

ABSTRACT

WA-I-272

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. 105(109)

1767 (reset 1902)

Mason and Dixon, Pennsylvania/Maryland

Public/private

Milestone No. 105(109) is an original crownstone of 1767, in excellent condition, unaltered, in its original site, preliminarily surveyed in 1765, monumented two years later, and reset more securely in 1902 at the time of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. It marks Mason and Dixon's 105th horizontal mile west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line, longest of the survey lines run and marked during their 1763-68 commission to define the boundary between the English provinces of Maryland and Pennsylvania. Originally quarried and carved in England, of oplitic limestone, it is the only crownstone of the 24 on the West Line standing almost at its intended height, ~~about~~^{now} 26 inches above ground, and measures about 11½ inches square. The distinguishing decorative features are the vertical fluting with horizontally-fluted margins on all four sides, and the stylized shields from the Penn coat of arms on the north side facing Pennsylvania and that of the Calvert's on the south side facing Maryland, near the top. These embellishments remain clear and intact except for minor chips along all edges and top corners. The top, however, is nearly flat from mortared repair and the setting in of a U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey metal disk in the apex (Reference No. 1, SHANK 109, 1935). On the national and state levels, No. 105(109) is significant primarily as one of 135 original monuments in the thematic group series of some 248 markers still defining the West Line. Locally, as one of 48 original monuments marking the present Washington/Franklin-Fulton county boundary (10 crownstones; 38 milestones), it 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 counties.

ABSTRACT

WA-I-272

Ca. 1768

105th Crownstone, Mason-Dixon Line

Mason-Dixon Vicinity

public

The 105th Mason-Dixon milestone, a crownstone, is significant as one of the remaining original boundary markers planted by Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon who began work on the division line between Maryland and Delaware and Pennsylvania in 1764.

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, 105th Mile Stone

AND/OR COMMON
 Mason-Dixon Line: Milestone No. 105 (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 109)

2 LOCATION (not for publication)
 STREET & NUMBER off south side of State Line Road (PA 163)

CITY, TOWN Mason and Dixon VICINITY OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT MD: 6 / PA: 9
 STATE Pennsylvania/Maryland COUNTY MD: Washington/PA: Franklin

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"/> 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 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 (see Thematic Group NR nomination form and surrounding property ownership list)

COURTHOUSE, LIBER #: Folio #:
 REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (also see Thematic Group NR nomination form)

TITLE Washington County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE WA-I-272 entered 8/76 updated 10/12/80 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN Annapolis STATE Maryland

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<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. 105(109) marks Mason and Dixon's 105th horizontal mile west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line. It is an original crownstone of 1767, in excellent condition, unaltered, and remains at its original site, preliminarily surveyed in 1765, monumented two years later, and reset in 1902 during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary.

The area here is rural, comparatively level/^{open}farmland, sparsely settled. The site is within Election District 13 of Washington County, MD, and Antrim Township of Franklin County, PA; about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile due west of the small settlement of Mason and Dixon, PA/MD; at a point about 500 feet east of MD 63/PA 887 and about 150 feet south of State Line Road (PA 163); in the mowed back yard of the Arlan Martin house, at the end of a short private driveway just west of their house. It can be seen from the road, all seasons, and is protected by the Martins.

The crownstone, as with all original Mason and Dixon West Line monuments, is an embellished oolitic limestone post with (what's left of) a low pyramidal top, quarried and carved in England, and originally measuring about 12 inches square by about 4 feet or more long, cut to stand about 3 feet high, with the base left rough-cut for setting into the ground. The distinguishing decorative features are the vertical fluting with horizontally-fluted margins on all four sides, and the stylized shields from the Penn coat of arms on the north side facing Pennsylvania and that of the Calvert's on the south side facing Maryland, carved near the top. It presently stands about 26 inches above ground, measures about 11½ inches square, has minor chips along all edges and top corners; and its top is nearly flat, almost entirely covered by cement(which extends in a "V" down the west side about 12 inches), and/^{capped}with a US Coast and Geodetic Survey metal disk (bench mark Reference No. 1, 1935, SHANK 109). The shields and most embellishments are clear and intact. Although firmly set it has a slight lean to the north. This crownstone and the milestone marking mile No. 117 are the only two original monuments, of the 135 ^{on the West Line} still standing, which are set at their approximately intended height.

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

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 checked="" 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 1767 (reset 1902) . ~~BUILDER/ARCHITECT~~ Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon
SURVEYORS

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Milestone No. 105(109), a crownstone of 1767, is significant on the national and state levels primarily as one of 135 original Mason and Dixon monuments in the thematic group series of some 248 markers still defining their 230.228-mile West Line, the boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. The site was preliminarily surveyed in 1765 and crownstone set two years later, where it remains in place, reset more securely in 1902 during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, ^{and is} the only crownstone on the West Line to stand close to its originally intended height. Locally, as one of 48 original monuments marking the present Washington/Franklin-Fulton county boundary (10 crownstones; 38 milestones), No. 105(109) 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 counties.

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 DATAACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acreQuadrangle name: Mason-Dixon (Maryland-Pennsylvania), USGS 7.5 minute series
(topographic), 1953 photorev. 1971, scale 1:24000

UTM reference: zone 18, easting 26283, northing 440027

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION N/A

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

STATE Maryland COUNTY Washington

STATE Pennsylvania COUNTY Franklin

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

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

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust and Maryland Geological Survey

DATE

10/12/80 site surveyed

STREET & 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

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

WA-I-272
District 23
Map 9
2202514234

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

105th Crownstone, Mason Dixon Line

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

South of State Line Road, east of Maryland Route 63

CITY, TOWN

Northwest of Hagerstown

___ VICINITY OF

Mason-Dixon

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland - Pennsylvania

COUNTY

Washington - Franklin

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	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"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" 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: Boundary Marker

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

State of Maryland - Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #: 280

Folio #: 523

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

- EXCELLENT
- GOOD
- FAIR
- DETERIORATED
- RUINS
- UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

- UNALTERED
- ALTERED

CHECK ONE

- ORIGINAL SITE
- MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The 105th Mason-Dixon Line milestone, a crownstone marker is located just southeast of the junction of Maryland route 63, the Greencastle-Williamsport Pike and State Line Road. It marks the boundary between Washington County, Maryland and Franklin County, Pennsylvania.

Crownstones like this marker were used at five mile intervals along the Mason-Dixon Line. The crownstones are larger and more elaborate than other milestones, decorated with reeding and the Coat of Arms of Maryland and Pennsylvania. A U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey bench mark has been set into the top of this milestone.

This marker appears to be in good condition.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD PREHISTORIC —1400-1499 —1500-1599 —1600-1699 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 —1800-1899 —1900-	—ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC —ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC —AGRICULTURE —ARCHITECTURE —ART —COMMERCE —COMMUNICATIONS	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW —COMMUNITY PLANNING —CONSERVATION —ECONOMICS —EDUCATION —ENGINEERING —EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT —INDUSTRY —INVENTION	—LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE —LAW —LITERATURE —MILITARY —MUSIC —PHILOSOPHY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	—RELIGION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE —SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN —THEATER —TRANSPORTATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
---	--	---	---	---

Boundary Marker

SPECIFIC DATES	Ca. 1768	BUILDER/ARCHITECT
----------------	----------	-------------------

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The 105th Mason-Dixon milestone, a crownstone, is significant as one of the remaining original boundary markers planted by Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon who began work on the division line between Maryland and Delaware and Pennsylvania in 1764. The line was completed in 1767. The team crossed South Mountain and began working on the portion of the line forming the northern boundary of Washington County on September 1, 1765. In 1768 the actual placing of stones was completed.

The running of the Mason-Dixon Line solved the boundary dispute which had plagued Maryland, Pennsylvania and Delaware. A temporary line had been run in 1739 which was approximately 225 perches north of the present line¹. This line, however, apparently did not ease the dispute. The contested land between Maryland and Pennsylvania brought frequent clashes among residents in the area. One of the most famous leaders in the border fighting was Col. Thomas Cressap who was given the responsibility of holding the Maryland border by Lord Baltimore.

The Penns and Calvert, Lord Baltimore, employed Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon of London to lay the boundary between Pennsylvania and Maryland and Delaware. These men and their team used sophisticated scientific methods to determine the course of the boundary. At each mile a stone was planted with an M and P incised into the appropriate surfaces. Five mile intervals were marked with larger, more elaborate crownstones which carried the coats of arms of the proprietors. The stones are said to have been cut in England. Although enough stones were imported to complete the line, they were not used in the rough mountainous areas because of transportation difficulties. Instead, high piles of native stones marked the miles in the mountains. According to T.J.C. Williams' History of Washington County, the unused English stones were left at Fort Frederick near Clear Spring in Washington County.²

¹ Herbert C. Bell, History of Leitersburg District. Leitersburg, Md: the author (1908) p. 46.

² Thomas J.C. Williams', A History of Washington County, Maryland. Hagerstown, Md: Mail Publishing Company, (1906) p. 35.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bell, Herbert C., History of Leitersburg District. Leitersburg, Md: the author, 1908.

Williams', Thomas J.C., A History of Washington County, Maryland. Hagerstown, Md: Mail Publishing Co., 1906.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION _____

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

STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Paula Stoner Dickey, Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Washington County Historical Sites Survey

DATE

August 1976

STREET & NUMBER

County Office Building, 33 West Washington Street

TELEPHONE

791-3065

CITY OR TOWN

Hagerstown

STATE

Maryland 21740

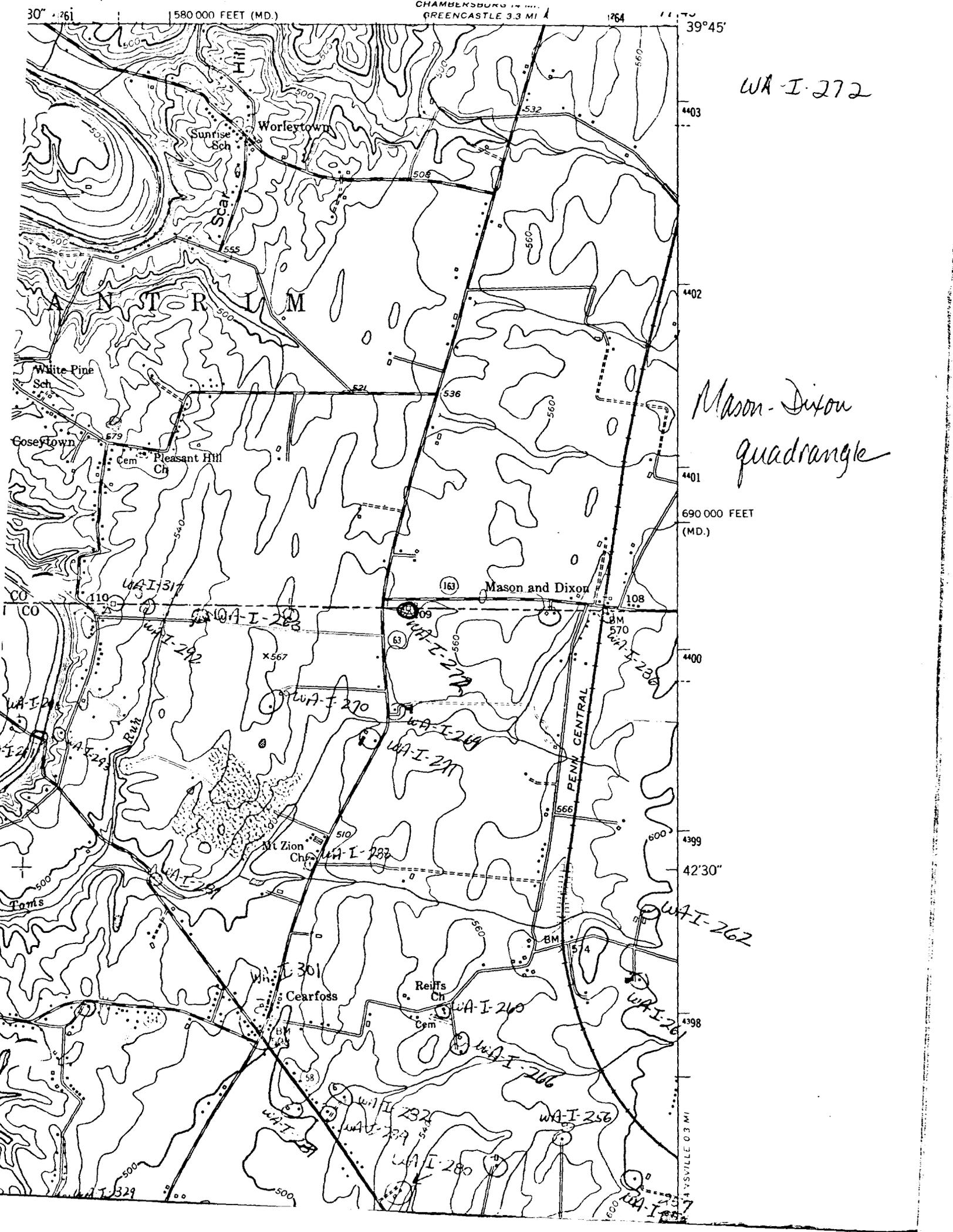
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

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

WA-I-272

Mason-Dixon
quadrangle



690 000 FEET (MD.)

