

ABSTRACT

WA-I-317

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. 106(110)

Coseytown, Pennsylvania

Public/private

1767 (reset 1902)

Milestone No. 106(110) marks Mason and Dixon's 106th horizontal mile west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line, later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. It is an original milestone of 1767, quarried and carved in England of oolitic limestone, is in good condition, unaltered, and firmly in place 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. It is significant on the national and state levels 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, 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-317

Ca. 1768

106th Mason-Dixon Milestone

Hagerstown Vicinity

public

This 106th 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.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Magi No.

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, 106th Mile Stone

AND/OR COMMON

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. 106 (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 110)

**2 LOCATION** (not for publication)

STREET & NUMBER off north side of Coseytown Road

CITY, TOWN

Coseytown  VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

MD: 6 / PA: 9

STATE

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 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 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

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION** (see Thematic Group NR nomination form and 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 Washington County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE WA-I-317 entered 2/24/81  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. 106(110) marks Mason and Dixon's 106th 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 good condition, unaltered, and in place at 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.

The area here is <sup>except for the string of houses along Shinham Road/T-344</sup> predominantly rural, sparsely settled, mostly open farmland, but at the edge of a drop down to Conococheague Creek a short distance west. The site is within Election District 13 of Washington County, MD, and Antrim Township of Franklin County, PA; about 1/2 mile south of the small settlement of Coseytown, PA; at a point about 500 feet east of the north leg of Coseytown Road and about 200 feet north of the east-west stretch of Coseytown Road; on the north side (against) an east-west wire fence covered with a tangle of honeysuckle, in back of the Eschleman house and pig pasture. It cannot be seen from any road, any season, and almost impossible to find when closeby, unless on the north side of the fence in amongst the brambles, all of which is protective.

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 said to have 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. Reset in 1902 to stand presumably about 1 1/2 feet high, it remains about that now, and measures about 12" square. The P and its circle panel are very clear, but the M <sup>and whole south side</sup> is chipped and weatherworn; most fluting and margins remain, though there are chips along all edges and top corners. The top planes and fluting are barely visible, and a U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey metal disk has been cemented into the apex (Reference Mark No. 1, 1935, VACANT).

**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY** (see Thematic Group NR nomination form for full descriptions of 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"/> 400-1499	<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. 106(110) 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 firmly in place where reset 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. 106(110) 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 DATA**ACREAGE 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 26121, northing 440034

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 &amp; 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

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

106th Mason-Dixon Milestone

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

North of Coseytown Road

CITY, TOWN

Northwest of Hagerstown — VICINITY OF Hagerstown

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland - Pennsylvania

COUNTY

Washington - Franklin

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

**PRESENT USE**

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- 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-317

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		

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

The 106th Mason-Dixon milestone is located just north of Coseytown Road, northwest of Hagerstown where it marks the boundary between Washington County, Maryland and Antrim Township, Franklin County, Pennsylvania. It is situated at the edge of a pasture behind a fence.

The milestone, excepting the crownstones, which occur at five mile intervals, have reeded work on their east and west sides and an M and P incised on their south and north surface respectively.

This stone appears to be in good condition.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

LVA-I-317

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 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)	Boundary Marker
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES Ca. 1768

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This 106th 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 225 perches north of the present line.<sup>1</sup> 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.<sup>2</sup>

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

<sup>2</sup> 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 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

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1131102 109: 0216

WA-I-317

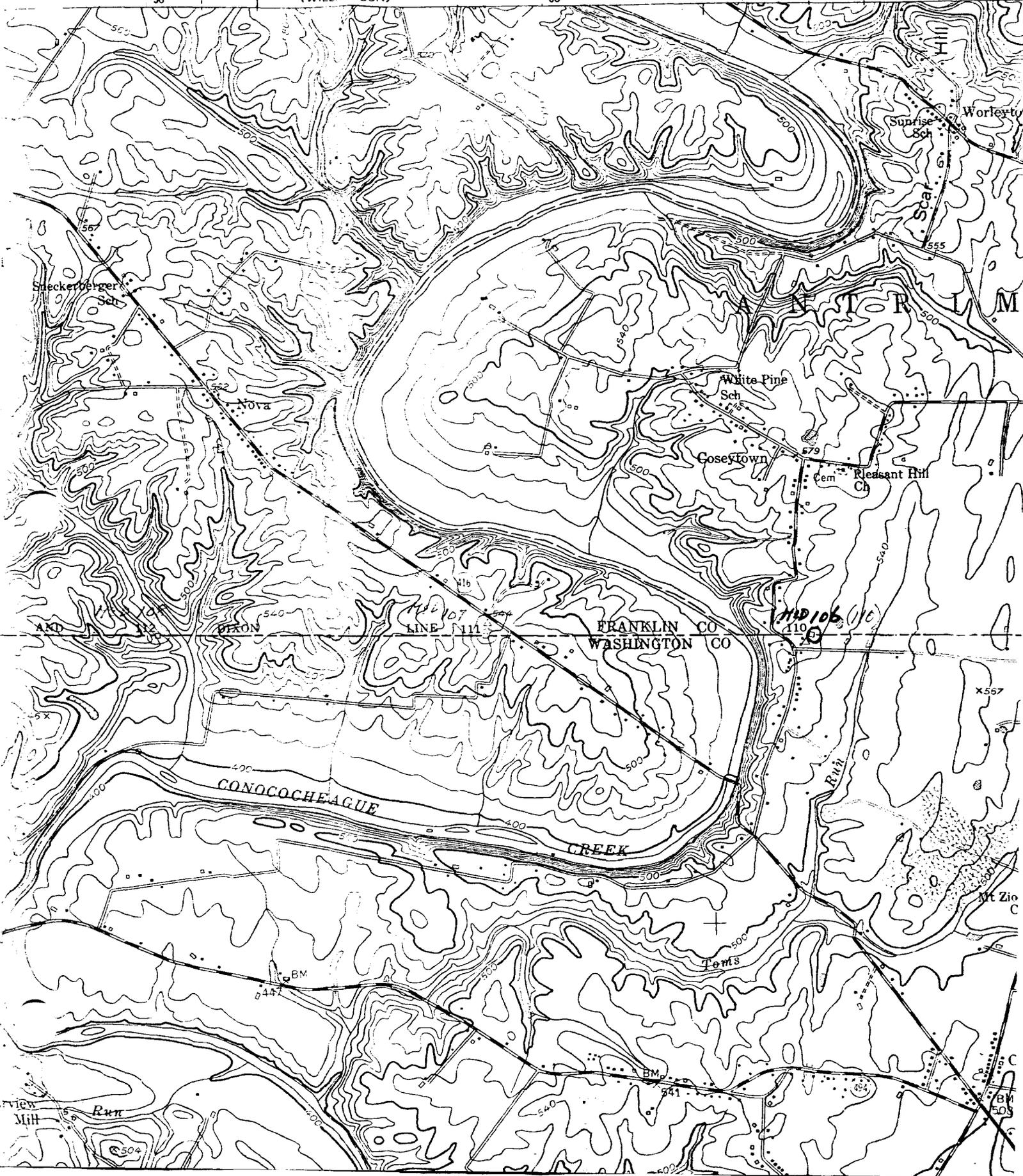
UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
5-43 IV SE  
(WILLIAMSON)

MASON & DIXON WEST LINE MILESTONE 106(110)  
MASON-DIXON QUADRANGLE  
MARYLAND-PENNSYLVANIA  
USGS 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)  
1953 PHOTOREV. 1971 SCALE: 1" = 2000'  
47°30' 261 580 000 FEET (MD.)



258

260



M10106  
110

FRANKLIN CO  
WASHINGTON CO

STON

LINE 111

CONOCOCHIEGUE

CREEK

Run

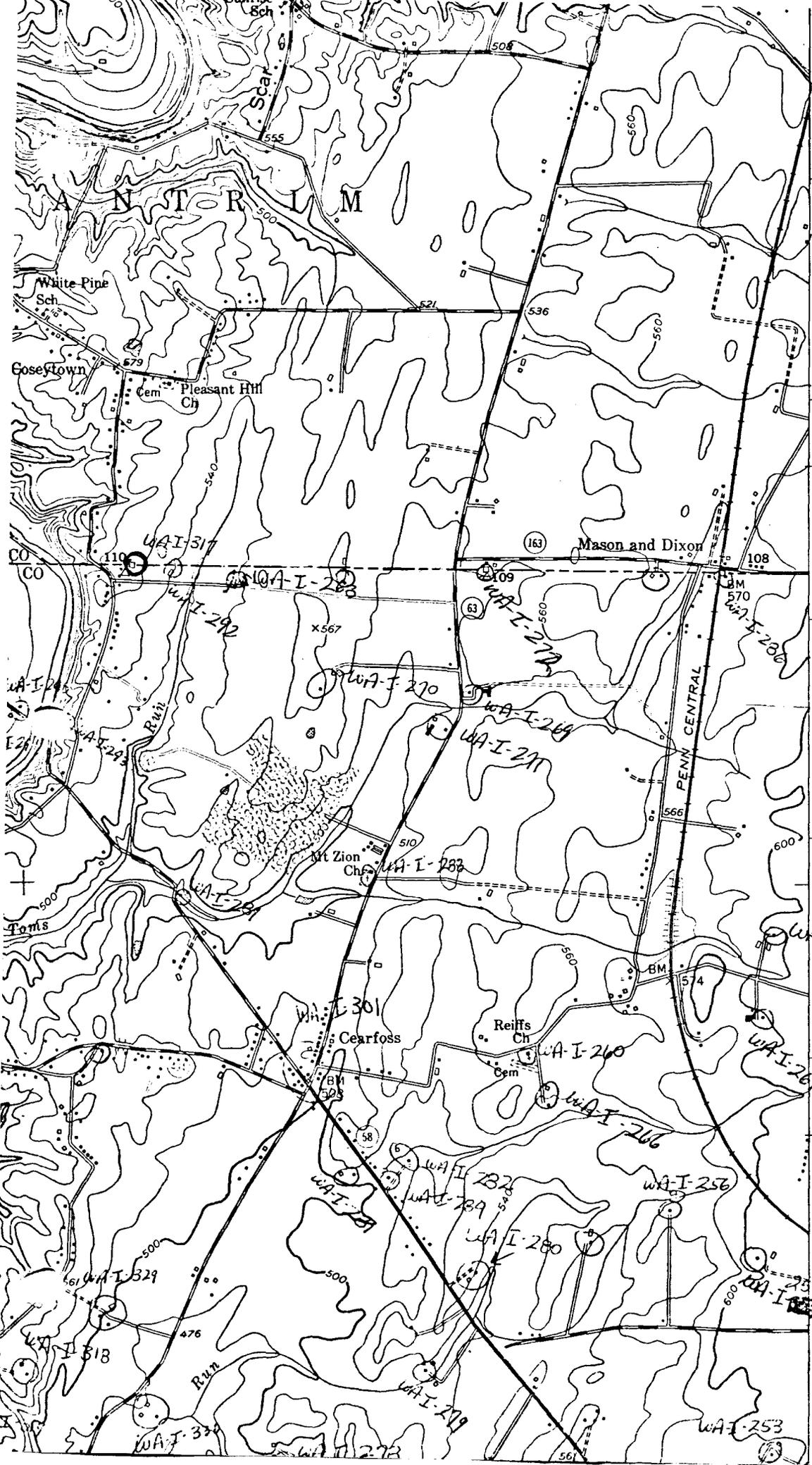
Mt Zio

Run

C304

BM 509

WA I-317



690 000 FEET (MD.)

Mason-Dixon quadrangle

CHAGERSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 3 MI 5463 11 NW



MARSHALL ISLANDS - MARSHALL ISLANDS (1767)  
ORIGINAL (1767)

1767

PHOTO: ALICE MARSHALL (1767) 11-2-67



MASON & DIXON'S WEST LINE MILESTONE 106 (11A)  
NE CORNER (-/P), ORIGINAL (1767)

DR. A. B. MARTIN, 1880-1885



WA-1709

1709

1709

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY