

ABSTRACT

HA-1550

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. 41(44)

1766 (reset 1902)

Wiley, Maryland/Pennsylvania vicinity
Public/private

Milestone No. 41(44), an original of 1766, marks Mason and Dixon's 41st horizontal mile west of the initial stone at the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning point 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. This milestone is an embellished oolitic limestone post with a low pyramidal top, was quarried and carved in England, originally measured about 12" square by about 4½' long, ^{and was} cut ^{to} stand about 3' above ground, with the capital letters P facing Pennsylvania on the north and M facing Maryland on the south. Reset in 1902 to stand about 1½' high, during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, No. 41(44) remains in fairly good condition, unaltered, and ^{firmly set} at its original survey point, well protected. Most embellishments remain, though ^{surfaces are} weathered and chipped, and there is a large chunk out of the top southwest corner. On the federal and state levels, this milestone 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), this milestone is also significant as one of a 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, 41st Mile Stone

AND/OR COMMON

Mason-Dixon Line: Milestone No. 41 (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 44)

2 LOCATION (not for publication)

STREET & NUMBER off east side of Leibs Road/Maryland Line Road (PA T-556)

CITY, TOWN

Wiley

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
 MD: 2 / 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	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS ^{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 type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER ^{state} boundary marker

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY (monument only; see Thematic Group National Register 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-1550 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. 41(44) marks Mason and Dixon's 41st 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 milestone of 1766, in fairly good condition, unaltered, and ^{was} firmly ^{reset} at its original site in 1902.

The area here is rural, rolling ^{sparsely settled} farmland, interspersed with deciduous woods and orchards. The site is located within Harford County's Election District 4, York County's Hopewell Township; about 1 mile due west of the crossroads settlement of Wiley, Maryland/Pennsylvania; about 2100' due east of Leibs Road / ^{Maryland Line Road (T556)} at the line; about 500' southeast of an old house at the end of a private lane leading east off Maryland Line Road (T556); about 50' east and uphill from a small stream/marshy area/board-fenced cattle pens; at the north edge of a cattle pasture, bounded by an east-west wire fence and a row of deciduous trees. The site is well protected.

The monument is an embellished oolitic limestone post, with a low ^{with the capital letters P on the north side and M on the south side;} pyramidal top, originally quarried and carved in England, measuring about 12" square by about 4 1/2' in length, cut to stand about 3' above ground. It was reset during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary to stand about 1 1/2' above ground and surrounded by a concrete collar below ground. It presently stands about 13" above ground and part of the collar is now exposed. Except for a huge chunk out of the top southwest corner is in good condition, with the letters clear and intact, most of the fluting and margins remaining, and the top planes still discernible though with a large pit in the apex. All surfaces are weatherworn, and there are small chips along all edges and corners.

(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				
<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)

~~BUILDER/ARCHITECT~~ Charles Mason & Jeremiah Dixon
SURVEYORS**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Milestone No. 41(44), an original mile-marker of 1766, 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, notable for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. The site was preliminarily surveyed in 1765 and monument 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, 14 milestones), No. 41(44) is also significant locally as one of a 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: Norrisville (Maryland-Pennsylvania), USGS 7.5 minute series,
scale 1:24000UTM reference: zone 18, easting 36620, northing 439768VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION N/A

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

STATE Maryland COUNTY HarfordSTATE 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 2/21/80 (site surveyed 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



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MHT

HA-1550

Mason & Dixon west line; ^{MILESTONE} 541 (44)

South & East sides
(M)

Photo:
Jan F wing 21 Feb 80 (alt #26)



1147

HA-1550

North x West sides
(P)

Mason & Piyon west line: ^{MAILESTONE} # 41 (44)

PHOTO: JEAN
1 E wing 2 / Feb 80 (NEG # 27)



1747

HA-1550

Mason & Dixon west line, ^{MILE} Stone 41(44) Miles



looking south

View south in pasture. Stone in row of trees, center.

PHOTO: JAN E Wray 21 Feb 80 (NEG #29 m file at MGS)