42°30'

WAYSVILLE 0.3 MI

WA-I-272
MASON & DIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE NO. 105 (109)

MASON-DIXON QUADRANGLE
MARYLAND-PENNSYLVANIA
USGS 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

SCALE: 1" = 2000'
NE/4 WILLIAMSPORT 15' QUADRANGLE
CHAMBERSBURG 14 MI.
GREENCASTLE 33 MI

5463 1 SW
(GREENCASTLE)

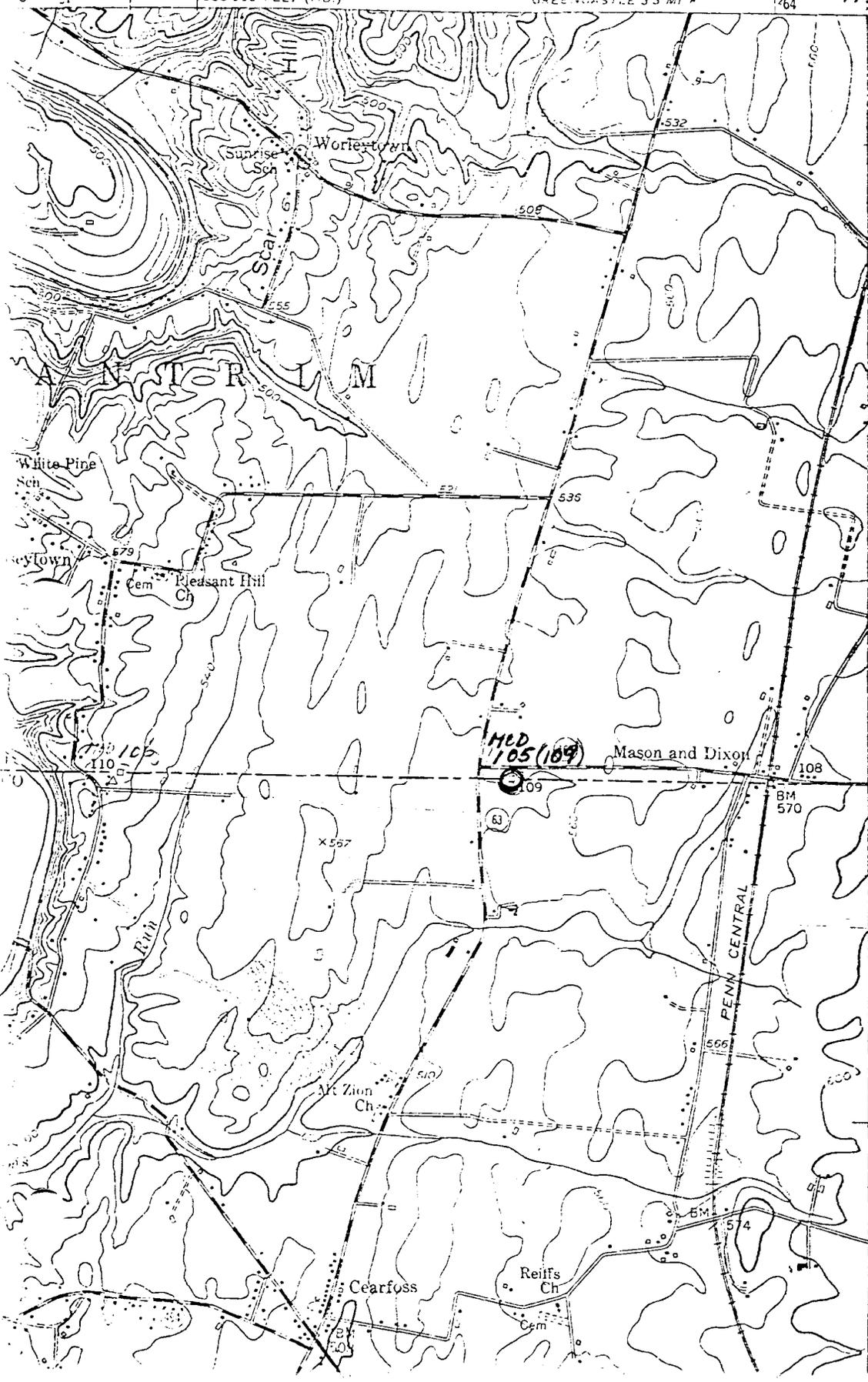
WASHINGTON DC (17)

580 000 FEET (MD.)

39°45'
not indicated as set by 12
(105) 2 H L

(109) MED 105: 5416-

690 000 FEET
(MD.)



4400

4399

42'30"

4398

M.D.
105 (109)

Mason and Dixon

PENN. CENTRAL

Mt. Zion Ch.

Cearfoss

Reiff's Ch.

White Pine Sch.

Worleystown

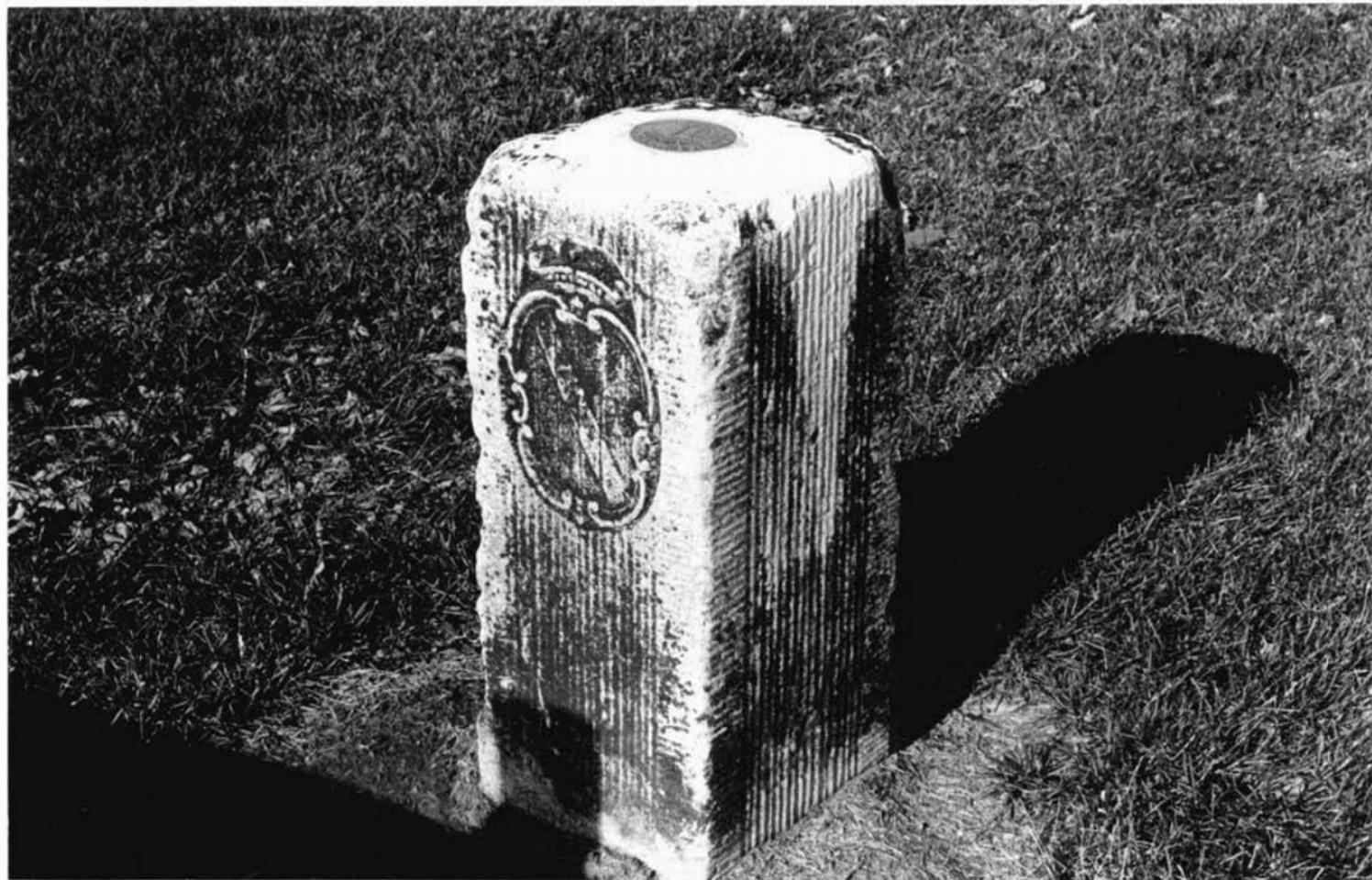
105
110

Rain

Pleasant Hill Ch.

Worleystown

White Pine Sch.



277
S.E.
JUL 1971

PAULA STONER DICKEY
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY