

ABSTRACT

WA-I-273

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. 104(107)
Mason and Dixon, Pennsylvania/Maryland
Public/private

1767 (reset 1902)

Milestone No. 104(107) is an original milestone of 1767, in fairly good condition, unaltered, in its original site, preliminarily surveyed in 1765, monumented two years later, and reset more securely in 1902 during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. It marks Mason and Dixon's 104th 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. It now stands about 1½ feet above the concrete foundation, as set in 1902 and measures close to 12 inches square. All surfaces are very weathered, nicked and whitewashed; all edges and top corners are chipped, as are the letters P on the north side facing Pennsylvania and M on the south side facing Maryland; most of the fluting remains on the east and west sides, though indistinct; but no margins or circle panels, and the planes and fluting of the top are gone, ^{leaving} only a pit in the apex. On the national and state levels, No. 104(107) 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-273

Ca. 1768

104th Mason-Dixon Milestone

State Line Vicinity

public

This 104th Mason-Dixon milestone 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, 104th Mile Stone

AND/OR COMMON
 MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. 104 (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 107)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER south side of State Line Road (MD/PA 163 & LR-28030)

CITY, TOWN Mason and Dixon VICINITY OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT MD: 6 / PA: 9
 STATE Maryland/Pennsylvania 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 PROCESS	<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 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 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-273 entered 8/76 updated 10/12/80
 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN Annapolis STATE Maryland

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. 104(107) marks Mason and Dixon's 104th horizontal mile west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line. It is an original milestone of 1767, in fairly good condition, unaltered, in its original site, preliminarily surveyed in 1765, monumented two years later, and reset more securely to stand about 1½ feet above ground in 1902, during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary.

The area here is rural, comparatively level open farmlands, sparsely settled. The site is within Election District 13 of Washington County, MD, and Antrim Township, of Franklin County, PA; about ¼ mile due east of the small scattered settlement of Mason and Dixon, PA/MD; about 1¼ miles west of the ^{US 11 and} village of State Line, PA/MD; on the south side of State Line Road (MD/PA 163 & LR-28030), in a grassy shoulder about 2 feet above road grade level at the north edge of an unfenced Arlo Farms field. It can be easily seen and bumped into from the road, all seasons.

The milestone, as with all original Mason and Dixon West Line monuments, is an embellished oolitic limestone post with a low pyramidal top, quarried and carved in England, and originally measured 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 Roman capital letters P on the north side facing Pennsylvania and M on the south side facing Maryland, each V-sunk in the center of a plain shallow circle panel near the top. It remains firmly set at about the 1½ feet as reset in 1902, although much of the concrete foundation is now exposed on the north side, with soil fill against the south side, and still measures close to 12 inches square. But all surfaces are very weathered and have been whitewashed; all edges and top corners are chipped; the letter P is discernible but chipped, as is the M; no circle panels ^{or margins} remain, and only very indistinct fluting on the east and west sides. The planes and fluting of the top are gone, and a small pit is in the center. There are also ^{two} bullet holes on the west side.

(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

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		
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) ~~BOUNDARY SURVEYORS~~ Charles Mason & Jeremiah Dixon

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Milestone No. 104(107) 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 milestone set two years later, where it remains in place, although reset more securely in 1902 during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. Locally, as one of 48 original monuments marking the present Washington/Franklin-Fulton county boundary (10 crownstones; 38 milestones), No. 104(107) 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)

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: Hagerstown (Maryland-Pennsylvania), USGS 7.5 minute series
(topographic), 1953 photorev. 1971, scale 1:24000

UTM reference: zone 18, easting 26442, northing 440021

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 & Dixon's West Line boundary marker surveyor)

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust & 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-273
District 13
Map 10
22025-24234

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

104th Mason-Dixon milestone

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

State Line Road, Pennsylvania route 163

CITY, TOWN

Northwest of Hagerstown VICINITY OF State Line

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 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 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 #:

Folio #:

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

WA-I-273

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" 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

The 104th Mason-Dixon milestone is located along the south edge of Pennsylvania route 163, the State Line Road, where it marks the boundary between Washington County, Maryland and Antrim Township of Franklin County, Pennsylvania.

Like other Mason-Dixon milestones this marker has reeded sides with an M incised on its south surface and a P on its north face.

This stone is in deteriorated condition showing the effects of weathering and damage from machinery and traffic on the adjacent roadway.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

WA-I-273

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input 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		

Boundary Marker

SPECIFIC DATES Ca. 1768

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This 104th Mason-Dixon milestone 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 255 perches north of the present line.¹ 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.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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. Mail Publishing Company, 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

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

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

77°45' 265000m E. 2010 000 FEET (PA.) 42°30'

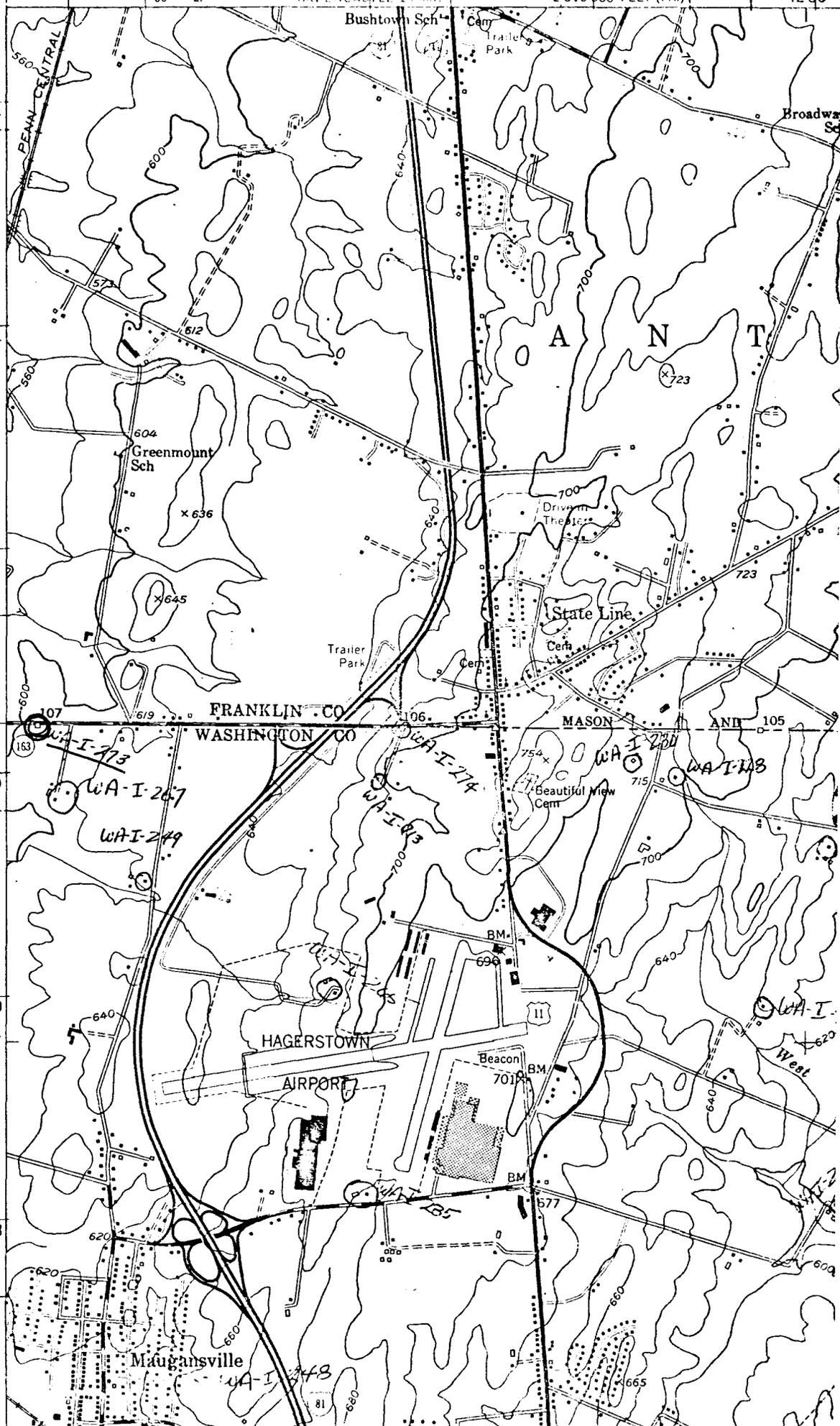
150 000 FEET (PA.)

4402000m N.

MASON AND DIXON 0.3 MI.

42°30'

4398



*WA-I-273
Hagerstown
quadrangle*

FRANKLIN CO WASHINGTON CO MASON AND DIXON 105

*WA-I-273
WA-I-267
WA-I-249*

*WA-I-274
WA-I-280
WA-I-283
WA-I-285
WA-I-288*

HAGERSTOWN AIRPORT

Maugansville

WA-I-278

CR15
(relocated 1933)

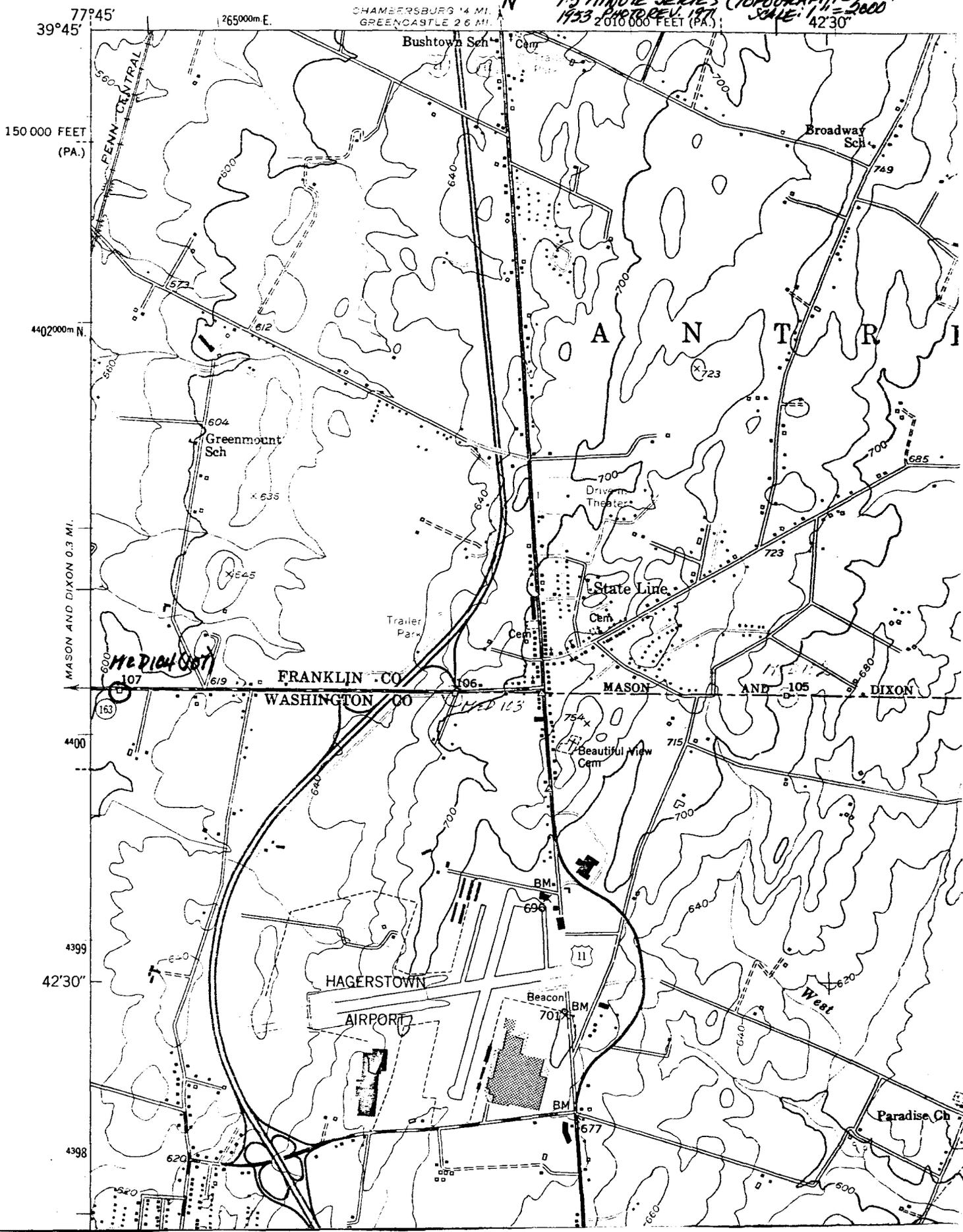
WA-I-273

5463 IV SE
(WILLIAMSON)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

MASON & DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. 104 (107)

HAGERSTOWN QUADRANGLE
HARDLAND - PENNSYLVANIA
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
1953 PHOTO REV. 1971
2 010 000 FEET (PA.)
SCALE: 1" = 2000'
42'30"





WA-1-273

Mason Dixon Marker #107

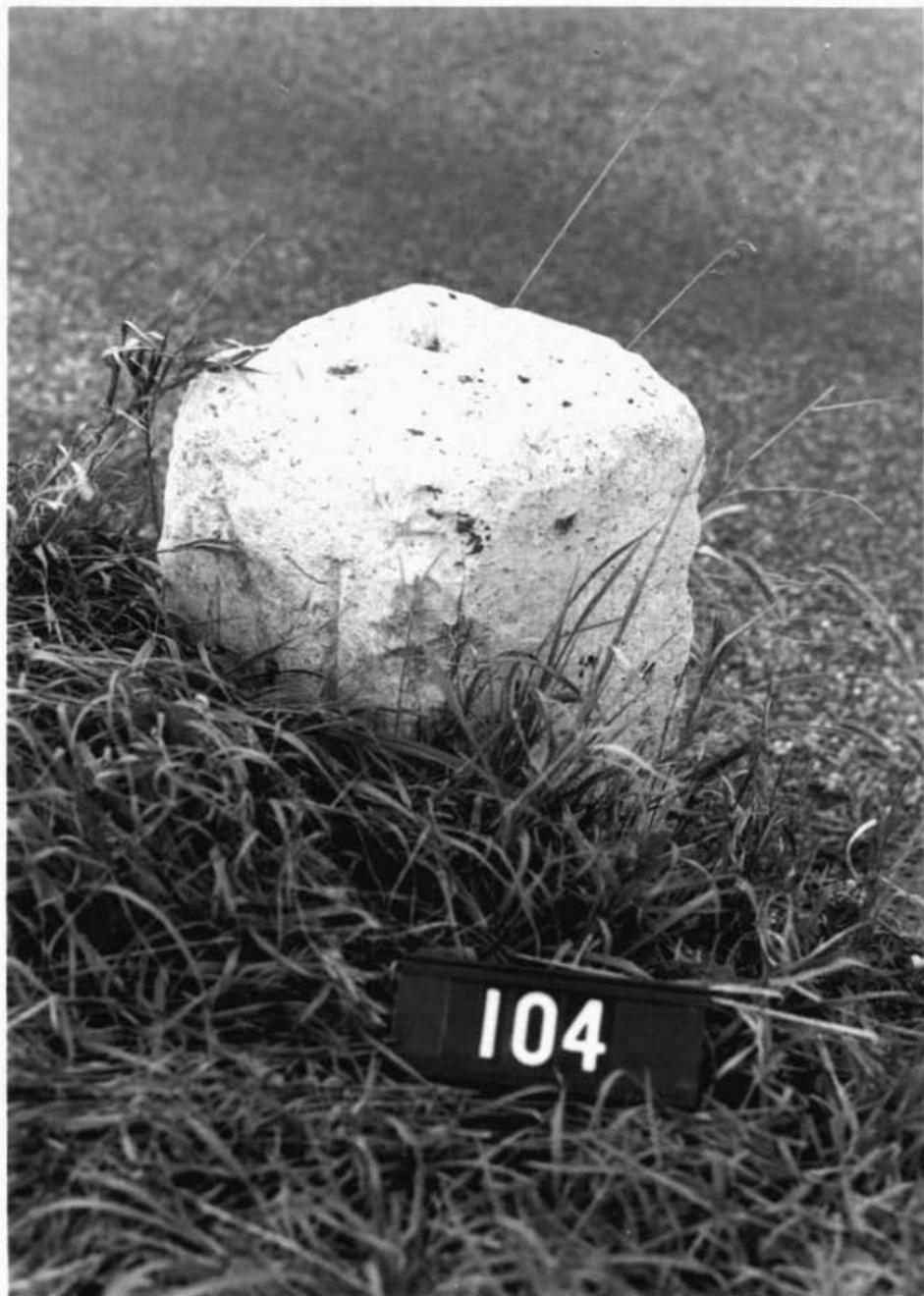
From north



WA-1-273

Mason Dixon Marker #107

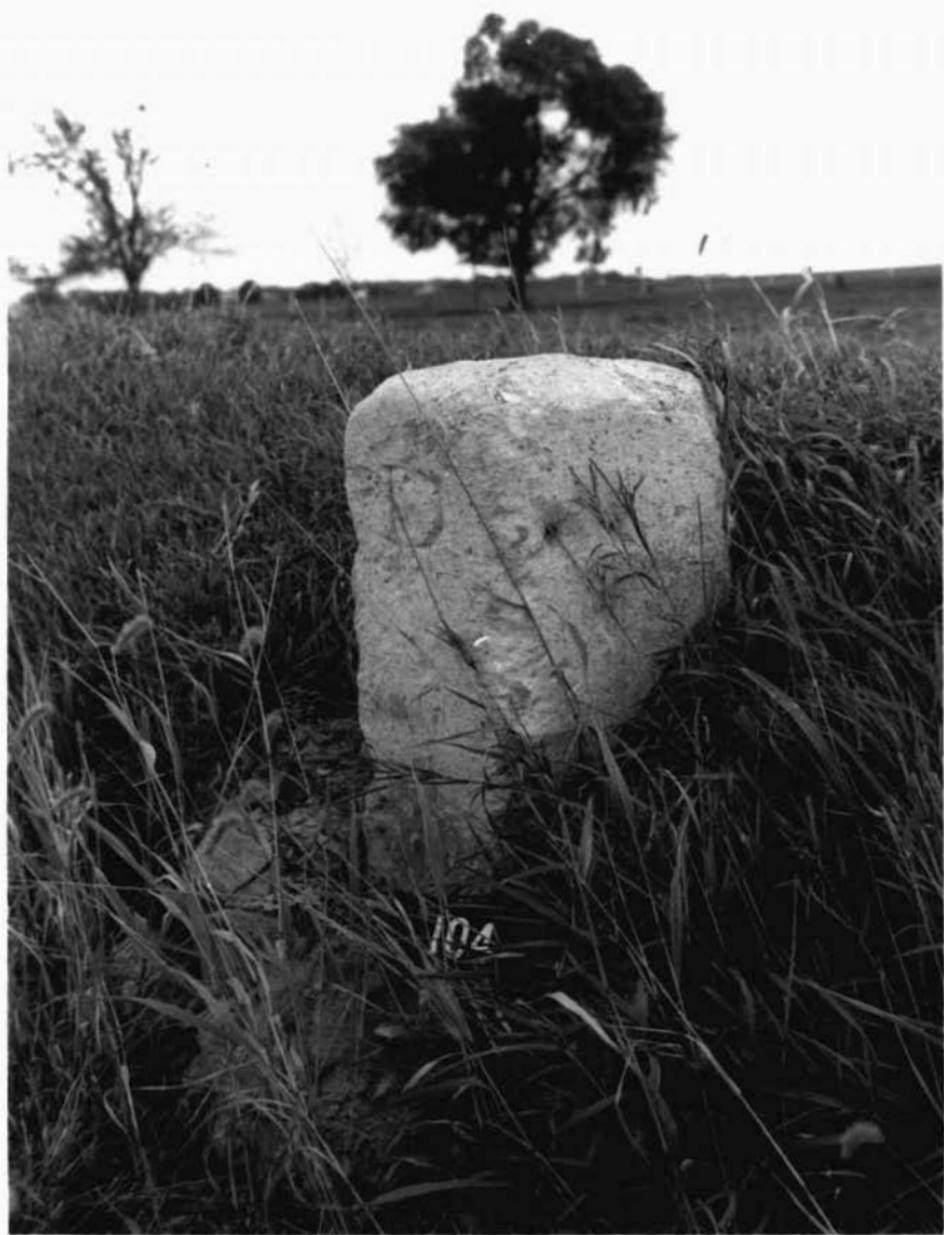
From north



MASON & DIXON'S WEST LINE MILESTONE 24 (159)
ORIGINAL (1767)

SE CORNER (M/-)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN (1980.23.21) 17 - 15



MASONRY LINES DES LINES MILESTONE 104 (107)
ON THE DA STE. 104 (TOWN OF MA-SHEVON IN
ORIGINAL (1767)
1.0' DEGREE 1-1

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN (1950-33. 28) 5/12/80



1111-F-273

Sites

Nov 1992

PAULA STONER DICKEY
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY