

The monument, the original milestone set here in 1766, was like all those set along the West Line: an embellished oolitic limestone post with a low pyramidal top, and had been quarried and carved in England. At the time of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary the "position of this stone had been lost and the monument itself badly broken. The position was redetermined and the monument was repaired and reset." (MGS Vol. 7, 1908, p. 84-85). By the time of the 1950 field inspection, it was described as out-of-plumb and badly damaged, and the foundation (concrete collar) <sup>on the west side</sup> destroyed. By <sup>c</sup>1969: it was broken off at the ground level and lying on its side. By 1973 it had been set up again. Originally measuring about 12" square by about 4½' long, <sup>and</sup> cut to stand about 3' above <sup>it was about 11½" square by about 10" high</sup> ground, <sup>by the time of the 1979-82 field</sup> inspection, <sup>and</sup> seemed firm in its foundation but out of plumb and badly chipped, gouged and severely weathered. The capital P facing the north (Pennsylvania) side is clear but disfigured; the capital M facing the south (Maryland) side is still fairly distinct but chipped. Very little fluting remains; all margins are gone, as are the top planes; and there is a huge chunk out of the west si

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

**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 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) ~~BUILDING/ARCHITECT~~ SURVEYORS Charles Mason & Jeremiah Dixon

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Milestone No. 29(31) is significant on the federal and state levels primarily as one of a series of 135 original Mason and Dixon monuments still standing along their West Line, commonly known since Civil War times as the Mason-Dixon Line, notable for its historical impact and innovative boundary survey methods. The site was preliminarily surveyed in 1765 and monumented the following year, where it remains (we hope) to this day, although repaired and reset in 1902, during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, and known to have been broken off and reset at least once since then. Locally, No. 29(31) is also significant, as one of 17 original monuments remaining along the present Harford/York county boundary, and as such, among the few objects and structures <sup>with a</sup> visually identifiable relationship to our colonial and Civil War heritage.

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 DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

Quadrangle name: Delta (USGS 7.5 minute series), scale 1:24000

UTM reference: zone 18, easting 38550, northing 439744

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION N/A

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

STATE Maryland COUNTY Harford

STATE Pennsylvania COUNTY York

**11 FORM PREPARED BY** (also see form by Jean Ewing c. 12/69)

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

ORGANIZATION	DATE	(site surveyed with
Maryland Historical Trust/Maryland Geological Survey	12/12/79	Jean Ewing)
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE	
14308 Mount Avenue	301/472-2128	
CITY OR TOWN	STATE	
Phoenix	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

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

HA 1022

1310223234

NOMINATION FORM

for the

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**1. NAME**

COMMON: Mason Dixon Stone, Mile 29.

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER: Mason-Dixon marker behind

CITY OR TOWN: Cardell

STATE: Maryland COUNTY: Harford

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>State (Colony) Boundary Mark</u>

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE:

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

STREET AND NUMBER: 40 S. MAIN ST.

CITY OR TOWN: SMITHS AIR STATE: MARYLAND

Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE:

7. DESCRIPTION	
CONDITION	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed <small>(Check One)</small>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input type="checkbox"/> Original Site <small>(Check One)</small>
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>                     This is a square white stone with                      M (for Maryland) on one side, P (for                      Pennsylvania) on the other. The letters                      about 8" high on stones 12" square and                      set <del>about 8" apart</del>                      to stand about 18" tall.                 </p>	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**B. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	osophy	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	itarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Music	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Property surrounding the site of the  
 Mason Dixon stone has impinged on  
 the site, the marker has been knocked  
 over and damaged, but was  
 set up again in the summer of  
 1973. New photos needed.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

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

STATE:	COUNTY:

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: JEAN S. EWING

ORGANIZATION: MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET AND NUMBER: 2525 RIVA ROAD

CITY OR TOWN: ANNAPOLIS STATE: MARYLAND

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National  State  Local

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

HA-1022

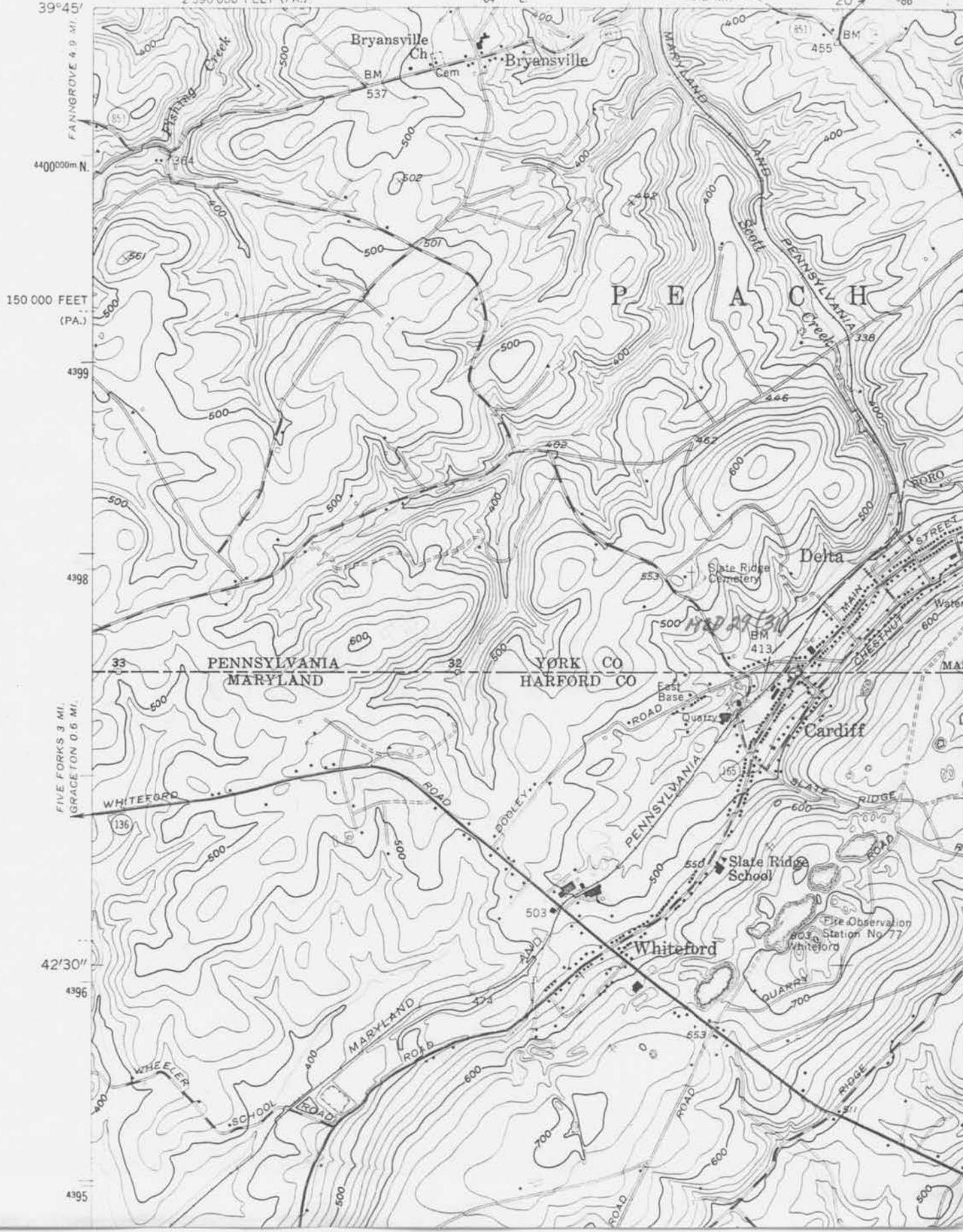
MASON-DIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE 29 (31).  
DELTA QUADRANGLE  
MARYLAND-PENNSYLVANIA  
USGS 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)  
1956 PHOTOREV. 1974 SCALE: 1"=2000'

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



57° 14' SW  
(AIRVILLE)

76°22'30" 2 390 000 FEET (PA.) 384000m E 20' 86



39°45' FANGROVE 4.9 MI. 4400000m N.

150 000 FEET (PA.)

4399

4398

FIVE FORKS 3 MI. GRACETON 0.6 MI.

42'30"

4396

4395



YHT

HA-1022

MASON & DIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE NO. 29 (31)  
NW CORNER (P/-)

PHOTO: STEPHANIE YATSEVITCH 5/10/80 (NEG # 11)



M-D 29

MHT

Mason & Dixon west line; <sup>MILE</sup> stone #29 (31)SE corner  
(M)PHOTO:  
JEAN EWING 22 Feb '80 (NET #1)



49-20

MHT

MASON & DIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE NO. 29 (31)  
LOOKING EAST TO MD RTE 165 (MAIN ST.)  
VILLAGE OF DELTA, PA. BEGINS ON LEFT (N/S)  
VILLAGE OF CARDIFF MD. BEGINS ON RIGHT (S/S)

PHOTO: STEPHANIE YATSEVITCH 5/10/80 (WEB. #10)



HA. 1022

22/11/72  
JSE

Cardiff



HA-1022

SS 10/72

Cardiff



HA.1022

Stone for Nido 29.

85 10/72

Searchief weeds to Mason Dixon Stone, Cardiff