

ABSTRACT

HA-1549

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. 37(39)

1766 (reset 1902)

New Park, Pennsylvania vicinity

Public/private

Milestone No. 37(39), first set in 1766, marks Mason and Dixon's 37th horizontal mile west of the initial stone at the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line, longest of their 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 other original West Line monuments, it is an embellished oolitic limestone post with a low pyramidal top, quarried and carved in England, and originally measuring about 12" square by about 4½' long, cut to stand about 3' above ground. Reset in 1902 during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, it now stands about 1½' high, firmly in place, unaltered and in good condition. The top is no longer pyramidal, having been chipped and weathered over time, but the capital letters P on the north (Pennsylvania) side and M on the south (Maryland) side and most other embellishments remain clear and intact, except for chips along all edges and top corners, especially the large chunks out of the top northwest edge and southeast corner. On the federal and state levels, No. 37(39) is significant primarily as one of a series of 135 original Mason and Dixon monuments still standing along the West Line, the boundary commonly known since Civil War times as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. Locally, as one of 17 original monuments remaining along the present Harford/York county boundary (3 crownstones, 14 milestones), it is also significant as being amongst the few and diminishing number of objects and structures with a visually identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these two 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, 37th Mile Stone

AND/OR COMMON

Mason-Dixon Line: Milestone No. 37 (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 39)

2 LOCATION (not for publication)
 STREET & NUMBER off east side of Salt Lake Road (formerly Line Road)/PA T-380

CITY, TOWN New Park VICINITY OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT MD: 2 / PA: 19

STATE 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	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"/> N/A	<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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER <input type="checkbox"/> 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 STATE, zip code
 VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION N/A Liber #: (see surrounding property ownership list)
 COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. 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-1549 entered 2/25/80 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
<input checked="" 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. 37(39) marks Mason and Dixon's 37th horizontal mile west of the initial stone at the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning point of their 230.228-mile West Line. It is an original monument of 1766, unaltered, and at its original site, where it was reset in 1902 during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary.

The area here is rural, mostly modest farms; rolling open countryside interspersed with patches of deciduous woodland, sparsely settled. The site is within Harford County's Election District 4, York County's Fawn Grove Township; about 2½ miles northwest of the scattered crossroads settlement of Harkins, Maryland; about 1½ miles southeast of the village of New Park, Pennsylvania; about 1500' due east of the bend in Salt Lake Road where it becomes T-580 in Pennsylvania; close to the northeast corner of a deciduous woods, on an east slope of a hill, south side of an east-west wire fence separating the woods ^{on the south} from the farmed fields on the north. It is a few feet north of a woods path; cannot be seen from any road, nor readily from nearby; and is protected by its obscurity (and ^{by} the fencing, from farm machinery).

The milestone is an embellished oolitic limestone ^(what is left of) post with a low pyramidal top, quarried and carved in England, originally measuring about 12" square by about 4½' in length, cut to stand about 3' above ground. In 1902, it was reset in its original site to stand about 1½' above ground, as it remains today, in good condition; though weathering is evident, and there are chips along all edges and top corners, with a big chunk out of the ^{northwest edge and the} top/southeast corner. The capital letters P on the north (Pennsylvania) side and M on the south (Maryland) side are clear and intact (except for a small chip into the M); most fluting remains, but only bits of margins; no planes are discernible and the top is rounded from weathering, and with several pits.

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form for full descriptions of the original Mason and Dixon monuments and the 1900-03 Resurvey method of resetting them)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
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)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1766 (reset 1902) ~~MONUMENT/ARCHITECT~~ Charles Mason & Jeremiah Dixon
SURVEYORS

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Milestone No. 37(39) 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 230.228-mile West Line, commonly known since Civil War times as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. The site was preliminarily surveyed in 1765 and milestone set the following year, where it remains unaltered to this day, although reset more securely in 1902 during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. Individually, and as one of 17 original monuments remaining along the present Harford/York county boundary (3 crownstones and 14 milestones), No. 37(39) is also significant locally as being amongst the few and diminishing number of objects and structures with a visually identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these two counties.

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

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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 acrequadrangle name: Fawn Grove (Maryland-Pennsylvania), 7.5 minute series
scale 1:24000

UTM reference: zone 18, easting 37256, northing 439765

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

NAME / TITLE

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

ORGANIZATION Maryland Historical Trust/Maryland Geological Survey DATE (site surveyed)
2/21/80 with Jean Ewing)STREET & NUMBER 14308 Mount Avenue TELEPHONE
301/472-2128CITY 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



MHT

HA-1549

MASON & DIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE NO. 37 (39)
SOUTH (M) & EAST FACES, LOOKING NORTHWEST

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 2/21/80 (1980.9.17A)



M-D 37

MHT

HA-1549

Mason & Bix on west tino: marker 37(39)

SW corner (-/H)

PHOTO: JEAN

Fewing 6/80

frame 16